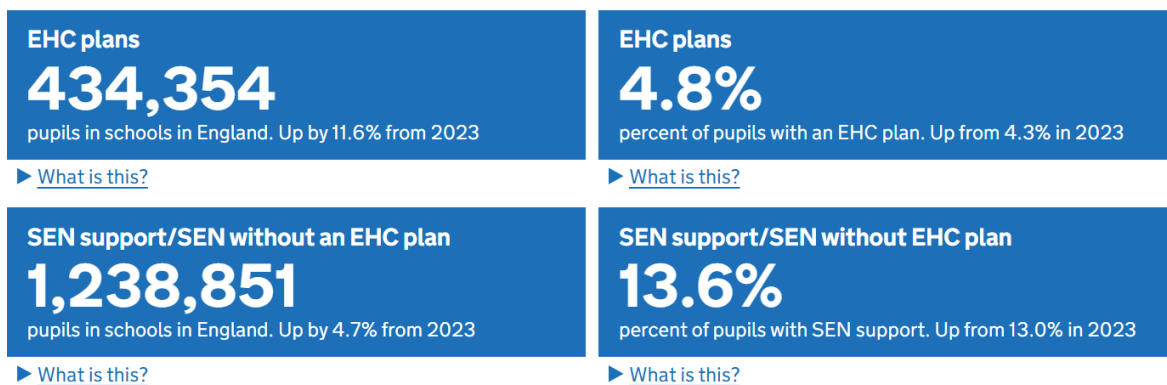




Dear Parents/Carers,

We want to assure you that the wellbeing and development of your child are our top priorities. My whole school team are committed to providing the best possible support for your child. However, as we navigate the national challenges in SEND provision, we feel it is important to keep you informed and manage expectations as we work together.

The increasing demand for SEND support, both formal and informal, is affecting schools across the country. According to the latest national data (source: explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk), this rise is unprecedented.



Consequently, national resources—especially funding and services like CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services)—are stretched, making it challenging to meet the growing needs of all children.

Despite these challenges, we are prioritising the professional development of our staff to better understand and address the complex needs of our students. We know that Quality First Teaching plays a significant part in supporting all learners. We work closely with outside agencies such as Multi-Agency Behaviour Support (MABS), Mental Health Support Team (MHST) and Outreach to ensure that pupils more complex needs are supported and staff are empowered with strategies and training that can enhance the quality first teaching. Further to this we seek advice, support and training from our Educational Psychologist when necessary.



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We understand that some students may need external assessments and support, while others may not. We are developing processes, which will continue to offer support through our in-school systems. First of which begins with sharing concerns with the class teacher. The class teachers, using the advice and support available to them will be able to put into place any interventions as necessary or signpost to support available to you as parents from local services. If further support is required then my team will carefully review each case to ensure that those who require external resources are referred appropriately. If we feel external support would be beneficial, we will be sure to communicate with you and involve you in the process.

In some cases your child may require support above and beyond what is deemed as Ordinarily Available Provision. If you are considering an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), please note that applications are often processed more efficiently when parents submit them directly. In this case, the school will provide supporting evidence. This process helps us allocate resources where they are most needed. However, it's important to understand that EHCP assessments are not always successful, and even when granted, they may not always result in the level of support expected due to financial constraints within Local Authorities. These limitations can impact the resources available to us as a school. We would always advocate that you discuss with us if you feel this level of support is needed as the process is partly reliant on the school having evidence to support the application.

Where appropriate you may be signposted to support and advice for your child from services outside of school. Despite the challenging times we face, we are keen to continue to provide opportunities for you as parents to have access to these support networks so we offer MABS and MHST drops ins, coffee mornings hosted by MHST or the ND team as well as workshops recently held by our Educational Psychologist. These provide you with access to services where you can gain valuable insights, seek advice and support so strongly advise you attend these if possible. We advocate that where possible and appropriate you seek support outside of school from your GP, MHST, Neurodiversity Team, parent hubs and school nurse. Please keep an eye on the school newsletter where these services are advertised or feel free to speak to the office to see what is available.

We are fully committed to doing everything we can, within the constraints we face, to support your child. While these challenges are not unique to our school, we are continually exploring ways to improve our SEND provision, ensuring that every child receives equitable opportunities for success.

I kindly ask for your continued patience and understanding as we work through each individual case. Your support means a great deal to us, and we remain committed to providing the best possible experience for your child.

Thank you for your ongoing trust and collaboration.

Warm regards,

Mrs Sara Paine

Executive Headteacher

Meon Way Federation