What is an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan?

An EHC Plan looks at a child or young person’s special educational needs and any health and care needs that they may have in relation to their special educational needs. Practitioners, parents, carers, children and young people together consider what outcomes they would like to see for the child or young person. An EHC plan identifies what will be put in place to work towards these outcomes.

Why are EHC Plans replacing Statements of Special Educational Needs?

The Children and Families Act will be implemented from September 2014.

This new law will mean that parents, carers and young people will have more opportunities to express their views and share their aspirations with the practitioners supporting them

When will EHC Plans replace SEN Statements?

From 1st September 2014 EHC Plans will replace Statements of SEN. No more SEN Statements will be written. Statements which currently exist will remain valid but will gradually be converted into EHC Plans over the next three and a half years (by March 2018). These conversions will usually take place at key transition points.

Many young people over the age of 16 currently have Learning Disability Assessments (LDA). LDAs will also be replaced by EHC Plans, but over a shorter two year period.

Current existing SEN statements and LDA’s will continue to have the same legal status.

New EHC Plans and conversions will have the same legal status as Statements of SEN and will cover the age range 0 – 25. An EHC Plan for a 19 to 25 year old would only be maintained when specific educational provision is still required.
Who can request an EHC Needs Assessment?

Any practitioner working with a child, young person, parent or carer can request an EHC Needs Assessment.

A parent/carer can also request an EHC Needs Assessment. If a child or young person is attending an educational setting (nursery, school, college) we recommend that you speak to the headteacher or principle of this setting and or the teacher with responsibility for children/young people with special educational needs. The educational setting can make a request on behalf of the parent, carer or young person.

If you wish to make a request for an EHC Needs Assessment, please contact:-

The Tri-borough SEN Casework and Commissioning Team
Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea
Kensington Town Hall
Hornton Street
London,
W8 7NX
tel 020 7361 3311
fax 020 7368 0213