Special schools, resource bases and units in Southwark

Includes advice on admissions to schools for children with a statement of special educational needs

www.southwark.gov.uk/sen
Special educational needs (SEN): admissions process

The arrangements for finding a school place for a child with a statement of special educational needs are different to those for children without a statement.

Parents/carers have the right to express a preference for the school that they would like their child to attend. It is then the responsibility of Southwark Council’s special educational needs team to consult with schools to agree a suitable placement. The local authority (LA) has to consider the following in agreeing a suitable school for your child:

- If the school is suitable for your child’s age, ability, skills and special educational needs
- If your child’s presence will have a negative impact on the education of other children at the school
- If placing your child in the school will be an efficient use of the council’s resources

Most children with special educational needs attend mainstream schools. Southwark, and other local authorities, also maintain special schools. If you feel that your child would benefit from special school provision you may express a preference for a special school place for your child.

Special schools admit children with particular types of special educational needs. Some Southwark primary mainstream schools also have resource bases for children with particular types of need. All special schools and resource bases in Southwark are detailed in this booklet.

You may want your child to go to a school that is not run by the local authority, a non-maintained special school or an independent school. The local authority will consider your wishes carefully before they make a final decision but, if there is a suitable state school, the LA have no legal duty to spend public money on a place for your child at a non-maintained or independent school.
The process

Primary school transfers – for children who have had a statement prior to the general admissions application deadline

An SEN preference form will be sent direct to the parent/carer’s home address by Southwark Council’s special educational needs team. You are able to express a preference for up to three schools. Clear guidance on when the form should be returned and where to send it will be enclosed.

Southwark Council’s special educational needs team will then consult with these schools to agree a placement that is suitable to meet your child’s special educational needs.

Secondary school transfers – for children who have had a statement prior to the general admissions application deadline

The process of identifying a suitable school for your child will start at the child’s Year 5 annual review meeting. At the review meeting you will discuss the secondary school options for your child. It is important that you attend this review to express your views. The evidence gathered at the annual review meeting will be used to make amendments to your child’s statement and to consult your secondary school preferences.

An SEN preference form will be sent direct to the parents/carers home address in the September of the school year of transfer (Year 6). This form gives the option of three school preferences. The form must be completed and returned to Southwark Council’s special educational needs team by the date indicated on the form. Parents/carers of children with a statement of SEN will be notified of the school to be named on their child’s statement on 15 February of the year of transfer.
The process (continued)

The final decision on the school named in your child’s statement rests with the local authority.

Casual admissions

For children who move into Southwark with a statement of SEN, parents/carers will need to contact Southwark Council’s special educational needs team to express their school preferences.

Appealing the decision

If you are unhappy with the school named in your child’s statement of SEN, you have the right to appeal to the Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal.

A special note on academies

Please note that a number of Southwark schools are now academies. These are independent state schools. The law governing academies is complex in relation to children with special educational needs. In addition there are more than one type of academy particularly in the secondary school sector, Southwark has a number of both ‘old’ and ‘new’ style academies. For queries about admissions to an academy please contact Southwark Council’s special educational needs team direct.

Please note that if your child is currently under assessment you must apply for a school place via Southwark Council’s school admissions team.
# The schools

## Primary community special schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School and age range</th>
<th>Speciality</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherry Garden 4 to 11</td>
<td>Severe and complex learning difficulties</td>
<td>Macks Road SE16 3XU</td>
<td>Tel: 020 7237 4050 <a href="http://www.cherrygarden.southwark.sch.uk">www.cherrygarden.southwark.sch.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haymerle 5 to 11</td>
<td>Autistic spectrum condition</td>
<td>Haymerle Road SE15 6SY</td>
<td>Tel: 020 7639 6080 <a href="http://www.haymerle.southwark.sch.uk">www.haymerle.southwark.sch.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beormund 5 to 11</td>
<td>Emotional behavioural difficulties</td>
<td>Crosby Row SE1 3PS</td>
<td>Tel: 020 7525 9027 <a href="http://www.beormundschool.co.uk">www.beormundschool.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Primary resource bases and units in mainstream schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St John’s and St Clement’s 5 to 11</td>
<td>Hearing impairment resource base</td>
<td>Ady Road SE15 4DY</td>
<td>Tel: 020 7525 9210 <a href="http://www.stjohnsandstclements.org">www.stjohnsandstclements.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Ruskin 5 to 11</td>
<td>Speech and language unit</td>
<td>John Ruskin St SE5 0PQ</td>
<td>Tel: 020 7703 5800 <a href="http://www.johnruskin.southwark.sch.uk">www.johnruskin.southwark.sch.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rye Oak Resource Base 5 to 11</td>
<td>Autistic spectrum condition</td>
<td>Whorlton Road SE15 3PD</td>
<td>Tel: 020 7639 3914 <a href="http://www.ryeoak.southwark.sch.uk">www.ryeoak.southwark.sch.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brunswick Park SMILE Resource Base 5 to 11</td>
<td>Autistic spectrum condition</td>
<td>Picton Street SE5 7QH</td>
<td>Tel: 020 7525 9033 <a href="http://www.brunswickpark.southwark.sch.uk">www.brunswickpark.southwark.sch.uk</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Primary resource bases and units in mainstream schools (continued)

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Redriff (Academy)</strong></td>
<td>Autistic spectrum condition</td>
<td>Salter Road SE16 5LQ</td>
<td>Tel: 020 7237 4272 <a href="http://www.redriff.southwark.sch.uk">www.redriff.southwark.sch.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Snowsfields</strong></td>
<td>Autistic spectrum condition</td>
<td>Kirby Grove SE1 3TD</td>
<td>Tel: 020 7525 9065 <a href="http://www.snowsfields.southwark.sch.uk">www.snowsfields.southwark.sch.uk</a></td>
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## Secondary community special schools

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</thead>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bredinghurst</strong></td>
<td>Emotional behavioural difficulties</td>
<td>Stuart Road SE15 3AZ</td>
<td>Tel: 020 7639 2541 <a href="http://www.bredinghurst.southwark.sch.uk">www.bredinghurst.southwark.sch.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Highshore</strong></td>
<td>Mixed needs</td>
<td>Bellenden Road SE15 5BB</td>
<td>Tel: 020 7639 7211 <a href="http://www.highshore.southwark.sch.uk">www.highshore.southwark.sch.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spa</strong></td>
<td>Autistic spectrum condition</td>
<td>Monnow Road SE1 5RN</td>
<td>Tel: 020 7237 3714 <a href="http://www.spa.southwark.sch.uk">www.spa.southwark.sch.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuke</strong></td>
<td>Severe and complex learning difficulties</td>
<td>Daniel Gardens SE15 6ER</td>
<td>Tel: 020 7525 8002 <a href="http://www.tukeschool.co.uk">www.tukeschool.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Where to go to for help and advice

Southwark Council's special educational needs team like to work in partnership with parents at all stages of the admissions process. For general queries please contact the SEN team (details on back page).

The SEN team hold an SEN drop in at Sunshine House every Friday during school term time between 9.30am to 12pm.

For working parents the following sessions are available by appointment only: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday: 8am to 9.30am and 4.30pm to 6pm

In addition the SEN parent partnership team is independent of the council and is available to support all parents of children with special educational needs (details on back page).

In all cases it is advisable that you visit schools before stating preferences and discuss your child’s needs with the special educational needs coordinator (SENCo) or special school headteacher.

Further information on the admissions process for children with statements of special educational needs can be obtained by contacting Southwark Council’s special educational needs team directly.
Contact details

Southwark Council’s special educational needs team

📞 020 7525 4278
✉️ sen@southwark.gov.uk
🌐 www.southwark.gov.uk/sen

Parent partnership team

The parent partnership service is an impartial service provided by the local authority and is available to support any parent or carer who has a child with special educational needs, with or without a statement.

📞 020 7525 2886 or 020 7525 2866
✉️ parentpartnership@southwark.gov.uk
🌐 www.southwarkparentpartnership.co.uk

School preference adviser

The school preference adviser (SPA) is based in the parent partnership service and can give you impartial, independent advice about the school applications process for all children.

📞 020 7525 5211
✉️ schoolpref@southwark.gov.uk
🌐 www.southwarkparentpartnership.co.uk