



Types and categories of SEND [special educational needs]

The 0-25 SEND Code of Practice (2015) identifies 'four broad areas of [special educational] need and support' (see chapter 6 for detailed descriptions):

- A- Communication and interaction
- B- Cognition and learning
- C- Social, emotional and mental health
- D- Sensory and/or physical needs

These areas allow schools to gain an overview of their pupils' range of needs. The 0-25 SEND Code (2015) emphasises:
'The purpose of identification is to work out what action the school needs to take, not to fit a pupil into a category. In practice, individual children or young people often have needs that cut across all these areas and their needs may change over time... A detailed assessment of need should ensure that the full range of an individual's needs is identified, not simply the primary need.' (section 6.27)

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