

What is the ‘Social Communication Resource Provision’?

Brighton and Hove City Council has set up two Social Communication Resource Provisions. They are for children / young people who either do not attend school or who find it very difficult to attend school on a full-time basis. The students must have identified social communication difficulties and associated social and emotional mental health difficulties. Social communication difficulties include autism.

There is one provision for primary age children and one for secondary age children. The primary age provision is at St Bartholomew’s Primary School. The secondary age provision is at Tudor House, which offers residential short break services. Each provision can help up to 15 children or young people and has a Provision Coordinator. The coordinators will organise an individual package of learning for each student.

The provisions are not an alternative to a school or special unit/facility. The two Provision Coordinators do not provide teaching themselves. They coordinate individual packages of educational, social, well-being and health support. They will try to help the child / young person back into a longer-term education placement. children / young people can go to the provisions with or without an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan.

What help does the Social Communication Resource Provision offer?

It is not expected that children / young people will attend the Social Communication Resource Provisions on a full-time basis. This is due to their wide and varied needs. Some children / young people might have provision delivered at St Bartholomew’s or Tudor House if appropriate.

Examples of provision include tutor sessions, speech and language programmes, occupational therapy programmes or therapeutic interventions.

Support at the provision matches individual needs of each child / young person, so the placement is not time-bound.

The Provision Coordinators will work with the child / young person, their school and parent carer to create their personalised programmes. The programme may take place in a range of settings appropriate to the child’s needs. A child / young person would not have to attend any sessions in the school.

The Provision Coordinators are part of the Brighton and Hove Inclusion Support Service (BHISS). They work throughout the year and have some dedicated support from Educational Psychologists.

Who can get support from the Social Communication Resource?

The Social Communication Resource Provisions are for children / young people living in Brighton and Hove with certain needs. The criteria to access the settings are set out in the [Eligibility Criteria document](#).

Key criteria are:

- Aged between school years reception to year 11
- Identified social communication difficulties, such as autism. They may have further needs.
- Significant difficulties in accessing learning and development in school. These difficulties remain even after a range of targeted support/interventions.
- Evidence of a lack of academic progression, mental health deterioration and/or low school attendance.
- On roll at a mainstream school or seeking to access a formal educational setting. The provision is not for families seeking to continue elective home education.
- Parent carers who will work in partnership with the provision.
- A child / young person cannot go to the provisions if they have a special school named on their Education, Health and Care plan.

How to ask for a place at the Social Communication Resource Provisions?

If you have a child who meets the criteria you can request a place for support. You must complete the request form [Social Communication Request Form](#). The form has information of how to get support to complete the form if you would like it.

You can also ask a professional such as a Special Needs Coordinator (SENCO), to complete it with you. Professionals such as key leads in school or social care, education or health staff who are supporting the child / young person can also refer children / young people with the consent of their parents and carers.

A multi-disciplinary panel will meet every term to decide which children / young people will get support from the provisions. The panel will be drawn from representatives from education, social care, health services, Amaze and PaCC as appropriate.

What do the primary and secondary Social Communication Resource Provisions aim to do?

The provisions work in a multi-disciplinary approach. As well as parents, carers and school representatives, this could include the Schools' Wellbeing Service, BHISS, CAMHS, Occupational Therapy Service and Speech and Language Therapy Service. Together they will:

- Establish positive and trusting relationships with families, working together in partnership.
- Coordinate the assessment of needs for each student. The child or young person is at the centre of the process, using a team around the family approach.
- Coordinate packages of educational, social, wellbeing and health support created for each student.
- Develop creative education packages linked to their learning at their school.

- Work toward the successful, full-time reintegration of each child/young person into their school. This will involve coordinated transition planning appropriate to each child.