

Villa Real School - Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Key Terms Guide 1

Access Arrangements – Pupils who have learning difficulties and disabilities may be able to get help in public examinations. This can include, for example, extra time or having a computer or a person to read or write for the pupil (except for exams that specifically test these skills). There is a range of other possible arrangements for pupils with visual or hearing impairments, or other difficulties.

Annual Review – This is a review of an education, health and care (EHC) plan. The process is set out in law, and local authorities (LAs) must follow it. It involves:

Getting up-to-date information about the child or the young person,

Sending out this information before a review meeting, with an invitation to attend,

Holding a review meeting to consider what:

Progress the child or young person has made towards achieving the outcomes specified in the EHC plan, and if they are in year 9 or above, what provision is needed to help them prepare for adulthood and independent living.

A report saying what changes might be required to the EHC plan (and any differences of opinion), and

Notice of a decision from the LA. The LA must say whether it will:

Maintain the EHC plan as it is,

Maintain the EHC plan with changes to it (and what these are), or

Stop maintaining the EHC plan (following consultation).

Each of these decisions can be appealed in the SEND Tribunal.

Children and Families Act (CFA) 2014 – This is one of the main sources of law we refer to on our website. It sets out many of the legal protections and rights for children and young people with special educational needs and includes important information, including:

Special educational needs and provision definitions

When local authorities (LAs) must carry out EHC needs assessments and issue EHC plans

When EHC plans must be reviewed

Your right to request a particular placement in an EHC plan

Important mediation and appeal rights, and

The duty on certain settings to support those with medical needs.

The SEND Regulations 2014 sit underneath this Act and tell LAs and settings what they need to do to comply with the law.