

Specialist Educational Provision

East Sussex Maintained Schools

Information for Parents and Carers

September 2008



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Introduction

Parents and carers have told us that they would find it very helpful to have information regarding the maintained specialist educational provision available in East Sussex brought together in one place.

This booklet gives brief information about each maintained school which is a special school or a mainstream school which also has some specialist provision. Each school also has a prospectus which will include more detailed information. These can be found on the school's website or from the school direct.

As a parent of a child or young person with a statement of special educational needs you can state a preference for the school you would like your child to attend and East Sussex Children's Services will try to meet your wishes.

Children's Services is committed to including as many children and young people as possible within mainstream education settings. Most children and young people with special educational needs will attend their local school and, as far as possible, they are educated with other children and young people of the same age. Our goal is to create inclusive schools so that all pupils and young people have equal access to their community school and specialist provision.

All children and young people who attend special schools, speech and language units and special facilities have a statement of special educational needs and are referred for a place by the Children's Service. Our special schools and facilities cater for children and young people with the most severe and complex needs. Most parents of children and young people with a statement of special educational needs prefer their child to continue at the school they already attend.

Travelling between home and school

If for medical or physical reasons your child cannot use public transport or you live more than three miles from the designated school (or two miles if your child is under eight) your child may be entitled to assistance with home-to-school transport. If your child does not qualify on the grounds of the distance between your home and the school help may be given if:

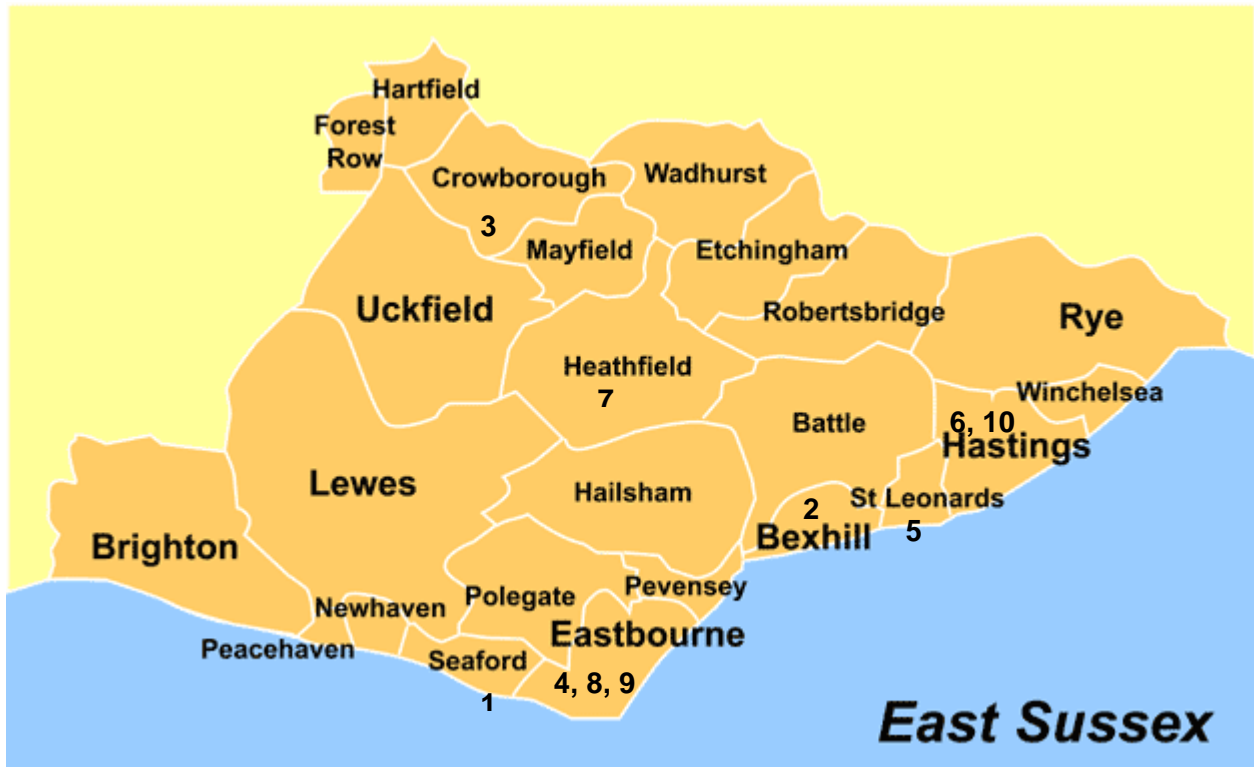
- Your child is unfit to walk to school
or
- The Children's Service has agreed to assist with transport because of the individual circumstances in your child's case.

Contacts

For general enquiries you can contact:
Admissions, Transport & Free School Meals Team
County Hall
St Anne's Crescent
Lewes
East Sussex BN7 1SG
Tel: 01273 481000
Fax: 01273 481140
Email: admissions@eastsussex.gov.uk

Which school?

Location of Special Schools:



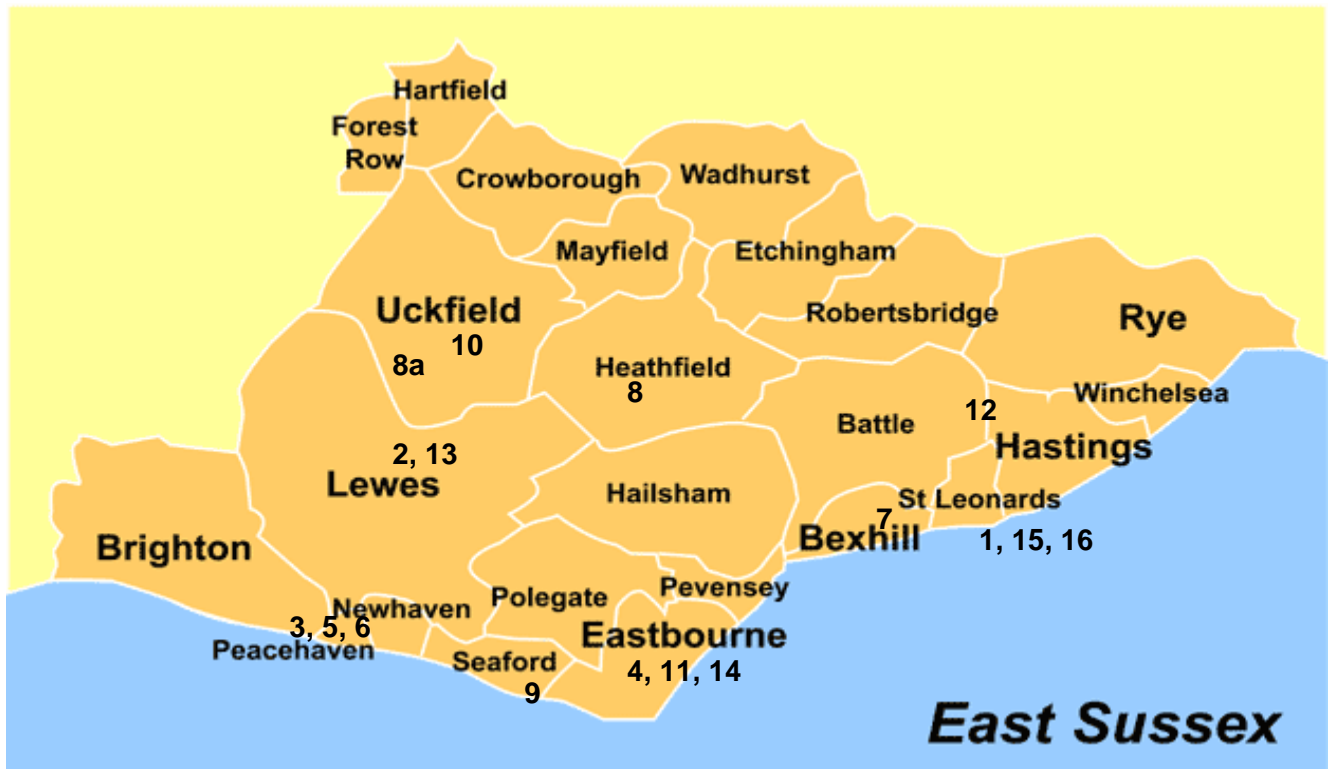
Special Schools:

Map Ref:

- 1 [Cuckmere House School](#)
- 2 [Glyne Gap School](#)
- 3 [Grove Park School](#)
- 4 [Hazel Court](#)
- 5 [New Horizons](#)
- 6 [Saxon Mount](#)
- 7 [St Mary's School](#)
- 8 [The Lindfield School](#)
- 9 [The South Downs Community Special School](#)
- 10 [Torfield School](#)

Press Ctrl and click to follow link.

Location of Special Facilities:



Speech & Language Units:

- 1 Little Ridge CP School
- 2 Wallands CP School

Speech, Language & Communication Units:

- 3 Peacehaven Speech, Language & Communication Unit
- 4 Hoddern Junior School
- 5 Peacehaven Infant School

Special Facilities for Students with Specific Learning Difficulties (e.g. dyslexia):

- 7 Bexhill High School
- 9 Seaford Head Community College

Special Facilities for Students with ASD

- 8 Heathfield Community College
- 8a Manor Primary School

Hearing Support Facilities:

- 10 Manor Primary School
- 11 Willingdon Primary School
- 12 Claverham Community College
- 13 Priory School
- 14 Willingdon Community School

Severe physical or sensory disability facilities:

- 15 West St Leonard's Community Primary School
- 16 Filsham Valley School

Please note that the quotes from Ofsted are an extract from the report.

SPECIAL SCHOOLS

CUCKMERE HOUSE SCHOOL

Eastbourne Road, Seaford, BN25 4BA
Tel: 01323 893319 Fax: 01323 897719
office@cuckmerehouse.e-sussex.sch.uk

Special Need: Behavioural
Emotional, & Social difficulties

65 Pupils (boys)

Primary & Secondary

Cuckmere House is a Specialist SEN school, for children aged 5 – 16. Full time places are offered to children with statements of SEN who have Severe Behavioural, Emotional and Social Difficulties. In 2005 it was designated as one of Ofsted's most successful schools.

The school is also responsible for two Secondary Pupil Referral Units (In Lewes and Eastbourne respectively) as well as a Junior Pupil Referral Unit (at Cuckmere House), a secure educational unit (in Hailsham) and the Primary Behaviour Support Service for the West of the County who provide additional resources and behaviour support to over one hundred schools across the western area of East Sussex.

The main school site in Seaford comprises of Primary phase, Secondary Phase, Junior PRU, and offices for the Outreach Team, Community Team and Behaviour Support Service teams. Approximately 1 mile from the main school site is a residential and extended day facility, Tower House, which also houses a Special Activity Unit for KS3 and KS4 children.

School placements vary in length, with an emphasis on including children in mainstream education whenever possible and an expectation that children will reintegrate to mainstream schools at the earliest appropriate opportunity. For Year 10 and 11 students, the key focus is on preparation for examinations and training and employment.

For a number of years now the school has been seen as a national leader in the field of behaviour management

H.M.I. Ofsted in September 2004 graded the school as outstanding in every category.

Recent achievements have included designation as a 'Trailblazer' SEN Specialist School for B.E.S.D. one of only four schools in the country.

The school also holds the Gold Sportsmark Award, Healthy Schools Award and is one of the County's Lead Behaviour Schools.

For a number of years now the school has received the highest value added scores of any school in the county. These scores are based on progress pupils make between key stage 2 and key stage 4

There are up to 65 full time school places and up to 16 part time Junior PRU places available on site. Up to 12 places can be offered with residential provision and the school aim is that during their placement all full time children make some use of the residential facility based at Tower House including the use of an extensive extended day programme.

Ofsted Inspection 2008:

"This excellent school does an exceptional job in helping pupils who have had a troubled past and inconsistent schooling to change their behaviour and to develop a hunger to learn. The very high esteem in which pupils, parents and carers hold Cuckmere House is well founded.." The school received "outstanding" for every section of the inspection.

GLYNE GAP SCHOOL

Hastings Road, Bexhill on Sea, TN40 2PU
Tel: 01424 217720 Fax: 01424 734962
gg-office@glynegap.e-sussex.sch.uk

www.glynegap.e-sussex.sch.uk

Special Need: Complex Learning Difficulties, including Autistic Spectrum Disorders

100 pupils

Nursery, Primary, Secondary & FE

Glyne Gap School caters for children and young people with severe or profound learning difficulties. The school is organised into 4 departments, including a nursery attached to the Infant Department. Glyne Gap School is one of a small number of schools in the country to receive a national stamp of approval and be designated as a specialist SEN (Special Education Needs) college in the field of cognition and learning (Sept 2006).

Facilities:

The school is well equipped with specialist toys and physiotherapy aids. It has its own pool and a purpose built sensory resource centre. The Further Education Facility for pupils aged 16-19 is a purpose built faculty in the heart of Bexhill College. The Nursery is sited in a brand new building adjacent to the school and Pebsham Primary School. It is run in partnership with The 'Early Years' nursery (which is managed by Bexhill College). The school's aim is to work in an inclusive way while giving the children the extra support and small-steps learning that they need to make progress and to feel comfortable and confident within a busy Nursery.

Teaching & Learning:

A programme for each pupil

As a pupil passes through the school and develops, it could be said that s/he is climbing a ladder. Each step represents a skill, and the ladder is taking the pupil towards independence. Because each pupil is different, and has different strengths, the next step of the ladder to be worked on will be unique to them. For some the next step will be sitting, walking or pointing to a chosen toy, for others it may be cooking lunch or reading the sports page of a newspaper. To meet each pupil's needs, an individual programme of work is drawn up every term. This programme is usually a number of steps or goals that the pupil will work on and aim to achieve by the end of that term. In the nursery the youngest children attend for four sessions a week, usually over two whole days, and this increases to five sessions when the children reach the term in which their third birthday falls. Children are not grouped by ability but by possible and developing friendships and this allows them to meet familiar faces each time they come to Nursery.

The National Curriculum

In addition to the above programmes, classes or groups will be working on topics or modules that provide exciting, stimulating and wider learning experiences. National Curriculum subjects pitched at an appropriate level will usually determine the content of these topics and modules.

Activities outside the classroom

Besides out of school activities like swimming, horse riding and community activities, a large number of pupils spend some time in the school week working alongside mainstream school pupils. Many older students also take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, ASDAN Award Scheme and go on vocational (work) experience placements. The school has recently gained the Healthy Schools award and has just been recognised as a Specialist Special School focusing on cognition and learning.

Ofsted Inspection 2006:

"This is an outstanding school that goes from strength to strength.... the quality of teaching and the rate at which pupils learn are outstanding. Pupils benefit from an outstanding curriculum that meets all of their learning and personal needs and makes learning fun." The school received "outstanding" for every section of the inspection."

GROVE PARK SCHOOL

Pre School & Primary:

Church Road, Crowborough, TN6 1BN

Secondary & Post 16:

Grove Park School, Beacon Community College
East Beeches Road, Crowborough, TN6 2AS

Tel: 01892 663018 Fax: 01892 653170

office@grove-park.e-sussex.sch.uk

Special Need: Complex Learning Difficulties, including Autistic Spectrum Disorders

56 pupils

Pre School, Primary, Secondary & FE

Grove Park School is a school for children and young people who have severe and profound learning difficulties, it also includes some children who have Autism and those who may have additional physical and/or sensory impairment, aged between 2 -19 years.

Grove Park School has gone through a very exciting period of change with the secondary and post 16 students now attend a purpose built school, co-located on the site of Beacon Community College.

Children aged 2-11 (primary phase) attend school at the Church Road site.

Facilities:

Grove Park school is a single-storey building with a multi-purpose hall, food technology room, soft play room, sand and splash pool area, ball pool, library, sensory room and autistic facility. There are central resource areas for Art, Music, PE and a resource room. All classes have a computer. The building also has a therapy room for Physio, Speech and Language and Music Therapy. Over all the three sites the facilities are accessible by children and young people in wheelchairs and there are toilets adapted for the physically disabled.

The 6th form department has three classes, a sensory room, common room, a therapy room, curriculum resource areas as well as the usual administration facilities. The use of curriculum teaching areas such as Food Technology and ICT will be shared use with the college.

The secondary department will have six classes with 1:1 teaching rooms, therapy rooms, a sensory room and administrative facilities and again shared use of the curriculum teaching areas.

Teaching & Learning:

Grove Park is committed to providing a curriculum which responds to the needs of the individual pupil. The whole curriculum is viewed as a framework of expectations in which children and young people are able to progress at their own pace. In order to challenge each pupil, the curriculum is modified to be appropriate to the age and abilities of the class group, and then differentiated for each child. Pupils and students are grouped across the age and need range into class groups.

The world is an exciting adventure for all children and young people, whatever their abilities and pupils learn best when they are motivated to explore, find out for themselves or are having fun. Wherever possible, curriculum targets are presented in a practical, enjoyable but structured context to maximise learning and promote self-esteem.

Additional communication systems such as the Picture Exchange Communication System and Makaton are used alongside speech to support children with their language/communication development. Students with Autism have structured programmes such as the TEACCH and the use of Social Stories to enable them to access the curriculum and help them to understand the world around them.

At 16 years, the emphasis moves to preparation for adult life. This includes the Youth Award Scheme (ASDAN), more practical involvement with the community, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and further development of leisure skills.

The school has recently gained the Healthy Schools Silver award

Ofsted Inspection 2008:

"Children, pupils and students make good progress in their personal development and satisfactory progress in their academic work. They love being at school and attend as often as they can. They develop into confident young people with good self-esteem and some degree of independence.."

HAZEL COURT SCHOOL

Larkspur Drive, Langney, Eastbourne, BN23 8EJ
Tel: 01323 465720 Fax: 01323 740121
office@hazelcourt.e-sussex.sch.uk

Website:
www.hazelcourt.e-sussex.sch.uk

Special Need: Complex Learning Difficulties including Autistic Spectrum Disorders

90 pupils

Secondary & Post 16

Hazel Court School is a school for pupils and students with severe and profound learning difficulties between the ages of 11 and 19 years. It is organised into two distinct phases; Hazel Court Secondary School and Hazel Court School Further Education (FE) Department. Hazel Court Secondary School has new and purpose built accommodation within the same building as a mainstream secondary school (The Causeway). Together, they make the first purpose built co-located schools in the country (two schools under one roof). Hazel Court School FE Department is also a purpose built building, designed by our staff and opened in September 2000, which is co-located with the Sussex Downs College. The FE Department was the first purpose built co-located SLD School FE Department in the country and the facilities for our students are outstanding. 'Co-location' means that the facilities are shared with another school, giving 'the best of both worlds', with the specialist teaching of the highly experienced staff, plus superb and natural integration experiences.

Facilities:

The accommodation at the Secondary school and FE Department is excellent. The shared site with the secondary school has brought very many benefits for both sets of pupils. Opportunities for integration into the mainstream site are very good. Some joint practices between the two schools include a Year 7 visit to Spain each year. Shared provision of some specialist rooms, such as for design and technology and the library, also bring many benefits and enhanced provision for both schools. The spacious rooms and specialist facilities are of very high quality, giving pupils a pride in their environment and ensuring they stay involved in their learning. There is also a new hydrotherapy pool, organised and operated by Hazel Court School, 300m away on the site of a local primary special school (South Downs School). The new active soft play area is proving a great success with all pupils.

Teaching & Learning:

There are 6 class groups within the secondary school: 4 class groups covering Key Stages 3 & 4 (ages 11 to 16); a specialist class for pupils with complex and multiple disabilities, including severe physical disabilities, and a specialist class for pupils with profound disabilities and an Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

The FE Department has 5 class groups, but the students may be organised into different groups through the school day. When deciding which class can best provide for a pupil's specific needs, the Headteacher will take into account (in liaison with parent/carer) the pupil's age, development and individual requirements, in relation to the resources of the school. Each pupil has an entirely individual set of teaching targets and their own timetable, which operates within the framework of the class timetable.

The classes have small groups of 6 to 9 pupils with a teacher plus two full time teaching assistants. Some pupils will have 1:1 additional staffing support.

Ofsted Inspection 2008:

"Hazel Court is a good school that parents overwhelmingly support and pupils love to attend. Good teaching encourages rapid learning and so pupils make good progress and achieve well even though the nature of their learning difficulties and disabilities means that standards are exceptionally low in the school and the FE department.."

NEW HORIZONS

Beauchamp Road, St Leonard's on Sea
Tel: (01424 855665) Fax: (01424 855117)
office@newhorizons.e-sussex.sch.uk

Special Need: Behavioural
Emotional, & Social difficulties

53 Pupils

Primary & Secondary (7 – 16)

New Horizons offers provision for children and young people with a statement of special educational needs who have behavioural, emotional and social difficulties and some behaviours within the autistic spectrum. The school is a cross phase school, taking primary aged children and young people who are 7 - 11 years old and secondary pupils of 11 – 16 years old. The centre offers a wide range of provision for its students including GCSE courses, FE based vocational courses, Work Related Learning and, where possible, supported reintegration on a full or part time basis to mainstream school.

Facilities:

The school is located on two sites and also uses the facilities on two other local school sites.

The primary department has its own play area and separate entrance. There are 4 well equipped classrooms.

The school is equipped with Science, Art, and DT rooms and an IT suite. There are indoor sports areas and outdoor play areas. All regular teaching rooms have interactive whiteboards. There is also a music studio.

There is a specialist KS3/4 group for 6 young people with high functioning autism/Asperger's Syndrome. In addition, there is an ASD Youth Club operating out of school hours.

Young people in Key Stage 4 attend a separate centre.

Teaching & Learning:

Children and young people in the Junior Department follow the same National Curriculum as their mainstream peers, but it is differentiated to meet their individual needs. The school strives to create a learning environment that reflects the experiences of children and young people in mainstream education, while addressing behaviour, emotional and social needs.

Within the secondary department, a range of specialist subjects are offered up to GCSE level and all students are encouraged and supported to achieve additional external qualifications. Children and young people work towards Foundation level in addition to GCSE exams and the school endeavours to ensure that everything taught enables children and young people to achieve some form of accreditation or recognition.

Ofsted Inspection 2007:

"Typical comments (from parents) note the 'tireless' commitment of staff, a 'fantastic' year with improved behaviour and 'my child is finally starting to learn!' The school has put a lot of effort into ensuring the curriculum is interesting and motivates pupils who have been disaffected by learning. As a result, the relevant, well resourced curriculum meets many pupils' complex needs well."

SAXON MOUNT

Edinburgh Road, St Leonard's, TN38 8DA
Tel: 01424 426303 Fax: 01424 444115
office@saxon.e-sussex.sch.uk

www.saxon.e-sussex.sch.uk

Special Need: Autism,
Communication and associated
Learning Difficulties

110 pupils

Secondary

Saxon Mount School provides education for pupils with moderate learning difficulties and speech and language difficulties. The school has a special unit which caters for a small number of pupils with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

Facilities:

The school is on two levels with stairs, ramps and elevators, set in extensive grounds. A new building provides large classrooms and Science, Art and Technology rooms. The school has specialist toilet and changing facilities. There is also a pottery kiln on site. Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy can be received on site.

Teaching & Learning:

Each young person follows an enriched and balanced curriculum allowing access to all National Curriculum subjects. Their individual needs are also met in Religious Education and PSHE (Personal, Social & Health Education). The young people are encouraged to make their own decisions and pursue their own ideas and are able to take part in GCSE examinations.

In Years 10 & 11 pupils take part in programmes to prepare them for leaving school. This includes Careers Education, two weeks' work experience and one day a week vocational link course at Hastings College. The programme is certified through the Youth Award Scheme and includes life skills.

Speech & Language:

Year 7 children are assessed on entry for speech and language needs and if provision is required it may be in the form of in-class support, small group work or intensive individual programmes. All Year 7 & 8 children also take part in a Social Use of Language Programme.

Autistic Spectrum Disorder:

The school has two specialist classes which have a high staffing ratio. Visual timetables and clear reward systems are in use.

PE:

PE encourages young people to lead full and valued lives and develop knowledge of the body and its movements. Specially adapted sessions are devised for those young people who have difficulties with motor skills.

Ofsted Inspection 2008:

"Parents say it is 'a warm, caring environment' and that 'care and compassion stands out'. Students' personal development is good because pastoral support is strong and the school works well with others to ensure students' well-being. Provision in the unit for students with autistic spectrum disorder is good."

ST MARY'S SCHOOL

Horam, Heathfield, TN21 OBT
Tel: 01435 812278 Fax: 01435 813019
office@st-marys-horam.e-sussex.sch.uk

Special Need: Behavioural,
Emotional and Social Difficulties

55 pupils - boys only
Age 9 - 16

Secondary + respite residential
facilities

St Mary's caters for children and young people (boys only) who have difficulty in learning combined with other problems that might be helped by attending St Mary's. Children and young people may use the residential facility on an occasional basis. The residential facilities have been refurbished.

St Mary's School is federated with Cuckmere House Special School. This means that the two schools can share teaching expertise, resources and also create wider friendship groups. It also increases access to after school and holiday activities.

Facilities:

St Mary's is set in 14 acres of parkland. 12 care staff take responsibility for the children and young people outside class time, although teaching staff also spend time in the evening and weekends helping with the children and young people. There is a well equipped specialist room for home economics.

Teaching & Learning:

The children and young people are divided into 7 classes, as far as possible according to age. However, consideration is also given to the pupil's level of social development. Each pupil's educational programme is organised on an individual needs basis. In Year 7 literacy and numeracy are taught by the class teacher for the majority of the time with specialist teachers joining the class for particular subjects.

The school has the flexibility to cater for those children and young people for whom it is felt the National Curriculum may not be suitable, by having more appropriate courses of study to meet their individual needs.

The ASDAN and Youth Award Scheme accreditation meets the needs of the majority of St Mary's students and has proved to be a considerable motivating factor in years 10 & 11. Much of the work in Year 11 is part of the Leavers' Programme to help prepare students for leaving school and entering adult life. Elements of the programme include Personal and Social Education, communication, travel and leisure activities, health & safety and numeracy skills required in society. The school works closely with the Careers Service to ensure a smooth transition to the next stage of a pupil's life.

There are many opportunities for extra curricular activities such as swimming, art and crafts, sports activities, roller skating, snooker, table tennis etc as well as outings to places of interest. There is a bi-annual camp for all the children and young people. In the year where there is no camp, there are other activities such as youth hostelling or visits abroad.

Ofsted Inspection 2006:

"The curriculum is good. A growing number of nationally accredited courses help ensure that pupils are provided with challenging work that enhances their self-esteem and prepares them well for the future. The school provides a good range of activities at lunchtime and after school to enrich the curriculum. There are very good links with other schools. These provide pupils with valuable opportunities to play competitive sports and give them the benefit of specialist teaching to prepare them for a wide range of GCSE courses."

THE LINDFIELD SCHOOL

Lindfield Road, Eastbourne, BN22 OBQ
Tel: 01323 502988 Fax: 01323 500433
office@lindfield.e-sussex.sch.uk

Special Need: Autism,
Communication and associated
Learning Difficulties

78 pupils

Secondary

The Lindfield School caters for young people with a range of learning difficulties including speech, language and communication disorders, autistic spectrum disorders and physical needs. The young people benefit from partnership links with the neighbouring technology college and also a new ICT suite.

Facilities:

The school has recently been completely rebuilt on the same site so that the school now enjoys very good subject facilities in spacious, purpose-built accommodation. The school has special facilities for young people with severe autistic spectrum disorder.

Teaching & Learning:

The school is organised into 5 year groups with the young people taught by subject specialists. All the young people in the school have equal opportunity to access a broad, balanced curriculum whether at The Lindfield or through outreach integration at a mainstream school, which is modified to their particular needs. They have the opportunity for learning through first hand experience and participating at their own level and speed. All young people have the opportunity to develop independence and organisational skills through classroom management and curriculum development.

For those young people who require speech and language therapy, this is supervised by a visiting therapist. For those requiring physiotherapy the school has a specialist PE teacher who carries out programmes set by a physiotherapist from the Health Authority. The physiotherapist also monitors programmes on a termly basis.

Some staff are trained in Makaton to access communication. Emphasis is placed on providing strategies to communicate with others in preparation for life in the outside world.

The school follows the National Curriculum Programmes of Study, and parents/carers receive copies of the individual programmes of study for their child to enable them to fully support their child's learning and homework.

Ofsted Inspection 2007:

"The Lindfield School is a good school with particular strengths in encouraging pupils' personal development, well-being and self-esteem. Pupils thoroughly enjoy their school, and this can be seen in their excellent behaviour and above-average attendance. All pupils make good progress and achieve well throughout their schooling, and they achieve very well in art and design"

THE SOUTH DOWNS COMMUNITY SPECIAL SCHOOL

West site: Beechy Avenue, Eastbourne, BN20 8NU

Tel: 01323 730302 Fax: 01323 640544
office@downs.e-sussex.sch.uk

East site: Shinewater Lane, Eastbourne, BN23 8AT

Tel: 01323 761061
office@downs.e-sussex.sch.uk

www.south.downs.e-sussex.sch.uk

Special Need: Autism, Communication and associated Learning Difficulties and Complex Learning Difficulties

125 pupils

Pre School and Primary

The South Downs Community Special School meets the needs of learners with a wide range of complex special educational needs. The school has specialist provision for children with Autism, Communication and Associated Learning Difficulties, and for children with severe and profound learning difficulties.

In addition the school supports the needs of a large number of learners with speech, language and communication difficulties in local mainstream schools.

Facilities:

The school is based on two sites in Eastbourne. Between them the sites offer: two sensory rooms, soft play areas, food technology areas, libraries, a music room and we have the use of a large hydrotherapy pool on our East Site. We have a therapy suite used by speech and language therapists on our West Site. Both sites have outside play equipment and small school fields. All classes have a range of ICT equipment with most having interactive whiteboards. We also have video conferencing and interactive facilities between the two sites.

Teaching and Learning:

All pupils receive a differentiated curriculum to meet their individual needs. The children work towards individual learning goals in the context of the full National or Foundation Stage Curriculum.

Where appropriate staff may use a range of teaching strategies and techniques to support pupils learning. These may include the TEACCH teaching model, using the PECS (Picture Exchange Communication System) or delivering the curriculum through a sensory model.

A wide range of enrichment opportunities are offered including swimming, horse riding, and a range of community visits. The school also offers its older children the opportunity to participate in one of three different residential visits each year.

The school has received a School Achievement Award and has recently been given Healthy Schools Status and received the school's Active Mark for Physical Education.

Through a non-profit making company the school offers an extended day for pupils until 6 pm each evening. It also offers holiday play schemes including a 3 or 4 week scheme in the Summer Break.

Ofsted Inspection 2008:

"The South Downs Community Special School is a good school where pupils make good progress and achieve well. Quotes from parents include "I cannot praise the school enough for the way it has supported, cared for and educated my child" and "The support that staff provide for the children is second to none"...... pupils make good progress including different groups such as boys and girls and pupils with different types of special educational needs."

<p>TORFIELD SCHOOL</p> <p>Croft Road, Hastings, TN34 3JT Tel: 01424 428228 Fax: 01424 712322 office@torfield.e-sussex.sch.uk</p> <p>Website: www.torfieldschool.net/home.htm</p>	<p>Special Need: Autism, Communication and associated Learning Difficulties</p> <p>108 pupils</p> <p>Pre school & Primary</p>
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Torfield School provides education for children aged 4 – 11years with autism and language and communication difficulties based on two sites. The school has a significant percentage of children with autism in each class and three specialist classes for children whose autism is more profound.

Facilities

Torfield is a light, airy and attractive building. We have invested in high quality resources that support a multi-sensory approach to the curriculum. The indoor heated swimming pool has sensory lights and sound. There are two sensory rooms, two soft play spaces and a sensory garden. There is also a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) on site.

Every classroom on the main site has an electronic whiteboard and access to PCs. The grounds of the school are attractive, safe and secure. There are three minibuses for educational visits.

Teaching and Learning

At Torfield all pupils follow a broad, balanced and modified curriculum where communication and the development of personal and social education is at the heart. Play is especially important at Torfield as many pupils find it hard to make relationships, take turns and communicate appropriately. Therefore much learning is organised through practical activities and play.

As part of Creative Partnerships we have artists, musicians, dancers and drama specialists who work with the children to enrich their experiences. All children swim at least once per week and all swim by the end of year 6.

We aim to offer all children an inclusive experience and older pupils have residential trips and weekly horse riding lessons. From Easter there will be holiday clubs available to all children over the age of eight years.

Every child has experience of ‘Jump Ahead’ an Occupational Therapy Programme, Rebound Therapy (on the trampoline) and Speech and Language Therapy. There are four speech and language therapists working across the school.

Class sizes range from 6 – 12 and have high staffing ratios.

Ofsted Inspection 2007:

“Torfield is a good school with outstanding links with partners such as parents, health professionals and local schools. The pupils are safe and very well looked after. They receive an outstanding level of care, guidance and support. As a result their personal development is excellent. The pupils’ learning is good because they are taught well and they receive a good curriculum. Senior leaders have an outstanding commitment to equality of opportunity.”

SPECIAL FACILITIES:

East Sussex has a number of special facilities/units located within mainstream schools. These facilities enable children and young people to receive additional support, whilst attending mainstream classes with their peers.

Speech & Language Units:

LITTLE RIDGE CP SCHOOL Little Ridge Avenue, St Leonard's on Sea, TN37 7LR Tel: 01424 752266 Fax: 01424 755686 office@littleridge.e-sussex.sch.uk Website: www.littleridge.e-sussex.sch.uk	Special Need: Speech, language and communication difficulties 16 pupils (8 Infant + 8 Junior)
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The Units attached to Little Ridge Primary School provide intensive help for children and young people with severe speech and language impairment, as well as access to a broad and balanced curriculum. All children and young people in the Units have a statement of special educational need, specifying a primary difficulty of speech and language impairment. The Units are an integral part of the school. An annual Admission Panel decides which children and young people will be offered unit places. The length of stay in the unit varies according to the individual needs of each child.

Teaching & Learning:

The units provide dedicated intensive speech and language therapy and specialist teaching in a total language environment. The unit philosophy is that the children and young people's educational needs should be met in as normal an educational setting as possible. This helps to develop their emotional and social behaviour by encouraging peer group interaction with mainstream pupils.

All children follow the National Curriculum. Children within the unit also have additional targets which identify specific needs relating to their statements of special educational need. They have signed support (Makaton, Cued Articulation etc) if appropriate.

The aim is for the children to be able to return to their own local school as soon as possible. An integration plan will be arranged with the receiving school in order to make the return as easy as possible.

Ofsted Inspection 2003:

*"The school provides a sound quality of education for all its pupils and **very good** education for the pupils in the speech and language unit. Pupils make considerable gains in dealing with their speech and language difficulties, in the development of their personal and social skills and in their learning. The close co-operation between the therapists and teachers and teaching assistants provides great benefits to pupils."*

WALLANDS CP SCHOOL

Teacher in charge: Mrs Sandford

Gundreda Road, Lewes, BN7 1PU
Tel: 01273 472776 Fax: 01273 471228
office@wallandscp.e-sussex.sch.uk
www.wallandsprimary.com

Special Need: Speech, language and communication difficulties

16 pupils (8 Infant + 8 Junior)

Wallands School Language Unit provides for children who have a statement of special educational needs that indicates severe and specific speech and/or language impairment. An annual Admission Panel decides which children will be offered unit places. The length of stay in the unit varies according to the individual needs of each child.

Teaching & Learning:

The children in both Unit classes, in addition to their individual speech and language programmes, follow the national curriculum programmes of study in all subjects. Their work is usually linked to a topic which is the same as that in their equivalent mainstream class.

The children from both Unit classes enjoy the opportunity to integrate with mainstream classes on a regular basis, either in a group or individually. They attend assemblies and family groups, socialise during playtimes and join mainstream classes for subjects including PE, drama and singing. The aim is to be as flexible as possible with integration programmes so meeting the needs of each child.

The aim is for the children to be able to return to their own local school as soon as possible. An integration plan will be arranged with the receiving school in order to make the return as easy as possible.

Ofsted Inspection 2008:

“The language unit provides highly effective and carefully planned support for pupils with speech and language difficulties. The pupils attending the language unit benefit from well focused and targeted support and activities. Pupils with learning difficulties and/or disabilities are provided for sensitively and carefully. Teachers make good links between subjects to enhance pupils' learning.”

Speech, Language & Communication Facilities:

PEACEHAVEN COMMUNITY SCHOOL Greenwich way, Peacehaven, BN10 8RB Tel: 01273 581100 Fax: 01273 575859 pcs@webmail.digitalbrain.com Website: http://pcs.digitalbrain.com/pcs	Special Need: Speech, language and communication difficulties Secondary
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Peacehaven Community School is a new purpose built school. The speech, language and communication facility is an inclusive provision. Support for students in the facility is organised in response to their individual needs.

Teaching & Learning:

Support for students may include inclusion in the following:

- A small teaching group of between 10 & 15 students working with the same teacher for English, Maths and Humanities
- An English group of 4-6 students for two hours a week
- Individual/paired literacy and language sessions
- Individual teaching sessions
- Social skills groups

Support also includes a high level of in-class support to support students across the curriculum. In addition, staff from the Learning Support and Development Facility work with teachers to develop the curriculum so that it supports the inclusion of students with speech, language and communication difficulties.

Ofsted Inspection 2008:

"Peacehaven Community School provides a good standard of education. Although it is still a relatively new school, it has established itself as seeking to include all students and to raise their aspirations. Less able students and those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities make particularly good progress. This is because teachers include them very well in lessons and because of the exceptional care for their personal development and well-being provided by the learning and support team. This is much appreciated by the students and their parents with one saying her son had made 'progress that we never dreamed was possible' since joining the school. At all ages, less able students make the best progress relative to their starting points and students with significant learning difficulties and/or disabilities make outstanding progress because of the support they receive."

<p>PEACEHAVEN INFANT SCHOOL, HODDERN JUNIOR SCHOOL, www.hoddernjunior.co.uk</p>	<p>Special Need: Speech, language and communication difficulties</p>
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The Special Needs Facilities at these two schools help to support children who have speech, language and communication difficulties in a cluster of schools in Newhaven, Denton, Telscombe Cliffs and Peacehaven (South Downs Special School supports schools in the Eastbourne area). The Facilities support children who have a statement of special educational need and those who have been identified for enhanced support by the Special Needs Co-ordinator of their home school and the Educational Psychology Service and Speech and Language Therapy Service.

Teaching & Learning:

The support given to the children is flexible to meet their individual needs. Facility staff work with children in their home school; children may also attend the Facility for one or two sessions a week. Children remain on the roll of their home school.

The Facilities also support teachers and other school staff by providing training and outreach support, whereby staff go out to schools to work with individual children, small groups of children and school staff.

The major aim of the facilities is to provide a centre of excellence and expertise for schools, children and young people and parents in the local community. Together they can raise the achievement of children and young people with special needs and increase quality inclusion in mainstream schools.

Special Facilities for Secondary Students with Specific Learning Difficulties:

<p>BEXHILL HIGH SCHOOL www.bexhillhigh.e-sussex.sch.uk</p> <p>SEAFORD HEAD COMMUNITY COLLEGE www.seafordhead.e-sussex.sch.uk</p>	<p>Special Need: Specific Learning Difficulties</p>
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Two mainstream secondary schools in East Sussex have special facilities providing specialist support for students with a statement of special educational needs for specific learning difficulties.

Each of the facilities offers support in different ways, including in-class support, access to a mentor for social and emotional support and specialist support for literacy and numeracy, both on an individual basis or in small groups.

The students are taught in sets which reflect their ability rather than their literacy skills and a range of strategies are then used to help the students record what they have learned.

Bexhill High School gained Technology Status in 2001 and has superb information and communication technology facilities, boasting no less than 13 computer suites, in addition to computers in every classroom. Students take part in the Robot Challenge and Greenpower Car projects (the exciting chance to build, drive and race a car). Interactive whiteboards are also extensively available. As a result of a successful bid to the Government's Pathfinder schools building programme, Bexhill High will be building a new school. The new state of the art school will include £2.3million for facilities for children with special educational needs. www.bexhillhigh.e-sussex.sch.uk

Seaford Head Community College (website: <http://www.seafordhead.e-sussex.sch.uk>)

Special Facilities for Students with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder:

<p>MANOR PRIMARY SCHOOL Downsview Crescent, Uckfield, TN22 1UB Telephone: 01825 763041 Email: office@manor.e-sussex.sch.uk</p> <p>HEATHFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE 11-18 Cade Street, Heathfield, TN21 8RJ Telephone: 01435 866066 Email: office@heathfieldcc.e-sussex.sch.uk</p>	<p>Special Need: Autistic Spectrum Disorder</p>
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Manor Primary School and Heathfield Community College have both developed high levels of expertise in supporting children with ASD who are of mainstream ability.

Manor Primary School facility caters for up to 6 young people between the ages of 4 and 11 with high functioning autism (Asperger Syndrome).

Heathfield Community College has developed high levels of expertise in supporting young people with ASD who are of mainstream academic ability. It has been identified by the Department for Children, Schools and Families as a Regional Centre of Expertise and has provided support to other mainstream secondary schools in east Sussex in relation to ASD. The college has undergone building adaptations to support up to 10 young people (aged between 11 and 18).

In both schools the children and young people will have access to the full National Curriculum through attendance at mainstream classes or individually, according to their needs. The objective is to support the young people to take part in school life alongside their peers to the maximum level possible.

Hearing Support Facilities:

The below schools all have specialist Hearing Support Facilities

<p>Primary:</p> <p>MANOR PRIMARY SCHOOL www.manor.e-sussex.sch.uk</p> <p>WILLINGDON PRIMARY SCHOOL www.our-school.net</p> <p>Secondary:</p> <p>CLAVERHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE www.claverham.e-sussex.sch.uk</p> <p>PRIORY SCHOOL http://www.priory.e-sussex.sch.uk</p> <p>WILLINGDON COMMUNITY SCHOOL http://www.willingdon.e-sussex.sch.uk</p>	<p>Special Need: hearing impairment</p>
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Each of the above schools has a hearing support facility which is an integral part of the school and the pupils are included in all aspects of school life. Each pupil is the member of a mainstream class, but spends time in the facility for specific language development, speech work and health issues such as audiology checks. The Service Audiologist visits half termly and checks equipment, the children's ears, hearing levels, earmoulds, etc. The amount of time each pupil spends in the facility will vary according to individual need. The aim is to help each pupil acquire the skills needed to learn alongside their peers in the classroom.

The facilities use a variety of communication methods, depending on the individual pupil's circumstances; these include oralism, lip reading, Signed English, Sign Supported English (SSE), Total Communication (TC) and British Sign Language (BSL).

Manor Primary School (Uckfield) – pupils are fully integrated into, and included in, the complete range of opportunities available for all pupils at the school. They receive additional in-class support from a qualified Teacher of the Deaf and trained teaching assistants who work closely with class teachers and other members of staff. Children are issued with specialist equipment which includes radio FM systems. Small groups of children enjoy the experience of working in the acoustically treated Hearing Support Facility with their hearing impaired peers. The predominant method of communication is oral and the children learn to communicate using speech and hearing along with their peers.

Willingdon Primary School (Eastbourne) have two acoustically treated rooms for individual and small group work. Specialist equipment in the Facility includes radio aids, a hearing aid test box, auditory training equipment, computer equipment for the presentation and development of speech and language, subtitled videos and caption readers. The predominant method of communication is sign and they receive sign support from BSL to TC, depending on the child's needs and ability. Assemblies are sign interpreted by HSF staff. Notices and information around the school include sign graphics and a programme of sign language classes is incorporated into the curriculum.

Claverham Community College (Battle) caters for a small number of hearing impaired students in the Rother area. Students are fully integrated into the main school and supported by a Teacher of the Deaf. The predominant method of communication is oral and the students learn to communicate using speech and hearing along with their peers. Specialist equipment, including FM radio systems,

hearing aid test box and specialist software, are provided from within the Provision. Students have the facility to be withdrawn into a specialist room for additional support in specific areas.

Priory School (Lewes) – a full time specialist Teacher of the Deaf and specialist Teaching Assistants support students who are integrated into the main school. The predominant method of communication is oral and the students learn to communicate using speech and hearing along with their peers. Staff are also trained in methods of supporting hearing impaired students in the classroom. The children are fully integrated with the rest of the school, but have the provision of an acoustically treated, dedicated unit for withdrawal and support.

Willington Community School (Eastbourne) – the HSF is specially adapted to meet the needs of deaf students. The predominant method of communication is sign and they receive sign support from BSL to TC, depending on the student's needs and ability. Any student whose statement of special educational needs outlines a modified approach to the curriculum will have work differentiated to their needs and access to vocational courses which are run in the HSF. All students have the support of an Educational Audiologist. A holistic approach to the development and progress of the deaf students enables them to feel valued members of the school community. The opportunity to acquire the necessary communication skills to enhance successful inclusion is available for both students and staff in the mainstream school.

Special Facilities for pupils with severe physical or sensory disabilities:

WEST ST LEONARD'S CP SCHOOL Harley Shute Road, St Leonard's on Sea Tel: 01424 422080 Fax: 01424 422080 www.west-st-leonards.e-sussex.sch.uk	Special Need: severe physical or sensory disabilities
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West St Leonard's Primary School has modern facilities with full disabled access and caters for physically and sensory disabled children. The buildings were designed to give ready access to wheelchairs virtually throughout, and has equipment and staff suitable to meet the needs of disabled, as well as able-bodied children.

Supported by the special facility, the pupils belong to a mainstream class and join in the educational and social life of the school. Pupils benefit from additional specialist resources to meet their needs. These may include Speech Therapy, Physiotherapy and Hydrotherapy.

There are hard surfaced playgrounds and a field for the children to play on. The play area includes an adventure playground with safety surface.

Ofsted Inspection 2004:

"The school has achieved the following awards: Active Mark Gold for Physical Education and Healthy Schools Initiative accreditation. It won an achievement award in 2001 and 2002 from the Department of Education. The commitment to providing learning and personal development opportunities to every child is excellent and a great strength of the school."

FILSHAM VALLEY SCHOOL Edinburgh Road, St Leonard's on Sea, TN38 8HH Tel: 01424 446247 Fax: office@filshamvalley.e-sussex.sch.uk www.filshamvalley.e-sussex.sch.uk	Special Need: severe physical or sensory disabilities
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Filsham Valley School was purpose built to accommodate wheelchairs, including a lift to all floors. Filsham Valley is proud to be a fully inclusive school. All pupils have access to a broad, balanced curriculum but may need additional support. Provision can range from the setting of adapted tasks and the use of aids, such as spellmasters and Dictaphones, through in-class support for individual students or withdrawal for learning support and extension activities. As well as their own special areas and staff, pupils have access to the extensive facilities at the school including Science laboratories, computer rooms, music & art studios, and a Dance and Drama Studio.

Facilities:

Filsham Valley School has access to the hydrotherapy pool at the Conquest hospital and uses two sessions a week for pupils who need this therapy as part of their physiotherapy programme. Pupils are escorted and supported by fully trained staff. As part of a physiotherapy programme some pupils

have access to a swimming session at a local pool. Again, they are escorted, supervised and taught by fully trained staff.

There is also a Visually Impaired Department with trained staff and specialist teaching assistants. They differentiate work for the Visually Impaired pupils, provide Braille tuition and offer specialist support in lessons. In addition, staff modify classroom resources to meet the needs of individual students in lessons.

Filsham Valley School has a specialist room for Physiotherapy. Pupils are able to work through the programmes required in their statements of SEN. A Physiotherapist visits school twice a week, and the Physio Assistant comes in four times a week. A teaching assistant specialising in physiotherapy works with the pupils as directed by the physiotherapy team.

The Speech and Language department is staffed by two part-time Speech & Language Therapists, together with a full time specialist teaching assistant. The school is able to offer:-

- 1 : 1 therapy sessions carried out by the therapist or trained assistant.
- Weekly Sulp group sessions (Social Use of Language Programme). focusing on developing social skills e.g. eye contact, listening, turn taking.
- Symbols are used alongside speech in order to develop a student's communication and understanding skills. These symbols are used alongside speech. We have a teaching assistant trained in this field working closely with our department.

Key Stage 3 & 4 pupils have designated study areas, staffed by a specialist SEN teacher or teaching assistant where they can receive coursework and homework support.

Ofsted Inspection 2005:

"The provision for pupils' care, welfare, health and safety, as well as their support and guidance, is very good in this very inclusive school. The provision for pupils with special educational needs (SEN) is good."

Who can help?

East Sussex Children's Services:

**PO Box 4
County Hall
St Anne's Crescent
LEWES
East Sussex
BN7 1SG**

Special Educational Needs Team

Telephone: 01273 481230
Fax: 01273 481599
Email: senteam@eastsussex.gov.uk

Parentlink

Confidential helpline:
Office number 01273 481279
Fax: 01273 481377
Email: parentlink@eastsussexcc.gov.uk

Admissions, Transport & Free School Meals Team

Telephone 01273 481000
Fax 01273 481140
Email admissions@eastsussexcc.gov.uk

Educational Psychology Service

Telephone 01892 655244
Fax 01892 669752
Email eps@eastsussex.gov.uk

Early Years Service

Telephone 01825 766641
Fax 01825 749508
Email eyes.uckfield@easynet.co.uk

Language & Learning Support Service

Tel 01825 764177
Fax 01825 768667
email lss.uckfield@eastsussexcc.co.uk

Service for Children with Sensory Needs

Telephone/Minicom: 01273 481154
Fax: 01273 481377
Email scsn@eastsussexcc.gov.uk

In addition to the support provided by the Children's Services team, there is a network of local, regional and national organisations which provide information and a range of support to families whose children have special educational needs.

Education Advice:

ACE (Advisory Centre for Education) – offers free advice on aspects of state education

Tel 020 7354 8321

Email ace-ed@easynet.co.uk

Web www.ace-ed.org.uk

IPSEA (Independent Panel for Special Educational Advice) – independent advice for parents

Tel 01394 380 518

Advice line 0800 018 4016

Web www.ipsea.org.uk

NASEN (National Association for Special Educational Needs) – promotes the education, training and advancement of all those with special educational needs

Tel 01827 311500

Web www.nasen.org.uk

Network 81 – gives information, help and advice on the Education Act

Tel 0870 770 3262

Helpline (Monday to Friday 10am – 2pm) 0870 770 3306

Email network81@tesco.net

Web www.network81.co.uk

Skill: National Bureau for Students with Disabilities – Skill is a national charity promoting opportunities for young people and adults with any kind of disability in post-16 education, training and employment across the UK.

Telephone/ Minicom 020 7450 0620

Email skill@skill.org.uk

Web www.skill.org.uk

Financial Support & Advice:

Disability Alliance – benefit entitlement advice

Tel 020 7247 8776

Web www.disabilityalliance.org

DIAL (Disability Information Advice Line) – information and advice on benefit and allowances

Tel 01302 310123

The Family Fund - helps families of disabled or seriously ill children under 16. The fund give grants and information related to the care of the child including holidays, leisure, laundry equipment etc. Apply by phone on 0845 130 45 42, online at www.familyfund.org.uk or in writing to Family Fund, PO Box 50, York YO1 9ZX. Please give your child's name and date of birth, their disability and details of the help required.

REACT – an independent charity which helps children with a life-limiting illness that are living at home with their families. They can assist with medical equipment, fares for hospital visits and domestic items which may be unavailable from other sources.

Tel 020 8940 2575

Email react@reactcharity.org

Web www.reactcharity.org

Other support organisations:

ADDISS (information and resources about Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder)

Tel 020 8906 9068

Email info@addiss.co.uk

Web www.addiss.co.uk

AFASIC (Association for all Speech Impaired Children)

Helpline 0845 355 55 77

Email info@afasic.org.uk

Web www.afasic.org.uk

BIBIC (British Institute for Brain Injured Children)

Tel 01278 684060

Fax 01278 685573

Web <http://www.bibic.org.uk>

British Deaf Association

Text Phone: 020 7588 3529 (24hr answer phone)

Voice Phone 020 7588 3520

Email helpline@bda.org.uk

Web www.bda.org

Contact a Family

Helpline: 0808 808 3555 Freephone for parents and families

Email info@cafamily.org.uk

Web www.cafamily.org.uk

Downs Syndrome Association

Tel: 0845 230 0372

Fax: 0845 230 0373

Email: info@downs-syndrome.org.uk

Dyspraxia Foundation

Email admin@dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk

Web <http://www.dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk>

ICAN – a charity for pupils with speech and language difficulties

Tel 0870 010 4066

Web www.ican.org.uk

KIDS (South East) KIDS - a national charity dedicated to helping children and young people with disabilities and special needs develop their skills and abilities and to realise their potential.

Tel 01329 242950

Email enquiries@kids-southeast.org.uk

Web www.kids-online.org.uk

National Autistic Society

Tel 020 7833 2299

Helpline 0845 070 4004

Email nas@nas.org.uk

Web www.nas.org.uk

Special Kids in the UK – for parents of children with special needs. Provides parent to parent support and information and advice

Email information@specaikidsintheuk.org

Web www.specialkidsintheuk.org

www.forparentsbyparents.com/baby_special_needs.html - this website has an A-Z list of special needs support organisations.