



Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs Bases

Information for professionals

There are seven Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) bases across Norfolk which offer additional support for learning within the primary sector with the aim of enabling all children to flourish.

This information sheet invites you to consider whether any of your pupils would benefit from the extra support and gives further detail on eligibility, how to apply, and how the offer works with mainstream schools.

Which pupils are eligible?

Primary aged children, referred in line with the age range for the base, who live within 45 minutes travel time by car.

A child does not need an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), but they should meet these criteria:

- is not making progress despite the best efforts of the school implementing Provision Expected at SEN support (PEaSS)
- a history of adverse childhood experiences, and/or limited opportunities to develop skills within attuned nurturing relationships
- assessed additional needs which appear primarily to relate to SEMH which impact relationships, learning, and play.
- finds elements of their environments or interactions overwhelming, and has difficulties regulating their emotional and behavioural responses
- has significant difficulties in following class and school expectations which impact their progress and regularly requires support to regulate emotions
- does not meet the criteria for a special school on initial assessment.

What does a SEMH base offer?

- full-time placements, initially with the aim of reintegration back to their mainstream school
- placements generally for up to four terms, while remaining on the roll of the mainstream school
- smaller class sizes of up to eight learners at any one time
- a lead teacher, a higher-level teaching assistant and teaching assistants, an SRB adviser, funded educational psychologists, and a family learning team
- opportunities for families to actively participate in their child's placement and their learning
- ongoing assessment and reassessment of needs to inform placement plans and reviews
- access to specialist interventions and therapeutic approaches following assessment from professionals
- targeted support to the mainstream school as part of the placement plan.

Where are our SEMH bases?

Key stage 1 (up to year 2)

- Manor Field Infant and Nursery School, The Corvus Learning Trust, Long Stratton
- St Michael's C of E Academy, Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust, King's Lynn
- Arden Grove Infant and Nursery School, The Wensum Trust, Norwich

Key stage 1 and 2 (year 1 to 6)

- Mundesley Infant and Junior School, The Coastal Federation, Mundesley

Key stage 2 (year 3 to 6)

- Caister Infant and Junior Schools, The Caister Primary Federation, Great Yarmouth
- Edith Cavell Academy and Nursery School, Boudica Schools Trust, Norwich
- Wensum Junior School, Evolution Academy Trust, Norwich

What to do before considering a referral

Step 1 - First you must ensure your school has fully implemented Provision Expected at SEN Support (PEaSS)

Step 2 - Make contact with your nearest SEMH base to discuss suitability

Step 3 - Arrange observations before any referral is completed.

Parents and carers must be involved in discussions and agree to any referral being made. By completing a referral the school must agree to the placement contribution rate as set on the Norfolk schools website

What happens next?

- referrals are considered at half-termly county SRB admission meetings
- letters to confirm an offer are issued to parents or carers and copied to your school and relevant SRB
- transport may be arranged if parents or carers are unable to take their child to and from the base and the child is eligible under our home to school transport policy
- a school agreement will be discussed and put in place as part of the placement offer

Further information

www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk/srbs

