

FAQs re Education and SEND

1. I've heard the schools are shut, but that children with EHCPs can continue to go. Is that right?

Schools, colleges and nurseries are closed until further notice for most children. The initial information was that schools should offer places in school for children of keyworkers, vulnerable children (e.g. who have social workers) and children with education, health and care plans (EHCPs). This was clarified in government guidance on 22 March 2020. The advice now is that if you can keep your child at home you should. The fewer children who mix in school the safer for everyone.

Schools, nurseries and colleges will offer a form of care and education for the children who need this most. This includes children of key workers who would otherwise be unable to carry out essential work (list of keyworkers in next question) and children whose care needs or home situation mean that it is safer for them to attend school than not. Having an EHCP does not necessarily mean your school will offer them a place in school, but it does mean your school should be considering them individually to identify if they need this. Check the government information to parents and carers [here](#).

Schools are currently identifying who they should be trying to provide for and contacting families to check information to work this out.

The government has particularly asked that Alternative Provision e.g. PRUs stay open as pupils there are likely to be particularly vulnerable even if they do not yet have an EHCP.

2. My 21 year old receives 1:1 support, how can I support him whilst college is closed?

It May be difficult to obtain direct contact support during the current climate to access 1:1 support, however there are opportunities for YP to fulfil their potential and obtain support via virtual mentoring and counselling services whilst offering educational support. See Local opportunities for children during COV-19 period and [Harrow Local Offer](#).

[Young Harrow Foundation](#) has very useful information- please see [here](#).

3. I am worried about my child's social and emotional wellbeing whilst at home?

Harrow Horizons will continue to support children, their families and young people aged 0-18 and young people with special educational needs and disabilities up to the age of 25.

- Referrals are being accepted.
- Working hours 9-5
- Day time appointments are being provided for YP
- Video call to conduct assessments
- Video call to conduct individual therapies
- Phone consultation

[Local Resources in Harrow for vulnerable families from CAMHS](#)

CAMHS-Service in Harrow is accepting new referrals from health professionals. If your child or YP meets the criteria a telephone appointment will be offered. There is a waiting list.

If child is accessing CAMHS already appointments will be done via Zoom (online)

Clients will be supported

- via Zoom
- phone appointments
- access to websites

For more details see the government publication [here](#)

4. If my child was out of school before the school closures were ordered, do I still have an entitlement to alternative education?

If your child attends a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) or Alternative Provision, this setting may remain open to provide support for children in the 'vulnerable' category and/or children of key workers.

5. I'm worried we will be asked to provide some education or learning for our children whilst they are off school, but I wouldn't know where to start

Most schools have started to prepare and send resources home with the children. Clearly, this may be much harder for some children with learning difficulties or additional needs, or if you have to work from home as well as look after the kids. There are lots of tips online from experienced home educators, but try not to put too much pressure on yourself as this is going to be new for everyone. Surely, a bit of TV now and then will be fine!

There are also lots of free resources you can access

If your child is attending Alexandra Special school or GrangeWood Special school you can access online resources on

<http://www.theedenacademy.co.uk/parent-forum>

Dyslexia Academy is offering one month Gold membership free to support home learning

Google Dyslexia Academy

You can also find resources on BBC Bitesize

6. Which of the Special needs schools are open in Harrow?

Harrow special schools contact details and information during the COVID-19 outbreak:

Which of the Special needs schools are open in Harrow?

Woodlands School

Bransgrove Road, Edgware, London, HA8 6JP,

E: office@woodlands.harrow.sch.uk

T: 020 8381 2188

Website: <https://www.woodlands.harrow.sch.uk/>

(Open only for Key Workers and a selected number of very vulnerable children and will provide weekly contact with all other children who are not attending school). Closed during Easter Holidays

Alexandra School

Alexandra Avenue, South Harrow, Middlesex, HA2 9DX

T: 0208 864 2739

E: office@alexandra-school.co.uk

Website: <http://alexandra-school.co.uk/welcome-to-alexandra-school>

School is temporarily closed for pupils and parents will be notified when the school will reopen

Kingsley High School

Whittlesea Road, Harrow Weald, Middlesex, HA3 6ND

T: 020 8421 3676

Email: office@kingsley.harrow.sch.uk

School is temporarily closed for pupils and parents will be notified when the school will reopen

Shaftesbury High School

Headstone Lane, Harrow, Middlesex, HA3 6LE

Tel: 020 8428 2482

Email: adminoffice@shaftesbury.harrow.sch.uk

<https://www.shaftesbury.harrow.sch.uk/>

School is open but no pupils have been attending. School will be closed for Easter and will reassess when school re opens.

Schools with Specialist Autism Provisions (ARP's):

Earlsmead Primary School

Arundel Drive, Middlesex HA2 8PW

T: 020 8864 5546

E-mail: office@earlsmead.harrow.sch.uk

www.earlsmeadprimaryschool.co.uk

Aylsward Primary School

Pangbourne Drive, Stanmore, HA74RE

T: 020 8958 9202

Email: office@aylward.harrow.sch.uk

<https://www.aylwardschool.org.uk>

Open for children of key workers, Children who have EHCP or vulnerable. Open during Easter Holidays for Key Worker children only.

West Lodge Primary School

West End Lane

Pinner

Open to keyworker children only and will also be open over Easter for children of key workers if needed.

Priestmead Primary School & Nursery

Hartford Avenue, Kenton, Harrow HA3 8SZ

T: 020 8907 5434

E: office@priestmead.harrow.sch.uk

School is currently closed and will remain closed until further notice.

7. My child has ASD is there any local support I can access?

[CAAS](#) is offering one to one support via telephone and email. Please see [here](#). They have a Facebook group for registered members and are accepting new referrals so people can get in touch via enquiries@adhdandautism.org.

8. My child usually gets SEN Transport will this continue?

- At the moment pupils are continuing to be provided with transport to their school or educational placement.
- Transport have confirmed with us that they have also been checking with schools to ensure they are expecting the pupils.

Please see more at [Harrow Local Offer](#)

9. I have an appeal in progress to the SEND Tribunal or was about to lodge one. How will this be affected?

The SEND Tribunal has confirmed that hearings will be on paper or by telephone (and, where the technology permits, by video) starting on Monday 23 March 2020.

The Tribunal have asked parties not to call the Tribunal until 2 days before hearings if they haven't heard anything as, like every public service, they are affected by staff shortages as a result of COVID-19.

With these measures, it is expected that there should be no need to adjourn hearings if the parties are ready to go ahead, even though they may not be able to take place in person.

For new appeals timescales and priorities have changed in the light of the current emergency. Any new appeals are now going to be listed on a 20-week timetable, unless it is about a phase transfer, which will be 12-14 weeks.

You can find further guidance on how telephone and video hearings will be used during the COVID-19 outbreak [here](#)

10. If I need to self-isolate and I have no support in place is there any local help I can get?

Harrow Council has an [emergency fund for Harrow Residents](#) who are in receipt of Council Tax and who are in need.

For those who are most vulnerable Harrow Council have a hotline

[Harrow Council](#)

You can find out the information from Harrow Council on their response to Covid-19 [Here](#) - the support for residents section is very good. You could also follow Harrow Council on twitter for latest updates [here](#).

Coronavirus Hotline telephone number

0208 901 2698

[Citizens Advice](#) has suspended face to face appointments but are continuing to offer phone appointment advice sessions on benefits, housing and work. They can be contacted [here](#)

There is a **Harrow COVID 19 community group** run by volunteers who are helping to pick up shopping and collect prescriptions for local residents who are in need.

You can call or text them on 0333 335 5268 or email them help.harrow@gmail.com

[Harrow Association of Disabled People](#) are still providing telephone advice sessions- for more information please see [here](#).

If you have a **medical condition** that makes you vulnerable to coronavirus you can register as a [vulnerable person on this government link](#).