

SEND :The Derby Way – EHCP Myth busting

There are lots of myths around the process of application for an EHCP and EHCNA. Let's try and clear some of those up for you.

The myth	The truth
Its quicker if a parent does the request	You will still be asked to submit the education request form even if the parent makes the initial request.
Parents applications are more successful than those submitted by the school	No- the applications are judged on their own merits. It is about the quality of the application rather than who has submitted it. (In most cases it is the school who will make the application.)
The successful plan automatically comes with additional funding attached	This is not the case in Derby City. Once a plan is finalised, an Element 3 Funding Provision Map is completed and submitted online to your EHCP Officer. However, if you have a child in your school who lives in Derbyshire, you will need to apply to them for an EHCP and the funding is calculated within a banding system and yes it does come with the funding attached to the plan. You CAN also apply for GRIP funding for children living in Derbyshire before and EHCP.
You must send 12 documents with an EHCP application.	This isn't true. As long as you stick to the checklist, your application will be accepted. There isn't a legally defined set of evidence to submit, but the local authority need to be able to establish that the child 'may' have SEND and 'may' need special educational provision (i.e. more than is available within the normal resources of the school)
You always have to demonstrate 2 cycles of Assess, Plan, Do and Review	This is best practice, but there are times when an application needs to be done under exceptional circumstances and you have not had time to gather the evidence. E.g. a child who has come from another country with profound needs or a child who has had a life changing illness.
Other professionals cannot help you fill out the form.	You should consult with other professionals to ensure you have the best, most up to date information
Parents do not have to give permission for you to proceed with an EHCP	Yes they do. They should be consulted throughout the Graduated Response for SEND and are asked to submit their views as part of the process. The local authority won't be able to progress without the consent of the person with parental responsibility. If you can't obtain this, then the local authority will.