

Transition FAQ's

How will I know if my child has a place at Bensham Manor School?

Once we have assessed your child, we write to the EHCP coordinator. Your child's EHCP coordinator will contact you with the school decision.

What do I do if I am unhappy with the outcome?

You should organise a meeting with the EHCP coordinator.

If my child gets a place at Bensham Manor, is there an induction day?

Your child will have an induction day towards the end of June/start of July. The school will write to you in advance with some information to help prepare your child for the day. There is plenty of information on transition to Bensham Manor on the school website under the Parents tab.

My child has a one to one teaching assistant at primary school. Why don't you offer this at Bensham Manor School?

At Bensham Manor we are working to develop your child's independence, communication and wellbeing. Your child is baselined in each subject during the first few weeks of attendance and then subject teachers know and understand the level your child is learning at. They adapt the curriculum and teaching delivery to meet the needs of all children. The work will be at the correct level for your child so they will not need one to one support. All classes have at least one TA supporting so your child will have access to support in lessons.

My child already attends Bensham Manor School but I think they should be in a mainstream school.

Your child has an annual review of their EHCP each year. Talk to your child's tutor at this meeting and let the EHCP coordinator know. We have a very rigorous process for admitting children to Bensham Manor School. We do not admit pupils who could be educated successfully at mainstream level.

My child is in Year 11/Post 6 and will be moving onto college. How will the school support me?

Croydon has a great Transitions team who will support you and your child. Bensham's family support worker, Head of Key Stage 4, Deputy Head, Head of Post 16 and the form tutor will also help. We will give you your child's predicted grades and learning pathway and advise you, with Croydon, of appropriate courses. We recommend you to start looking at colleges during Year 10.

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I would like my child to stay at Bensham Manor in the Post 16 class but my child has not been given a space.

Post 16 is for students who are not quite ready to make the leap from school to college. They need a further one or two years to develop their confidence, travel skills and skills for independence. We will let you know in your child's annual review in Year 10 about whether or not they would be suitable for Post 16.

My child does not attend Bensham Manor School but attends a mainstream school and is struggling. The SENCO recommends I look at Bensham Manor School. What is the process?

The first thing you should do is come to an Open Morning at Bensham Manor. Dates are published on the website and you can book via email or by calling the office. For your first visit we suggest you do not bring your child - it is important that you, as parent/guardian, get an understanding of the school in the first instance and talk to the Headteacher. If you think the school could be appropriate then ask your child's EHCP coordinator to send a referral to us. This usually consists of your child's EHCP and any other reports from professionals that are working with them. We will invite you and your child in for a tour, together with the Deputy Headteacher, and then we offer a trial placement which lasts for two weeks. Your child would remain on roll in their current school during this trial period. We will then feed back to you about the appropriateness of your child being offered a place at Bensham Manor.