

SLCN in your child's school

Many children have speech, language and communication needs (SLCN), but very often they are not identified in schools. One study showed that around half of children with SLCN are not picked up in primary schools.

It is easy for schools to work out how many pupils have SLCN; we have some good up-to-date information.

10% of children have long term SLCN.

For a school with 1,000 pupils, that's 100 with SLCN

In a small school of 200 pupils, that's 20 pupils

That's two or three in every classroom

If your child's school is in an area of high social deprivation, then there's a good chance that

50% of children will start school with language difficulties.

With help many of this 50% will make good progress and not have long-term difficulties.

A good way to raise awareness of children's SLCN is to find out how many children with SLCN they know about.

- A good person to talk to if you have concerns is the school's special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCo).

Some questions to ask might be:

- ? How many pupils in school have SLCN?
- ? What training do staff have about how to identify children with SLCN?
- ? What programmes are there in school for children with SLCN?
- ? Is there anything in the school development plan about children with SLCN?

If the school has just identified a small number of children with SLCN, use our information on www.bercow10yearson.com/resources to work out how many there are likely to be. Or tell the school about how to do this.

Useful information that you could share with your child's school

- Download the two page summary from www.bercow10yearson.com, give it to your school SENCO or your child's class teacher. Ask them if they know about the review.
- Tell them there is a page just for teachers/early years practitioners that gives lots of practical information