

Funding for children with a Record of Need High Needs Matrix and Bandings January 2024

Additional and increased funding is now available for pupils with a Record of Need. This is part of the review of school funding and how funds meet the needs of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disability.

Parents may have noticed that a letter or band is now associated with their child or young person's (CYP) Record of Need. The following information aims to explain how the banding is decided, how schools are expected to use this funding and how this impacts children and young people's experiences in school.

The introduction of the new banding system aims to:

- establish greater levels of consistency and fairness for the funding of high-level SEND, whilst also providing more transparency across all schools and settings
- improve the level of inclusivity in all schools and settings
- create a shared language between Education, Health, Social Care, and other relevant partners to support discussions about individual children and young people
- help the Government to monitor and evaluate how well special educational needs provision is delivered

What is a Record of Need (RoN)?

A small number of children and young people in Jersey have a Record of Need (RoN) due to the complexity of their Special Education Need and/or Disability (SEND).

They, therefore, have the need for increased adaptive arrangements in addition to what is ordinarily available to them to support their access to education.

A RoN is a comprehensive and forward-looking document that sets out to determine how best to achieve the outcomes and aspirations for a child or young person with complex SEND. This includes helping to prepare them for adulthood as they get older.

A formal RoN is developed following assessments over time and a submission to the SEND Service in partnership with schools' Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCOs) and various involved professionals to determine the severity of need and any specialist support required.

When determining whether a child or young person requires a RoN a team of panel members, agency professionals e.g. Speech and Language Therapy (SALT), Occupational Therapy (OT) or Child, Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) and members of the Inclusion Team will consider the evidence.

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If it is felt that the nature of the arrangements required are specialist, then recommended arrangements and the appropriate setting in line with availability is detailed in the RoN document.

What if my child doesn't have a Record of Need?

A child or young person can be recorded on a school's SEND Register as having a Special Educational Need. This may mean that their needs still require adaptation and support from the school, but these needs are less complex and do not require a RoN.

These children or young person's needs are met by the required SEND staffing and resources within each setting. These include the school SENCo and Inclusion Staff in line with each schools' base model for Inclusion. All mainstream/provided* schools are allocated additional funding equivalent to £1,196 per year per child on the register (Excluding faith, private or fee-paying schools). Your child's school is required to discuss inclusion on the SEN register with parents and to tell you if your child is on this register. If it is decided to provide a pupil with SEN support, the parents/carers must be formally notified (CoP 4.47)

How are bandings decided?

A High Needs Matrix (See separate attachment) is used to assess the needs of a child referred for consideration to a SEN Panel. In 2022 when the new funding formula was introduced, all pupils in mainstream schools with existing RoNs were assessed against this matrix to receive an indicative banding.

Going forward, any new submissions are considered using the High Needs Matrix and submissions from school staff, professional agencies such as Education Psychology, Therapies (Speech and Language, Occupational etc), Child and Adult Mental Health Service, Health Services and anyone involved in supporting children and young people. The matrix has been written in conjunction with all main agencies and professionals working with children and young people.

What are the components of funding for children and young people with a Record of Need?

Base funding – Schools are allocated base funding for every child and young person with a Record of Need. Base funding for 2024 is currently £10,323 per child, per academic year. The support provided by schools using this funding should be driven by the specific needs of the child. This may include, for example, therapeutic services or adaptive technology or resources as well as appropriate support from a Learning Support Assistant or specialist teacher.

High needs top-up funding - Every child and young person with a RoN attending a mainstream school (not a special school as they are funded differently) has been assessed against the high needs top-up matrix and given a relevant band.

The matrix defines the level of needs across four prime areas:

a) Physical and Sensory

b) Communication and Interaction

c) Social, Emotional and Mental Health

d) Cognition and Learning

This assessment determines the calculation (assessment points) for funding and applies a banding level between A to G. The table below provides the top-up value associated with each band.

Banding assessment discussions are carried out by all relevant professionals and the outcome is shared with parents. The matrix is not a tool to be used for the general identification of SEND for pupils who are not in consideration of a RoN.

How much is the funding and how long is in in place?

Band	Assessment Points	Top-Up £	Base £	Total £
A	0 - 31	0	10,323	10,323
B	32 - 45	5,162	10,323	15,485
C	46 - 58	7,743	10,323	18,066
D	59 - 70	10,323	10,323	20,647
E	71 - 84	15,485	10,323	25,809
F	85 - 93	20,647	10,323	30,970
G	94+	25,809	10,323	36,132
H	Exceptional and bespoke to individual pupil need			

Funding for a child or young person with a RoN is allocated for a year. This is reviewed on an annual basis (RoN Annual Review) where the impact of strategies and support in place during the year are assessed and the appropriateness of the continued banding is determined.

This review could result in a RoN no longer being required or a reduction/increase in the banding based on the assessment of the child/young person's current needs. The outcome of the review is shared with parents and any adjustment to funding is implemented from the date of the review.

Who is eligible for the High Needs Top-Up?

Schools will only receive the top-up component for children and young people with a formal RoN and a High Needs top-up band of Band B and above. Mainstream/provided* schools and any grant funded school that has signed up to receive this additional funding will receive it for pupils with a RoN.

Typically, if attending a specialist provision such as Mont a L'Abbé School or La Passerelle, High Needs top up funding is not provided because the base funding for a specialist provision is already much higher to reflect the significantly higher SEND needs of the children and young people there.

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What should a Record of Need related funding be spent on?

Schools must ensure that children and young people with a RoN can access the curriculum and full-time education along with their peers. To do so, the base and top-up funding should be used to remove any barriers to accessing learning and where necessary, provide one to one support, specialist equipment and/or adapted environments and resources to ensure children and young people achieve their full potential.

Do all schools get the same funding for Inclusion?

Funding for inclusion staffing and SEND (not RoN funding) is provided in full for all mainstream schools.

Only a proportion is paid to fee paying Schools and Highlands College (CYP at the college receive RoN base but not top-up funding). Faith and private schools are not provided any additional funding for inclusion staffing.

What determines whether my child is placed in an ARC (Additional Resource Centre) in a mainstream school?

Whilst the Matrix banding for a child or young person may be considered when determining an ARC placement, it is not the driving criteria. A child or young person with a RoN may meet the criteria for a specialist ARC placement due to requiring an alternative/modified learning environment with an enhanced Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) suited to their learning profiles. The allocation of ARC placements is therefore considered based on individual needs of children and young people on a case-by-case basis.

What happens if my child moves school?

The base funding remains with the school regardless of whether the child moves within the financial year. The new school will receive base funding for the child from the next financial year. High Needs top-up funding, unlike the base funding, will move with the child or young person as they move between schools and is pro-rated from the date of the move.

Where can I go for help?

If you have concerns about your child's education, you should speak to your child's class teacher or form tutor in the first instance. They will discuss your child's needs and explain how they and the school can support you.

If you still have concerns, please contact your school's Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo). They oversee the support services within schools. The Educational needs Code of Practice [JERSEY COP 2017 \(gov.je\)](#) and Special Educational Needs Policy [SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS POLICY \(gov.je\)](#) and to the [Parent Guide to CoP](#) (with flowcharts) explains the RoN process in more detail.

More detailed information about school funding, specifically funding for inclusion, can be found here [Jersey Funding Formula for Schools 2023](#)

*A provided school includes all Government of Jersey schools and fee-paying colleges and their feeder preparatory schools. It does not include private or faith schools. Highlands College is considered differently but pupils with a RoN on mainstream courses will receive the base funding.