Dorset Council

Specialist Resourced Provision (SRP) for Communication & Interaction

One Page Guide



What is an SRP?

A **Specialist Resourced Provision (SRP)** is a dedicated area **within a mainstream school** that provides targeted support for children and young people with **Communication and Interaction (C&I)** needs.

It allows children and young people to benefit from the **inclusive environment of a mainstream school** while receiving specialist help tailored to their individual needs.

The SRP is a hub of inclusive practice, helping the whole school community better understand and support children with communication differences.

Who is it for?

Specialist Resourced Provisions for Communication and Interaction are designed for a small number of children and young people who:

- Have an **Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)** with **Communication and Interaction** as their **Primary Need**
- Have **broadly average cognitive ability**, meaning that they can access a mainstream curriculum with occasional, additional support
- May be slightly behind their peers (up to 2–3 years depending on their age) in some areas

Typically, children suitable for the SRP may:

- **Struggle with spoken language**, vocabulary, or grammar
- Find it hard to interpret non-verbal cues or engage in social interaction
- Experience anxiety, **sensory sensitivities**, or emotional regulation difficulties
- Have a diagnosis of **autism, ADHD, or other neurodiverse conditions**

What does the SRP offer?

- **Specialist teaching and interventions** to support communication and interaction
- A mix of **mainstream and small group learning**. Children and young people will spend **at least** 50% in mainstream classes, learning alongside peers
- Access to **therapeutic sessions** focused on emotional wellbeing, friendships, and communication
- **Support from visiting professionals** such as Speech and Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Educational Psychologists, and Specialist Teachers
- **Safe, sensory-friendly spaces** for learning and emotional regulation
- A strong focus on **relationships, inclusion, and wellbeing**

How are admissions decided?

Admissions are managed by **Dorset Council** through a **panel process** held every half-term. The panel includes professionals from the SRP and Dorset Council, including Educational Psychologists and Specialist Teachers. Each case is reviewed carefully. To be considered for a place:

- The child or young person must have had a recent **EHCP Annual Review**
- Evidence must show that the current school has made **all reasonable adjustments** to support them
- They must meet the published Admissions Criteria

What happens after admission?

If a place is offered, the SRP will work with the current school or nursery to plan a smooth move to the new setting. The child or young person will be supported to settle in and gradually increase time in mainstream lessons. Each year the EHCP will be reviewed with the young person, family and professionals to explore progress and determine whether the SRP is still a suitable setting.

For more information contact your SENDCo or visit SEND Local Offer - Dorset Council by scanning the QR code.