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| **Pupil and School Support (PSS) – Parent Information****Who are Pupil and School Support?*** Pupil and School Support (PSS for short) is part of Access to Education who are a group of services supporting children and young people with additional needs in schools in Birmingham.
* We are qualified teachers who support children and young people in educational settings who have cognition and learning difficulties.
* Every mainstream school and academy has a qualified teacher assigned to their setting.

**How does the Pupil and School Support Team support schools?*** We work with schools to help their pupils with cognition, learning and language difficulties make progress and achieve to the best of their abilities.
* We help to develop the knowledge of SENCOs, ensuring they are able to lead whole school improvement; help school staff to support pupils with SEN, promote inclusive practice, set aspirational targets and raise attainment, and support early identification of need and evidence-based intervention.

 **How does the Pupil and School Support Team support individual children and young people?*** Schools will ask their PSS teacher to become involved if they have concerns about your child’s learning and progress.
* This should be after they have already given some additional support and tried different things in the classrooms.
* The decision to involve PSS should be discussed and agreed with you as parents/carers and your written consent will be gained first.
* All PSS involvement is personal to the child/young person and will take place after discussion with the school about their concerns. The PSS teacher may:
* Work outside the classroom with your child to assess their skills;
* See how your child works in the class;
* Talk about your child’s learning need with staff;
* Talk to your child about how they feel about their learning.

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| **How do we assess your child?** The PSS teacher may assess a pupil’s ability in any of the following areas: |
| * Speech and Language
* Reading
* Spelling
 | * Writing
* Memory & Processing
* Mathematics
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| **What happens after your child has been assessed?** After seeing your child, the PSS teacher will:* Share ideas about what to try next
* Work with staff on how to help your child

We may also:* Provide a written report for the school
* Meet you in school to discuss the work carried out
* Suggest other outside agencies who could also help your child
* Work with the school in monitoring you child’s progress and setting targets.
* See your child more than once to assess the progress that has been made over 6 months or a year.

**How do I contact a Pupil and School Support Teacher?*** You can arrange to see or speak to us through the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) at your child’s school.
* Contact details for the school SENCo can be found on their school website. Look for their ‘SEN Information Report’ for more information.

**Will I meet the Pupil and School Support Teacher working with my child?*** You are the expert on your child, and it is important that we work together to make decisions about your child’s learning
* Sometimes you will meet the PSS teacher in school.
* Sometimes contact will be via email, phone call or Microsoft Teams.

**Do Pupil and School Support have any further information for parents?**Webinars:* Parent and carer webinars on a range of topics can be found on the Local Offer website: <https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk>
* Previous webinars which you can watch and listen to can be found via this link: <https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/webinars/>

Webpages:* You may find the following links to our parent information pages and videos helpful too:
* Supporting children who have dyslexia: [Dyslexia Information for Parents (birmingham.gov.uk)](https://accesstoeducation.birmingham.gov.uk/dyslexia-covid-19/)
* Supporting children with learning needs: [Supporting learning (birmingham.gov.uk)](https://accesstoeducation.birmingham.gov.uk/parents-learning-covid19/)
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| Contact Details:Pupil and School SupportAccess To EducationEducation and Skills DirectorateBirmingham City CouncilOffice: PO Box 17843, Birmingham, B2 2JRBirmingham Local Offer: www.localofferbirmingham.co.ukAccess to Education: http://accesstoeducation.birmingham.gov.uk Birmingham Local Offer: www.localofferbirmingham.co.ukTo contact PSS: LDParentEnquiries@birmingham.gov.ukPlease note: Provision and support may change due to COVID restrictions. |