

[Home](#) > [Residents](#) > [Education and schools](#) > [Information for parents and carers](#) > [Section 19](#) > [Information for schools and academies](#)

Section 19 education for schools and academies

Last Modified March 04, 2026



Section 19 is a statutory safety net duty. Schools are expected to have:

- Implemented a graduated response
- Made reasonable adjustments under the Equality Act 2010
- Followed statutory guidance on supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Considered attendance support in line with current DfE attendance guidance

Before a Section 19 request is submitted, schools should ensure:

- The child remains on roll (unless permanently excluded)
- A clear record of interventions and reasonable adjustments is available
- Risk assessments are completed where relevant
- A reintegration plan has been discussed

Schools retain safeguarding responsibilities for pupils on roll where Section 19 provision is agreed.

Section 19 provision is temporary and must include a clear pathway back to school.

[↑ Back to top](#)

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