

Finding The Right School



Your 10 tips and checklist

1 **Start early.** Research schools through your local authority's directory.

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2 **Check suitability.** Call schools to discuss your child's needs and arrange a visit during school hours.

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3 **During the visit.** Ask questions, can you picture your child there?

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4 **Important question to ask.** If your child has an EHCP, ask "How will you meet my child's needs?" rather than "Can you?"

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5 **Academic opportunities.** Check if the school follows the National Curriculum and what qualifications they offer (GCSEs, BTECs, Functional Skills).

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6 **Regulation areas.** Are there sensory rooms, outdoor spaces, quiet zones, or trampolines etc for emotional regulation?

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7 **Social opportunities.** Does the school offer clubs, activities, and peer support to help build friendships?

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8 **Bespoke learning.** Consider how the school balances structured learning and personal development to suit your child's needs.

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9 **Therapeutic support.** If your child needs Speech & Language Therapy (SaLT), Occupational Therapy (OT), or other specialist support, check what the school offers and where they offer it.

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10 **Different abilities.** Ask about class groupings (by key stage or year group) to understand how the school adapts to different abilities and learning styles.

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For more advice and support, visit: witherslackgroup.co.uk