

## (15) Parents: Preparing for nursery

### Mainstream or special needs nursery?

Almost all children with epilepsy will go to mainstream nurseries. Only those with additional complex disabilities may need a place at a special needs nursery. Each local authority, irrespective of resources, has a duty to take any additional support needs into account before offering a local authority nursery place. Usually, this additional support can be provided in mainstream nursery.

### Specialist help

A parent, child's GP, health visitor or any health professional will usually be among the first people to identify additional support needs. Any of these health professionals can make a referral to a child development centre or an educational psychologist if learning problems are identified. This can be the first step to obtaining additional support for your child.

Parents can also contact their local education officer responsible for additional support for learning directly and ask for an assessment of their child's additional needs.

The services provided to a pre-school age child differ widely between local authorities. Some provide a pre-school home visiting service where a teacher will visit a home to support a child's development. This is usually only necessary for a child with more complex difficulties.

### Further advice from Enquire

For impartial advice, contact **Enquire**, the Scottish Advice Service for Additional Support for Learning, 0345 123 2303. Their website [www.enquire.org.uk](http://www.enquire.org.uk) contains extensive and up-to-date information, which includes a series of factsheets aimed at

parents on any aspect of additional support for learning for pre-school, primary and secondary education.