Choosing a secondary school.

These are examples of questions you may wish to ask, in helping you to reach a decision on your secondary school choices.

Questions	Notes
Induction • What induction or transition package do you offer for children with additional needs?	
Classroom practice • What are the class sizes? Do you set for ability? If so, which subjects? • Will my child be taught in whole class, small groups, 1:1 or a mixture? • Do you have a 'buddy' system? (A buddy system pairs students in a class and asks them to support one another with specific tasks or skills.) • Will class work and homework be personalised for my child, when necessary?	
Reasonable adjustments • How does your school make reasonable adjustments for children? (Under the Equality Act 2010, 'reasonable adjustments' mean a school or college must ensure that pupils with additional needs/ protected characteristics can fully participate in the education provided by the school, and that they can enjoy all other benefits, facilities and services that the school	

provides. For example, participating in after school clubs or residential trips.)	
Training and additional support for staff • Have staff received training related to additional needs? If so, what? Is this provided for all staff? • What support do you get from outside agencies? How do you deliver/follow through the advice/programmes from these professionals? • Do you have links with other schools, specialist settings?	
Support in school • Who provides extra support for children with additional needs and how is this done? • How is additional support provided within the classroom setting? • Will my child have access to support staff with specialist subject knowledge? • Is there someone my child can go to, to seek support, during the school day? • Do you run interventions for children? Which ones? • Is there a support base at the school?	
Resources • Do you have access to additional resources / equipment to meet my child's needs? • Do you have a dedicated sensory room/chill out area/workstations etc?	

• Will my child be able to attend a homework club? • Will my child be included in all activities in the school? • Do you have established support for children to develop social skills? • What support do you offer for pupils with anxiety or mental health problems?	
<u>Contact with parents</u> • How does your school manage reporting and collaborating with the parents of pupils with additional needs? • How often do you have review meetings? • How does the school communicate with home? • How can I work with the school to support my child and how will the school work with me?	