

## **Holistic assessment**

Disruptive behaviour can be an indication of unmet needs. Where a school has concerns about a pupil's behaviour it should try to identify whether there are any causal factors and intervene early in order to reduce the need for a subsequent exclusion. In this situation schools should give consideration to a multi-agency assessment that goes beyond the pupil's educational needs. In such a situation, an Early Help Notification will help to sign post external assessment and support that the school and the child may need.

Early intervention to address underlying causes of disruptive behaviour should include an assessment of whether appropriate provision is in place to support any SEND that a pupil may have.

Head teachers should consider what extra support might be needed to identify and address the needs of pupils from key vulnerable groups in order to reduce their risk of exclusion (pupils eligible for Free School Meals; Looked After Children; and pupils from certain ethnic groups; Gypsy / Roma; Travellers of Irish Heritage; new arrivals to UK; and Black Caribbean communities).