

Prayers for special schools.

Bible verse. Proverbs 13:14

The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life, turning a person from the snares of death.

Special schools

A special school is a school that caters specifically for children whose needs cannot be met with the provision and support provided by a mainstream school. This encompasses children and young people with many different types of educational needs. Most children with special educational needs (SEN) go to mainstream schools, with less than 10% attending special schools in the UK. Half of state-funded schools in England for children with special educational needs and disabilities are oversubscribed. Schools have converted portable cabins and even cupboards into teaching spaces. Head teachers say this puts pressure on staff and makes pupils anxious. Parents say the wait for places means their children are missing education. The Department for Education says it is spending £2.6bn on new places. Advances in life expectancy, more awareness and better diagnosis means there are now more children and young people with needs that are difficult to meet within mainstream schools. The pandemic has added to a system already under pressure. Over the past five years, the number of children and young people being educated in specialist schools and colleges in England has increased by nearly a third - to 142,028 last year.

Prayer pointers

- Pray for head teachers at special schools as they face many demands with an increasing number of children needing a place in a special school.
- Pray for appropriate space and resources for children at special schools.
- Pray for special schools that they will enable children to fulfil their potential.
- Pray for Christians in special schools that they will be good witnesses and show kindness and love to all.
- Pray for Christians visiting special schools that they will be good witnesses to the schools and show your love and compassion for all. Pray for wisdom to know how and when to share your good news.

A Prayer

Thank you, Father, for our special schools. Thank you for the opportunity for children to flourish at school. Please give head teachers wisdom to provide great leadership and create school cultures that are warm, welcoming, kind, and positive environments. Pray that there will be enough places for children and young people who need a place in a special school when mainstream schools cannot meet their needs. Thank you, Father, for all Christian visitors to special schools and give them wisdom to know how to help children explore Christianity. Lord Jesus help Christians visiting special schools to be good witnesses to the schools and show your love and compassion for all. Amen

Young person's prayer

Dear God, I am thankful for the man that helps and supports me in my lessons. He explains things to me, so they are more clear, he gives me more time to do things, he helps me to focus and lets me take breaks when I need them, and he gives me easier work to do. He is very kind and I think I would find school a lot more difficult without him. Amen