

Going Round in Circles?

Does it feel like you are on a roundabout and you can't get off?

Ring us and we will help you

If you have concerns about School - first talk to your child's teacher. Make an appointment to see them rather than try to talk at the beginning or end of the day which can often be very busy. A planner can be used to make sure you ask the questions you wish to ask; what actions are to be taken; who is to do them and when. See our website:

www.norfolksendpartnershiass.org.uk
under booklets, **Eastern Region IASS Meeting Planner**.

If you still have concerns, make an appointment with the Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) who oversees support for children with SEND.

It is also worth looking on the school's website at the SEN report and policies, these will help you understand what the school says about SEN and you can query areas which you are unsure about - you can ask for a printed copy.



If you are still not satisfied you can then speak to the Head Teacher or Principal and after them the governors or proprietors can be approached to talk about your concerns.

Colleges should have a named person who can help in supporting a student with SEN.

Colleges should keep a student profile and record of support which includes

conversations with you as a student about your progress and support.

Talk to your tutors and those giving you extra support. College can bring in other professionals from outside like educational psychologists, specialist teachers and support services. The college may suggest

an Education, Health and Care needs Plan if you are still not making the progress they expect. Talk to us to learn more.

Schools and **Colleges** both have a duty to record different or additional support given for each child or young person with SEND. This includes what is being done, how this is working and planning what to do next. In school this is called SEN Support: Assess, Plan, Do, Review.

Please get in touch and we will try to help you at any stage.

Does your child receive support from the Speech and Language Service?

See page 4 to complete a survey to give your views on what the service should offer young people and parents of children with special educational needs.



When is an Exclusion not legal?

There are two types of legal exclusion:

- 1) **Fixed Term** - which is a period of time up to 45 days in any one school year (all lunchtime exclusions are treated as half days).
- 2) **Permanent** - which means the pupil has been permanently excluded from school and will need to attend another school.

These are both called official exclusions.

Your child should only be excluded if:

- They have seriously broken the schools behaviour policy
- If their behaviour would seriously harm their education or the welfare of others.

You can ask for a copy of the schools behaviour or discipline policy; they should also be on the schools website.

There are very few times that school can ask you to come and collect your child, unless they are ill. Sometimes parents are asked to collect

their children without it being recorded. This is called an unofficial or informal exclusion and is illegal.

Children with SEND are far more likely to be excluded than other children. Sometimes a school will suggest that the parent does not want the exclusion on the child's record.

Without the evidence of exclusions to show that both the school and the child are not coping; there is no reason to make changes. When there is no improvement they may then be permanently excluded.

For children with statements or EHC Plans, contact their EHCP Co-ordinator (caseworker).

For exclusions guidance call us or the **Children Services Exclusion Helpline on 01603 303333**. We also have a booklet on our website.

The statutory guidance which covers maintained schools, pupil referral units and academies can be found at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-exclusion

Acronyms (Abbreviations) - what do they mean?

SENCO - Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, a qualified teacher who supports staff to teach children with SEND. They will advise on extra or different support for children with SEND. They will meet with parents; make sure SEN support, statements, EHC Plans and reviews are being carried out. They will work with the head teacher and governors.

CCG (Health) - Clinical Commissioning Groups, the groups that buy health services (commissions services), to meet the needs of local people. There are 5 in Norfolk.

FSP - Family Support Process, previously known as CAF. Makes your family the centre of the process. You make the decisions together with a group of professionals on the best ways to help your family.

EHCP Co-ordinators - previously known as caseworkers. They are young people and parents link for Statements and Education Health and Care Plans. They will work with you and other professionals to write and keep up to date the EHC Plan or review the Statement of SEN. They are also known as **Echo's**.

**Please let us know if you would like large print copies or if translations would be useful.
Now available in Portuguese and Polish**



Independent Support (IS) has been put in place by the government to help families where children or young people are moving from a Statement of SEN to an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), or are having a new EHCP.

In Norfolk, Scope and Norfolk SEND Partnership are both providing this service. The IS will explain what will happen at each stage, they will understand how an EHCP is written, the timescales and who takes part and help you get the most out of the new EHC Plans.

If you are a young person (16 – 25), a parent or carer and would like an Independent Supporter please call **Scope on 01284 717152** or **Norfolk SEND Partnership IASS on 01603 704070**.

Staying in education or training until 18 years of age

All young people are now expected to continue in education or training until they are at least 18 years of age.

This does not necessarily mean that they need to stay on at a school sixth form, although many will. They have a choice about how they continue in **education or training** post-16, which could be through:

- Full-time study in a school sixth form, a further education college, a sixth form college or with a training provider
- An Apprenticeship or Traineeship with an employer
- Full-time work or volunteering combined with part-time education or training

Useful Websites for young people

Apprenticeships: <http://www.apprenticeships.org/> – a great way to find and apply for apprenticeships in your local area.

BUILD: www.buildcharity.co.uk – BUILD is a Norfolk based charity that gives disabled social, leisure and learning opportunities .

Help you choose: <https://helpyouchoose.org> – a website to literally help you choose things like sixth form and college, jobs and much more!

Mint: www.mintnorwich.co.uk – Mint is a charity in Norwich that helps people with a barrier to work, get in to sustainable paid employment

Young minds: www.youngminds.org.uk – a website that tries to help with mental health and emotional wellbeing.

Disability rights: www.disabilityrightsuk.org – a charity that specialises in disabled young people and helps find them work and let people be able to live well on their own.

GOV UK: www.gov.uk – a great website that ranges from jobs to education to disabilities and just plain advice.

Speech and Language Services – Please tell us what you think:
Survey distributed through the SEND Partnership

As the new Children and Families Act began in September 2014, those who are responsible for arranging services for children and young people with **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)** now need to make sure their services are available and appropriate across the age range from 0 to 25 years and wish these to work well.

These services include Norfolk County Council departments of Social Care and Education, also Healthcare. With your help, we will work together to put services in place that meet the needs and get the best possible outcomes for children and young people aged 0-25 with SEND. **This survey can also be used for a group of young people.**

Because of this the support for speech and language needs for children and young people with SEND in Norfolk will be changing. We would like your help in shaping the future of this Speech and Language Service.

Please give us your views, we can then put these together with other information we are collecting to form a picture of what the new service will look like from April 2016.

Please say if you are you completing this form as a Parent / Carer..... If you are a Child or Young Person who has used the service please state your age If you are a Representative from an organisation (please state which)
This form is anonymous but it would be helpful if you could please provide the first part of your postcode (ie NR1)
What type of service or support have you been involved with?

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1. Please tell us what you think about the current speech and language service?

What did you like?

What was good about the service? Or, what would you like to stay the same?

Did the service help with speech and language problems? Or, have the speech and language problems improved?

2. Please tell us what, if anything, you don't like about the speech and language service?

What would you change if you could?

What could be better?

3. How could the Speech and Language Service help you more from April 2016?

If you would like to add more details please put these on a separate piece of paper.

Please return to: Norfolk SEND Partnership. 148 Woodside Road, Norwich NR7 9QL, or fill in on their website at www.norfolksendpartnershiass.org.uk **by 15th April 2015**

This information is being collected by Norfolk SEND Partnership on behalf of the SEN Team at Norfolk County Council and your views will be used to help shape future speech and language services in Norfolk.

Norfolk SEND Partnership is an 'arms length service' funded by Norfolk County Council, working with the voluntary sector and other professionals to support parents and carers of children with special educational needs and disabilities.