

Hillingdon SENDIASS - supporting families of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities



Who we are?

Hillingdon SENDIASS (Special Educational Needs Disabilities Information Advice and Support Service) is a free, confidential and impartial service for parents and carers, children and young people up to 25 years.

What we provide

The Service provides legally based, impartial, confidential and accessible information, advice and support for parents of children and young people with SEN and/or disabilities, about education, health and social care. The service can offer face to face

meetings, telephone advice as well as casework and representation when needed. We offer support to parents of children with special educational needs and those who have been excluded or are at risk of being excluded from school.

The service encourages partnership between parents, local authorities, schools and voluntary bodies to improve outcomes for children and young people with SEN or disabilities.

Hillingdon SENDIASS can provide help and support to parents/carers or young people in the Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) process. We can also provide support during the transfer review process from Statements or Learning Difficulties Assessments to an (LDAs) to an EHCP.

Who is the service for?

The service will work with parents and young people together but also provides a service directly and separately to young people aged 16-25 with special educational needs or disabilities.

How do I access the service?

Referral to our service is extremely straightforward. Parents or young people can telephone or email us directly. Professionals can support families to get in touch but all referrals must come directly from the parent/carer or young person.



When to get in touch

If you need advice and support regarding your child's special educational needs (SEN), disability and/or related health and social care issues, or are worried they are at risk of exclusion.

How to contact us?

☎ 01895 277001

@ sendiass@hillington.gov.uk

✉ SENDIASS, 4 W/10,
Hillingdon Civic Centre,
High Street, Uxbridge, UB8 1UW

Other support groups and further information

www.hacs.org.uk

www.adhdandautism.org

www.dash.org.uk

www.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk

www.dimensions-uk.org

www.ipsea.org.uk

www.autism.org.uk

www.downs-syndrome.org.uk

www.contact.org.uk

Frequently asked questions:

Q: What is Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS)?

A: All Local Authorities must have a SENDIASS (under section 32 of the Children and Families Act 2014), who offer an impartial, confidential service to young people (16+) and parents of children with SEN needs.

Q: What are Special Educational needs?

A: A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her.

A child of compulsory school age or young person has a learning difficulty or disability if he or she:

- Has significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or
- Has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools or mainstream post-16 institutions

Q: What happens when my child is identified as having Special Educational Needs?

A: If your child is identified as having a SEN then there is a process the school will follow, called the graduated or SEN response. School will follow a model identified in the 'Code of Practice' and the procedures will be laid out in their own SEN policy which you can find on their website.

Q: I think my child may have Special Educational needs, what should I do?

A: Speak to your child's class teacher, or the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) at school.

Q: What is SEN support/provision?

A: SEN provision is support that is additional to or different from that normally available to children or young people of the same age, which is designed to help them be able to access the National Curriculum, at school or to study at college.

All settings should adopt a 'Graduated' approach with the four stages of action: Assess- Plan-Do-Review.

Q: What is the next stage if progress is not made?

A: If a child or young person is not making expected progress over a period of time the school may decide at the review stage to make the decision to consult with external professionals such as an Educational Psychologist, Speech and Language Therapist, Inclusion team etc. They will give advice and suggestions on ways to support your child. During this time, you should be informed what is happening.

Q: What is an Education, Health and Care (EHC) needs assessment?

A: An EHC needs assessment is an assessment of the Educational, Healthcare and Social care needs of a child or young person.

Where, despite the school having taken relevant and purposeful action to identify, assess and meet the SEN of the child or young person, they have not made expected progress, the school or parents should consider requesting an Educational, Health and Care needs assessment.

To inform its decision the Local Authority will expect evidence of the action taken by the school as part of SEN support.

A statutory EHC needs assessment is a required step towards the obtaining of an EHC Plan. A Plan cannot be issued unless the child or young person has been through the assessment process.

A child's school or parents can apply for this.

A young person over 16 can apply themselves.

Q: Is a Specialist Resource Provision (SRP) different to a special school?

A: An SRP is attached to a mainstream school offering specific support. It can offer additional and intensive support while being able to integrate children and young people into the mainstream setting for appropriate percentages of time.