

From 1 September 2014, Stoke-on-Trent Parent Partnership Service became known as SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS).
Our website is live at www.sendiass-stoke.co.uk.

EXCITING NEWS



On 29 January 2016, Minister Edward Timpson announced £80 million to extend opportunities to children with special educational needs and disabilities. This included £15 million to extend and fund the current programme of Independent Support to 2017.

The Independent Supporters based within the SEND Information, Advice and Support Service have been visiting schools, colleges and private companies to promote this service and will be holding Drop In Sessions at Community Centres for parent/carers and young people in the very near future. If you need information and support on the new Education, Health and Care (EHC) Assessment or EHC Plan then please contact your local Independent Supporters at SENDIASS on 01782 236414 or email independent-supporters@stoke.gov.uk



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
Local Offer

The Stoke on Trent Local Offer

The purpose of the Local Offer is to 'offer' information for parents/carers and young people, in a single place. The Children and Families Act (2014) has introduced a new approach to the way children, young people and their families are supported. The Local Offer brings together information from education, health and social care about Special Educational Needs and Disability all into one place which helps them to understand what services they and their family can expect from a range of local agencies, and also explains:

- What the law says they may be entitled to,
- What is available for their child from early years settings, schools (including Academies and Free Schools), colleges and other services,
- What is available from education, health and social care.

It covers children and young people from birth to 25.

<http://localoffer.stoke.gov.uk/kb5/stoke/directory/home.page>

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties

This category of need in the new SEN Code of Practice 2014, replaced "BESD" or "Behavioural, Emotional and Social difficulties". It states at point 6.32 that "Children and young people may experience a wide range of social and emotional difficulties which can manifest themselves in many ways. These may include becoming withdrawn or isolated, as well as displaying challenging, disruptive or disturbing behaviour. These behaviours may reflect underlying mental health difficulties such as anxiety or depression, self-harming, substance misuse, eating disorders or physical symptoms that are medically unexplained. Other children and young people may have disorders such as attention deficit disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder or attachment disorder."

If you feel that you (as a young person) or your child may fit into this category of need and would like to discuss what support options may be available, talk to a trusted adult at your educational placement if you are a young person or if you are a parent or carer, talk to your child's teacher or the school SENCO. Alternatively for information, advice and support, contact SENDIASS by phone on 01782 234701/234847 or by email on iass@stoke.gov.uk

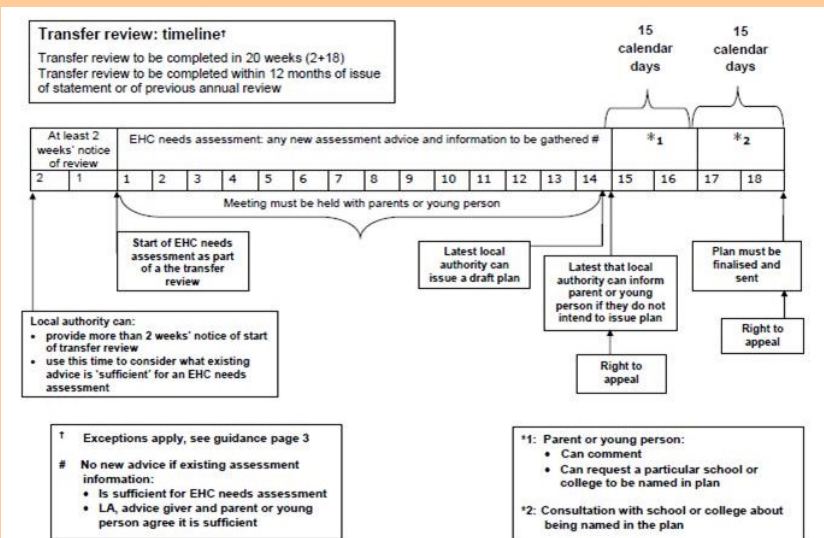
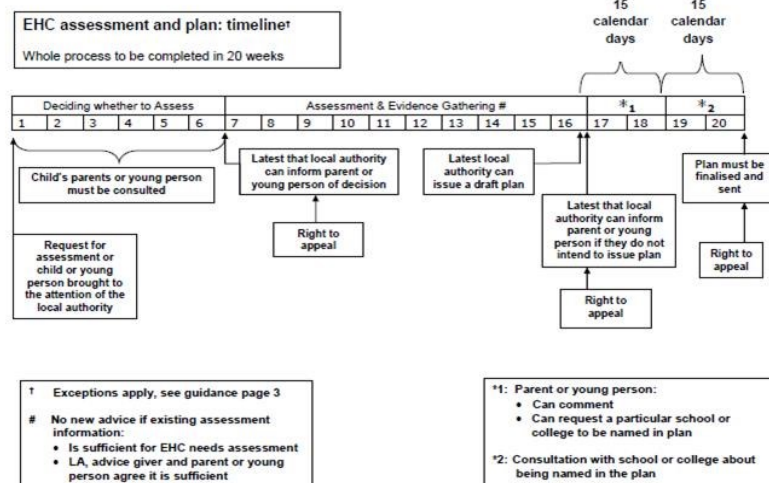
Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan Timeline

The Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan is a legal document that describes a child or young person's special educational needs.

It explains the additional help that will be given to meet those needs and how that help will support the child or young person to achieve what they want to in their life.

The EHC Plan covers children and young people with special educational needs and disability (SEND) from 0-25 years.

The timeline for an EHC Plan is 20 weeks. It is reviewed annually.



Opposite is the Transition timeline for transferring from a Statement to an EHC Plan. This is also a 20 week process consisting of 2 weeks notice and the 18 weeks process. All Local Authorities have until April 2018 to transfer all existing Statements of SEN to the new Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan.

Young people in further education and training who receive support as a result of a Learning Difficulty Assessment (LDA) can choose to request an EHC needs assessment under the 2014 Act. All young people who receive support as a result of an LDA who will continue in further education or training beyond 1 September 2016 **must** have an EHC plan by that date where one is needed. Until that point, local authorities should usually continue to maintain special educational provision in relation to young people who are receiving support as a result of an LDA.

Engage Experience Empower
Parent Engagement Group in Stoke on Trent
PEGiS

Does your child have Special Educational Needs and/or Disability?

The Parent Engagement Group in Stoke (PEGiS) would like to invite you to our next meetings where you can chat informally with other parents and discuss educational issues and concerns.

Wednesday 13th April 2016
Tuesday 3rd May 2016
10.30am - 12.00 noon

The Mount Education Support Centre,
Mount Avenue, Penkhull, ST4 7JU.

For more information please telephone
☎ 07935 557380

Engage Experience Empower
Parent Engagement Group in Stoke on Trent
PEGiS on Tour

The Parent Engagement Group in Stoke

PEGiS are going on Tour around Stoke-on-Trent and would like to invite you to join us where you can chat informally with other parents and discuss educational issues and concerns.

Thomas Boughey Children's Centre
College Rd, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 2DQ
Wednesday 8th April, 10 - 12pm
Wednesday 4th May, 10 - 12pm
Wednesday 1st June, 10 - 12pm

Hope Children's Centre
79 Upper Huntbach St, Stoke-on-Trent ST1 2BX
Thursday 12th May, 10 - 12pm
Thursday 9th June, 10 - 12pm

Chell Heath Children's Centre
Bishop Road, Stoke-on-Trent ST6 6QW
Friday 29th April, 10 - 12pm
Friday 27th May, 10 - 12pm
Friday 24th June, 10 - 12pm

We look forward to meeting with you!

For more information please telephone
☎ 07935 557380

Delivering Independent support

Independent Supporters

Does your child have Special Educational Needs and/or a Disability?
Are you a young person with Special Educational needs and/or a Disability?

From 1st September 2014, families and young people have been able to access Independent Supporters to help with the Education, Health and Care (EHC) process:

- EHC Request to Assessment
- Assessment to Draft EHC through to Final Plan
- Information on Personal Budgets
- Transfer from Statements / Learning Difficulties Assessments (LDA's) to an EHC Plan

Would you like more information?

The Independent Supporter service is based within the SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) which provides **FREE**, confidential and impartial information and support for families and young people (aged 0 to 25 years).

For more details please contact:
☎ 01782 236414
✉ independent-supporters@stoke.gov.uk
: www.sendiass-stoke.co.uk/independent-supporters

STOKE ON TRENT
SENDIASS

independent support