

# SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) NEWSLETTER



Spring 2016

## WE HAVE EXPANDED OUR TEAM OF INDEPENDENT SUPPORTER VOLUNTEERS

We have recruited more volunteers to our SEND IASS team. Our volunteers are available to offer free, impartial, confidential advice and support to parents and carers of children and young people (0-25 years) who have special educational needs and disability.

An Independent Supporter Volunteer (ISV) ensures parents/carers/young people are empowered to play an informed part in decisions relating to special educational needs and disability.

If you are interested in volunteering with us or would like to be allocated a volunteer to work with you please contact us on (01983) 825548 or email [sendiass@iow.gov.uk](mailto:sendiass@iow.gov.uk).



**If you would like to receive this newsletter in another language, large print or audio version please contact us.**

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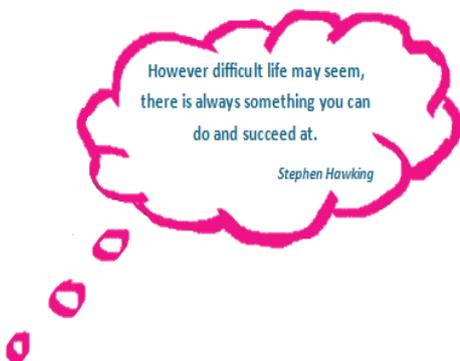
## Family Information Zone—**CLOSED**



FIZ has now closed but SEND IASS is still here at 11 Orchard Street, Newport. If you have an appointment with SEND IASS please ring the bell on the purple/blue door on the right hand side of the building.

However difficult life may seem,  
there is always something you can  
do and succeed at.

*Stephen Hawking*





Advice, guidance and support for parent carers & children and young people with Special Education Needs and Disabilities on the Isle of Wight



## Understanding SEN Support Workshop: Supporting children and young people without an Education, Health and Care plan.

January 21<sup>st</sup> 2016

10.00 am until 12.00pm

At Carisbrooke College, Mountbatten Drive, NEWPORT, PO30 5QU

### Free workshops for Parent Carers of children and young people with Special Education Needs and Disabilities!

The Independent Support Programme, co-ordinated by SENDIASS and People Matter IW, are running a series of information workshops to help parent carers understand the Special Education Needs and Disabilities system.

The next workshop focuses on SEN Support and will look at how those who don't have an EHCP should be supported and what the new Code of practice says.

If you would like to come along please contact: SENDIASS on 01983 825548 or email [sendiass@iow.gov.uk](mailto:sendiass@iow.gov.uk)



#### Future workshops and dates:

- **EHCP and Personal budgets - 11<sup>th</sup> February 2016**
- **Making sense of SEND outcomes - 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016**



### 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 young people will choose to do so. 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.org.uk**—the latest news and information on apprenticeships and schemes, including types of apprenticeship, apprenticeship employers and tips on how to apply for vacancies.
- \* **Youngminds.org.uk**—the UK’s leading charity committed to improving the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people.
- \* **Disabilityrightsuk.org**— leading UK charity, run by and for people with lived experience of disability or health conditions.

### Useful information



#### A guide for parents

**and carers**—the Department for Education has released a guide for parents and carers of children and young people aged 0-25 years who have special educational needs or disabilities (SEND). The guide describes how the new system that supports children and young people with SEN or disabilities and parents is intended to work.

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-parents-and-carers](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-parents-and-carers)

### What can you do if you are worried about your child?



Working together with your child’s teachers will often help to sort out worries and problems. The closer you work with them, the more successful any help for your child will be. Remember that you know your child better than anyone.

You might like to ask if:

- \* The school thinks your child has difficulties;
- \* The school thinks your child has special educational needs;
- \* Your child is able to work at the same level as other children the same age;
- \* Your child is already getting some extra help;
- \* You can help your child yourself.

You can also contact SEND IASS for further advice on (01983) 825548 or email [sendiass@iow.gov.uk](mailto:sendiass@iow.gov.uk).

**Information Advice and Support Services Network (IASSN): Children and Young People's Website Launch**

The Information, Advice and Support Services Network (IASSN) have developed a new website aimed specifically at children and young people:

<http://cyp.iassnetwork.org.uk/>

Recent SEND reforms mean that disabled children and young people and those with SEN have a right to receive direct and impartial information, advice and support (IAS) on matters relating to their SEN/Disability. IAS should be provided to CYP covering education, health and social care.

This website aims to help children and young people better understand what rights they have for accessing information, advice and support. The



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**What is bullying?**



Bullying is the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group where the relationship involves an imbalance of power.

Bullying can be physical, verbal or psychological. It can happen face to face or through cyberspace and it can be hidden or indirect.

Worrying that your child may be being bullied is upsetting. As a parent, you know your child best—you may notice some changes in your child's behaviour that cause concern.



They could become withdrawn and anxious, not wanting play with others, or some children could hit out at siblings at home or become aggressive at school.

**Useful strategies for you:**

Speak to your child and reassure them that bullying is not their fault. Ask them what they would find helpful.

Make an appointment to speak to your child's teacher/tutor to discuss your concerns and agree how to support your child together.

**If your child is being cyberbullied:**

Keep evidence of cyberbullying.

Block people who are cyberbullying your child. Most sites are doing this.

Make sure your child is aware of cyberbullying.

Be aware of your child's internet activity.

Tips for building self confidence and self-esteem;

- Emphasise your child's strengths, being specific where possible. Help them to understand their strengths.
- Give your child a chance to contribute to family life. This shows your faith on their abilities and helps to give them responsibilities.
- Encourage your child to solve problems and make their own decisions.
- Encourage your child to take up extra-curricular activities or activities outside school to help build their confidence and meet new people.
- Spend time with them and take time to listen.
- Reassure your child that you love them and being bullied is not their fault.



**Are you concerned about the NHS  
treatment or service you have re-  
ceived?**

**We can help.**

SEAP has been commissioned by the Isle of Wight Council to provide support and advocacy for anyone wishing to make an NHS complaint.

Two Island-based advocates, both with more than 10 years' experience in health complaints advocacy, provide support for NHS patients who have concerns and questions about the care they have received. This support includes informing them of their rights and options under the NHS complaints procedure and helping them to write letters and attend meetings with GP surgeries. By doing so they have been able to help patients obtain answers about their treatment and improve the NHS.

- Free
- Confidential
- Independent

If you have concerns about care you have received please contact SEAP on

0330 440 9000

or [info@seap.org.uk](mailto:info@seap.org.uk).

For more information visit

[www.seap.org.uk/services/nhs-complaints-advocacy](http://www.seap.org.uk/services/nhs-complaints-advocacy)



## JARGON BUSTER

Educational settings often use abbreviations and words that are hard to understand.



DfE—Department for Education	Central government department responsible for education.
CAMHS- Community and Adolescent Mental Health Service	Specialist NHS children and young people’s mental health services.
CHOICES—(formerly	A service to help all young people aged 13 to 19 prepare for transition
CCG—Clinical Commissioning Group	CCG’s are groups of professionals who work together to commission health services, ensuring there is sufficient capacity contracted to deliver the necessary services to people.
CoP—Code of Practice	A guide to schools and local education authorities about the help to be given to children with special educational needs. Schools and local authorities must have regard to the Code when working with a child with Special Educational Needs.
EPS- Educational Psychology Service	This service supports schools, parents and the Local Educational Authority in meeting the learning needs of all pupils, but particularly
EP—Educational Psychologist	Educational Psychologists assess how children develop and learn.
OT—Occupational Therapist	They assess how to maximise and maintain individual independence in everyday living skills. They can advise on aids, equipment or home/ school adaptations.
SENCO—Special educational needs co-ordinator	A SENCO is a qualified teacher in a school or maintained nursery school who has responsibility for co-ordination SEN Provision. Early years settings that are part of group provision arrangements are expected to identify an individual to perform the role of the SENCO.

**The SEND IASS Service offers impartial information, support and advice to parents and carers of children who have special educational needs and disabilities on the Isle of Wight. This newsletter is produced termly by SEND IASS and distributed to parents, schools, voluntary groups and professionals—please share with parents and colleagues.**

**How to contact us: SEND Information, Advice and Support Service, 11 Orchard Street, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 1JZ**

**Telephone: (01983) 825548 / email: [sendiass@iow.gov.uk](mailto:sendiass@iow.gov.uk) / website: [iwpp.co.uk](http://iwpp.co.uk)**

