



# SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS)

## Autumn 2017 NEWSLETTER

### CHOOSING A SCHOOL

In October of Year 6, you will need to decide which secondary or special school you would prefer your child to go to. Choosing a school is an important decision which will impact on your child and your whole family, so it is worth spending time looking at the options available. Understandably, concerns are even greater if a child has special educational needs (SEN).



Choosing a school for children on SEN Support follows the same procedure as all other children—although parents understandably have additional concerns they have exactly the same rights as any other parent. As a parent of a child with SEN it is useful to consider the advice of the professionals who know your child and may have experience of the schools. Visit the schools and consider your child's needs and how they can be best met. When you have decided, you apply for the school following the standard process—it may be useful to state on the application form any information that you think is relevant.

#### If your child has a statement of SEN or an EHC plan.

If your child has a statement or EHC plan, it is the responsibility of the local authority to ensure your child's education needs are met. In general, the LA will consider the nearest school to your home that is appropriate for your child's needs. It is however, important that you look around schools and know your preferred school as you will be consulted.

To help you make a choice, all the Island schools provide SEN Information Reports which can be found on the Local Offer or on the school's website. The SEN Information Report will be able to give parents information about what each individual school can offer.

SEND IASS has a useful schools checklist which you can find on our website under 'Popular Pages'.

**All statements** will need to be transferred to Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) by March 2018. If your child has a statement that needs to be transferred and you need help with the process please give us a call. Alternatively you can contact Independent Support on 823898 x2838

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You can now find us on Facebook: @iowsendiass.co.uk

Island-based dyslexia support services:

- Diagnostic assessments by a fully qualified assessor
  - Targeted dyslexia tuition
- Official A.R.R.O.W.™ self-voice tutor

**A.R.R.O.W.™**

**(Aural, Read, Record, Oral, Write)**

Short help scheme to train the “self voice” (which is often missing in readers who struggle). Featured in **What Works for Children and Young People with Literacy Difficulties: 5th Edition** (Brooks, 2016).

**DYSLEXIA ASSESSMENT**

A full diagnostic dyslexia assessment provides you with a detailed written report. You will receive a profile of your child’s strengths and needs; and suggestions to support learning.

**TUITION**

A course of targeted tuition can boost confidence and help to improve those essential reading and spelling skills.

**CONTACT:**

Helen Goddard (AMBDA) [hg@targetdyslexia.com](mailto:hg@targetdyslexia.com)

Phone: 01983 613883 / Mobile: 07724 691910

**LEGAL SERVICES SPECIALISING IN SEND**

SEND IASS holds a list of SEND Information and Advice providers that offer free legal advice to parents and young people. A list can be found on our website [www.iowsendiass.co.uk/](http://www.iowsendiass.co.uk/) under useful contacts. For some parents who may require highly specialised legal advice there are reputable law firms that specialise in SEN legal advice and representation that are regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority.

The NAS (National Autistic Society) also run a dedicated tribunal support line, where they can offer specialist advice and support to parents and carers of Young People with an autism diagnosis up to age 25. This is in the form of casework by e-mail and telephone and occasional representation in a limited number of cases.

The helpline number is 0808 8004102 or you can email at [educationrights@nas.org.uk](mailto:educationrights@nas.org.uk)



IPSEA—Independent Parental Special Education Advice  
[www.ipsea.org.uk](http://www.ipsea.org.uk)

Douglas Silas Solicitors  
Gable House, 239 Regents Park Road  
FINCHLEY London N3 3LF  
Tel: 020 8349 7700  
[www.specialeducationalneeds.co.uk](http://www.specialeducationalneeds.co.uk)

SOS SEN—Independent Educational Needs helpline  
Tel: 020 8538 3731  
Email: [admin@sossen.org.uk](mailto:admin@sossen.org.uk)

ACE—Education Advice  
72 Durnsford Road  
LONDON  
N11 2EJ  
Tel: 0300 0115 142  
Email: [enquiries@ace-ed.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ace-ed.org.uk)

Civil Legal Advice (CLA) Tel: 0345 345 4345  
[www.gov.uk/civil-legal-advice](http://www.gov.uk/civil-legal-advice)

Irwin Mitchell  
Brunel House, 21 Brunswick Place  
SOUTHAMPTON SO15 2AQ  
Tel: 0800 028 1943 [www.irwinmitchell.com](http://www.irwinmitchell.com)



Family Lives is a national family support charity providing help and support in all aspects of family life.

They offer tailored support around a number of issues including: behaviour, health and development, bullying at school and much more.

**Family Lives Hampshire:**

Tel: 02380 557130

✉ hantsinfo@familylives.org.uk

[www.familylives.org.uk](http://www.familylives.org.uk)



Helpline  
0808 800 2222



Department  
for Education

0-25 Special Educational Needs and Disability Unit—September 2017 Newsletter available to read on the SEND IASS website;

[www.sendiass.co.uk](http://www.sendiass.co.uk)

**FINDING A VOICE**

**Sen Magazine**



*Jenny Herd looks at the range of systems, from high-tech to no-tech, that help children without speech to communicate.*

Go to [senmagazine.co.uk](http://senmagazine.co.uk) to read her article called 'Finding a Voice'.

**Sensory swim classes for children  
with autism**



Held at Ryde Waterside Pool.

Classes take place as a course of 6 classes on Friday and Saturday mornings, £2 per session. For more information or to book a slot go to

[www.sensoryswim.org.uk](http://www.sensoryswim.org.uk) or

email: [info@sensoryswim.org](mailto:info@sensoryswim.org)

**Autism Inclusion Matters (AIM) Group**

**Tel: 01983 523000—ask to speak to the AIM co-ordinator**

**Email: [aimisleofwight@gmail.com](mailto:aimisleofwight@gmail.com)**

AIM is an Isle of Wight group for adults (over 18) who have Autism or Asperger's also known as Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC). It is not a group for parents, carers or professionals. AIM is a user led group. This means that with support, people with ASD will decide what happens in the group and help to run it. It aims to help people with ASD who may feel lonely, find it difficult to meet people or make friends.

Group members choose where to meet and the range of activities to do. They support members to find people with shared interests and build friendships. There is advocacy support to listen to what adults with ASD have to say about life on the Isle of Wight and to make changes.



# Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan

## What is an Education, Health and Care Plan?

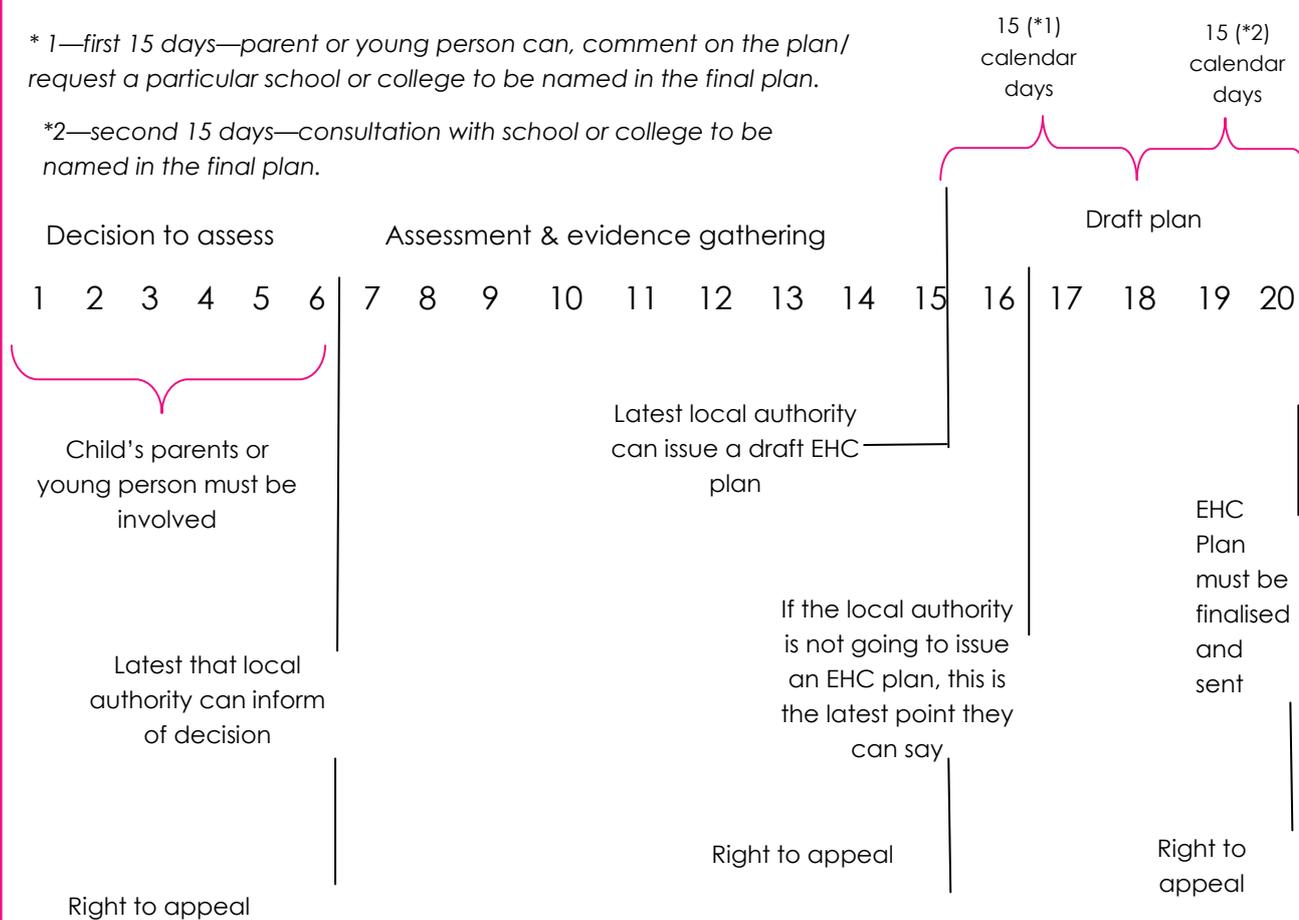
An EHC needs assessment is a detailed look at the special educational needs (SEN) of a child or young person and the support he or she may need in order to learn. It is a legal assessment carried out by the local authority and not the same as the assessments carried out by your child's teachers or other professionals. An EHC needs assessment can also be called a statutory assessment.

The whole process can take up to 20 weeks from the time you ask for an EHCP to the point when the final plan is issued. We've broken the journey up into stages,

For further information please contact SEND IASS on 01983 825548 or go to our website [www.iowsendiass.co.uk](http://www.iowsendiass.co.uk)

\* 1—first 15 days—parent or young person can, comment on the plan/ request a particular school or college to be named in the final plan.

\*2—second 15 days—consultation with school or college to be named in the final plan.



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.

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Isle of Wight SEND IASS Service.

**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: [iowsendiass.co.uk](http://iowsendiass.co.uk) /**

**Facebook: [@iowsendiass.co.uk](https://www.facebook.com/iowsendiass.co.uk)**

