

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) in Dudley



Clinical Commissioning Group

A NEW APPROACH

Information for Parents and Carers

JUNE 2014



This briefing describes some of the new national arrangements for families, children and young people with Special Educational Needs which become law in September 2014.

If you require help with any of the information in this briefing please contact The Multicultural Support Service (MSS) on 01384 813802 who will assist you.

Albanian

Ky udhëzues pershkruan disa nga marrveshjet e reja nacionale, per familjet ,femijet dhe te rinjte me nevoja te vecanta arsimore te cilat, do behen ligj, ne Shtator 2014 . Ne qofte se kini nevoje per ndihme, me ndonje nga informacionet ne kete udhëzues , Ju lutemi kontaktoni , Sherbimin Mbeshtetes Multikulturor (MSS) ne numrin 01384813802 qe do tju asistojë . 2014.

Arabic

تبين هذه المقدمة شرحا للتغيرات الجديدة التي استحدثت على قانون الاسره والاطفال والشباب ذوي الاحتياجات الخاصه والتي اصيحت قانونا منذ الشهر التاسع (ايلول) عام 2014 . اذا كنت ترغب باي مساعده او ايه معلومات الرجاء الاتصال بدائره دعم الثقافات المتعدده على هاتف رقم 01384813802 .

Romanian

Această informație descrie unele noi acorduri naționale pentru familii, copii și tineri cu nevoi educaționale speciale. Care va intra în vigoare cu noua lege în Septembrie 2014. Dacă aveți nevoie de ajutor cu oricare dintre informațiile din acest context, vă rugăm să contactați Serviciul de asistență Multicultural (MSS). la NR 01384 813802 Va multumim !

Russian

Этот брифинг описывает некоторые новые национальные меры для семей, детей и молодых людей со специальными Образовательными потребностями, которые становятся законом в сентябре 2014. Если требуется помощь с информацией на этом брифинге, пожалуйста, свяжитесь с. Multicultural Support Service (MSS) по телефону 01384 813802. спасибо

Polish

Instruktaż zawiera informacje o niektórych z międzynarodowych postanowień dotyczących rodzin, dzieci i młodzieży ze szczególnymi potrzebami edukacyjnymi, które wchodzi w życie i będą rozumiane jako prawo od września 2014 roku. Aby otrzymać potrzebną pomoc dotyczącą jakiegokolwiek informacji z instruktaża, należy kontaktować się z Centrum Wsparcia Wielokulturowego - Multicultural Support Service MSS pod numer 01384 813802.

Gujarati

આ માહિતીથી તમને વાકેફ કરવામાં આવે છે, કે આ દેશમાં આવતા નવા કાયદા પરિવાર, બાળકો તેમજ યુવાનો કે જેમને 'સ્પેશલ અજ્યુકેશન નીડ્સ' ની જરૂર હોય તે અંગે નવો કાયદો આગામી સપ્ટેમ્બર ૨૦૧૪ માં અમલમાં આવશે જો તમને આ અંગે વધુ માહિતીઓ જોઈતી હોય તો નીચે જણાવેલ ફોન પર અમારો તાકીદે સંપર્ક સાધો. આભાર.

ફોન નંબર: ૦૧૩૮૪ ૮૧૩૮૦૨.

Telephone no: 01384 813802

Urdu

یہ عبارت خصوصی تعلیمی ضروریات والے خاندان بچوں اور نوجوانوں کے مطلق کچھ نئے قومی انتظامات کو بیان کرتی ہے جو ستمبر 2014 میں قانون بن جائیں گے . اگر آپ کو ان معلومات کے مطلق کسی بھی مدد کی ضرورت ہے تو مہربانی فرما کر مٹی کنجرل سیورٹ سروسز (MSS) سے اس نمبر پر رابطہ کریں, 01384-813802 , جو اس معاملے میں آپ کی رہنمائی کریں گے .

Chinese

本簡報介紹了一條新法例
在2014年9月開始國家對年輕人,兒童,家庭及有需要特殊教育的人仕,可以得到幫助.
如果您覺得需要得到幫助.請與多元文化支援部聯絡(MSS)電話:01384813802 將可得到更多知訊和有關人員的支援.

A NEW APPROACH

Many parents and carers will be aware that the government has introduced some significant changes to the way all local authorities and health services, across the country, work with children and young people with special educational needs and disability (SEND).

Government says:

'Our proposed reforms respond to the frustrations of children and young people and the professionals who work with them. We want to put in place a radically different system to support better life outcomes for young people; give parents confidence by giving them more control; and transfer power to professionals on the front line and to local communities.' Support and Aspiration (DfE, 2011, p.4, para 4)



These changes will undoubtedly affect the way you and your child receive support from education, health and social care but professionals and parents alike will give a big welcome to a policy that emphasises:

- Continuity and extending services across the 0-25 age range
- A single assessment document which replaces statements and addresses education, health and care needs together
- A new approach to earlier identification and intervention for children and young people with special needs
- The development of a 'local offer' by local authorities in partnership with others
- The idea of partnership and participation with parents, carers, children and young people.



The Children and Families Act 2014, now law, brings a new SEND Code of Practice which describes the changes and new requirements. The new law comes into force on 1 September 2014 and applies to children and young people with SEND from age 0-25.

This document can be found on the Dudley Parent Partnership (DPP) website (www.dudley.gov.uk/dpp). If you want to talk to someone about this information then please contact your child's school or setting or Dudley Parent Partnership on 01383 236677. If your child currently has a statement of special education needs, your case officer, based in the Dudley SEN Team, on 01384 814214 will be able to help.

A family centred approach

The Act and the new code of practice puts much more emphasis on education, health and social care working closely with families and young people. Dudley professionals will continue to deliver a 'family centred approach' by listening to the views of parents, children or young people and understanding their hopes and aspirations for the future. This change has been introduced in response to nationally expressed views that the current system is sometimes confusing and difficult to understand.

Many parents and children in Dudley will be already familiar with this multi agency way of working through their contacts with our specialist teams, for example Dudley's Specialist Early Years Service (SEYS). This team, and others, work together with families and key workers to plan any support needed, especially in the pre school years and as the child moves toward starting school. The proposed way of working aims to embed this approach right through from 0-25 years of age in preschool, school and post 16 settings. Many schools in Dudley work in this way already and have excellent supportive relationships with their families.

Dudley local authority has talked to groups of parents, both large and small, and most parents seem to be happy to have a greater part in planning the way their child's needs will be identified and addressed. Of course, it will be new to some families and will take some getting used to but there will be support available for those who want it.

Young people over the age of 16 will be given more opportunities to make their own decisions and this will be new for them and their parents. Independent support and advice for young people over the age of 16 will be made available from Dudley Parent Partnership as it develops its new role from September onwards and becomes Dudley Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS).



A change from School Action and School Action Plus

The vast majority of children and young people are able to learn successfully without the need for any extra support at all.

They will complete their education and move on to an independent adult life. Other students though, may need some additional support and, up to now, this has been provided at school action or school action plus. From 1 September, school action and school action plus will be renamed Special Educational Needs Support (SENS).

Your child's school will continue to provide the support that your child needs and will be working with you, as always, to continue to assess, plan, deliver and jointly review the support arrangements to make sure they are still appropriate. You should not notice a huge change. If you have any concerns about this you should contact your child's teacher or school's SENCO who will be able to explain how this will work in school.

The changeover to SENS will be starting in school from September 2014 and should be completed by spring of 2015.

SEN Notional Budgets: what are they?

From April 2013 all schools and settings have been funded differently. Every mainstream school and most post 16 settings, have a SEN Notional Budget. This is an amount of money that settings receive to enable them to support children who have special educational needs and disability within school, and importantly, without the need for a statement or an EHCP. In Dudley, the way SEN funding is allocated to schools has been agreed by head teachers and managers and is in line with national guidance.

This funding is for schools to use to meet the needs of all pupils with SEND flexibly, including those with a statement or, in the future, an EHCP.

From 1 September settings will be required to say what they do for pupils with SEND using their SEN Notional Budget and publish this information on their websites. This is called The SEN information Report and should be updated every year. It should also include all the arrangements for supporting children and young people who are looked after by the local authority and have SEN. In this way parents and carers will know what they can expect their child's school to reasonably provide from their budget.

If you like to know more, the Council for Disabled Children has a good, independent guide to SEND school funding on their website, along with other useful information.

[http://www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/media/409191/cdc_funding_briefing_for_parents - final.pdf](http://www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/media/409191/cdc_funding_briefing_for_parents_-_final.pdf)

So what is an Education health and care plan?

From 1 September 2014 the old style statement will not be available. The statement and the Learning Difficulty Assessment for older students is being replaced by a new, more detailed document called an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). This document will be used instead of the statement for those children who have severe and complex learning needs, often with additional health and social care needs. The new EHCP will offer the opportunity for some parents and young people, to access a personal budget which may provide more choices about how your child is supported. This would be by agreement with the local authority. The new EHCP has the same legal status as the old statement.

The new EHC Assessment and Plan will be completed within 20 weeks instead of 26 weeks for the current process. EHCPs will continue to be reviewed annually.

Of course, there will be children who already have a statement or a learning difficulty assessment. They will be transferred to a new EHCP over a period of 3 to 4 years as necessary. The transfer is likely to happen before your child moves from one school to another. The local authority is waiting for further advice from government about the order of transition and as soon as this is known, the Local Authority will publish the particular arrangements for Dudley and make sure that all parents are fully informed.

This will be a gradual and very carefully managed process and support will be available from your child's school, Dudley Parent Partnership and Independent supporters if needed.



WHO NEEDS AN EHCP?

An EHCP is for children and young people whose learning needs cannot be met within the school's SEN Notional Budget. In general this will only be those children with the most severe and complex needs. Before considering a request for an EHCP, schools will have already put in a lot of support at SENS (the old School Action and School Action+) level, using their SEN Notional Budget, and will probably have engaged with a range of specialists to offer additional advice.

Children and young people who have an EHCP may receive a small amount of additional funding from the High Needs Block. This is allocated to the school or setting to enable them to offer additional support where it is needed.



Children and young people in Dudley Special Schools

If your child is in a Dudley special school, he or she will already have a set of needs which require a statement or in future an EHCP. Children and young people attending special schools will, almost without exception, transfer over to an EHCP in time. The local authority has worked very closely with all Dudley special schools to ensure that every parent with a child attending a special school in Dudley has had the opportunity to attend a meeting where the changes in the system have been explained. Parents and young people have had the chance to ask questions. These meetings have now completed and nearly 200 parents, carers and young people have attended overall. If you were unable to attend one of these meetings please contact your child's special school for further information or Dudley SEN Team on 01384 814214.



Parents of children or young people attending special schools in other local authorities should speak to the headteacher or contact the SEN Team as above.

The Local Offer

From September 2014, all local authorities must provide up to date information about the services that are available, in their area, from education, health and social care, for children and young people from 0-25, who have a special educational needs and/or a disability. That includes children who have an EHCP and those who have less complex needs and who may be placed at SENS. The website will also provide information about how decisions are made about the allocation of services, how to access specialist support and how to complain or appeal. The website will be launched in September and will grow over time as more information is added.

The information to be included:

- *the range of education, health and care provision available.*
- *what is 'ordinarily available' to parents in their local mainstream educational provision.*
- *the arrangements for identifying and assessing children and young people's SEND.*
- *other types of educational provision (e.g. sports or arts provision).*
- *training provision (eg. apprenticeships) particularly for older students*
- *travel arrangements to and from educational provision.*
- *types of support available to help young people to prepare for adulthood.*
- *support groups, forums, childcare and leisure providers.*
- *complaints procedures and dispute resolution*

and much more as time goes on.....

Local authorities all over the country are developing their own Local Offer and there are many different types and styles. In Dudley we have consulted with parents through two big events organised by Dudley Parent Partnership and several smaller focus groups too.

Ideas for the development of the new website have been shared. We have included a special 'search' facility to help you find what you need quickly and a feedback facility to give you the chance to tell us what you think about the site. This will help to improve the local offer over time. Dudley LA hopes to provide an easily accessible and efficient format which offers information for parents and young people in Dudley whenever they need it.

Provision Mapping

'Provision maps are an efficient way of showing all the provision that the school makes that is additional to and different from that which is offered through the school's curriculum.'



Many Dudley schools and settings are already using this approach: it's a way of schools being able to show the kind of teaching support they provide for SEND children in their school, usually without the need for a statement or EHCP. It lists resources and strategies and all the services that might be accessed by the school, normally without any cost to the school.

In Dudley, all the specialist services have worked together to publish a provision map covering a range of difficulties and it will shortly be available to schools, parents, children and young people on the Dudley Parent Partnership (DPP) website as part of the local offer.

Preparing for Adulthood

Young people will, under the new law, have the right to request an EHCP. For a very few young people an EHCP may continue until the end of the year in which they are 25. The local authority would need to consider very carefully whether it would be of benefit for a young person to continue in education or training up to this age. Many young people will want to move into adult life and work much sooner than this. Every young person with a current statement will be allocated a Connexions Personal Advisor (PA) who will be able to provide advice and guidance as they prepare to leave school.

Further information can be found

<https://www.connexionsdudley.org/>

Tel: 01384 811400



Support for Parents and Young People

Family Information Service

Whilst we are pulling together the Local Offer website you may want to explore what's available in Dudley through the Family Information Service website. This is a free signposting service providing detailed information advice and contacts for families across Dudley borough. There is a mine of information including information about child care, nurseries, pre-schools and playgroups. The site also has information about family learning, support for parenting and specialist services which might be available. Best of all its free and confidential!

The contact details
Phone 01384 814398 (to talk to someone)
E mails: fis.cs@dudley.gov.uk
Website: <http://fis.dudley.gov.uk/fsd>
<http://fis.dudley.gov.uk/finditout>.

Changes to Dudley Parent Partnership Service (DPP)

Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) formally known as Dudley Parent Partnership Service

As part of the SEN reforms from September 2014 the service will be changing its name and role to provide specific information relating to special educational needs, health and social care to parents with children presenting with SEND and also to young people from 16-25 years of age with SEND. We provide impartial and confidential support and guidance. The service provides a range of information from education law and related law on disability, health and social care to assist parents and young people in making informed choices and therefore enabling them to play an active role in relation to educational decisions. The service offers casework support, support in meetings, and training and development seminars throughout the year.

The service also works with schools and post 16 settings in promoting positive engagement with families and young people.

If you would like further information then please contact:

Dudley Parent Partnership DPP
(Dudley Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS))
Trafalgar House
47-49 Kings House
Dudley
DY2 8PS
01384 236677
Email: parent.cs@dudley.gov.uk
Web: www.dudley.gov.uk/dpp

Independent Supporters

Families going through the statutory assessment process may also be able to access support in the future from Independent Supporters. This will be a person who is independent of the local authority and who can help parents and young people understand and play a full part in the statutory assessment process. Independent Supporters will be in place soon and further information will be available from September from Dudley Parent Partnership (DPP).

Working Together for Change - Dudley Parent and Carer Forum

This is an independent group of parents and carers of children and young people (0-25) with disabilities and additional needs which provides opportunities for parents and carers to have their voice heard in a way that can influence the changes to services available and delivered to children and young people with SEND and their families in Dudley.



Contact details
Donna Roberts
7 Albion Street
Brierley Hill
DY5 3EE
01384 573381

<http://dudleyparentcarerforum.com/>

Info @dudleyparentcarerforum.com

Facebook; <https://www.facebook.com/dudleyparentcarerforum>

Twitter @DWTFC



Useful sources of information

Council for Disabled Children

<http://www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/>

Contact a Family

<http://www.cafamily.org.uk>

Children's Disability Network

CDN@dudley.gov.uk

Tel: 01384 815813

Preparing for Adulthood

<http://www.preparingforadulthood.org.uk/>

SEN Team in Dudley

Tel: 01384 814214

