



Information



Advice



Support

Special Educational Needs  
and Disability Information,  
Advice & Support Service

**sendiass**

**‘SENDIASS’  
(Inclusion  
Roadshow 2023)**

# Statutory SEND IAS Services

Local authorities must ensure that children, young people and their parents are provided with the information, advice and support necessary to **enable them to participate** in discussions and decisions about their support... and matters relating to their SEN or disabilities.

SEND Code Sections 1.9, 2.1, 2.4,

2.8



Information

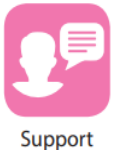


Advice



Support

# SEND Code of Practice states:



‘The information, advice and support should be **impartial** and provided at arm’s length from the LA and CCGs’ and...

‘The provision of information, advice and support should help to **promote independence and self-advocacy** for children, young people and parents.’

(CoP 2.8)

IAS services should be confidential, accessible, free and accurate.

‘Staff providing information, advice and support should **work in partnership** with children, young people, parents, local authorities, CCGS and relevant partners.’ (CoP 2.5, 2.8)

# Our impartiality means:



Information



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Support



We work at 'arms-length' from the local authority



The service is structured within the QEPD arm of the CYP directorate (and therefore not aligned with the local authority's Inclusion/SEN services).



'Arms-length' means that we operate separately to the local authority, with day-to-day decisions taken within the service, without influence.

The service's website is separate and 'stand-alone'. Service branding, publicity, training and all content and resources are developed and maintained by SENDIASS.

## Our remit



Information



Advice



Support



We offer free and confidential information, advice and support to SEND children and young people aged up to 25 years (and their parents/carers).



There is no need for a child or young person to have a diagnosis or identified SEN to contact us. Many people seek our advice when their child's needs are still unclear.



We provide training to practitioners around SEND. Our team undertakes accredited legal training.

# Information and advice via our impartial website, including FAQs

Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice & Support Service

**sendiass**  
in Suffolk












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## Education

 <p>What is a Special Educational Need?</p>	 <p>SEN Information Report</p>	 <p>Choosing a school for a child with SEND</p>	 <p>Equality and inclusion</p>
 <p>How SEN funding works</p>	 <p>SEN support</p>	 <p>Working with school</p>	 <p>Child/young person's voice</p>
 <p>School exclusion</p>	 <p>Transport</p>	 <p>Raising concerns</p>	

## Frequently asked questions (choosing a school)

1. Which schools are good at supporting children with SEND? ⇅
2. What happens once my 'in-year' application goes in? ⇅
3. I'm going through the EHC assessment process, where do I start finding a school? ⇅
4. I approached several local schools but they said they could not meet my child's needs ⇅
5. The school I approached said not enough funding to provide the support they need? ⇅
6. My child is not ready to start reception, can I defer to a later date? ⇅
7. My child is not ready for the next year group, can he/she repeat a year? ⇅
8. School declined a place (in-year), even though I know there are spaces, can they do this? ⇅
9. Current school say a special school would be more appropriate. What do I do next? ⇅
10. I would like to apply for a Special school, what is the process? ⇅

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



# .. and 'top tips'

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Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice & Support Service  
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## Top tips for choosing a school

One of the questions we are most frequently asked is "which school would be best for my child?"

We are unable to recommend schools, every child is unique and therefore everyone's experience will be different.

However, we can suggest a number of things you might want to consider or ask about when you are looking at schools, to help you make your decision.

[Go to Frequently Asked Questions \(choosing a school\)](#)

- Where do I start?
- Prepare for a school visit
- Visiting schools
- Making an application
- Useful links

### In this section

- What is a Special Educational Need?
- Choosing a school for a child with SEND
- Top tips for choosing a school**
- Moving schools
- Transition
- Advice around appealing for a school place
- Choosing to home educate
- Frequently asked questions (choosing a school)
- Equality and inclusion
  - Reasonable adjustments
  - School trips
  - Access arrangements
  - Medical needs
- Child/young person's voice

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Choosing a School  
for a child with SEND



Information,  
Advice & Support  
Services Network  
for SEND

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SEN Support in  
mainstream schools



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Education, health and care  
(EHC) needs assessment



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Services Network  
for SEND

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Special Educational Needs  
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Making Meetings Matter



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Education, health  
and care plans



Information,  
Advice & Support  
Services Network  
for SEND

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

Via a range  
of leaflets



# Information and advice via workshops/webinars



SEN support in early years settings and SEN support in schools



Preparing for the transition to primary school



Planning for the transition to high school



Drafting and finalising an EHC plan



EHC needs assessments



Annual reviews of EHC plans



Working with Schools and Working with Parents

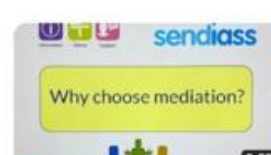
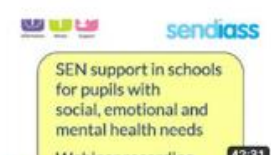
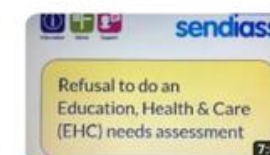
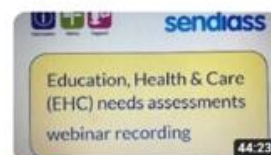
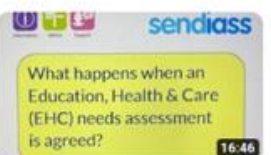
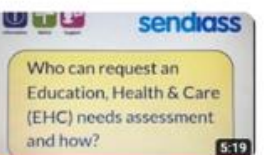
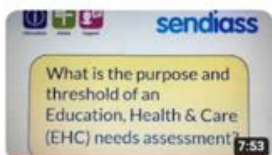
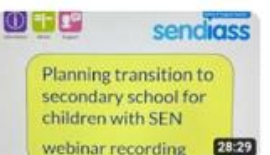
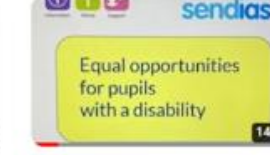
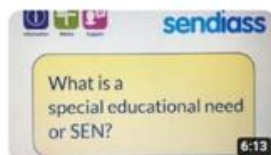


Hosting sessions in collaboration with others



Governor SEND webinars

# .. and through videos on our YouTube channel



For confidential and impartial information, advice and support.

[www.suffolksendias.com](http://www.suffolksendias.com)

[enquiries@suffolksendias.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@suffolksendias.co.uk)

01473 265210

ADVICE4ME to 87007

[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/suffolksendias) [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/suffolksendias) [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/suffolksendias)

[www.suffolksendias.com](http://www.suffolksendias.com) 4:47

## Self-referral for individual information, advice and support



enquiries@suffolksendiass.co.uk



01473 265210



ADVICE4ME to 87007



Contact form on our website

Translation to 9 languages: 'How we can help you' and 'What is SEN?' available on our website for settings to download.

# The way we work:



Information



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We're trained in SEND law so that we can give accurate unbiased information.

We explain SEND processes and options to empower children, young people and their parents/carers to make informed choices for themselves.

We are a confidential service (with data held external to the LA).

We don't tell families what to do, nor give our own opinion on what they should do. We help families to share their own views and can support them with next steps they have chosen for themselves.

We don't judge, nor seek to blame.

We don't collude.

# The way we work:



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- Our level of support is tailored to the needs of the person accessing.
- SENDIAS services operate 4 'intervention levels' - agreed nationally.
- A higher level of support is provided for those who require help to take part in processes (to help them to understand and/or to express their views and wishes).

# The way we work:



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- This means that two people accessing the service in the same 'situation' could receive a different level of support (due to their own needs).
- More challenging to determine support needs with digital access methods. (monitoring ongoing and making improvements).

# SENDIASS trends



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- ASD stat hovers around 40% (of new referrals every month)
- SEMH/Anxiety/ADHD/ADD/Awaiting diagnosis compete for 'next highest' frequency in category.
- Most referrals are where the CYP is in mainstream primary or secondary education.
- Top 6 referral categories YTD are:
  - 1.EHC plans
  - 2.EHC needs assessment
  - 3.SEN Support
  - 4.School exclusion
  - 5.Attendance
  - 6.EHCP appeal

# SENDIASS trends



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- Increased referrals in the 'attendance' category - where anxiety/EBSA/reduced timetable cited
- Families seeking or on waiting list for mental health therapies.
- Increased demand for AP, specialist and/or bespoke packages.
- Families frustrated with delays to EHCP decisions and communication.
- Suspensions and PEX.
- Diagnosis myth-busting (SEN Support/EHCP/RA duty)
- High service demand and increased complexity continues. (mirrors what's happening nationally).



# Young people



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## Headlines from young person survey 2023\*:

(\*aimed at ages 11 to 25)

- **76%** of young people had not heard of us (however 87% of practitioners had).
- **87%** of young people responded that they had not contacted us before
- We asked practitioners **'Have you ever signposted young people to our service?'**  
**93%** said they hadn't.

# Young people



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**Digital routes and 'face to face' (through their setting)** were the most popular ways young people wanted to access our service.

*“Other than today, I do not heard it. so I want more word from schools about this SENDIASS because its would make me more understanding of my future.”*

We need to do more to:

- raise awareness that we can support young people.
- explore ways young people can access the service.
- expand our range of information and resources.

## Young people shared...



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*“Wellbeing training more understanding and knowledge of what I was through. Mental health is still a issue when you have a disability or a send need.”*

*“Schools can be a bit loud and in your face and a bit over the top, if they were calmer they would be more approachable Also sometimes I feel talked down to, I want to be spoken to as an adult.”*

*“Having someone present with me in the room of meeting / discussion. I am very black and white and sometimes need things explained to me in a certain way.”*

# Next steps



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We will now explore:

- ways to publicise how we can support young people.
- outreach to young people.
- further coproduction with young people on the topics which interest them.
- ways we can improve accessibility of service publicity and information.
- alternative options for young people to interact and get in touch with us.
- communication tools which will help us to work with young people.

# Useful links



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[Minimum Standards](#) for SENDIAS services.

The national [intervention levels guidance](#) SENDIAS services work to.

## [SENDIASS Definition of Advocacy](#)

- [About us](#)
- [Our impartiality explained](#)
- [Our service leaflet for parents and carers](#)
- [Contact card \(credit card sized\)](#)
- [Young person leaflet](#)
- [Child/young person postcard style leaflet](#)
- [Child/young person poster](#)

<https://suffolksendiass.co.uk/leaflets-and-resources/>

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Education



Rights



EHC Plans



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