

How to contact us

Helpline:

0330 222 8555

By Post:

SEND Information, Advice and Support Service

Oriel Lodge

Chichester

West Sussex

PO19 1RZ

By e-mail: cyp.sendias@westsussex.gov.uk

You can also visit our web pages at:

<https://westsussex.local-offer.org/services/7>

SEND = Special Educational Needs and Disabilities



'The role of the WS SEND IAS is to ensure that all young people have access to impartial information, advice and support so they can make informed decisions about their special educational needs. Any information that is shared with the WS SEND IAS is in confidence unless permission has been obtained to share this with other individuals, services and agencies that may be able to help them with their circumstances.'



www.westsussex.gov.uk

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West Sussex SEND Information, Advice and Support Service
Information and Guidance for Young People who have additional educational needs and/or a disability



The role of the WS SEND IAS

The West Sussex SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (WS SEND IAS) provides impartial information, advice and support to children and young people who have special educational needs and/or a disability, up to and including age 25.

You can come to us if:

- you are unsure of what you want to do when you leave school
- you are worried about whether you have the right support at school, college or training.
- you need advice and support to think through your options
- you need information on Education, Care and support, and Health services
- you need help to look for information on the Local Offer

A Young Person Advisor can advise you in a way that you feel comfortable. This may be by:

- phone (speaking or texting)
- email
- meeting with you face to face

If you would like to meet with the Young Person Advisor face to face, or if they are supporting you at a meeting, you can choose to have someone else with you (a parent or carer for example). It is up to you.

What do we mean when we say we are impartial?

This means that the information, advice and support that we offer is firmly based in the law and the SEND Code of Practice.



We provide unbiased information and advice about the Local Authority's policies and procedures and about the policy and practice in local schools and other settings.

We will not tell you what to do and we will not take sides. We will help you think through your options and support you to get your views across to professionals.

Is the service confidential?



Our service is confidential. That means our meetings will be private. We will not share your information with anyone unless you tell us we can. The only exception to this would be because we have a specific concern about your safety.

What information, advice and support do we offer?

We offer up to date and impartial resources and information about the law on special educational needs and disability. This covers:

- Education, health and social care
- National and local policy
- The Local Offer
- Your rights and choices
- Your opportunities to participate
- Where you can find other help and advice
- How you can access this support

Local Offer

Sometimes information alone is not enough. You may want help to understand the information and apply it to your own situation. We call this advice and can give you this in different ways (see page 1).

We may be able to help you find an Independent Supporter or a volunteer who can help you and we will talk through these options with you to make sure you have the support that you want.

When we are not able to help we will do our best to tell you about, or put you in touch with, other groups or organisations that can help. We call this signposting.

If you are not happy with our support then please tell us how we can make it better!