



Information, Advice & Support Service



Providing Information, Advice & Support
to parents, carers and young people
with Special Educational Needs



How can I contact the Information, Advice and Support (IAS) Service?

Write:

Janet Beckwith
IAS Officer
Vancouver House, Gurney Street,
Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS1 1JL

Ring:

(01642) 201872

Email:

janet_beckwith@middlesbrough.gov.uk

Useful contacts

Independent Supporter Service Partner
01913 837431

Middlesbrough Parent Carer Forum
www.parents4change.co.uk
07584 055 639 or 01642 200 526

Children with Disabilities Team
Middlesbrough Council
01642 579176

Family Information Service
01642 354200

The Local Offer
Middlesbrough Website
<http://search3.openobjects.com/kb5/middlesbrough/fsd/home.page>



What is the Information, Advice and Support (IAS) Service?

The IAS Service developed from Middlesbrough's Parent Partnership Service and aims to support parents, carers and young people (age 16-25) with SEN who live within the Middlesbrough area. Our services are totally free, impartial and confidential. The IAS Service is here to help you make informed decisions around educational choices for children and young people with SEN.

For what reasons can I contact the IAS Service?

How can the Service help me?

There are no set rules. You can contact the Service for lots of different reasons. Even if we are unable to help you, we can put you in touch with someone who can!

- If you need help understanding and filling in forms and paperwork relating to education
- If you need the Special Educational Needs (SEN) process explaining
- If you would like more information about your child's specific learning difficulty
- If communication has broken down between you and your child's school

- If you want to appeal against any decision made about your child's education
- If you want an Independent Supporter to help you navigate the system for Education, Health and Care Plans and assessments

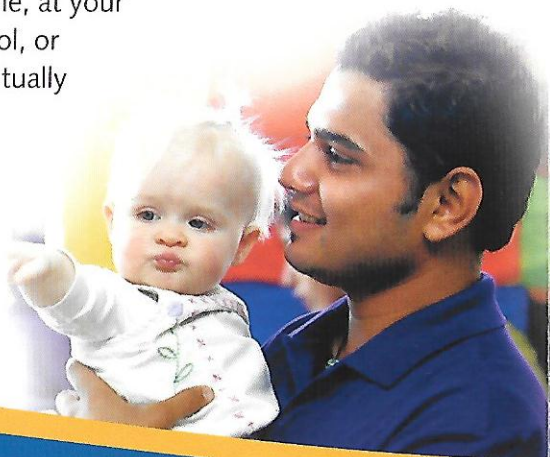
In what ways will the IAS Service provide help?

Telephone Advice:

You can call the service to discuss any concerns you may have regarding your child's special educational needs. We can advise you on how schools work, who to talk to and what questions to ask. We can signpost to other agencies if necessary.

Appointments Service:

You may prefer to discuss your concerns face to face. If so, we can meet you in your home, at your child's school, or another mutually convenient venue.



Advocacy:

If you wish we can attend meetings with you or speak to your child's school and/or the Local Authority on your behalf. If necessary, we can help you access more formal disagreement resolution and mediation services.

Paperwork:

We can help you fill in any forms, write letters and understand your legal rights and responsibilities regarding your child's education.

Independent Supporters:

Independent Supporters help children and young people and their families navigate the system for Education, Health and Care (EHC) Assessments and Plans. The Independent Supporter service for Middlesbrough is provided in partnership with Aspire PCS. Parents and/or young people themselves, can ask for an Independent Supporter to be allocated at any stage of the EHC Assessment process. This can be in connection with a new request for assessment, or a transfer from an existing "Statement of Special Educational Needs".



Aspire

Personalised Care Solutions