



Cumbria SEND
Information, Advice & Support Service
(formerly Cumbria Parent Partnership Service)



Offering impartial information, advice and support to children and young people with special educational needs and or disabilities and their parents & carers.

Early Years Area SENCO meetings.

You will have received lots of information about the changes to Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) statutory duties and legislation, which came into force in Sept 2014. Many of the changes are based on the Children and Families Act 2014 – Part 3, which received Royal Assent in April 2014.

Children and Families Act 2014

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/6/contents/enacted>

From this legislation the statutory guidance was produced – **SEND Code of Practice 0-25 years Sept. 2014 and revised to implement even more changes in Jan 2015 to be used from April 2015.**

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/398815/SEND_Code_of_Practice_January_2015.pdf

and also more specific guides for various providers:

Early Years: guide to the 0 to 25 years SEND code of practice - Advice for early years providers September 2014

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/350685/Early_Years_Guide_to_SEND_Code_of_Practice_-_02Sept14.pdf

Many organisations have produced summaries and easy to read fact sheets to help children and young people with SEND and their parents and carers understand these changes, these sheets are useful for everyone and you may want to use some of them with the parent carers you meet. **Council for Disabled Children, IPSEA and Contact a Family** are some of the more frequently used national organisations.

<http://www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/media/1083674/early-years-briefing.pdf>

We can work with you on this if parent carers want more information or need more impartial advice and support. **Cumbria SEND Information, Advice and Support Service** – formerly known as Parent Partnership Service -

<http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrenservices/schoolsandlearning/ils/parentpartnership/>

The SEND processes and paperwork have had to change to reflect the new legislation and these processes have new statutory timelines – **IPSEA** have some useful information.

<https://www.ipsea.org.uk/home> and the Local Authority explain the new processes and paperwork on the **Local Offer** – also has an Early Years - 0 – 5 section.

<http://search3.openobjects.com/kb5/cumbria/fsd/home.page>

On the Local Offer website you have your own Early Years – support for SENCOs section.

https://search3.openobjects.com/mediamanager/cumbria/fsd/files/websites_to_support_sencos.pdf

Sometimes identifying and assessing very small children can be a real challenge; keeping up with all the legislation and statutory duties, listening to family members, filling in the paperwork and doing your best to make sure every child is supported to achieve their best possible educational and other outcomes – so we would like to tell you a little bit about who can help you and the parents you work with.

We think The Council for Disabled Children briefing (<http://www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/media/1083674/early-years-briefing.pdf>) gives a really good overview of the Early Years SEND process and journey and together with the SEND Journey in Cumbria document that we have produced, feel that this may help you have some really positive experiences with the families you start this journey with.

Now that these changes have been in place for over a year the government are going to send inspectors out into Local Areas to ask children and young people with SEND and their parents/carers, what difference the new laws have made to their lives. It is important that the government receive information about all the services and organisations in the Local Area so a joint team of inspectors will be sent to do the inspection.

The team of inspectors will be made up of **Ofsted** (the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills. They inspect and regulate services that care for children and young people, and services providing education and skills for learners of all ages) and **CQC** (Care Quality Commission who monitor, inspect and regulate health and social care services)members.

To find out more about the SEND Local Area Inspections please go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/local-areas-to-get-more-notice-of-send-inspections>