

## Useful websites to support children and families

The following organisations can provide further information and support:

Please note that we are not responsible for the content of external websites.

Advisory Centre for Education advice and information on education issues.

Ataxia

AFASIC Supports parents and represents children and young people with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN).

<https://www.autism.org.uk>

We are the UK's leading charity for people on the autism spectrum and their families. Since 1962, we have been providing support, guidance and advice, as well as campaigning for improved rights, services and opportunities to help create a society that works for autistic people.

Barnardo's Children's charity.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zh9v382>

*Bitesize - Welcome to the **Parents' Toolkit***

**SEND (special educational needs and disabilities) advice and activities to help you support your family.**

British Deaf Association (BDA)

British Dyslexia Association

BullyingUK part of family lives

Cerebral Palsy information from the Birth Injury Center

Children's Legal Centre Free legal information, advice and representation for children, young people, their families, carers and professionals.

Brittle Bone Society

Centre for Studies on Inclusive Education (CSIE)

Child Law Advice website has a section for children and young people

Contact a charity for families of disabled children.

Council for Disabled Children

Cystic Fibrosis Trust

Diabetes UK

Disability Living Foundation

Down's Syndrome Association

<http://dspl3.co.uk/parents/>

Delivering Special Provision Locally (DSPL)

*What is Delivering Special Provision Locally (DSPL)?*

DSPL is a Hertfordshire-wide partnership approach where parents, staff in early years settings and schools, further education colleges, local authority officers and representatives from other agencies, work together as part of an Area Group, reviewing and developing the range of provision and support services available to their local community that :

- Meets the needs of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), aged 0-25, as close to home as possible.
- Improves outcomes for wellbeing and attainment
- Widens choice for children and parers/carers
- Removes barriers to learning
- Uses resources more effectively

There are nine DSPL Area Groups across the county that meet regularly to discuss what services are available and to influence how services are shaped and developed to ensure the children and young people with SEND in their area receive the right support in their educational activities.

<https://dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk>

Dyslexia Action

**The Ear Foundation**

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

The Ear Foundation is the only national UK charity to support and to provide activities for deaf children and young people with cochlear implants, their families and supporting professionals.

[English Federation of Disability Sport](#)

[Epilepsy Action](#)

[Family Fund](#) Charity aiming to support, advise and possibly help with funds for families with severely disabled children.

<https://www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/children-families/send/send-info/>

SEND information for parents and carers

[Special education needs and disabilities](#) (SEND) information for parents can often be hard to find or difficult to access. To help parents and carers we have brought together some useful national information on key topics below.

[Family Lives](#) Family Lives aims to transform the lives of families by supporting parents at building happier relationships, happier families and a stronger society.

[Haemophilia Society](#)

[Huntington's Disease Association](#)

[Headway National Head Injuries Association](#)

[Hypermobility Syndrome Association](#)

<http://hypermobility.org/about-us/>

Hypermobility Syndrome Association provides specific information for children and their parents to help families who often just don't know where to turn. We run specialist family programmes, where families can learn together how best to manage the many symptoms relating to hypermobility, gain confidence and ask any questions they may have.

[I CAN - The children's communication charity](#) supports children with speech, language and communication difficulties.

[Information, Advice and Support Services Network](#)

<https://www.internetmatters.org/inclusive-digital-safety/advice-for-parents-and-carers/supporting-children-with-send/>

[Leukaemia Care](#)

[IPSEA](#) Independent Parental Special Education Advice

LOOK National Federation of Families with Visually Impaired Children)

KIDS (Working with disabled children, young people and their families)

MENCAP Support people with a learning disability.

Motability Exchange your mobility allowance to lease a car, scooter or powered wheelchair.

MIND (National Association for Mental Health)

Muscular Dystrophy Campaign

National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux

National Association of Special Educational Needs

National Asthma UK

National Autistic Society

National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS) Families can also contact NDCS through their Freephone helpline on 0808 800 8880, [helpline@ndcs.org.uk](mailto:helpline@ndcs.org.uk) or NDCS live chat. Deaf children and young people can access information, share their experiences and have fun at [www.buzz.org.uk](http://www.buzz.org.uk).

National Eczema Society

National Federation of the Blind

National Society for Epilepsy

Network 81 A national network of parents working towards properly resourced inclusive education for children with special needs.

Newlife A free national Helpline which supports and informs families of children with disabilities and terminal illness as well as grants for essential medical equipment.

<https://www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services/palms>

PALMS (Positive behaviour, Autism, Learning disability and Mental health Service) works across the county providing a specialist multi-disciplinary approach to children and young people aged 0-18 who have a global learning disability and/or Autistic Spectrum Disorder and their families. PALMS clinicians comprise a 'virtual team' delivering a consistent service in a variety of community settings.

## Physically Disabled and Able Bodied (PHAB)

Rainbow Trust supports families who have a child aged 0-18 years with a life threatening or terminal illness and are in the greatest need.

Scope provide support and information if your child has a physical impairment, learning disability or any other condition.

<https://www.kids.org.uk/sendiaass>

Welcome to SENDIASS

The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information Advice and Support Services offer information, advice and support for parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). This service is also offered directly to young people.

Special Needs Jungle Parent-led information, resources and informed opinion about children and young people with SEN, special needs, disability, health conditions and rare diseases.

Sibs exists to support people who grow up with or have grown up with a disabled brother or sister.

The Stroke Association

The National Network of Parent Carer Forums

Whizz Kidz can help to transform the lives of disabled children across the UK, supporting them to become confident and independent young adults

Young Minds improving children's wellbeing and mental health.