



The Local Offer



The Liaise service in Lincolnshire provides free, confidential and impartial information, advice and support to children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their parents and carers. We aim to ensure that the views of children, young people and their families are heard and included in decision making, in order to achieve the best possible outcomes and help prepare for adulthood. We can assist in a number of ways including telephone information and advice, attendance at meetings and help with completing forms and writing letters.

To contact Liaise please call [0800 195 1635](tel:08001951635) or email liaise@lincolnshire.gov.uk

This booklet is aimed at parents and carers and was produced with the help of a parents' reference group, with representatives from across the country. It is one of a series produced for Information, Advice and Support Services nationally. It contains information based on national policies and procedures and is impartial.

Any words written in **bold** are explained in the Glossary booklet, also available from Liaise.

Any text written within a box is a direct quote from the SEND Code of Practice (2015). This is statutory guidance, which means that all those to whom it applies should follow it, unless they can demonstrate good reason not to.

You can find the SEND Code of Practice and the SEND guide for parents and carers at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25

www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-parents-and-carers

Further information can be found on our website
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Liaise

Lincolnshire's Local Offer can be found at:
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/SENDlocaloffer

What is the Local Offer?

Every local authority must publish a Local Offer. The Local Offer tells you what support the local authority expects to be available for children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities. It must include information about education, health and care provision. It should also tell you about training, employment and independent living for young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

You can find the Local Offer for Lincolnshire at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/SENDlocaloffer

Who is it for?

The Local Offer is for:

- children and young people with SEN and/or disabilities from birth to 25
- their parents and carers
- practitioners and professionals.

What is the idea?

The Local Offer should:

- make it easier to find out what you need to know
- give you information about what is available
- tell you where you can get further information.

The Local Offer should also make services more responsive to local needs.

The **SEND Code of Practice** says that the Local Offer should:

- provide clear, comprehensive, accessible and up-to-date information about the available provision and how to access it
- make provision more responsive to local needs and aspirations by directly involving disabled children and those with SEN and their parents, and disabled young people and those with SEN, and service providers in its development and review (4.2)

What does it include?

The Local Offer includes information on:

- how children and young peoples' needs are identified
- how their needs are assessed
- the special educational, health and social care provision for children and young people with SEN or disabilities
- opportunities for training and employment
- support for independent living
- how provision is funded
- leisure activities and support groups
- where you can find more information, advice and support
- arrangements for travel to and from school and other settings
- the help available to resolve disagreements.

The Local Offer must also tell you about services provided outside your area which local people are likely to use.

You can find the full list of what must be included in the [SEND Code of Practice](#) section 4.30.



How can I get involved?

The local authority **must** involve children and young people with SEN and disabilities, and parents and carers in preparing and reviewing the Local Offer. If you would like to be involved, or make some comments, you can find out more on the 'Tell Us' tab on the Local Offer website.

You can contact the Information Team on [0800 195 1635](tel:08001951635) or children_information@lincolnshire.gov.uk

The local authority must publish what children, young people and parents tell them about the Local Offer. It must also say clearly what it will do about the comments it has received.



Where can I get further information, advice or support?

Chapter 4 of the **SEND Code of Practice** tells you more about the Local Offer.

You can find the Local Offer for Lincolnshire at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/SENDlocaloffer

Liaise can also give you:

- information and advice about SEN and disability support and provision
- more information about local services, organisations, and resources which might help
- advice and support to get more involved.



Other Liaise booklets in the series are:

The Local Offer

SEND Support in Mainstream schools

Funding for SEND Support in mainstream schools

Education Health and Care Needs assessment for children in early years settings or at school

Education Health and Care Plans

Personal Budgets for SEND

What do we mean by impartial information, advice and support

What if I do not agree with decisions about SEN provision?

Glossary

Liaise (SEND Information Advice and Support in Lincolnshire)

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www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Liaise

Liaise has made all reasonable efforts to ensure that the information contained in this leaflet is accurate and up to date at the time of publication. It does not constitute legal advice and Liaise cannot accept any responsibility for any loss or damage suffered as a consequence of any reliance placed upon it.

