

Bradford SENDIASS

What are our aims?

We aim to provide flexible information and advice services for children and young people with SEND, and their parents, empowering them to play an active and informed role in SEND related matters including education, health, and social care.

The provision of information, advice and support should promote independence and self-advocacy.



What is our vision?

Our vision is to help children and young people with SEND, their parents/carers, and professionals in schools and the Local Authority to work together to achieve better outcomes for the child in line with the relevant legislation and guidance, and the views and wishes of child and family.

Different types of support

We provide different levels of involvement dependent on our evaluation of your needs

Information and Self Service

Bradford SENDIASS has a website which holds a lot of helpful information, which can be accessed at

<https://www.barnardosendiass.org.uk/bradford-sendiass/>

or through the Bradford Local Offer.

There are factsheets on SEND related topics and links to our YouTube videos.

If you are unable to access these, we can arrange to email copies out to you too.



Advice and follow up information (Level 1)

Most enquiries are supported at level 1. When you contact us, we will give you an estimated call back time - we aim to return your call/ email within 3 working days, but this may be extended during busier times.

When we call you back, we will listen to your enquiry and provide detailed advice and information which aims to help you feel more knowledgeable and confident to self-advocate in further discussions with others and engage in SEND related processes.

Our response can be over the phone or via email. A follow up email may be sent outlining our information and advice. This could include signposting to other services or providing links to helpful documents. For example, statutory guidance, legislation, or policies. You can contact the service as many times as they need to and will be given an estimated call back each time. Advice may not be from the same worker each time.

Different types of support

One off support (Level 2)

If we feel there are factors which **significantly** affects your ability to act independently, we may offer some support for a one-off meeting, task, or to help start a process.

As such one of our team will make an appointment to work with you for a specific activity.

Throughout this work, we remain committed to empowering you to play an active and informed role and consistently encourage self-advocacy.

After the appointment further enquiries will need to call back on the main number.



Casework Support through a SEND related process (Level 3 and 4)

If we feel your situation is particularly complex and you have needs of your own, we may feel it is necessary to offer some casework support while you are going through a specific SEND related process.

Throughout this work, we remain committed to empowering you to play an active and informed role and consistently encourage self-advocacy.

Cases will be reviewed regularly to see if casework is still required from a SENDIASS worker.

What to expect from a SENDIASS worker

SENDIASS can...

- Explain jargon
- Assist you to understand policies and procedures
- Share information from legislation and statutory guidance with you so you feel clearer on expectations of others and specific processes that are bound by legal duties.
- Empower you to feel confident to express your views and wishes
- Help you to understand and exercise your rights
- Advise you of your options so you can make an informed decision
- Provide templates and examples for letters, emails, and paperwork
- Provide resources in various formats to support your enquiry (e.g. YouTube videos and factsheets)
- Help you to prepare for meetings, mediations and tribunals
- Accompany you to meetings if you are unable to advocate for yourself or if the situation is complex and we feel you would benefit from our support
- Help you to review documents and forms (e.g., EHC Needs Assessment requests, draft and final EHCPs, appeal forms)



SENDIASS cannot...

- Make decisions for you - you know your child's, or your own, wishes and needs best
- Attend all meetings (please see our 'Meeting Support' document)
- Arrange meetings or take minutes*
- Write letters or emails for you*
- Complete paperwork on your behalf*
- Print or photocopy documents for you
- Review benefits forms e.g., DLA or PIP (we sign-post to other services for this type of support)
- Take sides during discussions or provide you with our personal opinions of your situation. Please take a moment to view our impartiality policy [here](#)

SENDIASS does not hold power over local authority, school policies, procedures, and practices and so is unable to influence decision making processes.

*Unless you have additional support needs that mean you cannot undertake these actions independently. In this case we may arrange a time to complete these tasks with you.



BARNARD'S

Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.