

# Autism Pathway

## Post Diagnosis Guidance

## **Support services whilst you wait and beyond ...**

There is a wealth of support available for families who are waiting and who have had an assessment. This list is not exhaustive. Details as follows:

### ***Doncaster Local Offer***

The Local Offer provides information for children and young people with special educational needs (SEND) and their parents or carers in a single place. It shows families what they can expect from a range of local agencies including education, health, social care and clubs, groups and leisure activities. The Local Offer can be found at:

[www.doncaster.gov.uk/localoffer](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/localoffer)

### ***National Autistic Society***

Founded in 1962, we are the UK's leading charity for autistic people and their families. Our goal is to help transform lives, change attitudes and create a society that works for autistic people. The National Autistic Society website can be found at:

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

## ***Health***

### **Health Visitor Service**

Health Visitors complete a universal health needs assessment with all families from an antenatal contact and therefore identify families with a variety of complex needs. They can then offer support not only from the child's perspective but also parental and family support. Children who have additional needs often have their health needs addressed but parents' emotional health and wellbeing is one of the key areas Health Visiting skills are paramount. Health Visitors provide services for children under the age of 5 years.

We have a small amount of Health Visiting staff who have completed the Early Bird Training and in conjunction with our Children's Centres can advise parents and staff in supporting early intervention strategies for children with communication difficulties and possible autism.

**Tel:** 01302 566776

### **Community Nursery Nurses**

Community Nursery Nurses use an early identification tool of development with parents from the age of two months called Ages and Stages. This is completed again at six months, twelve months and two years of age providing a progressive and comprehensive assessment of the child's development. This is an effective tool that feeds into the Communication Pathway referral. Again, the Community Nursery Nurses provide early intervention behavioural strategies within their varied groups, healthy child drop-in sessions and when completing the Ages and Stages questionnaires with parents.

**Tel:** 01302 852680

### **School Nursing Service**

Support children and young people who have additional needs requiring assistance in school by providing support and advice to schools and signposting to specialist services as appropriate. The School Nursing Teams work closely with schools and other agencies supporting children/ young people and their families and can refer directly to several services with the parent's consent. Also provide health, development and behavioural advice and support to children, young people and their parents/carers (including parenting advice, bedwetting ('enuresis'), soiling, bereavement support, anger management etc.).

**Tel:** 01302 566776

### **Sleep Clinics**

Family and child-centred, one-to-one Sleep Clinics are provided in community settings across Doncaster. These allow families to access appropriate support and advice, which will help them to address their child's identified sleep problems and establish a regular night-time sleep pattern. The Sleep Practitioners also provide out-of-hours e-clinics where necessary and follow-up support is also provided for 5 weeks after the initial appointment.

**Tel:** 01302 751416      **Email:** [info@thechildrenssleepcharity.org.uk](mailto:info@thechildrenssleepcharity.org.uk)

**Website:** <http://www.thechildrenssleepcharity.org.uk/>

### **CAMHS**

Doncaster Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) provides mental health assessments, therapy and interventions for children, young people up to the age of 18 years and their families or identified carers when the child and young person is experiencing emotional or mental health difficulties.

In April, the Doncaster Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) joined the Multi Agency Access Point at the Mary Woollett Centre in Doncaster working alongside Early Help and Social Care. Working with partner agencies in this way will ensure that children and young people receive the support they need in an effective and timely manner. Routing requests for support through one single point of contact means that referrers will not be passed between services, avoiding any unnecessary delays for children, young people and their families.

All requests for support from CAMHS should now be made through a single online referral form: [www.doncasterchildrenstrust.co.uk/worried-about-a-child](http://www.doncasterchildrenstrust.co.uk/worried-about-a-child)

**Where there are concerns of an urgent nature, please contact the CAMHS Single Point of Access team for advice via 01302 796191 in the first instance or 01302 796000 (Out of Hours).** This can then be followed-up by completing an online referral, where appropriate. Children and young people should only be advised to attend the Emergency Department for assessment if they are considered to be at imminent risk to themselves or others. For further information please telephone 01302 796191 or email Sally Deakin, Access and Getting Help Pathway Lead, on email [sally.deakin@nhs.net](mailto:sally.deakin@nhs.net).

## ***Parent Groups***

### **Seedlings Group**

The Portage Service and Pre School Inclusion Team run OFSTED-funded group for pre-school children with complex social communication difficulties. Children are referred to the Early Years Support Panel by consultant and community paediatricians, speech and language therapists and by members of the multi-disciplinary autism assessment team.

**Tel:** 01302 862103      **Email:** [earlysupportpanel@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:earlysupportpanel@doncaster.gov.uk)

### **Little Rainbows Autism Group**

Little Rainbows is a parent run support group providing activities and advice to the families of children affected by Autism and Asperger Syndrome in the Doncaster area. We hold coffee mornings, after school clubs and family play sessions as well as organising days out in the school holidays. It can feel like you are the only one going through it some days but with all our lovely families to meet and talk to you will soon realise, with great relief, you're not.

**Tel:** 07383 562794      **Email:** [littlerainbows@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:littlerainbows@hotmail.co.uk)

**Website:** <http://www.littlerainbows.rocks/contact/>

### **Doncaster Parent's Voice**

The forum represents the views of parents and carers in the local area of all children with special and additional needs and has been established to work in partnership with service providers with the purpose of parents participation to help parents get involved in service planning and decision making. Parents and carers may join to gain information and be as active or non-active as they wish.

**Tel:** 01302 637566      **Email:** [Dpvoice@doncastercarers.org.uk](mailto:Dpvoice@doncastercarers.org.uk)

**Website:** <https://www.doncasterparentsvoice.co.uk/>

### **Other Support Groups**

There are parent led groups running across Doncaster including Unique Stars and the Bubble Group. Please ask at your local Children Centre on information of what exists in your area.

## ***Education***

### **Educational Psychology Services**

The Educational Psychology Service supports all schools within the Doncaster area. Its role is to help raise achievement and promote inclusion for all children, particularly those with additional needs such as autism. This includes teaching and learning strategies for meeting the needs of pupils with social communication and autism. Educational Psychologists do not diagnose medical conditions but look closely at how medical diagnoses (such as autism) and other factors impact on the work of schools and settings, and then advising on how to achieve the best possible outcomes for children and young people.

If you have concerns about your child's needs being met within the school environment please contact the school 'Special Educational Needs Coordinator' (SENCo). The SENCo will then make a decision as to whether involvement from the educational psychologist is necessary and will organise this involvement if it is deemed appropriate. Parents can of course contact the Educational Psychology Service directly for advice and we will always help with queries about how a child or young persons' needs are best met.

**Tel:** 01302 737291      **Email:** [educationpsychology@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:educationpsychology@doncaster.gov.uk)

**Website:** [www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/schools/educational-psychology-service](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/schools/educational-psychology-service)

### **The Autism and Social Communication Education and Training Service (ASECTS)**

ASCETS is a small team of teachers and learning support assistant with specialist knowledge and skills in supporting children and young people with social communication difficulties and autism. The team focuses on improving the progress, educational achievement, and inclusion of children with social communication difficulties and autism.

ASCETS is now part of the Educational Psychology Service and the team covers all school settings across the Borough. ASCETS works within the framework of support described in the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Code of Practice and the service is currently under review, seeking to develop further its reach and effectiveness across Doncaster.

Training to assistant schools in supporting children and young people with social communication and autism needs can be accessed directly from the ASCETS teachers.

Please contact:

ASCETS (Autism, Social Communication, Education and Training  
Service) Floor 3 Civic Office  
Waterdale  
Doncaster  
DN1 3BU

**Tel:** 01302 734838

### **Doncaster Portage Service & Pre School Inclusion Team**

**Portage** is a home teaching service for children up to the age of two years. The Portage Home Visitors support parents to promote early developmental skills with their child using a small steps approach to learning. Children are referred to the Early Years Support Panel by the Consultant and Community Paediatricians.

**The Pre-School Inclusion Team (PSIT)** offer support to private Voluntary and Independent (PVI) day care settings (non-school nurseries and pre-school settings) to promote the inclusion of children with SEND. Referrals can be made to the Early Years Support Panel by parents, PVI settings, health visitors and therapists.

Area SENCOs and SEN Development Officers work with nursery staff to ensure the curriculum is adapted to meet the individual needs of the child, that the SEN Code of Practice is adhered to and that services are co-ordinated to meet the needs of the family and child.

**Tel:** 01302 862103      **Email:** [earlysupportpanel@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:earlysupportpanel@doncaster.gov.uk)

## ***Other Information***

### **Families Information Service**

Families Information Service (FIS) is the central point of information and advice for families, children, young people 0-19 years and people who work with families. We specialise in providing information and advice on an extensive range of issues that impact on family life, including: childcare, education, children with disabilities, employment, money matters, parenting and family support. In particular, see the Local Offer.

**Tel:** 0800 138 4568      **Email:** [fis@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:fis@doncaster.gov.uk)

**Website:** [www.doncaster.gov.uk/fis](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/fis)

### **SENDIAS (Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities Information Advice and Support)**

We can provide independent information, guidance, and support for parents and carers of children (under 25 years) with any level of special educational needs and disabilities.

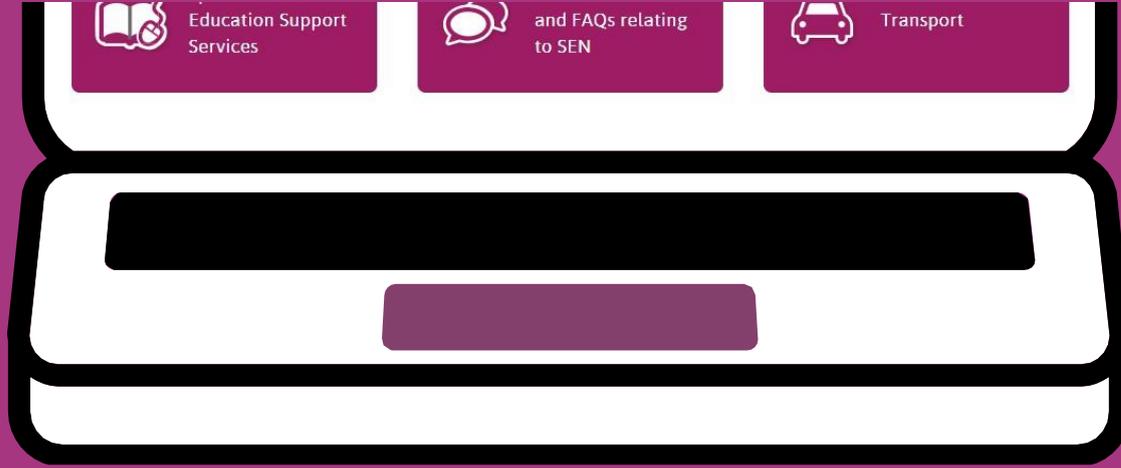
We can offer advice and information on:

- Support with documentation in relation to the Statutory Assessments and the new Education Health and Care Plan as well as the Statementing processes.
- Short Breaks and respite, SEN, early years/school action support and Statements/Educational, Health and Care Plans.
- Advice and support around ensuring that your child's views are included in all decisions that affect their educational and health needs.
- We can support you with meetings at schools, nurseries or the local authority about your child's needs.
- We work with partners and have information about the best service to help you, groups such as: T.I.E., Short Breaks, Health Services, Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), Children's Services and the Doncaster Voluntary Sector.

**Tel:** 01302 736920      **Email:** [sendias@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:sendias@doncaster.gov.uk)

**Website:** [www.doncaster.gov.uk/sendias](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/sendias)





# DONCASTER'S LOCAL OFFER

## Special Educational Needs /Disabilities

Provides information for children and young people with SEND and their parents or carers in a single place. It shows families what they can expect from a range of local agencies including:

- Education
- Health
- Social Care
- Activities and Leisure
- Clubs and Groups
- Advice and Support
- Preparing for Adulthood

Visit the Local Offer at

[www.doncaster.gov.uk/localoffer](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/localoffer)



# **A Two-morning Workshop for Parents of Children over the age of 5 recently diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder**

**Presented by ASCETS & Outreach Teams**

## **Aims**

Over two mornings the aim is for parents to gain insight into how children who have a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum understand the world. Parents will also have the opportunity to meet other parents who have a child with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

## **Upcoming Dates**

**Tuesday 21st & Tuesday 28th April 2020**

9.30-12.30pm

Room 21 & 27, Mary Woollett Centre, Danum Road, Doncaster, DN4 5HF

**OR**

**Tuesday 9th & Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

9.30-12.30pm

Room 27, Mary Woollett Centre, Danum Road, Doncaster, DN4 5HF

## **Contact**

To reserve places or for more information please contact Shirley Goodlad on [ASD.Team@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:ASD.Team@doncaster.gov.uk) - please specify which workshop month you wish to attend.

Places will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis.

There are many car parks situated close by, please allow plenty of time and report to the main reception where you will be collected from.

**If we do not hear from you we will assume you are not interested in attending the workshops and you will be discharged from our workshop waiting list.**

# CLUBS, GROUPS & ACTIVITIES

FOR CHILDREN &  
YOUNG PEOPLE WITH  
SPECIAL EDUCATION  
NEEDS & DISABILITIES  
(SEND)

FIND THEM ON  
DONCASTER LOCAL OFFER

[WWW.DONCASTER.GOV.UK/LOACTIVITIES](http://WWW.DONCASTER.GOV.UK/LOACTIVITIES)

# TIE Activity Discount Card for Children with SEND

## What is Together Information Exchange (TIE)?

Together Information Exchange (TIE) is a voluntary register of children and young people 0-19 with disabilities in Doncaster. All local authorities are required by the Children Act 1989 to hold a register of disabled children and young people.

Doncaster's register is administrated by Doncaster's Families Information Service. The information you provide is kept on a secure database and supports in planning for the future across all services that support families with disabilities.

## Why join TIE?

To help the Council to plan and provide services that will support you and your child. We will do this using the information provided by families of children and young people with disabilities.

As a member of TIE you will receive:

- Information either via e-mail or on our Doncaster Local Offer Facebook page sharing events and activities that are taking place.
- The holiday activity timetable run by Short Breaks which your disabled child can book onto during the school holidays.
- Opportunity to receive a free TIE membership card

## Who can register with TIE?

Any child or young person can become members of TIE if they are aged 0-19 and have a disability as defined in the Equality Act 2010.

In the Act, a person has a disability if:

They have a physical or mental impairment, the impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to perform normal day-to-day activities. For purposes of the Act, these words have the following meanings:

- 'Substantial' means more than minor or trivial
- 'Long-term' means that the effect of the impairment has lasted or is likely to last for at least twelve months (there are special rules covering recurring or fluctuating conditions)
- 'Normal day-to-day activities' include everyday things like eating, washing, walking and going shopping

People who have had a disability in the past that meets this definition are also protected by the Act.

## **Progressive conditions considered to be a disability**

There are additional provisions relating to people with progressive conditions. People with HIV, cancer or multiple sclerosis are protected by the Act from the point of diagnosis. People with some visual impairments are automatically deemed to be disabled.

### **[How do I join TIE?](#)**

You can apply online at [www.doncaster.gov.uk/TIE](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/TIE)

### **[TIE Membership Card Renewal](#)**

If you are already a member of TIE and your current TIE card has expired you can request a new card by completing the TIE Renewal Form on - [www.doncaster.gov.uk/TIE](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/TIE)

You will also be asked to provide an updated photo of child to use on the new card, you can send the new photo by email to – [TIE@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:TIE@doncaster.gov.uk)

Each child is entitled to one TIE card, unfortunately we do not replace lost or stolen cards except for exceptional circumstances.

### **[What do I get with a TIE membership card?](#)**

By getting a TIE membership card you automatically receive discounts at various places in and around Doncaster. These include the Yorkshire Wildlife Park, The Dome, Vue Cinema and much more.

A full list of the current discounts is available in the documents section on this page. To receive your discount simply show your card when you arrive.

If a venue that is listed refuses the card please contact [TIE@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:TIE@doncaster.gov.uk)

### **IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER:**

Doncaster Borough Council does not endorse, approve or recommend any third- party service that it suggests may be available to be purchased with the discount card .These third parties are not within the control of Doncaster Borough Council and the Customer acknowledges and agrees that when purchasing services from the third parties using the discount card, it does so solely at its own risk.

Doncaster Borough Council makes no representation or commitment and shall have no liability or obligation whatsoever in relation to any transactions completed, and any contract entered into by the Customer with any such third party when using the discount card. Any contract entered into and any transaction completed with any third party is between the Customer and the relevant third party, and not Doncaster Borough Council. Doncaster Borough Council recommends that the Customer refers to the third party's terms and conditions prior to agreeing to purchase the services and undertakes its own checks and assessment to ascertain whether the service and its terms and conditions are suitable and the discount can be obtained. The Cardholder/customer may not transfer or assign its rights under or in the discount card.

# Education, Health and Care Plans

## Myths and Facts

---

**Myth:** A child can only have extra help in a mainstream school if they have an EHCP

**Fact:** Mainstream schools can meet a wide range of needs without a statutory needs assessment. They should meet with parents and others to agree how best to meet individual needs as part of an SEN Support Plan and review this three times a year.

---

**Myth:** Schools need an EHCP to get funding to meet the needs of children with SEND

**Fact:** Schools have SEND funding in addition to their core funding, they can use this to assess and meet the needs of the majority of children who need extra help. Schools can also apply for High Needs Funding before requesting an EHCP Needs Assessment

---

**Myth:** An EHCP can be written by anyone at any time if they think a child would benefit

**Fact:** An EHCP is drafted by the Local Authority's SEND Service following a statutory needs assessment. The draft will be developed with parents but it will not say where a child will be educated until the final version is issued.

---

**Myth:** My child must have needs and involvement across Education, Health and Social Care to qualify for an EHCP

**Fact:** The starting point is the definition of SEND: significant, complex and long term SEND needing special educational provision. If a child also has health and/or care needs there should be an integrated assessment and planning approach to meet all the child's needs.

Health and care needs must continue to be met without an EHCP if the child does not have SEND.