

# Newsletter



## Hello and welcome to the SENDIASS North Yorkshire Spring Newsletter 2025

We have recently updated our service policies about the way we work, our expectations and how we support with meetings and tribunals.

### SENDIASS North Yorkshire Our agreement and expectations



Sendiass North Yorkshire will provide the relevant information and advice to everyone using the service. We aim to empower parents, carers, young people and professionals to gain an understanding of SEND policies, process and relevant Law and how it applies to their situation

## What you can expect from us:

- We will be confidential, impartial, arm's length from the Local Authority and provide information, advice, and support to achieve the best outcomes possible.
- We will be honest, reliable, non-judgmental, all trained or working towards IPSEA Level 3 in SEND law.
- We will gather information during your contact and record brief notes on our confidential database so should you return, you do not have to re-tell all your situation.
- The SENDIASS coordinator will offer information and advice by phone, emails, and virtual meetings.
- Should your child's/young person's file be allocated to a co-ordinator you will be offered a one-off virtual meeting or phone call to address your reasons for contact. During this session you will be given information and advice about next steps. Once has happened the file will be closed.
- You can return to the Service at any point should you require further advice or information by contacting us through our secure online contact form: [Contact form for parents/carers > SENDIAS North Yorkshire](#).

## You can help us by:

- Working together to agree next steps.
- Leaving us a message if you phone.
- Attending pre-arranged meetings and letting us know if you cannot attend with as much notice as possible.
- When your child/young person's file has been closed please come back to us through our advice line using: [Contact Us - SENDIASS North Yorkshire](#).
- By filling in our evaluation form as it really helps us to learn and develop our service.



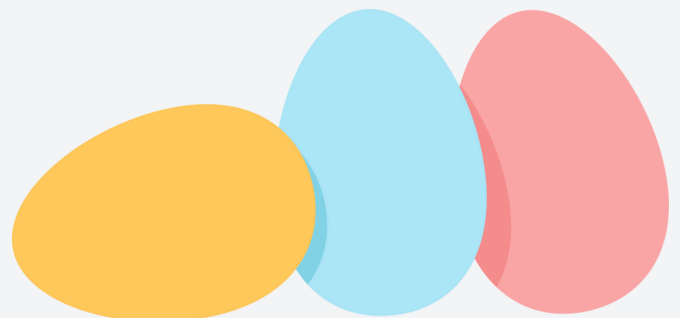


## Support for meetings and Tribunal hearings

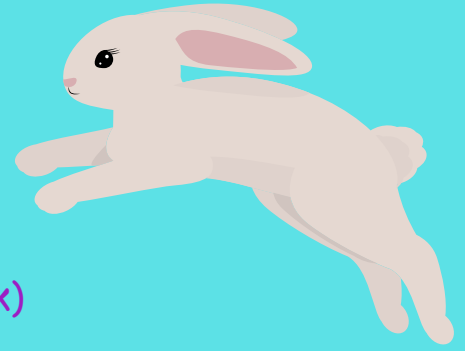
We often get requests for SENDIASS North Yorkshire to attend meetings and tribunal hearings. Due to the number of parents/carers, children, and young people we support we are not able to accept all the meeting requests we receive. Meeting requests will always be considered, and a decision will be made based on the below guidelines.

### Meetings

- Requests for SENDIASS attendance must be received at least 2 weeks before the meeting date.
- SENDIASS being able to attend a meeting depends on our availability and may be reduced during busy periods.
- Meetings in person (often called face-to-face meetings) are extremely rare due to our availability and the location.
- SENDIASS may offer to attend a meeting virtually if considered necessary, using Microsoft Teams or a similar online platform.
- Coordinators will only attend meetings if they have a valuable contribution to make or if you are unable to advocate for your child, or yourself. This can be discussed.
- If we do not agree to attend a meeting, we will offer you a virtual preparation session; during this we will provide advice and information or signpost you to relevant resources.



# Tribunals



- We request that you check if you qualify for legal aid by visiting the Civil Legal Advice on the Government website as a starting point.

Check if you can get legal aid - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

or you can 'phone them on 0345 345 4345.

If you do qualify you may be able to access free professional reports or assessments to support your appeal.

- SENDIASS coordinators are unlikely to attend Tribunals with you. However, in exceptional circumstances may attend as a supporter. This will be discussed on a case-by-case basis.

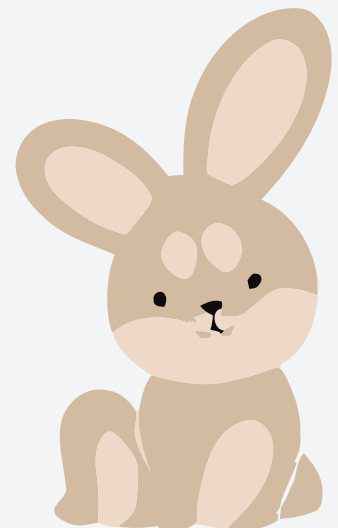
- Please do not name a SENDIASS coordinator on the appeal (SEND 35 form) or case review form (SEND 45 form) unless it has been agreed.

## Representing yourself, your child or young person

Most parents and carers represent their child or young person without legal representation and will move through this process with minimal support.

Our role at SENDIASS North Yorkshire is to empower you and we can provide information and different resources to give you the confidence to express your views, wishes, and rights.

You are the best person to speak for your child, young person or for yourself and the SEND tribunal is set up to listen to you.



# ★ NOW LIVE ★

[www.sendiassnorthyorkshire.co.uk](http://www.sendiassnorthyorkshire.co.uk) 🔍



Our new website went live at the end of January if you have not visited, please check it out.

[SENDIASS North Yorkshire Website](http://www.sendiassnorthyorkshire.co.uk)

.The new format should make it easier for you to find the information you are looking for.

We have a Parent Carer's section which has lots of information to support Parents and Carers in North Yorkshire including information on SEND Support, EHCPs and Exclusions.

Our Parent Carer's section here:

[Parent Carers Section](#)

And how our Parent Carer's referral form here if you would like to contact us:

[Parent Carer Contact Form](#)



# Volunteers

We would like to introduce some new volunteers who have recently joined our team, Sue and Ruth. They will be working with Coordinators in their areas to provide additional support such as the completion of Education, Health and Care Assessment Requests.



## Sue Wilkinson

Sue is a good listener and has lived experience.

She is compassionate, calm, consistent, optimistic and determined.

Sue is interested in mental and physical health and wellbeing as well as supporting her family, friends and community.

Sue will be volunteering in the Selby area.

## Ruth Janney

Ruth is organised and methodical.

She tries her best to be approachable and put people at ease.

Ruth spent almost 40 years as a primary school teacher with a passion for inclusion, and is really pleased that she can draw on her experience to help families of children with SEND.



Ruth will be volunteering in the Harrogate and Craven area.



# Themes of the Month

Every month on our Social Media Pages we share information and resources around a particular theme.

The upcoming themes are:

**April** - Annual Reviews - the process of annual reviews and useful links and resources.

**May** - Exams - preparing for exam season, resources to help with stress and ways parents can access support for young people's anxiety around exams.

**June** - Preparation for Adulthood - information and links around preparing for adulthood in North Yorkshire.

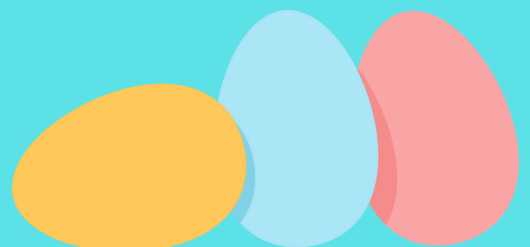
If you have any suggestions for future themes that would be helpful, please let us know by emailing [alice.atkinson@sendiassnorthyorks.org](mailto:alice.atkinson@sendiassnorthyorks.org)

## Healthy Living

Leading a healthy lifestyle, with good nutrition, regular exercise and positive habits not only impacts the physical but also the mental health of our families.

NHS Healthier Families have lots of advice on how to eat well and move more on their website [here](#).

Action for Children have some tips for keeping your family healthy [here](#)



# Virtual Sessions



Requesting an Education, Health and Care Assessment (EHCAR request) Information Session.

## EHCAR INFORMATION SESSION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS



### Virtual Session hosted via MS Teams

In this session we will cover the EHCAR process, paperwork, SEND law around EHCPs and answer your questions.



To book a place,  
please visit the link below

Virtual Training Session for Parents and Carers.  
Are you considering requesting an EHC Needs Assessment?

In this session we cover:

- What is an EHCP and an EHCAR?
- SEND Law on requesting an assessment.
- Who can request an assessment and when.
- What evidence is needed.
- How to complete the EHCAR form.
- The statutory timeline from requesting an assessment to a final EHC Plan being issued.

This session is for Parents, Carers and Young People ONLY.

Please do not book onto this session if you're child or young person already has an EHCP.

Book onto the next session here:

[Wednesday 7th May at 10am](#)

Are you looking for advice on Mainstream SEND Support without an EHCP?

This session covers:

- What is SEND and Mainstream SEND Support?
- The law around SEND Support, school duties and reasonable adjustments.
- The Broad Areas of Need.
- The Graduated Approach.
- SEND Support Plans
- Attending meetings to discuss SEND Support.

These sessions are specifically for Parents and Carers ONLY, who are living in North Yorkshire. Please do not book onto this session if your child or young person has an EHCP.

You can book onto the upcoming sessions via the links below:

[Thursday 24th April 10am](#)

[Wednesday 21st May 11:30am](#)

## SEND SUPPORT IN MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS INFORMATION SESSION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS



### Virtual session hosted via MS Teams

In this session we will give information and advice on SEND Support in mainstream schools, SEND law, school duties and attending a SEND Support Meeting.



To book a place,  
please visit the link below



# Parent Carer Voice

Parent Carer Voice are the recognised Parent Carer Forum for North Yorkshire, supporting families with children and young people (0-25 years old) with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND).

Their vision is to inform, empower and represent the collective voice of families with SEND in the region.

Parent Carer Voice offer many virtual sessions on a range of topics including, sensory processing, employment and social emotional mental health.

You can see their upcoming events on their website [here](#):

[PCV Events](#)



**parentcarervoice**  
NORTH YORKSHIRE  
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## North Yorkshire FEAST



All children and young people across North Yorkshire can get involved in a range of holiday activities, with free places and a free meal for children and young people receiving benefits-related free school meals.



FEAST partners with leading holiday playschemes, clubs and activity providers from across North Yorkshire to offer a wide range of sessions for kids of all ages from Reception to Year 11.

For more information visit the FEAST Website [here](#):

[North Yorkshire FEAST](#)



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**parentcarervoice**  
NORTH YORKSHIRE  
WORKING TOGETHER FOR POSITIVE CHANGE



## HOW TO CONTACT US

Advice Line is open 9:30am—1pm Monday to Friday  
(excluding School Holidays)

Advice Line: 01609 536923

Advice Line Email: [info@sendiassnorthyorks.org](mailto:info@sendiassnorthyorks.org)

Our Website: [www.sendiassnorthyorkshire.co.uk](http://www.sendiassnorthyorkshire.co.uk)

Facebook: @Sendiassnorthyorks

Instagram: @SendiassNY

YouTube: @SendiassNorthYorkshire

