If You Have a Child with SEN and or Disability
You Are NOT Alone
Reach Out, Make Friends and Get Connected
HAVE YOUR SAY!
Because...

IF YOU ARE NOT ON ANYONE’S LIST, YOU SIMPLY DON'T EXIST!

‘Our Strength is Our Shared Experience’

HP4DC
Find us at:
www.harrowparents4disabledchildren.org
Email: HP4DC@hotmail.co.uk
Or Mobile No. 07928 577 689

Information for Harrow’s Parents and Carers of Children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (S.E.N.D)
Jargon Buster

Respite Care (also known as Short Breaks): Identified package of support to give parent/carers a break from caring. Short breaks can be overnight care for the child/young person with disabilities, activities or a carer. Families may also be receiving support from the Children with Disabilities Service.

SENARS: Special Educational Needs Assessment and Review Service

SENCO: Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator: The teacher with responsibility for the planning and monitoring of the special educational provision within your child's school.

SEN Code of Practice: A government document which provides practical advice to those carrying out their statutory duties to identify, assess and make provision for children's special educational needs.

SEND IASS: Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service: Provides information and support to parents/carers whose children have special educational needs.

SEN Provision: The additional or different help/support given to children with special educational needs, designed to help them access the National Curriculum.

Settings: See Early Years Settings.

Short Breaks: See Respite Care.

SLD: Severe Learning Disabilities

Special School: A school that is organised to make special educational provision for pupils with SEN and available for children with Statements of Educational Needs/EHC plans.

Speech and Language Therapy: Speech and language therapy is a health care profession, the role and aim of which is to enable children, young people and adults with speech, language and communications difficulties to reach their maximum communication potential.

Statutory Assessment: A detailed assessment of a child’s special educational needs, which informs the EHC plan.

Transition Plan: A plan drawn up after the Year 9 Annual Review of a statement/EHC plan that draws together information from a range of individuals to plan for the young person's transition to adult life.

VI: Visual Impairment
**Jargon Buster**

**National curriculum**: This sets out clear, full and statutory entitlement to learning for all pupils, determining what should be taught and setting attainment targets for learning.

**NHS Continuing Care**: Support provided for children and young people under 18 who need a tailored package of care because of their disability, an accident or illness.

**NHS Continuing Healthcare**: A package of care that is arranged and funded solely by the NHS for individuals aged 18 and over who are not in hospital but have complex ongoing healthcare needs.

**NHS England**: An independent body which aims to improve health outcomes for people in England by driving up the quality of care.

**Non-maintained special school**: Schools in England approved by the Secretary of State as special schools which are not maintained by the state but charge fees on a non-profit-making basis. Most non-maintained special schools are run by major charities or charitable trusts.

**OFSTED**: Office for Standards in Education: a government department taking responsibility for the inspection of all schools in England.

**Parent Carer Forum**: A group of parents and carers of disabled children who work with local authorities, education, health and other providers to make sure the services they plan and deliver meet the needs of disabled children and families.

**Personal Budget**: An amount of money identified by the local authority to deliver provision set out in an EHC plan where the parent or young person is involved in securing that provision. The funds can be held directly by the parent or young person, or may be held and managed on their behalf by the local authority.

**PMLD**: Profound and multiple learning disability: This diagnosis is used when a child has more than one disability, with the most significant being a learning disability. Many children diagnosed with PMLD will also have a sensory or physical disability, complex health needs, or mental health difficulties.

**Portage**: Planned, home-based educational support for pre-school children with special educational needs. Local authorities usually provide Portage Services. The Portage service is named after the town of Portage, Wisconsin, USA. There is an active and extensive network of Portage Services in the UK.

**PPS**: Parent Partnership Service: See SEND IASS (renamed).

**PRU**: Pupil Referral Unit: A specially organised school which provides education for pupils who would otherwise not receive suitable education because of illness, exclusion or any other reason.

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Welcome to the parent to parent directory for families with children with any SEN and or Disability. We are a motivated group of parents who are part of the steering group representing families of disabled children age from up to 25 years in Harrow.

**What is a Parent Carer Forum?**

A group of parents and carers of disabled children who work with local authorities, education, health and other providers to make sure the services they plan and deliver meet the needs of disabled children and families.

**Our Purpose and Aims:**

- **Engage:** Identify and reach out to other parents with children with SEN and/or Disabilities (birth to 25 years).
- **Enable:** Provide parents with information about local and national policies and laws.
  - Plan and host workshops on topics that helps parents understand their rights and ways to feedback their views.
- **Empower:** To give and seek feedback to and from parents to the professionals.
  - Working with professionals to improve services.

**Our Story so far...**

**The History of HP4DC**

In March 2008, Harrow Mencap secured funding from the Aiming High programme to help form a parent participation forum for Harrow. Working with Harrow Council’s special needs department, workshops were organised to help parents decide what the group should be called and what were the main functions. The steering group was then formed and had it’s first meeting in February 2009. The group became an independent parent-led forum in October 2010, supported by the national charity, Contact a Family, funded by the Department of Education and member of the National Network of Parent Carer Forums (NNPCF).

**Jargon Buster**

**EHC plan:** Education, Health and Care plan: An EHC plan details the education, health and social care support to be provided to a child or young person who has SEN or a disability. It is drawn up by the local authority after an EHC needs assessment of the child or young person has determined that an EHC plan is necessary.

**Educational Psychologist:** Helps in assessing your child’s special educational needs and giving advice to schools.

**EBD:** Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties

**FE college:** Further Education college: A college offering continuing education to young people over the compulsory school age of 16.

**Healthwatch England:** An independent consumer champion, gathering and representing the views of the public about health and social care services in England.

**Independent school:** A school that is not maintained by a local authority and is registered under the Education Act 1996. Independent schools will be approved by the Secretary of State as being suitable for the admission of children with EHC plans.

**IS:** Independent Supporter: An individual who is independent from the local authority and is trained to provide advice and support for families with children with SEND through the statutory assessment and EHC process.

**Local Authority:** The council.

**Local Offer:** Local authorities in England are required to set out in their Local Offer information about provision they expect to be available across education, health and social care for children and young people in their area who have SEN or are disabled.

**Mediation:** This is a statutory service commissioned by local authorities which is designed to help settle agreements between parents or young people and local authorities over EHC needs assessments and plans.

**Mild Learning Difficulties:** A student with mild learning difficulties is usually able to hold a conversation, and communicate most of their needs and wishes.

**MLD:** Moderate Learning Difficulties: A student with moderate learning difficulties is understood to display significant delay in reaching developmental milestones and may have much greater difficulty than their peers in acquiring basic literacy and numeracy skills. They may also have associated speech and language delay, low levels of concentration and under-developed social, emotional and personal skills.

[www.harrowparents4disabledchildren.org](http://www.harrowparents4disabledchildren.org)
Jargon Buster

Below we have listed many of the terms used in the SEND world, along with explanations of their meaning and their common abbreviations.

**ADHD:** Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder is a group of behavioural symptoms that include inattentiveness, hyperactivity and impulsiveness.

**Annual Review:** A review of a statement of Special Educational Needs (now being replaced by an Education Health Care (EHC) plan), which an education authority must undertake at least every 12 months.

**ASD:** Autistic Spectrum Disorder is a developmental disability that affects how a person communicates with, and relates to other people. It also affects how they make sense of the world around them.

**CAMHS:** Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services: These services assess and treat children and young people with emotional, behavioural or mental health difficulties.

**Care Plan:** A record of the health and/or social care services that are being provided to a child or young person to help them manage a disability or health condition.

**Caseworker:** A named officer of the local authority who will deal with your child's case and who will talk to you if you have an enquiry or concern.

**CWDS:** Children with Disabilities Service

**DfE:** Department for Education

**Disabled Students Allowance:** Financial support for undergraduate or post-graduate students who have a disability or long-term health condition, mental health condition or specific learning difficulty which affects their ability to study. It can be used to pay for things such as special equipment, a note-taker or transport costs.

**Disagreement Resolution:** This is a statutory service commissioned by local authorities to provide a quick and non-adversarial way of resolving disagreements between parents or young people and bodies responsible for providing education, whether the child or young person has an EHC plan or not, or health and social care in relation to EHC assessments and plans.

**Early Years Settings:** All pre-school education provision such as nursery classes and schools, day nurseries and play groups.

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What Have We Been Doing?

**Events**
- Drop-ins/Coffee Mornings
- Parents Information Days
- Benefits Workshop
- Transition Workshop
- SEND Reforms

**Consultations**
- Short Breaks
- SEN Transport
- SEN School Placement
- SEND Reforms Parent Advisory Group

**Strategy Board Membership**
- Early Years Strategy Board
- Short Breaks Partnership Board
- SEN Transport Partnership Board
- SEND Reforms Working Groups
- Carers Champions

**Strategic Alliances (others we work with)**
- Harrow Council
- Harrow Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
- Harrow SENDIAS Service
- Family Liaison Advisers at all the Special Schools
- Centre for ADHD and Autism

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Our address: Harrow Parents 4 Disabled Children
C/O Kids Can Achieve, Chicheley Road
Harrow Weald, HA3 6QJ
Mobile no. 07928 577689
Email: hp4dc@hotmail.co.uk
www.harrowparents4disabledchildren.org
How to Get Involved & Have Your Say

Count Me In!

HP4DC was set up to represent the voices of all the parents/carers of ANY disabled child in Harrow. We are all volunteer parents of children with SEN and or Disability.

Why is it important to get involved and have say about services?

In a time when local councils, NHS services and local support organisations have to find ways to save money and cut down on waste, your views on how the services should be run and how much your family need the services, can help decide whether or not funding would be secured to continue those services.

How Can You Get Involved in the Parent Carer Forum?

Engage:
- Helps us to reach other parents with children with SEN and or disability from all backgrounds. Help us serve refreshments our at our events.

Enable:
- Help us provide parents with information and explain how to get involved, especially if you speak other languages.

Empower:
- Help us canvass parents views and fill in questionnaires.
- Help us give and seek feedback to and from parents to professionals by representing their voices on strategy boards and at meetings.

Examples of How You Can Help Us:
- Admin
- Book Keeping
- Blogging
- Facebook and Twitter
- Photography
- Translator
- Events Organiser

What is Advocacy

‘Advocacy’: Having someone to speak on your behalf is often known as advocacy.

Advocacy means having someone who will express your views and wishes, secure your rights and represent your interests. Advocacy safeguards people who are vulnerable by speaking up for them. It enables people with physical or learning disabilities, older people and those with mental health needs to make informed choices and decisions about their own health and social care.

Advocacy is completely independent from the organisations that provide social care or Healthcare in Harrow. Advocates act only according to the wishes of the person they are speaking for. They do not take their own view of what is best, or try to influence the person to make a different choice.

Harrow Children and Young People’s Advocacy Service

Harrow Association for Disabled People (HAD) provide independent advocacy support to children and young people aged between 8 and 25 years who are looked after children, leaving care, refugee and asylum seekers and those going through child protection processes. We also offer support to those wanted to make a complaint about social care services.

Contact HAD:
Ground Floor, Bentley House, 15-21 Headstone Drive, Wealdstone,
Harrow HA3 5QX
Tel: 020 8861 8876
Email: handcadv@had.org.uk

Agencies which offer adult advocacy

Harrow Association of Disabled people: for people with disabilities
Harrow Mencap: representing people with learning disabilities.
VoiceAbility: offer Independent Mental Health Advocacy to patients at Northwick Park Hospital and Roxbourne Complex
Complaints & Compliments

Children's Services from Harrow Council

This section is for you if you are a child or young person - or somebody representing them - who is being looked after, receiving a service, or being assessed by Harrow Council. It is also for young people who are leaving care.

For further details, see the Children, Young People and Families services leaflet.

You can submit your complaints and general feedback online via our complaints and feedback form.

See also the advocacy for children’s social services page.

Complaints about schools

Complaints about schools are raised directly with the school concerned. You can find the school’s contact details via our schools list page.

Complaints about councillors

To make a complaint about a member of the council, you should complain directly to the Standards Committee of Harrow Council. You can do this by completing our online councillors complaints form.

Complaints about general issues

For complaints or feedback about anything else, please fill in our general feedback form.

To find out how to complain and how long the process takes, download the ‘Complaints and Compliments Policy and Procedure’ from the Harrow Council’s website.

Complaints About Health Services

Harrow Association of Disabled people: 0208 861 8876

Health Advocacy Service: provides advocacy to help you deal with concerns you have about any health service you have used.

Mind in Harrow: for those with mental health problems. Specialist Somali based health assistance.

How to Get Involved & Have Your Say

Joining the forum is vital to its success

You can join our database and keep in touch via email or attend our meetings or lend us a hand. TOGETHER WE HAVE A LOUDER AND STRONGER VOICE. Send us an email at hp4dc@hptmail.co.uk
JOIN US!

Other Ways to Have Your Say

Have Your Say in Education:
Join your child’s school governors board as a Parent Governor or their Parent Teachers Association (PTA), and take part in making the changes you would like to see. Get involved in school activities and find out about how the school is run.

Have Your Say in Health:
Join your the Patient Participation Group at your local GP’s surgery or clinic. Register as a ‘carer’ and you can ask for support when you have difficulties attending appointments with your child.

Have Your Say in Social Care:
If you value the support you get from the council, make sure you fill in questionnaires that they send you to help secure the funding for the services they provide for you.

Volunteer:
Find out what opportunities there are to volunteer in local organisations, doing something you are interested in. The skills and experience you gain could help you get back into work. Get involved with local groups/charities and help them reach more families in need.

The government made sure that in the new Children and Families Act 2014 your views have to be heard and taken into account when professionals make decisions about services.

It’s YOUR chance to get involved, have YOUR say and MAKE A DIFFERENCE for ALL families in Harrow!
What's new in the SEN world?

The Children and Families Act 2014

Following on from the Aiming High Programme, in March 2011, the government issued a green paper called ‘Support and Aspiration: A new approach to SEN and Disability’. This document sets out a series of initial proposed changes to the way disabled children with SEN receive support.

The reforms are part of a national programme of support for young people with additional needs, which are set out in the government’s Children and Families Bill 2013. The Bill received Royal Assent in March 2014 and became law in September 2014. The new law will extend the special educational needs system from birth to 25, giving children, young people and their parents greater control and choice in decisions and ensuring needs are properly met.

If you would like to find out more about the SEND Reforms, see the Council for Disabled Children website:

www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk
Phone: 0207 843 1900
Email: cdc@ncb.org.uk

What are the changes?

Education Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan): A new single Education Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan) from birth to 25 that will replace the current Statement of SEN and Section 139a Learning Difficulty Assessments

Personal budget option: The option of a personal budget giving some families and young people with an EHC Plan greater independence, choice and control over their support

Local Offer: A Local Offer of services for children and young people with SEND enabling parents and young people to see more clearly what services are available in their area and how to access them

Person-centred involvement: The need to involve children, young people, parents and carers at the heart of the process in a more person-centred way

Additional SEN Support School Action and School Action Plus to be replaced by a new school based category called Additional SEN Support.

National Support and Advice- Top 6

There are so many wonderful organisations nationally, set up to support families with SEN and or disabled children. Some of these organisations were set up by other parents with SEN and/or disabled children and some are national charities who work hard all year round with the government and other organisations to improve the lives of families throughout the UK. Here are just some of the helpful and useful ones we know of:

1. Contact a Family - was founded on the knowledge that families with disabled children share a unique connection. They bond over a mutual human and emotional experience, so when they are connected they not only share knowledge but support each other. Their services include a helpline, medical information directory, online advice and support service, workshops and training sessions, research and campaigns. They also support parent support groups and the National Network of Parent Carer Forums. www.cafamily.org.uk

2. Independent Parental Special Education Advice (known as IPSEA) is a registered charity. IPSEA offers free and independent legally based information, advice and support to help get the right education for children and young people with all kinds of special educational needs (SEN) and disabilities. www.ipsea.org.uk

3. SENDirect is an online resource. They have information and contact details of on various organisations include short breaks providers. They will help you find the right support services for your family. www.sendirect.org.uk

4. Special Needs Jungle is an online forum of parents and professionals on all things SEN related. It was started in 2008 by Tania Tirraoro, as a way of preserving the knowledge she had gained successfully navigating the ‘jungle’ of the statementing system for her first younger, then her older son. www.specialneedsjungle.com

5. Family Fund are the UK’s largest provider of grants to low-income families raising disabled and seriously ill children and young people. We help ease the additional pressures families face. We can help with essential items such as washing machines, fridges and clothing but can also consider grants for sensory toys, computers and much needed family breaks together. www.familyfund.org.uk

6. Fledglings is a national charity that finds and sells products that improve the lives of disabled children and their families. They have some clever and useful items especially design by companies for children with disabilities. www.fledglings.org.uk
Harrow Carers Centre

Harrow Carers is an established local organisation with a wide range of information and support services for all carers living in Harrow. Their services include training, counselling, benefits advice, advocacy, mental health support for adults, youth and over 65s. Join their database for the latest information on all things carers related.

Contact Details: Tel: 0208 868 5224
Address: 376-378 Pinner Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA2 6DZ.
Email: admin@harrowcarers.org.

www.harrowcarers.org

Kids Can Achieve

Kids Can Achieve supports and provides a wide range services for children and young people with special needs and their carers and families.

These include a range of specialist short breaks: Afterschool Club, Holiday Playschemes, Saturday Playschemes and Youth Group. They also provide support to parents such as benefits advice (DLA forms), and counselling.

Their address is the same address as the Harrow SENDIAS service and HP4DC.

If you would like any further information about Kids Can Achieve and the services we provide please contact them on 0208 420 2300 or via the email addresses below.

For General enquires contact info@kidscanachieve.co.uk
For Holiday Schemes, After School Club, Saturday Stay & Play and Youth group please contact jimmy.manito@kidscanachieve.co.uk
For our outreach service please contact ilias.kostalas@kidscanachieve.co.uk
www.kidscanachieve.co.uk

The S.E.N.D Reforms in Harrow

Local Development

Major changes to services are being made in Harrow over the coming months. The changes are aimed at:

- making the system simpler and more joined up
- putting children, young people and their families at the heart of the assessment and planning process
- helping those with SEND to succeed in their education and make a successful transition to adulthood.

In September 2014, the council launched the Harrow’s ‘Local Offer’ on the Harrow Council website. There are also information about the local offer in the form of leaflets which have been distributed to schools, libraries, one stop shops and community groups. Regular updates on local developments are available on the councils website and through Local SEND Reform Newsletters. You can download a copies of the newsletters from the Harrow Council website.

The council has been working in partnership with various local departments and local organisations to provide specific information for families, young people and professionals. The website has been redesigned to include a new section called ‘Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)’.

For more information visit the Harrow Council website:
www.harrow.gov.uk/LocalOffer

Your feedback about the new website on the SEND Reforms is important in order for it to be developed further and be useful to families.

Email: LocalOffer@harrow.gov.uk

How to get involved

A Parent Advisory Group was set up by Harrow Parents 4 Disabled Children (HP4DC) and Harrow SENDIAS Service (formerly Harrow Parent Partnership) to work with and help the council with the developments of the Local Offer and Education Health and Care Plan in Harrow.

If you would like to share your experiences of the local SEN system and influence the developments and implementation of the new reforms, you can contact Harrow SENDIAS Service or HP4DC.
Early Years (Birth to 5 years)

There are many organisations, groups and schemes that can help if your child is aged up to five years old.

At this age, your health visitor is your key contact if you have concerns about your child’s development. You can also visit one of Harrow’s Children’s Centres for support and advice. They are the focal point for early years services, and offer early education and childcare, advice and support and child and family health services.

Children up to five years old often attend a pre-school, a school with a nursery class, a childminder or a day nursery. These are often described as "settings", as they are not all schools but they do provide education and childcare.

You can look for childcare which will support your child’s needs on the Family Information Directory.

All settings must follow the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice 2014. They will have access to information about the best way to support your child in education and where you can go for specialist support when necessary.

If your child is pre-school age you can ask to discuss your concerns with the Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinator (SENCo) in the pre-school setting.

Early Years Services

Below there is a list of the Early Years services available to people in Harrow, along with information about how to access them.

- Health Visiting Service
- Paediatric Physiotherapy: Preschools
- Portage Home Visiting Service
- Paediatric Occupational Therapy: Preschools
- Paediatric Speech and Language Therapy: Preschools

Local Support and Advice

Harrow Mencap

As part of the national charity MENCAP, Harrow Mencap offers a wide range of support services which include:

- After School Clubs, Kingsley, Woodlands and Shaftesbury Schools- offering after school leisure opportunities
- Saturday Stay and Play, Pinner Green- for young people aged 8-19, offering social, leisure and community opportunities
- Holiday Clubs- for young people aged 8-25, offering social, leisure and community opportunities
- Pinner Green Day Service- for young people aged 16-25, offering life skills and community access opportunities
- Skill Up- for young people aged 16-25, offering advice, information, advocacy, life skills, employment preparation and social opportunities.

Contact:
Harrow Mencap
3 Jardine House, Harrovian Business Village, Bessborough Road, Harrow, HA1 3EX
Telephone: 020 8869 8484
Email: mencap@harrowmencap.org.uk
Website: http://www.harrowmencap.org.uk/

Harrow Association for Disabled People (HAD)

HAD offers lots of services for disabled people or families with disabled children including:

- Information
- Advocacy
- Welfare Benefits Advice
- Sign Language Services
- Employment & Training
- Payroll Services for Direct Payments

Address:
Ground Floor, Bentley House15 - 21 Headstone Drive, Wealdstone, Harrow, Middlesex, HA3 5QX Email: general@had.org.uk
Website: www.had.org.uk
Local Support and Advice

Centre for ADHD and Autism Support
(formerly ADHD & Autism Support Harrow)

ADHD Support Harrow was founded in 1996 by a small group of parents, at the suggestion of a local Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) consultant. In 1999 the group became a registered charity and in 2002 moved to premises and began delivering services to meet increasing demand from parents of children.

Centre for ADHD & Autism Support (CAAS) - charity reg: 1080795 - supports, educates and empowers individuals with ADHD and/or autism, their families, and the community. Through raising awareness we change perceptions and break down barriers.

Led and run by trained people who have first-hand experience of family members with one or both conditions, CAAS understands the issues facing service users. We provide information, training, support groups and practical help to residents of the London Boroughs of Harrow, Hillingdon, Ealing and Brent, as well as parts of Hertfordshire.

Our support services encompass education, benefits, parenting and care advice with signposting to other agencies if appropriate.

We also offer specialised parenting courses, workshops and training and coffee mornings.

New Address:
Centre for ADHD & Autism Support
Television House, 269 Field End Road Eastcote HA4 9AX
Phone: 020 8429 1552
ADHD Email: adhd@adhdandautism.org
Autism Email: autism@adhdandautism.org.
Website: www.adhdandautism.org
Find them on Facebook.
Connect with them on Twitter: @adhdandautism

Special Schools in Harrow

What are Special Schools?

Special School: A school that is organised to make special educational provision for pupils with SEN and available for children with Statements of Educational Needs/EHC plans.

Woodlands School
Woodlands is a purpose built school to cater for the needs of pupils aged 3 - 11 years, with complex or severe learning difficulties (SLD). It has a nursery and reception provision.

Alexandra School
Alexandra is a primary school for children with special educational needs. The children have a wide variety of difficulties including developmental delay, emotional and behavioural problems, autistic spectrum disorders as well as moderate learning difficulties (MLD).

Kingsley High School
Kingsley is a day community special school for pupils aged 11 - 19 years, who experience severe learning difficulties, autism and profound learning needs, including those with MDVI.

Shaftesbury High School
Shaftesbury is a school for pupils aged between 11 and 19, with moderate learning, emotional, behavioural, autistic, communication, medical, physical, sensory and social needs.

Support at Special Schools

All the special schools have dedicated Family Liaison Advisers, who support pupils and parents on lots of different issues. They are a great source of information for parents and teaching staff. They also have links with local support organisations.

www.harrowparents4disabledchildren.org
Preparing for Adulthood

Between the ages of 16 and 25, young people move from children’s services to adult services (if appropriate) and develop the skills they need to live independently. The transition process is one that all young people go through, but it can be especially difficult for young people with special educational needs.

We start to talk about moving to post-16 learning when a young person is 14, in a conversation that can involve teachers, council staff, health professionals and voluntary workers.

Young adults can be supported up to age 25 with an Education, Health and Care Plan, which looks at the help they need to move into higher and further education and into employment. The options include:

- Colleges and schools which offer further education
- Universities which offer higher education
- Training providers who offer support to work
- Apprenticeships which offer on-the-job training

Please visit the Harrow Council’s website page ‘Harrow SEND Local Offer’ for useful information and booklets. There is a list of the Post-16 services available to people in Harrow.

In addition it is strongly recommended that you read the helpful information and advice about growing up, the pathway to adulthood and the Post-16 services that are now available. There are also useful links to help young people find a start in employment. Course offers from Harrow’s colleges for young people with SEND are listed below.

You will also find a list of Harrow’s SEN High Schools and Colleges.

For more information on transferring Learning Disability Assessments to Education, Health and Care Plans, read Harrow Council’s Transition Plan.

For travel advice and assistance for those in full-time education and in wage training, see Harrow Council’s ‘Transport Policy Statement’.

Family Action
Harrow
SEND IAS

Harrow Special Educational Needs and Disability
Information Advice and Support Service
(formerly known as Harrow Parent Partnership Service)

We support parents and carers of children and young people aged up to 25 who live in the London Borough of Harrow and have a special educational need or disability (SEND), and we also support the children and young people themselves with matters relating to education, health and social care.

Our contact details are new:

Harrow SENDIAS Service
Cedars Hall, Chicheley Road,
Harrow Weald HA3 6QH
T: 020 8428 6487
E: harrowsendias@family-action.org.uk
www.family-action.org.uk/harrowsendias

We are open Monday–Friday, 9am-5pm during school term times.

www.family-action.org.uk
Registered Charity in England and Wales no. 264713
Harrow SENDIAS Service

Harrow Special Educational Needs and Disability Information Advice and Support Service
(Formerly Harrow Parent Partnership Service)

What do we do?
We support parents and carers of children and young people aged up to 25 who have a special educational need or disability (SEND), and we also support the children and young people themselves with matters relating to education, health and social care.

We give support on the following matters:
- Free, confidential and impartial information advice and support including “Independent Support” which is funded separately until March 2016.
- Support during assessment for an Education Health and Care (EHC) plan and at annual reviews for statements and EHC plans.
- Support at meetings with nurseries/schools/colleges and with the local authority
- Drop-in service for young people and parents/carers

Who can we help?
We support parents/carers as well as children and young people themselves, who have any kind of educational additional need (learning, social, physical, medical etc.) aged 0 to 25 who live in the London Borough of Harrow, even if the child or young person goes to school/college elsewhere.

Who are we?
Hilary Chamberlain, Project Manager
Lina Parmar, SEND Advice Officer
Eva Serra, SEND Advice Officer
Sejal Sanghvi, Independent Support Volunteer Coordinator

Contact us
Telephone: 02084286487
Email: harrowsendias@family-action.org.uk
Address: Family Action Harrow SENDIAS Service, Cedars Hall, Chicheley Road, Harrow Weald, HA3 6QH

Services for Post 16 Years

- Adult Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy
- Bladder and Bowel service for adults
- Adult Speech and Language Therapy
- Harrow Learning Disabilities Community Health Team

Useful information and websites for young people with learning difficulties and disabilities:
- Find your way at 16+ This booklet is all about choices after school. It is for young people with learning difficulties and disabilities. Written by the CfBT Advice and Guidance Information Team.
- Moving on at 18 This booklet is aimed at anyone in a sixth form or college who is thinking about what to do next. Written by the CfBT Advice and Guidance Information Team.
- Preparing for Adulthood: Five Key Messages This poster gives five clear aims for transition to adulthood - essential to improving life chances for disabled young people. Written by the Preparing for Adulthood programme (PfA).
- Preparing for Adulthood: Delivering Support and Aspiration This booklet sets out detailed findings from people who have trialled the new Post-16 SEN services, explaining their experiences. Written by the Preparing for Adulthood programme (PfA).
- Changes for Students with Learning Difficulties & Disabilities This information sheet tells colleges and service providers what they need to do to deliver the new Post-16 SEN services. Written by the Council for Disabled Children.

Education & Employment:
There are a number of other support organisations that you can contact for help and advice about post-16 education and employment. Please see website for contact details.

⇒ National Careers Service
⇒ Choices 4 All
⇒ Harrow4U
⇒ ChoicesLondon
⇒ Harrow Youth Careers Advice and Guidance Service
⇒ Apprenticeships
⇒ Internships
What’s Happening in Education?

What is an Education and Health Care (EHC) Needs Assessment?

If a child or young person needs an intensive level or specialist support that cannot be met from the resources available from an educational setting, a request for an EHC needs assessment can be made. This assessment could lead to your child getting an EHC plan. Only a very small percentage of children/young people will require an EHC needs assessment as set out in the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice 2014. (This is a detailed assessment which looks at the needs of the child or young person in education, health and care).

Who can make a request?

- The child's/young person's parents
- A young person if over the age of 16 (or somebody on their behalf)
- A person acting on behalf of an early years setting, school or post 16 institution (this should be with the knowledge and agreement of the parent or young person)
- Others who work with your child/young person can also tell the local authority if they think an assessment is needed (such as your doctor, health or social care professionals).

What is an Education, Health and Care plan?

The EHC plan is a legal document describing a child or young person's special educational needs, the provision to meet those needs and the suitable educational placement. It replaces statements and Learning Difficulty Assessments (LDAs) and covers education, health and care services from birth to age 25 for those remaining in education.

What happens if my child has as statement of special educational needs?

In September 2014 all existing statements of SEN started to be transferred to EHC plans. This process must be completed within three-and-a-half years.

Further information to help you know more about how the system works and what to expect, visit Harrow Council’s ‘Harrow SEND Local Offer’ website page. You can also download a booklet called:

**Special educational needs and disability - A guide for parents and carers**

Do You Know About?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Centre for ADHD &amp; Autism Support Harrow</th>
<th><a href="http://www.adhdandautismharrow.co.uk">www.adhdandautismharrow.co.uk</a> Tel: 0208 901 8009</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harrow Mencap &amp; Community Solutions</td>
<td><a href="http://www.harromencap.org.uk">www.harromencap.org.uk</a> 0208 869 8484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrow Association of Disabled People (H.A.D)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.had.org.uk">www.had.org.uk</a> 0208 8619920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrow Carers Centre &amp; Young Carers</td>
<td><a href="http://www.harrowscarers.org">www.harrowscarers.org</a> 0208 868 5224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrow Parents 4 Disabled Children (HP4DC)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.harroparents4disabledchildren.org">www.harroparents4disabledchildren.org</a> 07928577689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kids Can Achieve (KCA)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kidscanachieve.co.uk">www.kidscanachieve.co.uk</a> 0208 4202300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrow Children’s Advocacy Service</td>
<td>0208 861 8876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthwatch Harrow</td>
<td><a href="http://www.healthwatchharrow.co.uk">www.healthwatchharrow.co.uk</a> 0203 432 2889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upside Downs (Down Syndrome Group)</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:upside-downs@hotmail.com">upside-downs@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samaritans</td>
<td>08457 909090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent Parental Special Education Advice (IPSEA)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ipsea.org.uk">www.ipsea.org.uk</a> 0800 018 4016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact A Family</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cafamily.org.uk">www.cafamily.org.uk</a> 0808 808 3555</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

www.harrowparents4disabledchildren.org
**What Can I Ask For?**

Sometimes it is difficult to know what is available and where to get more information about it. Knowing if and when you need a service will allow the professionals to work out how best to help you (if they can). We have put together a quick guide to help you discover what is available and where you could get some information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disability Living Allowance (DLA)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk/disability">www.direct.gov.uk/disability</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carer's Allowance</td>
<td><a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk/disability">www.direct.gov.uk/disability</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Care Needs Assessment &amp; Carers Assessment</td>
<td>Children with Disabilities Service (CWDS) 0208 966 6481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Breaks Support (Specialist Holiday Playschemes)</td>
<td>Children with Disabilities Service (CWDS) 0208 966 6481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Payments</td>
<td>Children with Disabilities Service (CWDS) 0208 966 6481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disabled Parking Badges (Blue Badge)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.harrow.gov.uk">www.harrow.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free Nappies</td>
<td>Referral from GP or Health Professional</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Fund Grant</td>
<td><a href="http://www.familyfund.org.uk">www.familyfund.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motability Car Scheme</td>
<td><a href="http://www.motability.co.uk">www.motability.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Care for Disabled Children</td>
<td>Dental Dept at Alexandra Avenue Clinic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent Partnership Service</td>
<td>Tel: 0208 861 5605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Information Service</td>
<td>Tel: 0208 416 8416</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Special Provision for Children in Harrow**

**What is an Independent Supporter?**

Independent Supporter (IS): An individual who is independent from the local authority and is trained to provide advice and support for families with children with SEND through the statutory assessment and EHC process.

They offer a range of time-limited support, usually between 15 and 20 weeks for each family. The support offered will include:

- Helping the parent or young person to transfer a Statement into an EHC plan.
- Acting as a named contact person for the parent or young person throughout the assessment and planning process.
- Liaising across a range of agencies with the parent or young person to help gather the information required for an EHC plan.
- Providing information to parents and young people on personal budgets.
- Supporting the parent or young person in contributing to an EHC plan that is then ready to be signed off by a designated professional that has been agreed as part of a local referral protocol process.
- Signposting parents and young people to local information advice and support services, when the issue is outside the remit of an Independent Supporter.

You can ask for a referral for the IS service from Barnardo’s or from Harrow Send Information Advice Support Service (Harrow SENDIAS).

**Education Services**

Below there is a list of the Education services available to people in Harrow.

- Special Resourced Provision in Mainstream Schools
- Specialist Support In Schools
- Harrow Special Schools
- Independent Special Schools and Post-16 Institutions
- Assisted School Transport
- Advisory Teachers - Autistic Spectrum
- Children’s Sensory Team
- School Travel Support
- Educational Psychology Service
- Portage Home Visiting Service
- SEN Mediation Service
**What's Happening in Health?**

There are a wide range of specialist health and social care services available for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities in Harrow. These services have been commissioned by Harrow Council and Harrow Clinical Commissioning Group to support people to stay healthy and live as independently as possible.

There will be key health professionals who will support for example:
- Birth to 5 years - health visitors
- School age - school nurses
- Young people up to 24 years - General practitioners (GPs)

**What is Harrow Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)?**

NHS Harrow CCG is responsible for buying Harrow health services including community health and hospital services. They are different to previous organisations because the members are made up of local GPs and health professionals who are best placed to know the right services for their local area.

Clinical Commissioning Groups do not provide any health services directly, but buy health services from providers of healthcare, such as Hospital Trusts, Mental Health Trusts and community organisations. NHS Harrow Clinical Commissioning Group works in partnership with local people to improve the health and wellbeing of the population of Harrow.

As a GP-led organisation, they are in the unique position of being able to take into account the first-hand experience of our patients who use the health services when we commission new services. GPs who are also referred to as family doctors, are the first point of contact in health.

**What are Personal Health Budgets (PHB)?**

PHBs are the allocation of NHS funding to support a person’s health and wellbeing needs. A PHB can be spent on anything that is set out in a support plan and agreed with the local NHS team.

To find out more about Personal Budgets, read the Personal Budgets Statement on the Harrow SEND Local Offer website page.

**Health Services**

On the following page are some of the Health services available to people in Harrow. For the majority of services you will require a referral from a health professional and an appointment.

**What Social and Leisure Activities are Available?**

To find out about social and leisure activities available in Harrow, visit the Leisure and Culture page.

For other services such as after school and holiday clubs, visit the Family Information Service. The Harrow Families Resource Directory is online and provides a useful resource of services and support in Harrow and nationally. [www.harrow.gov.uk/familiesinformationservice](http://www.harrow.gov.uk/familiesinformationservice)

**What are short Breaks?**

A short break was described by Together for Disabled Children (TDC) as “additional services required to support disabled children and their families; in other words, short breaks are services over and above universal services expected and available to all families”. Short breaks form part of a range of services provided by the Children with Disabilities Service. A short break can be just a few hours to overnight care or longer, e.g. a holiday, and could be within a variety of settings, including the child’s home and could be available through ‘direct payments’ which is a set amount of money specifically provided by the council to buy short breaks services.

For activities and short break activities for children and young people with disabilities, visit Harrow Short Breaks Service Directory to download a copy.

**Harrow Social Care Support Services**

- Harrow Children with Disabilities Service
- Harrow Children and Family Resource Directory
- Harrow Children and Family Care
- Harrow Children Looked After
- Harrow Child Protection Services
- Youth Development Team

Some young people with SEN and disabilities will need support to help them plan for their future and achieve their goals in adult life.

- Harrow Adult Social Care
- Central and North West London NHS Learning Disability Service
What’s Happening in Social Care?

As a parent or carer with a child or young person with SEN and/or a disability, you may require additional support in the parenting role or to help you access further services. To receive a support from the Harrow Children with disabilities Service (CWDS) for families with children from birth to 18, you will need to have a social care needs assessment.

What is a Social Care Needs Assessment and Carers Assessment?

Assessment of Needs:
If an assessment is required this will be carried out in consultation with parents/carers and relevant professionals to determine what services can be offered. A package of support is determined following the assessment if needed. Packages of support must focus the individual child or young person's needs and the particular circumstances of each family. The Assessment of Need is assessed on the basis of two components: the level of disability and any social and parenting issues identified through a Social Work, Social Care worker or Key Worker assessment and decided at the Complex Needs Panel.

Carers Assessment:
If you have parental responsibility for a disabled child, your needs as a carer will be assessed as part of a family needs assessment. You have the right to a family needs assessment under the Children Act 1989. You do not need to be the mother or father of the child. Care Managers conduct carers needs assessments to work out how best they can provide services to you and the person in your care. This is an opportunity for you to describe your role as a carer and what would make caring easier for you.

What kind of services do the CWDS offer?
The children with disabilities service provides a service for children and young people up to age 18, with a moderate, severe or profound disability. We can help you with the following needs:

- social work support
- home care services
- play schemes
- short breaks
- direct payments
- moving into adulthood (transition)
- carers assessment

Referrals from families can be made by phone or email. Referrals by professionals on a family’s behalf are made by phone or by completing a Common Assessment Framework Assessment.

Health Services

- ADHD Service (Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder)
- Adult Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy
- Audiology
- Bladder and bowel service for children
- Children’s Community Nursing Service
- Community Dental Service
- Community Specialist Palliative Care Service
- Diabetes Specialist Nursing Service
- Harrow Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)
- Harrow District Nursing Service
- Harrow Learning Disabilities Community Health Team
- Harrow School Nursing Service
- Paediatric Nutrition and Dietetic Service
- Paediatric Occupational Therapy: Preschools
- Paediatric Occupational Therapy: Secondary Schools
- Paediatric Physiotherapy: Primary Schools
- Paediatric Speech and Language Therapy: Preschools
- Paediatric Speech and Language Therapy: Secondary Schools
- Urgent Care Centre (Northwick Park Hospital)
- Adult Harrow Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) Service
- Adult Speech and Language Therapy
- Bladder and bowel service for adults
- Child Health Medical Team
- Community Cardiology Service
- Community Podiatry Service (care for feet and lower limbs)
- Denham Unit (Rehabilitation)
- Harrow Autism Diagnostic Service
- Harrow Children and Young People's Continuing Care Service
- Harrow Early Intervention in Psychosis Service (EIS)
- Harrow Mental Health Service
- Health Visiting Service
- Paediatric Nutrition and Dietetic Service
- Paediatric Occupational Therapy: Primary Schools
- Paediatric Physiotherapy: Preschools
- Paediatric Physiotherapy: Secondary Schools
- Paediatric Speech and Language Therapy: Primary Schools
- Wheelchair Service
Services for Children with SEN and Disability in Harrow

Social Care (Harrow Council)
- Looked After Children’s Team
- Children with a Disability (Social Workers)
- Complex Needs Panel
- Residential Schools
- Early Years & Pre–School Provision (nursery, child minders)
- Special Schools
- Educational Psychology Service
- Paediatric Occupational Therapy: Pre-school
- Home Tuition Service
- Paediatric Speech & Language Therapy: Pre-school
- Portage Home Visiting Services
- Family Information Service (IFS)
- Leaving Care Team (Social Workers)
- Harrow Child Protection Services
- Harrow Children’s Centres
- SENCos
- Special School Family Liaison Advisers

Education (Harrow Council)
- Children’s Sensory and Communication Team
- Independent Supporters (Harrow SENDHAS Service & Barnardo’s)
- Special Needs Transport Service
- Paediatric Speech & Language Therapy: Pre-school
- Education Welfare Service
- HarrowSENDAS Service
- Harrow SENDHAS Service & Barnardo’s
- Centre for ADHD & Autism
- Harrow Mumap & Community Solutions
- Harrow Youth Step (CBT)
- Harrow Carers Centre & Young Carers

Health Services (Harrow Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG))
- Children & Families Complaints Service
- G.P.
- Alexandra Avenue Clinic
- Harrow Association of Disabled People (HAD)
- Harrow Parents 4 Disabled Children (HP4DC)
- Harrow Children’s Advocacy Service
- Harrow Children’s Health Visiting Service
- Harrow Children’s Neighbourhood Care Team
- Community Children’s Nurses & Continuing Care Team
- Patient Participation Groups (individual GP clinics)
- Middlesex Association of the Blind
- Upside Downs (Down Syndrome parent support group)
- Healthwatch Harrow
- Kids
- Kids Can Achieve (KCA) Westminster Society
- Community Link Up
- Samaritans

Local Voluntary Organisations

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