

WHAT IS SENDIAS?

FREE, CONFIDENTIAL and IMPARTIAL ADVOCACY service

An Early Help service providing information advice and support to parents, carers, children and young people (up to aged 25) about special educational needs and disability (SEND) within Education

Working with schools to support needs to be met locally

Small team comprising 5.35 wte

Funded by Somerset County Council, Somerset C
and the Council for Disabled Children



SENDIAS SERVICES

- A phone helpline, email support
- Individual support to help with issues on SEND
- Information, advice and support on SEND law through the Somerset SENDIAS website and leaflets
- Information, advice and support to help with the Education, Health and Care (EHC) Needs Assessment and process.
- Information, advice and support for mediation and SEND tribunals
- Information on SEND groups available in Somerset
- Information on Somerset's Local Offer
- Signposting to other services
- The Somerset Choice Advice Service sits alongside Somerset SENDIAS as a free, arms length, impartial, information, advice and support service.

WHAT'S WORKING WELL

Improved partnership working

Better support and tools to do the job

Successfully implementing national standards

OUR CHALLENGES

Increase in tribunals – 50

Increase in request for Education,
Health and Care (EHC) assessments -80

Higher caseloads- 193

FUTURE PLANS

Investment through Children's Service Transformation Fund to increase the team capacity and support children's needs to be met effectively by schools

A more strategic management approach to enable greater partnership working

Hearing the voice of the SEND child and young person more clearly

Reducing volume of unnecessary requests for EHCPS, reducing mediations and tribunals.

**ET IN
OUCH**

TELEPHONE

01823 355578

EMAIL

SomersetSENDIAS@somerset.gov.uk

WEBSITE

www.somersetsend.org.uk

