

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

Team comprising 9.1 wte (previously 5.35 wte)

Funded by Somerset County Council, Somerset CCG 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 BEEN WORKING WELL DURING COVID-19

- ❖ Support to children, young people and parents
- ❖ Increased levels of co-production
- ❖ Development of Advisory Group
- ❖ Development of customer satisfaction feedback



OUR CHALLENGES DURING COVID-19

- ❖ Supporting parents with virtual tribunals
- ❖ Increase in request for Education, Health and Care (EHC) assessments
- ❖ Caseloads remain high



FUTURE PLANS

- ❖ Recruitment commenced on 2 more roles funded by Children's Transformation
- ❖ A more strategic management approach to enable greater partnership working
- ❖ KPI for Transformation Fund reporting
- ❖ Hearing the voice of the SEND child and young person more clearly
- ❖ Reducing volume of unnecessary requests for EHCPS, reducing mediations and tribunals.



**GET IN
TOUCH**

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WEBSITE

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