

Local Offer Factsheet

<u>Summary</u>

This factsheet is designed to help parents, carers and young people understand the purpose of the Local Offer, what it includes and who it is aimed at.

What is the Local Offer?

Every local authority (LA) is responsible for publishing a Local Offer. The Local Offer provides information and support for children and young people aged 0 to 25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), and their families. It should include information about education, health and social care provision as well as training, employment and independent living for young people with SEND.

Who is it for?

The Local Offer is for:

- children and young people with SEND from birth to 25 years of age
- parents and carers
- practitioners and professionals

What is the purpose of the Local Offer?

The Local Offer puts all the information about education, health and social care services, leisure activities and support groups in one place.

The Local Offer should:

- give you information about what is available
- tell you where you can get further information
- make it easier to find out what you need to know
- be collaborative, accessible, transparent and up to date

The <u>SEND Code of Practice</u> (section 4.2) says that the Local Offer should:

- *"provide clear, comprehensive, accessible and up-to-date information about the available provision and how to access it"* and
- "make provision more responsive to local needs and aspirations by directly involving disabled children and those with SEN and their parents, and disabled young people and those with SEN, and service providers in its development and review"

What does the Local Offer include?



The Local Offer includes information on:

- how children and young people's needs are identified
- how their needs are assessed
- education, health and social care provision for children and young people with SEND
- opportunities for training and employment
- support with independent living
- how provision is funded
- leisure activities and support groups
- where you can find more information, advice and support
- arrangements for travel to and from school and other settings
- help available to resolve disagreements

The Local Offer must also tell you about services provided outside your area which local people are likely to use.

You can find the full list of what must be included in the SEND Code of Practice Section 4.30.

How can I get involved?

The local authority must involve children and young people with SEND, and parents and carers in planning and reviewing the Local Offer. If you would like to be involved, or make some comments, you can find out more on the **feedback section on the Hounslow Local Offer website:** <u>Ways to get</u> <u>involved | SEND Local Offer: Have your say | London Borough of Hounslow</u>

The local authority must publish what children, young people and parents tell them about the Local Offer. It must also say clearly what it will do about the comments it has received.

The Local authority must publish their response to comments it has received including actions they intend to take. For information about what actions the local authority should take in response to the Local Offer please read <u>section 4.26-4.28 of the SEND Code of Practice</u>.

Where can I get further information, advice or support?

<u>Chapter 4 of the SEND Code of Practice</u> tells you more about the Local Offer. You can find links to local and national support on the **information**, advice and support section on the Hounslow Local Offer: Information, advice and support – London Borough of Hounslow

Hounslow SENDIASS can also give you:

- information and advice about SEND support and provision
- more information about local services, organisation and resources which might help
- advice and support to get more involved

Here is the link to the Local Offer homepage: <u>SEND Local Offer – London Borough of Hounslow</u>

Email the Local Offer team with your feedback at <u>TheLocalOffer@hounslow.gov.uk</u>