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SEND AND YOU
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The Local Offer

What is the Local Offer?

Every local authority must publish a Local Offer. The Local Offer tells you what support the local authority expects to be available for children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities. It must include information about education, health and care provision. It should also tell you about training, employment and independent living for young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Words in **BOLD** are explained in the [Information Resource Glossary](#) in the Bristol Information Resources folder.

You can find the Local Offer for Bristol City Council [here](#).

Who is it for?

The Local Offer is for:

- children and young people with SEN and/or disabilities from birth to 25
- their parents and carers
- practitioners and professionals.

What is the idea?

The Local Offer should:

- make it easier to find out what you need to know
- give you information about what is available
- tell you where you can get further information.

The Local Offer should also make services more responsive to local needs.

The [SEND Code of Practice](#) says that the Local Offer should:

- *provide clear, comprehensive, accessible and up-to-date information about the available provision and how to access it*
 - *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*
- (4.2)

What does it include?

The Local Offer includes information on:

- how children and young peoples' needs are identified
- how their needs are assessed
- the special educational, health and social care provision for children and young people with SEN or disabilities
- opportunities for training and employment
- support for 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
- the 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 SEN and disabilities, and parents and carers, in preparing and reviewing the Local Offer. If you would like to be involved, or make some comments, you can find out more on the [Local Offer website](#).

Parents, and children and young people, who want to be more involved in developing and reviewing the Local Offer should contact the Local Offer [here](#).

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.

Where can I get further information, advice or support?

Chapter 4 of the [SEND Code of Practice](#) tells you more about the Local Offer.

You can find Bristol City Council's Local Offer [here](#).

SEND and You can also give you:

- information and advice about SEN and disability support and provision
- more information about local services, organisations, and resources which might help
- advice and support to get more involved.

Still concerned?

If you are still unclear or have any questions about any information in this document – or about any other aspect of Special Educational Needs & Disabilities – please call our Information, Advice and Support line on 0117 989 7725. The line is open 9.30am – 4.30pm weekdays. There is an answer phone at all other times. Or you can get in touch via our website at <https://www.sendandyou.org.uk/contact-us/>

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