

Independent Supporters - who are they?

- All Independent Supporters working in Herefordshire have completed accredited training.
- Independent Support in Herefordshire is provided by Herefordshire Carers Support and SENDIAS.

For more information, or to discuss a request for Independent Support contact:

Herefordshire Carers Support
Berrows Business Centre
Bath Street, HEREFORD HR1 2HE

☎ 01432 356068

💻 www.herefordshirecarerssupport.org

✉ help@herefordshirecarerssupport.org



Herefordshire Special Educational Needs and Disability
Information, Advice and Support (SENDIAS)

Formerly Parent Partnership

Franklin House, 4 Commercial Road
Hereford HR1 2BB

☎ 01432 260955

💻 www.herefordshire.gov.uk

✉ sendias@herefordshire.gov.uk



Delivering Independent Support



Delivering independent support

Impartial information, support and guidance regarding
Education, Health and Care Plans for Children and
Young People aged 0 - 25 living with Special
Educational Needs or a Disability in Herefordshire.

FREE * IMPARTIAL * CONFIDENTIAL



What has changed?

- The Children and Families Act 2014 has changed the way children and young people aged 0-25 with Special Education Needs (SEN) and disabilities receive support.
- As part of these reforms Statements of SEN are being replaced by Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs).
- An EHCP brings together a child or young person's education, health and social care needs into a single legal document.
- Independent Supporters (IS) can help and support parents and young people through the EHCP process.



Who can request an Independent Supporter?

- A parent of a child or young person with a SEN or a disability
- A young person in their own right aged 16 to 25, with an SEN or disability.
- Any professional supporting a parent of a child or young person with a disability or special need.



When can you ask for an Independent Supporter?

- At any point in the Education, Health and Care (EHCP) planning process
- New entrants to the EHCP system
- Statements converting to an EHCP
- Young people with a Learning Difficulty Assessment (moving forward plan) converting to an EHCP.

Independent Support will provide targeted, time limited, support so parents and young people get the right information at the right time to make informed choices and decisions relating to the EHCP process.

The level and nature of support will be tailored to meet individual needs but can include:

- Help to understand and guide you through the process
- Ensure your views, needs and wishes are included
- Act as a named contact throughout the EHCP assessment and planning process
- Prepare and attend meetings with you
- Provide you with information about the Local Offer
- Check your EHCP to ensure you are happy with it.
- Signpost you to Herefordshire Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support (SENDIAS) service when issues are not in the remit of the Independent Supporter role.