

## What is SENDIASS and how can it help YOTs?

### Key points:

- **The 2014 Children and Families Act changed the dynamic in terms of how children and young people with special educational needs (and their families) are provided with advice, guidance and support.**
- **Liz Ryley from Leicester describes what local SENDIASS services can do and how they can be accessed by Youth Offending Teams across the country**

Material based on article that appeared in AYM Newsletter November 2016. To join AYM visit <http://aym.org.uk/>

SENDIASS stands for **Special Educational Needs and Disability Information Advice and Support Service**. In Leicester City we were formerly called the Parent Partnership service and have been supporting parents and carers since 1999.



In 2014, the Children and Families Act transformed the system for disabled children and young people and those with Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND). As part of this change, local authorities are required to provide all parents, children and young people with impartial information, advice and support in relation to SEND. In addition, part of the new legal framework introduced new requirements for supporting children and young people with SEND when they are detained in youth custody.

Section 10.60 of the Code of Practice, 2014, outlines the roles and responsibilities in relation to children and young people aged 18 and under who have been remanded or sentenced by the Courts to relevant youth accommodation in England.

Although the new legal framework for young offenders with SEND sits within the wider framework for all children and young people with SEND (Part 3 of the Children and Families Act), not all rights and duties are the same. There is a specific set of rights and duties which apply in custody and with some restrictions:

- It does not apply to children and young people subject to a Detention Order in the community. Children and young people serving a sentence in the community would be covered by the rest of Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014.
- It does not apply to those detained in young adult YOIs for 18 - 21 year olds.



There is now a duty on the Local Authority to consider whether a child requires any information, advice and support in order to enable them to take part effectively when securing a detained person's EHC (Education, Health and Care) needs assessment. If it considers that such information, advice or support is necessary then the LA **must** provide it.

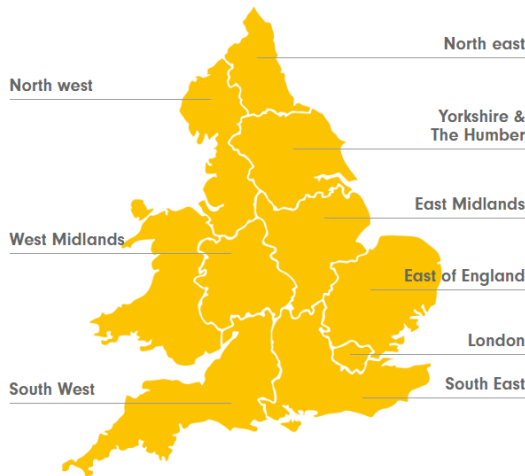
**SENDIASS** provide free, impartial, non-judgemental and confidential advice directly to children and young people with SEND and their parents. We also provide information, advice and support to professionals working with children and young people with SEND and their families.

Every local authority should have an IAS Service. You can find your local one here:

<https://councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/information-advice-and-support-servicesnetwork/find-your-local-ias-service>

The Information, Advice and Support Services Network

### Find your local IAS Service



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