

SEND Support for Young People in Gateshead



Are you a parent or carer of a child or young person who has special educational needs and /or disabilities (SEND)?

Do you know where you can access support or advice to ensure your child's needs are being met?



The **local offer** is a website that shares the help you can get if you have SEND, or if you care for someone who does. It is for people from 0 to 25 years old. It has information about different services, e.g. education, health, and social care, and how to use them. It also lets you share your opinions and see what other people think.



Parent carer forums are groups of parents and carers of children and young people with SEND who work together to improve local services and support. They provide information and advice, gathering and sharing feedback, working in partnership with decision-makers, offering peer support and networking, and helping with rights and appeals.



Would your teenager like to be involved with the SEND Youth Forum?

It is a group of young people with SEND who meet regularly to share their views and experiences, and to work together to improve the services and support for young people with SEND. They also have fun, make friends, and learn new skills. A SEND Youth Forum is a great way to have your voice heard and make a positive difference in your community.



Special Education Needs and Disabilities Information and Advice and Support Services (SENDIASS) is a free and confidential service for parents, carers, and young people with SEND. It helps them to understand and exercise their rights, and to access the right provision for their needs. It also supports them with SEND Tribunal appeals.



Gateshead Autism Hubs is a free service in Gateshead that provides information, advice, and support to parents and caregivers of autistic children and young people aged 0-25. They help with various challenges that can affect autistic individuals and their families. A diagnosis is not necessary to receive support. The team offers drop-in sessions, learning opportunities, peer support, and guidance throughout Gateshead.



The **Designated Clinical Officer (DCO)** – Acts as a single point of contact for parents/carers, partner agencies and professionals to raise queries and concerns related to NHS health services and SEND. To contact email dawn.robson4@nhs.net or nencicb-ng.sendhealthteam@nhs.net, or telephone 07342081199.

The **Designated Social Care Officer (DSCO)** – Acts as a point of contact for parents/carers, partner agencies and professionals to support the resolution of queries and concerns related to the quality and interaction of Early Help, Social Care and SEND services. To contact email [taraodonnell@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto: taraodonnell@gateshead.gov.uk), or call 0191 433 3826.

www.gateshead-localoffer.org