

# SEND SUPPORT

in Doncaster

A guide to the next steps for supporting your child



City of  
Doncaster  
Council



Find out more about the **SEND support** available by visiting:  
[www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/schools/local-offer-send](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/schools/local-offer-send)



Information,  
advice and  
support in regards  
to Special  
Educational Needs  
and Disability  
(SEND)



# SEND Support in Doncaster

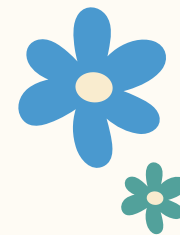


This booklet is designed to show you **the support available** in Doncaster for parents/carers, children and young people (0-25) in regards to **Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)**.



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# Overview of Support



City of Doncaster Council



NHS

Whether you are just starting your journey or you have a confirmed diagnosis, supporting a child with SEND can at times be confusing, difficult and overwhelming.

From help understanding **technical jargon** to **community support groups**, safe and understanding **early years sessions**, or **targeted Youth Groups** there are a number of services available across Doncaster, who are available to support your **whole family**.

We're here for you!



## Talking Together

Speech and Language Support.

## Young Carers

Activities and Support Groups for siblings and children of those with SEND.

## SENDIAS

Free, impartial information, advice and support.

## Health Services

Health Visitors

Community Nursery Nurse

Early Skills Group

## Community

Employment support

Adult learning

Volunteering opportunities

## Short Breaks

Offering fun activities for those with SEND, and respite for families and carers.

## Family Hubs

Early Years sessions

Sensory Rooms

Parenting Courses

2 Year Funding Support

## Parents Voice

Local community run group offering advice, support and activities.

# Section 23 Notification



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## What is a Section 23 notification?

This is part of the **legislation (law)** which health professionals and the local authorities have to follow.

When a health professional believes your child who is **under statutory school-age (under 5)**, has or is likely to have **special education needs or a disability (SEND)**, then they have a duty to let the Local Authority know of your child. The health professional will discuss with yourself their beliefs so you are aware of what is happening regarding your child.



## What happens next?

This information is used to help the Local Authority plan to ensure there are **sufficient spaces** for all children to access their **entitlement to education** across nurseries, schools and childminders.

It can also help to ensure that you are informed of the help, information, advice and support that is available to support you, your child and the wider family on your parenting journey.

Dependent on your child's needs, the health professional who informed you of the section 23 notification may **refer you on to additional services and support**. This booklet will give you a brief overview of some of the services you may meet on your journey.

# Your Local Family Hubs



Here at the Family Hubs, we are **one big family**. We proudly provide support and advice both in-person and virtually for families of children from conception, to adolescence and beyond.

Your local Family Hub staff have a wealth of knowledge about the support and services that are available for you and your family. They will be able to signpost you onto the right service to ensure you receive the support that you need.



To find your local Family Hub, and to see their current timetable, scan the QR code below



## Groups and events

From age specific groups such as Toddler Time, to universal groups such as Stay and Play, as well as themed Half Term events. The Family hubs **friendly and approachable staff can tailor their sessions to suit your child's needs**. They offer multi-level, varied and accessible activities, and can provide sensory bags and quiet spaces to support children in session.

Your little ones have the opportunity to **socialise with other children**, and you have the chance to **meet fellow parents** and caregivers from your local area. All sessions are completely **free, with no need to pre-book!**



For all the latest updates and events search for your local Family Hub on Facebook and hit follow!



## Support and guidance

Beyond the sessions and events, Family Hub staff can offer support with a whole range of topics including:

- \* **Parenting - both in-person and online parent classes and groups.**
- \* **Young Carers - social support for siblings and children of SEND family members.**
- \* **2 Year Funding - eligibility checks, and advice on finding a setting to suit your families needs.**
- \* **Your mental and emotional wellbeing.**



# Your Local Family Hubs

## Sensory Rooms

These rooms can be used as a breakout space during timetabled sessions, or can be booked to use independently, completely free of charge.

- \* **Stainforth** - Junction Road, DN7 5DH - 01302 734048
- \* **Moorends** - Marshland Road, DN8 4SB - 01302 737470
- \* **Askern** - Spa Pool Road, DN6 0HX - 01302 737099
- \* **Bentley** - The Avenue, DN5 0NP - 01302 737350
- \* **Central** - Welcome Way, DN1 3LE - 01302 737995
- \* **Wheatley** - Old School Way, DN2 4AJ - 01302 737790
- \* **Rossington** - Grantham Street, DN11 0TA - 01302 737440
- \* **Mexborough** - Wath Road, S64 9ED - 01302 736869
- \* **Denaby** - School Walk, DN12 4HZ - 01302 737436



## Sleep Tight Workshops

Is your child struggling with sleep?

Our training is delivered by practitioners trained by The Sleep Charity.

Our workshops include:

- \* Understanding sleep cycles
- \* Establishing appropriate routines
- \* Environment
- \* Keeping sleep diaries and interpreting the data
- \* Common sleep issues and strategies to manage these.



## Changing Places

All of the Family Hubs have at least one or more **accessible toilets** to help make your journey out and about as smooth as possible.

The following hubs also incorporate a **hoist** system:

- \* **Moorends**
- \* **Adwick**
- \* **Wheatley**
- \* **Balby**
- \* **Rossington**

To find out more about changing places in your local area scan the QR code below:



# Your Local Community Events

Outside of the Family Hubs, a whole host of support exists in your Local Community.

Social Support Groups

Family Picnics

Wellbeing Events

SEND Friendly Cinemas

Discount Cards

Coffee Mornings

SEND Supermarket Hours

Activities & Events

## Whats on?

To discover what's on in your local area scan the QR code below for all the **latest updates!**



## Discount Cards

Did you know you may be able to qualify for a **TIE** card or **MAX** card to access discounted rates for a number of activity venues?

**Head to your local offer to find out more!**

## Doncaster Parents Voice

Doncaster Parents Voice (DPVoice) is **run by parents** of children with a variety of additional needs. They exist to support families with disabled children whenever they need them. They offer everything from **family events to wellbeing and therapy for parents.**



# NHS Services



Many young people with SEND will be involved with health services as part of their development. This may be by accessing universal healthcare or more specialist intervention to support them. In Doncaster, there are 4 NHS organisations that provide support to CYP with SEND.



Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust, also known as **RDaSH** is a large **community trust** which provides a number of community services, i.e. they are the services you will see working in children's schools, in their homes, GP clinics and community based clinics.

Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, also known as **DBTH** is a large **acute hospital**, providing secondary care services that are predominately hospital based. Providing mainly out-patient clinics and inpatient care. This Trust runs 3 hospitals, 1 in Doncaster, 1 in Mexborough and 1 in Bassetlaw.



NHS South Yorkshires Integrated Care Board (ICB) is an NHS organisation **responsible for planning health services across South Yorkshire** with an aim to improving outcomes, tackling health inequalities, improving experiences and access to health services.

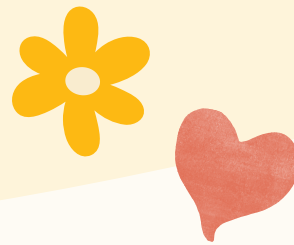
In primary care we have **38 GP practices across Doncaster**, each offering support to CYP who are registered to their practice.



Service	Provider	Contact
Childrens Physiotherapy	DBTH	01302 642633
Childrens Occupational Health	DBTH	01302 642633
Speech and Language Therapy	DBTH	01302 642633
Dietetics	DBTH	01302 642633
Diabetes Nurse	DBTH	01302 642633
Community Nursing	RDaSH	03000 211528
Epilepsy Nurse	RDaSH	03000 211528
Health Visitors	RDaSH	03000 218997
School Nurses (Zone 5-19)	RDaSH	03000 218997
Specialist School Nurses	RDaSH	03000 211528
Community Continence Service	RDaSH	03000 211566
School Age Vaccination Team	RDaSH	03000 211841
Wheelchair & Specialist Seating Service	RDaSH	01302 566701
CAMHS	RDaSH	01302 796191
CAMHS Community Eating Disorder Service	RDaSH	03000 212349
CAMHS- ADHD Nurses	RDaSH	01302 796191



# Additional Services



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## NHS 0-5 Health Visiting Service

The 0-5 Doncaster Health Visiting service consists of **Specialist Community Public Health nurses (Health Visitors) and Community Nursery Nurses**, they deliver the Healthy Child Programme to all families within Doncaster.



They offer **universal reviews** at 10-14 days, 6-8 weeks, 6 months, 9-12 months and 2 to 2.5 years, **incorporating advice, support and interventions** for children and their families.

During these reviews the Health Visitor/Community Nurse complete a **full health needs assessment**. They gain the child's voice through **observations and discussions** with the carers whilst using evidence-based information and tools.

These reviews support **early identification of Special educational needs and disability (SEND)** and allow the Health Visitor/Community Nursery Nurse to make effective provisions for the child and family. A package of care will be agreed with the family and ongoing support will be offered throughout the process by a named Health Visitor.



## Early Years Inclusion Team (EYIT)

The Early Years Inclusion Team (EYIT) has high aspirations and ambitions for early years children with SEND. They **ensure the right support is in place at the right time for every child** within Doncaster. They achieve this by:

- Supporting all early years providers to raise **quality, attainment and inclusive practice** for all children.
- Offer **advice and support** in narrowing the gaps in their learning and development, consequently improving outcomes.
- **Work with early years providers** to prepare and support children in their transition within the next step of their education.



## Portage

Portage is a **home-visiting educational service** for children 0-4 with SEND, and their families. Portage aims to:

- **Work with families** to help them develop a quality of life and experience, in which they can learn together, play together, participate and be included in their community.
- Play a part in **minimising the disabling barriers** that confront young children and their families.
- Support the **national and local development of inclusive services** for children.



## Stepping Stones

Stepping Stones is a group for children aged 0-4 who have been referred to the Early Years Panel for Portage service involvement. Stepping Stones is **delivered by the Portage Home Visiting team** and is held every two weeks (term time only).

Stepping Stones is **based within a nursery provision** environment, with high **quality learning and socialising opportunities** provided to the children, supported by their parent/carers and the Portage Home Visiting Team, who will **role model activities and strategies**, discussing next steps with parent/carers.

# The Local Offer & SENDIAS



## What is the Local Offer?

The Local Offer is Doncaster's **factual and informative online source**, providing information about special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) for children and young people aged 0-25 years.



The website will tell you what help and support is available from **City of Doncaster Council**, the local **NHS Foundation Trust (RDaSH)** and other partners such as **Education and Social Care**. The Local Offer can be used by Parents and Carers, Children and Young People, as well as by Professionals and agencies working with families.

You can find information and support for every stage of your journey from Early Years, Education and Learning, Health and Social care, to activities and leisure, money matters, transport, and preparing for adulthood.



## What is Doncaster SENDIAS?

SENDIAS provide **free, impartial information, advice and support (IAS)** on the information that can be found on the Local Offer, or from other sources that support SEND.

Sometimes having access to information is not enough - you may want to discuss what you have read or been told about. You may feel you need extra support because the range of issues that you are dealing with are complex, or you are finding it hard to communicate with professionals.

SENDIAS provide advice about **SEND law**, and can help you get the information you need to make informed choices. They offer support in a range of areas such as writing letters, filling out forms and reports, supporting in meetings until you are confident to proceed without help, or for advice on things such as school exclusions.



# Your Place & Early Help



## What is Your Place?

The Your Place team provide support and information that is unique to families and residents when **everyday issues** become difficult.

The team are on hand to chat with you about what's concerning you or anything you need support with.

Here are a few things you can chat to the team about:

- Family Support
- Local groups and activities
- Anti-social behaviour
- Employment
  - Benefits
  - Childcare
- Housing support
- Debt and financial concerns
- Education support for both children and adults.



Scan the QR code below to find your local team:



[www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk/  
your-place-your-family-team](http://www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk/your-place-your-family-team)

## What is Early Help?

Early Help is a way of thinking and working together as services with families that have **additional or more complex needs**.

It's for children and young people of any age and their family. Help can come from a range of services and organisations who work together to support your family. You might be using some of these services already, but we want to make sure they are providing the right support for you and your family's needs.

It could be that you're worried about your child's health, development or behaviour, or perhaps because you are caring for a disabled child.

Maybe you, your child or your whole family are affected by relationships within the family, drugs or alcohol or you are experiencing personal distress or anxiety, financial or housing problems.

By getting help from the right services at the right time, and as early as possible, we can help prevent or reduce potential problems for children as they grow up.

Scan the QR code below to find out more:



<https://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/schools/early-help-what-is-it-in-doncaster>



# Talking Together Service



## What is Talking Together?

Talking Together is a targeted pathway to support children's communication in Doncaster, complementing the specialist NHS Speech and Language Therapy Team.

We aim to support parents, carers, practitioners, and anyone in contact with a child to **develop their early speech, language and communication skills that will enable them to flourish**. Children can be referred on to our intervention pathway by either a professional or parent.

## Our mission:

To **empower parents** to support their child's speech, language and communication development, we provide information, resources, activities, top tips and key advice through our website and Facebook page.

## How to book an appointment:

Our Speech and Language Therapy Assistant bases herself across the Family Hubs. If you are worried about your child's speech, language and/or communication, we offer advice sessions which are available to anyone with a child aged 0-5 and can be **booked through your local Family Hub without the need for a referral**.



## TALKING TOGETHER TEAM



ALISON FLEETWOOD  
SERVICE MANAGER



BECKY MASSEY  
CLINICAL LEAD  
SPEECH & LANGUAGE  
THERAPIST



SAM DE-WHYTELL  
SPEECH & LANGUAGE  
THERAPY ASSISTANT



LAURA THOMAS  
TALKING TOGETHER  
PRACTITIONER



CAROL HALL  
TALKING TOGETHER  
PRACTITIONER



LAUREN CROSS  
TALKING TOGETHER  
PRACTITIONER



HOLLIE TOMLINSON  
TALKING TOGETHER  
PRACTITIONER

Contact us at:

[SYTTDoncaster@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:SYTTDoncaster@doncaster.gov.uk)

# Short Breaks & Young Carers



## How can Short Breaks help?

Caring for a child with a disability or complex health need can be difficult at times. Short Breaks are a service that helps to give children and young people with a disability or complex health needs opportunities to access activities that will enhance their life experiences in a safe and positive way, whilst giving a **valued break to their families/carers**.

The breaks can last from a **few hours to a few days**; taking place **during the day or evening, overnight or at weekends**. They may take place in your home, a carer's home, in a residential setting or elsewhere in the community.

Short Breaks are a small, friendly team who will guide and help you through the process at every step, ensuring the support is right for you and your family. For more information on eligibility and how to apply, please scan the QR code below:



[www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/schools/short-breaks](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/schools/short-breaks)



## Young Carers Service

A Young Carer is a child or young person who provides regular and **on-going care and emotional support** to a family member, that is **over and above** the everyday and occasional help around the home that many young people are often expected to give within families.

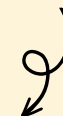
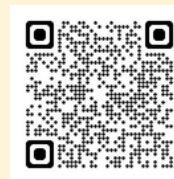
### Young Carers often:

- Help family members to get up, get washed, get dressed or help them with toileting.
  - Do lots of household chores like shopping, cleaning, cooking.
- Stay in the house a lot to provide emotional support.
  - Look after brothers and sisters.
  - Sort household bills.

### Doncaster Young Carers Service can provide:

- 1:1 support.
- Information and advice on things like how to get help for the person being cared for or help with finding out about higher or further education.
  - Group work, and activities including social groups.
- Advocacy support with making Young Carers voices heard

Scan the QR code below to find out more:



<https://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/schools/young-carers>



# Neurodevelopment & GDA Pathway




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## Neurodevelopmental Assessment



The Neurodevelopmental Pathway is Doncaster's **diagnostic pathway** to refer children and young people for clinical screening when they may have an **underlying neurodevelopmental difference** such as **Autism or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) or Development Delay**.

Your early years or education provider, school nursing team, health visiting team or the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service can refer into the pathway by completing a referral form. If your child is being educated at home then the school nurse will lead on the request.

All referrals to the pathway are now **discussed at a multi-disciplinary triage panel** which is held on a weekly basis. Panel members include representation from **specialist health and education services**.



## What happens next?

A referral for **Clinical Screening for Autism pathway or ADHD pathway** may happen because there is **enough supporting information** to demonstrate these types of needs.

**General Development Assessment (GDA)** may happen because it's **unclear** if your child requires an autism or ADHD assessment, there is a possible clinical need and their case is complex for example they may have developmental delay, Cerebral Palsy or dyspraxia.

Some children who receive a General Development Assessment will be further referred to the autism or ADHD pathway if it is felt necessary.

# Glossary



## **ADHD**

Attention Deficit-Hyperactivity Disorder

## **ASD**

Autism Spectrum Disorder

## **BSL**

British Sign Language

## **CAMHS**

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

## **DLA**

Disability Living Allowance

## **EHC**

Education, Health and Care

## **EHCP**

Education, Health and Care Plan

## **EYIT**

Early Years Inclusion Team

## **FIS**

Families Information Service

## **GDA Pathway**

General Developmental Assessment

## **HI**

Hearing Impairment

## **LA**

Local Authority



## **MDT**

Multidisciplinary Team

## **MLD**

Moderate Learning Difficulties

## **MSI**

Multi-sensory Impairment

## **PMLD**

Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties

## **SEND**

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

## **SENDCO**

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator



## **TIE**

Together Information Exchange

## **VI**

Visual Impairment



# Useful Contacts



## Family Hubs

Contact Numbers:

### North

Bentley: 01302 737350  
Askern: 01302 737099  
Adwick: 01302 737717

### East

Stainforth: 01302 734048  
Moorends: 01302 737470  
Armthorpe: 01302 736760

### Central

Wheatley: 01302 737790  
Balby: 01302 736880  
Central: 01302 737995

### South

Rossington: 01302 737440  
Mexborough: 01302 736869  
Denaby: 01302 737436

[www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/schools/family-hubs-and-services](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/schools/family-hubs-and-services)

## Family Support

### Early Help Hub (& Short Breaks)

Contact number: 01302 734110  
[www.doncaster.gov.uk/earlyhelp](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/earlyhelp)

### Your Place Team

Contact numbers:  
North team: 01302 736787  
South team: 01302 736644  
East team: 01302 736336  
Central team: 01302 736409  
[www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk/family](http://www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk/family)

### Young Carers' Service

Contact number: 01302 736099  
[www.doncaster.gov.uk/youngcarers](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/youngcarers)

### Domestic Abuse Hub

Contact number: 01302 737080  
[www.doncaster.gov.uk/domesticabuse](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/domesticabuse)

## Health & Wellbeing

### Health Visiting Team

Contact number: 0300 021 8997  
[www.healthvisitors.rdash.nhs.uk](http://www.healthvisitors.rdash.nhs.uk)  
Facebook: 'doncasterhealthvisitors'

### Perinatal Mental Health Service

Contact number: 03000 211839  
[www.rdash.nhs.uk/services/perinatal-mental-health](http://www.rdash.nhs.uk/services/perinatal-mental-health)

### LIGHT Peer Mental Health Support

Contact number: 0114 438 8962  
[www.lightpeersupport.org.uk](http://www.lightpeersupport.org.uk)

### Doncaster MIND

Contact number: 01302 812190  
[www.doncastermind.org.uk](http://www.doncastermind.org.uk)

## Childcare Support

### Doncaster Families Information Service:

Contact number: 0800 138 4568  
[www.doncaster.gov.uk/FIS](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/FIS)

## Employability Support

### Doncaster Job Centre Plus

Contact number: 0845 604 3719

### Adult Family & Community Learning Service (AFCL)

Contact number: 01302 862688  
[www.doncaster.gov.uk/afcl](http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/afcl)

## Housing & Finance Support

### Citizens' Advice

Contact number: 0808 278 7955  
[www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)

### St Leger Homes

Contact number: 01302 862862  
[www.stlegerhomes.co.uk](http://www.stlegerhomes.co.uk)

## Other Useful Websites

### Your Life Doncaster

[www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk](http://www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk)

### Donny Dot

[www.donnydot.co.uk](http://www.donnydot.co.uk)

