

## SEND Local Offer

Special needs and disability SEND *Local Offer* provides information for children and young people with special educational needs (SEND) and their parents or carers in a single place. It shows families what they can expect from a range of local agencies including education, health and social care.

### East Sussex County Council January 2021

The Local Offer during Coronavirus (Covid-19) *We can limit the spread of the virus by working together in East Sussex and following NHS advice on how to protect each other*

Colleges, primary and secondary schools will remain open only for vulnerable children and young people and the children of critical workers. All other pupils will learn remotely until March 2021.

- See GOV.UK guidance on children of critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools

Early Years settings remain open

- See Government guidelines about opening childcare. How to find childcare. Help with childcare costs

We recognise children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) and their parents/carers are facing numerous challenges because of Coronavirus (Covid-19).

- See the East Sussex coronavirus updates email list, or follow us on Twitter and Facebook

We understand that this school year looks different. We want to assure families that our communities are in this together and can offer different kinds of support for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Our ISEND, CLASS+ and IGO facebook pages are updated regularly with support and advice for parents. There are resources and activities, plus support for talking to your child about the changes in their lives.

- SEN services on Facebook

If you still have concerns contact Children's Services

All children's centres are now closed. Please see the Children's Centre Facebook pages for your local centre. They will be posting advice and guidance on a range of topics.

If you have a **keyworker** and you have concerns, get in touch with them directly.

If you have a **health visitor** and you have concerns, get in touch with them directly.

If you need **urgent advice**, call 0345 60 80 192 (10am to 3pm) or email

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/community/emergencyplanningandcommunity>

Links to help and support for parents:

- Open for Parents
- Facebook – Open for Parents
- COVID-19: guidance on supporting children and young people's mental health and wellbeing - GOV.UK
- Children and young people's mental health services (CYPMHS)
- See, hear, respond – rapid help for families impacted by Coronavirus
- Drugs and alcohol services for children and young people
- Parenting - ESCC website
- Information for Families - ESCC website

- Amaze – for families with disabled child/young person who live or go to school or college in East Sussex or Brighton & Hove <https://amazesussex.org.uk>
- SENDIASS service for all areas. [sendiass@amazesussex.org.uk](mailto:sendiass@amazesussex.org.uk) or phone 01273 772289



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Supporting children to feel connected with school and emotionally equipped to be able to engage with learning in school or remotely is a priority at this time of change and uncertainty; by working closely with the child and family, we aim to provide a routine of provision in school or remotely, which supports a child's view of themselves as a learner, as a friend and as a valued member of the school community.

Since the introduction of *Google Classroom* in October 2020, we have seen improved pupil engagement, interaction opportunities between peers, increased parent engagement and during a period of pandemic *lockdown*, opportunities for spontaneous communication about learning and life. For families who do not engage with *Google Classroom* we look at alternative ways to support the child's continued learning.

To enable staff to maintain a connection with the child and to structure learning tasks, there is regular communication with parents/carers including daily on *Google Classroom* and staff aim to speak by phone to a family member at least once every 2 weeks.

For children with school based plans, provision and learning will be made different by the teacher, supported in school or remotely. Interventions to close learning gaps will continue for children in school.

Children following programmes advised by outside agencies e.g. Speech & Language, will be supported at home through regular home/school contact and during the school day child is attending school.

Annual reviews will go ahead remotely for any child with an Education Healthcare plan.

Please look at school websites and contact the headteacher or SENDCo if you have any questions about provision and support for your child.

