

Frequently asked questions about Independent Support

What if I just need to ask a question and do not want to be referred for support?

If you need to ask a question or would like some advice then this is fine.

We will try our best to answer your questions and offer you impartial advice about the Education, Health and Care Plan process.

What if Independent Support isn't for me?

If this is the case we will signpost and refer you to the right service.

Can you help a child or young person to be part of this process?

Yes we can! The child or young person is an important part of this process.

The Independent Supporter will be able to advise you about this and we have a separate information sheet for children/young people.



Getting in touch

Our address is:

Bradford Independent Support Service
Barnardo's
Queen's House
Queen's Road
Bradford
BD8 7BS

Our phone number is: 01274 481183

Our e-mail address is:
bradfordindependentsupport@
barnardos.org.uk

Believe in children



Barnardo's

Yorkshire

www.barnardos.org.uk

Yorkshire Regional Office
Four Gables, Clarence Road,
Horsforth, Leeds
West Yorkshire, LS18 4LB
Tel: 0113 393 3200
Fax: 0113 393 3201

Barnardo's Registered Charity Nos.
216250 and SC037605

3035 rr14

Bradford Independent Support Service

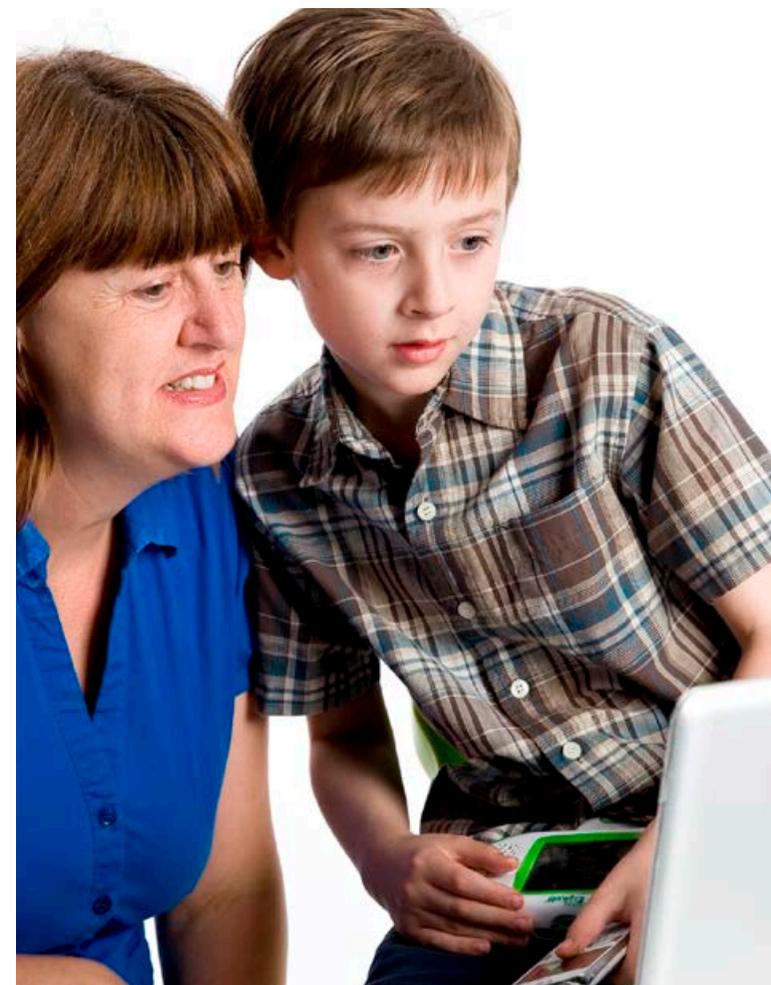
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Independent and impartial support through the new Education, Health and Care Plan system for parents and carers of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities



What is the Independent Support Service?

From September 2014 Education, Health and Care Plans (EHC plans) will replace statements of Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Learning Difficulties.

An EHC plan will be tailored to meet individual needs so each child or young person's plan will look different.

Independent Support Services have been set up to help parents, children and young people with this new system. In Bradford the service is being delivered by Barnardo's.

Our aim is to support families with children and young people aged 0-25 through these reforms.

What can we do?

Our Independent Supporters can support you to be fully involved in all decisions about your EHC plan to achieve the best outcomes for you. We can:

- help with the transfer of a current Statement of Special Educational Needs or Learning Difficulty Assessment to an Education, Health and Care Plan

- help with the Education, Health and Care needs assessment
- provide information to parents and young people on personal budgets
- signpost you to other sources of information, advice or support as required.

How can we help?

We will provide parents with a named person who can:

- share information about the new systems and local processes
- help you to work with a range of professionals to gather information
- help you to prepare for review meetings
- support you to attend meetings and share your views

All Independent Supporters will have undertaken required training.

Who can refer?

Anyone can refer to our service. We will then assess if we are the best service to support you. There are no forms for you to fill in you just need to ring the service to make a referral.

What can you expect from a referral?

After we have received your referral we will make contact with you to discuss support and how we can tailor this to your own particular needs.

We will then agree a plan of action.

