Independent Support (IS)

Independent Supporters provide advice and support for parents of children with SEN, and young people with SEN, through the statutory assessment and Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) processes. Independent Supporters offer a range of time-limited support such as liaison across different agencies and advice on personal budgets. The level and nature of that support will be based to the needs of individual families. This service is independent from the local authority.

How can an Independent Supporter help me?

- Act as a named contact person throughout the EHC assessment and planning process
- Focus on the main task of helping you to transfer a Statement of SEN or Learning Difficulty Assessment (LDA) to an EHC plan (transfer review)
- Helping you to prepare for meetings
- Liaise across a range of local services and help you to gather the information required for an EHC plan.
- Provide you with information to help you understand personal budgets.

In Cambridgeshire Independent Supporters are individuals who are recruited and managed by Core Assets or Cambridgeshire’s Parent Partnership Service who provide the SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) for Cambridgeshire. The government awarded both these organisations contracts to provide Independent Supporters to parents, carers and young people in Cambridgeshire.

For more information on Independent Support visit the Council for Disabled Children’s website [http://www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/independentsupport](http://www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/independentsupport)
or contact Core Assets or Cambridgeshire’s Parent Partnership Service.

If you would like an Independent Supporter you can choose if you would like one from Core Assets or Cambridgeshire’s Parent Partnership Service who provide the SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) for Cambridgeshire.

Core Assets

Core Assets Children’s Services are delivering the local ‘Independent Support Service’ in partnership with Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridgeshire Parent
Partnership Service (providing SEND Information, Advice and Support) and pinpoint. They are here to provide confidential, impartial and independent information and support. Their service helps families and young people (aged 0 to 25 years) to find their way through the changes to the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) system.

Core Assets will be providing information and support in a variety of ways:

- Individual face to face support. They can provide support from a dedicated Independent Supporter in a place and at a time to suit you
- Telephone Helpline. To speak to someone about getting help from an Independent Supporter you can call Core Assets directly on 0800 028 8455 between 9am and 9pm Monday to Friday, and 9am to 5pm on Saturdays and Sundays. If for any reason you are unable to speak to someone, please leave a message and we will respond to you as quickly as we can.
- Via the internet: www.coreassets.com/what-we-do/independent-support-service/

You can also email them at ISreferrals@coreassets.com

This a free service and they look forward to hearing from you.

Core Assets Children’s Services is an independent organisation that has been working with children and families for many years. They are passionate about working together to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families.

Parent Partnership Service providing Cambridgeshire’s SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS)

offers impartial and confidential information, advice and support to parents and carers who have a child or young person with special educational needs (SEN) or a disability or have concerns that their child has special educational needs.

Information and support will be provided by:

- individual face to face support from a dedicated Independent Supporter in a place and at a time to suit you
- a telephone helpline 01223 699214. If for any reason you are unable to speak to someone, please leave a message and we will respond to you as quickly as we can
- by email on pps@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.