

Support Information

Information about autism and neurodiversity

'Introduction to autism / neurodiversity parent session' provides parents/carers with a basic overview of how autism and/or neurodiversity may present in children and young people. A child does not need a diagnosis for parents/carers to attend this session.

Families in BCP, please email itsa@linwood.bournemouth.sch.uk

Families in Dorset, please contact your school SENDCO for details, or you can contact us for details if your child is not in school.

NHS Dorset Neurodiversity Hub provides information to support neurodivergent people in Dorset, with a particular focus on autism and ADHD.

<https://nhsdorset.nhs.uk/neurodiversity/>

Websites

Family Information Service can help with matters relating to family life. The team and the Family Information Directory provide information on local childcare, services, activities and more. Please visit your council's website for further details.

BCP Council (Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole)

<https://fid.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/welcome-to-the-fis>

<https://fid.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/family-information-directory>

Dorset Council <https://www.dorsetCouncil.gov.uk/children-families/get-help-for-your-family/family-information-service>

<https://familyinformationdirectory.dorsetCouncil.gov.uk/kb5/dorset/fsd/home.page>

The Local Offer is where to find out about help available for children and young people who have special educational needs and disabilities. Please see your council's website for details.

BCP <https://www.fid.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/send-local-offer>

Dorset <https://www.dorsetCouncil.gov.uk/children-families/sen-and-disability-local-offer/dorsets-local-offer>

Family support

BCP Family Hubs, Early Help and Outreach Centres

<https://www.fid.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/online-family-hub/information/family-hubs-early-help-and-outreach-centres>

Family Help in Dorset: <https://www.dorsetCouncil.gov.uk/w/family-help-in-dorset>

Mental Health Support Teams are working with a number of schools and offer 1:1 support with young people to tackle the challenges they experience, helping them to feel more resilient, arming them with techniques to look after themselves and strategies to help them cope better with life's ups and downs. Talk to school about a referral to the MHST if available.

Please see their website for more information, YouTube videos and webinars.

<https://camhsdorset.org/about-camhs/mental-health-support-teams>

Learning and development - if you are worried about your child's learning and development please see your local council's website below.

BCP <https://www.fid.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/send-local-offer/information/graduated-response/i-am-worried-about-my-childs-learning-and-development>

Dorset <https://www.dorsetCouncil.gov.uk/w/the-graduated-approach>

Speech, language and communication – if you have concerns in this area, speak to the school who may refer your child to their Speech and Language Link Therapist. They can decide what support to put in place to help.

Please see the below website for the online speech, language and communication need education and information resource available to all. The Balanced System® framework aims to help children and young people develop their speech, language and communication.

<https://nhsdorset.nhs.uk/health/children-speech-language-communication/>

SENDiass provide impartial, confidential information, advice, and support with relation to education, social, and healthcare matters, operating face-to-face, virtually, over the telephone, and via email for families.

Please see their website for webinars and information on SEN support; EHC needs assessments and much more.

BCP <https://sendiass4bcp.org/>

Dorset <https://www.dorsetsendiass.co.uk/>

IPSEA's unique range of services has been developed to ensure that families understand children and young people's legal rights and entitlements to special education provision. Please see their website for more details.

<https://www.ipsea.org.uk/>

Not Fine in School: Family Support for School Attendance Difficulties

A Facebook group for parents/carers of children who experience barriers and difficulties attending school.

They aim to facilitate and share peer support, to empower parents to advocate for their children by sharing or signposting to relevant information and advice.

Action for Children: Dorset Services offer parenting support and advice through challenging times, including "Behaviours that challenge us" sessions. To find out more, please see their website:

<https://service.actionforchildren.org.uk/dorset-services/parenting/>

The Community Paediatric Team