



One minute guide

Leeds Local Offer

No. 135, October 2016

What is the Leeds Local Offer?

The Leeds Local Offer is a resource for families, children and young people with special educational needs and disability (SEND) aged 0 to 25. It is also a resource to help practitioners understand the range of services and provision in Leeds, and nationally available sources of information.

The aim of the Leeds Local Offer is to improve choice and transparency for families. It is not just a directory of services; it also provides a mechanism for gathering feedback from children, young people and their families that can drive and influence service improvement.

The Leeds Local Offer has information on education, health, social care, transport, childcare and leisure services and can be found at www.leedslocaloffer.org.uk

Why do we have a local offer?

The Children and Families Act 2014 ([guide](#)) requires us to set out a local offer of services. This is a duty to provide information on what services are available.

This information duty needs to be read alongside the Act which sets out how the local authority and partners should work together to review and commission services. The local offer provides details of those services commissioned by this joint planning and review.

What do we have in Leeds?

The Leeds Local Offer is a website that incorporates a search facility that is dynamic, which draws information from multiple sources and takes people directly to the service or provision page required.

With the size of Leeds and the range of services and information available, the search engine function enables us to link to a considerable amount of specific and up to date content; in July 2016 there were over a thousand web links within the search engine.

Leeds SEND Information Advice Support Service (SENDIASS) ([guide](#)) are able to help families use the Leeds Local Offer by searching on their behalf and sending information through the post.

The SENDIASS helpline is available on tel: 0113 3951200 (Mon-Fri 10am to 3pm) or email sendiass@leeds.gov.uk

What kind of information is on the Leeds Local Offer and when would it be used?

We worked with children, young people and their families to develop the Leeds Local Offer. This supported us to include the right types of information.

These are some examples of when people might use the Leeds Local Offer and what information is available:

Joshua has been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and his parents want to find out more information about the condition in their own time and find out if there is a local support group that they can contact;

Martin is 18, has learning difficulties and loves swimming – he wants to find out if his local sports centre has any supported swimming sessions that he can go to during the day;

Dave is a student social worker and he wants to know more about the statutory assessment process behind an Education Health and Care Plan for a family he has started to work with; and

Marcia has a three year old daughter Lydia and is looking for a local nursery with experience of caring for children who have Downs Syndrome.

What should practitioners do?

Practitioners should visit the Leeds Local Offer website and familiarise themselves with how to use it. Then they should share details about the offer with:

Families and young people with SEND; and

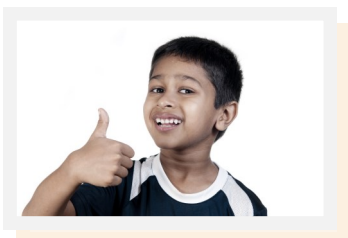
Colleagues and practitioners from partner agencies who work with them

Key contacts and for more information

If you have any feedback from using the Leeds Local Offer or any suggestions for additional content please email bpteam@leeds.gov.uk

You can find out more information in the [Children & Families Act 2014](#) or our [One Minute Guide](#).

And you can read the [SEND code of practice](#) for children and young people aged 0 to 25 years. This is statutory guidance for organisations working with and supporting children and young people who have SEND.



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