



## HARTLEPOOL Information, Advice and Support Services

### Special Educational Needs and Disability

#### Independent Supporters

Available to assist Parents, Carers, Children and Young People

Between September 2014 and March 2016 the Government has made funding available to provide specialist individual support to parents, carers, children and young people who are involved in an **Education, Health, and Care (EHC) Needs Assessment**

Trained Independent Supporters will work with you throughout the assessment period. They can explain each stage, help you to get your views across and ensure you take an active lead role in this process

Independent Support in Hartlepool will be jointly provided by **Hartlepool Information, Advice and Support Services** (formerly Parent Partnership Services) and in partnership with **Core Assets Children's Service**

**Hartlepool IASS** will work with families of pupils up to the age of 25 years who are new to the EHC needs assessment process, Statement transfers, Post 16 transfers, Complex requests and for families requiring ongoing support.

For further information please contact us on: 01429 284876 or email: [HARTLEPOOLIASS@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:HARTLEPOOLIASS@hartlepool.gov.uk)

**Core Assets Children's Service** will work with families who are transferring from a Statement or LDA to an EHC Plan and who are new to the EHC process

For further information please contact us on: **0800 028 8455** or email [ISreferrals@coreassets.com](mailto:ISreferrals@coreassets.com) Alternatively visit our website:

[www.coreassets.com/what-we-do/independent-support-services/](http://www.coreassets.com/what-we-do/independent-support-services/)

## What does an Independent Supporter do?

Independent Supporters will provide parents and young people with time limited help to support the parent or young person during the EHC needs assessment and planning process.

The role of the Independent Supporter is to:

- Help the parent or young person to understand the local EHC assessment process and local offer
- Act as a named contact person for the parent or young person during the EHC assessment and planning process
- Supporting parents and young people through the transfer of a statement of SEN or Learning Difficulty Assessment (LDA to an EHC plan (transfer reviews)
- Work with parents of children who are new EHC requests and/or young people (and their parents) who are coming up to school leaving age and would have an LDA under the old system
- Understand the range of local services and supporting the parent or young person to decide who should contribute the information required for an EHC needs assessment and plan
- Provide information to parents and young people on personal budgets
- Signpost parents and young people to Hartlepool Information, Advice and Support Service when the issue is outside the remit of an Independent Supporter

