

Communication between all those involved in a child's education is the key to good relationships



Partnership with Parents

Does your child have Additional Educational Needs?

Would you like ADVICE, SUPPORT or more UNDERSTANDING of Additional Educational Needs or Special Educational Needs?

Could you support other parents and carers?

Who are we?

What do we do?

Can you help?





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What do we do?

PwP stands for "Partnership with Parents"

Although we are funded by KCC for parents, carers and schools we operate at "arm's length" from the authority.

How we work with parents/carers

We believe the best results for all children happen when parents, schools, the local authority and other agencies work together in partnership.

This is particularly important if a child has additional or special educational needs.

If you need information, advice and support then PwP has:



A Helpline

Our helpline team can help you to make decisions that are right for your child



Leaflets and information sheets

We can send you written information on education procedures and provide you with details of local and national voluntary organisations



Tapes and videos

For you to borrow about education processes and conditions and disabilities



A Resolving Disagreements service

Staff trained in mediation to help resolve disagreements positively in either formal or informal situations



A Website

Giving full information on all our services
www.kent.gov.uk/partnershipwithparents



Email

partnershipwithparents@kent.gov.uk

Those involved in a child's relationships



Partnership with Parents

What is an Independent Parental Supporter (IPS)?

An IPS is someone who will help parents of children with additional or special educational needs to express their views and offer support whenever it is needed.

Who can I choose to be my Independent Parental Supporter?

- A friend, a neighbour or a relative
- Someone from a parent support group or a voluntary organisation
- A volunteer working with the Partnership with Parents service

What if I need help in choosing an Independent Parental Supporter?

Partnership with Parents can help you decide who could be your Independent Parental Supporter.

We also have some trained volunteers who are available as Independent Parental Supporters for parents.

When can I have an Independent Parental Supporter?

You can choose an Independent Parental Supporter at any time; if you have concerns regarding your child's additional or special educational need.



This is what parents, supporters and schools say about the role:



I took the list of questions we had prepared together. It was great! I felt more in control than I ever have in the past. Thanks for your support, I really feel the school understand now. **(Parent)**



To come out of a meeting with everyone beaming from ear to ear knowing that we have achieved for the child is a very worthwhile experience. **(IPS)**



Your involvement has made all the difference. We were going nowhere fast, now we are back on track. **(School)**

There are other ways you can help...



Partnership with Parents

IPS

Train to be an Independent Parental Supporter

We run a training programme for volunteers to work alongside parents and carers and provide them with information and impartial advice so they can make informed decisions. You might help with paperwork, writing reports or letters. Some parents find it useful to have someone to help with preparing for a meeting or going to a meeting with them.

To find out more call us now for an information pack.

**PwP
Steering
Group**

PwP Steering Group

We want to provide a service that is right for you and so we meet regularly with parents, carers, teachers and voluntary organisations to help us plan the way PwP works.

Your ideas and experiences could help us shape the future for others.

Could you spare a few hours each year and join our Steering Group?

**Focus
Group**

What is a Focus Group?

PwP is sometimes asked to set up a 'focus group' for the LA on different aspects of additional educational needs.

Kent Local Authority is committed to listening to its customers (including parents, carers and pupils).

If you would like to be part of a focus group then please send your name and contact details to us and we will let you know about forthcoming events.

Contact Points:

Helpline: 01622 755515

Fax: 01622 671198

Minicom: 01622 692344

Email: partnershipwithparents@kent.gov.uk

Website: www.kent.gov.uk/partnershipwithparents

Address: Shepway Centre, Oxford Road,
Maidstone ME15 8AW

