

# SEND Local Offer Annual Report

## April 2018 to March 2019



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## 1. Summary

The [Local Offer](#) is what's on offer for children and young adults with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in East Sussex.

East Sussex County Council must consult children, young people and parents and carers when reviewing the Local Offer. We must also write an annual report like this. ([SEND \(local offer\) regulations 2014](#)).

This report shows:

- **feedback** from children, young people and parents and carers about the Local Offer.
- **action** we have taken to in response to that feedback.



The focus this year has been on increasing the participation of children and young people in developing services and strategy. Young people were involved in a range of participation activities, including the Speak Up, Speak Out event.

Parents and carers gave online feedback about the web information and commented on social media, in working groups and consultations to support the development of services.

The Local Offer Working Group includes parent carers, health services, schools, community services and County Council services. The group supports the development of the Local Offer. This is part of a joint [SEND Strategy](#) to improve services and support for children and young people with SEND.

## 2. Involving children and young people

### The Able Group

[The Able Group](#) is a disabled young people's voice group which started in 2018. They gave their views for the SEND Strategy and took part in Takeover Day and gave their views about mental health. They helped to run the Speak Up Speak Out event.

### Speak Up Speak Out event

58 young people with additional needs came from 13 schools and took part in games and activities to give their views. They told us what is important to them at school, when planning for the future, in their free time and at health appointments. They also said how they like to speak up for themselves and other young people. The [event report](#) shows the young people's views and what we are going to do in response.

### Plans for next year

We will continue to develop the involvement of children and young people at an individual, service and strategic level as part of the SEND Strategy. We will create a network of school and youth groups who want to speak up. We will give schools and services guidance on how to involve young people.

## 3. Involving parents and carers

We have continued to work with East Sussex Parent and Carer Forum (ESPaCC) throughout the year. They are on the Local Offer Working Group to help us develop web information and have worked with East Sussex County Council and health services on a number of areas:



[ESPaCC's report on achievements for 2018 to 19](#)

## 4. Improving Local Offer web information

### Young people

At the Speak Up, Speak Out event, young people said they like to use YouTube for information. They also said they want more careers information and information on things to do in their free time.

In response to this feedback, we have made a plan to make the Local Offer easier to use. In particular, we aim to improve our listings of services, and our information about support available at school.

We will improve the online careers information for young people, focussing on the things they have said are important to them.

## Parents and carers

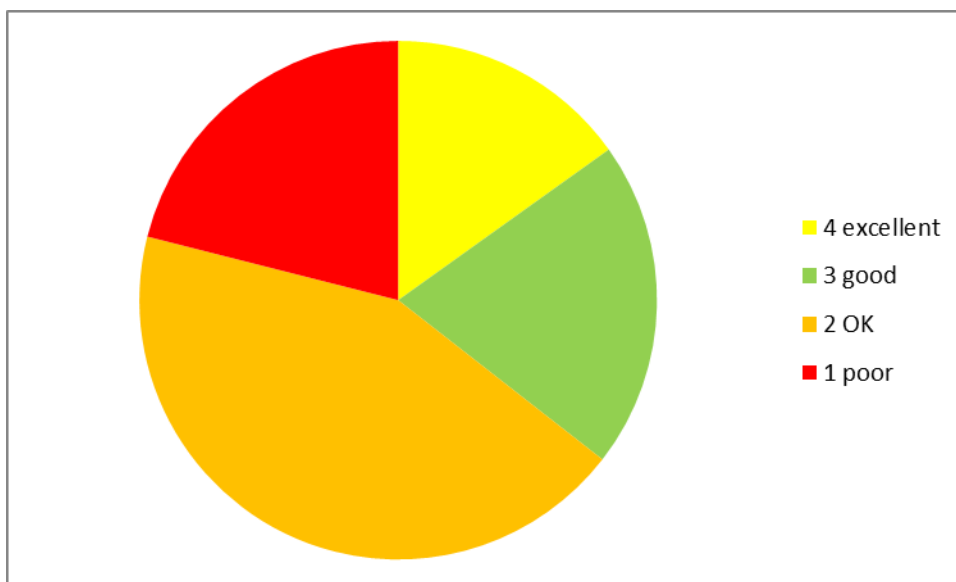
Parents, carers and service providers gave feedback on a rating scale on the Local Offer web pages.

### Was this page helpful?

Click or tap the rating which best represents your experience.



In the year we had 152 responses. 79% (120 people) felt the page they were commenting on was OK, good or excellent, but a significant number of these (66) rated it as just 'OK'. 21% (32 people) felt the page they were commenting on was poor.



42/152 people gave additional comments, for example:

- more detailed information on the early years and school SEN support pages, and the Education, Health and Care plan pages.
- add information on primary to secondary school transition.
- improve information on options after school
- show information on what you get with an i-go leisure card
- improve information for parents about mental health services/ supporting child with anxiety
- better services directory

We are using this feedback in our web development plan for 2019 to 2020.

## 5. Improving ISEND support services

We asked children and parents who used our Inclusion and Special Educational Needs and Disability (ISEND) Services to complete surveys.

This was done when the case was closed or at fixed points e.g. every two terms if support was longer term.

One of the key questions we asked was 'Have things changed for the better as a result of support from ISEND?' 83% (339) of parents and 72% (326) children said things have changed for the better. We looked at their feedback to make improvements. The [You said, we did annual report for Children's services](#) shows changes made to some of the ISEND services, and other Children's services as a result of feedback.