



Information, Advice and Support Kent

A service for special educational needs and disabilities – helping you make informed choices

Volunteer Independent Supporter

Role DESCRIPTION

Purpose:

- To provide independent advice and support to parents of children with special educational needs and disabilities and young people** who have a disability or special educational need.
- To help prepare and support parents and young people in meetings relating to the child/young person's special educational needs
- To work with parents of children who are having an education, health care needs assessment and young people having an assessment.

Person Specifications:

- Good listening/ communication skills
- Computer skills
- Keen and willing to learn
- Knowledge or experience of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
- Aware of SEN legislation and reforms
- Understand and be committed to equal opportunity
- Understand the need for confidentiality

Duties:

Empowering parents, children and young people by:

- offering support and information
- ensuring knowledge of rights and responsibilities
- helping to fill in forms/write letters
- helping to prepare for, and possibly accompany to meetings
- helping parents, children and young people to have their views and opinions heard
- sign-posting to other sources of information as required.

* When referring to parents this also includes carers

**Young person means a person 16 – 25 over