

How can an Independent Supporter help me or my family?

- We can explain the local offer, what this means and where to find it
- We can help to talk you through the referral process
- We can give you a named person to talk to about your Education Health and Care Plan - whether it is a new plan or you are transferring from a SEN Statement or Learning Disability Assessment
- We can help you write your one page profile making sure all the information you want is included
- Talk to other people involved with your plan and help you get all the information you need making sure you views and wishes are included
- Talk to you about personal budgets
- Tell you who else may be able to help you if we can't

To contact Independent Supporters in Lancashire, Blackpool or Blackburn with Darwen you can phone us on 01772 629470 or email

IndependentSupporters@barnardos.org.uk

cathy.trengove@barnardos.org.uk

christine.harrison@barnardos.org.uk

lorraine.moody@barnardos.org.uk

We will be happy to answer any questions you may have ☺



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EDUCATION, HEALTH AND CARE PLANS

What is an Education, Health and Care plan?

From September 2014 Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans will start to replace Statements of special educational needs and Learning Difficulty Assessments. EHC plans will focus on what a child or young person* wants to achieve and what support is needed to do this.

Having an EHC plan means the different agencies that provide your education, health and social care support will need to work more closely together to help you achieve your goals and make sure you are supported in the best way possible.

Who will get an EHC plan?

EHC plans will be for children and young people who have a special educational need or disability that cannot be met by support that is usually available in a school or college. EHC plans can continue until you are 25 but it will stop if you:

- go to university
- get a job
- tell your local authority you no longer want your EHC plan, or
- the local authority thinks you no longer need it. For example, following a review, because you have achieved the educational goals written in the plan and no longer need additional special educational help.

Independent Supporters will be available to help children and young people and their families who are having an EHC assessment, or moving from their statement of special educational needs to an EHC plan. You can find out more about Independent Supporters from your local authority or an impartial information, advice and support service.

* A child is a person under compulsory school age. A young person is a person over compulsory school age but under 25. A person is no longer of compulsory school age after the last day of summer term during the year in which they become 16.



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