



Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004 Sources of Support and Advice within Perth and Kinross

Where can I find support and advice in relation to additional support needs?

- **Education and Children's Services (ECS)**

Normally information about additional support for learning is available in the first instance from your child's school/nursery and on the Perth and Kinross Council website. Further to this, information and support is available from Education and Children's Services which comprise:

- ❖ Children's Services (Social Work including Child Health)
- ❖ Educational Psychology Service
- ❖ Service Managers (Support for Young People and School Improvement)
- ❖ Pre-school Home Visiting Service
- ❖ Visiting Services (Hearing Impairment, Visual Impairment, English as an Additional Language)
- ❖ Peripatetic Behaviour Support Service

The Additional Support for Learning Co-ordinator is part of Education and Children's Services.

Tel: 01738 476390
Website: www.pkc.gov.uk

- **Educational Psychology Service**

Within Perth & Kinross every school links with a psychologist whose job is to give support and advice to school staff and other professionals. Psychologists also give support and advice to families and young people. Often this advice and support is about additional support needs. An educational psychologist might be asked to help with aspects of learning and development, friendships or bullying issues, when a young person is having difficulty at school or home or when things at home or at school are causing distress.

The psychologist might do a number of things such as talk and listen to the young person, look at school work or drawings, use assessment materials, and observe in the classroom and other places. The psychologist might also attend meetings regarding the young person concerned, work alongside other professionals who also have an involvement or give direct ongoing support to children and young people. In the first instance, the educational psychologist would offer to discuss your concerns and agree whether involvement is appropriate and what form this should take.

Tel: 01738 476280

- **Community Link Workers**

Community Link Workers work with young people and their parents to enhance the educational achievement and attainment of young people by encouraging good communication between schools, home and the wider community. This is done by offering individual support to parents and families, group work with young people and adults and through family learning activities.

Young people can be supported by the Community Link Worker if they need help with their attendance at school or with particular issues which may be making school difficult for them. Parents can be given support with their own learning through courses such as Handling Children's Behaviour, Literacy and Numeracy and Introductory Computing Skills.

Community Link Workers also play a key role in supporting young people and parents at important times in a young person's life e.g. the transition stages from nursery to primary and primary to secondary.

If you would like to talk to a Community Link Worker, they can be contacted through the following schools:

Crieff High School
The Community School of Auchterarder
Kinross High School
Perth Academy
Blairgowrie High School/Alyth Primary School
Perth High School
St Columba's RC High School
Perth Grammar School/North Muirton Primary School
Perth Academy/Goodlyburn Primary School

- **Health Service**

Support from Health Professionals includes help from School Health Nurses, Paediatricians, Speech and Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists. These professionals work in close partnership with other Healthcare Professionals as well as colleagues in Education, Social Work and Voluntary Sector. There is a series of leaflets specifically about Health Professionals and these can be found on the Learning and Teaching website (www.ltscotland.org.uk).

- **Children's Services (Social Work)**

Social workers, located in teams across Perth and Kinross, provide a wide range of family support and intervention where there is an assessed need or risk.

Services provided include advice and practical support to parents; help to address family conflict, offending and challenging behaviour and school attendance issues. Direct work is also undertaken with vulnerable children and young people.

The Child Health Team offer support and respite for families where children have the most profound disabilities.

Referrals can be made through:-

Duty Child Protection Team	Pullar House, Perth	01738 476768
Crieff Team	35 James Sq. Crieff	01764 657510
Blairgowrie Team	2 Balmoral Rd. Rattray	01250 872255

- **Parent to Parent**

Parent to Parent is a voluntary organisation which supports parents/carers of children with additional needs, whether physical, learning, emotional, medical or behavioural. The service is usually delivered in the family's own home.

In Perth and Kinross there are two Family Workers who are parents themselves and understand the problems many families face bringing up children. They also have experience of children with additional needs. The Family Workers can offer a listening ear, provide support and/or advocacy at meetings, offer advice about local services and benefits and offer help with parenting.

There is an open referral system so anyone can contact the organisation e.g. parents, health visitors, teachers.

Tel: 01382 455200
Email: moira.bisset@parent-to-parent.org

- **Open Minds - ENABLE**

Open Minds in Perthshire (previously Perth Action on Autism) transferred services to ENABLE Scotland in 2006. ENABLE Scotland are a national campaigning voluntary organisation whose vision is a society where children and adults with a learning disability are full and contributing members of the community. OM-E currently provide a range of support services for children (pre-school onwards) and young adults with significant additional support needs and sometimes challenging behaviour. The majority of children and adults who are referred for service support, experience learning disabilities.

Referrals for daytime/residential respite, daycare, home care, supported living and alternative provision for children unable to attend school, are received from and funded by Education and Children's Services and Adult (Learning Disability) Services.

Contact: Fiona McGillivray, Service Manager.
Tel: 01738 449347
Fax: 01738 449965
Email: open.minds@enable.org.uk

- **Careers Scotland**

Careers Scotland delivers an all age guidance service which offers a range of career planning, employability and information services. Each secondary school in Perth & Kinross has a Careers Adviser who sees pupils on a 1:1 basis and offers support and advice to Parent/carers and professionals related to making well informed career decisions.

The Key Worker Service supports vulnerable young people with a variety of additional support needs to make and sustain successful transitions to employment, training or Further Education. This service is client centred, flexible and responsive to individual need.

The service is free and independent. More information can be found on the website: www.careers-scotland.org.uk or by contacting the local Careers Centre in Highland House, St Catherine's Road, Perth during office hours.

Tel: 01738 637639

- **Independent Advocacy Perth and Kinross**

Independent Advocacy aims to provide support for all people with a mental disorder as defined by the Mental Health (Care & Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003, not only those subject to compulsory measures. Support is for those who feel unable to represent themselves and / or do not have anyone to speak on their behalf. For example, an independent advocate will, if you wish, help you prepare and accompany you to meetings. Independent Advocacy is free, confidential and independent from other service provider agencies.

Tel: 01738 587887

Email: enquiry@iapk.org.uk

- See other Information Sheets in the series:

- Sheet 1 Introducing the Act
- Sheet 2 New Rights for Parents, Children and Young People
- Sheet 3 Providing Additional Support
- Sheet 4 Identifying, Monitoring, and Reviewing Additional Support Needs
- Sheet 5 Educational Plans
- Sheet 6 Additional Support Meetings
- Sheet 7 Resolving Disagreements
- Sheet 9 Providing Additional Support for Children Under 5
- Sheet 10 Individualised Educational Programmes (IEP)
- Sheet 11 Transitions
- Sheet 12 Preparing for Adulthood – Post School Transitions

These are also available online at www.pkc.gov.uk and follow the path:
Education and Learning, Schools, Schools – Additional Support Needs – Information Sheets

If you or someone you know would like a copy of this document in another language or format, (on occasion only a summary of the document will be provided in translation), this can be arranged by contacting:- Communication Manager on 01738 476873.