

PUBLICATIONS

This leaflet is one of a range of information leaflets specifically produced for parents.

As they are written for parents, please feel free to comment on the range and content and let us know if you think they can be improved in any way



Wigan Parent Partnership Service also publishes a newsletter which is sent out to all schools in Wigan each term. It is also distributed to support groups, other agencies and individual parents by request. With over 1800 copies circulated, it is a very useful way of exchanging information, publicising forthcoming events for parents and also advertising various support groups.

If you wish to be included on the mailing list, or indeed have any comments to make please contact the service at the address below. We are keen to hear your views on any aspect of Special Educational Needs.

This leaflet is from a range of information produced by Children & Young People's Service and Wigan Parent Partnership Service. Topics include: - Statutory Assessment, Statementing: Disagreement Resolution Service, Tribunals: Annual Review & Transition: etc.

If you would like to access more information, please contact:
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Progress House, Westwood Park Drive,
Wigan, WN3 4HH Tel: 01942 486131
e-mail sheila.robinson@wiganmbc.gov.uk

Further information may also be available from the Access & Inclusion Team - Tel: 01942 486132



If you need information in another format eg larger print, Braille, audio, or in a language other than English, please contact us on:
Tel: 01942 486131



Children and Young People's Service in conjunction with



Local Authorities are under a statutory duty to provide a Parent Partnership Service. Wigan PPS is funded by Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council and managed by Children & Young People's Services

**FOR PARENTS/CARERS OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE
OR MAY HAVE SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS**

A Guide to Parent Partnership Service



Wigan Parent Partnership Service is committed to providing a flexible and supportive service which is responsive to the individual needs and gives all parents the opportunity to be effectively involved in their child's education.

Wigan Parent Partnership service aims to promote effective working partnerships between parents and schools, local authority, voluntary organisations and other agencies.

How does Parent Partnership Service help?

The service aims to provide parents with help, information and support. It strives to enable parents to become more effective partners in the identification and assessment of special educational needs and the provision required in meeting those needs.

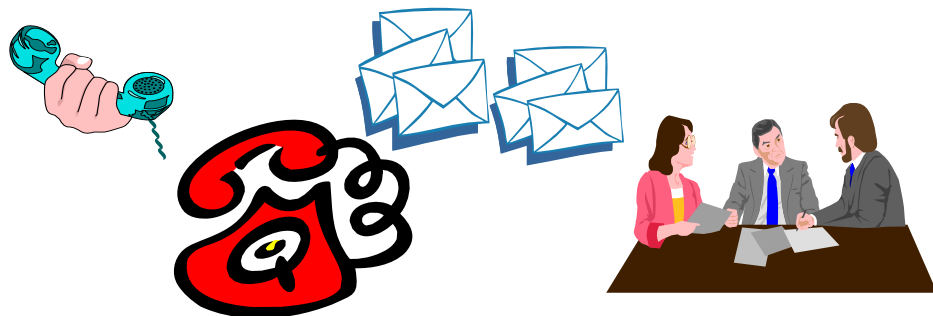
Wigan Parent Partnership can help you with:-

- ❖ One to one information, guidance and support
- ❖ Personal & Confidential help
- ❖ Impartial information about special educational needs
- ❖ Locating and signposting on to other sources of advice, information or support
- ❖ Suggestions about working with those involved with your child's education

Any reference to 'parent' is also intended to have equal reference to carers, and any others who have parental responsibility for a child.

How do I contact the service?

Anyway you prefer! -telephone, letter, e-mail etc.
Please feel free to telephone, (the details are on the back of this leaflet).
However, due to the demands on the service, there may be times when your call cannot be answered and you may be asked to leave a message on the telephone answer machine.
In these cases, every effort will be made to return your call as soon as possible.
Similarly, although happy to receive visitors, it would always be advisable to ring beforehand to ensure that someone is available to meet with you.



What if I don't live in Wigan but my child attends a Wigan school?

All areas are now required to have a Parent Partnership Service and Wigan Parent Partnership has links with many, so would be happy to advise you of your local contact.

Are all Parent Partnership Services the same?

Not necessarily. All services will operate to achieve a similar standard but may vary how they actually deliver the service. It has long been recognised that it is more important that the service reflects the needs of the local area. Wigan's Parent Partnership Service is a member of the North West & Merseyside Parent Partnership Consortium (NWPPC). This group meet regularly to discuss and review service provision. Collectively, they can inform development of the service at regional and national level and constantly strive to raise standards.

Who is the service for?

The service is for parents/carers of children (aged 2-19), who live within the borough and have special educational needs. The service also aims to support anyone working with these children.

Wigan Parent Partnership Service is committed to the following principles and values:-

- ❖ Equality -The service operates an open access policy. It aims to ensure that all parents have the same ease of access and are not restricted for any reason. The intention being to remove any barriers (real or perceived) eg. disability, cultural or language differences.
- ❖ Impartiality - The intention is to provide information to enable parents to their own informed choices. It is not the role of the service to give direct advice concerning an individual child, but to remain impartial in respect of information and support it provides.
- ❖ Confidentiality - Client confidentiality is respected. Information will be shared only with the understanding and consent of the parents.
- ❖ Independence – The service can 'signpost' parents to alternative sources of support.