**Local Offer...**

The Local Offer will put all the information about Education, Health, Social Care, leisure activities and support groups in one place.

Every Local Authority must publish a Local Offer for Children and Young People from 0 to 25 with additional needs. National and out of County services will also be listed.

**Personal Budgets...**

The new EHC plans could come with the option of a Personal Budget for families who meet the criteria.

Having a Personal Budget will give your family flexibility on how you use the money for your Child/Young Person, but a Personal Budget will also mean some extra responsibility and may not be for everyone. It will be optional.

**For further information...**

Department for Education website
www.education.gov.uk

East Sussex County Council
www.eastsussex.gov.uk SE7

Pathfinder website
www.se7pathfinder.co.uk

If you have queries or concerns about these changes, or for general advice and support about your child's special educational needs, please contact Information for Families
03456080192 or email
informationforfamilies@east.sussex.gov.uk

**How can I get involved...**

If you are a Parent or Carer, please contact the East Sussex Parent and Carers’ Council for more details
admin@eastsussexpacc.org
07432 067242

www.eastsussexpacc.org

We will be running an SEN Reforms roadshow for Parents.

Four information sessions held over two days across the County.

Tuesday 4 March— 9.45 to 11.45am
Bexhill Museum

Tuesday 4 March— 1.00 to 3.00pm
St Elisabeths Church, Eastbourne

Wednesday 5 March— 12.30 to 2.30pm
Denton Island, Newhaven

Wednesday 5 March— 6.00 to 8.00pm
Uckfield Civic Centre, Uckfield

**Limited Places**

Book Using Our Online Booking Form or contact as above

This leaflet has been written by East Sussex Parents and Carers of Children and Young People with additional needs, and is intended as an introduction to the changes in SEN (special educational needs) that will be happening from September 2014.
Introduction...

ESPaCC has been working alongside Professionals and other Parent and Carer Forums throughout the Country to test a new way of working to support Children and Young People with SEN or disabilities.

Our Parent Reps have helped make sure that the voice of East Sussex families has been heard.

Background...

East Sussex is currently part of the South East Seven (SE7) pathfinder authorities. SE7 is made up of Brighton & Hove, East Sussex, West Sussex, Hampshire, Kent, Medway and Surrey. These Local Authorities are all working together to test the ideas set out in the Government’s Green Paper published in March 2011

Why is it happening...

The hope is to develop an SEND system that is fairer to everyone, and to help families achieve appropriate outcomes for their Children and Young People.

When is it happening...

These changes will come into effect from September 2014.

My Child currently has a Statement of SEN...

All Children/Young People who currently have a Statement of SEN will have this converted to the new Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). This will start to happen from September 2014.

The current Statement focuses on educational needs, the new EHCP will be a single, joined up assessment process with health and social care, shaped by parents, professionals and, the Young Person. The EHCP will focus on positive outcomes for the whole family in all areas of their lives.

Will this affect my family...

EHCPs will come into effect from September 2014. Until then your Child/Young Person’s Statement of SEN will not change. It is a legal document and it will continue to be maintained by the Local Authority. Any amendments must be made in accordance with the law as set out in the Code of Practice. From September 2014, the Local Authority will start issuing new EHC plans (if they are requested) and begin converting Statements of SEN to EHC plans.

Do I need to do anything...

Not at the moment; we are awaiting Government guidance on how SEN Statements will be converted to EHCPs.

My child is on School Action or School Action Plus...

There will be a single category which will be supported by a school based plan. All schools now have the money in their own budget to support Children within this category.

All school s will have a Local Offer, which will show what support they can give and how they will actually do this.

Will this affect my family...

From September 2014 you should be better informed as to how your school is supporting your Child and you should have the opportunity to discuss and develop how school resources are used for Children with SEND.

Do I need to do anything...

Not at the moment.

My child is aged 16 or 19 and going through transition...

There will no longer be a Learning Difficulties Assessment, but an EHCP may be maintained until they are 25.

How will this affect my family?

From September 2014, if the Young Person has an EHC plan, their plan will remain in effect as long as they are in an educational setting.

Do I need to do anything?

Not at the moment. A transition worker will contact you to discuss the options available.