

## Answers to your questions

April 2022

We have taken the questions you asked us to SCC for a response. Please see the answers to these below.

This will be a regular communication with our members, so please keep the questions coming. Also please let us know if you need further information or clarification of the answers.

You can email your questions to [contact@familyvoicesurrey.org](mailto:contact@familyvoicesurrey.org) or complete the online form using this link [Tell us your story | family-voice-surrey \(familyvoicesurrey.org\)](https://www.familyvoicesurrey.org/tell-us-your-story)

**Q - Post 16:** There are still many areas in Surrey where there are no after school activities for children in the 16+ age group to attend and many parents have to travel for one hour one way to take their children to after school activities. Some of the clubs are really unhelpful, they are offered really late at night during the week and it's very hard for kids to attend something that they get home from at 9pm at night. Parents would like more youth clubs on Friday nights that are safe for their teenagers and young adults to attend, maybe in a school hall or something. They would like to be able to drop them off so their kids can gain more independence and parents can also have a break from having to attend another activity with their child. It would be nice if there were more dance groups and swimming classes for kids in Guildford.

- Conversations with the providers might be helpful to see if there is any flexibility on the days and times groups can be offered.
- The Children with disabilities team support children and families through short breaks, information can be found at the surrey website- [Surrey Short Breaks statement 2021 - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/short-breaks)
- Contact can be made with the short breaks team via this link- [Surrey Short Breaks for Disabled Children - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/short-breaks-for-disabled-children)
- Any community groups including scouts, guides, and venturers should be local and inclusive.
- Surrey Youth focus identifies opportunities for new development and parents can sign up to social media - <https://surreyyouthfocus.org.uk/>
- If we can be provided of details where there are gaps we can pass this to the commissioning teams.

**Q - Inclusion:** What is the correct procedure if a parent thinks their child should get Surrey Online School and the school is deflecting the question or says no?

Surrey Online school can be accessed via the resource that the school has allocated to them to support the child so there should not be a situation where a school is not in a position to

offer Surrey Online School if it is appropriate to needs. Surrey Online School can be offered to any child where they are having difficulty attending school in person.

[SOS - Surrey online school](#)

### **Q - Should all children with persistent attendance issues, say more than 6 months, related to anxiety be on the SEN register?**

It may not be necessary for a child in these circumstances to be on the SEN register.

Families can find additional support and advice on the Mindworks website:

[Advice, information and resources :: Mindworks Surrey \(mindworks-surrey.org\)](#)

In addition to this every school will have an SEN statement of how they meet the needs of children within their setting, these can be accessed through the schools website

The EP service has a wealth of resources available and also bookable consultation can be made by a school where they have ongoing concerns for advice and support

For any child, where there is a concern about their progress, they should be identified on the SEN register through SEN support.

If medical needs are persistent and enduring schools should be guided by advice from the GP in the first instance for any medical needs and can provide support as outlined in the NICE guidance.

[Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

### **Q - Parents are still asking repeatedly about specialist provision for academically able children.**

The national autistic society has worked closely with Surrey County Council to develop tailored provision through Cullum centres, three are three centres across the county and in response to growing need the place planning team are working with more schools to offer centre provision to meet the needs of academically able children and young people with Autism. Details of the centres can be found in the 'finding the right school' brochures for both primary and secondary schools.

Primary- [Finding the right primary school in Surrey - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](#)

Secondary - [Finding the right secondary school in Surrey for children with special educational needs and disabilities - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](#)

### **Q - Is this in SCC's sufficiency plan?**

Yes copies can be found here [School Organisation Plan 2020 to 2030 \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](#)

The JSNA is currently being revised and will be available by September 2022

### **Q - Who can refer to A2E is this the school or LA or can either do it?**

It is usual for the school to make any referral to A2E, however where a child does not have a school placement provision will be made via the LAs Children Missing Education

arrangements. If the child is not accessing school, or there is a difficult relationship with the school, the senior case manager for the child should make a referral into the service.

**Q - Are SENCOs being told to update EHCPs? Parent was told this by a SENCO. What measures are in place to monitor this?**

SENCOs can make recommendations and tracked changes as part of the annual review process, alongside other professionals. Amendment notices are issued by Surrey County Council once all of the relevant information has been reviewed following an annual review meeting.

**Q - Why does Surrey have no post-18 ARFID service and what is being/can be done to rectify this situation?**

ARFID services should be offered through the Adult mental health services which can be accessed through a referral via the GP.

**Q - How do parents put EOTAS packages together when children and YP are unable to leave the house?**

If a child is on the roll of a school but not attending, the school will need to consider the support, provision and services that are best placed to re-engage that child back into education. For instance, for a child absent from school because they are suffering from anxiety, the school might look to their allocated EP, Primary Mental Health Worker or Inclusion Officer for advice and possible package of support.

For a child without a school placement the LA would need consider what suitable interim arrangements and provision need to be in place for that child whilst an appropriate school is found for them.

Any provision that is in place for a child or young person who are unable to access school provision, should have transition in mind, and next steps of learning. It is advised that you discuss any options with your case officer in the first instance and review the local offer for support and advice.

[Education Otherwise than at School \(EOTAS\) – SEND Advice Surrey](#)