

Local Authority phone calls to parents with children and young people with Education Health and Care plans.

The Local Authority will begin to make phone calls to parents with children and young people with Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans at this unprecedented time. This is not only necessary, following guidance from the Department of Education, but important so that we can 'check in' with you. We know for some that you have other services involved and they too may be contacting you. We also know that you will all be linking closely with the nursery, school or college setting that your child attends. The task the Local Authority needs to complete is to undertake a risk assessment that determines if children with an EHC plan should attend their educational setting or be at home. We have already asked educational settings to help us and they have provided us with their views. We anticipate that they have discussed this with you. Our phone call will therefore act to compliment this work.

Our main message, which is in line with government guidance, is that for the majority it is safer for children to be at home. It is not the case that where children have an EHC plan they can attend their educational setting. Rather a number of factors need to be considered to determine if this is appropriate. For a handful of children where it is felt they should attend their educational setting we anticipate that the nursery, school or college will have already discussed this with you.

Phone calls will start during the week beginning 27th April 2020. We have quite a few to make so it may take a little time to get to you. Officers making the calls will be from the education department in the Council.

For your information we have uploaded lots of new resources on the SEND local offer (www.telfordsend.org.uk). Please do browse we hope some of the resources are helpful.

Finally we want to pass on our very best wishes to all our families and children and young people who have SEND. This is an interesting time for us all but we are very mindful of the additional challenges some of our families face and we work with our partners to support you over the coming weeks.

Very best wishes

Simon Wellman

Service Delivery Manager for SEND, Telford and Wrekin Council



Local Offer Resources to support wellbeing and learning

A new section has been created on the Local Offer to support professionals, parents, carers and young people.

It can be found on the home page of the Local Offer:

[Resources for learning and wellbeing for all children, including those with SEND.](#)

The information is presented in easy to use sections which include:

- Stories that explain Coronavirus
- How parents can support children
- Mindful and relaxation exercises that can be done with younger children to manage anxiety.
- Helping children with special educational needs and disabilities.
- Inclusive resources
- Activities for children
- BEAM: contacts and service information
- Supporting children and young people with Autism
- Supporting children and young people with Learning Disabilities
- Support and advice for Professionals, Settings and Family Carers

The resources are updated on a regular basis so do keep a lookout for new information and activities throughout the week.

www.telfordsend.org.uk



For local information and advice
for vulnerable people, businesses
and families, visit:

www.telford.gov.uk/coronavirus

