

News for families who have children with additional needs and the professionals who work with them

New Rights for Children with Additional Support Needs

As of 10th January 2018 there has been a significant change in the rights of children with ASN's in Scotland aged 12-15 years under the Education (Scotland) Act 2016.

They will now have the same rights as parents/carers & young people over 16 under additional support for learning legislation, to be much more involved in their support at school.

Once a child reaches 12 years they will be able to:

- ask their school or local authority to find out if they need extra support
- have a say in plans and decisions made about the support they get
- advocacy at meetings about their support needs to help them share their views, question some plans or make an appeal about certain issues if they are unhappy with the support provided
- be more involved in resolving disagreements about their support

Enquire have produced a guide with additional factsheets on the Act;

<http://enquire.org.uk/asl/new-rights-children-additional-support-needs/>

The Scottish Government explain the amendment; <https://news.gov.scot/news/meeting-the-needs-of-young-people-2>

The **CHIP** Additional Support for Learning full guide is being updated to reflect the legislation changes; <http://www.chipplus.org.uk/userfiles/file/education/master-asl-guide-fifth-edition-jan-17.pdf>

We would like to ask for your feedback on our service if we have helped you at all at any point. It is a very short survey with only 3 questions and we'd be really grateful for your participation. Go to <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/XV5RNPV>





Scottish
Commission for
Learning Disability

The SCLD publishes statistics of adults (16+) with learning difficulties who are known to local authorities every year. Their 2017 report can be downloaded from their website & includes information on living accommodation, further education & employment opportunities. Go to <https://www.sclld.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/2017-Learning-Disability-Statistics-Scotland-3.pdf>

IEP Guidance

Check the Education section on the **CHIP** website to view guidance notes on the process of setting up an Individualised Education Programme for pupils. Includes; what is an IEP, which pupils should have an IEP, what is included and who is involved in the process. Go to <http://www.chipplus.org.uk/education>



A seminar from Falkland House School, one of Scotland's leading schools for boys with additional support needs, addressing the legal rights of young people with additional support needs, has proved to be very popular and is now fully booked.

Iain Nisbet, independent education law consultant is the guest speaker, talking about parent & children's rights, rights to assessment & support and school placement rights. Iain has a particular expertise and interest in additional support needs law and equality law in education and the implications of GIRFEC for schools.

CHIP will have an information stall there on Thursday, 8th February 2018 in the Mercure Hotel, Church St, Inverness, IV1 1DX from 10am till 1pm. Parents can come along at the end if they want to talk to **CHIP**.



Connecting Carers
A better life for unpaid carers in Highland

On 1st April, 2018 the eight duties that make up the Carers (Scotland) Act will be fully implemented. The Act extends & enhances the rights of carers in Scotland and at their Highland-wide consultation they ask 3 questions; How to involve carers to shape services, What do short breaks mean to carers & Understanding the eligibility framework. Register to attend at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/united-kingdom--united-kingdom/connecting-carers/?crt=regular&sort=best>. Scroll down to find your area. Full details on Carer News is on the **CHIP** website <http://www.chipplus.org.uk/news/2018/jan/25/carers-scotland-act-2016>

There's a new Learn to Swim scheme being run from January to March at Drummond School pool, Inverness for children with learning, sensory or physical disabilities aged from P2 to S2. Running from Friday 19th January to 23rd March, this weekly, free swimming lesson is from 4-5pm and parents are asked to help & support in the pool. Poster & booking form from the **CHIP** website <http://www.chipplus.org.uk/news/2017/dec/5/learn-to-swim>



There is a club in Nairn, the Nairn Saturday Club, run through the National Autistic Society for children with autism and any other additional support needs. It's on every second Saturday of the month and the next meet-up is on 27th January 2018 from 10am. There's a great sensory room and they do crafts & lots of play activities in Grigor House, Cawdor Rd, Nairn, IV12 5ED. Refreshments are provided for the parents/carers at the session too. Check out their facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/NAS-Nairn-Childrens-Group-126834684732285/>

Independent Living Fund Scotland



The new ILF Scotland Transition Fund provides money, for up to one year, to support young people living with disabilities (as defined in the Equality Act 2010) to improve their lives. This includes autism, learning difficulty, physical disability, mental health (e.g. anxiety or depression) or hearing or visual impairments.

The purpose of the Fund is to help young people, between the ages of 16 and 21 living with disabilities, with the transition after leaving school or children's services to be more independent and to continue spending time with other people.

Who can apply- <http://ilf.scot/transition-fund/who-can-apply/>

What can the money be used for - <http://ilf.scot/transition-fund/what-can-the-money-be-used-for/>



Listening. Informing. Empowering.

There is still time to have your say on the Scottish Government's

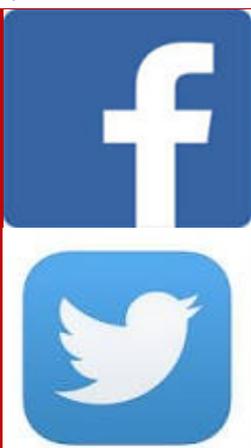


Consultation on the Presumption of Mainstreaming. It is intended to provide guidance on applying the presumption and looks to encourage a child centred approach to making decisions about placement. As the implementation of the presumption of mainstreaming requires a commitment to inclusive practice and approaches to be effective, the guidance clearly links inclusive practice with the presumption throughout and includes key features of inclusion and guidance on how to improve inclusive practice in schools. Follow the link here before it closes on 9th February, 2018 <https://consult.gov.scot/supporting-learners/presumption-of-mainstreaming/>

The patient version of SIGN's guidance on autism, for parents/carers has been translated in to Chinese and is now available to download from the SIGN website: http://www.sign.ac.uk/assets/pat145_parents_and_carers_chinese.pdf

The full list of topics with patient versions can be found at: <http://www.sign.ac.uk/patient-publications.html>

Scottish Autism, National Autistic Society (Scotland) and Children in Scotland are working together to collect information about pupils on the autism spectrum and their experiences of school. If your child is regularly out of school or has missed a long period of education in the last two years please take 5 minutes to fill in this survey <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/K2QVSN7>.



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If you would like to be placed on our mailing list or contribute to the bulletin, please contact us

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