

Education for Deaf Children in Norfolk

Norfolk Education Authority has a “County Education Sensory Support Service”, this is a specialist department to support the needs of deaf and visually impaired children in the County.

There is a “Head of Service” who manages a team of teachers of the deaf some of who are based in schools in Norwich and others who travel around schools in Norfolk (peripatetic teachers of the deaf)

For deaf children under school age the teacher of the deaf will visit the home and work with the deaf child usually for about an hour every week until the child starts school.

Most deaf children will have a “Statement of Special Educational Needs” this is a document that states the needs of your child and what provision should be in place to support your child. As your child comes up to school age your teacher of the deaf will usually start this process for you. Sometimes reports are written about your child and you can write a report saying what you think your child needs and your wishes for their education. This is then put together to form the statement which is then sent to you as a draft and you are asked to sign it and accept it.

It is important that you are happy with everything in the statement as it will determine the level and type of support your child will get and it is a legal document.

The statement is reviewed every year at an “annual review meeting” this is when changes can be made and the support increased or changed. Often a deaf child’s needs will change as they grow older so what was right when they started school will often be different as they grow.

There is a range of support around to help you through the
statementing process so please contact us for more information and
see our “which School for my deaf child” fact sheet for more
information on choosing a school

Deaf Connexions produces a range of information sheets covering all
aspects of hearing loss and deafness. If you would like further
information contact :

Deaf Connexions

Unit 14 Capitol House, 2-4 Heigham Street, Norwich, NR2 4TE

Telephone/fax : 01603 660889
Minicom : 01603 661113
E mail : deafconnexions@btconnect.com
Website : www.deafconnexions.org.uk