

Factsheet 4

What is the Local Offer?

The local offer is information published by the local authority (LA).

Under The Children and Families Act 2014 (Section 30) all LAs in England must publish information detailing mainstream and specialist services for children and young people (0 – 25) with special educational needs and disability. This should include both local and national services. The service is mainly web-based, so the LA must publish its arrangements for people without the internet to access the local offer.

The local offer should be more than a simple directory. It must clearly show what provision a local authority expects to be available to support children and young people with SEN or a disability in:

- Education
- Health
- Social Care
- Training provision
- Home to school/college transport arrangements
- Assisting young people to prepare for adulthood

What should you expect to see in your local offer?

At a local level you might expect to see such things as:

- Information about schools' speech, language and communication needs provision e.g. whether there are specialist language units/classes or whether the school has attained 'communication friendly' status
- Whether a school has teachers with specialist qualifications or training
- Whether a school employs speech and language therapist/s
- Information about services across the authority from the voluntary, private and independent sectors

At a national level you might expect to see such things as:

- National organisations such as Afasic who can offer information and support throughout England for children, young people and parent carers.

The local offer is supposed to be revised regularly to take account of parent's views and comments.



To see what else should be in your local offer see pages 55 – 66 of *The Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice: 0 - 25*.