

Process for the Early Identification to the Local Area of Children and Young People with SEND to Torbay Council and Torbay and South Devon Foundation Trust

The 0 to 25 SEND code of practice: a guide for Health Professionals, Advice for Clinical Commissioning Groups, Health Professionals and Local Authorities, published by the DfE and DH in 2016, states that:

Where a health body is of the opinion that a young child under compulsory school age has, or probably has, SEN or a disability, they must inform the child's parents and bring the child to the attention of the appropriate local authority. The health body must also give the parents the opportunity to discuss their opinion and let them know about any voluntary organisations that are likely to be able to provide advice or assistance. This includes the educational advice, guidance and any intervention to be put in place at an early point and before the child starts school. An information sharing protocol between education and health, including seeking parental consent, is important.

The Partners working across the Local Area of Torbay are committed to sharing information on the early identification of children and young people appropriately, as guided by the 0-25 SEND Code of Practice. This will enable the immediate holistic needs of the child and family to be considered in relation to their SEND and consideration of their future individual needs. It will also enable health, education and social care services to plan for the future needs of the Local Area, for instance the number of places that will be needed in a special school or the adaptations that will need to be made to a mainstream school.

The process described below will enable local services to respond both at an individual and strategic level.

For queries about this process, you can speak to the health or social care staff involved in your family's care.

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