

How is the quality of IPSs checked?

We will contact you in a short time of you receiving IPS support to ask if you are happy with the service.

We monitor and supervise IPSs and provide on-going training.

How do I ask for IPS support?

- Contact us on **01392 383080**
- Ask your Parent Support Adviser, SEN Co-ordinator or other professional to pass on your contact details and we will get in touch.
- Write to **Devon Parent Partnership Service, Great Moor House, Bittern Road, Sowton, Exeter EX2 7NL**
- Email us on **parentpartnershipservice-mailbox@devon.gov.uk**
- Find more information at **www.parentpartnershipdevon.org.uk**



www.parentpartnershipdevon.org.uk

01392 383080

Independent Parental Supporters

A guide for parents and carers

Independent Parental Supporters are trained volunteers with Devon Parent Partnership Service offering support and information for parents and carers of children with Special Educational Needs.

What does Devon Parent Partnership Service (DPPS) do?

DPPS is an independent, confidential and free service that provides impartial information and support for parents and carers of children aged 0-19 years with Special Educational Needs (SEN)

Children with SEN include those with:

- behavioural and emotional difficulties
- physical and medical needs
- communication and interaction needs
- cognition and learning difficulties.

What is an Independent Parental Supporter (IPS)?

An IPS is a volunteer who works for the Devon Parent Partnership Service and is:

- trained in SEN and parent support
- Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) checked
- supervised and supported
- impartial and keeps information confidential
- available by arrangement with DPPS.

What does an IPS do?

As a parent you have a wealth of knowledge and understanding about your child that could help schools to achieve the best education outcomes for them. It can be confusing to understand how schools should support children with SEN and sometimes daunting to be a partner in your child's education.

An IPS can support you with:

- providing information
- preparing for and attending meetings
- explaining and helping to fill-in forms and documents
- working in partnership with school
- exploring options and choices
- support with statutory assessments and CAFs.

A full list of how we can help is in our leaflet DPP11 **A guide to Devon Parent Partnership Service**. Ask your school or us for a copy, or look on our website at www.parentpartnershipdevon.org.uk.

What doesn't an IPS do?

An IPS won't:

- talk to anyone else about parents or children unless asked to by you
- make decisions on your behalf
- act as a lawyer, an advocate or an expert
- babysit or childmind.