

## Sunderland Special Educational Needs Information Advise and Support Service

### Impartiality Policy

One of the roles of the Information Advise and Support Service (IASS) is to ensure that children and young people up to 25 years have access to confidential and impartial information, advice and support so they can make informed decisions about their own special educational needs.

The service is impartial of everyone – Local Authorities, schools, colleges, employers, education ideologies, and campaigns.

### How we are impartial

- Sunderland IASS does not stand to gain or lose whatever the outcomes of any discussions may be;
- We reflect your wishes and views
- We provide factual information and advice based on current Special Educational Needs guidance and legislation
- We try to provide you with enough information so they can make your own decisions; not tell you what to do.
- We do not prioritise any impairment, disability or special educational need over another.
- We do not promote any educational philosophy or method over another.

### How we will do this

- When you first contact us we will explain what we do.
- Your views will be respected and reflected by the service. That means we will not take sides or tell you what to do.
- We will give you the information and support you need to make your own choices.
- Information and advice will be in line with national legislation and guidance. This will not necessarily reflect local policy
- We will help you make contact with other organisations including social care and health
- We will not share Information about you with the local authority, any educational establishment or any other agency including employers without your permission.
- We will not share information about you with your families, carers or partners without their permission.

- The only exceptions to this policy will be if we think someone might be hurt or is getting hurt. We **have** to speak to someone if we think you or someone else is in danger of being hurt.

#### How impartiality is ensured

- All IASS staff will receive a copy of this policy
- This policy is published and shared with other Local authority services and other relevant agencies.
- The policy is reviewed annually and amended as required.

Published

To be reviewed