**SEND Local Offer and Voice and Influence Offer**

The Leeds Local Offer website is for those 0-25 years old with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and has been operational since 1 September 2014. The SEND Code of Practice sets out the responsibility of the Local Authority in providing a local offer to families with children with SEND.

The Leeds Local Offer is not just a directory of services, it is the unique place where young people with SEND and their families can provide suggestions for improving services and for new services they need.

The Leeds Local Offer can be found at: <http://www.leedslocaloffer.org.uk>

A key element of the SEND Code of Practice is to involve children and young people with SEND and their families in the review and development of services. This is known as the voice and influence of children, young people, parents and carers.

The Voice and Influence Team within Children and Families service have the responsibility for the Leeds Local Offer and also providing advice guidance and support to teams and services to *strengthen the* voice and influence of children, young people with SEND and their parents and carers in the city.

Our offer to professionals working with children and young people with SEND and their parents and carers is:

**Local Offer**

* To publish service information on the Leeds Local Offer website. If your service isn’t included you can request for it to be added by contacting LLO@leeds.gov.uk
* Sign up to the Leeds Local Offer Network, by being part of the network you will receive a bi-monthly ebulletin that includes service updates, consultations for families, resources and training available to professionals. If you would like to be added to the Leeds Local Offer Network email LLO@leeds.gov.uk
* To promote service updates in the Leeds Local Offer ebulletin. If you have anything you would like sharing with families and professionals please email LLO@leeds.gov.uk and they will be included in the next edition of the ebulletin.
* To publish key service updates and consultations on the Leeds Local Offer facebook group (for parents and carers). If you would like anything promoting on the facebook group email LLO@leeds.gov.uk
* Provide you with the support and resources you require to ensure your service is meeting the needs of families. We will ask you annually (May) to complete the Leeds Local Offer and Voice and Influence Survey. The survey is an opportunity for you to feedback to us on what we can do to further support your service.
* To publish consultation reports / you said we did on the Leeds Local Offer. Email all reports to LLO@leeds.gov.uk

**Voice and Influence of Children & Young People**

* The Local Offer and Voice and Influence coordinator is available to provide information, advice and guidance to services around the consultation and engagement of children and young people with SEND in service review and developments. Kayleigh Thurlow can be contacted at kayleigh.thurlow@leeds.gov.uk or on 07712 214392
* Provide you with the opportunity to consult and provide information about your service to children and young people with SEND. Twice a year we run the SENate event (March & October). The SENate is an opportunity for services to consult with young people with SEND from across Leeds schools and provide them with information about the service you deliver.
* Consultation and engagement with the SEND Youth Forum. The SEND Youth Forum is a virtual network of young people with SEND aged 11 to 25 years old. Young people have signed up to take part in consultations and workshops that enable them to have a voice and influence within the city. To consult with the SEND Youth Forum please contact LLO@leeds.gov.uk
* Recruitment and selection panels are an opportunity for services to include children and young people with SEND in the recruitment of staff. If you would like to involve young people in the recruitment process please contact LLO@leeds.gov.uk
* We are able to support the involvement of children and young people with SEND in commissioning panels. If you would like to involve young people in a commissioning panel please contact LLO@leeds.gov.uk

**Voice and Influence of Parents and Carers**

* The Local Offer and Voice and Influence coordinator is available to provide information, advice and guidance to services around the consultation and engagement of parents and carers of children with SEND in service review and developments. Kayleigh Thurlow can be contacted at kayleigh.thurlow@leeds.gov.uk or on 07712 214392
* Promote online surveys to parents and carers. We have a number of ways to promote online consultation surveys to parents, these include via our Leeds Local Offer facebook group, via EPIC Leeds , via parent support groups in the city and via the Leeds Local Offer ebulletin. If you have any consultations you would like promoting to parents and carers email LLO@leeds.gov.uk
* Recruitment and selection panels are an opportunity for services to include parents and carers of children with SEND in the recruitment of staff. If you would like to involve parents and carers in the recruitment process please contact LLO@leeds.gov.uk
* We are able to support the involvement of parents and carers of children with SEND in commissioning panels. If you would like to involve parents and carers in a commissioning panel please contact LLO@leeds.gov.uk

**Our ask to services**

* Check your information is up to date on the Leeds Local Offer website. We will send out an annual check-up.
* Share articles from the Leeds Local Offer ebulletin with the families you work with.
* Promote the Leeds Local Offer to families. We have flyers available for practitioners to share with the families they work with.
* Inform us of consultation and engagement work you carry out with children and young people with SEND and their families. Forward consultation reports / you said we did to LLO@leeds.gov.uk to be published on the Leeds Local Offer website
* Complete the annual local offer and voice and influence survey (May) to feedback how we can further support you to enable children and young people with SEND and their families to have a voice and influence.

Relevant documents and information for professionals can be found at [SEND Local Offer | Leeds for Learning](https://www.leedsforlearning.co.uk/Page/18104)