



Services for Young Children

Blog article

SEND Local Offer – Support from the Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service (EMTAS)

A number of our providers have now published their service 'offer' on the Hampshire Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Local Offer website. This is a great achievement as Early Years provision has a prominent profile in a resource which continues to be accessed by a growing number of parents, carers and professionals needing to find information and support services.

It has come to our attention however, that there seems to be some confusion regarding the role of the Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service (EMTAS) in supporting Early Years settings based on the information that appears in some of the Local Offers published.

For Early Years, the main communication channel and support is through the EMTAS SEN phone line. Depending on the need, EMTAS will provide information or signpost the enquirer to the Area Inclusion Co-ordinator (Area InCo).

The Area InCo is responsible for all SEN assessment work for pre-school children and where needed the Area InCo can access interpreter support from EMTAS Bilingual Assistants which is chargeable. Where an EMTAS Bilingual Assistant is used to interpret for a child and/or parent(s)/carer(s), they will receive a briefing before interpreting takes place. The session will be led by the Area InCo with the EMTAS Bilingual Assistant interpreting where necessary.

EMTAS Specialist Teachers can offer generic EAL/SEN training to the Area InCos which is also chargeable.

So please can we ask that your published service Local Offer is reviewed and that any necessary changes are made to the information relating to EMTAS. Please also note the spelling of the service – apart from avoiding any confusion, the correct spelling is important for website searching.

For further details about EMTAS visit their website: <http://www.hants.gov.uk/emas>

Details of the EMTAS phone lines can be accessed at:
<http://www.hants.gov.uk/emas-phonelines.htm#phonelines>