

SEND NEWS SPLASH

ISSUE SIXTY ONE
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SENCOs – New Support Service

On 25th January 2021 NASEN will be launching a new SENCO Support Service. This will be managed and delivered by a group of Education specialists, who have a range of 'lived experiences' in SEND. They have been teachers, SENCOs, worked in specialist outreach teams, worked for local authorities and much more.

For more information on this service and how to join visit [Nasen.org.uk](https://www.nasen.org.uk) 

Education Transport - points of contact

In order to provide an improved service, the Education Transport Team would like to introduce two Education Transport Coordinators.

Each Coordinator will be assigned specific schools based upon splitting Swindon into north and south by the railway line, with a few exceptions for parity.

The new Coordinators are Pauline Sheppard, who will be responsible for north, and Allister Monaghan, who will be responsible for south. Out-of-Borough schools are also divided up.

To contact the Education Transport Team and find out more please email: educationtransport@swindon.gov.uk

The SEN Service will continue to process online travel application forms, and assess eligibility. The SEN travel team are available via email sentravel@swindon.gov.uk to answer questions that can't be answered on the [SEN Travel assistance section](#) of the Local Offer, relating to travel options and eligibility. 

The SEND Portal

As you are aware, the SEND Service launched the SEND Portal in September 2020. This is the new online resource which will be used by the SEND Service to gather key information around Education, Health and Care Assessments and Education, Health and Care Plan reviews.

It has been pleasing to see so many of our colleagues using the Portal over the last few months, in a number of ways, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the feedback we have received.

Whilst we work through all the feedback, we have made the decision to continue to accept Annual Reviews submitted outside of the Portal i.e. there will be no mandatory use of the Portal for the submission of Annual Reviews until further notice with this being a longer term aim. However, if colleagues wish to continue using the Portal for their Annual Reviews, this is welcomed.

From 1st January 2021, Requests for Assessment, Requests for a change in High Needs Funding and Professional Advice will not be accepted unless submitted via the SEND Portal.

To view the SEND Portal menu in the Local Offer, [click here](#). 

Meet the SEND Service

We'd like to introduce Lisa Savage, SEND Operations Manager, to the SEND Service Team. Here are some details to get to know Lisa a little bit better.

One thing I like is: In work: The opportunity to make a difference to children and young people's lives is what motivates me. I am fully committed to inclusion. Outside of work: I love Football and support my local team Newport County AFC; and I adore spending time with my cats

One thing I don't like is: In work: Too many complex systems and processes which can create barriers. Outside of work: Ironing.

The best thing about my job is: That I am able to make a positive difference to children and young people with SEND and their families.

Words that describe me: passionate, committed, driven, honest, resilient, inquisitive, curious.

I promise that: I will put the views of children, young people and their families at the heart of all of our work. We will aim to ensure that children and young people get the right support, in the right place at the right time

The best way to communicate with me is: To speak to myself or a colleague please call 01793 464641

To speak to a member of staff, please call 07824 868353 or 07971 715864. Telephone lines are open Monday to Thursday 8-5 and 8-4.30 Friday).

To view more profiles from the SENAT Team on the Local Offer, please [click here](#). 