

## LOCAL OFFER

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK

## NEWSLETTER

*Information for Parents and Young People: Special Educational Needs and Disability 0-25*

The Local Offer is a valuable resource for families and professionals offering information on the services and provisions available in Southwark for children and young people with SEND aged 0-25.

### SHORT BREAKS SURVEY

Are you a parent/carer who looks after a young person with SEND?

Are you a young person with SEND?

If so, please take part in the 'SEND in the Experts' survey.

Southwark Council are researching activity options for young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

This research will allow the Council to understand what activities young people and their parents would like to see available in Southwark.

<http://localoffer.southwark.gov.uk/have->

Send us your comments



**sms**  
southwark music service

Southwark Music Service aims to enrich the lives of all Southwark children and young people by making the learning of music dynamic, energetic, varied and fun. They offer lessons and musical activities using a wide range of instruments and a variety of musical styles.

Find out more about the Southwark Music Service by visiting:

<http://localoffer.southwark.gov.uk/leisure/art-and-music/>



Mencap's brand new online community 'Family Hub' is for parents and family carers of people with a learning disability. It's a community that connects parents who have a child/children with a learning disability, to share your experiences, triumphs and challenges, and to offer support and guidance to others whose family situation is similar to your own.

<http://localoffer.southwark.gov.uk/information-advice-and-support/individual-support-for-families/mencap/>



## Department for Education

### Inspection ready in Southwark

Inspectors will be coming to Southwark sometime in the near future to see how well we have all done implementing the reform laws since September 2014. This Independent inspection will show how the SEN and disability system is performing; which parts are

## Move in the right direction

South Thames College are running a project designed to support young people aged 16-24 with a learning difficulty or disability get on track. The skills programme offers expert advice and guidance, and supports the young person on the chosen pathway whether that's looking for work or getting back into education or an apprenticeship.

<http://localoffer.southwark.gov.uk/youth-offer/employment/employment---self-employment/move-in-the-right-direction/>



The weekly opportunities bulletin provides information on exciting opportunities available to support young people in their participation and progress in education, training and employment and achieve their aspirations.

Check it out regularly to find out what's currently available and ensure you check the closing date for each opportunity so you don't miss out!

<http://localoffer.southwark.gov.uk/youth-offer/employment/weekly-opportunities-bulletin/>

working well and less well and whether outcomes are improving for children and young people. There have been so many changes in the services we provide to families and this will help us to ensure that what we are doing is making an impact and improving outcomes for families.

The framework has now been published and you can see what you might be asked about if you are visited

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-area-send-inspection-framework>

Guy's and St Thomas'   
NHS Foundation Trust

The Guys and St Thomas NHS Foundation Trust are offering a range of training sessions and workshops aimed at parents and carers. These cover areas such as [Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties](#), [Picture Exchange Communication System \(PECS\)](#), [Makaton and Speech, Language and Communication Development](#).

For more information about the training available, including how to apply please visit:

<http://localoffer.southwark.gov.uk/training-and-drop-ins/training-personal-development/training-courses-for-parents-and-carers/>



independent  
support

# FGM Project

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)  
FGM is an illegal, extremely harmful practice and a form of child abuse and violence against women and girls, and therefore should be dealt with as part of existing child and adult safeguarding/ protection structures, policies and procedures.

**Sacred Bodies Project** aims to reduce the risk of girls and young women undergoing Female Genital Mutilation. The project works within FGM practicing communities in South London; creating awareness and highlighting the physical, psychological, emotional effects of FGM on victims; the rights of children and the legal consequences of performing, aiding, abetting, counsel or procuring of FGM in the UK or abroad.

<http://localoffer.southwark.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing/keeping-safe/female-genital-mutilation--fgm-/>

Changes to  
'top up' funding  
for children  
with an EHCP  
from April 2017

An Independent Supporter provides time limited impartial information and support to families and young people with special educational needs who are going through the process of developing an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan.

Find out more by visiting: <https://councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/independent-support/introducing-independent-support/what-does-independent-support-do>

## skills London 2016

**EXCEL LONDON, 9 & 10 DECEMBER 2016**

**Visit London's biggest jobs and careers event**

Skills London is London's biggest jobs and careers event for young people and takes place at ExCeL London 9-10 December 2016.

Aimed at 15-24 year olds, this two day event will provide young people and their families with a rare chance to discover careers through interactive, inspirational activities and demonstrations, and help young people visually bridge the gap between what they enjoy doing and what they could potentially do as a career.

Find out more by visiting: <http://localoffer.southwark.gov.uk/your-offer/things-to-do/events/skills-london-2016/>

Southwark Council are proposing to change the way they fund mainstream settings and schools to support children and young people with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

The Council are consulting on proposals to replace the current two band top up system with a four band structure. They were presented to the October schools forum with a view to implementing the new structure from April 2017 for new EHCP cases in school.

Existing SEN and EHCP children will continue to be funded under the current system and schools will be consulted in early 2017 on a transition process for these cases.

The consultation is open from Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November and will conclude at the end of December. Find out more about the proposals and leave your views by visiting the council's consultation hub:

<https://consultations.southwark.gov.uk/children2019s-and-adults-services/ehcp/>



**SEND in the Experts: 16-25**

Would you like an opportunity to become an active decision maker?

Do you think you could positively represent the view of young

# Sibs

for brothers and sisters  
of disabled children & adults

Sibs exists to support people who grow up with or have grown up with a disabled brother or sister. It is the only UK charity representing the needs of over half a million young siblings and over one and a half million adult siblings.

Siblings have a lifelong need for information, they often experience social and emotional isolation, and have to cope with difficult situations.

They also want to have positive relationships with their disabled brothers and sisters and to be able to choose the role they play in future care and support.

Sibs offers services such as support groups and workshops/training for both families and professionals. They also offer practical information and advice around some of the key issues affecting siblings of disabled children and adults.

<http://localoffer.southwark.gov.uk/information-advice-and-support/individual-support-for-families/sibs--for-brothers-and-sisters-of-disabled-children-and-adults/>



**evenbreak**

Evenbreak is run by disabled people, for disabled people. As a social enterprise they are keen to promote

people?

If so come along and join this excellent forum to shape the services for young people ages 16 to 25.

This is an excellent opportunity, as a member you will be able to;

- attend focus groups
- take part in scheduled phone calls
- take part by completing surveys

Your opinions and ideas are really important in running the forum and improving services for young people in Southwark.

Contact the SIAS Team to get involved:

020 7525 3104

[localoffer@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:localoffer@southwark.gov.uk)



The Southwark IAS and Local Offer Team Annual Performance Report has now been published. The Report provides an overview of the goals, performance, and future development aims of both the Southwark Information, Advice and Support Team and Local Offer.

Download your copy in the 'Have Your Say' section of the Local Offer:

<http://localoffer.southwark.gov.uk/have-your-say/>

a positive image of disabled people in employment, and any surplus income will fund positive publicity campaigns promoting the benefits of employing disabled people, to balance out some of the current negative, and inaccurate, portrayals of disabled people in the media.

<http://localoffer.southwark.gov.uk/yourth-offer/employment/weekly-opportunities-bulletin/>



**See what's New on the Local Offer!**

<http://localoffer.southwark.gov.uk/information-advice-and-support/see-what-s-new-on-the-local-offer/>



## UPCOMING EVENTS

[SEND Masterclass](#)



Can't find what you're looking for on the Local Offer website? Why not send us an [email](#) with the information you are looking for and we will do our best to find it for you



Southwark Council offers a number of different types of **Independent Travel Training** for young people including:

**A to B Travel training** - provides an independent trainer to support a child or young person learning to travel a particular route (for young people with an Education, Health and Care Plan or Statement of Special Educational Needs)

The **Independent travel training bus** - a 90 minute interactive journey. This includes education on personal and road safety whilst traveling alone.

Southwark **Independent Travel Training (SITT)** - a flexible programme, adapted to help each young person throughout their education.

**Cyclist Training** is available free of charge to young people with disabilities or Special Educational Needs.

Find out more by visiting:

<http://localoffer.southwark.gov.uk/tran sport/independent-travel-training/>

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