



7th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly, we hope that you are well and keeping safe during these difficult times.

As you will be aware the current arrangements for school closures remain unchanged until further advice is received from the government. We will ensure you are kept fully informed.

Of course, all our parents/carers and children deserve a BIG thank you for supporting home learning through the SeeSaw programme – this has been a phenomenal success and we hope that you are all enjoying this new learning experience.

For your information the local authority has released details about Mutual aid and community support which is available which is given below:

<h2 style="text-align: center;">Mutual aid and community support – South West Durham</h2>			
Category	Offer	Date and time	Contact
Bishop Auckland Coronavirus Angels 16Tenters Street Bishop Auckland DL14 7AD Areas covered Barnard Castle Bishop Auckland Middleton in Teesdale <u>Shildon</u> Spenny Moor West Auckland And all towns and villages in between in the constituency	Collection of medication, medical supplies, medical equipment from GP surgeries, hospitals and pharmacies. Shopping for food or any essentials needed. Phone calls to people who want a chat or are feeling lonely.	Coronavirus period	Telephone 01388 342022 Email : dehenn.davison.mp@parliament.uk



Durham SENDIASS have devised a guide to help parents, carers and young people (16-25) to continue to access the service during the COVID-19 Outbreak.

Our primary aim is to ensure that we can maintain service delivery in County Durham whilst keeping everyone safe and well.

We are moving all our available resources to a telephone, email and website service delivery model.

We have decided to suspend all face to face contact. This means that we are suspending face to face contact with families and also attending meetings.

We will only allow face to face appointments (at service coordinator's discretion) where it is absolutely critical that advice cannot be delivered over the phone, by email and where resources allow.

Parents, Carers and Young People can continue to access SENDIASS by:

- The SENDIASS helpline (0191 5873541) continues to be operational. Please telephone as normal. If the phonenumber is busy, please leave a voicemail on the answer machine. The answer machine will be checked each day and calls returned promptly.
- Parents, carers and young people can request a telephone appointment.
- Parents, carers and young people can email SENDIASS with your queries or concerns. The team have full access to emails and will respond promptly. Email: SENDIASS@durham.gov.uk
- Parents, carers and young people can access information relating to SEND via the SENDIASS website www.durhamsendiass.info
- Information relating to SEND is also available on the Durham Local Offer www.durham.gov.uk/localoffer
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Durham County Council One |Point service also offers a range of online support sessions for families taking place up to 12th July. Please visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/OnePointCountyDurham/>

Please remember that we are also here to support and advise parents/carers and can be contacted on 01388 772906 or 07545661925 should you need our help.

Once again please take great care and keep safe.

