

What does an SEND inspection mean to me?

If you're a parent carer...

The inspectors will be keen to gather views of **all** parent carers of children and young people with SEND. Before they arrive in Somerset, they will hold a webinar to do this. Please keep an eye on the SCC and Parent Carer Forum social media for more details on how you can take part.

They may also meet with established parent carer groups.

If you're a child or young person...

The inspectors will also be keen to gather your views through meetings at early years, school and college settings.

If you're a practitioner...

The inspectors will want to speak with elected Members, key local area officers from health, education and social care and leaders of early years settings, schools and colleges and specialist services.



Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission have produced 13 videos answering the most asked questions around the local area inspections.

The videos are available to view [here](#).



What an achievement!

Fairmead School would like to share an achievement from pupils in KS4 Design and Technology. The group were involved in a national design competition organised by the Design Museum, London. They had to design an everyday product at a cost of £5 for a retail cost of £10 that could be sold in the museum's shop.

Students worked hard to think of a design, looking close to home at a challenge within school they'd like to overcome. Pupils often struggle to carry plates of food without spilling them which led to the creation of the Fairmead Thumb Spinning Plate.

The design was submitted and out of 14,500 entries, Fairmead have been shortlisted to the **final 10!** The final awards ceremony is in February.

[Click here](#) to see the final 10. Best of luck to Fairmead!

SEND ICT Portal

Have you used My Important Stuff?

You may remember from September's edition that we featured the launch of the paper alternative to the Local Offer; My Important Stuff.

We'd be really keen to hear if anyone has been using My Important Stuff and if so, if you have any feedback on it.

Please [contact the SEND Participation team](#) if you (or anyone you know) have used My Important Stuff.

As part of work to improve the delivery of SEND services, the local authority has been reviewing processes for how we submit initial Education, Health and Care Assessments and annual reviews. It has been agreed that an electronic portal would improve these processes, saving time for practitioners and making the processes more transparent.

Initially schools will use the portal to submit annual reviews electronically, alongside additional self-service functionality, rather than having to contact staff at County Hall for progress updates.

In the longer term, it is hoped that Health will also be able to access this and contribute to EHCPs as well as parent carers and young people themselves.

More details will be shared in the New Year, but if anyone is interested in sharing their views or would like to contribute, please [email Children's Improvement](#).

Dates for your Diary...

Working with Children and Young People who require Personal and Intimate Care

The Physical Impairment and Medical Support team are delivering a half day course on personal and intimate care.

Date: 16 January 2018

Time: 09:30 – 12:30

Venue: Oaklands Primary School, Yeovil

More information available on the [SSE website](#)

Portage Workshop

Education Psychology are delivering a two and a half day course to improve everyday practice and develop inclusion in settings.

Day 1: 8 January 2018, 09:00 – 16:00,
Somerset Centre for Integrated Learning

Day 2: 9 January 2018, 09:00 – 16:00,
Wellsprings Leisure Centre

Day 3: 6 March 2018, 13:00 – 16:00,
Wellsprings Leisure Centre

More information available on the [SSE website](#)

Elklan Autism

Autism and Communication are delivering a two day course to give an understanding of Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) and speech and language development/communication difficulties.

Day 1: 16 January 2018, 09:30 – 15:30,
Somerset Centre for Integrated Learning

Day 2: 30 January 2018, 09:30 – 15:30,
Somerset Centre for Integrated Learning

More information available on the [SSE website](#)

Additional SENCO Forum meeting

An additional SENCO Forum meeting is being held on Tuesday 9 January 2018 at Fairlands Middle School, Cheddar. The meeting will start at 13:30pm and is to discuss feedback from the moderation process.

To keep up to date with training and development opportunities please visit the [SSE website](#).

Do you work directly with children and young people with SEND?

The SEND Participation team would like to expand their network to make sure that children and young people with SEND have the opportunity to feed into strategic decisions and planning.

The team would like to invite you to join their consultation network so that you are aware of these opportunities, have access to tools and resources to consult with young people and be the first to hear about events and activities when they come up.

If you would like to be involved or to find out more, please [email the SEND Participation team](#).



Calling examples of good practice...

Have you come across a situation that you believed was a really good example of:

- Person centred planning
- Child, young person or family participation
- Accurate/accessible information
- Partnership working
- Working with aspirations and outcomes

If so we'd like to hear all about how it made a difference.

Please [contact us](#) to request a case study template.

Useful Resources...

Resource	What is it?	Who is it for?	Where can I get it?
Kooth	A free online counselling service	Young people aged 11-18 in Somerset	Kooth website – young people can refer themselves
Annual review fact sheets	Fact sheet, timeline and guidance notes on the annual review process	Independent Supporters who may support a parent/ young person with an annual review	Council for Disabled Children website

Please forward this newsletter on to anyone that you think may be interested in reading it. If you would like to be added to the mailing list please [contact us](#).

Have any questions or need this newsletter in a different format? Please [contact us](#).