
The County Inclusion Support Service

Information for parents

Behaviour Support Service and County Inclusive Resource merger

The County Inclusion Support Service (CISS) a new mainstream school support service for pupils, will launch in the summer term 2017. The new service is the result of a merger between the current Behaviour Support Service (BSS) and County Inclusive Resource (CIR).

Children and young people currently on CIR caseload

Pupils currently on CIR caseload will automatically be transferred to the new CISS caseload.

All pupils will remain on CISS caseload until the end of year 11, without the need to re refer.

The level of support offered by CISS will vary according to the need of the pupil and their level of vulnerability.

Criteria for new referrals

From the summer term onwards mainstream Suffolk schools will be able to refer new pupils to CISS, if there is evidence that the pupil is 'highly vulnerable'. For example, there may be evidence that the pupil is at risk of permanent exclusion or school refusal.

Referrals will be considered for pupils with a diagnosis of Autism, traits of Autism but no diagnosis, social, emotional and mental health difficulties, social communication difficulties and all associated behaviours.

Level of support

If a referral to CISS is successful then the level of support received from CISS may vary over time.

Initially, support will include advice, guidance and direct work with the pupil.

If a pupil makes progress, then they will stay on caseload and access an advice, guidance and monitoring level of support.

If at any time the pupil's needs change and they are once again considered to be 'highly vulnerable', then they would revert to accessing the same level of support as they did when they were first referred to CISS.

It is possible that a pupil may receive varying levels of support throughout their time in school.

Parent/carer involvement

If schools wish to refer a pupil to CISS then they must first discuss the referral with parents/carers and seek their permission to refer. The decision of the referral meeting will be relayed in a letter sent to school with a copy of the letter for schools to share with parent/carers.

If the referral is successful parents/carers will be invited to a meeting with school staff and CISS staff to discuss the pupil, gather parent/carer views and outline initial plans for support.

If parents/carers wish to meet with CISS staff again, at any point whilst their child is on CISS caseload, they can contact the school to arrange a meeting.

There will be regular parent/carer questionnaires asking for feedback re the new service which will inform the way in which the service grows and develops.

The CISS team will be happy to talk to local parent groups about the service, if asked to do so.

Traded offer

Schools will be able to access additional support to that outlined above through a CISS traded offer to schools, accessible via Suffolk County Council's Schools' Choice.

More information

If you have any queries about CISS, please contact your child's school in the first instance.

As more information about the service becomes available, it will appear on the Suffolk County Council website.

On 13th March there will be a SENDIASS conference at Stratford St Andrew, where there will be a presentation about the service and CISS staff will be available to answer any questions that parents/carers may have. Please contact SENDIASS directly for more information regarding the conference: sendiass@suffolk.gov.uk, tel: 01473 264702

In addition, the CISS team are happy to talk to local parent groups about the service, if asked to do so. If you are part of a parent support group and would like someone to come and talk to you about CISS please contact Nickie Roberts, CIR Lead Technician, who will pass your query on to the relevant member of the CISS team: nickie.roberts@suffolk.gov.uk, tel: 01787 468925/6