

**SEN Assessment & Review Team**
The county is divided into three geographical areas with a Principle Assessment & Review Officer (PARO) overseeing the work of each team, under the leadership of the Head of SEND;

**Head of SEND**
Nikki Joyce
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**Principal Assessment & Review Officer (East area) Ryedale, Scarborough and Whitby**
Helen Hodgson
Email: helen.hodgson@northyorks.gov.uk

**Principal Assessment & Review Officer (West area) Craven and Harrogate**
Jay Eastwood
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**Principal Assessment & Review Officer (Central area) Hambleton, Richmondshire and Craven**
Alison Hall
Email: alison.hall@northyorks.gov.uk

The team is made up of 12 Assessment & Review Officers (ARO’s) who work across North Yorkshire dealing with the statutory process for assessment and review of education, health and care plans (EHCP’s) for SEND. They work to support the family and school throughout the assessment process and beyond. They attend a number of reviews and are happy to provide advice and support.

They are also supported by a central admin support team who can be contacted on 01609 535002.

**SEND Transport team**
The SEND transport team deals with publishing and implementing the SEN transport policy. They will be happy to answer any queries relating to eligibility. Applications for transport are dealt with by the ARO.

You can contact the SEND transport team by emailing them at sendtransport@northyorks.gov.uk.

**Children under 5 years old**
If your child is under 5 years old and you have concerns about your child’s development, either in their learning or their behaviour, the Family Information Service is there to help you.

They will help by providing advice, information and signposting you to the full range of services such as early education places, childcare and portage.

The Early Years Advisory Teachers (EYATs) and Portage Home Visitors (PHVs) work together to provide specialist support for children under 5 years with SEND in their homes and in Early Years settings.

You can contact the Family Information Service either by email on fis.information@northyorks.gov.uk or by ringing 01609 533483.
Who’s who in the Inclusion Service

This leaflet is to help parents and carers understand how the North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) Inclusion Service can support and advise them and their children.

Most children’s additional needs can be met in their local mainstream school, where they will learn and mix with local children their own age. Some children need extra help to enable them to remain in their chosen school, and there are lots of ways in which the local authority can help to make this work. There is lots of useful information on NYCC’s Local offer pages; you could start with the INFORMATION & ADVICE pages. The Inclusion Support Team works closely with schools in supporting children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), and you can find out more about this on their SUPPORTING CHILDREN schools page.

The North Yorkshire County Council Inclusion Service is made up of the following teams who are there to help with support and advice for families of children and young people with SEND

Inclusion Support

If specialist support is needed to help with your child’s needs, then the Inclusion Service will be involved with your child’s school in making sure that they get the help that they need.

This team consists of a range of specialist support and provision delivered by highly qualified and experienced staff who support the work of schools with children and young people who have SEND. It’s important to know that a diagnosis is NOT necessary for your child to receive the help that they need with their education. Every child is different and so the team work with parents and schools to deliver specific support that is tailored for your child’s needs.

More detailed information about specific areas of SEND is available on the NYCC Local Offer website. The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) is the teacher at your child’s school or educational setting with responsibility for coordinating additional help for your child at the school. They would usually be your main point of contact for discussions about your child’s special educational needs, the additional support they need and the progress this leads to.

The Inclusion Service is happy to discuss any concerns you may have before the school contacts them for support, or if you have any queries about the Statutory Assessment process, you can call them on 01609 780780. A member of the relevant specialist team will then call you to discuss how they can help with your child’s needs.

The services consists of specialist teams with a Lead for each area of SEND:

Head of the Inclusion Service
Carol-Ann Howe
Email: Carol-ann.howe@northyorks.gov.uk

Lead for Cognition and Learning needs
Clare Leonard
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Lead for Sensory, Physical, Medical needs
Julie Broome
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Lead for Communication & Interaction needs
Rachel Comerford
Email: Rachel.comerford@northyorks.gov.uk

Lead for Social, Emotional and Mental Health
Cerys Townend
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Lead Educational Psychologist
Andi Henderson
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