

IASS Newsletter

(Information, Advice and Support Service)

December 2021

IASS Team

Becky Tuffield
Manager

Helen Oyedeji
Support Worker

Matt Barton
YP Support Officer

Vacancy
Support Officer

**Independent
Volunteer
Supporters**
Jan Gunner
Gill Hughes
Naomi Kimber
Kate Poyner
Wendy Roberts
Jenny Stanley

IASS Helpline

020 8461 7630

Weekdays

9.30-1 and 2-4

Email

iass@bromley.gov.uk

Hello, and welcome to the first IASS Newsletter. As we reach the end of another year please take a moment to read about some of the changes in the IASS Team alongside some helpful information

Staffing update

After many years at the helm of the Service Lorraine Parkes took a well deserved retirement. Becky Tuffield is now the Manager of the Service.

We have also said goodbye to one of our fixed term Support Worker, Mandy Mills and our Support Officer, Kate Poyner. We have been lucky enough to keep Kate as she is now one of our Independent Volunteer Supporters!

We will be recruiting for our Support Officer Vacancy, if you are aware of anyone who would be suitable for the role please look out for the information in the New Year here: [Login \(engageats.co.uk\)](https://engageats.co.uk)

Keep calm and carry on!

The COVID 19 Pandemic brought with it new challenges for the service but we have maintained business as usual and utilised Microsoft Teams to ensure that direct support for families at meetings and paperwork has continued seamlessly. The team of Independent Volunteer Supporters have continued to give up their time, energy and expertise to support families throughout. Some face to face support has resumed but please give us plenty of notice to ensure availability of staff.

The Service is incredibly busy and with the current vacancy we are taking a little longer to get back to families than we would like, please bear with us, we will get to you and we thank you for your patience.



Top Tip

We always welcome calls into our helpline but did you know that the Bromley IASS website contains a wealth of information, advice and key links to other websites. It could be a quick way to find the answer to your query. Check it out:

www.bromleyiass.org.uk

Key Information

For wider local SEND news please visit:

[Bromley Local Offer](#)

[SENDMatters](#)

Don't forget to also visit the IASS website

[Bromley IASS — Bromley Information, Advice and Support Service \(IASS\)](#)

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Did you know.....

Disability Living Allowance (DLA)

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has produced video information that explains Disability Living Allowance, including the application process, what happens after a claim has been submitted and what happens when a child turns 16. You may find the following link useful: [Disability Living Allowance \(DLA\) for children – YouTube](#)

Annual Reviews – do you want to know more?

As part of an Annual Review project, Bromley Council is introducing termly information sessions for parents and carers to learn more about the Annual Review process and to give you the opportunity to ask any questions that you may have. Please speak to your EHC Co-Ordinator to find out more.

Time to Talk

Sexual Health Bromley is pleased to offer a free Time to Talk session to parents/carers of young people with learning and/or physical disabilities living or studying in Bromley. The sessions aim to cover puberty, contraception, sexually transmitted infections and sex and relationship education. Sessions are being held on Tuesday 1st February 11am-1pm or Tuesday 1st March 7pm-9pm. To book a place email: bromh.sexualhealth@nhs.net

Build

A new Lego club is being held at Mottingham Library on Saturdays from 3.30-4.30pm for children on the autistic spectrum aged 5-11 and their families. Sessions must be pre-booked with the library, email: Mottingham.library@gll.org

Your Help is Required – 30 second survey

We want to hear from you!



Child, young people, parents and carers – please let us know what your experiences of SEND Services. We would be very grateful for your feedback.

It shouldn't take more than 30 seconds!

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SJQDHS8>