What else can Parent Partnership offer you?

- Information sessions on the special needs system
- The chance to part of Special Educational Needs consultants
- Choice Advisor offering advice, support and information on admissions
- Information leaflets and factsheets on:
  - Statutory Assessments
  - Annual Reviews
  - Statement/Note in Lieu
  - Special Educational Needs and Disability Discrimination Act (SENDDA)
  - Visiting a new school
  - Going to meetings

If you want more information about anything included in this leaflet please contact:
The Parent Partnership Service (SEN)
Queens House
Queens Road
Bradford
BD8 7BS
Telephone: 01274 481183
Fax: 01274 543763
www.barnardos.org.uk/parentpartnershipservice

All leaflets are available in large print.

The Bradford Parent Partnership Service has an Urdu/Punjabi-speaking member of staff.
The Graduated Approach

It is important that Special Educational Needs are identified early so that your child can be helped as quickly as possible.

The Code of Practice describes how this help should be made by a step-by-step or ‘graduated approach’. This approach recognises that children learn in different ways and have different levels of special educational needs.

School say my child is on ‘School Action’. What does this mean?

The school must tell you when they start giving extra or different help to your child because they have special needs. This help could be a different way of teaching or help from an extra adult, perhaps in a small group, or it could be the use of some special equipment. This stage is called School Action.

Your child’s teacher is responsible for working with them and may write an Individual Education Plan (IEP) for them and discuss this with you.

The IEP is a planning tool and should say:
- what special help your child needs
- how often your child will receive the help
- who will provide the help
- what your child’s targets are
- how and when your child’s progress will be reviewed
- what help you could give your child at home.

Not all schools will write an IEP but they should always be able to tell you what help they are giving your child and what progress they are making.

So what is School Action Plus?

If your child does not make enough progress at School Action, the school’s Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) may decide to ask for help from people outside the school. This could be a speech therapist, a specialist teacher or an educational psychologist for example.

This sort of help is called School Action Plus.

The SENCO should keep you informed about how your child is getting on and should include you in any discussions about the help that is being provided.

Remember that your views are very important at every stage of the Graduated Approach.

What happens next?

If your child still does not seem to be making enough progress or needs a lot more extra help, the SENCO may ask the Local Authority (LA) to make a more detailed assessment of their needs based on specialist advice. This Statutory Assessment may lead to the LA writing a Statement of Special Educational Needs. This would describe all your child’s needs and all the special help they need.

If your child makes good progress at School Action or School Action Plus then they may need a reduced level of support or they may no longer need special help

As a parent you also have the right to request a Statutory Assessment.

Who can I contact if I need further help or support?

- Your child’s class teacher
- The SENCO at your child’s school/setting
- Bradford Parent Partnership Service (contact details overleaf)

A fact sheet containing more detailed information about School Action/ School Action Plus is available from the address overleaf.