



**We also:**

- ◆ Produce a newsletter each term
- ◆ Have information leaflets available on our website
- ◆ Ensure the views of children, young people and parent/carers are represented when influencing SEND policy and practice

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Disclaimer: This is a guide and should not be treated as legal advice. Although SEND Partnership makes all reasonable efforts to ensure that the information contained in this booklet is accurate and up to date at the time of publication we cannot accept responsibility suffered as a consequence of any reliance placed upon it.

**If you need this leaflet in another format or language please contact us and we will do our best to help.**



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# Independent Partnership Supporter Training



**This leaflet explains how our training course will develop your knowledge and skills to become a volunteer**

**The Independent Partnership Supporter (IPS) training course will help you to develop the knowledge and skills that you will need in order to support young people and parents who have children with special educational needs and disabilities**

- You should be confident to read and explain written documents to others, make notes and help fill in forms. Support is available if you have a disability or a specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia.
- The course is quality assured by Gateway Qualifications
- This means that if you successfully complete the course you will get a Gateway Qualifications certificate
- The course runs over 9 weeks for 1 day each week between 9.30am and 3.30pm with final interviews on week 9.
- There are about 37 hours spent in class and 13 hours of homework
- There is no charge for those becoming an IPS
- In order to volunteer you must be able to support young people and parents during the day and have transport.
- You should have access to a computer.



There is an introductory session where you will be able to discuss both the role of the IPS and the course in detail.

After this we hold informal interviews and then contact people to confirm places on the course. Everyone who is hoping to be an IPS must give two references and agree to an enhanced data and barring check (DBS).

On each day of the course you will have a short one to one support session with a tutor.

As well as input from the course tutors you will also participate in sessions involving local authority staff, school staff, voluntary sector representatives, parents, experienced independent parental supporters and independent trainers.

The course will include workshops on communication; the Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) Code of Practice; local SEN policies and procedures; the role of the SEN coordinator (SENCO); the role of the EHCP Coordinator; EHCP's; statutory assessment and statements; disability awareness; child protection and personal safety.

You will be assessed throughout the course in a variety of ways including:

- observation during simulated situations.
- questions and answers during group discussions
- written work showing an understanding of SEN processes and procedures
- compiling a resource folder
- a final interview.

