

The IASSN Children and Young People's Steering Group – Their messages to SENDIAS services

What is the IASSN Children and Young People's Steering Group?

The Information, Advice and Support Services Network (IASSN) Children and Young People's Steering Group is made up of twelve disabled young people and young people with special educational needs, aged 16–25. All members have previously accessed, or been involved with, their local SENDIAS service. You can read more about the group [here](#).

What is in this document?

At the May 2026 IASSN Children and Young People's Steering Group we asked the steering group: *What message would you like to give to the SENDIAS sector?* Below are their responses.

Messages from the IASSN Children and Young People's Steering Group:

- "I like to continue to advocate for family by saying that SENDIASS should ensure that families know their rights and understand confidentiality. Also to improve trust and outcomes for children and young people because families value services that are compassionate, independent and inclusive"
- "Everyone communicate differently and we need to make adjustments to support everyone"
- "We should empower our disabilities, I am often proud of what it allows me to do and knowledge of it becomes my superpower!"
- "I wanted to say they need - they should - capture more on getting the voice of young people and like taking in what their views are and allowing them to like make their own decisions if they've got the capacity to do so."

- "Okay, well, first of all, I would love to acknowledge SENDIASs for the brilliant work of helping families feel heard and informed and empowered. But I would also love to address certain messages that are very important for them to take note of, which is making sure that they continue to strengthen accessibility of information for all families and also to strengthen timely communications and responsiveness, because at the end of the day, this is actually something that is very essential and significant for all families. And they should focus more to enhance collaborations between schools and health services, because from what I've actually had around and known, this collaboration is something that is very, very helpful and it's something that is going to lead to much more impactful effect. And another way that I would say that this message should be conveyed would be through a social media campaign... Yeah, the ways that I would actually say about how this message should be conveyed would be through social media campaigns and printing leaflets in schools and clinics and community centers."