

SPECIAL NEEDS

**A guide for parents and carers
of Jewish children with special
educational needs**

Compiled under the auspices of the Board of Deputies,
6 Bloomsbury Square London WC1A 2LP

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Preface

This guide has been developed in response to a need. It aims to draw together in a ‘one-stop booklet’, information which will help parents of Jewish children with special needs. Specifically, it seeks to advise them where to go to obtain support and assistance at different stages in their children’s lives, covering both general and Jewish aspects. It has been a co-operative initiative in which the Board of Deputies, Norwood Ravenswood, Kisharon and the Agency for Jewish Education have all been involved.

The booklet concentrates on children from birth to 16 years of age, the statutory school leaving age. However, it recognises that special needs do not suddenly vanish at 16, indeed they may only come to light at a later date and last for life. Parents then will continue to require information and help as their children grow into adulthood. For 16 to 18 year olds this may mean educational needs but it may also mean, for example, how to adapt to the world of work. We have therefore provided signposts to those organisations that help with older age groups.

From a Jewish perspective, we highlight those particular times in a child’s development when parents will need to work with community services - be they synagogue classes or *cheder*, the synagogue for *bar* or *bat mitzvah*, or a youth group for a teenager. We intend the contacts listed to provide a gateway for children who might otherwise be excluded from these experiences.

Having a child with special needs presents a huge challenge, but remember that you are not alone and there are plenty of organisations out there who can help you. This booklet is a starting point.

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Organisations involved with SEN

General

Advisory Centre for Education
Unit 1
Aberdeen Studies
22/24 High bury Grove
London N5 2EA
0207 354 8321

- General advice on education

Association for the treatment of Brain Damaged Children
01203 665450

Carers Association
20-25 Glasshouse Yard
London EC1A 4JS
0207 490 8818

Centre for Social and Communication Disorders
Elliot House
113 Masons Hill
Bromley
Kent B9 29HT
0208 466 0098

Contact-a-Family
170 Tottenham Court Road
London W1P OHA
0207 383 3555

- Support for families who care for children with special needs

Crossroads
Crossroads Care
10 Regent Place
Rugby
Warwickshire CV21 2PN
01788 573 653

- Care for people in their own home

CSIE (Centre for Studies on Inclusive Education)
1 Redland Close
Elm Lane
Redland
Bristol BS6 6UE
0117 923 8450

DABB (Disablement Association in L.B.Barnet)
DABB Advice Centre
4 Oakleigh Gdns
Whetstone
London N20 9AB
0208 446 6935

Disability Alliance
Universal House
88-94 Wentworth St
London E1 7SA
0207 247 8763

Disablement Living Foundation
380-384 Harrow Rd
London W9 2HU
0207 289 6111

Advice on equipment/aids

DISH (Disability Information Service for Hertfordshire)
Free phone 0800 181067

GIG (Genetic Interest Group)
Farringdon Point
29-35 Farringdon Rd
London EC1M 3JB
0207 430 0090

HAPA
Fulham Palace
Bishops Ave
London SW6 6EA
0207 731 1435

- Adventure play for children with special needs

Holiday Care Services
2nd Floor
Imperial Bldg
Victoria Rd
Horley RH6 7PZ
01293 774535

- Information on holidays for those with special needs

In Touch Trust
10 Norman Rd
Sale M33 3DF
0161 905 2440

- Contact group for families with children with special needs

IPSEA (Independent Panel for Special Education Advice)
4 Ancient House Mews
Woodbridge
Suffolk IP12 1DH
01394 382 814

MENCAP
123 Golden Lane
London EC1Y 0RT
0207 153 9433

Network 81
1-7 Woodfield Terrace
Stanstead
Essex CM24 8AJ
01279 647 415 (10am-2pm)

- Information and advice on Special Educational Needs

PATCH
0208 866 0023

- Telephone hotline for children with special needs in L.B. Harrow

PHAB
Summit House
Wandle Rd
Croydon CRO 1DF
0208 667 9443

Joint activities for physically handicapped and able-bodied people

Riding for the Disabled Association
Avenue R
NAC
Stonleigh Park
Kenilworth CV8 2LY
01203 696 510

Organisations concerned with Specific Disorders

AFASIC (Association for speech impaired children)
347 Central Markets
Smithfield
London EC1A 9NH
0207 236 3632

Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus
42 Park Rd
Peterborough PE1 2UQ
01733 555 988

British Epilepsy Association
40 Hanover Square
Leeds LS3 1BE
0113 243 9393

National Society for Epilepsy
Chalfont Centre
Chalfont St Peter
Bucks SL9 ORJ
01494 873 991

British Stammering Association
15 Old Ford Rd
London E2 9PJ
0208 983 1003

British Diabetic Association
10 Queen Anne Street
London W1M 0BD
0208 323 1531

British Dyspraxia Foundation
8 West Alley
Hitchin SG5 1EG
01462 454 986

British Dyslexia Association
98 London Rd
Reading RG1 5AU
01734 668 271

CLAPA (Cleft Lip and Palate Association)
235-237 Finchley Rd
London NW3
0207 431 0033

Cystic Fibrosis Trust
11 London Rd
Bromley BR1 1BY
0208 464 7211

Down's Syndrome Association
155 Mitcham Rd
London SW17 9PG
0208 682 4001

Hyperactive Children's Support Group
71 Whyke Lane
Chichester PO19 2LD
01903 725182

National Deaf Association
15 Dufferin St
London EC1Y 8PD
0800 252 3380

National Centre for Eating Disorders
01372 469 493 (Help line)

National Autistic Society
393 City Road
London EC1V 1NE
0207 833 2299

Royal National Institute for the Blind
224 Great Portland St
London W1N 6AA
0207 388 1266

Royal National Institute for Deaf People
19-23 Featherstone Road
London EC1
0207 296 8000

SCOPE (Cerebral palsy)
6-10 Market Rd
London N7 1DF
0800 626 216 (Help line Mon-Fri 11am-9pm, Sat/Sun 2pm-6pm)

SENSE (Deaf and Blind Rubella Damaged Children)
11-13 Clifton Terrace
London NS 3SR
0207 272 7774

Sickle Cell Society
54 Station Rd
London NW10 4UA
0208 961 7795

Legal/Financial Advice and Pressure Groups

Children's Legal Centre
20 Compton Terrace
London EC1V 2UN
0207 359 6251

Disability Law Service
2nd Floor
High Holborn House
52-54 High Holborn House
London WC1V 2RL
0207 831 8031

Family Holiday Association
16 Mortimer Street
London W1N 7RD
0207 436 3304

Grants for families of children with special needs to have holidays

Family Fund Trust
PO BOX 50
York YOL 2ZX
01904 621 115

- National charity offering financial assistance to families with special needs and disabled children

Family Welfare Association (Administers a variety of funds)
The Grants Officer
501-505 Kingsland Rd
Dalston
London E8 4AU
0207 254 6251

REACT
St. Luke's House
270 Sandycombe Rd
Kew
Richmond TW9 3NP
0208 940 2572

Grants for special equipment for children with life threatening conditions

The Council for Disabled Children)
8 Wakley Street
London EC1V 7QE
0207 843 6000

Information sheets in disability and special needs

The Commissioner for Local Administration (Ombudsman)
21 Queen Anne's Gate
London SW1
0207 915 3210

Jewish

Alyth Youth and Community Centre
 Alyth Gardens
 Finchley Road
 London NW11 7EN
 0208 455 6763 / 0208 458 3506

- A club for people with learning disabilities, whose emphasis is on developing social skills.

Annie Lawson Special School
 Ravenswood Village
 9 Mile Ride
 Crowthorn
 RG45 6BQ
 01344 755508

- An independent Jewish residential school for children and young people between the ages of 11 and 19, with severe or profound learning disabilities.

Barnet PHAB (Physically-Handicapped-Able-Bodied)
 Alyth Youth and Community Centre
 North Western Reform Synagogue
 Alyth Gardens
 London NW11 7EN
 0208 455 6765

- A social group integrating disabled and able-bodied adults from age 17 upwards.

Beth Hayered
 3 Allerton Road
 London N16 5UJ
 0208 800 1798

- Short term and respite care home for learning disabled children and young persons under the age of 20, in a Jewish environment.

Binoh - The Jewish Special Education Service.
 The Binoh Centre
 Norwood House
 Harmony Way
 off Victoria Road
 London NW4 2DR
 0208 203 3030

- A community-wide, multi-disciplinary support service for children with learning difficulties, from age 3 to school leavers.
- In-service training for teachers working with children with special needs.

- A Resource Centre where parents and teachers can obtain advice on current materials for children with special needs.

Jacob Benjamin Ellas Synagogue Welfare Department
Ohel David Synagogue, Golders Green
Ilford Eastern Synagogue

Head Office:
7 Kyverdale Road
London N16 7AB
0208 806 8109/4387

- Provides information, help and advice to the Sephardi and Eastern Jewish communities.

Jewish Blind and Physically Handicapped Society
118 Seymour Place
London W1H 5DJ
0207 262 2003

- Provides assistance, advice and support to necessitous Jewish visually or physically disabled persons of all age groups.
- Provides modern sheltered housing (self-contained flats) with communal facilities, amenities and welfare services for Jewish blind, partially sighted or disabled persons, couples and families.

Jewish Children's Holiday Fund
5 Goodwood Close
Marsh Lane
Stanmore
Middlesex HA7 4HX

- Provides Jewish boys and girls from one-parent families or deprived backgrounds with the opportunity of a summer holiday.

Jewish Deaf Association
Julius Newman House
Woodside Park Road
off Finchley High Road
London N12 8RP
0208 446 0502

- Provides a Social Centre and Club for Jewish deaf and hard of hearing people of post school age.
- Advises and services the needs of hard of hearing people in respect of the latest technology and environmental aids to improve their quality of daily life

Kisharon
1011 Finchley Road
London NW11 7HB
0208 455 7483 / 0208 209 0994

- Provides both secular and Jewish education for children and young adults with learning difficulties.

Miyad: The Jewish Crisis Help line
0208 203 6211 0345 581 999

- A nationwide Jewish crisis help line providing a confidential and sympathetic listening ear to those experiencing stress or acute personal crisis.

Norwood Ravenswood
Broadway House
80-82 The Broadway
Stanmore
Middlesex HA7 4HB
0208 954 4555

- Responds to the needs of over 6,000 children, young people, adults, people with learning disabilities and their families.

Parry Group
134 Herent Drive
Clayhall
Ilford
Essex IG5 0HH
0208 551 3436

- Provides mutual support for parents of children with learning difficulties.

Ranulf Association
26 Barn Hill
Wembley
Middlesex HA9 9LA
0208 904 0495

- Provides small Group Homes for mildly/borderline mentally handicapped Jewish men and women.

Redbridge Jewish Day Centre
Sinclair House
Woodford Bridge Road
Ilford
Essex IG4 5LN
0208 551 0017

- Provides a structured care programme designed to combat social isolation, encourage and develop physical, creative and social abilities and provide mental stimulation in a Jewish environment, both for the elderly and for younger people with disabilities.

Stanmore Synagogue Community Care
PO Box 194
Stanmore
Middlesex HA7 4BN
0208 954 3300

- Provides welfare services for members of Stanmore Synagogue.

Tikvah Disability Help line
0208 455 9655

- Gives help and advice on **ALL** aspects of disability to anyone with a physical and/or sensory disability and/or their carers.

Yad Voezer Helping Hands
80 Queen Elizabeth's Walk
London N16 5UQ
0208 809 4303

- Offers encouragement and opportunities to Orthodox children and adults with special needs, giving them a sense of identity and purpose.

The Regions

Brookvale (caring for people with special needs)
Simister Lane
Prestwich
Manchester M25 2SF
0161 653 1767

- Provides residential care and occupational day care to mentally handicapped young adults to enable them to reaching their potential and encourage where possible integration and acceptance into the general community.

Cosgrove Care
Cosgrove House
St John's Road
Glasgow G41 5EG
0141 429 2327

- Cares for Jewish people with learning disabilities.

Delamere Forest School
Blakemere Lane
Norley
Cheshire WA6 6NP
01928 788 263

- Develops and maximises in a wholly Jewish environment, the talents and skills of children with a wide range of special needs. These cover behavioural and social problems and the learning difficulties associated with them; specific learning difficulties including dyslexia and dyscalculia; medical, physical and/or speech problems (not severe), partial sight and partial hearing.

Jewish Care Scotland
May Terrace
Giffnock
Glasgow G46 6DL
0141 620 1800

- Provides advice, information, support and care to vulnerable people in the Jewish community.

Langdon College
9 Leicester Avenue
Salford M7 4HA
0161 740 5900

- Provides further education to students with learning difficulties for whom "mainstream" provision is inadequate or inappropriate.
- Trains and empowers such students to function as competent Jewish adults within the community at large.
- Prepares students for meaningful occupation when they leave College.

Leeds Jewish Blind Society
311 Stonegate Road
Leeds LS17 6AZ
0113 268 4211

- Meets the social and welfare needs of Jewish visually handicapped people in Leeds and its environs.

Merseyside Jewish Welfare Council
Shifrin House
433 Smithdown Road
Liverpool L15 3JL
0151 733 2292

- Offers advice, assistance and practical support to Jewish individuals and families in need.
- It offers social work services through family Crisis Support.

Outreach Community and Residential Services
24a Bury New Road
Prestwich
Manchester M25 0LD
0161 798 0180

- Promotes the integration and participation of adults with learning difficulties into the Jewish and wider community through a leisure integration programme and residential support.

Sussex Tikvah
Rachel Mazzier House
25 Chatsworth Road
Brighton
East Sussex BN1 5DB
01273 564 021

- Provides a happy, secure home for adults with moderate learning difficulties.
- Enables residents to pursue as full and interesting lives as possible.

Special Needs Jargon

CDC Child Development Centre

A centre housing various professionals, for example educational psychologists, speech therapists, occupational therapists and teachers. Children are often referred to these centres when their needs are being assessed.

Carer

A person named by a local authority to care for a child for whom the social services department has parental responsibility.

Child protection register

A central register maintained by the social services department. It lists all the children in an area who are considered to be suffering from, or are likely to suffer, significant harm and for whom there is a child protection plan.

DfEE

Department for Education and Employment

EBD

Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties

EDP

Education Development Plan

Education supervision order

Applied for by the Local Education Authority. It puts a child of statutory school age, who is not being properly educated, under the supervision of the LEA that ensures full time education.

EP

Educational Psychologist

HI

Hearing Impairment

IPS

Independent Parental Supporter (also known as Named Person)

Learning Difficulties

Where a child finds it much harder than average to learn.

Learning Disabilities Mental handicap.

LEA

Local Education Authority

LSA

Learning Support Assistant - non-teaching assistants in mainstream and special schools employed to work with children with special needs.

MLD

Moderate Learning Difficulties

OT

Occupational Therapist

Peripatetic teacher (specialist, advisory or support teacher)

A teacher with specific expertise who travels from school to school. Employed by the LEA to give appropriate specialist advice and support to the child and the school.

PRU

Pupil Referral Unit

SEN

Special Educational Needs - a child has special educational needs if S/he has learning difficulties or behavioural difficulties which call for provision to be made by the school.

SENCO

Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator. The member of staff who is responsible for co-ordinating special needs provision within a school.

SLD

Severe Learning Difficulties

SLT

Speech and Language Therapy

SMA

Special Needs Assistant (also known as Classroom Assistant)

SPLD

Specific Learning Disability

Special Educational Provision

Provision additional to or different from that made generally for children of the same age.

Special School

A school that is particularly organised to make special educational provision for pupils with special educational needs.

VI

Visual Impairment

The Statementing Process**Stage 1**

This involves the initial identification and registration of a child's special educational needs, the gathering of basic information about the child, taking early action to meet the child's needs within the classroom, and reviewing the child's progress.

Stage 2

The SENCO assesses the child's learning difficulty, plans, monitors and reviews the special educational provision, by working with teachers and consulting the parents.

Stage 3

The school calls upon external specialist support to help the pupil make progress.

Stage 4

The LEA makes a statutory assessment of special educational needs. This may result in the issuing of a statement.

Stage 5/ Statement

Define a child's needs, specify provision to meet those needs and state who will do what to meet them.

IEP

Individual Education Plan - this is written during a Special Educational Needs review and sets out aims for the child over the following 6 school weeks.

Reviews

After 6 weeks the **IEP** is reviewed. When it has been reviewed twice and there is no progress the child is moved on to the next stage.

Annual review

The review of a statement of special educational needs. The Local Education Authority must undertake this within 12 months of making the original statement (or the previous review).

Statutory Assessments

Gathering of information about a child to determine whether or not that child needs a statement. The information gathered during an assessment may indicate ways in which the child's needs can be met by their school, without any special educational provision being determined by the LEA through a statement.

SEN Tribunal

An independent body that determines appeals brought on statements and assessments by parents against LEA decisions.

Transition Plan

A plan that should form part of the first annual review after the child's 14th birthday, and any subsequent annual review. The purpose of the plan is to draw together information from a range of individuals within and beyond the school, in order to plan coherently for the young person's transition to adult life.

Benefits Glossary**DLA**

Disability Living Allowance - a tax-free benefit for people who need help with personal care or getting around or both.

DWA

Disability Working Allowance - a tax-free income related benefit for people aged 16 or over who are working 16 hours a week or more on average and have an illness or disability that limits their earning capacity.

ICA

Individual Care Allowance - a taxable benefit for people of working age who are caring for a severely disabled person.

IS

Income Support - a social security benefit for people aged 16 or over whose income is below a certain level.

SDA

Severe Disablement Allowance - a tax-free benefit for people who have not been able to work for at least 28 consecutive weeks, because of illness or disablement, but have not paid enough NI contributions to get Incapacity Benefit.

Who are the Professionals and how can they help you?

We give below a list of professionals who you, as a parent or carer, may meet at various stages of your child's life. Depending on the needs of your child, you may encounter them all but may be greatly involved with only a few.

They are all qualified professionals that you should be able to contact through your local health centre or GP.

Audiologist

Works with children who have hearing difficulties and advises on aids to maximise hearing. *

Care Manager

Assesses, organises and reviews the total care required for an individual. Can work for the local Social Service or Health Authority. *

Clinical Medical Officer - CMO

Doctor who is present at child health clinics and who carries out school medicals. In areas where a community paediatrician is not available, the CMO will co-ordinate services. Can initiate the statementing process. *

Community Paediatrician

Co-ordinates community health services and makes relevant referrals to other agencies. May be involved with the statementing process. *

Community Nurse / District Nurse

Responsible for carrying out certain nursing procedures and treatments at home, such as dressing wounds, removal of stitches and giving injections. Can also advise families on caring for someone at home. Some areas may have a Paediatric Community Nurse. *

Clinical Psychologist

Can assess the abilities and problems of a child with special needs. Able to advise on the management of behavioural and emotional problems and to provide individual and family therapy.

Educational Psychologist

Psychologists who are qualified teachers. They assess the intellectual, emotional, social and physical development of children within a school context. They regularly visit schools and assess children who have been brought to their attention by the SENCO. Educational Psychologists can be involved with other professionals in assessing a child's needs in order to plan for an appropriate pre-school or school placement. Can be contacted through a child's school or through a GP or paediatric consultant.

Family Doctor / GP

Will advise about health matters and will often be the first person to be contacted with concerns about a child, sometimes following initial discussions with a Health Visitor.

Genetic Counsellor

Offers advice and support to families where a genetic condition has been diagnosed. This will include information and advice on future pregnancies. *

Health Visitor

Trained nurses who provide an essential service for the under fives. Part of their job is to advise on a child's health and immunisation and check a child's development at regular intervals up to age of five. They may have excellent links with the local hospital and will be able to advise you on out patient appointments, nursing techniques and playgroup facilities. Can visit your home and can be contacted through health centres, clinics and the local GP.

Liaison Nurse

The main role of this nurse is to promote communication between all professionals involved in the care of the child, both in hospital and between the hospital and the community. *

Occupational Therapist

Works in hospital departments or privately and for Local Authority Social Services Departments. Aims to increase the independence of people with various physical and mental problems. Can provide advice and help in teaching basic skills such as feeding techniques, and also recommend appropriate early play to stimulate development. Advise on appropriate adaptations to property or special equipment, including buggies or wheelchairs.

The initial contact with an occupational therapist will often have to be organised through a community paediatrician or the local GP.

Paediatrician

A doctor who specialises in child health problems. Will be able to tell you more about a child's needs, and what sort of help or treatment can be arranged.

Physiotherapist

Can provide advice and treatment for physical difficulties such as problems with movement.

To get in touch with a physiotherapist the initial contact has to be made through the family doctor or a community paediatrician.

Play Worker / Play Therapist

Works on the ward and occasionally in the outpatient department. Will help to entertain the children whilst at the same time helping them to understand about their stay in hospital. This may involve teaching them about their own particular treatments and tests using a variety of play activities. *

School Nurse

Works within one or more schools. Supports teachers in the Health Education part of the curriculum and works closely with other professionals. Main aim is to ensure the school child should gain maximum benefit from their education, whatever their ability. *

Specialist Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO)

The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator is a qualified teacher who is responsible for special needs within a school. They will work closely with the teachers making sure that all a child's needs are met. They will meet regularly with parents (every six to eight weeks) as well as with the class teacher to discuss ways of moving a child forward educationally. This will be recorded on an Individual Education Plan (IEP). The SENCO will liaise with the educational psychologist and any other professional who is involved with the child.

Social Worker

Employed by Social Services Departments or Jewish Social Service Organisations and can be located at local authority social service departments or in hospitals. They work in a variety of teams including local, hospital and Community Learning Disability Teams. They will discuss the particular needs of a child and family and can advise on resources available for people with special needs, including respite and daytime facilities and holiday play schemes. They can also offer advice and assistance with personal and practical problems.

There are many different types of Social Workers. You are most likely to come across: -

Education Social Worker (Educational Welfare Officer) - social worker who helps with social problems linked with schools such as absentees and home visits.

Medical Social Worker – social worker who is usually based in a hospital, and plays a key role in helping people to sort out problems such as entitlements to benefits and help with care in the home. Can also help families work through emotional and social conflicts that may arise from disability. However, not all hospitals inform parents about the role of medical social workers.

Local Authority/Jewish Social Service Organisation Social Worker –based in local offices, usually within a “learning disability” or children’s disability team as described above.

Special Needs Adviser

Can offer advice and help to families caring for children with special needs on a wide range of subjects. *

Speech Therapist

Offers practical advice on how to stimulate communication, language and feeding skills. Works alongside parents, carers and other professionals and are able to recommend useful play activities to encourage listening, understanding and talking. Speech therapists visit schools where children have been recognised by the local education authority as needing their expertise. They can also visit children at home and are available in clinics.

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Jewish Aspects

The Jewish Life Cycle

At certain times in a Jewish child’s life, parents may have to think about how their child can be involved in Jewish life and/or celebrate special events or rites of passage. These will be of great importance in the child’s life and to their Jewish identity. They may take place out of the safe environment of home and the known environment of school. Parents may spend many hours thinking of how to make sure the needs of their child are met. Below are some areas that are significant times in any Jewish child’s life, with advice on how to get the best outcome for a child with special needs.

Jewish Education

If your child is not going to a Jewish Day School or Special Needs School, the first step will be to approach the Head of your local cheder or synagogue classes. You should explain the needs of your child and see what can be offered. You should also contact the Rabbi of the synagogue or a Rabbi from the list below for advice.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah

As your child is approaching Bar/Bat-mitzvah, you will need to plan 1 - 2 years in advance for this special event. All children whatever their needs should be taught to a level that reflects

their own capabilities and desires. To ascertain how your child can best celebrate a Bar/Bat-mitzvah, you should speak to your local Rabbi or contact one of the Rabbis listed below. Remember to do so well in advance of the date.

Case Study: Kisharon Day School

“During the past 24 years, we have celebrated over 20 Bar/Bat Mitzvos. A year ahead of the date, we discuss with the child’s parents how they wish to celebrate. With few exceptions the main celebration is held in school. There is a special service on a Monday or Thursday morning followed by a sit-down festive lunch. Each family invites their own guests and helps us plan the menu. Each student is encouraged to participate fully in the service and is taught to do so by our Jewish Studies teachers. If a child cannot speak, then a brother or friend works with them in tandem, so that s/he can participate in the “calling up” and say the Brochos (blessings).”

Youth Movements and Groups

Jewish club life is an important element of a young person’s life. If your child wants to join a youth group or movement, you should call the organisations listed below. They represent a wide range of Jewish youth movements and communal organisations, and will be able to inform you about the activities of the different groups and/or discuss how they can help your child be involved in these informal aspects of Jewish life. You will then be able to judge which organisation will best meet the needs of your child.

Although all except one of the numbers listed below are for London-based offices, all these organisations have branches throughout the country, particularly in the main Jewish centres.

Agudas Yisroel	020 8800 6688
Bnei Akiva	020 8209 1319
Jewish Guide Advisory Council	01923 463 199
Jewish Lads’ and Girls’ Brigade (JLGB)	020 8989 8990
Jewish Scout Advisory Council	020 8202 8613
Lubavitch Youth	020 8800 0022
Makor/Association of Jewish Youth(AJY)	020 8446 8020
Maccabi Union of Great Britain	020 8207 0700
Noam (Noar Masorti)	020 8201 8773
RSY/Netzer	020 8349 5680
ULPSNYC/Netzer	020 7631 0584

Synagogues

All central synagogal organisations are aware of issues surrounding special needs. The Rabbis listed below are contacts within these bodies who deal with these issues.

Assembly of Masorti Synagogues

Rabbi Andrew Bloom 01727 763 455

Federation of Synagogues

Rabbi R. B. Broder 0208 458 4190

Reform Synagogues of Great Britain

Rabbi Jackie Tabick 01932 855 5400

Spanish and Portuguese Jews Congregation

Rabbi I Elia 0171 289 2573

Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues

Rabbi Stephen Howard 0208 368 6577

Rabbi Dr Michael Shire 0208 343 4303

United Synagogue and United Hebrew Congregations in the Regions

Rabbi Dr Julian Shindler 0208 343 6301 (Office of the Chief Rabbi)

Rabbi Meir Salasnik 0208 950 6453

Special Needs publication forthcoming, in June 2000, from the Rabbinical Council of the United Synagogue.

If you live in a community outside London your first point of contact should be your local Rabbi. The contacts named above should be able to put you in touch with a Rabbi in your area who deals with special needs.

Useful Reading

This list of sources and references has been compiled from bibliographies, publishers' lists and information provided to us by those who have experience of dealing with special needs both as professionals and parents. We have given details of publisher, date of publication or ISBN number as far as possible, after the title and author.

Naturally this listing only scratches the surface. There is a great deal of information relating to special needs on the **internet**; in fact over 100 websites link to special needs. A simple way to access these sites is to type 'Special Educational Needs' or more specifically, e.g., 'dyslexia' into the 'search' box and then press the search button.

Similarly, **further books** on special needs can be found on bookshop websites such as *amazon.co*.

General

ACE SEN Handbook

Advisory Centre for Education

Behaviour can change

E V C Westnacott and R J Cameron

Nelson

Children First

The Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation

Publications Department

12 City Forum, 250 City Road

London EC1V 8AF

Children's Problems – Positive Health Guides

B Lask

Macdonald Optima

Disability Rights Handbook

Disability Alliance Educational and Research Association

ISBN: 09463368496

(The) Disruptive Child -- A Handbook on Care and Control

M Clarke

Northcote House Publishers

How and Why Children Fail

Edited by Ved Varma

(1993) Jessica Kingsley Publishers

(The) Hyperactive Child - Positive Health Guides

E Taylor

Macdonald Optima

Managing the Difficult Child

Molly Clarke

(1998) Northcote House Publishers

National Welfare Benefits handbook

Child Poverty Action Group

1 – 5 Bath Street

London EC1V 9PY

(The) Other Child in Jewish Education

R Hammer

USCJE

Rights Guide to Non-mean tested Benefits

Child Poverty Action Group

1 – 5 Bath Street

London EC1V 9PY

Special Needs in Ordinary Schools – Preschool Provision for Children with Special Needs

B Robson

Cassell

Statements: A Handbook for Parents

Network 81

1-7 Woodfield Terrace

Chapel Hill, Stansted

Essex CM24 8AJ

Taking Action! Your Child's Right to Special Education

John Wright and Richard Poynter

Question Publishing Company

ISBN: 1898149380

Telephone Helplines Directory

Telephone Helplines Association

61 Greys Inn Road

London WC1X 8LT

Tribunal Toolkit

Advisory Centre for Education

Understanding Children – a guide for parents and carers

R Woolfson

(1994) Caring Books, Glasgow

Autism/Asperger's Syndrome

Children with autism and Asperger syndrome: a guide for practitioners and carers Patricia Howlin

(1998) Wiley Publishers

ISBN: 0471983284

The Autistic Spectrum: A Guide for Parents and Professional

Lorna Wing

Constable Publishers

ISBN: 0094751609

When Snow turns to Rain

Craig B Schulze

(1993) Woodbine House Publications

Down's Syndrome

Karina has Down's Syndrome

One family's account of the early years with a child who has special needs

Cheryl Rogers and Gun Dolva

(1998) Jessica Kingsley Publishers

Down's Syndrome – The Facts

Mark Selikowitz

Oxford University Press

Dyslexia

Dyslexia: A Parent's Survival Guide

C Ostler

Ammonite Books

Help for Dyslexic Children

T R Miles

(1983) Routledge

Dyspraxia

Dyspraxia – A Guide for Teachers and Parents

K Ripley, B Daines and J Barrett

(1997) David Fulton

Take Time

Mary Nash-Wortham and Jean Hunt

Epilepsy

'Epilepsy, Learning and Behavioural Children'
F M Besal, in (1995) *Epilepsia* Volume 36 Part1
Raven Press, New York

'Educational Attainment in Children and Young People with Epilepsy'
P Thomson, in *Epilepsy and Education*
Edited by Jolyon Oxley and Gregory Stores
Labaz Sanofi UK Ltd

Gifted Children

Gifted Children

J Freeman
Methuen

Help with Bright Children

(1989) National Association for Gifted Children

Speech and Language Difficulties

Help me speak – a parent's guide to speech and language therapy

J Barrett
(1994) Souvenir Press

Rachel – the 'write' to speak

S Capelin
Minerva Press

It Takes Two to Talk: a parent's guide to helping children communicate

A Manolson
Window Press

Visual Impairment

Visibility and Eye Contact

Journals published three times a year by the Royal National Institute for the Blind.