Introduction

This booklet contains details of a wide range of organisations which you can contact for advice, information and/or support. Every attempt has been made to ensure details are accurate before going to print; it is however possible that some details may change. Additional information can be obtained from libraries, citizen’s advice bureaus and the internet.

If you spot any errors in this book, or have difficulty contacting any of the organisations, please contact Walsall Parent Partnership Service. Our contact details are on the back cover.
Local Organisations

**Addaction**
231 Stafford Street, Walsall  WS2 8DF
Tel: 01922 646262
Website: www.addaction.org.uk
Support for young people aged 19 years and under who are experiencing significant problems with illicit drug or alcohol use, or are considered to be at risk from drug taking family members or friends.

**ADHD Support Group**
Walsall Carers Centre,
The Crossing at St Paul’s, Darwall Street, Walsall  WS1 1DA
Tel: 01922 610810
Website: www.walsallcarers.org
Campaigning to improve local services for families of children with ADHD. Also practical advice from professionals and other parents.

**AFASIC Walsall**
Tel: 01922 637939
Website: www.afasic.org.uk
Support and information for children and young people with speech, language and communication impairments and their families.

**AFASIC West Midlands**
Tel: 0121 241 2788
Website: www.afasic.org.uk
Support and information for children and young people with speech, language and communication impairments and their families.

**Allsorts Support Group**
New Life Centre, Pentecostal Church, Stokes Street, Bloxwich, Walsall  WS3 2DT
Tel: 01922 448055
Support for parents. Activities/trips for families with a child with a special educational need or disability.

**Apples**
Tel:07730 656 342
Support for families who have a child with Autism. Meet other families in the same situation. Children and siblings welcome.

**Autism Support Group**
Tel: 0121 353 2710
E mail: heather@spurrfamily.fsnet.co.uk
Provides support and information via telephone and email to families of children with autism related difficulties.
**Autism West Midlands**
18 Highfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham  B15 3DU
Tel: 0121 450 7582
Fax: 0121 450 7581
Website: www.autismwestmidlands.org.uk
Provides a range of services and information for people with autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) and their families.

**AWARE (Autism Walsall for Action, Resources and Education)**
Tel/text: 07927 861845
E mail: aware-walsall@fsmail.net

**Black Country Connexions**
30 Station Street, Walsall  WS2 9JZ
Tel: 01922 636333
Fax: 01922 636222
E mail: walsallcc@prospects.co.uk
Website: www.prospects.co.uk
Provides advice, guidance, support and personal development for all 13 to 19 year olds.

**Citizens Advice Bureau**
139-144 Lichfield Street, Walsall  WS1 1SE
Tel: 01922 700600
Minicom: 01922 615292
Website: www.citizensadvice.org.uk
Provides free advice and information on legal matters, money and other issues.

**Contact a Family (West Midlands)**
Prospect Hall, 12 College Walk, Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 6LE
Tel: 0121 415 4624
Helpline: 0808 808 3555
Fax: 0121 415 4922
E mail: westmids@cafamily.org.uk
Website: www.cafamily.org.uk
Information and support for families who care for disabled children. Support and advice on how to set up a support group.

**Dudley Dyspraxia Support Group**
Telephone number available from Dyspraxia Foundation: 01462 454 986
E mail: Suem1001@aol.com
Support group run by parents of children with Dyspraxia. Information, support and social activities.
Dyslexia Action  
Provincial House, 69 South Parade  
Sutton Coldfield B72 1QU  
Tel: 0121 3546855  
Fax: 0121 3553662  
E mail: sutton@dyslexiaaction.org.uk  
Website: www.dyslexiaaction.org.uk  
Information on Dyslexia. Private psychological and educational assessments for adults and children. Specialist tutoring. Study skills for students of all ages.

Electric Palace  
156A High Street, Bloxwich, Walsall  WS3 3JT  
Tel: 01922 477499  
Website: www.electric-palace.co.uk  
Provides support, training and information to young people on a range of issues, giving them the skills and confidence to make the most of their lives. Also youth clubs and a cyber café.

Home Start Walsall  
Birchills Street, Walsall  WS2 8NG  
Tel: 01922 647018  
E mail: admin@homestartwalsall.org.uk  
A voluntary scheme providing friendship and support to young families, who feel isolated and under stress, with at least one child under 5.

Kids (West Midlands)  
249 Birmingham Road, Wylde Green, Sutton Coldfield  B72 1EA  
Tel: 0121 355 2707  
Website: www.kids-wmreg.org.uk  
Helping children and young people, aged 0 to 19, with disabilities, to get the most out of life.

Kip McGrath Education Centre  
Lazy Hill Road, Aldridge Walsall  WS9  
Tel: 01922 453732  
Also  
63 Birmingham Road, Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham  B72 1QS  
Tel: 0121 321 3344  
Website: www.kipmcgrath.com  
Professional tutoring service offering help to children from 6 – 16 years in English and maths.

Link Up  
Tel: 01922 496924 / 457360 / 712179  
E mail: linkupwalsall@aol.com  
Website: www.linkupwalsall.co.uk  
A group of parents giving support to other parents of children with any type of special need or disability. Events and activities for children and families. Football training for children with special needs.
Midlands SEN Mediation
16 Queen Street, Wellington, Telford TF1 1EH
Tel: 01952 275039
E mail: office@midlandssenmediation.com
Website: www.midlandssenmediation.com
Provides an independent mediation service to help parents when there is a disagreement with their child’s school or local education authority.

National Blind Children’s Society
2nd Floor Shawton House, 792 Hagley Road, Quinton, Birmingham B68 0PJ
Tel: 01278 764 770
Fax: 01278 764 771
Website: www.nbcs.org.uk
Enabling blind and partially sighted children and young people to achieve their educational and recreational goals.

NCH - Walsall Resource Centre
Pool Street, Chuckery, Walsall WS1 2EN
Tel: 01922 636662
Website: www.nch.org.uk/projects
NCH provides a range of support and services for disabled children and their families.

PROUD (Parents, Relatives and Others Understanding Downs)
26 St. Mary’s Way, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0AB
Tel: 07951 019 506
E mail: jo@proudwalsall.org
Website: www.proudwalsall.org
Support and information for families and friends of people with Down’s Syndrome.

Sure Start Birchills and North Walsall
Birchills Street, Walsall WS2 8NF
Phone and fax: 01922 646574
Website: www.surestart.gov.uk
Support for families: bringing together early education, childcare and health. Improving health and emotional development for young children.

Walkways – Walsall Youth Projects
44 Littleton Street, Walsall WS2 8EN
Tel: 01922 615393
E mail: info@walkways.co.uk
Work with young people between 11-25 in need of counselling, information and support.
Walsall Carers Centre
The Crossing at St Paul’s, Darwall Street
Walsall  WS1 1DA
Tel: 01922 610810
Website: www.walsallcarers.org
Charitable company working with statutory and voluntary organisations to support carers of all ages. Information on all aspects of disability, including, clubs, organisations and support groups.

Walsall Children’s Information Service
Challenge Building, 1 Hatherton Street
Walsall  WS1 1YB
Tel: 01922 653383
Website: www.childreninwalsall.co.uk
Information and advice to parents, childcare providers and employers about children’s services in Walsall. Includes: childcare, early years education, family support and health.

Walsall Deaf Peoples Centre
59A Lichfield Street, Walsall  WS4 2BX
Tel: 01922 624794
Text only: 01922 614795
Fax: 0870 705 8738
E mail: enquiries@walsalldeaf.org.uk
Website: www.walsalldeaf.org.uk
Provides support to deaf people including a Youth Club and BSL training.

Walsall DIAL
(Disability Information and Advice Line)
114 Lichfield Street, Walsall  WS1 1SZ
Tel: 01922 622227
Fax: 01922 635588
E mail: info@walsalldc.co.uk
Website: www.walsalldc.co.uk
Provides information and advice to disabled people and others on all aspects of living with a disability.

Walsall Services for Deafblind People
Sensory Support Team, Allen’s Centre,
Hilton Road, New Invention, Willenhall
WV12 5XB
Tel: 01902 413003
Fax: 01902 413069
The section of Walsall Council which provides support to deafblind people.
National Organisations

**Action for Sick Children**
36 Jacksons Edge Road, Disley, Stockport SK12 2JL
Freephone: 0800 0744519
Website: www.actionforsickchildren.org
Works to ensure that sick children always receive the highest standard of care possible.

**Advisory Centre for Education (ACE)**
1C Aberdeen Studios, 22 Highbury Grove, London N5 2DQ
Tel: 0808 8005793
Exclusions information line: 020 7704 9822
Fax: 020 7354 9069
Website: www.ace-ed.org.uk
An independent advice service for parents on the education system and legal rights, including exclusions.

**AFASIC**
2nd Floor, 50-52 Great Sutton Street, London EC1V 0DJ
Helpline: 08453 555577
Fax: 020 7251 2834
Website: www.afasic.org.uk
Provides advice and information to parents of children with communication impairments.

**After 16 – what’s new?**
Website: www.after16.org.uk
Website for teenagers and young people in the UK who have an impairment or disability and are wondering about opportunities and services there should be when they leave school. Parents, carers and professionals will also find it useful.

**ACT**
Orchard House, Orchard Lane, Bristol BS1 5DT
Tel: 0117 922 1556
Website: www.act.org.uk
Working to improve care and services for all children in the UK with life-threatening or life-limiting conditions and their families.

**Asian People’s Disability Alliance**
Alperton House, Bridgewater Road, Wembley, Middlesex HA0 1EH
Tel and fax: 020 8902 2113
E mail: apdmcha@aol.com
Website: www.apda.org.uk
Provides culturally appropriate services and information for Asian disabled people and their carers and families.
**Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus (ASBAH)**

Asbah House, 42 Park Road, Peterborough PE1 2UQ
Helpline: 0845 450 7755 (local call rates)
Website: www.asbah.org
Provides advice and practical support to people with these disabilities, their families and carers.

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**Attention Deficit Disorder Information Support Service (ADDISS)**

10 Station Road, Mill Hill
London NW7 2JU
Tel: 020 8906 9068
Fax: 020 8959 0727
Website: www.addiss.co.uk
Provides information and resources about Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

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**Barnardo’s**

Tanners Lane, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex IG6 1QG
Tel: 020 8550 8822
Website: www.barnados.org.uk
Helps disadvantaged children to reach their full potential.

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**British Institute of Brain Injured Children (BIBIC)**

British Institute of Brain Injured Children
Knowle Hall, Bridgwater, Somerset TA7 8PJ
Tel: 01278 684060
Website: www.bibic.org.uk
Practical help to families of children with a wide range of learning difficulties and disabilities.

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**British Dyslexia Association**

98 London Road, Reading, Berkshire RG1 5AU
Helpline: 0118 966 8271
Website: www.bdadyslexia.org.uk
Promotes early identification and support in schools to ensure opportunity to dyslexic learners.

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**British Epilepsy Association**

New Anstey House, Gate Way Drive, Yeadon, Leeds LS19 7XY
Helpline: 0808 800 5050
Website: www.epilepsy.org.uk
Provides a wide range of services and information to support anybody with an interest in epilepsy.
Brittle Bone Society
30 Guthrie Street, Dundee DD1 5BS
Tel: 01328 204446
Website: www.brittlebone.org
Offer help, advice and information to people affected by Osteogenesis Imperfecta.

Bullying Online
Website www.bullying.co.uk/parents.php
A website for parents who feel their child may be being bullied, or their child might be a bully.

Children’s Chronic Arthritis Association
Amber Gate, City Walls Road, Worcester WR1 2AH
Tel: 01905 745595
Website: www.ccaa.org.uk
Provides help and information for children with arthritis and their families.

Children’s Education Advisory Service
Trenchard Lines, Upavon, Pewsey, Wiltshire SN9 6BE
Tel: 01707 371854
Fax: 01707 338467
Website: www.ceas.mod.uk
Provides advice and support on all aspects of education for parents in the British armed forces and ministry of defence.

Children’s Legal Centre
Wivenhoe Park, University of Essex Colchester, Essex CO4 3SQ
Advice line: 0845 345 4345
E mail: nel@essex.ac.uk
Website: www.childrenslegalcentre.com
Provides legal advice and representation to children and/or parents regarding education. Includes advice on exclusions, admissions, bullying and school phobia.

CSIE (Centre for Studies on Inclusive Education)
New Redland, Frenchay Campus, Coldharbour Lane, Bristol BS16 1QU
Tel: 0117 344 4007
Fax: 0117 344 4005
Website: http://inclusion.uwe.ac.uk/csie
CSIE offers advice and information about educating children with SEN in ordinary schools.

Cystic Fibrosis Trust
11 London Road, Bromley Kent BR1 1BY
Support helpline: 0845 859 1000
Benefits helpline: 0845 859 1010
Welfare helpline: 0845 859 1020
Website: www.cftrust.org.uk/
Aims to ensure that people with CF receive the best possible care and support in all aspects of their lives.
Department for Work and Pensions – Disability and Carers Service
General benefit enquiries: 0800 88 22 00
Benefits textphone: 0800 24 33 55
DLA enquiries: 08457 12 34 56
DLA textphone: 08457 22 44 33
Website: www.dwp.gov.uk

Provides advice and information on a range of benefits for sick and disabled people including how to claim Disability Living Allowance.

DIAL UK
St Catherine’s, Tickhill Road,
Doncaster DN4 8QN
Tel: 01302 310 123
(also text phone if you use voice announce)
Fax: 01302 310 404
Website: www.dialuk.info/

A national network of local disability information and advice services run by and for disabled people.

Disability Equality in Education
Unit 4Q, Leroy House, 436 Essex Road,
London N1 3QP
Tel: 020 7359 2855
Website: www.diseed.org.uk

Supports the inclusion of disabled people in mainstream education through the provision of training, consultancy and resources.

Disability Rights Commission
DRC Helpline, FREEPOST MID02164
Stratford upon Avon CV37 9BR
Helpline: 08457 622 633
Textphone: 08457 622
Website: www.drc-gb.org

Provides information and advice about all aspects of the Disability Discrimination Act, including discrimination in education.

Disability Sport England
Solecast House, 13-27 Brunswick Place,
London N1 6DX
Tel: 020 7490 4919
Fax: 020 7490 4914
Website: www.eurowellowpages.com/dse/dispengl.html

Helps make a healthy lifestyle and participation in sport a reality for thousands of disabled people.

Downs Syndrome Association
Langdon Down Centre, 2a Langdon Park
Teddington TW11 9PS
Tel: 0845 230 0372
Fax: 0845 230 0373
E mail: info@downs-syndrome.org.uk
Website: www.downs-syndrome.org.uk

Provides information, counselling and support for people with Down’s syndrome, their families and carers, and a resource for professionals.
**Dyslexia Action**  
Park House, Wick Road, Egham,  
Surrey TW20 0HH  
Tel: 01784 222 300  
Fax: 01784 222 333  
Website: www.dyslexiaaction.org.uk  
Assessment, teaching and teacher training. It also produces its own publications and teaching materials and undertakes a continuous research programme.

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**Dyspraxia Foundation**  
8 West Alley, Hitchin,  
Hertfordshire  SG5 1EG  
Tel: 01462 454 986  
Fax: 01462 455 052  
Website: www.dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk  
Helps people to understand and cope with dyspraxia. A resource for parents, teenagers and adults who have the condition, and for the professionals who help all of them.

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**Education Otherwise**  
PO Box 325, Kings Lynn, PE34 3XW  
Helpline: 0870 730 0074  
Website: www.education-otherwise.org.uk  
Self help organisation for parents educating or thinking of educating their children at home.

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**Family Fund Trust**  
Unit 4 Alpha Court, Monks Cross Drive,  
Huntington, York  YO32 9WN  
Tel: 0845 130 4542  
Minicom: 01904 658 085  
Website: www.familyfundtrust.org.uk/  
Helps families of disabled and seriously ill children under the age of 16. We give grants and information related to the care of the child.

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**Face to Face**  
PO Box 554, Worcester WR4 0WL  
Tel/Fax: 01905 724665  
Website: www.face2facenetwork.org.uk  
A free confidential befriending service for any parent who has recently learnt or is discovering their child has a disability.

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**Hemihelp**  
Camelford House, 89 Albert Embankment,  
London, SE1 7TP  
Helpline: 0845 123 2372  
Website: www.hemihelp.org.uk  
Information and support to families where there is a child with hemiplegia.
**Home Education Advisory Service**
PO Box 98, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL8 6AN
Tel: 01707 37185
Fax: 01707 338467
E mail: enquiries@heas.org.uk
Website: www.heas.org.uk
Advice and practical support for families who wish to educate their children at home

**Hyperactive Children’s Support Group**
71 Whyke Lane, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 7PD
Tel: 01243 539966
Website: www.hacsg.org.uk
Provides support to families with hyperactive children including information on looking at your child’s diet.

**I can**
4 Dyers Buildings, Holborn, London EC1N 2QP
Tel: 0845 225 4071
Fax: 0845 225 4072
Website: www.ican.org.uk
The charity that helps children communicate. Provides specialist therapy and education for children, information for parents, and training and advice for teachers and other professionals.

**Independent Panel for Special Education Advice (IPSEA)**
6 Carlow Mews, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 1EA
Advice line: 0800 018 4016
Website: www.ipsea.org.uk
Advice for parents of children with special educational needs (including information on exclusions). Free advice and representation, where appropriate, for parents appealing to the Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal (SENDIST).

**The Local Government Ombudsman**
Tel: 0207 915 3210
Website: www.lgo.org.uk
You can make a complaint about the local authority to the ombudsman if you believe that they have caused you (or your child) injustice because of maladministration.

**Makaton Vocabulary Development Project**
31 Firwood Drive, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3QD
Tel: 01276 61390
Fax: 01276 681368
Website: www.makaton.org
Information and training for families and professionals. Translation of public information into Makaton signs and symbols.
MENCAP
123 Golden Lane, London  EC1Y 0RT
Tel: 020 7454 04545
Fax: 020 7608 3254
Email: information@mencap.org.uk
Website: www.mencap.org.uk
Support and information for people with a learning disability, and their families and carers.

MIND
15-19 Broadway, London  E15 4BQ
Info line: 0854 766 0163
Tel: 020 8519 2122
Fax: 020 8522 1725
Website: www.mind.org.uk
The leading mental health charity in England and Wales. Working to create a better life for everyone with experience of mental distress.

Multikulti
Website: www.multikulti.org.uk
Information, advice, guidance and learning materials in community languages including: Albanian, Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, English, Farsi, French, Gujerati, Somali, Spanish, Portugese, Turkish, Urdu.

Muscular Dystrophy Campaign
7-11 Prescott Place, London  SW4 6BS
Tel: 020 7720 8055
Fax: 020 7498 0670
E mail: info@muscular-dystrophy.org
Website: www.muscular-dystrophy.org
Provides practical, medical and emotional support to people affected by the condition.

NAGC
(National Association of Gifted Children)
Suit 14, Challenge House, Sherwood Drive, Bletchley, Buckinghamshire  MK3 6DP
Tel: 0845 450 0221 (local call rate)
Fax: 0870 770 3219
Website: www.nagcbritain.org.uk
Ensuring that appropriate provision is made for gifted children to develop their talents to the maximum.

National Association of Toy and Leisure Libraries
68 Churchway, London  NW1 1LT
Tel: 020 7255 4600
Website: www.natll.org.uk
Exists to support existing toy and leisure libraries, to promote the development of new toy and leisure libraries, and to raise awareness of the importance of play.
National Autistic Society  
393 City Road, London  EC1V 1NG  
Tel: 020 7833 2299  
Helpline: 0845 070 4004  
Minicom: 0845 070 4003  
Website: www.nas.org.uk  
Provides care, support and advice to parents, carers and people with autism. Also includes information on autism in various community languages.

National Blind Children’s Society  
Bradbury House, Market Street, Highbridge, Somerset  TA9 3BW  
Tel: 01278 764 764  
Website: www.nbcs.org.uk  
Working to enable blind and partially sighted children and young people to achieve their educational and recreational goals.

National Deaf Children’s Society  
15 Dufferin Street, London  EC1Y 8UR  
Voice or text helpline: 0808 800 8880  
Minicom: 0808 800 8880  
Fax: 020 7251 5020  
E mail: helpline@ndcs.org.uk  
Website: www.ndcs.org.uk  
Exists to support parents in enabling their child to maximise their skills and abilities.

National Portage Association  
8A The Gardens, Fentham Road, Erdington, Birmingham B23 6AG  
Tel: 0121 303 0183  
Website: www.portage.org.uk  
Portage is a home-visiting educational service for pre-school children with additional support needs and their families.

Network 81  
1-7 Woodfield Terrace, Stanstead, Essex  CM24 8AJ  
Helpline: 0870 770 3262  
Fax: 0870 770 3263  
E mail: Network81@tesco.net  
Website: www.network81.co.uk  
Offers practical help and support to parents throughout all stages of special educational needs assessment and statementing.

Parentline Plus  
520 Highgate Studios, 53-79 Highgate Road, London  NW5 1TL  
Free helpline: 0808 800 2222  
Free textphone: 0800 783 6783  
Website: www.parentlineplus.org.uk  
Offers support to anyone parenting a child.
Parents for Inclusion
Unit 1, Winchester House, Kennington Park Business Centre, Cranmer Road, London SW9 6EJ
Helpline: 0800 652 3145 (free from landlines)
Helpline: 020 7582 5008
Fax: 020 7735 3828
Website: www.parentsforinclusion.org
Help for parents whose children have special educational needs, to get the support they need in mainstream school.

Rathbone
Churchgate House, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 6EU
Tel: 0800 917 6790
Website: www.rathbone.org
Education and training for young people, including those who have been excluded from school. Advice and information on special educational needs.

Rathbone Asian Education Advice Line
Churchgate House, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 6EU
Asian advice line: 0800 085 4528
Website: www.rathbone.org
Free advice and support to parents and families speaking Urdu, Gujerati, Punjabi, Bengali and Hindi who have a child with special educational needs.

Royal National Institute for the Blind
105 Judd Street, London WC1H 9NE
Helpline: 0845 766 9999
Tel: 020 7388 1266
Fax: 020 7388 2034
Website: www.rnib.org.uk
Offers information, support and advice to over two million people with sight problems.

SCOPE
PO Box 833, Milton Keynes, MK12 5NY
Helpline: 0808 800 3333
Website: www.scope.org.uk
Information, advice and support for people with cerebral palsy. Also campaigning for equality for people with a disability.

The Secretary of State for Education and Skills
Tel: 020 7273 1133
You can make a formal complaint to the secretary of state against the local authority or the governors of your child’s school if they are failing to fulfil a legal duty, and if they are acting unreasonably.
SENSE
11-13 Clifton Terrace, Finsbury Park, London N4 3SR
Tel: 020 7272 7774
Textphone: 020 7272 9648
Fax: 020 7272 6012
Website: www.sense.org.uk
Services and support for people who are deafblind, or who have single sensory impairments and/or other disabilities.

Sickle Cell Society
54 Station Road, London NW10 4UA
Tel: 020 8961 7795
Website: www.sicklecellsociety.org
Information, counselling and caring for those with Sickle Cell Disorders and their families.

SKILL (National Bureau for Children with Disabilities)
Chapter House, 18-20 Crucifix Lane, London SE1 3JW
Tel: 0800 328 5050
Website: www.skill.org.uk
Promotes opportunities in learning, training and employment for people with disabilities who are over 16 years of age.

Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal (SENDIST)
SEN Appeals, Mowden Hall, Staindrop, Darlington, County Durham DL3 9BR
Tel: 01325 392555
Website: www.sendist.gov.uk
Independent organisation set up by an act of parliament to decide and hear parents’ appeals against local authority decisions on children’s special educational needs.

The Stroke Association
Stoke Information Service, 240 City Road
London EC1V 2PR
Helpline: 0845 3033 100
Website: www.stroke.org.uk
Provides support for people who have had strokes, their families and carers.

Williams Syndrome Foundation
161 High Street, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1BX
Tel: 01732 365 152
Fax: 01732 360178
Website: www.williams-syndrome.org.uk
Provides support to families of children with Williams Syndrome.