



Charity Support

Torbay Holiday Helpers Network - is based in Torbay and helps families all across the UK. They provide complimentary holidays to families who have children living with serious illness, bereaved families who have lost a child or parent and to families who have a terminally ill parent.

Dorothy House - offers a range of services to support the family during a loss. They use therapeutic play and creative approaches to support children in communicating their feelings. Bereavement support for children with learning disabilities and/or autism. They also regularly arrange family events for children and young people who are facing or have experienced the death of a parent. In addition to holding fun days for families with other charities.

Grief Encounter - helps to connect grieving families to other individuals who have experienced a loss. They provide a self-help and peer support service, along with overnight retreats for the family.



Supporting Children with S.E.N

Someone I Love Has Died Story - Autism Little Learners
https://drive.google.com/file/d/19jv-lkS5JcqEZpMMuvWXXP_q_VOoXFQX/view

A guide to supporting SEN children through death, loss and grief - Educational Psychology Services
https://edwardstrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Bereavement_and_autism_a_guide_for_parents.pdf

Winston's Wish - has an experienced team that can offer guidance, advice and support to adults supporting bereaved children with SEN.
0808 802 0021
ask@winstonswish.org



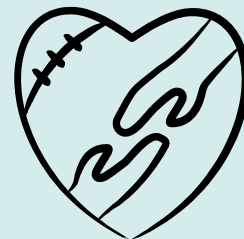
Bereavement



Bereavement support is essential for families as it helps them to process grief, navigate emotional challenges, and prevent long-term mental health issues. It provides a space for healing and connection, ensuring that no-one faces the loss alone.

There are a variety of organisations available to contact a professional in bereavement support for you and your family:

- **Winston's Wish** - access to a bereavement professional through live chat, help and support line, email or text
0808 802 0021
- **Dove Service** - located in Hanley for face to face appointment, remote appointments or weekly Support Group meetings in Burslem.
01782 683155
- **Cruse Bereavement Care Freephone National Helpline** - staffed by trained volunteers, who offer emotional support.
0808 808 1677
- **Windmills Charity** - acute bereavement support for children and young people. They support difficult conversations, bespoke support when someone is dying and unite families with grief.
01782 438439



What you need to know

PARENTAL SUPPORT



Including bereavement support



PEGiS - Parent Engagement Group in Stoke



PEGiS is a forum/support group for parents/carers of children and young people with SEN or SEND.



It is a forum/support group also for young people (up to the age of 25) with SEND to engage in informal discussion around educational issues and concerns.



They have informal meetings on the first Wednesday every month at Westfield Children's Centre, ST3 4RF for 1 - 2 hours.



The meetings allow an opportunity to air concerns and share experiences relating to their child's SEND needs.



Enables parents/carers/young people to become better informed about SEN processes and procedures so that they feel empowered to challenge Local Authority (LA) policy and practice.



Gives parents/carers the opportunity to feedback to the LA enabling parent/carer views to be heard with regard to SEND issues.



To continually seek to improve the ways that parents/carers/young people can participate in shaping the LA's SEN and Disability Policy Development.



Council for Disabled Children



Provides information, advice and support to children/young people with SEND and their parents/carers. They offer free advice and support, and promote independence and self advocacy.

Listening to parents/carers/young people's views/concerns about their child or young person's educational needs and disabilities.

Offering accurate and unbiased and confidential information by independently trained staff.

Offering support for those who need it, in attending meetings, writing letters/reports and filling in forms.

Signposting to Parent/Carer forums and other relevant organisations.

01782 234701 iass@stoke.gov.uk

Home Start Parenting Links:

- General parenting advice
- 24 hour support
- Adoption and fostering
- Forces families
- Bereavements

<https://www.home-start.org.uk/parenting-links>

Staffordshire Connects:

Provides information for parents and carers who have English as an additional language.

<https://www.staffordshireconnects.info/kb5/staffordshire/directory/advice.page?id=LM00YEurZ68>



HELPFUL TIPS

SENDIASS:

Offers free, accurate and impartial information, advice and support to children, young people and parents with SEND.

