

The Disabled Children's Information and Advice Service (DCIAS) is provided by EnhanceAble, a local Kingston Charity in partnership with The Royal Borough of Kingston, Kingston Hospital Trust and The Kingston Primary Care Trust.

The DCIAS provides guidance and leaflets about:

- ◇ Benefits
- ◇ Leisure
- ◇ Childcare
- ◇ Blue Badges
- ◇ Support Groups
- ◇ 'I-Count' Disabled Children's Register
- ◇ Parent Partnership Services

If you require help understanding this leaflet or any other further information please contact either Caroline Baxter or Patricia Farlow.

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ICOUNT Disabled Children's Register

Disabled Children's Information Service

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Kingston
Children & Young People's Trust
Making a Difference Together

EnhanceAble

Register for children and Young People with Disabilities or Special Needs

The Children Act 1989 requires councils to keep a register of all disabled children and young people living in the area. In Kingston the council has joined with Kingston Primary Care Trust and Kingston Hospital NHS Trust to operate one register – called the ‘I-Count’ Register - for all disabled children living in the borough.

The register ensures that appropriate services know about disabled children and young people and their carers who may need additional help and support now or in the future.

What are the advantages of registering your child?

There is no legal requirement to register but if most children are registered the agencies get a more accurate picture of what services are needed. The information from the register will be used to plan services and ensure that resources are used effectively. As a parent you will have the opportunity to be involved through consultation in the development of these services.

Through the register you will be kept informed about the services designed to help and support you and your child at different stages of your child's life. You will receive information about new services, entitlements and benefits. You will also be given the opportunity to express your views and concerns through regular consultation.

When registered you will be entitled to receive an ‘I-Count Card’ and the Kingston Connections Newsletter. This newsletter is produced three times a year a week before each half term holiday and provides a round up of news and events from around the borough as well as information on activities and services that are available both locally and nationally.

What is the ‘I-Count’ card?

The ‘I-Count Card’ identifies a child with a disability so making it easier for their carer when requesting extra help, such as “fast tracking” when there are queues or trying to obtain discounts.

Where can I find a list of participating organisations?

A list of participating organisations that have agreed to acknowledge and support the card can be found at www.icount.org. They include major national leisure facilities, local shops and cinemas, etc.

What are the criteria for registering?

To qualify for registering, your child's disability needs to be permanent and substantial. The criteria for including a child or young person on the register are different from the criteria used for a statement of Special Educational Needs. Consideration will be given to whether your child has one or more of the following when considering registration:

- ◇ Moderate or severe physical disability
- ◇ Moderate or severe learning disability
- ◇ Profoundly multiply disabled
- ◇ Communication disorder
- ◇ Hearing impairment
- ◇ Visual impairment
- ◇ Serious chronic medical condition
- ◇ Serious mental health condition
- ◇ Behavioural difficulties.

Data Protection

All data is strictly controlled by register services and security and data protection procedures are independently reviewed on a regular basis.

How to Apply

If you wish to apply to put your child on the register please contact the DCIAS and we can send you an application form. We can also offer support in completing the forms.

If your application were to be unsuccessful we can support you in an appeal.