



S.P.I.N.

Special Needs Information Network
For Young People with Special Needs in Suffolk

What is SPIN?

County Councils are required by law to keep an up-to-date list of disabled children living in their areas. In Suffolk, Health, Education and Social Care have organised a way of collecting information about children who have special needs called the Special Needs Information Network - SPIN.

SPIN records are held on computer at Social Care Central Office. You can register your child on SPIN by filling in an Enrolment Form. The only information stored on SPIN will be the information you give us on the form.

Why should you enrol your child on SPIN?

So that Social Care and other organisations such as Health, Education and Housing have accurate information in order to plan their services. SPIN gives information about children with disabilities and this helps these organisations to plan more effectively.

What happens to the information on the Enrolment Form?

This information is kept confidential to staff from Social Care, Health and Education. Staff from other organisations who are involved in planning services may ask for information but only general information will be supplied to them. For example, if organisations want to know how many families receive respite care, they will be given the information as numbers, type of respite care and geographical area. No individuals or families will be identified.

Checking the information on spin

If you would like a copy of the information stored on SPIN about your child please contact:

***SPIN Co-ordinator, Suffolk County Council
Social Care Department
127 Ipswich Street
Stowmarket
Suffolk Telephone: 01449 626184***

All the information held on SPIN is checked with you every year to keep it accurate and up-to-date.

Can all children with a disability be enrolled on SPIN?

Only children and young people up to the age of 19 whose disability has a serious effect on their everyday lives may be enrolled on SPIN. This includes children with:

- permanent physical disabilities
 - learning disabilities
 - severe sight or hearing or communication problems
 - specific behaviour problems
 - other disabling conditions that need treatment over a long period of time
- Generally you should consider enrolling your child (ren) on SPIN if they:
- need more personal attention (and for a great deal more time) than other children of a similar age and/or
 - need someone to watch over them to stop them from hurting themselves or others (a lot more than other children of a similar age) and/or
 - receive or is entitled to Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and/or
 - need more help with getting around than other children of a similar age

How do I get my child's name on SPIN?

You will need to fill in an Enrolment Form. You can get one by telephoning **01449 626184** and asking for a SPIN Enrolment Form to be sent to you. The SPIN Co-ordinator will give you help in completing the Enrolment Form.