**CASE STUDIES**

### Case Study 3: SGO family

*Below is an anonymised example of how the East Midlands Adoption Support Service (EMASS) has helped families. Provided by Sarah Lepley, Service Manager, EMASS.*

‘A family contacted EMASS as they were having issues at home and school and felt an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) was needed to support their child’s needs. He was not making progress, had language and learning delay and had been held back a year as he did not have the social skills or concentration to cope with the increasing educational demands in Key Stage 2.

Following the EMASS assessment it was agreed that the SENCo would start to gather information to apply for an EHCP. Parents were signposted to the local Parent Partnership Service (also known as SENDIAS or Liaise in other authorities) and the EHCP process was explained to them. The school implemented a programme of support using Pupil Premium Plus, which was shared with carers.

Some suggestions were made to the class teacher around using a visual timetable and social stories to help the pupil anticipate and prepare for changes. Some direct work on improving concentration using a timer and rewards were put in place in class. The child was moved to be close to the teacher and to counteract his hyper-vigilance; he could see all the class and the classroom door. He was given a sports bottle of water to drink from in lessons and during carpet time to help him manage his anxiety in a sensory way. At the start and end of each day the class TA met him at the door and returned him to his carer, exchanging information on what had been happening at home and school to provide security and safety for him.

EMASS provided some advice to carers about applying for disability benefits and managing contact between the child and his father, as it had been shown to upset the child’s behaviour in a negative manner.’

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| Further information Family Action has been awarded a grant by the DfE to deliver a pilot adoption support service across Lincolnshire and the East Midlands. Working in partnership with Lincolnshire County Council and the East Midlands Regional Adoption Agency, the East Midlands Adoption Support Service (EMASS) aims to improve outcomes for adopted children and their families. The service will focus on providing attachment training and support for schools, as well as individual support for adoptive families. Find out more about the project from: [www.learning-exchange.org.uk](http://www.learning-exchange.org.uk)  Produced by Family Action: Unit 24 Angel Gate, City Road, Islington, London EC1V 2PT  [www.family-action.org.uk](http://www.family-action.org.uk)  Registered charity in England and Wales no: 264713 Registered company limited by guarantee in England and Wales no: 01068186  Read our disclaimer: [www.family-action.org.uk/disclaimer](http://www.family-action.org.uk/disclaimer)  Copyright © Family Action 2017This handout has been produced as part of the EMASS project. Permission is granted to reproduce for personal and educational use only. Selling without prior written consent is prohibited (eg as part of a commercial training programme).  *Last updated: 5.5.17* |