

FIND

Welcome to the Autumn issue of the FIND Newsletter, 2019

We hope you all had a lovely summer break, and are looking forward to the new school year. This issue has some ideas for indoor activities and groups, as the weather gets cooler and the evenings darker.

Inside you can read about Theo, who is hoping to represent Great Britain at next year's Paralympic Games in Tokyo. We all wish him the best of luck and look forward to watching him compete.

Earlier in the year we shared a story from Alia, a student on the new Project SEARCH programme in Preston. Alia and her fellow students graduated in July, with a ceremony at County Hall – read more on page 18.

We also have a story from Holly about her son Finley, who has a rare genetic condition. Parents often tell us that they enjoy reading about other families' experiences of raising a child with a disability or additional need; it can be reassuring to hear from others facing similar issues to their own. If you or a member of your family would like to share your story in a future issue, let us know.

Please send all your letters, news, articles, poems, good ideas, articles for sale and more to **FIND@lancashire.gov.uk** or you can call us on **01772 538077**.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sarah Deady

SEND Information, Advice and Support Team
Inclusion Service

 www.facebook.com/LancashireLocalOffer



"Come, little leaves,"
said the Wind one day,
"Come to the meadows
with me and play.
Put on your dresses of
red and gold;
For Summer is past,
and the days grow
cold."

George Cooper



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Speech & Language



Our speech and language group runs for a course of 6 weeks (term time only) and is aimed at children aged 2-3 years old who have an identified delay or difficulty with their speech, language and communication skills.

The group supports and encourages children to develop their speech and language skills through fun activities and song.

Parents will also be given information, advice and guidance to support their child's speech and language development.

For more information or to book on a course contact:

Children & Family Wellbeing Service

01772 532930

Referrals can also be made through your Health Visitor or Nursery



Has your child a short attention span and poor concentration?

Does your child interrupt, intrude, argue and talk excessively?

Is your child overactive, impulsive, difficult to discipline, & under-achieving?

Do you have a child affected by ADHD?

Commissioned by West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group

ADHD NORTH WEST

is delighted to be introducing a **FREE NEW SERVICE** to provide information, advice, and support for families throughout the West Lancashire area

Established in 1995, ADHD North West has been supporting families for over 24 years. We offer a range of services to meet the varying needs of individual families in order to ensure we provide the most appropriate information and support

Families who are interested in our services can be referred, or self-refer by phoning 01254 352586, or emailing reception@adhdnorthwest.org.uk
More details on our website and facebook page



Our initial ADHD: Parent Empowerment & Skills programme will be held at

P.U.L.S.E.

**Unit 73 Concourse Shopping centre
Skelmersdale WN8 6LN**

Tuesday mornings from 10.00am to 12.30pm
starting on the 24th September 2019
Places allocated on first come first served basis

We're here to help – all you have to do is ask!



NHS
West Lancashire
Clinical Commissioning Group

Makaton Training

Makaton is a fun, inclusive and effective way to give children and adults of all ages a way to communicate and express themselves.



Who

For family members, carers and professionals at work (e.g. education and health settings, other public services, charities, organisations) of, or who work or come into contact with those with additional or special needs, learning disabilities, limited or delayed verbal speech.



What

All Makaton training provides information about what Makaton is and how to use it. You will learn key signs and symbols to help you better communicate with your child or family member, students, customers or clients you work with. Workshops always meet the participants needs and level, whether you're a beginner or have experience of Makaton.



Why

- help Makaton users, those with additional or special needs, learning disabilities, limited or delayed verbal speech to communicate more effectively.
- support and develop communication, language and literacy skills, understanding and processing.
- reduce frustration by helping someone to communicate.
- be more inclusive.



How

- practical signing sessions
- practise sentences/conversations
- question and answer
- receive feedback
- share experiences
- visual aids
- games

Emma Jones is an experienced practitioner and licenced Makaton Tutor who is available to deliver a full range of standardised Makaton workshops at your setting as well as open workshops. Bespoke workshops can also be created. Emma has a wealth of hands-on experience using Makaton in different settings and has experience of supporting Makaton users, practitioners and family members. If you are interested in learning Makaton, wish to book in-house training or would like to discuss how you can be supported and which training is most suitable for you please get in touch.

emmajones.dance@gmail.com

07973636019



SEND

Information, Advice and Support Team

The SEND Information, Advice and Support (IAS) Team are part of Lancashire's Inclusion Service.

The IAS team's role includes all IAS impartial and confidential one to one work with parent carers, as required by the Code of Practice, along with the delivery of courses for parents and carers.

We are exploring ways of providing a range of drop in sessions to include guest speakers, Special Educational Needs (SEN) courses and Information Events. These will be held at different times to allow more parents and carers to access our service.

Check the Local Offer www.lancashire.gov.uk/SEND and the facebook page www.facebook.com/LancashireLocalOffer for updates.

Contact us

To speak to an IAS Officer or IAS Liaison Officer, please call: 0300 123 6706 or email: information.lineteam@lancashire.gov.uk

Inclusion Service update

It was a joy to watch a young child playing with his grandparents in the park this weekend. As I watched, it became clear that the boy had considerable learning difficulties and it served to remind me, once again, of the significant challenges faced by families with children with SEND, even when relaxing and having fun.

This is one of the reasons I think it is so important to ensure we get it right for all children and young people with SEND in Lancashire. I appreciate of course we still have some way to go, but I do believe we are beginning to see the effects of some of the changes that have been introduced since the local area Ofsted inspection. The feedback we have received from families about the changes we have introduced, in relation to the support from social care for education, health and care assessments, has been overwhelmingly positive, for example. We are also now working much more closely with our partners, that include parents and carers as well as colleagues from education, health and social care, to improve the quality of education, health and care plans.

Our new Director of Education, Sarah Callaghan, started a couple of weeks ago. She will be working alongside our Executive Director of Education and Children's Services, Edwina Grant OBE. Both have considerable experience and a proven track record of success in fulfilling the same roles in other local authorities previously. I am confident that under their guidance we will all work together to accelerate the pace of improvement. In my initial discussions with Sarah I shared our plans to ensure we will have enough special school places available for those who need them. We have also begun to develop our thinking about how funding can be used more effectively to support all children and young people with SEND.

Clearly there is still a lot of work to be done. I do, however, look forward to working alongside you and your children, to implement the changes that are needed to ensure Lancashire is a place where we put our children and young people at the centre of everything we do.



Dr Sally Richardson

Head of Inclusion/Principal Educational Psychologist

**CHANGE
STARTS
WITH**



#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

**ANTI-BULLYING
WEEK 2019**

11th - 15th November

**ODD SOCKS
DAY 2019**



11th November

Whether it is verbal, physical, online or in-person, bullying has a significant impact on a child's life well in to adulthood.

The Anti-Bullying Alliance is urging action for this year's Anti-Bullying Week and saying that by making small, simple changes, we can break this cycle and create a safe environment for everyone.

The Alliance has announced the theme of Anti-Bullying Week 2019 as 'Change Starts With Us', underlining how everyday acts like listening to young people, having a conversation, thinking about the impact of our words or stopping before hitting 'like' on a hurtful social media post, can help to reduce bullying.

The campaign aims to emphasise that we all have a part to play: Change Starts with Us.

Following a consultation with over 1,000 children and 200 teachers, schools staff and members of the Anti-Bullying Alliance, it emerged that a top priority was giving pupils, staff, parents and other key players such as government and industry the tools to prevent and respond to bullying both online and offline.

This year, the Anti-Bullying Alliance is expecting widespread support for Anti-Bullying Week, which was celebrated in 80% of schools in 2018. ABA will be working with young people to develop parent tools, films, a social media campaign and a set of free cross-curricular teaching resources to support both primary and secondary schools to embrace the theme.

Odd Socks Day will be held once again to mark the first day of Anti-Bullying Week. CBeebies star and Anti-Bullying Alliance patron Andy Day and his band Andy and the Odd Socks are supporting Anti-Bullying Week 2019 and are encouraging students to wear odd socks to school to celebrate what makes us all unique.

There will also be Anti-Bullying Week School Staff Awards for those inspiring members of the school workforce who go the extra mile to support pupils and prevent bullying. Pupils can nominate members of school staff for the award.

Martha Evans, Director of the Anti-Bullying Alliance, said:

"Children and young people tell us time and time again how being bullied can leave you feeling powerless. However, it does not have to be this way. Our consultation with pupils, teachers and many others, showed that we can all make changes to be part of the solution. Whether it is speaking to someone we trust when bullying happens to us, or calling it out if we suspect it's happening to someone else, we can all work together for a solution. Remember, change starts here, change starts now, change starts with us".

Quote from Andy Day:

"Once again Andy and the Odd Socks are right behind Anti-Bullying Week. On the first day of the campaign, we are asking children to get creative with their footwear on Odd Socks Day and show they are celebrating what makes us all unique. Look out for this year's toe tapping Change Starts With Us song to help bring Odd Socks Day to life".

Anti-Bullying Week runs from 11 to 15 November 2019 – get involved at:

**www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/
@ABAonline: #AntiBullyingWeek
#ChangeStartsWithUs #OddSocks.**



**"Be the change that you
wish to see in the world."**

~ Mahatma Gandhi

Keeping Children Safe Online

Online Safety has evolved to become a key safeguarding challenge of current times – over recent years, the scope of challenges and potential risks has increased substantially, particularly for those with specific vulnerabilities. However, for Parents and Carers, there is some consolation - **online safety at its core remains a safeguarding issue** and fundamentally, is **actually about behaviours rather than the technology** itself. That said, the two are naturally linked so having an awareness of current apps and games helps us to understand our children's online environment a little better and be better placed to support should challenges arise.

Staying Updated

An invaluable resource that can help with this aspect is NetAware from the NSPCC & O2. NetAware provides a summary of popular apps, games and social media platforms, including what they are, age requirements, typical content and what safety settings they have. NetAware also provides **a free app for smartphones** so we can stay updated as new items are released. See: www.net-aware.org.uk



Anti-Bullying Week (ABW) 2019

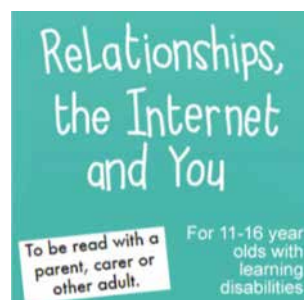
ABW is an annual event and in 2019, runs from Mon 11th – Fri 15th November with a theme of **'Change Starts With Us'**. As the most common online safety concern raised by children & young people, ABW gives us a timely opportunity to have a discussion about concerns our child may have and how we can support and address issues together. For 2019, it will include **a special focus on Online Bullying** - find out more about ABW and take a look at the interactive tool for parents and carers at: www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk



Teenagers - Having THE conversation

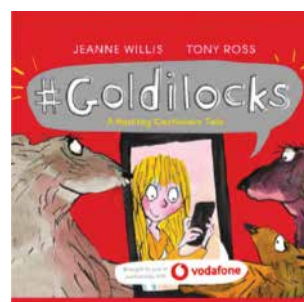
Talking with our children about the online world is the **single biggest difference we can make to help them stay safe online**. Whilst a challenge for any parent or carer, this can be particularly challenging for those of us with teenagers who have some aspect of learning difficulty. Developed as part of a Sexual Health** project in Kingston, a useful resource that may help inform a conversation about online relationships with 11-16 year olds is **'Relationships, the Internet and You'**. The guide is in the form of an online flipbook and covers a variety of topics (**advisory note: contains themes including Sexting; Asking Someone Out and Sex) - see:

https://issuu.com/familyvoice/docs/relationships__the_internet_and_you



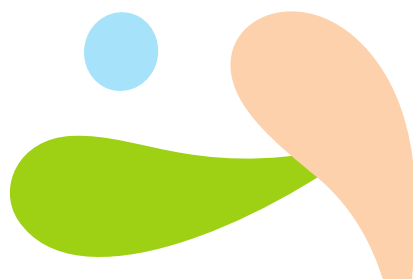
Younger Children - #Goldilocks

Discussing Online Safety at an early age is important. #Goldilocks is a fairy tale for the digital age and offers a fun way to start having a conversation with **younger children who are increasingly aware of the online world and social media**. Developed by Vodafone, #Goldilocks introduces concepts such as being kind online and asking permission before sharing – see: www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/digital-parenting/goldilocks



Graham Lowe

LSCB Online Safeguarding Advisor
Lancashire Safeguarding Boards 2019
www.lancshiresafeguarding.org.uk/online-safeguarding



Central Lancashire Safe Haven

A calm environment for anyone seeking emotional support and advice.

We are here to help.

The **Central Lancashire Safe Haven** is a welcoming and non-judgemental place for individuals struggling socially and emotionally with life challenges or experiencing a mental health crisis.

Mon~Fri 11am–11pm
Sat & Sun 12pm–11pm

To find out more about the support we provide, visit us at:

www.facebook.com/RFHavenLancs

or contact us directly at:

centrallancashirehaven@richmondfellowship.org.uk



myplace

A NATURAL
WAY TO
WELLBEING

Are you aged between 13 and 24? Join the Myplace team at one of our hubs and take part in a range of ecotherapy activities. The hubs are designed to help you develop new skills and improve both your mental and physical health, whilst meeting new friends.

Each weekly session is free and will incorporate several of the project's ecotherapy themes into the activities offered.



NHS
Lancashire Care
NHS Foundation Trust

THE WILDLIFE TRUSTS
Lancashire,
Manchester &
N Merseyside

Myplace ecotherapy activities are based on 5 key themes:

- Practical Conservation Work
- Wildlife Walks
- Mindful Environments
- Growing Projects
- Bushcraft

GET IN
TOUCH

Email:
myplace@lancswt.org.uk

Twitter:
[@myplace2gr0w](https://twitter.com/myplace2gr0w)

Facebook:
[Myplace2gr0w](https://www.facebook.com/Myplace2gr0w)

Phone:
01772 872007/872017

www.lancswt.org.uk/myplace

The Myplace team are making a difference

"IT'S DONE
AMAZING THINGS
FOR MY MENTAL
HEALTH"

Fiona
Myplace participant

Happier Lancashire



Feeling good with the five ways to mental wellbeing

mind
for better mental health
Lancashire

The Happier Lancashire movement aims to boost happiness and increase awareness of the 5 ways to wellbeing. Bringing people together to share their stories of how introducing these simple actions into day to day life can make a big difference for you and those around you.

The 5 ways to wellbeing

Connect

Positive relationships are important for keeping up our spirits. Take time to engage with others and express an interest. Making an effort to be sociable and really listen will improve your sense of wellbeing.

- Embrace the moment and have a chat
- Ask someone how they are feeling and really listen
- Speak to someone new and find a shared interest

Be Active

Exercise not only keeps our bodies healthy, it makes us feel good too. Incorporate low-impact physical activity into daily life. Getting out and about or simply moving more will boost your mood.

- Do some stretches or go for a walk
- Join a rambling group or running club
- Organise a group sporting activity

Take Notice

Being mindful and observant allows us to appreciate the world around us. Reflect on what it is you value and make positive choices. Savouring the moment and enjoying the environment will enhance your self-understanding.

- Explore your local area and visit new places
- Appreciate nature and wildlife
- Think how other people might be feeling

Keep Learning

Gaining new skills or developing existing talents enhances self-esteem and builds confidence. Set a goal, make a plan and learn something new. Continued learning throughout life will satisfy your curiosity and encourage social interaction.

- Keep up with the news
- Research a subject
- Sign up for a course or class

Give

Sharing our time, energy, knowledge or wealth gives us purpose and makes us feel valued. Participation in social and community life will increase your wellbeing and make you feel good. Committing an act of kindness not only makes someone else happy but boosts your own wellbeing too.

- Compliment or praise someone
- Offer your help or assistance
- Get involved with a community project





Want someone to understand or advice to help a friend?

We're here for you.



Kooth.com is a free, online counselling and emotional wellbeing platform for young people in Lancashire* aged 11 to 16.

The Kooth website allows young people to gain anonymous access to advice, support and guidance on any issue that is affecting their wellbeing. From friendship or relationship issues, family disagreements or difficult home lives, to concerns around eating, anxiety, stress, depression, self harm, suicidal thoughts etc.

Our qualified counsellors are here to give young people the support they need, when they need it. Kooth.com's live chat service is available from Monday to Friday 12 noon - 10pm, Saturdays and Sundays 6pm - 10pm and is accessible through mobile, tablet and desktop, completely free of charge.

"Thank you so much for supporting me and messaging me. It really does mean a lot because you are the first person really who has actually made me feel like someone cares and someone will always be there. Thanks"
Kooth user



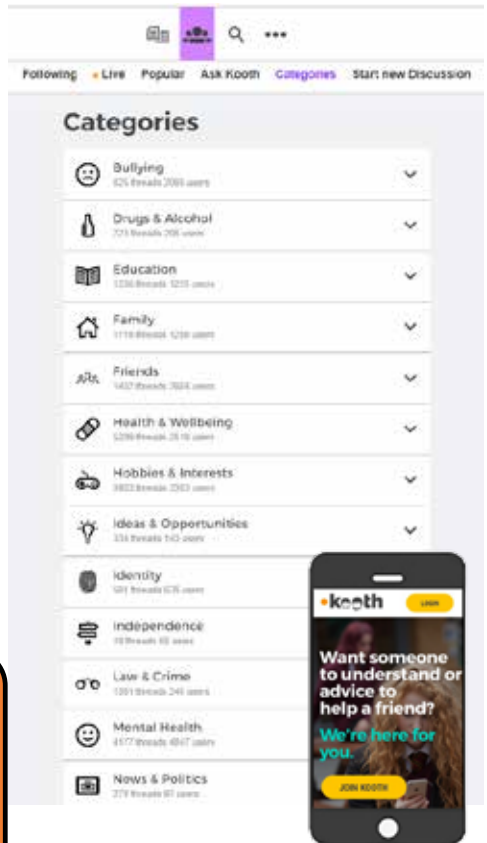
As well as being able to talk to our counsellors, at **Kooth.com** you can also connect with other young people in monitored forums or get self-help through our online magazine. The large variety of forum categories allows young people to anonymously share their issues and receive positive messages of advice and support from young people across the country. As our forum posts are all checked before they go live on the site we can guarantee every young person a safe and helpful experience.

For more information go to **Kooth.com**

"You have helped me so much. Thank you. I can never thank you enough. I am happier than I have been in months maybe years."
Kooth user

"You have turned my life around, you have no idea of the difference you make"
Kooth user

"It was so easy to talk about things. I feel like I can completely be myself and be true without being judged."
Kooth user



*Kooth.com is available in other areas in the UK

AOK

SEN Stay and Play Wednesdays

1.00-3.00
Lune Park
Neighbourhood Centre

Specialised stay and play peer support group for families with children with additional needs / disabilities and their siblings.

A chance for parents to chat; children to socialise, play, use sensory equipment and play outdoors.
For children with or without a diagnosis.

Contact us on 01524 581280

Lancashire
County Council



AOK+

Children and Family Wellbeing Service

FREE WEDNESDAY'S FROM 6PM-8PM

@Morecambe Library
FOOD. GAMES & MORE!

For young people with additional needs aged 12+ and siblings
Central Drive, Morecambe LA4 5DL
01524 581280

AFC FYLDE
100

Located at Fulda Sports and Education Centre, 074 242

disability
YOUTH CLUB

SUITABLE FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 7-12 YEARS OLD.

EVERY THURSDAY - ALL SESSIONS FREE OF CHARGE!
INCLUDING FREE SOFT DRINK

5:30 - 7:30PM!

MULTI-SPORTS / GAMES / ACTIVITIES / WORKSHOPS

OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN LIVING WITH PHYSICAL OR MENTAL DISABILITIES.

PRE-BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL, PLEASE CALL:
TEL - 07739 796101
EMAIL - TOMHUTTON@AFCFYLDE.CO.UK



JUNIOR PAN ABILITY FOOTBALL

Fun, football coaching and games for young people aged 6-11 and 12-16 years old with varied disabilities in an inclusive environment.

Delivered by UEFA and FA qualified coaches.

Players will get the opportunity to make new friends and play as part of a team. For those players that would like to, competitive fixtures will be available to play in.

Where: Poolfoot Farm, Butts Road, Thornton-Cleveleys, FY5 4HX

When: Monday's, 5-6pm


EFL TRUST EVERY PLAYER COUNTS

The FA

GR0W THE GAME

COMMUNITY TRUST 'achieving your goals'

For more information please contact:
John Hartley
Community Trust Office: 01253 208442
Email: john.hartley@fleetwoodtownfc.com





East Lancashire teenager with cerebral palsy aiming for 2020 Paralympics.

Theo at the British Para Table Tennis Competition 2018 – he won 2 bronze medals and the 'player of the year' trophy



Theo Bishop, 16, from Rawtenstall, is hoping to compete at table tennis at the 2020 Paralympics.

The teenager, who currently attends Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar School, was diagnosed with cerebral palsy at 14 months old. Theo used a frame to walk and was restricted from taking part in physical activity. Theo's interest in table tennis started when a coach came to school to talk about the sport. From that moment onwards, his passion grew, says his mother Mandy. *"Theo raised money for a life changing operation in 2012. We raised £48,000 to take him to America for treatment which would allow him to stand without a frame. He has never looked back since – he no longer uses a frame to walk, but he uses a seat flap for when he gets tired after walking long distances."*

Theo studied PE as one of his GCSE options, and is expected grades 8 and 9 in his GCSEs. Later this year, Theo will start a course at Grantham College in Lincolnshire, a specialist table tennis college, to pursue his ambitions further. He will train for two years away from home and hopes to also study for A-levels at the training academy. Mandy said *"Theo has had to train really hard for this alongside his school work."*

Following his operation, he had to spend 16 hours each week in physio to help him with his mobility, but he did not let it stop him from achieving his goals. He has already said that he wants to learn how to drive and

has booked lessons in advance. Nothing can stop him and he is really passionate about this."

Theo has already represented Great Britain in Para Table Tennis competitions in Spain and Sweden.

To find out more about ParaTable Tennis, visit www.britishparatabletennis.com

Did you know...

The Paralympics started in 1948, when British war veterans with spinal injuries competed in wheelchair sports on the opening day of the Summer Olympics in London. The first open Paralympic Games, no longer just for veterans, was held in Rome in 1960.

The 2020 Paralympics will take place in Tokyo from 25th August to 6th September. There are 537 events from 22 sports – badminton and taekwondo are new additions to the programme this time. Tokyo previously hosted the Games in 1964, the second open Paralympic Games

For all Paralympics news, go to: www.paralympics.org.uk

**Do you have a story to share?
What has your child achieved
that makes you proud?
We would love to hear from you
– email us at:
FIN@lancashire.gov.uk**

Lancashire Parent Carer Forum Update

The work of the Parent Carer Forum is continuing to build on strong foundations for an effective working partnership with colleagues from Lancashire County Council, Health and Social Care, in order to improve services for our families across the County. We are now beginning to engage more widely with parents and carers, to listen to their needs, and we are learning what we need to focus on in our work over the next twelve months. We have welcomed new members onto the Steering Group, representing all areas of Lancashire.

Monthly Steering Group Meetings

The Steering Group of the Forum have continued to hold monthly meetings and are continuing to work together in collaboration with other members of the SEND Partnership to develop a way of working which can continue to include larger numbers of parents and carers. More parents and carers are now able to participate in meetings and contribute to the Action Plan, which was agreed by the SEND Partnership Board following the OFSTED inspection and the Written Statement of Action. During the meeting in March, we agreed to challenge LCC on their proposal to cut the provision for Lancashire Break Time. We did a survey on Facebook and presented the results, along with our view that it would be detrimental to families to remove this service, to the County Councillors. As a result, a new proposal went to Cabinet on 8th August for a review and redesign of the whole short breaks offer, in partnership with parents, carers, young people and providers. It was agreed that the Lancashire Break Time Service will continue in its current form until this review and redesign is completed.



SEND Partnership Board

Sam Jones, Chair of LPCF, continues to represent the Parent Carer Forum on the SEND partnership board at regular meetings. The PCF are currently undertaking a new pilot scheme which will look at the experience of six families who are currently having difficulties, from each of the three SEND



areas and work out exactly where things are going wrong for them. With the backing of Edwina Grant OBE, Executive Director of Education and Children's Services, and the support of the Inclusion Service, we will identify barriers and put support and strategies in place for these families to get the needs of their child or young person met. The purpose of this pilot scheme is to see what we can learn about processes and barriers, and how we can roll out what we learn to improve services on a wider scale, with the emphasis on 'How to get it right first time'.

Local Area Partnership (LAP) Meetings

LPCF members have been involved in the Local Area Partnership meetings, which take place in the North, East and South of the County, chaired by a Designated Clinical Officer. These meetings have been an opportunity to communicate the parent/carer voice to professionals involved in shaping services. Professionals within Health, Education, Social Care and local service providers are keen to engage with parents and carers to tackle local issues, and have welcomed the contributions from PCF representatives. A current focus is working on how the transition process can be improved for children with SEND moving from Y6 to Y7.

Together
we can!!!



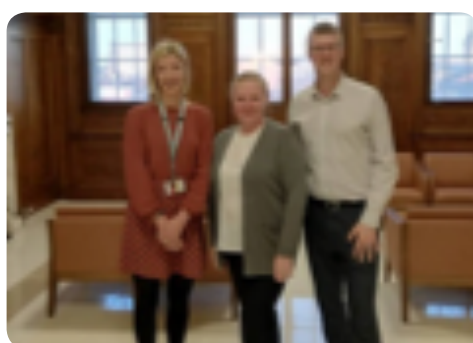
Coffee, Cake and Conversation events

The Forum have supported events hosted by Lancashire SEND Partnership, where professionals were available to talk through issues that parents and carers wished to discuss. If you missed your local event, don't worry – there will be more coming soon. Watch out for them on Social Media! We will

share details of the upcoming events on the Forum Facebook page (see bottom of page).

Interviews

LPCF has been involved in the interview processes for the new Head of Inclusion Service, Dr Sally



Richardson, and two new members of the SEND Communication and Engagement team - Sam Parker, Communications Officer and Shakoofeh Shah, Engagements Officer.



Participation for Life

The Forum is delighted to have commissioned Caroline Tomlinson from My Life to deliver a Participation for Life course for up to 40 parents and carers. We have provided the opportunity to bring professionals working within the Inclusion Service and parent/carers together. As a forum we are proud

of how the course has been embraced, and we are delighted with the positive responses which we have had regarding the course. The course has been very informative in areas such as the history of disability, navigating the EHCP process and designing a positive future for your family. It has been an excellent opportunity for parents and carers and professionals to understand the same issues from each other's perspective.

Parents and carers from this course have already joined the Steering Group and begun to be part of the ongoing work on the new Action Plan.



Training

Members of the Steering Group have participated in training about SEND Law and Pathological Demand Avoidance. They have also attended the National Network of Parent Carer Forum regional training, the North West Special Educational Needs Conference and the Autism Show.

Website

Lancashire Parent Carer Forum are delighted to announce that our website will be launched on 30th September. This will enable us to communicate more widely and share links to other useful sites. We will post a link on our Facebook page prior to the launch. We are grateful to the Communications and Engagement team from the SEND Partnership for their support and help with this new venture.

LPCF One Year on

LPCF will be holding a celebration of our first year on 17th October 2019 (we had our first business meeting as a constituted group on 3rd October 2018). The venue will be confirmed on Facebook, and all parents and carers are welcome to attend. This is an opportunity to come along and see how we work, what we do, ask questions and share your views on what you would like the Forum to do over the next twelve months. If you do wish to attend, please book a place via the link on our Facebook page. There will also be a link on our website from 30th September.

OJ'S FAMILY SATURDAY CLUB

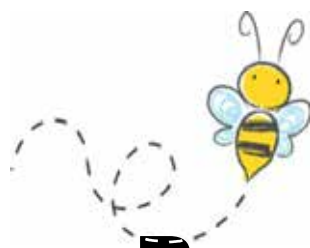
FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS WITH AUTISM, ASSOCIATED DISORDERS AND LEARNING DIFFICULTIES



WHERE: HILLSIDE SPECIALIST SCHOOL, PR3 3XB

11AM-3.30PM - £4 PER CHILD

We provide a fun and safe club for the whole family. Please get in touch for further details.
Open 7th + 21st Sept, 5th + 19th Oct, 2019
Keep in touch for further dates and news - 07971723607 - lisa@ojsicare.org
www.ojsicare.org - FB /OJsCare



Home START
Support and friendship for families

BusyBees

A support group for parent/carers, with pre-school children who have Additional and/or behavioural needs. Busy bees can offer the concerned parent a relaxed non-judgmental atmosphere, one to one support and a stimulating, fun and positive play experience for the child.

- Building positive friendships
- One to one support for parents from our volunteers
- Fun positive play experience

Groups will be taking place at:
Colne Children's Centre.
Mondays, 9.30am~11.30am

The Family Tree Centre, Brierfield.
Mondays, 12.30pm~2.30pm

Colne Children's Centre.
Fridays, 10.30am~12.30pm



rachael@homestarteastlancs.org or text Rachael 07702555078

Children and Family Wellbeing Service

Supporting families who have children with special educational needs or disabilities

Do you have a 5-11 year old child with a SEND, or do you think your child may have SEND?
Join our play sessions to meet other parents, seek advice and support in a fun and friendly environment.

Thursdays 3:30pm - 5:30pm



Venue: Southwest Burnley Neighbourhood Centre,
Tay Street, Burnley, BB11 4BU
Call 01282 628530 for more information.



* Snacks * Activities * Games * Socialise *

Children and Family Wellbeing Service

UniQcorns

Special educational needs / disability group

7pm - 9pm

Tuesday evenings @ Burnley Central (Zone)
12yrs - 19+yrs

CONTACT KELVIN FOR MORE INFORMATION 07880 401463





Finley's Story



I think about Finley's first year of life, most days. I had a healthy pregnancy, a C-section and he scored a '10' on the Apgar, so what could go wrong? The first few months we didn't notice anything significantly different about him and his development, it was only when the main milestones came up, we realised he was nowhere near reaching them. He struggled to sit up independently for most of the first year. At the time we lived in Germany, where regular development checks are carried out, but nothing was ever picked up.

At around 15 months we raised our concerns with our paediatrician and Finley was admitted into hospital for a week of tests – ECG, EEG, MRI, sonogram, eyes, hearing, speech, bloods – everything you could think of! It was a tough week for him (and for the rest of the family), to put him through all of this, but we were hoping for some answers. We didn't get any. He was diagnosed with Global Development Delay.

Finley started a physio programme following the tests, where we soon discovered he had Hypotonia. This was confirmed by the physiotherapist and paediatrician and did give us some answers as to why his mobility was weak. A short time after this, in summer 2015, we moved back to the UK and were referred to a paediatrician where they continued with the physio and also referred him to Orthotics and Speech and Language. Genetics was the next route we were going to look at following the tests in Germany, so this was picked up in the UK. We attended the clinic at Manchester Children's Hospital and a series of tests were carried out to try and determine if Finley had any of the 'main' genetic disorders, this included Fragile X Syndrome. Months later, the results came back negative.

We have since had other appointments with genetics, where we have discussed family history more, looked at Finley's behaviour and his physical appearance to try and get a better understanding of what it could be. Further bloods were sent for testing a couple of months ago and we are waiting to hear back with the results. We have been fixating on the questions we were asked by the doctor and then ended up trying to diagnose Finley ourselves (with the help of Google)!

I wouldn't recommend this, but sometimes you just get to a point where you are desperate for some answers!

Finley is 4 now and although he has his disabilities and hasn't found his voice yet, he definitely has a personality! He's a very caring little boy, loves cuddles and has an infectious laugh! He loves being around other children, water and most food! His twin sisters, Ellie and Sophie are amazing with him, they're his cheerleaders helping him on his journey. It is hard having an undiagnosed condition. We know that giving his condition a

name won't change Finley, but it will give us a better understanding of what he is going through and what the future holds for him.

We first heard about Syndromes Without a Name (SWAN) through Finley's paediatrician. They are a great support to our family and others going through the same thing. Not only are they informative, they understand what we are going through, and we have made connections with others in the SWAN Community over the last year. There are lots of ways to support this amazing charity, particularly through fundraising, but we wanted to find a way to both raise funds for the charity and raise awareness. We started a company in June this year; 'Starkidtags'. This all came about following a daily struggle we had with having to justify why Finley was using a pram.

We created a special pram tag and it has grown from there with a variety of tags and lanyards available to those who are non verbal, have Autism, SPD, Epilepsy to just name a few. We wanted to give something back to SWAN, so we donate 10% of every sale to them on a monthly basis and we hope to continue to support them, as they have for us, for the foreseeable future.

Holly Bramwell

Approximately 6,000 children are born in the UK each year with a syndrome without a name – a genetic condition so rare that it is often impossible to diagnose.



Find out more at www.undiagnosed.org.uk



Simple, clear tags to attach to your pram, or wear on a lanyard to indicate to others that you or your child have special needs. Visit www.starkidtags.com

Have your family had support from a group or charity? Would you like to help raise awareness of their work? Email your story to: FIND@lancashire.gov.uk

Come join us for

UNITE



A social group for young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

A group where you can make new friends and learn valuable social skills and just come to have FUN!

Older group—Thursday at Bamber Bridge Neighbourhood Centre
6:30—8:30

Contact Richard Fawcett for more details—
Richard.Fawcett@lancashire.gov.uk or 07827807948

Younger group—Friday at West Paddock
Neighbourhood Centre 4:30– 6:30pm

Contact Zara Child for more details—zara.child@lancashire.gov.uk
or 07876844319

**Please contact before
coming to the group**

Children and Family
Wellbeing
Service



'Whatever!' 

at
St John's Leyland
Second Saturday of every month

From 6.00pm till 8.00pm



for children and young people (yr 7 upwards)
with disabilities and or /additional needs

at St John's Church
Leyland Lane, Leyland PR25 1XB
<http://www.stjohnsleyland.co.uk/>

Please contact Brenda on 01772 623483

Lancashire
County
Council 

SEND /Portage service in partnership with
Preston Central Children and Family Wellbeing Service



Preston Central Neighbourhood Centre

Brieryfield Road, Preston, PR1 8SR

Wednesdays, 9:45am – 11:30am

term time only



Telephone: 01772 531948

Play and learn session for children 0 to 5 years
With special educational needs and disabilities
Supported by Children's Centre staff
and Portage/SEND service.



West Lancashire
Autism Parent &
Carer Support
Group

SUPPORT, FRIENDSHIP, INFORMATION &
TRAINING FOR PARENTS AND CARERS OF
CHILDREN WITH AUTISM

COME MEET US!

9.30 am to 11am

Second Wednesday of the Month

at the Chatty Cafe, The Zone in West Lancashire
Yeadon, Skelmersdale, Skelmersdale. WN8 6N

Come along to meet other group members, access
information and support, and share experiences. Some months
there will be training or guest speakers which will be
advertised separately.

For more information see our facebook page
www.facebook.com/groups/WestLancAutismSupportGroup/
or contact Claire Gee on 07587 009087, Lesley Milie on 07773
943762, or Julie Gordon on 07824 669311.
Email: westlancsautism@gmail.com

Update on Lancashire Break Time Consultation

Thanks to everyone who took the time to respond to our consultation on proposals to cease Lancashire Break Time. We have had a number of responses and through these it has become clear that we need to look at the whole short break service and not just Lancashire Break Time. We recognise that the wider service provision is quite traditional and could be better designed around the needs of children and their families.

We therefore want to look at how we can consider the whole service offer to make sure that what we provide offers choice and better meets the needs of users. We are planning to carry out a range of activities that include face to face meetings with parents and carers to shape a new service offer.

On 8th August, a report was presented to the Lancashire County Council Cabinet. You can view the report at:

<http://council.lancashire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MId=9448&x=1&>

The Cabinet agreed to:

- The review and redesign of the whole short breaks offer, in partnership with parents, carers, young people and providers.
- Continuation of the Lancashire Break Time Service in its current form, until the review and redesign of the short breaks offer is completed.

A further report, setting out the proposal for the future delivery of short breaks, will be presented to Cabinet in March 2020.

The Inclusion Service will be holding a range of events as part of the review process.

Please check the Lancashire Local Offer website www.Lancashire.gov.uk and facebook page www.facebook.com/LancashireLocalOffer for further details.

What is Lancashire Break Time?

Lancashire Break Time provides an opportunity for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities to attend a fun activity, whilst also providing a break for their parent carer.

Sessions are for at least 2 hours, and on weekends and during school holidays can be up to 6 hours. There is a wide range of activities on offer, including arts and crafts, sports, outdoor adventures, trips out and more. Children and young people have opportunities to try something new, make friends and have lots of fun!

You can find a list of providers in your area on the Local Offer (see below). Call the provider direct to see what activities they offer, and to book a place. There is a minimum cost of £1 per hour to attend; this can vary depending on the activities.

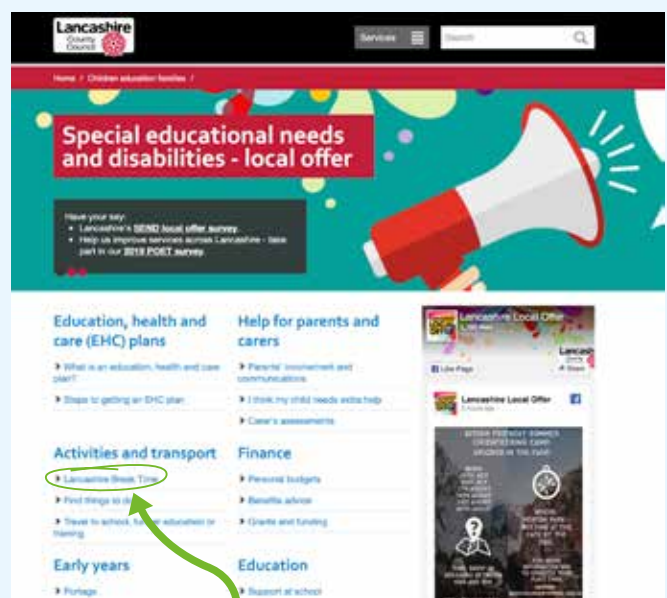
Who can attend?

The criteria to qualify for Lancashire Break Time short breaks is to be the primary unpaid carer of a child or young person with special educational needs and/or disabilities, aged 4 to 18 years and living in Lancashire (excluding Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool). The child or young person will find it difficult to access universal services due to sensory issues, learning difficulties, physical mobility problems, etc.

They will not be in receipt of an assessed social care outreach package; those with a higher level of need will receive services through their package of care.

To find out what is available in your area, check out the information on Lancashire's Local Offer:

www.lancashire.gov.uk/send



Click on the Lancashire Break Time link as shown



Update

SEND Local Offer website is being redeveloped

The SEND Local Offer website is an important resource for families, schools and the council in providing helpful information and guidance. But families have voiced their concerns that the site needs updating and that a large numbers of families are not aware the Local Offer exists.

To address this, a new team from the Lancashire SEND Partnership have worked with parents, carers, children and young people to gather feedback about how they want the site to look and feel. With their input, the team have been able to create a new design and layout which will make it more user friendly. They will also create new content and update current information.

The result is a new plan which will:

1. Improve the design and appearance of the site
2. Make information easier to find and understand
3. Help promote the site to families via schools, health centres and the council.

Over the summer, content for all categories on the Local Offer will be finalised and fed into new service pages. User testing will take place in late summer before the new site goes live in the autumn term.

You can keep an eye out on key updates of the Local Offer website by following the Local Offer Facebook page and the SEND Partnership newspaper.

Ofsted revisit expected in the autumn

The Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) are due to revisit Lancashire to find out if the local area has made sufficient progress to improve the twelve areas of significant concern in SEND support and services identified in 2017.

Although a date is yet to be confirmed, the SEND Partnership has been working together to prepare for the revisit in September or October. Since the Partnership was formed in April 2018, colleagues from the local authority, health, education, parent carers, children and young people have been working collaboratively to improve SEND services across the county.

In early 2019 the SEND Partnership published an updated Written Statement of Action, also known as an Improvement Plan, explaining how services will improve during 2019 - 2020. The plan has been divided into four priorities:

1. Plan for and meet the needs of children and young people
2. Become equal partners who understand and listen to each other
3. Develop services that are child centred, accessible and responsive
4. Ensure children and young people achieve their potential and ambitions

Each priority is led by a responsible member of the Partnership Board who meet with representatives each month to complete the work set out in the improvement plan. Parents, carers, children and young people have all been involved in regular meetings and workshops to influence decision making processes that are vital in developing and improving SEND services.

To keep up to date with these changes, the latest version of the Improvement Plan can be viewed online on the Lancashire SEND Partnership newspaper under 'Improvement Plan.'

SEND Partnership newspaper:
www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/shaping-send-together/lancashire-send-partnership

Local Offer website:
www.lancashire.gov.uk/SEND

 www.facebook.com/LancashireLocalOffer

COFFEE CAKE CHAT

coming soon to a venue near you!

Talk to other parent carers
and share your experiences.

Find out more about moving on to
the next stages of education.

Drop in and say hello at your local Coffee, Cake, Chat
event and get the answers you need from social care,
health and education professionals! Open to ALL!

Visit eventbrite.co.uk and search for
Lancashire SEND Partnership

Dates and venues to be
announced for September
and October soon!



Children and Family
Wellbeing
Service



Calling all parents of
children with additional
needs within the Ribble
Valley.

We would like to gather
your ideas in order to
begin running a supportive
weekly SEND group within
our centre in Clitheroe,
that will meet the needs of
parents/carers and their
children.

We have a range of
fantastic resources, staff
and space to facilitate
groups within our centre
we just need your ideas in
order to make it a reality,
that is tailored to you and
your children!

We are looking to deliver
this group for children
aged 4 -11 years old.

Clitheroe Children and
Family Wellbeing Services
Wesleyan Row Clitheroe,
BB7 2JY
Tel: 01200 420460

Please call our office to
book your place.



Here at Witherslack Group we're committed to sharing
expert advice and support. We want to do as much as
we can to help you along the way.

As well as the support section of our website, which includes podcasts,
videos and a whole host of useful information surrounding a range of
SEN, we also offer a variety of expert led advice and support events.
Most of these events are free to attend. These include the following:



National Special Educational Needs & Mental Health Parents & Carer Conference	ACC Convention Centre, Liverpool	05/10/2019
Supporting Parents & Carers: Learning more about ADHD	Bridgeway School, Bamber Bridge	07/12/2019
Education, Health & Care Plan Event: Getting the right plan for your child	Aughton Village Hall, Ormskirk	22/01/2020
Supporting Parents & Carers: Learning more about Mental Health	Westmorland School, Chorley	14/03/2020
Supporting Parents & Carers: Understanding PDA	Pontville School, Ormskirk	09/05/2020
Education, Health & Care Plan Event: Getting the right plan for your child	Bolton	20/05/2020
North West Special Educational Needs Conference	Pontville School, Ormskirk	20/06/2020
Supporting Parents & Carers: Learning more about Autism	Westmorland School, Chorley	24/06/2020



To book your place or to find out more information about our events
visit www.witherslackgroup.co.uk/events-support

If you wish to speak with someone directly you can contact Camilla
or Rukiya on **0844 880 6520** or events@witherslackgroup.co.uk





Lancashire students graduate from pioneering new project

Nine students from Preston have become the first in Lancashire to graduate from an innovative scheme which supports young people with additional needs as they move from education into employment. Project SEARCH is a year-long programme which develops new skills for students with learning disabilities who are aged 16-24 with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and in their final year of school or college.

It is a partnership between Lancashire County Council, Preston's College, the Supported Employment Agency and the Department for Work and Pensions.

Lancashire County Council is the host employer, providing the students with jobs in a range of departments including the library service, catering, facilities management, highways, fostering and adoption and the authority's own Inclusion Service (formerly SEND Service).

Preston's College supported the learners through enrolment and throughout their year at college, with Student Managers and in-class support to assist them with their course and college life.

Angie Ridgwell, chief executive of the council, and Cllr Geoff Driver CBE, leader of the council, hosted the graduation ceremony at County Hall alongside Dr Lis Smith, principal and chief executive of Preston's College, plus representatives from Project SEARCH.

Ms Ridgwell said: "Lancashire County Council is committed to ensuring young people with additional needs have the opportunity to enter the jobs market. We know only 6 per cent of people with learning disabilities living in the UK move into employment but that many more people want to.

"We have taken a strategic approach to ensure that young people in Lancashire with learning disabilities have access to a tried and tested programme that delivers outcomes that are 10 times that national average on a consistent basis.

"Programmes are in place in Preston and Burnley, and we are developing a programme in the North of the county. We are very proud that as well as licensing and supporting these programmes through our Inclusion Service we are also supporting the programme in Preston as a host employer too.

"We believe it is important for us to demonstrate that not only do we have high ambition for our young people but we can show ourselves to be an inclusive employer who takes advantage of this fantastic pool of talent."

Dr Smith said: "As a college we play an important role in delivering high quality education programmes and making our learners the most employable. We have an inclusive and proactive recruitment policy and support learners of all ages, walks of life and abilities to develop skills and achieve their potential. "We are extremely proud of our learners and it was a joy to celebrate their success at the event with all the partners who supported them in this programme, and we look forward to the next group of young people to start this programme."

Cllr Driver said: "It was a wonderful event to celebrate the achievements of so many young people. Hearing their stories and meeting their families emphasised to everyone who attended just how important Project SEARCH is."

The students were awarded graduation certificates by Cllr Phillippa Williamson, cabinet member for children, young people and schools, and Edwina Grant OBE, executive director for education and children's services.

Supported Employment Agency provides job coaching and job development for students at the host business and in their paid careers.

The Department for Work and Pensions ensures 'Access to Work' funding is available for each job coach.

Project SEARCH first started over 20 years ago in Cincinnati Children's Hospital and has supported over 6,000 young people around the world to learn skills and improve their careers.

Parent Carers and students seeking more information can visit the Project SEARCH website - www.dfnprojectsearch.org

To be eligible for a future programme in your area students need to be 16-24 years old, have appropriate communication and social skills for the business, be able to take direction, be willing and able to travel independently, have a desire to work and have parent carer support.



POWAR stands for Participate, Opportunity, Win, Achieve, Respect. It is Lancashire's Council for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. We hold regular meetings which are informal and fun. These meetings are open to secondary aged young people up to the age of 25. We also meet 6 weekly with primary aged children.

POWAR Meetings

Media group:

A meeting where young people help to write the newsletters for POWAR and update the participation website, internet pages and Facebook page.

*Tuesdays 3rd Sept, 1st Oct & 5th Nov.
6 ~ 8pm*

Young Inspectors:

Young Inspectors: Young Inspectors visit different services for children and young people to inspect them and then come up with ways that they can improve. The meetings are an opportunity to find out about upcoming inspections and write up reports for recent inspections.

*Tuesdays 10th Sept, 8th Oct & 12th Nov.
6 ~ 8pm*

POWAR Combined:

POWAR Combined: All members of POWAR from all parts of Lancashire are invited to attend this meeting. Visitors from different services and organisations often attend to speak to young people to gain their views about different topics.

*Tuesdays 17th Sept, 15th Oct & 19th Oct.
5.30 ~ 7.30pm*

The meetings are held at either County Hall, Preston, or Lostock Hall, Preston.

These meetings are held term time only. Please get in touch to find out what meetings and activities we have during half terms and holidays. Please contact the Participation Service on 01772 629470 for more information or if you would like to attend.

POWAR Blog by Oliver Moores

On the 6th of June I went to Manchester University to do a speech about what it is like to go through the education system being a disabled person. I described how an Education Healthcare Plan (EHCP) has helped me and the support that it has given me throughout my studies. I explained that I am going to university and how the EHCP has allowed me to put interim goals in place to enable me to succeed in my education. I explained that I think EHCPs have got some drawbacks and can prevent a disabled person from socialising in school because they always have an adult with them. I also made the point that I think it is vital that all young people should be given the chance to have a say in all decisions made about them. This is a really important point for me because it is our lives and we should have a say into what happens and how the decisions will impact our lives.

Recently, the POWAR group has taken part in interviews for post graduate social worker course. We asked questions such as *"How would you deal with a situation where someone told you they were gay?"* and *"How would you ensure that all young people you are dealing with are involved in decisions about their lives?"* I feel this was a great opportunity for young people to give feedback to Lancashire County Council on their prospective social work students and to provide their expertise and experience as a young person to help other young people get the best support possible to enable them to reach their aspirations.



Two POWAR members are also part of Youth Council and they went to Manchester Metropolitan University on the 26th June to give a presentation about the work we've been doing with UCLAN University on knife crime and how we are going to campaign about the dangers of knife crime. We explained that we have already started looking into previous data and knife crime and seen that young people have been portrayed incorrectly by some media sources which say that young people are the main culprits when it comes to committing knife crime. We found that, actually, knife crime is a very small percentage of all crimes that are committed and young people are not the main perpetrators of knife crime. We found that adults are committing knife crime as much or maybe even more than young people. We are doing our research by coming up with survey questions which can be put into a survey to be sent out to all schools to gather information and data about young people's experiences of organised crime in the wider community.



Weekly workshops offering inclusive performing arts

Mini Children's Theatre
Age 4-7 years
Mondays
4:30pm - 5:15pm

Children's Theatre
Age 8-12 years
Mondays
5:30pm - 6:45pm

Youth Theatre
Age 13-16 years
Mondays
7pm - 8:15pm

Young Adults Theatre
Age 17-25 years
Tuesdays
6pm - 7:15pm

Only £35 per term (approx 12 sessions)

Based at: Woodlands School, Whitegate Drive, Blackpool, FY3 9HF

For an application form, call 07852 498427 or email tramshedtheatre@hotmail.co.uk
www.tramshed.org.uk
(twitter logo) @tramshedtheatre

To bring individuals together to create outstanding, original and beautiful theatre which inspires and celebrates everyone.

Registered Charity 1109987

Project Perform

Project Perform is a performing arts group for children and young people aged 8 - 18.

We use the medium of musical theatre to develop skills and improve self-esteem and confidence. We are inclusive of children and young people with mental health issues including autism and anxiety.

We put on shows and concerts regularly and often perform for charity events.



Sundays
12:30pm - 3:30pm

For more information, please contact
Andrea Andrews on 07976 358962.

Fairview Youth and Community Centre,
Highfield Road North, Adlington, Chorley, PR6 9RN



ARTS AWARD: Shadow Puppet Workshop

For ages 7 - 11 years

A 6 week course to earn your Explore Arts Award here at The Boo! Along with creating your own short shadow puppet performance from scratch, we will look at Horse + Bamboo's history, artists and their work. You will present your performances as part of a celebration and awards' evening for friends and family.

This is a free session, but there is an accreditation cost per award of £13.50

**Tuesdays, 10th September - 15th October
5:30pm - 6:30pm**

Book online at: www.ticketsource.co.uk/theboo

The Boo Theatre, 679 Bacup Road, Waterfoot, Rossendale, BB4 7HB
T: 01706 220241
E: info@horseandbamboo.org
W: www.horseandbamboo.org



The CEA Card is a national card scheme developed for UK cinemas by the UK Cinema Association (UKCA).

It enables a disabled cinema guest to receive a complimentary ticket for someone to go with them when they visit a participating cinema.

The free ticket is provided on the assumption that the person who accompanies you can provide you with appropriate assistance, this might include

- helping you move around the cinema including finding and taking a seat;
- helping you leave the cinema in the event of an emergency;
- accompanying and/or helping you use the cinema's toilets;
- helping you buy refreshments.

The CEA Card is available to applicants aged 8 years and above.

To apply, you will need:

- Proof of eligibility (see website)
- A photo
- Payment of £6.00 - valid for 1 year

For more information, visit www.ceacard.co.uk

T: 01244 526 016

E: info@ceacard.co.uk



90% of cinemas in the UK are part of the CEA Card Scheme. Find out which cinemas near you accept the CEA Card, and more about accessible screenings, at:

www.accessiblescreeningsuk.co.uk

Pantomimes

Theatres across Lancashire are now taking bookings for their Christmas pantomimes and shows. When booking, remember to give details of any additional requirements – some theatres offer a free companion ticket for those who cannot attend without assistance.

Cinderella – a Fairytale

22 Nov 2019 to 11 Jan 2020
Audio Described performance with Touch Tour 20 Dec
BSL performance 28 Dec
Relaxed performance 3 Jan
The Dukes, Moor Lane, Lancaster, LA1 1QE
01524 598500
tickets@dukes-lancaster.org

Aladdin

1 Dec to 30 Dec 2019
Lancaster Grand Theatre
St Leonardgate, Lancaster, LA1 1NL
01524 64695
tickets@lancastergrand.co.uk

Cinderella

12 Dec to 15 Dec 2019
Relaxed/BSL performance 13 Dec
Marine Hall
The Esplanade, Fleetwood, FY7 6HF
01253 887693
marinehall@wyre.gov.uk

Aladdin

9 Dec to 30 Dec 2019
Lowther Pavilion
Lowther Terrace, Lytham St Annes, FY8 5QQ
01253 794221
boxoffice@lowtherpavilion.co.uk

Peter Pan

6 Dec 2019 to 5 Jan 2020
Audio Described performance 14 Dec
BSL performance 21 Dec
The Grand Theatre
33 Church Street, Blackpool, FY1 1HT
01253 290 190
box@blackpoolgrand.co.uk

Beauty and the Beast on Ice

7 Dec to 21 Dec 2019
Pleasure Beach Arena
525 Ocean Boulevard, Blackpool, FY4 1EZ
01253 341707
thearena@bpbltd.com

Horrible Histories - Horrible Christmas

13 Dec to 29 Dec 2019
Blackpool Opera House
Winter Gardens,
97 Church Street, Blackpool, FY1 1HL
0844 856 1111
info@wintergardensblackpool.co.uk

Dick Whittington

12 Dec to 22 Dec 2019
Preston Playhouse
Market Street West, Preston, PR1 2HB
0333 666 3366

Cinderella

13 Dec to 21 Dec 2019
Chorley Little Theatre
Dole Lane, Chorley, PR7 2RL
Tickets from Malcolm's Musicland,
Chapel St, Chorley
01257 264362

Jack & the Beanstalk

13 Dec to 29 Dec 2019
BSL performance 23 Dec
Relaxed performance 27 Dec
Southport Theatre
Waterfront. Promenade, PR9 0DZ
03333 445000
adventurer@waterfrontsouthport.co.uk

Sleeping Beauty

1 Dec to 8 Dec 2019
The Civic Arts Centre & Theatre
Union Road, Oswaldtwistle, BB5 3HZ
01254 398319
emma@civicartscentre.co.uk

Pinocchio

9 Dec to 24 Dec 2019
Darwen Library Theatre
Knott Street, Darwen, BB3 3BU
01254 706006
dlt@blackburn.gov.uk

Aladdin

30 Nov – 31 Dec 2019
Blackburn Empire Theatre
Aqueduct Road, Blackburn, BB2 4HT
01254 685 500
boxoffice@blackburnempire.com

Cinderella

8 Dec to 31 Dec 2019
King Georges Hall
Northgate, Blackburn, BB2 1AA
01254 582579
events@kinggeorgeshall.com



Splatter Dance

www.splatterdance.co.uk

- Have fun
- Boost confidence and self esteem
- Freedom to be creative & expressive
- Develop social & communication skills
- Extend physical skills
- Leave feeling relaxed
- Performance opportunities

Fun & creative dance classes for children with additional needs & their siblings.

Suitable for children at school aged 4 plus

No official diagnosis necessary



"It is the highlight of his week! The benefit to his confidence & social skills has been profound." parent feedback

Come along for a free taster

£3.50 for 1 child
£5.00 for 2 children
& £1.00 for each additional child

Classes every Monday during term time
4.15pm-5.00pm or 5.15pm-6.00pm

Delivered by a specialist dance artist together with support artists allowing parents to enjoy a cuppa & a chat!



AUGHTON VILLAGE HALL, WINIFRED LANE, AUGHTON, ORMSKIRK, L39 5DH On-site parking

Contact Emma to book: emma@splatterdance.co.uk 07973 636019

Learning Knows No Bounds

Everybody Dance Now!

Fun Dance Classes for children with special needs aged 10+

Every Saturday at 3.00pm
Cost = £4.50
Pioneer Building
Rochdale Road
Bacup
OL13 9NZ

Dansworks
DANCE ACADEMY
of PERFORMING ARTS

Dansworks Dance Academy

Everybody Dance Now

Dance classes specifically designed for adults with learning difficulties

Every Tuesday 2.45pm

£5.00 per class

Easy and fun to follow
Dances to current music!

for more info call:
07843 263714
info@dansworks.co.uk

Opportunities to take dance medal tests and perform in our Annual Show

Pioneer Building, Bacup OL13 9NZ

The inspiring work of Lancashire based charity DanceSyndrome was recognised at a national level this summer when their Dancer Leader team was announced as winner of The People's Award at the National Learning Disabilities & Autism

The awards, which took place on Friday 28th June at the ICC, Birmingham, celebrate excellence in the support for people with learning disabilities and aim to pay tribute to individuals and organisations who excel in providing quality provision. The awards event was particularly special for the DanceSyndrome team as they also opened the ceremony with a contemporary dance performance, which was attended by over 750 people.

DanceSyndrome is an inclusive arts charity that aims to inform and empower people through dance. The charity, founded by dancer Jen Blackwell who happens to have Down's syndrome, provides creative and fun learning opportunities for anyone who wants to improve their physical health and personal wellbeing.

DanceSyndrome gives people the opportunity to grow and develop relationships, as well as to be a part of something meaningful. An inclusive group that welcomes all, transforming the lives of all who join, and empowering some individuals to become dance leaders."

DanceSyndrome Managing Director Dawn Vickers said "We are so proud of our Dance Leaders! They are such a hard-working, dedicated group of people who have a real passion for dance. The fact that many of them have overcome difficulties to achieve their ambitions of becoming Dance Leaders is truly inspiring and we hope that people will see them dancing and be inspired to follow their own dreams, whether that is in dance or other areas."

Lisa Carr, Editor of Care Talk magazine who host the event, said: "*The awards acknowledge and champion the amazing work done each day in the care sector to support people living with learning disabilities and autism. The people nominated for these awards represent the social care sector at its very best, and they enable people to live rich and fulfilling lives. We are thrilled to be able to recognise the unsung heroes in our communities.*"



Lancashire charity wins National Award

DanceSyndrome's community workshops take place across Lancashire and are led by members of the Dance Leader team who are all trained through the charity's own unique training course, Dance by Example, which is designed to give people with and without disabilities the confidence and skills to co-lead community dance workshops.

The People's Award celebrates the work of a team who offer exceptional encouragement, personal development and inclusive opportunities for individuals with learning disabilities and or autism. DanceSyndrome actively promotes the importance of improving inclusion in dance and all aspects of life. The charity aims to challenge perceptions of disability by empowering dancers to become more visible and active citizens.

The judges described DanceSyndrome as "*An outstanding group of individuals that bring people from all diversities together.*"

This was the second accolade for DanceSyndrome in the space of a week. On Saturday 22nd June, the charity Founder Jen Blackwell received a Highly Commended certificate at the Inspire Awards, held in Bolton. The Inspire Awards celebrate the achievements of women from all walks of life in the diverse and thriving local community, showcasing extraordinary examples of courage, triumph, kindness, compassion, transformation, skill and success.

Jen said "*I'm honoured to have been Highly Commended in the HER-Abilities Award category. Being nominated for this award shows that people with learning disabilities can do amazing things with their lives if given a chance. Dancing is my life, I am passionate about dance and about supporting people like me to have opportunities in the dance world.*"

If you would like more information about DanceSyndrome please contact the team via email at info@dancesyndrome.co.uk



www.springintophab.org.uk

Come and join a young person led, multi-activity club for children and young people aged 11+

We meet at:
The zone,
Parson Lane,
Clitheroe, BB7 2JY
on Mondays
7.30-9pm

Come along and join in the fun!
Entrance fee £3.00
First admission FREE

Enjoy sports, cooking, games, day-trips, learning new skills and social activities.

Interested?
Contact the team:
01254 457026
or email
phab@spring-projects.co.uk

Supported by
BIBB Children in Need

Phab inspires and supports children and adults with and without disabilities to make more of life together

visit www.springintophab.org.uk





SATURDAY MORNING ACTIVITY CLUB

Fleetwood Town Community Trust and Blackpool Community Trust are running an inclusion activity!

VENUE:
The Zone,
Milton Street
Every Saturday
10:30am-1:30pm

- ✓ Are you aged between 8 and 20 years old?
- ✓ Are you interested in taking part in group activities like Arts & Crafts?
- ✓ Enjoy and take part in Multi sport games and other activities!



CONTACT:

Mike Lee - Inclusion Officer
Mobile: 01253 348691
Email: michael.lee@blcct.co.uk

John Hartley - Community Sports Development Officer
Mobile: 01253 209442
Email: john.hartley@fleetwoodtownfc.com

S T E M



STEM SCIENCE CLUB

WEDNESDAY 5:15PM - 6:30PM AGES 5 - 10

Broadway rooms,
St Nicholas Church, Fleetwood £3 Per Session

Children are engaged in fun and practical experiments, challenges and discovery. They build on and develop skills such as, team work, communication, fine motor skills and most of all they make new friendships, developing social skills while focused around STEM topics

Children have the option to follow the CREST Awards Scheme, we implement the challenges into sessions and work towards the award over a period of time. The Crest Award is nationally recognised and so children can include this in their learning journey at home

Bamboo@imp-edu.com
find us on Facebook






Lancaster University 

Minecraft Club

In association with
Lancaster and Morecambe National Autistic Society

Lancaster University Campus

Every other Thursday
18:30-19:30

Free of charge

Places limited

To find out more and book a space please email
sciencehunters@lancaster.ac.uk

Science Hunters is a Lancaster University outreach project which uses Minecraft to help children explore science topics. For more information please see www.lancaster.ac.uk/sciencehunters




Useful Websites

Family Fund help families across the UK who are raising a disabled or seriously ill child or young person aged 17 or under. In 2017/18, they provided 88,407 essential grants or services, worth over £33 million, to families across the UK. They also currently run a small grant programme called 'Your Opportunity' that supports disabled and seriously ill young people aged 18-24 years old who are living at home.

W: www.familyfund.org.uk

T: 01904 550 055

E: info@familyfund.org.uk

Cash for Kids is the official charity of Rock FM and provides a helping hand to disabled and disadvantaged children across Lancashire. They provide grants to children's charities, individuals and many other causes throughout the transmission area. All money is raised locally and spent locally and goes to children and young people under 18 throughout the region, with mental, physical or sensory disabilities, with behavioural or psychological disorders, living in poverty or situations of deprivation, or suffering through distress, abuse or neglect.

W: www.planetradio.co.uk/rock-fm/cashforkids

T: 01772 477 974

E: cashforkids@rockfm.co.uk

Turn2us is a national charity helping people when times get tough. They provide financial support to help people get back on track. On their website, you will find a Benefits Calculator; Grants Search; details about Turn2us' direct grant-giving funds; and links to other sources of information and help.

W: www.turn2us.org.uk

Newlife Charity for Disabled Children

provides funding for essential community equipment, such as beds, buggies, wheelchairs, seating systems, and much more. They also offer free emergency loan of equipment to help children at significant risk of injury, and those in urgent need because of unstable, life threatening/limiting conditions or terminal illness.

W: www.newlifecharity.co.uk

T: 01543 462 777

E: info@newlifecharity.co.uk

Daytrippers Foundation

fund opportunities for groups of children and young people aged 5-25 with disabilities and life-limiting conditions and their families to explore, learn, develop and achieve. SEND schools and units, children's hospices, charities and not-for-profit organisations based in the UK are all eligible to apply. Day trips can be for any destination of your choice but must take place in the UK, and occur on a single day.

W: www.daytrippers.org.uk

T: 020 7758 0030

E: enquiries@daytrippers.org.uk

Disability Grants

is a website that can save you time when looking for grant funding. Discover what's available nationally and in your local area by searching the individual sections.

W: www.disability-grants.org

<http://www.>



New public buildings to have Changing Places toilets for severely disabled people

- Changing Places toilets for severely disabled people to be made mandatory in new buildings used by the public, under government proposals
- Buildings covered will include shopping centres, supermarkets, sports and arts venues
- Proposal expected to add facilities to more than 150 new buildings a year

www.gov.uk/government/news/new-public-buildings-to-have-changing-places-toilets-for-severely-disabled-people?fbclid=IwAR3wSIQA399HIScl9kRWUY4hmrer5IYq1v6xqrms0JbLVWY2zjzb9OSCoA

motiv8 Lancs

The Beeches Childrens Centre,
Rimington Avenue,
Accrington, BB5 0NP
Contact Tracy on: 07980292330
Motiv8-lancscic@outlook.com
Www.motiv8-lancs.org.uk



FREE

Art and Craft Sessions

Throughout our sessions we would like to help improve and enhance participants physical, mental health and well-being by delivering various card making and Craft sessions in the local community of Ferngore.
The sessions are well structured, high quality and meaningful that will promote a sense of well-being through achievement whilst reducing social isolation.

These sessions are for adults only so please come along and meet some new friends whilst learning something new

Every Thursday 10.00am-12.00

All art materials are provided and what you make you can take home



Hyndburn Neighbourhood Team
Spring Hill & Central Neighbourhood Management



AUTISM COMMUNITY GROUPS



OUR GROUPS ARE OPEN TO AUTISTIC PEOPLE OVER THE AGE OF 18

PEER SUPPORT GROUP

Every Monday at The Harris, Preston
(except bank holidays)

TUESDAY EVENING SOCIAL CLUB

Every other Tuesday evening in Bamber Bridge

ART GROUP

Every Thursday at Plungington Community Centre

Please contact us for full details:

Denise@IDEASLancashire.com | IDEASLancashire.com
01772 750 880 | 07707 954 592



SPIRE PRESTON LTD

ART CLUB

Every Monday: 1pm till 2:30pm

Art is a fun group for adults who have learning disabilities, where they can explore their artistic side through different activities such as;

- arts and crafts,
- seasonal projects
- various other activities

ENTRY FEE : £2.50

**LOCATION: SPIRE PRESTON LTD
GROUND FLOOR, WEST WING
DERBY HOUSE
LYTHAM ROAD, FULLWOOD
PRESTON, PR2 8JE**



motiv8 Lancs

The Beeches Centre , Rimington Avenue,
Accrington, BB5 0NP
Contact Tracy on: 07980292330
Motiv8-lancscic@outlook.com
Www.motiv8-lancs.org.uk



Educational sessions for adults with learning disabilities, Autism or a mental health need. Throughout our sessions we would like to help improve and enhance participants physical, mental health and well-being by delivering a wide range of structured, high quality and meaningful activities that promote a sense of well-being through achievement.



Wednesday

'Cook, Dine, Sing and Dance'
Cook a two course meal and dance using many props such as hats, glow sticks, shakers and feathers.

Thursday

'Developing Independent Living Skills, trips to places of interest , computing, hair/beauty, woodwork, cooking, and much more!'



Friday

Participate in a wide range of activities including gardening, photography , multi-sports, theatre/drama, music, computing, arts and crafts.
A free taster session is available

10.00-3.00pm = lunch included

8.30-4.00pm = A two and a half session per day based on developing a persons independence skills including breakfast and lunch.

Our prices vary according to each persons individual needs
One to one support available on request

Lancashire County Council – contact details

www.lancashire.gov.uk/council/get-involved/contact Email: enquiries@lancashire.gov.uk

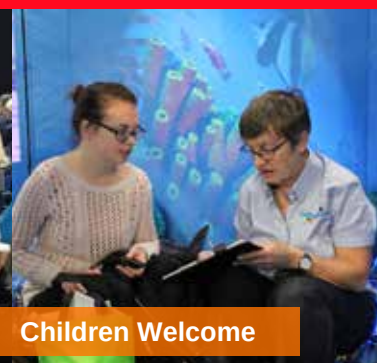
	Service	Number
Corporate Services	Signposting / General enquiries	0300 123 6701
	Libraries	0300 123 6703
	Library Service Automated Renewal Line	0300 123 6704
	Registration and Certification Service	0300 123 6705
	School Admissions	0300 123 6707
	School Appeals	0300 123 6708
	Lancashire Adult College	0300 123 6709
Care Connect	Social Care	0300 123 6720
	Safeguarding Adults	0300 123 6721
	Emergency Duty Team	0300 123 6722
County Benefits Service	Care And Urgent Needs	0300 123 6735
	Blue Badges	0300 123 6736
	NoW Card	0300 123 6737
	Schools Transport	0300 123 6738
	Welfare Rights	0300 123 6739
Environment	Anti-social behaviour on buses	0300 123 6782
Local Inclusion Offices	South (Preston, Chorley, South Ribble, West Lancashire)	01772 531 597
	East (Hyndburn, Ribble Valley, Pendle, Burnley, Rossendale)	01254 220 553
	North (Lancaster, Fylde, Wyre)	01524 581 200
Other Useful Numbers	Family Information Service	0300 123 6712
	Carers Lancashire	0345 688 7113
	SEND Information, Advice and Support Team	0300 123 6706
	Children & Family Wellbeing Service	0800 511 111

Kidz to Adultz North

Thursday 14th November 2019 9.30am - 4.30pm
EventCity, Barton Dock Road
Manchester, M17 8AS



One of the largest FREE UK events supporting children & young adults up to 25 years with disabilities and additional needs, their families, carers and the professionals who support them.



165+ Exhibitors

Free CPD Seminars

Children Welcome

Register online for your FREE entry ticket - www.kidzexhibitions.co.uk

Tel: 0161 607 8200 Email: info@disabledliving.co.uk #kidztoadultz

Your Help Is Essential

We would welcome contributions from Children, Young People, Parent Carers, Voluntary and Statutory Agencies:

- Are you involved with a project or group you would like to promote
- Details of forthcoming diary dates
- Opportunities for Children and Young People with SEND
- Any ideas, views, letters, poems, etc, you would like to share
- Do you know of any useful websites to include in FIND

Contributions for future issues – please contact FIND.

Email: FIND@lancashire.gov.uk

Tel: 01772 538077 or 01772 532509



Do you have anything to share in FIND? We would love to hear from you!

Editorial Group

Information, Advice and Support Team

Kim.campbell@lancashire.gov.uk

Sarah.deady@lancashire.gov.uk

Pauline.mansley@lancashire.gov.uk

Parent Representatives

Nannette Holliday – Chorley

Lucy Ellis – Lancaster

Hayley Monk – South Ribble

Trish Dobson – West Lancashire

Parent carers from other areas interested in joining the group, please contact FIND.

Voluntary Organisations

Tom Harrison – Community East Lancashire

Julia Johnson – Carers Link Lancashire

Health

Catherine Howson – Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust



We also have a facebook page.

For regular updates, please 'like' our page at: www.facebook.com/LancashireLocalOffer

Winter issue – deadline for articles

27th September, published December 2019

If undelivered, please return to:

Room CH1:53, County Hall, Preston,
Lancashire PR1 8RJ

Would you like to receive the FIND Newsletter via email? Please email: FIND@lancashire.gov.uk to update your details.

Get this free newsletter sent to your door

If families would like to have a free copy of FIND delivered to their home 4 times a year, please complete this slip and send it to the address shown. We will then send you a membership form.

Name

Address

Postcode

Tel. No.

Alternatively, you can register online at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/help-for-parents-and-carers/family-information-network-directory

Professionals – please contact FIND, details above.

You are welcome to photocopy, display and distribute this newsletter

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