

FIND

Welcome to the Winter issue of the FIND Newsletter, 2017/2018

At this time of the year we spend a lot more time indoors. With more children and young people using the internet and social media it is important that they stay safe. Safer Internet day is on Tuesday 6th February 2018. For more information and some hints and tips on internet safety see pages 6 and 7.

Do you have an inspiring story? Have you had a good experience you would like to share? In the next issue we would like information on accessible walks and holidays. What would you recommend? Send your letters and articles to find@lancashire.gov.uk.

We would also like to thank you for the feedback from the FIND Monitoring Questionnaire. The comments have been very positive. The full report is available on Lancashire's Local Offer. www.lancashire.gov.uk/send

Finally, the team would like to wish you all the very best over the festive season and for 2018.

Thank you for your continued support.

Norma O'Hagan
Information, Advice and Support Team
Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Service

 www.facebook.com/LancashireLocalOffer



'Sunsets are proof that no matter what happens, every day can end beautifully.' -
Kristen Butler

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SEND Service; Information, Advice and Support Team

The Information, Advice and Support (IAS) Team are part of Lancashire Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) 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 12 local parent carer forums and the multi-agency Collaborative Workshop. We also work closely with the Lancashire Parent Carer Forum and POWAR (the young person's participation group in Lancashire), and deliver the SEND Local Offer website, the FIND Newsletter and social media.

Contact us

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

For enquiries regarding the FIND Service or the Local Offer, please call **01772 532509** or **01772 538077** or email **FIND@lancashire.gov.uk**

North Lancashire

Alison Dodgeon, IAS Officer
Jill Marrs, IAS Liaison Officer

Dawn Fenton, IAS Team Manager
Kim Campbell, Triage Officer
Sarah Deady, Business Support Officer
Pauline Mansley, Business Support Officer

East Lancashire

Mel Adams, IAS Officer
Salim Patel, IAS Officer
Kevin Ma'Har, IAS Liaison Officer
Lauren Till, IAS Liaison Officer

South Lancashire

Mary Joyce, IAS Officer
Gayle Lavelle, IAS Officer
Laura Morris, Senior IAS Officer
Sue Gaskell, IAS Liaison Officer
Norma O'Hagan, IAS Liaison Officer

FIND Newsletter Feedback Questionnaire

Thank you for your feedback. We received 28 completed forms, 86% from parent carers. The replies were very positive, people commented on how useful and informative they found the newsletter.

The Results

79% find the newsletter useful to very useful

82% find the following articles useful to very useful; 'stories from parents', support groups and courses for parents.

There were many helpful suggestions made and you will see them being introduced over the coming issues of the FIND Newsletter.

The overall response was that the newsletter provided a useful to very useful service, with plenty of feedback on articles and features you would like to see included in the future.

Thank you once again for your time on completing the questionnaire. The full report will be available on Lancashire's Local Offer.

If you have any further comments or ideas for the articles for the newsletter please send to:- **find@lancashire.gov.uk**

Great resource for finding out what is available.

I would recommend it to any parent who asked me where to find help and advice.

Very useful magazine, a pleasure to read.

Thank You



Preston, Chorley and South Ribble Family Information Evening

Do you have a child or young person with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities?

Come and join us at a drop-in fun information evening.
All family members are welcome.

Monday 12th February 2018 6:15pm – 8pm
Rascals Party and Play Centre
(Behind Dunelm Mill)

Capitol Centre, Walton-le-Dale, Preston, PR5 4AW

If you would like to attend this event, please book your place with:-
Norma O'Hagan on **07557 030837** or **norma.ohagan@lancashire.gov.uk**

**Only
£1.50
per child**



Please note:

Rascals ask that parents are responsible for their children and young people while visiting the Play Centre at all times.



Independent Support for the Education, Health and Care Plan process

Barnardo's have been commissioned by National Children's Bureau (NCB) on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE) to provide Independent Support for families going through the Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) process. Our support is fully funded and free of charge. Any young person and/or parent/carer living in Lancashire will be eligible for support as outlined below.

We have an experienced team of staff able to:

- provide support for parents and young people through the process where families are transferring from Statements to Education Health Care Plans
- provide support where families are applying for a new needs assessment
- Independent Support is also available for the Annual Review process.

As part of our support we can offer your son / daughter either 1:1 support or group sessions looking at their goals and aspirations for the future. We also provide support for parent / carers, so should you want more information about Education Health Care Plans or would like any help with any part of the process, including how to apply, support with completing paperwork and in any relevant meetings, please contact the Independent Support team on:

IndependentSupporters@barnardos.org.uk
Lorraine Moody, Barnardo's Include me 2 Team Manager 01772 629470

**Believe in
children
Barnardo's**



*We can offer...
1:1 support*

*Our support is...
free of charge*

*Help with
any part of the
process*

*Support with
completing
paperwork*



Local Parent Carer Forums

Do you have a child/young person with additional needs? Come along to your local forum, it is an opportunity to raise any issues/concerns, chat to other parents and meet the guest speaker. Although the forums follow an agenda it is a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. You are also welcome to bring a friend along for support.



The dates and times for your local forum can be found below. If you require more information contact a member of the team. Details are subject to change – please check the Local Offer website www.lancashire.gov.uk/SEND or facebook page www.facebook.com/LancashireLocalOffer for updates.

Parent/carers are able to attend any of the local forums, please feel free to contact us for more information.

East Lancashire

Kevin Ma'Har on **07500 065505** or kevin.mahar@lancashire.gov.uk

Kim Campbell on **07825 755527** or kim.campbell@lancashire.gov.uk

Burnley

Holly Grove School, Barden Lane, Burnley BB10 1JD	Mon 4 December	1:15pm – 2:45pm
	Mon 15 January	1pm – 3pm
	Mon 5 February	1pm – 3pm

Hyndburn

White Ash School, Thwaites Road, Oswaldtwistle BB5 4QG	Fri 8 December	9:45am – 11:45am
	Fri 19 January	9:45am – 11:45am
	Fri 23 February	9:45am – 11:45am

Pendle

Pendle View Primary School, Gibfield Road, Colne BB8 8JT	Thur 18 January	1:30pm – 3pm
	Thur 22 February	1:30pm – 3pm

Ribble Valley

Community Room, Clitheroe Fire Station, Princess Avenue, Clitheroe BB7 2AL	Thur 7 December	1pm – 3pm
	Thur 11 January	1pm – 3pm
	Thur 1 February	1pm – 3pm

Rossendale

Maden Centre, Rochdale Road, Bacup, OL13 9NZ	Mon 11 December	1:15pm – 2:45pm
	Mon 15 January	1:15pm – 2:45pm
	Mon 19 February	1:15pm – 2:45pm

Whether we want them or not, the New Year will bring new challenges; whether we seize them or not, the New Year will bring new opportunities - **Michael Josephson**

North Lancashire

Jill Marrs on **07825 755513** or jill.marrs@lancashire.gov.uk

Fylde

Oak Tree Children's Centre, Sydney Street, Lytham St Annes FY8 1TR	Wed 13 December	1pm – 3pm
	Wed 21 February	1pm – 3pm
The Zone Fylde, 6 Chapel Walks, Kirkham, PR4 2TA	Wed 17 January	1pm – 3pm

Lancaster

Forums to be confirmed		
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Wyre

Great Arley School Holly Road, Thornton Cleveleys, FY5 4HH	Wed 13 December	9:30am – 11:15am
Red Marsh School, Holly Road, Thornton-Cleveleys FY5 4HH	Tue 16 January	1:15pm – 2:45pm
The Zone Fleetwood, Milton Street, Fleetwood, FY7 6QW	Wed 14 February	9:30am – 11:30am

South Lancashire

Sue Gaskell on **07584 217661** or susan.gaskell@lancashire.gov.uk

Norma O'Hagan on **07557 030837** or norma.ohagan@lancashire.gov.uk

Chorley, South Ribble and Preston Family Event

You need to book your place for this event through Norma

Rascals Party and Play Centre, Capitol Centre, Walton-le-Dale, Preston PR5 4AW	Mon 12 February	6:15pm – 8pm
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Chorley & South Ribble

Broad Oaks Child Development Centre, Balcarres Road, Leyland, PR25 3ED	Thur 14 December	10am – 12noon
Community Room, Chorley Fire Station, West Way, Chorley PR7 6DH	Tue 16 January	10am – 12noon

Preston

Sir Tom Finney Community High School, Ribbleton Hall Drive, Preston PR2 6EE	Mon 11 December	10am – 12noon
	Wed 17 January	10am – 12noon

West Lancashire

Eavesdale Neighbourhood Centre (formerly First Steps Children's Centre) Tanhouse, Skelmersdale, WN8 6AU	Tue 12 December	9:30am – 12noon
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There is no need to book, just turn up!

All the dates and information on guest speakers can be found on Facebook:-

www.facebook.com/LancashireLocalOffer

STAY AND PLAY



Open to all families in the local community.

You do not need to be attending Unique Kidz and Co to join us.

Every Wednesday Term Time 10:00 - 12:00pm

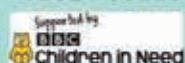
Coffee and Cake!

Every Thursday Term Time 12:30 - 2:30pm

Sensory Room Session.

Our experienced playworkers, Kathryn Everill and Christine Brown will be planning and supporting each session.

For more information please contact the office on 01524 831132



Unique Kidz and Co
Woodhill Lane
Morecambe
LA4 4NW

Clitheroe ZONE

SEND GROUP

COME ALONG
TO OUR SEND GROUP
GREAT FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
EVERY WEDNESDAY
4.30PM-6PM FOR 0-11y

PLAY DOUGH
SOFT PLAY
MESSY PLAY

Wesleyan Row
Parson Lane
Clitheroe
Clitheroe BB7 2HJ



Please ring Ros on 01200 429802 for more information

Like RIBBLE VALLEY YOUTH ZONE for updates, news and latest info.

Lancashire
County Council



www.lancashire.gov.uk

Online safety – tips for parent carers

As a parent or carer you play a key role in helping your child to stay safe online.

You don't need to be an expert on the internet to help keep your child stay safe online. Advice and resources are available to help as you support your child to use the internet safely, responsibly and positively.

A number of helpful tips are included below and whilst not exhaustive, provide some useful starting points.

- **Don't be put off by the technology** – Remember Knowledge v. Wisdom.
- **Engage with your child's school** – schools are increasingly hosting parental awareness evenings around online safety and will publish eSafety information to the school's website.
- **Agree some ground rules** – set out your expectations (and why). Agree some limits for the time spent online and expected behaviours.
- **Talk to your child about the online world** – what do they like, what worries them and what should they do if something goes wrong (keep an open dialogue).
- **Get your child to talk to you about the online world** – increase your own knowledge by getting your child to explain things to you. It's often surprising how willing and articulate they can be and how much we can learn from them.
- **Consider parental control tools** – Whilst solutions don't need to be technical, tools such as filters on the Internet connection can help to screen inappropriate content and sites (though remember filters are not a solution on their own).
- **Don't jump to conclusions if something goes wrong** – we all make mistakes. Sites/apps may include 'clickbait' in order to generate advertising income.
- **Ensure privacy settings are setup on apps and sites** – there are generally more options than typically thought.

Last but not least...

- **DON'T FORGET THE POSITIVES** – the use of technology brings potential risks but it also provides immense opportunities and benefits.

Visit the Lancashire Grid for Learning for more advice on e-safety: www.lancsngfl.ac.uk

Safer Internet Day 2018



**Safer
Internet
Day 2018** | **Tuesday
6 February**

Create, connect and share respect:
A better internet starts with you

www.saferinternetday.org.uk



Safer Internet Day 2018 will be celebrated globally on Tuesday 6th February with the slogan 'Create, Connect and Share Respect: a better internet starts with you.' Coordinated in the UK by the **UK Safer Internet Centre** the celebration sees hundreds of organisations get involved to help promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.

The UK Safer Internet Centre – a partnership of three leading charities; Childnet, the South West Grid for Learning and the Internet Watch Foundation – provide resources for children, schools and families, and tools for getting involved at www.saferinternet.org.uk.

Globally, Safer Internet Day is celebrated in over a hundred countries, coordinated by the joint Insafe/ INHOPE network, with the support of the European Commission, and national Safer Internet Centres across Europe.

The day offers the opportunity to highlight positive uses of technology and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community. It calls upon young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers, and wider, to join together in helping to create a better internet. Get involved to play your part!

- **Children and young people** can help to create a better internet by being kind and respectful to others online, by protecting their online reputations (and those

of others), and by seeking out positive opportunities to create, engage and share online.

- **Parents and carers** play a crucial role in empowering and supporting children to use technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively, whether it is by ensuring an open dialogue with their children, educating them to use technology safely and positively, or by acting as digital role models.
- **Teachers, educators and social workers** can help to create a better internet by equipping their pupils and students with digital literacy skills and by developing their critical thinking skills, which will allow them to better navigate the online world. They can empower them to create their own content, make positive choices online and can set a personal example of online behaviour for their pupils and students.
- **Everyone** has a responsibility to make a positive difference online. We can all promote the positive by being kind and respectful to others and seeking out positive opportunities to create and connect. We can all respond to the negative by reporting any inappropriate or illegal content.

We invite everyone to join us, and Safer Internet Day supporters across the globe, to help create a better internet on **Tuesday, 6 February 2018** and, indeed, throughout the whole year. A better internet starts with you!

A Squint & a Smile – our journey for a diagnosis

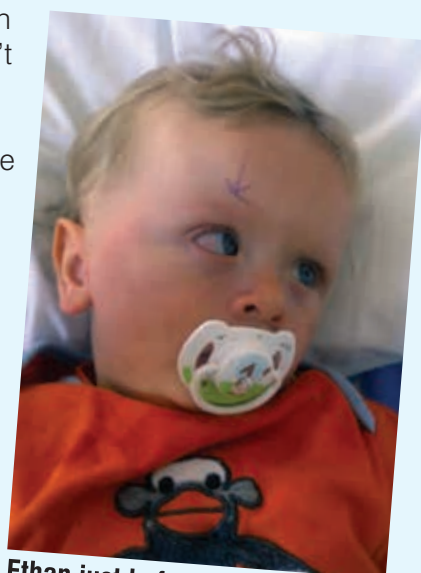
Ethan came into the world by elective caesarean section on 2nd September 2010, looking very much like a skinned rabbit! He was only 6½lb in weight despite being full term, and looked extremely displeased to have been wrenched from the lovely dark, warm nest of my womb into the harsh lights and noise of a busy maternity wing.

He was a completely adorable - but fairly pathetic – specimen in those early weeks! He wouldn't open his eyes for the first few days unless all the lights were off around my bed, but when he did look at me, his eyes were the deepest shade of Denim blue that I'd ever seen and seemed to look directly into my soul. It was so easy to fall in love with him at first sight, as he had 2 gorgeous little dimples and gave off a vibe of total vulnerability! He proved this by coming down with a chest infection within days of his birth and then at just 6 weeks of age he was admitted to intensive care with bronchiolitis. He also had an extreme startle reflex which was worrying but also quite comical; as soon as his skin detected the slightest change in temperature when he was being undressed for example, his right leg would pound quite violently earning him the nickname of Thumper!

It's fair to say that we always suspected that there was something just 'not quite right' about Ethan but in the absence of anything more than parental instinct, we just ploughed on and told ourselves not to be silly. He always looked to us like he needed to grow into his features; he had quite a large mouth for a baby, with full lips and large ears that almost touched his

shoulders. He also had no spare fat anywhere on his body – no dimpled baby bum that I was used to. In fact he had no bottom to speak of at all and his nappies used to slide down at the back – with very messy consequences! He also had a minor birth defect common in a lot of baby boys called hypospadias; this simply meant that the hole that his wee came through was in the wrong place, sort of round the corner from where it ought to be. Not a

huge concern but he needed a small operation just before he turned two and until that point it made nappy changes even more tricky, as he could fire wee out at angles that you wouldn't expect!



Ethan just before his first eye op

Then at around 6 months of age he developed a very severe squint with both of his eyes being pulled in towards his nose and limiting what he could see at a critical point of his development. So far he has had 2 operations (the last one when he was just 15 months old), followed by several months of wearing an eye patch

to correct the muscles further, to a point where glasses alone could help him. He is 7 now and will likely be having another operation soon to straighten his eyes a bit further and help him out both cosmetically and visually.

As Ethan started to grow and develop we started to suspect that he had autism; as he favoured just spinning the wheels on his toy cars, or lining them all up in rows according to size and colour and was always a very difficult feeder, despising certain textures in his mouth. He always made good eye contact though and was a very sociable little boy; in fact he was the complete opposite of shy!

As soon as he could talk he wanted to chat to people, but was obsessed with sounds



Typical Williams Syndrome excited face

and certain objects and would ask people the most peculiar questions, usually about lawn mowers! Despite having a great vocabulary, particularly for describing sounds and emotions, he seemed to be lagging behind with his development. To begin with, we thought he was just catching up because of the eyesight issues he had faced, but by the

time he reached 3 or 4 it seemed to be more than this. Eventually, after a meeting with his nursery teacher where we learned he had been obsessively collecting all the green spoons, I made an appointment with our GP to try and get a referral and some answers.

I took Ethan in for the appointment and spent an exhausting 10 minutes alternating between attempting to sit and discuss my concerns with the doctor, and leaping out of my seat to rein Ethan in. He was all over the surgery like a rash: climbing on and off the examination couch, trying to empty the blue roll dispenser, squeezing the pump on the blood pressure cuff, and unscrewing the door stop from the floor, moving into the centre of the room and spinning it repeatedly, only for me to take it from him, screw it back into the floor, sit down and then watch him immediately go over and repeat the action of removing and spinning it! I was frazzled and embarrassed, but at the same time hoped that after this display of hyperactivity and classic autism spinning, the GP would take note. Instead, he chuckled and said "He's a fun little chap, isn't he?" I think he realised I was serious when I looked at him without smiling and said "He is for about 10 minutes but you try keeping up with this all day". I got my referral letter.

We were referred to see a specialist paediatrician who observed Ethan playing, whilst talking to us about his behaviour and

abilities. She was quick to notice that he was too social for autism to be a good fit; she started looking at his facial features and told us that she thought he may have a chromosomal abnormality. When the blood results came back, we were told that the microarray test had found a small deletion on chromosome 7, typical of Williams Syndrome. I wasn't expecting the sense of relief that I felt to have finally got a label for his condition, and I began to research what it was all about.

The more I read about Williams Syndrome, the more I realised that he was displaying 'classic' features and behaviours, with one significant exception; most children with the condition are diagnosed as babies (Ethan was almost 5) as it can be associated with some very serious heart defects. Ethan luckily dodged this and after a detailed ultrasound we were told his heart was normal and his abdominal blood vessels were 'practically normal'. We'll take that, thank you.

The hardest thing that I had to come to terms with since his diagnosis was accepting that all the cute little personality quirks that I loved about my son, were just the result of his syndrome. It felt like his personality was false, like I had lost the essence of my son. Silly really, what did it matter where his personality came from? What are any of us if not the product of our genes and our upbringing? He might be genetically predisposed to obsess about certain objects, but it's the fact that he has chosen balloons and lawn mowers that make him our Ethan, and we wouldn't swap him for the world. He is a genuinely caring person who feels other people's pain and sadness and always tries to help. I am often told that the world would be a better place if we all had a bit of Ethan's magic and I tend to agree.

Hayley Monk
Parent Carer

For more information on Williams Syndrome, visit:
www.williams-syndrome.org.uk



Trying hard at school



All In is for parents/carers of primary aged children (4-11 years) with additional needs to meet, chat and support each other, while your child has space to play.



Enjoy tea, coffee and cake



A space for your child(ren) to play



Meet other parents/carers



Share tips and experiences between others

There will be a café area in which parents/carers are able to relax and chat whilst your child(ren) is able to access a range of play activities. Including a sensory area. Please note that parents/carers will remain responsible for your child(ren), however, there will be some team members who are happy to help.

By 'additional needs' we mean any extra condition that your child is living with which they need extra care for. This could be medical, developmental, physical, emotional or learning needs. There is no need to have a diagnosis.

When: Saturday 10am-12noon - We are a drop in session so come for how long works for you and your child(ren). There is no need to book, please just turn up.

Dates: 7th October / 16th December / 24th February / 28th April / 30th June

Where: Fulwood Free Methodist Church, Lightfoot Lane, Preston, PR3 3LT

Cost: £1 per child

Email: inclusion@fulwoodfmc.net **Facebook:** facebook.com/allindropin

Website: www.fulwoodfmc.net

Telephone: 01772 851597

Please contact us if you have any questions.



Bleasdale School,
Come and join our
Sensory Stay and Play sessions.



singing
messy play
friends

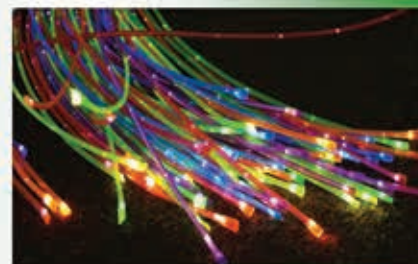
Tuesdays 1.30—2.30pm

From 7th November 2017

Babies up to preschool.

Free of Charge

lights
music



Bleasdale School, 27 Emesgate Lane, Silverdale, Carnforth, LA5 0RG
Tel: 01524 701217 Email: admin@bleasdaleschool.lancs.sch.uk



Penguin Family Group



Support Group for children 0-5 with Special/Additional Needs & their families

Mondays 10am -12 noon,

Term time

at

Broad Oaks Child Development Centre

Balcarres Road, Leyland PR25 2ED

Join us at our informal Family Support Group

in a safe environment with specialised equipment and sensory room.

Help and support is available from our qualified & experienced staff & volunteers

Contact Home-Start Central Lancashire for more information
01257 241636

Working In Partnership with Broad Oaks Child Development Centre

Starting September 2017 Parent Carer Group

for parents and carers of children and young people with special needs or disabilities



Join us for a cuppa and a chat with like minded people to share information and support.

2nd Thursday each month 9:30-11:30 am

All Welcome

St Anne's Parish Centre,
Prescot Rd, Ormskirk, L39 4TT

more information
Joan Bill 0748131652
joanmbill@gmail.com



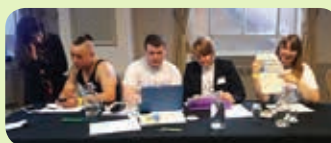
Participate, Opportunity,
Win, Achieve, Respect

CAFCASS Voice of the Child Conference

In July, 2 members of POWAR and 2 members of LINX (Lancashire County Council's Children in Care Council) were invited to the CAFCASS Voice of the Child Conference in London to present a workshop about hearing the voice of CYP with SEND in the family court system.

CAFCASS is the Children and Families Court Advisory and Support Service and 2 members of POWAR and 1 member of LINX sit on their young person's board, FJYPB.

The conference was attended by a variety of professionals including Judges, Solicitors, Magistrates, Social Workers and CAFCASS workers. The young people delivered their workshop to over 50 professionals and carried out activities around not making assumptions, and getting to know each young person as an individual. They closed the workshop with a question and answer session. The workshop was very well received and the young people had lots of positive feedback.



CRAE See it, say it, change it event

On Wednesday 25th October a group of Primary LINX and POWAR members and members of the UCAN young researchers group went to The Houses of Parliament to take part in the CRAE Change It! campaign.

It is a campaign led by 26 young people aged 8 to 20 years old who want to stop children and their families being placed in unsuitable accommodation such as Bed & Breakfasts for long periods of time.

Our young people supported other children and young people to join in with the mass lobbying event. It was an exciting opportunity to visit Parliament and speak with decision makers.

Meeting Dates December 2017 – February 2018

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. Here is a description of our regular monthly 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.

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.

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.

The meetings are held at our centre in Lostock Hall, Preston. Please also note that 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 Meetings

December

Media Group: Tuesday 5th December 6-8pm

Young Inspectors: Tuesday 12th December 6-8pm

Christmas Party: To be confirmed

January

Young Inspectors: Tuesday 9th January 6-8pm

POWAR Combined: Tuesday 16th January 6-8pm

February

Media Group: Tuesday 6th February 6-8pm

Young Inspectors: Tuesday 13th February 6-8pm

POWAR Combined: Tuesday 20th February 6-8pm

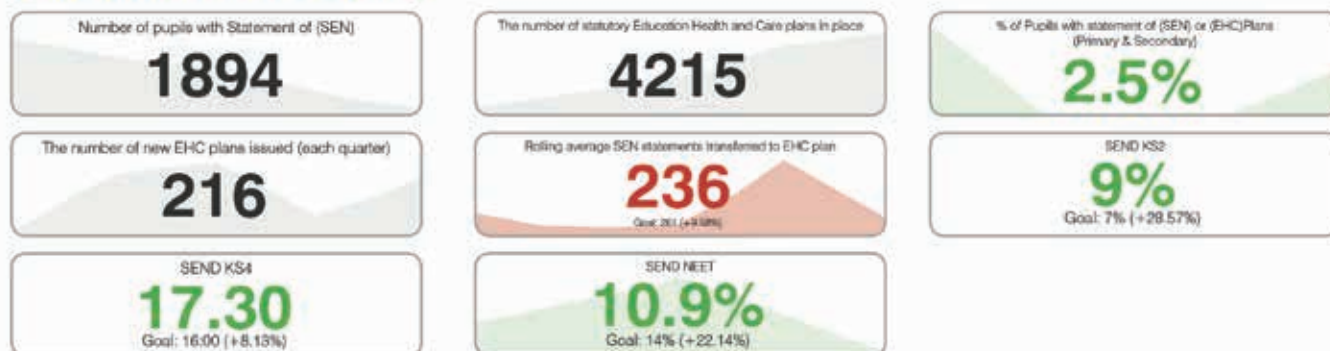
LANCASHIRE SEND

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS & DISABILITIES

Lancashire's **SEND Service** continues with the implementation of the Children and Families Act 2014 and embedding the '**SEND Code of Practice**' within policy, procedures and practice. This work continues to be a high priority for all involved in SEND.



SEND Performance Data



Performance Data

- Between Nov 16-Jan 17 (average 10.9%) the proportion of known young people with SEND that were NEET reduced on the previous period and Lancashire remains in the Good threshold category for this indicator.
- The attainment of Lancashire SEND pupils at KS2 (9% achieving the expected standard) was above National (7%) and Regional (6%) SEND performance.
- The attainment of Lancashire SEND pupils at KS4 (17.3 average attainment 8 score) was slightly above National (17.0) and Regional (17.0) SEND performance.
- There were 1,894 pupils with a SEN statement in Lancashire towards the beginning of August 2017.
- The number of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP's) in place (4,215) had increased in August 2017 when compared to February 2017 (3,189).
- There were 216 new EHCP's issued in quarter one, an increase on the previous quarter (164).
- The proportion of primary and secondary age pupils with statement of SEN or EHCP (2.5%) was still lower than the national (2.8%), regional (2.9%) and statistical neighbour (2.8%) rates and Lancashire were positioned in the Good threshold category against this indicator.

- The number of EHCP's transferred from statements of SEN increased between the periods Sept 14 – Mar 17 (2,563) and Sept 14 – June 17 (2,600). The latest quarterly average for transfers from SEN to EHCP's (236) reduced significantly on the previous quarter (256) and Lancashire are rated Requires Improvement against this indicator.

SEND Service Improvements:

- #SENDtogether Collaborative Workshops**
- Revision of the **Lancashire Local Offer**
- Design of a new case **management system** enabling more effective and efficient work
- Introduction of the new independent **travel training team**
- Reviewing the offer of learning for young people in transition post 16-25
- The Children with Disabilities Service also continues to develop Practice Standards and Guidance to support effective and purposeful practice within the Service and to ensure the Social Care Plans of children and young people are updated to reflect SMART outcomes and a clear link between the Statement / EHCP and other plans that may be in place.
- Lancashire's educational psychology recruitment and retention strategy has to date resulted in a 25% increase in staff, which has permitted the implementation of group and individual consultation work with clusters of schools across Lancashire, thus increasing the potential for more preventative work.

To support CYP, Parents and Carers with any concerns they may have regarding special education need and disabilities, LCC has worked hard to create an impartial advisory service called the **Information, Advice and Support (IAS) Team**.

Can you spare 15 minutes to make a difference?

Children and Young People, Families and Staff in Lancashire Urged to Share Experiences of New Special Educational Needs and Disability Reforms.

Children and young people, families and practitioners across Lancashire are being asked to take part in a national pilot looking at the impact of the new special educational needs and disability (SEND) reforms. These reforms require health, education and social care to plan and work together to meet the needs of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Lancashire County Council is taking part in a programme of work to measure the difference that the newly introduced Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans and personal budgets have made to the lives of children and young people with SEND.

The programme is being led by the charity 'In Control'. It will involve use of a new questionnaire that has been developed known as the Personal Outcomes Evaluation Tool (POET) to look at what's working well and areas for improvement with the new EHC plans and most importantly whether they have made a difference to children and young people's lives. The survey only takes a maximum of 15 minutes to complete and will have a huge impact on the way services are shaped and delivered across Lancashire.

Children and young people, parents/carers and practitioners who have experience of the EHC assessment and planning process and EHC Plans are encouraged to take part, to give their views and share their experiences. The results from this work will be used to help improve what happens locally and will also be used on a national level to influence the implementation of the reforms.

If you have any concerns about your child's development, information can be found on Lancashire's Local Offer to support you in accessing advice and support. The Local Offer brings together information that is helpful to children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their families. You can also get up-to-date information regarding SEND services by registering for the FIND Newsletter and via our social media sites, please visit the Local Offer for more information.



The survey is available now until July 2018 and can be found on Lancashire's Local Offer at www.Lancashire.gov.uk/SEND. Alternatively, you can call Lancashire County Council's SEND Information and Advice Support Service on 01772 532509 or email Find@lancashire.gov.uk to request a paper copy be posted out to you.

All surveys are anonymous and a final feedback report will be shared via the Local Offer in August 2018.



Let's Dance with Katherine

Are you looking to learn a new skill? And get fit at the same time? Then Let's Dance!

- * Learn new structured routines each week!
- * Develop dance and coordination skills!
- * Improve fitness!
- * Perform in local shows!
- * Have fun!

Who for: Adults with a Learning Disability
Where: The Clubhouse, Morecambe
When: Every Thursday 6:30-8pm
Price: £3pp and carers go free

If you're interested, then get in touch!

Phone: Katherine 07928662663

Email: theletsdanceclub@gmail.com

FB: [fb.com/theletsdanceclub](https://www.facebook.com/theletsdanceclub)

Local Charity Nominated for Film Awards

Local charity DanceSyndrome are celebrating after a double nomination at the national Charity Film Awards.

The Charity Film Awards were created to demonstrate that, in a modern world, film-making is a really powerful tool for charities to communicate the value of their work and to celebrate charitable video that can inspire, incite to action, excite and change behaviour.

DanceSyndrome is a multi-award winning dance charity, based in Lancashire, that delivers inclusive dance workshops and dance leadership training as well as inspiring performances that demonstrate a focus on ability rather than disability. The charity was founded by dancer Jen Blackwell, who happens to have Down's syndrome, because she found it difficult to find opportunities in community dance due to her disability. DanceSyndrome's philosophy is that disability should never be a barrier to following your dreams.

This ethos has been captured by two independent film-makers in two very different films, both of which have been nominated for awards.

Preston based student Jennifer Smith created an inspiring piece of videography called "DanceSyndrome: Dream, Believe, Achieve", which addressed the issue that there are 1.4 million people in the UK with a learning disability and 50% of those people experience chronic loneliness. DanceSyndrome has had impressive results at counteracting this trend, with participants regularly reporting improvements in health, confidence, social skills and, ultimately, happiness. The film, which has already won a Mencap Journalism Award, shows that at DanceSyndrome focuses on ability rather than disability and strives to make sure everyone is included. Workshops are lead by trained Dance Leaders with disabilities, demonstrating that disability doesn't need to be a barrier to leadership or inclusion. Through dance, participants are encouraged to follow their dreams, believe in themselves and they will achieve happiness!

The second film, Superabled, is an emotive and thought-provoking film that gives real insight into the valuable work of small charities. Filmmaker Natalie Kennedy spent several weeks following DanceSyndrome Founder Jen Blackwell as she went about her daily activities. She interviewed Jen and her friends and family about the impact of being involved with the charity and the result is a touching and heartfelt story about love, friendship and inclusion. The film highlights the long term value that small charities like DanceSyndrome can add to the lives of the people that they work with and considers what the impact would be of taking that away. It also addresses the day to day challenges of running a small charity, such as the competition for major funding and the difficulty of raising money through fundraising when there are so many worthy charities needing help.

The films will be judged in two phases, firstly by a public vote from 27th October to 15th December, which will determine a short list of entries for each category, then a panel of expert judges will vote independently to choose winners from the short list. The winners will be announced at a red carpet award ceremony in London in March 2018.

DanceSyndrome Managing Director, Dawn Vickers said "DanceSyndrome is so lucky to have had the opportunity to



be involved with both of these amazing film-makers. Both films are incredibly powerful and really help us to show people how important our work is and to help people to understand why we exist as a charity. We really hope that the public will love these films as much as we do and go out and vote for them in the public vote!"

The films are both available to view through www.dancesyndrome.co.uk and on social media, with links to the voting pages.

For more information about DanceSyndrome, please contact Sarah Calderbank, Business Development and Administration Executive on **07597 942494** or email sarah@dancesyndrome.co.uk

www.dancesyndrome.co.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/dancerleddisabilityinspired
Twitter: @Dancesyndrome

More information about the Charity Film Awards can be found at www.charityfilmawards.com

DanceSyndrome was established in 2009 by Founder and Creative Director Jen Blackwell. Jen has Down's syndrome and wanted to follow her dream of being a dancer and Dance Leader. The DanceSyndrome ethos is that everyone has the right to follow their own interests and passions, whether they have a disability or not. DanceSyndrome offer dance leadership opportunities to people with learning disabilities and empower them to co-lead high quality inclusive dance workshops which are delivered to disabled and non-disabled participants across the North West.

The hard work and innovative approach of DanceSyndrome Founder and Creative Director Jen Blackwell was recognised when she was chosen as the winner of the Inspirational Woman of the Year award at the Enterprise Vision Awards in September 2015.

DanceSyndrome's Dance Leader Team were recognised at a national level winning the Sporting Chance Award at The National Learning Disability and Autism Awards in July 2016.

DanceSyndrome was recognised as Not-for-profit of the Year at the Red Rose Awards 2017.

DanceSyndrome are funded by Spirit of 2012 and Big Lottery funding.



Come and join us at Clayton Green Sports Centre and dance your way to feeling better!

Dancing is for everyone, whatever your age or ability.

All DanceSyndrome activities are inclusive and innovative.

Our trained dancers, both with and without learning disabilities, work alongside each other to offer dance workshops for people with and without learning disabilities.

Want to boost your mood, improve your health and well-being and have fun?

Start here today!

Where:

Clayton Green Sports Centre,
Clayton Green Road, Chorley
PR6 7TL



Supported by:

LDPF

connect4life

The Bailly Thomas
Charitable Fund

Lancashire
County Council



Clayton Green Sports Centre
Every Tuesday 11am - 12:30pm
£6 on the door, £5 for members

Everybody Dance

A fun, accessible and inclusive dance and fitness session for anyone who wants to get moving and have a good time. The sessions include both upbeat and gentle dance, together with movement to music, which all helps participants to build their confidence, exercise their creativity and have fun in a safe and supportive environment.

Drop in to any of our sessions or for more information please contact DanceSyndrome on
Tel: 07597 942494
Email: info@dancesyndrome.co.uk
www.dancesyndrome.co.uk



ENERGI AUTISM FRIENDLY COST
£8.95 per participant (A parent/carer is free of charge)

SESSION DETAILS

Every Tuesday between 5 – 6 pm.

- The park is open for individuals with autism and their families only.
- The music is reduced
- A parent/carer is free of charge with every participant
- There is complimentary juice for all participants following the session
- The number of participants is kept to 50
- Please complete an online waiver prior to avoid any queues **WAIVER**

Queens Retail Park, Queen St, Preston, Lancashire PR1 4HZ
Call: 01772 440400

Email: info@energipreston.co.uk



Additional disability-friendly session now added!

Every Monday at 4pm! This session is ideal for those who need a quieter and more structured environment. Our wheelchair lift is now also installed for anyone who needs extra assistance up to the trampolines. We also offer sessions every Tuesday and Thursday at 10am.

- Carer or parent permitted free with each jumper
- Sessions limited to 70 jumpers
- £8 per session
- From aged 2 years upwards
- Access to all trampoline zones included
- Quiet room available
- Sounds and lighting dimmed
- Wheelchair lift up to trampoline area

Northumberland Street, Morecambe, LA4 4AY
01524 587100 www.jump-rush.com

UP AND active
INCLUSIVE SPORTS CLUB



Every Thursday 6pm – 7pm
Inclusive Sports is for anyone aged 6+
No booking is required.
Activities provided include sports hall games like:
Basketball, Boccia, Bowling, Football,
Badminton, Table Tennis and more.
Held at: Colne Primet Academy,
Dent Street, Colne, BB8 8JF

THERE'S NO EXCUSE... 
...sitting around doing nothing. Whatever age, ability, shape or size you are, a little exercise is better than none.

UP AND active
Email info@upandactive.co.uk
Online upandactive.co.uk
Call Us
Pendle 01282 661226 / 01282 661225

YOUTH GROUP

For young people aged 12-19
with or without a diagnosis of autism
Siblings welcome

Morecambe Library
Wednesdays (term time only)
6.00-8.00pm

For more information
Contact Poulton or Lune Park Centre

In association with



Lancashire
County Council 




Teenage Autism and ADHD Group

Lancashire TAAG (Teenage Autism and ADHD Group) are celebrating their 5 Year Anniversary this Year. We are a local charity serving Chorley, the South Ribble and the surrounding areas. TAAG supports many families with children and young people who have communication difficulties. Providing sporting activities, holiday day outs and parent support groups.

www.taaglancashire.co.uk
Lancashire TAAG
Lancashire TAAG (@TAAG_Lancashire)

BURNLEY PLAY ASSOCIATION

Supporting Play whatever your ability

Here at Burnley Play Association we provide activities with additional support for Children with Disabilities age 6 to 18yrs. Our activities are designed around the needs of individuals, so no child or young person whatever their needs is excluded.

2018 Program

We will be running our Holiday Play Camps at Easter and throughout the Summer, look out for details.

Saturday Club

We are starting a new Saturday Club from 9 till 1pm each week, from January 2018. This will be a project based group with Autism friendly activities, including Quiet space, Sensory therapy, Film Club, Lego Therapy, Cookery, Arts and Craft, and an Autism Fit group.

Volunteering Project

We are also seeking to recruit and develop a new team of young volunteers who can support and provide a 'Buddy' relationship with our young people. If you are between 14 and 18 and interested, we will train you and provide a recognised qualification. 'So get in touch'

Contact us

Our activities program can be accessed on our Website and Facebook page at Burnley Play Association

Or ring us on 01282 416194 and chat about your needs with our Special Needs advisor Tom Harrison

While I relish our warm months, winter forms our character and brings out our best - **Tom Allen**

Lots going on at My Life!

My Life is a Wigan borough registered charity, with bases in Standish and Leigh. We support people of all ages and abilities, from throughout the North West. Our aim is to reduce social isolation and loneliness by providing opportunities for people to socialise, make new friends and learn new things in a fun environment. We also provide further education opportunities for young people aged 16-25 with special educational needs and disabilities.



Inclusive Community Experience (ICE)

This is a 4-day residential event like no other! Meet new friends make new connections, have fun, learn from experts in their field, learn how to involve the whole community, take part in our Come Dine With Me evenings, and enjoy a short break in the fabulous surroundings of Ribby Hall Village.

This is an event aimed at disabled adults, family members, carers, community builders, health and social care professionals. It is a very popular event and places are subject to availability. Book now or pay a deposit to secure your place! Just £200 per person, which includes 4 nights' accommodation, workshops, entertainment and food hamper.

It takes place from 29 January to 2 February 2018. To download an easy read explanation or a booking form, visit www.my-life.org.uk/whats-on/#mylife-ice18

Inclusive Clubnights

Our inclusive clubnights are aimed at adults aged over 18 with disabilities or mental health problems. We hold them on the first Tuesday of every month at Reflex Nightclub, King Street, Wigan from 7pm to 10pm. The cost is just £2 per person (£2 for carers) and tickets must

be bought in advance. Collect from our Standish site, pay over the phone, or send us a cheque and self-addressed envelope to our Standish site and we will post them to you.



Magical Christmas event

This year our Christmas event is on Saturday, 9th December from 11am to 4pm at our Standish site. We will have artisan craft stalls, a funfair, live music, mulled wine and a prosecco bar, plus Santa will be in his grotto from 12-4pm.

Free entry, donations on the gate.



Contact us

Standish site:

Thompson House Equestrian Centre,
off Pepper Lane,
Standish,
Wigan, WN6 0PP
Phone: 01257 472900
Email: info@my-life.org.uk

Leigh site:

My Life @ Future Steps,
Leigh Sports Village,
Sale Way, Leigh,
Lancs, WN7 4JY
Phone: 01942 487854
Email: futuresteps@my-life.org.uk



MyLife
Registered Charity No. 1167858



You Tube

www.my-life.org.uk

Readers' Letters

Worries

We all have worries and sometimes they can feel that they are taking over. We are not able to focus on anything but the worries. When I feel like this I write them down and throw them away. I am not saying that the worry will go away but it does help it to go out of your mind.



For your children you could make a worry monster who eats their troubles away.

- Use an empty tissue box to make the monster but any box would work as long as you can cut out a mouth.
- Talk about worries with your child. Let them think about worries, thoughts or frustrations that they would like not to think of at the moment.
- Let your child write or draw their worries on a piece of paper. They can then choose to let it go by feeding it to the worry monster.

A Garrett

Quick & Simple Christmas Craft - Make a Handprint Angel



1. Paint your child's hand with a nice colour for the angel's gown and make a handprint in the centre of a piece of paper, just a little higher than midway.



2. Change colour (I suggest yellow) and add 2 more handprints either side of the first one. Position these a little lower down as these will make the angel's wings.



3. Turn the paper around and add a head, arms and other details either with a brush or finger-painting – don't forget to add a halo!



4. Glue the picture onto stiff card to make lovely homemade Christmas cards, or decorations.

Hayley Monk

Take time for yourself

In our busy lives it is easy to forget about ourselves. We are often rushed off our feet and rarely have time to think. This can often make us feel down and may even leave us wondering 'what is the point'?

When I am feeling like this or if I have had a particular bad day I find the following exercise helps me:

Think about anything good that has happened to you today. It can be anything big or small for example; I managed to drink a cup of coffee whilst it was still warm; I went to that activity with my children. It can be anything as long as it seems to you like a good positive, happy thing.

Write down three of these positive things, think about these and write 'I did this'. I find this really helps me. It is easy to forget about the good things that are happening each day.

A Garrett

Special Needs Parents, A Look Inside

You may think us 'special parents' have it pretty rough
We have no choice. We just manage life when things get really tough
We have made it through the days we thought we would never
make it through
We've even impressed our own selves with all that we can do

We've gained patience beyond measure, love we never dreamed
of giving

We worry about the future but know this 'special' life's worth living
We have bad days and hurt sometimes, but we hold our
heads up high

We feel joy and pride and thankfulness more often than we cry

For our kids we aren't just super parents. No we do so much more.
We are cheerleaders, nurses and therapists who don't walk out
the door.

We handle rude remarks and unkind stares with dignity and grace.
Even though the pain they bring cannot be erased.

Therapies and treatment routes are a lot for us to digest
We don't know what the future holds, but give our kids the best
None of us can be replaced, so we don't get many breaks
It wears us out, but to help our kids, we'll do whatever it takes.

We are selfless, not by choice you see. Our kids just have more
needs.

We're not out to change the world, but want to plant some seeds.
We want our kids accepted. That really is our aim.

When we look at them we just see kids. We hope you'll do the same.

By April Vernon (edited by Lancashire TAAG)



Being able to communicate is one of the most important skills we need in life. Almost everything we do involves communication; everyday tasks such as learning at school, asking for food and drink, sorting out problems, making friends and having fun. These all rely on our ability to communicate with each other.

Makaton is a language programme using signs and symbols to help people to communicate. It is designed to support spoken language and the signs and symbols are used with speech, in spoken word order.

Makaton is extremely flexible as it can be personalised to an individual's needs and used at a level suitable for them. It can be used to:

- share thoughts, choices and emotions
- label real objects, pictures, photos and places
- take part in games and songs
- listen to, read and tell stories
- create recipes, menus and shopping lists
- write letters and messages
- help people find their way around public buildings

Today over 100,000 children and adults, use Makaton symbols and signs, either as their main method of communication or as a way to support speech.

More information can be found at: www.makaton.org

Tel: 01276 606 760

Email: info@makaton.org

There are lots of free resources available to download from the Let's talk Makaton website, including Christmas words and games: www.makaton.org/shop/shopping/browseStore/FreeChristmasResources

Father Christmas



Father Christmas



Reindeer



Reindeer



Signalong provides training and resources to assist those with communication difficulties and English as an additional language.

Signalong is a key word sign-supported communication system based on British sign language and is used in spoken word order. It uses speech, sign, body language, facial expression and voice tone to reference the link between sign and word.

There is a FREE advent calendar for Christmas, to download from the website and assemble at home.

Website:

www.signalong.org.uk

Email:

admin@signalong.org.uk

Tel: 01634 727 087



Working flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in) above supporting flat hand (palm down, pointing forward/in); working hand pulls away changing to closed hand on back of supporting hand.

Children and Family Wellbeing Service

Group based programmes for children and young people with SEND

The Children and Family Wellbeing (CFW) Service (formerly the Wellbeing, Prevention and Early Help service) offers support to children and young people, age 0- 25yrs with SEND, and their families. The service identifies as early as possible when a child, young person or family needs support, helping them to access services to meet their needs, working with them to ensure the support offered is right for them, offered in the right place, at the right time.

As part of our targeted early help offer, we are planning to provide a minimum of two groups per week dedicated to children and young people with SEND in each district, one for children 0-11yrs, and a second for young people 11-25yrs. The following groups are currently being delivered, and others will be added once confirmed.

District	Group	Where	When	Contact
East Lancashire				
Burnley	Our Choice SEND Group 15-25 years	Burnley Zone	Tuesday 18.30 – 20.30	Kathryn Bancroft 07398 253144
Hyndburn	0-11 years SEND group SHINE	Great Harwood Neighbourhood Centre	Thursday 16.00 - 18.00	Aysha Begum 01254 880818
	12-25 years SEND Group SNAP	Hyndburn Zone	Thursday 18.45 - 20.45	Gillian Anson 07825 112129
Pendle	Colourful Voices SEND Group 12-25 years	Pendle Zone	Thursday 18.30 – 21.30	Tammy Tywang 01282 606333
Ribble Valley	0-11 years SEND Group	Ribble Valley Zone	Wednesday 16.30 -18.00	Emily Harrison 01200 443317
	Spring into Phab SEND Group 12-25 years	Ribble Valley Zone	Monday 19.00 - 21.00	Elf Valinakis 01200 443317
Rossendale	0-11 years SEND Group Clovers Group	Maden Centre	Every 3rd Monday of the month 13.15 - 14.25	Janet Whittaker 01706 237780
	12-19 years SEND Group Stars	Rossendale Zone	Thursday 18.00 - 21.00	Rachel Ferguson/ Paul Walsh 01706 242020

District	Group	Where	When	Contact
North Lancashire				
Fylde	0-5 years SEND Group	Sydney Street Neighbourhood Centre	Tuesday 16.00 – 17.00	VCFS led 01253 81571
	Teen Seen 12-25 years SEND Group	Fylde Zone	Tuesday 18.30 – 20.30	Rachel Jackson 01772 682548
Lancaster	AOK SEND Stay and Play 0 - 11 years	Lune Park Neighbourhood Centre	Wednesday 13.00 – 15.00	Wenda Tyrer 01772 539444/ 539420
	ASD & SEND Youth Group 11 – 25 years	Morecambe Library	Wednesday 18.00 – 20.00	Wenda Tyrer 01772 539444/ 539420
Wyre	0-11 years SEND Group	Flakefleet Neighbourhood Centre	Wednesday 15.30 – 17.30	Angela Spearpoint 01253 770682
	A Team 12-25 years SEND Group	Wyre Zone	Monday 18.00 – 20.00	Michelle Beavers 01253 770682

South Lancashire				
Chorley	0-5 years SEND Group 6-11 years SEND Group	Highfield Neighbourhood Centre	Run Fortnightly Saturday 10.00 – 12.00	01257 262441
	12-25 years SEND Group	Chorley Zone	Saturday 10.00 – 12.00	01257 270483
Preston	Rainbows SEND Group 0-5 years	Riverbank Neighbourhood Centre	Wednesday 9.45-11.30	Bev Jackson 01772 906770
	SEND Group 12-25 years	Ashton Neighbourhood Centre	Friday 18.00 – 20.00	Cam May 01772 727032
South Ribble	12-16 years SEND Group	South Ribble Zone	Friday 16.30 – 18.30	Helen Gardener 01772 426850
	16-25 years SEND Group - Unite	Walton Le Dale Neighbourhood Centre	Thursday 18.00 – 20.00	Helen Gardener 01772 426850

It is expected that children aged 11 and under attending these groups will be accompanied by a parent or carer.

Subject to an appropriate risk assessment young people aged 12 and above may attend group sessions unaccompanied, subject to the following;

- The young person is ambulant.
- The young person has no personal care needs
- The young person does not require administration of medication

Further information regarding these groups is available from the CFW advice and support line, Talkzone, on 0800 51 11 11 or talkzone@lancashire.gov.uk

Details can also be found on the YouthZone webpages on the Lancashire County Council website: www.lancashire.gov.uk/youthzone/things-to-do and on the FIND Directory of services at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/CYP/find/view

Sir Tom Finney Preston Soccer Centre

The Sir Tom Finney Preston Soccer Centre offer both Young and Adult Pan Disability Sessions. The Young Disability Sessions are FREE and the adult sessions are £3 per week.

We are an FA Charter Standard Club and with this accreditation abide by all the rules and guidelines of the FA and Lancashire FA.

Feedback from a parent...

"The football session for children and young people with disabilities is really great. Everyone is accepted just as they are, at their different levels and with their own different habits. The coaches are patient, supportive and encouraging. It keeps Jay active and helps him learn all sorts of skills like listening, taking turns and being part of a team. Everyone is really welcome - boys, girls, all ages, all abilities. Come and try it!"



Jay is 11 and has been playing for several years now...

"Hello! I'm Jay. Here I am with my friends from football. I love everything about football. I play every Saturday morning at my football group. Everyone is very friendly and helpful. We learn how to do different skills like dribbling and passing and shooting. We do some training and then we play a game - that's my favourite bit. It's brilliant!"

YOUNG DISABILITY FOOTBALL COACHING

Available to those aged 4-16

WHERE: Uclan Sports Arena,
Tom Benson Way

WHEN: Saturday 10-11 AM
Indoor Training Hall

NEED: Shin pads and a
drink to last one hour

COST: FREE

KIT EXCHANGE & RECYCLE!

We need: boots, trainers, football kit of any kind,
waterproofs, fleeces. Children and adult.
Drop off Saturdays at UCLAN Sports Arena or contact:
kath@masonhouse.co.uk or mobile: 07730570688

ADULT PAN DISABILITY SESSIONS

WHERE: Playfootball Tag
Lane Ingol Preston

WHEN: 6-7 PM Indoor
training grids

NEED: Shin pads and a
drink to last one hour

COST: £3

Enjoy football training and the opportunity
to play in tournaments with the Lancashire FA
and the North West Ability Counts league

How can you help us? - please contact if you are looking to volunteer or become a coach

www.sirtomfinney.co.uk | Email: kath@masonhouse.co.uk | Telephone: 07730570688

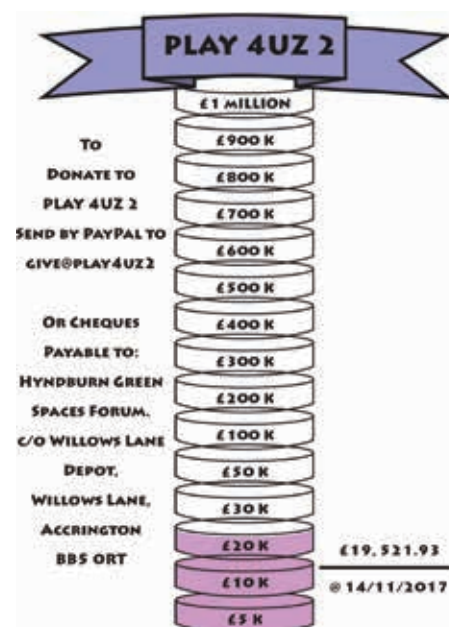
Registered Charity: No.1105246

Play 4Uz 2

Play 4UZ 2 held a Fizz Fashion Show in Thursday 5th October. We held the fashion show, raffle and a sponsored wax. We had a good turnout and raised over £700 on ticket sales and raffle money alone. We also held a Table Top Sale on Saturday 4th November at United Reformed Church in Accrington, raising a further £270.

Thank you to everyone that came to support us at these events.

Further events will be announced soon – please check our facebook page for details.



LANCASHIRE BREAK TIME

Lancashire Break Time activities will be running throughout the Christmas holiday period.

Activities for 2018 will be announced as soon as possible – please check the information on the Local Offer.

Lancashire Break Time provides an opportunity for children/young people with special educational needs and or/disabilities to attend a fun activity, whilst also providing a break for the main unpaid parent/carer. The break is for a period of at least two hours.

The criteria to qualify for Lancashire Break Time short breaks is to be the primary carer of a child or young person with special educational needs and/or disabilities, aged 0 to 18 years and with difficulty accessing universal services. The child/young person must live in Lancashire.

Parents must contact the provider direct for details and to book a place.

There is a minimum cost of £1 per hour for the activities.

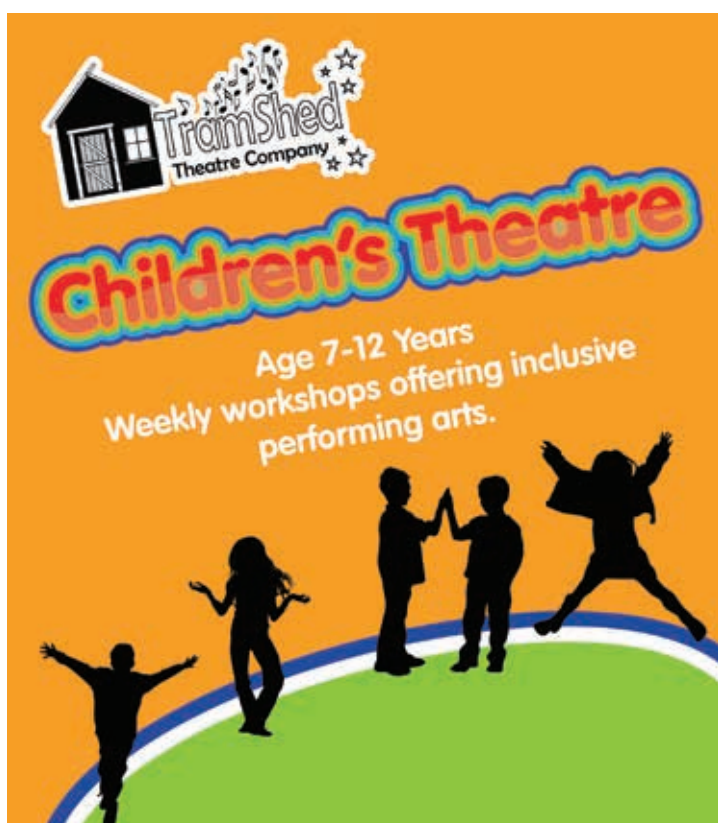
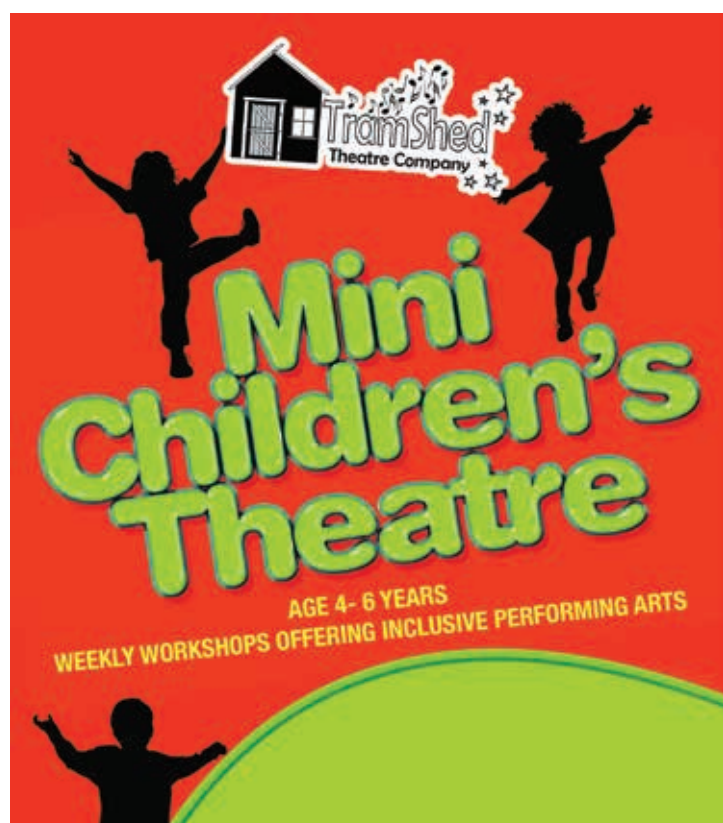
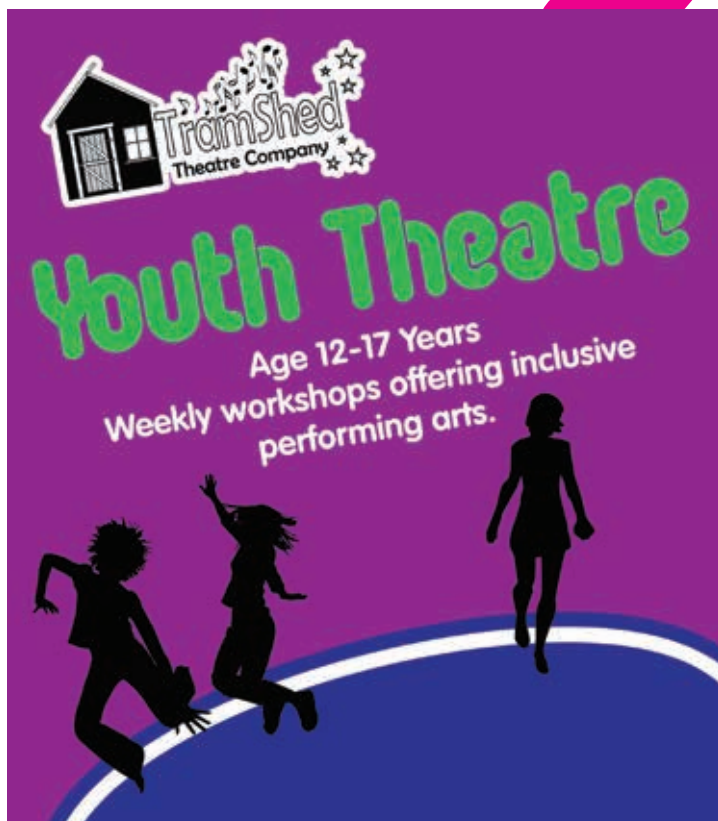
To find out what is available in your area, check out the information on Lancashire's Local Offer:

www.lancashire.gov.uk/send

Click on the Lancashire Break



Lancashire Break Time



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



@tramshedtheatre

To bring individuals together to create outstanding, original and beautiful theatre which inspires and celebrates everyone.
Registered Charity: 1109987

Useful websites

Disability Grants

Are you a parent or carer of a disabled child or adult? If so you may find this website useful to save time finding Disability Grants. Charities and Trusts provide funding towards the high cost of disability equipment, holidays, housing, days out... in fact anything above and beyond the normal costs of everyday living.

W: www.disability-grants.org

Newlife Foundation for Disabled Children

Newlife provides funding for essential community equipment, such as beds, buggies, wheelchairs, seating systems, and much more.

Our equipment grants can improve child health, reduce risk of significant injury, reduce pain and generally support delivery of care – while enabling childhood experiences and encouraging independence.

W: www.newlifecharity.co.uk

T: 01543 462 777

E: info@newlifecharity.co.uk

Family Fund

Family Fund is the UK's largest charity providing grants for families raising disabled or seriously ill children and young people. Last year, we provided 88,119 grants or services worth over £33 million to families across the UK.

We provide grants for a wide range of items, such as washing machines, sensory toys, family breaks, bedding, tablets, furniture, outdoor play equipment,

clothing and computers. It can be a struggle financially, emotionally and physically for families raising a disabled or seriously ill child, and these grants help break down many of the barriers families face, improving their quality of life and easing the additional daily pressures.

W: www.familyfund.org.uk

T: 01904 550055

E: info@familyfund.org.uk

Birkdale Trust for Hearing Impaired Ltd

The Charity makes grants to young people up to an age in their mid-twenties resident in the UK.

This funding provides support in a variety of ways and to organisations linked to deaf young people.

The Trust welcomes applications which will always receive careful consideration. Trustees are required to respect the guidelines set down by the Charity Commission so they cannot guarantee all applications will be approved.

W: www.grantsforthe deaf.co.uk

Daytrippers

Our grant programme offers special schools, charities, hospices and support groups assistance to fund day trips for disabled and terminally ill children and young people. Where funding allows, we aim to offer grants which contribute to the costs per disabled and terminally ill child and their key carer. If we cannot contribute the full amount requested, we will always consider making a contribution towards the day trip.

W: www.daytrippers.org.uk

T: 020 7758 0030

E: enquiries@daytrippers.org.uk

Chi Glow Sessions

Get your Christmas sparkle on

Join us for a magical calming session in our Hydrotherapy Pool. Enjoy warm water-based Tai Chi followed by fizz and chocolates. Friday 8th December 2017 Friday 15th December 2017 11.30 – 12.45

How To Book

Telephone: 01695 455625

Book your place(s) by November 25th.

£15 Per Person

Session will be delivered by Heather Reade of 'Wellspring Therapies' Tai Chi and Medical Chi Kung Specialist

Venue:

Twinkle House
2 Gorsey Place, East Gillibrands
Skelmersdale
WN8 9UP

Follow us:
Twitter: @TwinkleHouse2
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/twinklehouse2>

Twinkle House is a Registered Charity No. 1121205

Christmas! Mums'

Join us for a Christmas craft session ~

We will have a number of crafts for you to try, sweet treats, a light buffet and a glass of Prosecco!

Sunday 10th of December, 2-4pm
Fairview, Highfield Road North, Adlington, PR6 9RN

£5 donation

All places must be booked in advance!
www.facebook.com/HighFieldAdventure



Welfare Rights

Universal Credit Full Service (UCFS)

Universal Credit Full Service (UCFS) is slowly being rolled out across Lancashire. It replaces income-related Employment and Support Allowance as well as other means-tested benefits. Where UCFS has been implemented (currently Lancaster, Morecambe and Burnley areas) the claim is made online and all contact about the claim is normally online too via your UCFS journal. There is support available locally for those who don't have a computer or don't have the skills to make the claim, ask your local Jobcentre or District Council for help. Where there is no other option a claim should be taken over the phone by the Universal Credit helpline but it can be difficult to get the person you speak to on the helpline to agree to take the claim, and you will be encouraged to go online.

If you are currently living in an area that does not yet have UCFS and are receiving Child Benefit and possibly Child Tax Credit for your child who is over 16, we would recommend you get advice. You may be better off financially at the moment by continuing to receive Child Benefit and Tax Credits, but you need to discuss the option of your child claiming Employment and Support Allowance before UCFS is rolled out in your area. This is because in the longer term your child may receive less

money from UCFS than s/he would from Employment and Support Allowance. The Government has stated that when they eventually migrate all Employment and Support Allowance claimants on to UCFS they will ensure their money does not go down. The UCFS entitlement will be at least the same as they were receiving on Employment and Support Allowance.

UCFS is due to be rolled out in Skelmersdale in December 2017, then Blackburn with Darwen in February 2018, followed by Chorley in April 2018, then Preston and South Ribble in May 2018. By the end of 2018 if the current roll out schedule goes to plan, all of Lancashire will be a UCFS area. You can find lots of information about Universal Credit online, however if you need specific advice about your situation and the impact, please get in touch.

For free and confidential advice on benefits, please contact the Welfare Rights Service.

Tel 0300 123 6739

Email infowrs@lancashire.gov.uk

Website www.lancashire.gov.uk/benefits-and-grants



Time 2 Sleep Awareness Workshop

Scope
About disability

****FREE OF CHARGE****

Sleep Solutions have developed this workshop to raise awareness, skills and understanding around sleep difficulties specifically related to children and young people with additional support needs.

The workshop runs in school hours and is open to both parents and practitioners to maximise the benefits from working and learning in partnership.

The materials used are written and delivered by a qualified sleep practitioner.

"Gave reassurances regarding what I'm doing well and additional strategies to try" - Parent
"Knowledgeable, helpful, friendly service" - Parent

"Very informative. Excellent practical advice which I can pass on to the parents I work with" - Children's Outreach Worker
"Welcoming environment, felt very safe and non-judgemental. Information is very useful" - Student Nurse

WHAT WE COVER?

- Effects On the Family
- Keeping a Sleep Diary
- Why is Your Child not Sleeping?
- The Bedroom Environment
- A Good Bedtime Routine
- Night Awakenings & Useful Resources

To book places please contact
Julia.johnson@scope.org.uk or 07974 197894

****PLEASE NOTE** Refreshments and lunch will be provided.

For all sleep workshops and latest information, please visit Facebook page at www.facebook.com/scopeNorthWest



LOTTERY FUNDED

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 SEND 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
	Information, Advice and Support Team, SEND Service	0300 123 6706
	Children & Family Wellbeing Service (formerly Wellbeing, Prevention and Early Help Service)	0800 511 111

For Sale

Heathfield Chair, size 2, colour blue

Seat height 200-300mm, seat width 280mm, seat depth 220-310mm, back height 280mm, max user weight 45kg.

In good condition, with Instruction manual included.

£20, collection only from Penwortham.

Phone Diane on 01772 301493



Your Help Is Essential

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

- Are you involved with a new 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. Remember, this is FREE to use.

E: FIND@lancashire.gov.uk

T: 01772 538077 or 01772 532509



Editorial Group

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Chorley – Nannette Holliday

Lancaster – Lucy Ellis

Preston – Caroline Donnelly

South Ribble – Hayley Monk

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

Voluntary Organisation – Julia Johnson,

Face 2 Face/Scope

Health – Tom Harrison, Lancashire Care Trust



We also have a facebook page.

For regular updates, please 'like' our page at:

www.facebook.com/LancashireLocalOffer

Spring issue – deadline for articles
12th January, published March 2018

Summer issue – deadline for articles
23rd March, published June 2018

Autumn issue – deadline for articles
29th June, published September 2018

Winter issue – deadline for articles
12th October, published December 2018

If undelivered, please return to:
Room CH1:53, County Hall, Preston,
Lancashire PR1 8RJ

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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.

Professionals – please contact FIND, details above.

Name

Address

Postcode

Tel. No.

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