SEND Newsletter, 2023

Following the newsletter survey in 2022, "FIND" becomes "SEND" from this issue, as suggested by our readers. The new name better reflects what the newsletter is about, and we hope it will be easier for families new to the world of SEND to discover.

5th – 11th June is Carers' Week, the annual campaign to raise awareness of the challenges that unpaid carers face and the contribution they make to their families and communities. Details of activities taking place for Carers' Week, plus local support groups for parent carers, can be found inside.

We also have details of lots of local activities and groups for children and young people with SEND. If you know of any other inclusive clubs or groups, or a really good, accessible day out that you would recommend to others, please get in touch and we can include them in a future issue.

Finally, Fathers' Day is on Sunday 18th June this year – we hope you all have a great day!

If you or a member of your family would like to write an article for a future issue of SEND, we would love to hear from you. Please contact us at **FIND@lancashire.gov.uk**

Thank you for your continued support **Sarah Deady** Policy, Commissioning and Children's Health

f www.facebook.com/LancashireLocalOffer



To be a good parent, you need to take care of yourself so that you can have the physical and emotional energy to take care of your family.

Michelle Obama



INSIDE

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www.inspireyouthzone.org 01257 228888 😱 🞯 🕥 @InspireYouthZone

connor.howlett@sportworksltd.co.uk

Lancashire Short Breaks Service Break Time

Break Time provides fun group activities to children and young people aged 4-18, living in Lancashire, who have a special educational need and/or disability (SEND). Activities take place after school, at weekends and during school holidays and give parents and carers a short break from their caring role.

Registrations

Registrations for Break Time took place in January and February this year. Since then, a large number of families have been in touch who had missed the deadline. In response, we were able to reopen the registration form on 15th May, to allow a further opportunity to apply.

The number of Break Time places is limited, so the form will close at midnight on Friday 2nd June and no further applications will be accepted for the current year (April 2023 to March 2024). Registrations are processed in the order they are submitted and parents will receive a letter in the post over the coming weeks, to confirm the outcome.

All Break Time members must re-register annually if they wish to continue their membership. Registrations for 2024/25, for both existing and new members, are expected to open in October 2023. Details will be shared closer to the time, on the Local offer website and facebook page, in this newsletter and through nurseries, schools and colleges.

Break Time Providers

Since January, we have introduced a number of new providers, giving more choice to families that use the service. There are now 41 Break Time provisions across the whole of Lancashire, delivered by 22 individual providers.

We are still working to expand the range of activities available to your children and young people. If you know of an organisation that may be able to deliver Break Time activities, please ask them to contact the Short Breaks Team – details below.

We are also working with our Break Time providers to support children that have additional medical, personal care or other needs, helping to make Break Time activities even more inclusive.

Other opportunities

Break Time activities provide valuable support to families in Lancashire, however there are other clubs and groups also available for children and young people with SEND. These include before and after school clubs, holiday play schemes, Early Years groups and the weekly Colourful Voices and SEND Youth Groups that are delivered across Lancashire.

The Council also provides free activity sessions during the summer holidays, through the Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Programme. Whilst HAF is delivered for all children in receipt of benefits-related free school meals, places are also available for children with special education needs and disabilities who are not receiving free school meals. More information on HAF can be found at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-educationfamilies/school-holiday-activities

Full information on Break Time, including how to register your child, can be found on the Local Offer at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/childreneducation-families/special-educational-needsand-disabilities/things-to-do/break-time Contact the Short Breaks Team at cyp-shortbreaks@lancashire.gov.uk Or call us on 01772 538077

If you feel your child needs more support than Break Time provides, you can request a Child & Family assessment, so we can fully understand and identify the best way to meet their needs. Call 0300 123 6720 to request an assessment.

Break Time Plus

Break Time Plus enables children and young people who receive a social care package of support following an assessment, or who are in the care of Lancashire County Council or another local authority, to access group activities as part of their package of care.

You do not need to register for Break Time Plus – speak to your child's social worker or allocated worker, or visit the Local Offer page: www. lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/ special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/ things-to-do/break-time-plus



" I really love my daughter, but no one gets just how overwhelming it can feel.

I wish they knew what it's really like to be a carer."

Unpaid carers can feel invisible to even the people closest to them. That's why we want to make sure carers are recognised and supported in their communities

s UK is a charity registered in England & Wales (248320) & Scotland (SC0039007). pany limited by guarannee 864097. Registered office 20 Great Dover Street, London SEI 4LX



Visit carersweek.org to find out more and to get involved



5-11 June 2023

We're pleased to announce that this year Carers Week will be taking place from 5-11 June 2023, with charities, organisations and individuals getting together to show support for the millions of unpaid carers in the UK - and to spread the word about the challenges they face throughout the year and what needs to be done to improve their daily lives.

Carers Week is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring and help people who don't think of themselves as having caring responsibilities to identify as carers and access muchneeded support.

The campaign is brought to life by thousands of individuals and organisations who come together to provide support for carers, run activities and highlight the vital role carers play in our communities.

The theme for Carers Week 2023 is 'Recognising and supporting carers in the community'.

This Carers Week, we want communities across the UK to come together to recognise the huge contribution unpaid carers make to society. Politicians, employers, health and social services, businesses, education providers and members of the public all have a role to play in raising awareness of caring and making sure carers are able to access the information and support they need. Find out more at: www.carersweek.org



Carer [noun]

/'keərə(r)

[1] Cares (unpaid) for family or friends who have a disability, illness or who need support in later life: Washing them. And their laundry. And their dishes. Keeping appointments. And records. And tempers. Giving medicine. And time. And hugs. Filling forms. And fridges. And silences. Dealing with doctors. And nurses. And pharmacists. And social workers. And benefits agencies. And care workers. And a lack of sleep.

[2] Needs support to manage a life of their own.

Looking after someone?

Find out about the help and support available at carersweek.org



"No one gets why my homework's sometimes late.

I wish they knew what it's really like to be a carer."

the people closest to them. That's why we want to make sure carers are recognised

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Visit carersweek.org to find

out more and to get involved

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Carers Week Carers Week 2023

'Recognising and supporting carers in the community'

Cupcake Decorating

Learn how to make cupcakes that not only taste great, but also look great too! Rukhsana will demonstrate decorating cupcakes using various skills and styles. It's then over to you to create your own masterpieces. You will get the chance to ask for any hints and tips throughout the session. Only £5 per person.

Monday 5th June, 10am - 1pm, Carers Link Community Facility, Accrington

Knit and Natter

Why not relax and explore a new hobby? Whether you're an expert or a beginner, feel free to join our session where you can learn how to knit or crochet, and meet new people. All materials will be provided.

Wednesday 7th June, 11am - 1pm, Carers Link Community Facility, Accrington

Afternoon Tea and Singalong

Join us at our Community Facility for afternoon tea, followed by a singalong by Inspire for only £5 per person! To book please contact us at: activities@carerslinklancashire.co.uk

Friday 9th June, 11am - 1pm, Carers Link Community Facility, Accrington

Confidence and Resilience Course

This course is for anyone who wants to understand how they can improve their own emotional intelligence and resilience in order to gain more self-confidence. It teaches broad life skills and positive patterns of thinking.

> Tuesday 6th June, 1pm - 4pm, Northlight, Brierfield, BB9 5NH

Dealing with Stress Course

This course examines the causes and impact of activities that may be stressful for you. You will be able to understand your own reaction to stress and how to use practical coping strategies to manage it more positively and proactively.

> Thursday 8th June, 1pm - 4pm, Northlight, Brierfield, BB9 5NH



Carers Link

Spectrum of Light You are not alone

Spectrum of Light Rossendale is a parent carer support group of children whom have extra needs

you are not above

MONDAY EVENINGS 7.00PM - 9.00PM

Come along to our safe space with people who are in similar positions. Make friends, give and take away advice. £2 donation, refreshments are provided.

For more information contact Julie on 07968 057954 info@spectrumoflightrossendale.co.uk

CALLING ALL PARENTS OF DEAF CHILDREN



Burnley Boys and Girls Club Barden Lane BB10 1JQ Monday 23rd January 11–1pm and fortnightly thereafter

Come and join us for a brew and a chat. Everyone welcome.

FOR MORE INFO OR HELP WITH TRANSPORT CALL RIFFAT ON 07891 251234.



Everyone Matters is a new group for parents and carers of children and young adults with disabilities or SEN needs, You are welcome to join us every Tuesday afternoon at 1-3pm. Everyone Matters provides a friendly, safe and supportive environment for you to come and meets others.

matters.

Brave Church, Watson St, Oswaldtwitstle BB5 3HH

Phone: 01254 372771

Email: hello@bravechurch.co.uk Website: www.bravechurch.co.uk



Are you a parent or carer of a child with SEN or other Additional Needs? Do you need a safe space to chat or seek help/advice from others who are going through the same?

Meet up with us on Wednesdays from 9.15-11.30 at Highfield Neighbourhood Centre (Wright Street, PR6 0SL. 01257 516466)

For more information, contact Kat at kat.timeout@outlook.com or search TimeOut (Chorley) Support Group on Facebook. Lancashire



Support group for parents, grandparents & carers of children with additional needs

Come for a cuppa and a chat about joys & challenges Share ideas with other parents & carers Guest Speakers

Park Neighbourhood Centre Barnes Road, Skelmersdale, WN8 8HN

Trinity Parent Carer Group

for parents and carers of children and young people

with special needs or disabilities.

Join us for an informal chat with other parents and carers to share information and support.

Face to face Meetings

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

St Annes Pastoral Centre,

Prescot Rd, Ormskirk L39 4TG					
2023 Face 2 Face meeting dates					
April 13 th	May 11 th	June 8 th	July 13 th		

Virtual Meetings via Zoom

4th Tuesday each month 8-9pm

2023 Zoom meeting dates					
April 25 th	May 23 rd	June 27th	July 25 th		

Email trinitysnap17@gmail.com for a Zoom invitation

All Welcome

NB please check TrinitySNAP on Facebook for any possible date changes due to school holidays Trinity Special Needs Advice Partnership <u>Trinitysnap17@gmail.com</u>





Guest speakers each month covering a wide range of topics here at Twinkle House.

Starting 25th January 2023

To book a place or for more infomation, please contact Belinda Moreland via email: wellbeing@twinklehouse.co.uk OR call 01695 455625

> Twinkle House- Wellness and Sensory Centre 2 Gorsey Place, East Gillibrabrands, Skeimersdale, WN8 SUP

<u>Lancashire Parent Carer Forum –</u> <u>Update</u>



Developing the Parent Carer Forum

Between October and the end of March, the Parent Carer Forum have been working with a Contact Associate, Maureen Morris, to develop the reach and sustainability of the Forum after COVID19.



We have doubled our membership and recruited more parent carers to work with us.

To join our membership database, go to our

website:

https://www.lancashireparentcarerforum.org.uk

and sign up for information and opportunities to help shape services.

National NNPCF / Contact Conference 2023

At the end of February, Lancashire parent carers were represented at the annual National Conference of the National Network of Parent Carers and Contact by two representatives. Here,

our Chair, Sam Jones,

is discussing what should be ordinarily available across the country for children and young people with additional needs, with MP Claire Coutinho,



Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Children, Families and Wellbeing). The Minister's responsibilities include: SEND including high needs funding, Alternative provision, Children's social care, Children in care, children in need and child protection, Adoption and care leavers, Early years and childcare, Family hubs and early childhood support, disadvantaged and vulnerable children, Children and young people's mental health.

LPCF Annual Event

In March, the Parent Carer Forum held an Annual



Event, which was well attended and we recruited nine more parent carers to work with us and council and health practitioners to help shape services for our children, young people and families.

Local SEND Events



We are continuing to work with SEND IAS and other agencies and practitioners from across the SEND Partnership to bring Local SEND events to each district in Lancashire. Watch out for one in your area. We would love to see you there! For information see our Facebook page, Lancashire Parent Carer Forum.



COLOURFUL FOOTSTEPS

These sessions are for children Age 0-5years with physical, learning, behavioural and emotional difficulties along with their parents, and offers an inclusive environment, with opportunities for learning development and support.

Vellbeing

Tuesdays 1:00pm-2:30pm

Preston Central Neighbourhood Centre, Brieryfield Road, Preston, PR1 8SR.

Telephone:- 01772-531948

Sensory room available during sessions.





This is us! Youth club

Every Monday 6:45pm - 9pm

Ribbleton neighbourhood centre PR2 6EE

Prestontys@lancashire.gov.uk A fun and safe youth club for young people aged 12-25 with special educational needs and disabilities.





DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING FOOTBALL SESSIONS



Football sessions in a fun, safe and inclusive environment for Children and Young People aged from 4 to 16 years

Older members also have opportunities to enrol on FA Coaching Courses and become future role models.

Coaches are FA Enhanced DBS Cleared and have qualifications in First Aid and Safeguarding, with additional qualifications in Deaf Awareness and BSL

Training is 6~7 pm on Fridays at Lostock Hall Community Primary School, PR5 5AS.

To Enrol or for further information, please contact: Darryl: darrylcartwright@btinternet.com





COLOURFUI FOOTSTEPS

Children and Family Wellbeing Service

County

Council

These sessions are for children age 5-11yrs with SEND (or undergoing assessment) and offers an inclusive environment, with opportunities for learning development and friendship, and a place where parents can access peer support

Wednesdays 3:30-5:00 Duke Street Neighbourhood Centre Duke Street Chorley PR7 3DU

Ask at reception or call 01257 516316/516466 for more information

Come join us for our **UNITE** youth groups

A social group for young people with special educational needs and disabilities. We have groups in Chorley and South Ribble on Mondays 6:30-8:30pm

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

Providing a safe and welcoming environment for young people aged 12-25 years with special educational needs and disabilities. The group aims to work on life skills, improve communication skills, self-confidence & selfesteem in a group work setting.

(Parents/Carers are welcome to attend initial sessions)

Please contact before coming to the group Contact us for more details on: chorleysouthribble.TYS@lancashire.gov.uk











Activity Programme June - July 2023

Activities for deaf* children & young people. *Deaf includes all levels of hearing loss (mild/ moderate/severe/profound) including unilateral deafness (affecting only one ear) and temporary deafness such as glue ear.

Sunday 11th June

Penny Farm 11.00am – 2.00pm World Horse Welfare, Penny Farm, Preston New Road, Blackpool, FY4 5JS

There will be a tour around the centre and we have paid for the groom a pony session for each child. Children are likely to be split into 2 groups one having the tour whilst the other group are grooming to ensure everyone has a turn. There is a coffee shop which will be open at the centre. All ages.

Tuesday 20th June

Low Ropes/Gladiator Challenge 5.45pm – 8.15pm Outdoor Revolution, Stanley Park, West Park Drive, Blackpool, FY3 9HU

Children will be split into 2 groups and so they will have the opportunity to have time on the low ropes and the Gladiator Challenge on the high ropes. Please ensure that they have suitable clothing and footwear. Ages 5 years and above.

Sunday 2nd July

Blackpool Zoo 11.00am - Flexible East Park Drive, Blackpool, FY3 8PP Everyone needs to arrive promptly as we will all meet at 11.00am and enter the zoo together. Families are then at their leisure to explore the zoo. If the weather is good it would be nice to bring a picnic and meet up for lunch. The charge for this event is £5.00 per adult and children are free. All ages. **THIS EVENT NOW HAS A RESERVE LIST**

Programme funded by people's health lottery using money raised through the health lottery in the North West

Sign Hi Say Hi! – Fylde, Wyre & Blackpool Deaf Children's Society for any child who is deaf or has a hearing impairment, their siblings and families Activities £1.00 per child (unless otherwise stated), Under 5's are free To book on to the activities please contact 07437 335 655 or email signhisayhi@ndcsgroup.org.uk

About Us

Sign Hi Say HI! is a group of local families with deaf/ hearing impaired children & young people. It is a charity run by parents and grandparents/carers with deaf children. We run a Club for deaf/hearing impaired children/young people, their families, siblings, parents, carers and friends. Sign HI Say Hi! is affiliated to the National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS). All deaf and young people are welcome from birth to young adults whether they choose to communicate by speech/ BSL/sign supported English etc.

Deaf children/young people meet, take part in activities such as sport, craft, workshops and simply be together. Parents /carers can have a coffee and socialise with other families or can book their child in beforehand and collect their child later. If you have a younger child or baby you are welcome just to drop in for a chat for 20 minutes or so. Many children or young people find they are the only deaf child or young person in their school and at Sign Hi Say Hi! they are with other young deaf people.

We also occasionally run life-skills workshops for deaf young people. We also offer new parents whose children have just been identified as deaf informal parent to parent support.

The Club meets term time – most events are held Tuesday evenings 6.00pm to 8.00pm and occasionally events are held at the weekend – we try and vary where we meet up and have a range of activities to appeal to different ages. If you don't want to come to the Club but would like a committee member to call you please ring 07437 335655 or email signhisayhi@ndcsgroup.org.uk

Membership

We receive no local or government funding and rely on attracting grants and donations to run the Club.so we have to charge for membership ($\pounds 5.00$ per family a year).

Child Protection

Sign Hi Says Hi! takes Child Protection very seriously and has Child Protection Policies and Procedures in place. We also have a designated Child Protection Officer.

We are a registered charity number 1037445





www.ojscare.or

Registered charity 111986

COLOURFUL FOOTSTEPS

Children and Family Wellbeing

This session is to support primary school age children with physical, learning, behavioural and emotional difficulties offer an inclusive environment, with opportunities for learning development and support.

This is also where parent carers have the opportunity to meet make new friends and share experiences with those going through similar joys and challenges.

Colourful Footsteps - Burnley Day – Friday Session time – 3.30pm-5.00pm Venue – Burnley Central Centre, Whittam Street, Burnley

For more information, please call 01282 470707

Lancashire

County Council



Colourful Voices

Pendle

Special Education

Needs/Disability

Youth Group 12yrs -

19yrs+

Monday 7pm - 9pm

For more information please contact Ashy on 07876790731 or email mohammed.arshad@lancashire.gov.uk or Qadeer on 07770764310 or email gadeer.ahmed@lancashire.gov.uk



COLOURFUL FOOTSTEPS

Fridays 4pm - 5.30pm Colne Neighbourhood Centre, Walton Street, BB8 0EL

~

/ellbeing

A fun session for children aged 5-11, with physical, learning, behavioural and emotional difficulties (including those undergoing assessment). Colourful Footsteps takes place in an inclusive environment, with opportunities for learning, development and support.

This is also where parent carers have the opportunity to meet and make new friends, and share experiences with those going through similar joys and challenges.



Exploring Potential

Made with PosterMyWall.com



Transition phases

When preparing your child or young person for transition from nursery to primary school, primary school to high school and from high school to post sixteen or further education it is important to make sure that things go smoothly so whatever the phase it is important to start planning early. You know what your child's needs and anxieties are better than anyone else.

Nursery to primary school

The transition to school from nursery can be a stressful time for children, not to mention for parents too. Here are some suggestions to help your child be 'school ready' and to make this transition a smooth, happy, and effective one. Keep child focused.

- Build a good relationship with the school staff
- Visits to school. This will increase your child's confidence. Ask the Head Teacher or SENCO how this will be provided.
- Create a book of photos of key areas and people in school e.g., the classroom, cloakroom and toilets, class teacher, teaching assistant and dinner lady if possible.
- Create a school role play area at home
- Read books on 'going to school' or create your own social situation stories. Your local library will be able to help you source some of these.
- Talk about the change as a good thing
- Develop your child's independence with things like toileting, hand washing, dressing and eating

Primary school to high school

Year 6

Before your child starts at their new school extra visits can be arranged by liaising with the SENCO and Transitions Officer. This can help your child gain familiarity with their new school. It might be possible for a familiar adult to go with them on the first visit and you can ask that a fellow classmate going to the same school be placed in the same class.

Your child's information should be passed by primary school to the secondary school and all teaching staff should be made aware of your child's needs. Talk to the SENCO to find out how this will be done.

Year 7

Schools encourage independence but some children can have support initially through a buddy system to help them get from one lesson to the next without getting lost. Lunch and break time clubs can be a refuge if your child doesn't like to be on a noisy and crowded playground. Is there somewhere quiet they can go if they need time to calm down? Do school give time out if needed.

Homework can be one of the most difficult things to cope with initially. Will your child need help writing their homework instructions down? Homework is usually given out at the end of the lessons and as the children are eager to move on to the next lesson or more importantly lunch time it might get missed. Maybe your child can have some help to write it in their planner, could it be given out halfway through the lesson instead or emailed so that you can keep track of it. If your child has problems with homework, ask if there is a homework club where help is available during or after school time.

High school to post 16 provision

There are several options for young people for post 16 opportunities

To stay in full-time education – Your child could take a range of subjects that lead to qualifications that keep their options open, like GCSEs or A levels. Courses like T Levels or BTEC allow them to focus on a chosen career area like construction, healthcare, science or digital careers. Some careers may require specific qualifications, so help your child to do some research into where the course they are interested in might lead.

- A levels
- T Levels
- Technical and vocational qualifications
- Applied qualifications
- Exam retakes

Combine work and study and gain practical skills, get work experience and a qualification that employers are looking for.

- Traineeships
- Supported internships
- Apprenticeships
- School leaver schemes

If your child has an EHCP it is important that planning for post 16 transition starts early. The year 9 review should be the starting point for discussion about their aspirations. See our factsheets entitled Post 16 and Preparing for Adulthood

SENDIAS Helpline Number 0300 123 6706 - open 9 – 5, Monday – Friday

Email - information.lineteam@lancashire.gov.uk

www.facebook.com/LancashireSENDinformation AdviceandSupportTeam

COLOURFUL FOOTSTEPS

Wellbeing

County Council

We also provide sessions in our centres for children with physical, learning, behavioural and emotional difficulties offer an inclusive environment, with opportunities for learning development and support. This is also where parent carers have the opportunity to meet make new friends and share experiences with those going through similar joys and challenges.

Venue, Date and Time

The Zone, Old Fire Station, Rawtenstall BB4 8EW Every Monday 3.30-5.00pm To book your place email to: Rossendalegroupwork@lancashire.gov.uk



A CHANCE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS TO COME TOGETHER, LEARN, DEVE HAVE FUN.

EVERY MONDAY FROM 6:45PM TILL 8:45PM AT NEW ERA, ACCRINGTON FOR AGES 12 TO 25 WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: CFWHYNDBURNYOUTHWORK@LANCASHIRE.GOV.UK



COLOURFUL FOOTSTEPS

Colourful Footsteps is a group that supports children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities in several areas including being independent, learning new skills, to name a few. We have lots of fun in our sessions as well by playing games and creating our own crafts. We aim to provide a safe welcoming environment for young people aged 5-11 years (SEND).

We support with

- EmotionsIndependent thinking
- Independent tninkir
 Learn new skills
- Learn new skills
 Duilding confidence
- Building confidence
- Improving communication
- EVERY TUESDAY AT THE NEW ERA ACCRINGTON 4-5PM Please call 01200 420460 or message our page to book your place

Vellbeina





Whalley Junior Phab Club

Whalley Junior Phab Club is an inclusive social club for families with children aged up to 15 years old, disabled or non-disabled, from all over Lancashire. Our Phabulous volunteers organise a wide range of activities such as discos, arts and crafts, music, games, tuck shop and special guests. Some of the families have also taken part on the national Phab holiday projects at specialist outdoor education centres. All families are welcome to come along, have fun and make new friends.

We meet twice a month on a Saturday from 4.00pm – 5.30pm at Whalley Village Hall, Whalley, Near Clitheroe, Lancashire,

Our 2023 dates are:

April 22nd & 29th May 13th &27th June 10th & 24th July 8th & 22nd August No Club.

September 9th & 23rd October 14th & 28th November 11th & 25th December 9th

Cost: Admission is £2.50 per child and drinks are provided.

For further details please contact Rebecca Hargreaves on 01254 824784 or rebecca.hargreaves@phab.org.uk

aged 5 to 15 both disabled Charity No 28393 A place where families can Saturdays, twice a month 4.00pm – 5:30pm Only £2.50 per child

Juice, tea and coffee provided

Games, Sports,

Arts & Crafts,

Music,

Parties, Sensory

Tent and More!

We meet at: Whalley Village Hall, Accrington Rd, Whalley, Clitheroe, BB7 9TD Come along and join

the fun!

Whalley Phab Club! For families of children

and non-disabled.

meet, make friends and

have fun!

Interested? Contact – Rebecca on 07875 140898 rebecca.hargreaves@phab.org.uk or find us on Facebook! WhalleyJuniorPhab

Phab inspires and supports children and adults Both disabled and non-disabled to make more of life together Visit: www.phab.org.uk





Together for seriously ill children and their families



The Kentown Children's Palliative Care Programme was launched in November 2022. This is a community focused children's palliative care initiative in North West England covering Lancashire and South Cumbria. Aiming to reach the growing numbers of children and young people with life-limiting conditions in the region and to ensure that every family gets the right care and support, care is designed and delivered around the unique needs of every family.

The Kentown Children's Palliative Care Programme is a collaborative programme between Together for Short Lives, The Kentown Wizard Foundation and Rainbow Trust Children's Charity. There are now 4 palliative care specialist nurses, 2 Rainbow Trust support workers and 2 family service coordinators in the team. You can read more about the team on the Kentown Support website: www.kentownsupport.org.uk

The programme is busy with the team accepting referrals from across the region and working with other children's palliative care services, including children's hospices, to ensure that families have access to care and support and accessible information so they can make informed choices about their child's care.

Referrals can be made by any health or social care providers and families can also self refer. Any questions about the programme or about how to make a referral can be sent to **enquiries@kentownsupport.org.uk**



A new strategy outlining how children and young people will be supported to participate in decisions and services that affect them was launched at County Hall, Preston on the 17th February.

The Children and Young People's Participation Strategy applies to all children and young people in Lancashire and talks about best practice in terms of how they are involved in decisions that affect their own lives, all the way up to supporting how services develop strategically to benefit others in the future.

Children and Young People's Participation Strategy

The strategy has been written with children and young people and with staff who work across a variety of different services.

The Launch event was presented by young people from Lancashire Youth Council, LINX, the Children in Care Council and the Care Leaver Forum as well as POWAR, the SEND Forum for children and young people in Lancashire. It introduced a model of participation called the Lundy Model and we spent time getting creative and exploring what that model means in different circumstances and settings.

To find out more about the strategy and how children and young people could get involved in POWAR, please go to: www.lancashire.gov.uk/childreneducation-families/children-and-young-peoplesparticipation

Or you can follow us on Twitter @LancsCYPVoice

> Clare Smith Youth Policy Strategic Lead Lancashire County Council





Inspirational local charity opens new dance session in Blackburn

An inspirational local charity is excited to be launching a brand new, inclusive dance session in Blackburn town centre.

DanceSyndrome is a multi-award-winning dance charity that was founded by Jen Blackwell, who has Down's syndrome. The charity was formed because Jen found it difficult to find opportunities in community dance that were accessible to people with learning disabilities. DanceSyndrome's ethos is that disability should never be a barrier to following your dreams. All DanceSyndrome sessions are disability led, with people with learning disabilities taking visible Dance Leader roles to inspire people to see what can be achieved when we all become more inclusive.

The new weekly "Everybody Dance" session in Blackburn will open at Wesley Hall Methodist Church on Feilden Street, starting on Monday 15th May from 1pm-2pm. The session is open to everybody, regardless of age, ability or gender and will be co-led by Lucie White and Anna James.

Dance Leader, Lucie White, said "Hi everyone, my name is Lucie White, and I am looking forward to our new dance session starting in Blackburn. I will be working with Anna the Dance Artist. I love to dance as it makes me feel good. This will be my first chance to carry out a leadership session of my own since becoming a Dance Leader. I am very grateful to DanceSyndrome for giving me the opportunity to do this. I love my DanceSyndrome family and all the friends I have made. I hope we get lots of people come to this session."

Dance Artist Anna James said "I am super excited to be co-leading this brand new community Everybody Dance session in Blackburn with Lucie! I had the pleasure of working with Lucie whilst she was training to be a qualified Dance Leader and she is full of great ideas! In our Everybody Dance class we will explore moving through varying exercises and we have lots of themes planned to inspire creativity in the sessions. We are both excited to meet new people and share ideas with the groups. Co-leading with Lucie is so much fun."

DanceSyndrome have been able to open this new session as part of a £179,483 project funded by The National Lottery Community Fund. This funding supports expanding the Everybody Dance provision to make positive changes for more people with learning disabilities across the North West.

The charity will deliver weekly dance sessions, accredited dance leadership training and inspiring performances that demonstrate the power of inclusion through dance. The aim of the project is that people who participate will gain independence, confidence, better communication, and social skills and see improvements in their health and wellbeing. Through a shared love of dance, people will feel connected with their communities and become less isolated.

DanceSyndrome Managing Director Julie Nicholson said "DanceSyndrome has been working hard to build connections in the Blackburn area over the last year and we know that there is a lot of demand for a dance session that is inclusive of everyone. DanceSyndrome believes that there is beauty and significance in all movements, there is no "right" or "wrong" way to dance. We invite people of all abilities to come along a enjoy moving to music in a way that is meaningful and enjoyable for them. Everyone who take part has fun and goes away feeling better, both physically and mentally. We really believe that everybody can dance!"

For more information about the sessions or to book a place online, **visit www.dancesyndrome.co.uk/ sessions** or email **info@dancesyndrome.co.uk**



than words Boggie Nights

Inclusive Clubnights

Third Wednesday of the month: 18 Jan, 15 Feb, 15 Mar, 19 Apr, 17 May, 21 Jun, 19 Jul, 16 Aug, 20 Sept, 18 Oct, 15 Nov, 20 Dec 2023

6.30pm to 9.30pm at Unit 2 The Edge, Pottery Terrace, Wigan, WN3 5DN

Soft drinks and snacks available, bring your own alcohol.

£5.00 entry, PAs/support workers free. Pay on the door.



ON THE BEAT

Wednesdays 10am & 12pm please cali for term dates

Music sessions for age 18+ Including a range of musical activities to ensure that everyone is able to express themselves in different ways. With an emphasis on inclusivity, personal development and fun, the sessions last 90 minutes and will include a tea break for a bit of social time.

> Book online at moremusic.org.uk/whats-on/on-the-beat/ or call 01524 831997



Oswaldtwistle Mills Conference Centre, Pickup Street, Accrington, BB5 0EY

CELEBRATION OF ALL ABILITIES

Set in the lovely Lancashire seaside town of St Annes on the Sea and overlooking the towns beautiful beach, the Dalmeny Resort Hotel is the perfect place for an action packed stay. Our busy entertainment schedule below is complemented by the hotels pool, gym, sauna, steam room, jacuzzi, arcade games room and squash court. Come and celebrate all abilities with our 2 night package for 16-25 year olds within the SEND spectrum. The package is only £399 per person, including full board and care goes free!

TURKEY & TINSEL MONDAY 6 NOVEMER - SOLD OUT DAY 8 NOVEMBER - £399 MONDAY 4 DECEMBER - WEDNESDAY 6 DECEMBER - £399

MON	TUE	WED		
	DIY Crafts	DIY Crafts		
6	Gym fitness class	Check out		
	Packed lunch	EXTRAS Optional extras to book during your stay: - foot massage - foot massage - foot massage - foot massage - foot massage - foot massage - bance classes - bance classes - bance for several - bance classes		
20219	Scavenger hunt & prizes			
Arrival coffee / tea & crafts	Fun with food crafts			
Pool Party	Pool party			
Cheesy disco & karaoke	Cornedy show & karaoke			
	Arrival coffee / tea & crafts Pool Party Cheesy disco	DIY Crafts DIY Crafts Gym fitness class Packed lunch Scavenger hunt & prizes Arrival coffee / tea & crafts Pool Party Pool party Cheesy disco Comedy show		



01253 712236 | DALMENYHOTEL.CO.UK/CELEBRATION-OF-ALL-ABILITIES

Young People Living with Pain

Support Group

Meets Wednesdays Fortnightly

Contact No. 01772 520857 or Email cad@lscft.nhs.uk

NHS COMMUNITY Lancashire & Prevention & South Cumbria Engage

stanleyfctrust

vw.stanleytrust.co.uk



£3 per

For more info call 01254 475013

DISABILITY

FOOTBALL

Thursdays 1pm Ages 16+ Venue : Hyndburn Leisure Centre/ Stanley Sports Hub (summer)

Ambitious youth netw+rk

Are you 16-25? Are you autistic? Join our Ambitious **Youth Network** online platform!

Meet new people in our peer support sessions and access paid opportunities to make things better for autistic people.

ambitious-youth-network.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk

Ambitious about Autism

A local landmark, Café Autisan is a entrance of Whalley Abbey

retail and culinary—preparing them to eventually move into employment independently



At Café Autisan, vou can learn about can learn to take food and drink orders, use a till and interact with customers – and all with the support of our team of autism specialists.

National Autistic Society NAS Day Opportunities

The Opportunities Centre runs every weekday, provides autistic adults with a supportive space to develop new skills, and work towards self-determined goals.

It also provides a venue for social interaction, as we offer a selection of group activities both in the Centre itself and out in the wider community.

Some of the activities we offer include:

- Arts and Crafts Money Management Cookery Trampolinina • Baking Music • Travel Training Communication Social Eves Road Safety Literacy Food Hyaiene Numeracy Sensory Sessions Photography • IT Skills Swimming
 - Internet Safety

Questions? Email Rachel.Black@nas.org.uk - or-Search for "NAS Centre Lancashire" online

00

Café Autisan, Whalley Abbey, The Sands, Whalley, Clitheroe, BB7 9SS

Down's Syndrome Association

Supporting people who have Down's syndrome to live full and rewarding lives through accessing meaningful employment opportunities.

The Down's Syndrome Association developed the WorkFit programme to support people who have Down's syndrome to fulfil their career ambitions. We believe that everyone who has Down's syndrome can work if they want to and are supported to do so.

WorkFit Officers match candidates who have Down's syndrome with inclusive employers and support both parties at all stages of the process. WorkFit support is on-going for as long as it is needed by the candidate, their family and/or the employer.

Why get a job through WorkFit?







"My job makes me feel good and worthy. It has given me more independence. I like earning some money so that I can go out and buy things. I enjoy speaking to the customers and being part of the team." James, Hospitality Assistant, South East



We are so nappy that Jack has a job and reels like other adults do when going out to work. Jack was listened to and included throughout the process. He is happy to go to work and looks forward to being paid and able to treat himself." Parents of Jack, Recycling Operative, North East



Through WorkFit you can:

O bo work that interests you and fits your skills and aptitude

- Be supported in professional and personal development to understand your work options and progress your career
- Enhance your confidence and independence through learning new skills
- Meet new people, build your social networks and really feel part of a team
- Earn a wage, giving you more spending power and choices

Our candidates tell us that they feel happier and healthier since starting their jobs.

Hear what our candidates are saying...

We have many different types of opportunities across different industries so we can help you find something to suit your interests. Hear about our candidates' experiences:





Sam, Distribution Operative at GXO Logistics

VouTube www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLC3F8BB776F3FE002
How WorkFit will support you...

Our dedicated and knowledgeable team of WorkFit Officers support candidates and employers throughout the process.

As a first step, your WorkFit Officer has a discussion with you to create a Vocational profile. This records your interests, skills and career ambitions. We can also support you to create your CV.

There are a **range of opportunities you could consider** such as paid work, work experience placements (paid or unpaid), volunteering, supported internships or supported apprenticeships.



Your WorkFit Officer will work with an employer in your area to develop and tailor a suitable role for you. The employer will be provided with a bespoke training session and given support and advice on any reasonable adjustments to ensure that they are confident to support you in the role.

Before you start the job, you can go along to meet the **potential employer and work buddles and have a tour of the workplace**. When you start the job the employer will train and support you with advice from your WorkFit Officer. Your work buddy will work beside you to help you learn the tasks and get to know everyone.

www.dsworkfit.org.uk/iwant-to-work If you are already registered,

we look forward to supporting you to start work.





© Down's Syndrome Association 2022

Learning Disability Awareness week runs yearly to raise awareness about important issues, fighting stigma and discrimination in a hope to improve the quality of life for individuals with learning disabilities.

This year the Learning Disability Teams have taken inspiration from the Mencap theme; busting the myths about living life with a learning disability. We hope to show the incredible things that people with a learning disability achieve, and support in raising awareness of some of the stigmas that still need addressing.

Plans are on the way to make this week full of events to support with this campaign. So far our peer support workers are doing lots of work around telling their story of living life with a learning disability and their achievements. We have an online session for GP's taking place focusing on growing older with a learning disability; and features Men's Health, Cancer Screening and growing older with a presentations from local experts/GP's and our professionals from the Learning Disability Team. We also plan to reach out to children with learning disabilities, their parents and carers to share their stories and achievements.

Leading on LD Week this year in LSCFT are: Sarah Norris and Jen Yates (Community Specialist Practitioner Students)

You can find out more about Learning Disability in Lancashire here: www.lancashire.gov.uk/ children-education-families/ special-educational-needs-anddisabilities/health-and-wellbeing/ learning-disabilities-and-autism or by searching "learning disability" in the SEND Directory at:

www.lancashire.gov.uk/SEND

You can keep up to date and follow Learning Disability awareness week 2023 with Mencap here: www.mencap.org.uk/LDWeek

Learning Disability Awareness Week

19th-25th June 2023





Inclusive performing arts for Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde.

MINI CHILDREN'S THEATRE

INCLUSIVE THEATRE WORKSHOPS

AGE 4-7 YEARS

ONLY £50 PER TERM

CHILDREN'S THEATRE INCLUSIVE THEATRE WORKSHOPS



YOUTH THEATRE

INCLUSIVE THEATRE WORKSHOPS

AGE 13-16 YEARS ONLY £50 PER TERM

YOUNG ADULT COMPANY

INCLUSIVE THEATRE WORKSHOPS

AGE 17-24 YEARS

ONLY £50 PER TERM

F.

VOLUNTEER AT TRAMSHED

TO APPLY 07852 498427 TRAMSHEDTHEATRE@HOTMAIL.CO.UK TRAMSHED.ORG.UK



Hello, I'd like to introduce myself to you as the new Manager of the SEND Partnership. I'm Jenny Ashton and started in post on 1 February 2023.

I trained as a nurse and worked for the NHS for over 15 years with babies and children. After having our fourth child, I re-trained as a science teacher, gaining Qualified Teacher and Early Years Professional Status. I worked in Children's Centres delivering support to children in nurseries and reception to help them listen, follow instructions and take turns, improving confidence, self-esteem and school readiness. For the last 8 years I have worked in the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub advising and supporting nurseries, schools and colleges with Early Support, and Safeguarding queries.

I understand the challenges faced by families who have a child with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, as I have lived experience being a parent of a child diagnosed with Autism, and associated anxiety and depression. I am passionate about us working together in partnership, listening and valuing your feedback about how you find caring for a child with SEND.

Part of my role is co-chairing the Communications Priority Group with the chair of the Lancashire Parent Carer Forum Sam Jones, and we (in co-production with others) have recently updated the Working Together Strategy 2023-2025, which we would also welcome your feedback on.

I provide the conduit between all partners, including children, young people and their families and aim to ensure action is taken to implement The SEND Plan 2021-2025, supporting the management of the SEND Partnership work programme.

There are many challenges facing families who have children with SEND, and although I don't have a magic wand, I do believe that through improved understanding and communication we can work together more effectively.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at **SENDpartnership@lancashire.gov.uk**

Find out more about the Lancashire SEND Partnership at www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/ special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/lancashiresend-partnership



Does your family include a child Lancashire or young person with SEND? You are invited to attend a drop-in • Find out what's on offer • Discover local support Information Event In your local area in your local area groups SEND Information Events for Refreshments will be **Understand what Parents and Carers** provided services are available Fun activities for children will be available -Representatives from the following services will be available at some everyone welcome! or all of the events: The Park Child and Family centre, Norfolk Grove, Accrington, BB5 4RY. Lancashire Parent Carer Forum SEND Information, Advice and Tuesday 16th May, 10am - 2pm. Break Time Support Team Inclusion Service FIND Newsletter Twinkle House, 2 Gorsey Place, Skelmersdale, WN8 9UP. Specialist Teaching Service Young people's groups Wednesday 7th June, 10am – 2pm • Lancashire Local Offer Transitions Designated Clinical Officer **SEND Family Fun and Information Events** Service Plus local service providers, • POWAR youth voice group support groups and lots more! Between August 2022 and July 2023, we are planning 24 events, to take place in all districts of Lancashire Clitheroe Football Club, Shawbridge, Pendle Road, Clitheroe, BB71LZ. Further dates will be shared on the Local Offer website and facebook page. Wednesday 28th June, 10am – 2pm. www.lancashire.gov.uk/SEND www.facebook.com/LancashireLocalOffer West Paddock Youth Zone, West Paddock, Leyland, PR251HR. Monday 17th July, 10am – 2pm Lancashire County Council



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
Travel and Transport	Blue Badges	0300 123 6736
	NoW Card	0300 123 6737
	Schools Transport	0300 123 6738
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

Dear FIND,

After being part of the FIND since 2009, I am stepping down from my role on the Editorial Team as my daughter has now turned 18 and has moved into Adult services.

I would wholeheartedly encourage other parents to get involved in this very important group to ensure that fellow parents' voices and views are heard and represented.

Although being on an Editorial Team can sound daunting, it is actually quite fun and doesn't take up too much of your time. We only meet 'virtually' four times a year and the role is to gather information and promote services for children with disabilities and their families.

I've met many lovely people along the way and I've been involved in some exciting projects like Aiming High and also the Parent Carer Forum.

Finally I would like to thank all those who have been involved with FIND over the years and wish you all well for the future.

Best wishes, Nannette Holliday



Thank you Nannette for all your help and contributions to FIND over the years, you have been such an important part of the team. Best wishes to you and your family as you move forward in your journey.

The Editorial team

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
- · Useful websites that you would recommend to other families

Contributions for future issues – please contact us.

Email: FIND@lancashire.gov.uk Tel: 01772 538077

Editorial Group

Lancashire County Council

Sarah.deady@lancashire.gov.uk Anna.burkinshaw@lancashire.gov.uk

Parent Representatives*

Nannette Holliday – Chorley Lucy Ellis - Lancaster Trish Dobson - West Lancashire *Parent carers from other areas interested in joining the group, please contact us (details above).

Voluntary Organisation

Tom Harrison – Community East Lancashire Sam Jones – Chair, Lancashire Parent Carer Forum

Health Clair Martin – Designated Clinical Officer, North Locality **Autumn issue** – deadline for articles 30th June, published September 2023

Winter issue – deadline for articles 29th September, published December 2023

Spring issue – deadline for articles 5th January, published March 2024

If undelivered, please return to: Room CH1:58, County Hall, Preston, Lancashire PR1 8RJ

If you would prefer to receive SEND in a different format, or if you no longer require a copy, please call **01772 538077** or email **FIND@lancashire.gov.uk**

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

Get this free newsletter sent to your door

If families would like to have a free copy of the SEND Newsletter delivered to their home 4 times a year, please register online at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/getting-help/family-information-network-directory

To Professionals - please email FIND@lancashire.gov.uk

You are welcome to photocopy, display and distribute this newsletter

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Do you have anything to share in the SEND Newsletter? We would love to hear from you!