

SEND News

Short Breaks - reminder

"Short Breaks" refers to any activity that a disabled child or young person does. As well as overnight/s away from home, it also includes things like swimming, football and dancing, as well as home and community support and 'Aiming High' funding.

ALL disabled children are currently eligible for some short breaks.

Please attend SEND Family Voices open meetings to tell us what your family want.

Whether your child attends a great activity that you want recommissioned, or you want to suggest something that is not currently available, NOW is your moment to directly affect the services that your child will receive from next year.

All participants will be entered into a draw to win a £50 voucher of choice... Wednesday 22nd February - 7pm to 9pm The Strada, Market Place, Kingston, KT1 1JT Monday 27th February - 7pm to 9pm The Railway, Victoria Rd, TW11 0BB (by Teddington station) Wednesday 1st March - 10am to 12noon The Strada, Market Place, Kingston, KT1 1JT Friday 3rd March - 10am to 12noon Me Too & Co, The Crossway Centre, Richmond, TW1 2PD

It would help us if you could reply to this e-mail and let us know which event you will be attending.

Have your say – on designing new respite provision....

Kingston Council and Achieving for Children have plans to create a new respite provision on the Moor Lane site, in Chessington. This kind of respite may also be termed 'overnight short breaks'. The clearest summary of these plans can be found in the (Kingston) South of The Borough Neighbourhood meeting presentation. See link here:

<http://www.sendfamilyvoices.org/overnight-short-breaks-proposals/<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=35859403e1&e=0c37f31e70>>

Families in both Kingston and Richmond will be able to use this provision.

Now it's our turn to comment on the designs so far. Please contact sendfamilyvoices@outlook.com<<mailto:sendfamilyvoices@outlook.com>> to attend this consultation.

Monday 6th March – 10.30am to 12noon

Venue tbc – Kingston

If you have any queries about these proposals beyond the design, please contact info@achievingforchildren.org<<mailto:info@achievingforchildren.org>>.uk

Croft Cottage - Richmond

Are you aware of the respite centre in Richmond for disabled children; Croft Cottage? Croft Cottage was built 7 years ago near the Windham Croft Centre, it's a two-bed accommodation. Here is the Local Offer link:

<https://www.afclocaloffer.org.uk/organisations/14398-enhanceable-croft-cottage?term=croft+cottage<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=12adacfa52&e=0c37f31e70>>

Achieving for Children has recently written to the parents currently using this facility to inform them of its closure. There is a news statement on the Local Offer, you can read the full statement here:

https://www.afclocaloffer.org.uk/blog_articles/887-short-breaks-service-at-croft-cottage<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=fefed0de1f&e=0c37f31e70>>

Some parents are unhappy about the closure of Croft Cottage. One parent has set up a petition and you can read more, and see the petition, here:

https://www.change.org/p/robert-henderson-and-achieving-for-children-we-want-you-to-keep-croft-cottage-respite-open-and-this-is-why?recruiter=54369818&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=facebook&utm_campaign=autopublish&utm_term=mob-xs-no_src-no_msg<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=eee11e3c88&e=0c37f31e70>>

New Challenges, New Opportunities - Jan 2017 SEND Family Voices sent delegates to this annual conference run by the Council for Disabled Children. It's a high-level affair and provides the opportunity to listen and ask questions of national decision makers (the presenters list is in the box below).

The event starts with overviews and news from the Department of Education and the Department of Health. Judge Jane McConnell's update the law is always detailed and informative – with the message being 'Local Authorities, please apply the Law'.

The SEND Ofsted inspectors spoke about the inspections thus far... and clarified that their commission was to inspect all local authorities once only, over five years. Once that five years is up, there is no certainty that these inspections will be repeated in the same format.

Dame Christine Lenehan is always worth listening to and we will provide more information on the Lenehan review and 'call for evidence' in our next newsletter. This call for evidence is important and a rare opportunity.

For now, from the Council for Disabled Children's website, here are an introduction and links to the resources. The delegates to this conference come from all over the UK – the panel debates (videos) illustrate common themes. Links follow...

"The annual CDC SEND conference provided interesting and informative speeches from the DfE, NHS England, SEND Tribunal, CQC, and Ofsted."

You can find all the presentations and links here:

<https://councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/help-resources/resources/cdc-national-conference-resources><<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=987ff5a7b2&e=0c37f31e70>>

We've extracted the video links here, and in the box below:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLH9gGlgF_yZTXoTGkviYzFDiiJlymVbPt<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=7d1c6be244&e=0c37f31e70>>

New Challenges, New Opportunities - Jan 2017

WatchCDC<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=966d36e89e&e=0c37f31e70>> - 7 videos

The annual CDC SEND conference provided interesting and informative speeches from the DfE, NHS England, SEND Tribunal, CQC, and Ofsted

[X] <<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=6b8eec7048&e=0c37f31e70>> "New Challenges, New Opportunities" Jan 2017. Stuart Miller, DfE<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=0d39718629&e=0c37f31e70>> by WatchCDC<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=5b22dc6c80&e=0c37f31e70>>

[X] <<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=3aa0ad7e69&e=0c37f31e70>> "New Challenges, New Opportunities" Jan 2017. Lorraine Mulroney, NHS England<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=e91e66dbc7&e=0c37f31e70>> by WatchCDC<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=a6c7670d0b&e=0c37f31e70>>

[X] <<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=31b15310ba&e=0c37f31e70>> "New Challenges, New Opportunities" Jan 2017. Judge Jane McConnell, SEND Tribunal<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=c012d5d9a5&e=0c37f31e70>> by WatchCDC<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=8dad4314fa&e=0c37f31e70>>

[X] <<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=62c753bd25&e=0c37f31e70>> "New Challenges, New Opportunities" Jan 2017. Nigel Thompson CQC, and Joanna Hall Ofsted<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=1c15449d1c&e=0c37f31e70>> by WatchCDC<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=7eec924b4b&e=0c37f31e70>>

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[X] <<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=1009c22f94&e=0c37f31e70>> "New Challenges, New Opportunities" Jan 2017. Interviews from

attendees<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=359bea9a68&e=0c37f31e70>>
by WatchCDC<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=faef5f2fce&e=0c37f31e70>>

What's New on the Local Offer?

See the link below or contact Giles Hobart on

info@tagyouthclub.org<<mailto:info@tagyouthclub.org>> for more information

https://www.afclocaloffer.org.uk/blog_articles/924-tag-youth-club-proposal-for-a-new-junior-club-for-10-15-year-olds<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=8dac23f1a7&e=0c37f31e70>>

Thursday 9th March – The Basement Club – Kingston – clue is in the title

<https://www.afclocaloffer.org.uk/events/23324-lift-the-blues-an-event-about-adhd-autism-and-personality-disorder?date=2017-03-09><<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage2.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=5692473ad7&e=0c37f31e70>>

Achieving for Children organisation chart (we get asked a lot 'who does what')

<https://www.afclocaloffer.org.uk/pages/home/find-out-more-about-the-local-offer/achieving-for-children-senior-management-structure><<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=48d393d796&e=0c37f31e70>>

Kooth is an online counselling and emotional well-being support service for children and young people available free at the point of use.

<https://www.afclocaloffer.org.uk/organisations/24684-xenzone-kooth?term=kooth><<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=757fe7be8b&e=0c37f31e70>>

Peer Support for young people with mental health difficulties “Esther Rich from Mind will be coming to talk to parents (from about 11.30am). Esther has recently started some peer support groups for young people with mental health difficulties.

https://www.afclocaloffer.org.uk/blog_articles/930-richmond-borough-mind-peer-support-groups-for-young-people<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=48c59078eb&e=0c37f31e70>>

We are thinking of setting up a support group for parents and carers with children with mental health difficulties and would like to hear from anyone who would like to be part of this. Please come along to the coffee morning and forward this to anyone else you think might be interested.

Tuesday 28th February between 10.00 and 12.30 Disability Action & Advice Centre, 4 Waldegrave Road Teddington TW11 8HT “ Sian Austin, Family Support Worker, Family Matters, Ruils
T: 07376 277 779

London Wildlife Trust – and our young people “London Wildlife Trust are launching an exciting extension to our support work with young people 13-25 with additional needs delivered from our base at Crane Park Island Twickenham <http://www.wildlondon.org.uk/reserves/crane-park->

[island<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage2.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=56ffc5d4f5&e=0c37f31e70>](http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage2.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=56ffc5d4f5&e=0c37f31e70).

The new programme has been developed in partnership with young people from Richmond College (supported learning) and Strathmore School and will run for 18 months from February 2017. There will be a range of free activities on offer including;

- * Art and craft- Including participation in an exhibition at Orleans House gallery in April 2017
- * Wildlife photography.
- * Film making- In summer 2017
- * Learning about urban rivers and conservation issues
- * A fishing trip with a session on fresh water fish
- * A summer camping and bush craft event including a night under canvas.
- * Practical conservation
- * Basic woodworking

All activities will be led by qualified and experienced leaders. Activities will take place primarily on Wednesdays and Fridays with some weekend excursions. We have a degree of flexibility and will work with potential participants to ensure the highest take up possible. “

If you would like to know more, please contact David Lemon- LWT Community Officer
E: dlemon@wildlondon.org.uk
T: 07851 862 305

As ever, if you have any queries at all, please ask and we'll always do our best to find an answer.

With best wishes, Caroline North (for Kingston) and Romany (for Richmond)
Phone: 07469 746 145

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