

SEND Newsletter

A shorter newsletter. And, we have a lot of parent meetings this week. Here's a thought...

"These meetings are also a good informal way for parents to meet other parents locally.

[At the end of the meeting] It was notable how a number of parents exchanged phone numbers, and how the meetings can help reduce the sense of isolation parents can feel."

This week only! Short Breaks & Meeting Other Parents "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.; your views make a difference (and you get to meet other parents)

All participants will be entered into a draw to win a £50 voucher of choice... 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

Please reply to this e-mail and let us know which event you will be attending. Thank You!

What can a school do to support your child? And what can't it do?
(and another opportunity to meet other parents) This workshop, run by members of the SEND Family Voices at the invitation of the host school, focuses on children and young people in mainstream schools where needs are often being identified for the first time (eg dyslexia, high functioning autism and adhd).

There will be a focus on dyslexia and what both school and home can do. Similar approaches can be considered best practice for high functioning autism, social communications and adhd.

Both parents and professionals are welcome to attend.

The February workshops are taking place during Trafalgar's whole school project on emotional health & well-being. We are very pleased to welcome Jo Steer, Head of Service & Chartered Clinical Psychologist, Emotional Health Service as a co-presenter. Please reply to this e-mail to book your place.

Tuesday 28th February
Morning: 9.30am to 11.30am
Evening: 7pm to 9pm
Trafalgar Junior School, Elmsleigh Rd, Twickenham, TW2 5EG

Tuesday 21st March

Morning: 9.30am to 11.30am

Evening: 7pm to 9pm

Grand Avenue Primary School, Grand Avenue, Surbiton, KT5 9HU

Proposed – new overnight respite provision...

(and another opportunity to meet other parents) 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'.

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

Please contact sendfamilyvoices@outlook.com<<mailto:sendfamilyvoices@outlook.com>> to attend this consultation.

Monday 6th March – 10.30am to 12noon

The Strada, Market Place, Kingston, KT1 1JT

What happens after age 16...?

So, here are some links, and an idea from a parent. Please reply to this e-mail if you would like to contribute (and meet other parents)...

1. Sharing Experiences... There is quite a lot of help on opportunities for young adults from the 14-19 people in Achieving for Children (see link under the Local Offer news below). Is there scope for a group? Could be on-line, or in the pub, or over coffee. What do you think?

"Our son is 20 years old and is returning this Summer from the study after two years. We are trying to put together a schedule of volunteering, work, educational and other activities for him but finding this quite complicated. Is there a group of parents in a similar situation that meet to share and discuss these issues? I think we would benefit from talking to others going through the same experience."

2. The Department for Education have developed two key preparing for adulthood resources for practitioners working with children and young people with SEND.

* Guidance for local authorities on EHC plan eligibility for 19-25 year olds with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

* An outcomes tool that is designed to support the development of PfA outcomes in EHC plans across the age range. It explores the key indicators for preparing for adulthood at different ages and stages of development.

<http://www.preparingforadulthood.org.uk/news/news-2017/new-guidance-from-dfe><<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=96850f0f41&e=0c37f31e70>>

3. An article on the same subject by Special Needs Jungle

https://www.specialneedsjungle.com/dont-let-over-16s-fall-through-the-ehcp-information-cracks/?utm_source=ReviveOldPost&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=ReviveOldPost<<http://se>

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manage1.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=5e7dfef9a7&e=0c37f31e70>

4. All Age Learning Disability Strategy - Kingston Help us develop a better future for children, young people and adults with learning disabilities in Kingston. Please take just a few minutes to complete this survey. You can help us to develop Kingston's vision and plan to improve the life chances of people with learning disabilities.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe_e1rdoSozNtq8_YBCxqTaQaiS-0DIpITMm0N9J_gIAyTc3Q/viewform?c=0&w=1<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=9b33803515&e=0c37f31e70>

What's new on the Local Offer?

What happens after school?

The 14-19 page covers a host of opportunities... we recommend going through the Menu bar on the right-hand side of the page. Any feedback about what you like, what you can't find, and any questions at all... please use the Contact Us page on the Local Offer website.

<https://www.afclocaloffer.org.uk/pages/home/preparing-for-adulthood/preparing-for-employment/14-19-team<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=a68b3155fa&e=0c37f31e70>>

Activity Station

Activity Station organises and facilitates activities and social events for people with disabilities of all ages. Their next event is a creative art workshop on Sunday 26th February. Follow the link below...

<https://www.afclocaloffer.org.uk/organisations/15400-activity-station?term=activity+station<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=86dfbbd286&e=0c37f31e70>>

These are our children

An independent review looking at the outcomes and experiences of children and young people attending residential special schools and colleges.

https://www.afclocaloffer.org.uk/blog_articles/943-these-are-our-children-a-review-by-dame-christine-lenehan-director-council-for-disabled-children<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=1930a32219&e=0c37f31e70>

Chessington World of Adventures

Thank you (i dziękuję) to the parent that sent in this nugget...

“Chessington World of Adventures Resort will be trialling a disabled access registration ID card for the 2017 season. All guests visiting the Resort and registering for our Ride Access Pass will be required to have their photo taken and will be issued with an Individual ID card for future visits to the Resort. We will be accepting registrations for our 2017 season starting from 11th - 19th February; 25th, 26th February; and 4th March.”

<https://www.chessington.com/plan/disabled-guide-for-chessington.aspx<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=6d4549faef&e=0c37f31e70>>

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

www.sendfamilyvoices.org<<http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=acb728544f&e=0c37f31e70>>

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[manage.com/profile?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=b5a3e99f35&e=0c37f31e70](http://sendfamilyvoices.us14.list-manage.com/profile?u=96d33bf26cc67f9c6b0f28328&id=b5a3e99f35&e=0c37f31e70)> or

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