



Newsletter

FIND OUT ABOUT OUR ANNUAL EMPOWERMENT EVENT

Friday 10th March at The Derbyshire Hotel
See back page for details.

November Forums

Resilient Parenting

We were out in Swadlincote, South Normanton and Bakewell in November with the Educational Psychologists. The aim of the training session was to help parent/carers to reflect on their child/young person's and their own needs to support their own resilience. This covered looking at recognizing the outward signs that your child/young person is becoming anxious, triggers to escalating behavior and communication. It also looked at what adds to our 'stress bucket' and how we respond in stressful situations – ideally giving ourselves a 3 minute breathing space to give a mindful response so that we are not automatic parents.

The training also looked at reflecting on how to make the most of our relationship with our child/young person's education setting. This covered what good home/school communication would be for us and how to approach difficulties within school.

Meet the Professionals

Running alongside our resilient parenting training we had 'Meet the Professionals'. Our panel of professionals included: Kathryn Boulton (Service Director Schools & Learning), Steve Parfit (Commissioning Manager), Diana McKenna (Head of Service Specialist Disabled Children's Services) and Bev Milway (Head of Service Disabled Children).

The panel answered questions that had been sent in prior to the meetings and also took questions from the floor. Thank you to everyone who attended. We hope to have a round-up of the questions and answers shortly, please keep checking our website for more details.



Forum Management Group

The management group is made up of Parents with a child or young person with a disability or Special Educational Need who are active within the local forums.

Welcome to Lynne Stevenson and Elaine Pauk who have recently joined the management team. Please see our website for more details.



We are again calling for evidence for Social Care, we are supporting Social Care Managers of the Disabled Children's Team by giving evidence from parents and carers when they have not been given the support they require for their child/young person with SEND and their families. So far we have taken forward several cases which have been looked into again to ensure the correct decision has been made. Where necessary, cases have been reopened for an assessment to take place. We hope in the future we are able to offer you a case study to see how we have worked together to make services better. Please email us at:

info@derbyshireparentcarerveice.org



Events coming up

We have our Annual Empowerment Event at the Derbyshire Hotel on Friday 10th March where we will be celebrating our achievements over the past year. More information coming soon, please keep checking on the website for more details.

Implementation of the new SEND Structure in Derbyshire

Following the changes introduced by The Children and Families Act 2014 and the outcomes of our consultations and self-evaluations; Derbyshire Local Authority and partners are working to embed changes with regard to how children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities are assessed and supported to overcome their barriers to learning and participation; in line with the Special Educational Need and Disabilities (SEND) Code of Practice 2014.

To achieve this, there has been a reorganisation across the county into six SEND Locality Teams. In each Locality there will be a Lead Officer and two full time equivalent SEND Officers, along with administrative support. Each Locality Team will work with schools and settings, so that resources are used effectively to meet the needs of those with SEND. This includes school-funded support, through to additional Local Authority funded support (for example: Graduated Response for Individual Pupils) and then on to EHC needs assessment if appropriate. Our overriding aim is to improve outcomes for children and young people with SEND. The Locality Teams will work with the families, settings and schools in their area and link in with other agencies and services for more integrated working. Within each Locality, there will be a SEND officer who will be a direct point of contact for the family. There is a Head of SEND who will manage the Lead Officers and oversee these teams. We are very excited about this new way of working and believe it will improve the way we deliver services to our children and young people and their families. Alongside the Locality structure there will be a new SEND Commissioning Hub. There will be an Education lead in the SEND Commissioning Hub as well as commissioning leads from health and social care who will work together in the new Hub. This Hub will have a key role in quality control, moderation, complex decision making and informing and supporting strategic commissioning of services. There will also be administrative staff who will support the functioning of the Hub and provide a central support role to the Locality Teams where needed.

Christmas Card Competition

Earlier this term we offered all special schools the opportunity to enter pupils in to a "Design A Christmas Card" competition. The prize was £50 in Love2Shop Vouchers in partnership with Derbyshire Information Advice & Support Service for SEND (DIASS). We are pleased to announce that Theo Taylor from Class 1 Holbrook School for Autism won our competition with his fantastic Reindeer picture with beautiful hand prints for antlers.

Theo and Mum Tina had a terrible start to the year after Theo's father Paul passed away, they moved to Derbyshire and Tina has been overwhelmed by the support from Holbrook and said the teachers and staff are brilliant with 4 year old Theo. Tina and Theo donated the £50 vouchers to the class.



www.derbyshireparentforums.co.uk

Tell us what you think We would love to hear what you think. Please send your feedback and suggestions to: info@derbyshireparentcarervoice.org



Theo and Tina - his Mum



We have a parent volunteer updating our social media pages. Follow us on Twitter [@derbyshirepv](https://twitter.com/derbyshirepv) and like our Facebook page **Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice** to keep up to date with information.



www.derbyshireparentcarervoice.org



Health & Wellbeing Event

The Whitworth Centre, January 2017



The Health and Wellbeing Event held at the Whitworth Centre was hugely popular with our parent/carers, a whopping 54 of you attended for hand massages, yoga and relaxation, reiki and head massage, art therapy, button art, adult colouring, lunch together and lots and lots of quality time spent chatting together. Here are just a few of the photographs taken on the day – please see our website for more!

www.derbyshireparentcarerveice.org



Thank you to



For taking some fantastic photographs on the day.



A huge congratulations to Nicola Johnson who won the Spa Day for 2 which was generously donated by The Derbyshire Hotel. Well done!



Friday 10th March
2017
10am - 2pm

Annual Empowerment Meeting

- 9.30 Welcome & Drinks
- 10.15 Annual General Meeting
- 10.45 Jessica Goodwin – Newlife Charity
- 11.30 Tracey Green – Behaviour Management
- 12.30 Lunch
- 13.00 Tracey Green – Behaviour Management
- 13.45 Round Up of the Day
- 14.00 Close

(A free lunch and refreshments are provided)

Booking & Returning Nominations

You are required to book your place as spaces are limited: To book your place please send us your name, address, email and telephone number via one of the following:

Email: info@derbyshireparentcarervoice.org Phone: 01629 533 666

Post: Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice, c/o DIASS Chesterfield Register Office, New Beetwell Street, Chesterfield, Derbyshire. S40 1QJ

Please include dietary, access or transport requirements. We will reimburse travel and childcare cost to enable you to attend this event or provide a taxi. If you require a place in the crèche, please let us know your child’s name, age, any special need or any dietary requirements.

We will confirm your booking.

If you would like to propose a Trustee member, please complete the section below and return by Friday 4th March 2017

NOMINATION FOR TRUSTEE MEMBERS

Nominee:.....

For position of: Chair/Vice Chair/Treasurer/Secretary (delete as necessary)

Proposer:.....[please sign and print name]

Seconder:.....[please sign and print name]

AGREEMENT OF NOMINEE

I agree to my nomination for the position of.....

Please see the website for more information:
www.derbyshireparentcarervoice.org

Signed Date.....