

Celebrate with us 30 years of supporting parents of children with special educational needs



Newsletter No.92 March 2018

Dear members, here at Norfolk SEN Network we have just about warmed up after our close encounters with the snow and icy temperatures. We are all now looking forward to a bit more sunshine and a bit less snow at Easter, and hope you all have a lovely break and enjoy some spring weather!

The first 3 months of 2018 have proved extremely busy for the charity. Local authority EHCP deadlines in February and March brought a flurry of Final Plans to parents, so we have had lots of enquiries from parents looking for support and advice with their child's Plan.

We have had 50 calls to the helpline since the start of the year, and 8 new members since January.

2018 AGM

We held our Annual General meeting on Wednesday 14th March. Thankyou all for your support. Special thanks must go to Raffa & Mario at Trattoria Rustica for hosting the AGM for us and providing a delicious lunch. We now have 2 new committee members – welcome to Caroline Sykes and Jane Merrett!

Frank Crowdy was our guest speaker and spoke very knowledgably on the transition to adulthood. Information and documents on Transition planning and support can be found on the SEND Local Offer page under "Preparing for Adulthood". For the Local Offer visit www.norfolk.gov.uk

Training Days for Parents / Carers

In March we also held the first of our 4 training sessions on EHCP Annual Reviews and Personal budgets.

The trainers made us think hard about what preparation we could do to make the EHCP review constructive and useful for our children.

Many people on the course had limited knowledge around Personal Budgets, and the course clearly set out the duties and rationale behind their provision.

It was also good to network and share information with other attendees on the course.

DID YOU KNOW: **It costs Norfolk SEN Network:**

- ✚ £10 to email or phone you
- ✚ £20 to visit you
- ✚ £100-300 to actively support a case for a year
- ✚ £500 to take a case to tribunal

Help us to keep supporting you – we receive
NO statutory funding

NSENN Training Course

Annual Reviews & Personal Budgets

- 23 Apr 2018 10am-2.30pm
The POD, Colman Junior School
South Park Ave NR4 7AU

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We will also be running two more training courses in May & June, covering annual reviews and Personal Budgets. Look out for the dates!

We ask for a nominal contribution of £10 per person to cover lunch and refreshments.

To book your place please email norfolksennetwork@hotmail.com or call the helpline number on 01603 300178

Many thanks to the Town Close Charity for funding the training courses in 2018 & NCC for funding towards venue costs and refreshments.

Sensory Processing Workshop **21st May Swaffham**

Lynda Niles OT Associates are running a Level 1 Workshop on Monday 21st May 10am-2.30pm at The Green Britain Centre in Swaffham.

The cost is £65 and includes a buffet lunch. This interactive hands on workshop is designed as a way of increasing your understanding of what we mean by sensory processing and sensory integration (SI) disorders. It is based on the work by Jean Ayres, an Occupational Therapist and a Psychologist who developed the theory of Sensory Integration that the SI therapy is based on.

To book your place please email:
Lyndaniles@live.co.uk

IPSEA Training days for parents and carers

IPSEA is a national charity providing legally based advice, support and training on the law relating to special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

They have several courses running soon:

1) Foundation Training Day £65

Training day tailored specifically for parents and carers, providing information on the law and empowering parents to use the law to get the right education for their child with SEND.

1. The law on SEND – where to find it
2. Duties of schools towards children with SEND
3. The Local Offer
4. The process towards obtaining an EHC plan
5. What should an EHC plan contain?
6. Naming a school in an EHC plan

25 May - Cambridge. (more venues & dates on line).

2) SEND Tribunal – hints and tips £49

For those currently going through the appeals process.
18 May – London

3) EHCP Masterclass £65

Aimed at guiding you through the entire EHC Plan process. 17 April – Birmingham; 2 May – London.

See <https://www.ipsea.org.uk/training>

2018 Fundraising and Activities

Fund Raising Events - Help Needed

We have a large fund-raising event coming up in the summer on Sunday 15th July 2018 1pm.

**Bishops Garden Event
Norwich Cathedral**

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We need around 30 volunteers to make this day a success, so if you can find some time to help out either on the day or with the planning, please give us a call on 01603 300178 and we will be very grateful.

Why not:

- make cakes to sell!
- set up and run a stall!
- help out in the café on the day!
- Donate tombola prizes!



Waitrose at Wymondham

Thankyou to Waitrose at Wymondham and their customers for supporting our charity in January 2018! They helped raise **£322.00!**

Last month we helped	
Chapel Green School	£357.00
Norfolk SEN	£322.00
Wymondham High Academy Wellbeing Centre	£321.00

DID YOU KNOW?

We often receive information from other organisations which might be of interest to our families – we have added a selection below and hope you find it useful.

16-19 Bursary Fund

You could get a bursary to help with education related costs if you're aged 16 to 19. There are two types of 16-19 bursary:

Vulnerable student bursary up to £1,200 depending on your circumstances.

Discretionary bursary if you need financial help but don't qualify for a vulnerable student bursary. Visit <https://www.gov.uk/1619-bursary-fund>

TITAN Summer Buddy Scheme - Travel Training *Deadline 1 May 2018*

There is now an on-line referral system to apply for additional post-16 transport support:

Remember to apply before 1st May deadline!



What transport support is available?

Our standard post 16 travel assistance includes bus/train passes or a cycle allowance. Additional support may include TITAN Travel Training or transport in smaller vehicles.

Who needs to apply?

Any student moving on to college, sixth form or other post 16 educational establishment who requires extra support with transport. Please note this does not apply to students continuing their education in complex needs schools.

How do I apply?

To apply for additional post 16 transport support please visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/TITAN
Remember the deadline for your application is the 1st of May.

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Art Therapy at The Orchard



The Orchard is a creative therapies centre in the heart of Norwich cofounded in 2017 by Art Therapists Natalie Tayte and Sara Carder. The Orchard mission is to work collaboratively with other independent creative therapists and psychological practitioners to provide a diverse range of therapeutic interventions under one roof that enhance the emotional and psychological wellbeing of individuals and families living in East Anglia.

<https://www.theorchardnorwich.co.uk/>

Sunbeams Play – Ofsted registered



“Sunbeams Play is a registered charity which provides a fun, safe and caring environment for children and young people with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder to thrive. We understand how difficult it can be for these children and young people to engage in mainstream activities due to a variety of social needs and anxieties.

Here at Sunbeams Play they can relax and play in an environment that is suitable for them, alongside or with others who have the same/similar needs. For more information call 07436 794967 or 01493 442181” (Based in Great Yarmouth)

Lingwood Care Farm

Type of Farm: Mixed

Email address: sallymedler@hotmail.co.uk

Telephone: 07946610973

Address: Home Farm, Lingwood, Norwich, Norfolk, NR13 4AL

Client Groups Worked with: People with Autism Spectrum Disorders, People with learning difficulties, People with physical disabilities.

Working Farm which is arable, growing wheat, barley, peas and beans with livestock and some vegetable growing. Care farming opportunities include:-

Growing, weeding, harvesting vegetables; Mowing; Maintenance, servicing and repair of farm vehicles and machinery; Feeding and looking after the animals; Farm workshop activities; Walking & feeding farm dog; Inspecting growing crops in fields; Storage checks / maintenance; Recording stock; Weather monitoring and recording; Visiting farm auctions; Renovating farm machinery; Office work – admin, finance.

ADHD Norfolk Parenting Course



ADHD Norfolk are running a training course for parents called: ADHD Parenting programme
The cost is £75 for 6 weekly 3 hr sessions.

Contact:

enquiries@adhdnorfolk.org.uk
01263 734808

High Altitude Trampoline Park:

High Altitude have dedicated SEND sessions on:
Tuesdays 11-12 and 12-1
Sat 5-6pm
Call 01603 567200 for more info.