

SEND Family Voice

A monthly newsletter filled with news, information and events for all things SEND in the Redcar & Cleveland area.

New PINS Project

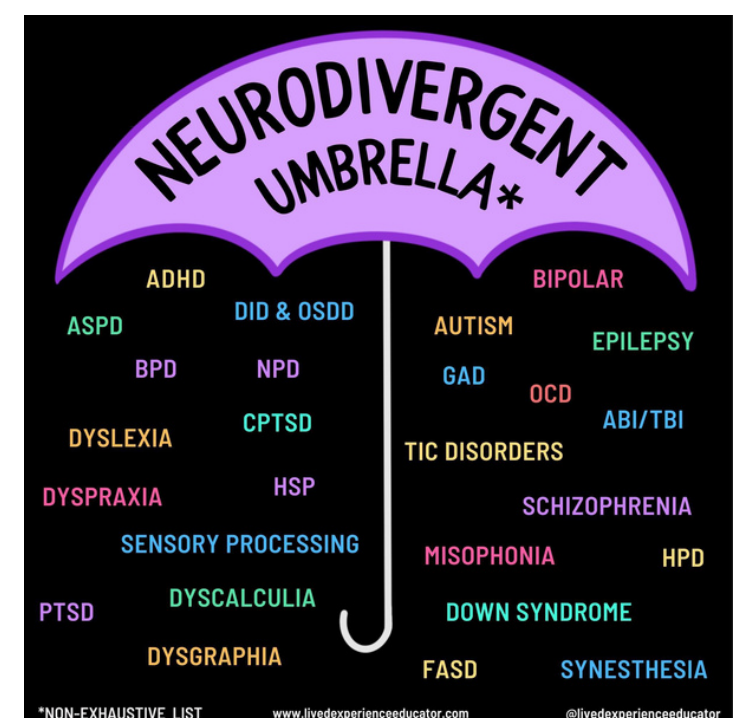
Redcar and Cleveland have been selected as one of 2 local authorities that were successful to receive funding to implement the PINS project, with Newcastle being the other. This project is being delivered and funded by the Department of Education and Department of Health and Social Care, together with Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council and SEND Family Voice.

What is PINS?

PINS stands for Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools. But what does this mean? The data is telling us that there is an increasing number of children receiving a diagnosis of a neurodevelopmental condition whilst attending a mainstream school. This also increases the number of applications for Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP's) and the demand on services and support for families.

The aim of the PINS project is to create a more inclusive mainstream education system that celebrates and enables success. The PINS missions is to:

- fulfil children's potential, so they can enjoy their childhood and achieve good outcomes
- build parents trust, so families find it easier to access support,
- provide financial sustainability, so local systems are using resource more effectively and putting help in place earlier.



PINS is part of a wider project to build capacity in mainstream schools so all professionals working with children and young people with SEND have the knowledge and skills to do so.

21 schools applied to be part of the PINS project and over the next couple of weeks, SEND Family Voice will be making contact with these schools and scheduling meetings to speak to school staff and parents and carers to see how we can help implement the project.

There is a presentation slide which has been shared onto our Facebook page and group which explains about the project in more detail. We will also be holding coffee mornings and events about PINS and sharing updates via social media and our newsletters.

News & Information

TEWV CAMHS training to end

We regret to inform you that unfortunately from the end of June the Tees CAMHS core Training programmes for children's workforce, parents and carers will no longer be running.

As most of you will be aware we are a very small team of 2 and I have made a decision to leave the NHS to embark on a new career. Although Tracy will still be working within the Trust she will be undertaking new projects.

All training currently booked in / advertised will still go ahead with the last training dates been as follows:

Parent / Carers – Understand ASD, Wednesday 12th June
Children's Workforce – Wednesday 22nd May

The deadline to book on to any remaining available session is Friday 22nd March (unless remaining places fill up sooner) – Request after this date will not be accommodated

Details of the remaining training available can be found at :

Training for children's workforce - CAMHS training in Teesside - Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust (tewv.nhs.uk)

*Training for parents and carers - Training for parents and carers of children under 18 in Teesside - Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust (tewv.nhs.uk) (*these sessions are for parents and carers only)

We advise requesting any last places on training sooner rather than later as all sessions have very limited spaces remaining.

On behalf of myself and Tracy we would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who has attended training over the 9 years we have been running, the feedback and input you have given within the sessions.



News & Information cont

Sunflower Sensory Programme

Your local NHS Occupational Therapy team offers the sunflower sensory programme for parents and carers of children and young people aged 4 to 11 years old who are experiencing sensory processing difficulties, alongside functional difficulties such as, dressing, feeding, self-care, handwriting and motor skills.

The Sunflower programme is delivered by experienced members of the Paediatric Occupational Therapy team. The programme provides a series of three friendly and interactive workshops called Sunflower Parent Training.

It is an education training course designed to provide parents and carers with information and strategies to empower them in lifelong support for their child or young person experiencing sensory integration difficulties. Referral is from a professional and children must not already be receiving occupational therapies interventions.

The skills learnt will be used every day to support the child to develop, learn and play.

For more information, please call 01642 044506 or email ste-tr.westacklamcentre@nhs.net

Annual Health Checks

There is a pinned post on the support group and page with links to sessions aimed at raising awareness of the importance of Health Checks for children and young people with a learning disability.



Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes



Annual Health Checks – Awareness Training
open to any member of staff, carers, and family members who provide support to a person with a learning disability

Working in partnership to increase the uptake of Annual Health Checks and Health Action Plans for people with a learning disability

This 90-minute session aims to increase knowledge and understanding of the Annual Health Check and why these are important, and to learn how you can support the healthcare professional carrying out the appointment.

Day	Date	Time
Monday	18 March 2024	1.30pm to 3.00pm
		https://stlukes.accessplanit.com/accessplan/checkout/AddItems?courseid=12303
Monday	22 April 2024	10.00am to 11.30am
		https://stlukes.accessplanit.com/accessplan/checkout/AddItems?courseid=12304
Monday	20 May 2024	1.30pm to 3.00pm
		https://stlukes.accessplanit.com/accessplan/checkout/AddItems?courseid=12314
Monday	17 June 2024	10.00am to 11.30am
		https://stlukes.accessplanit.com/accessplan/checkout/AddItems?courseid=12315



Important Contact Numbers

Sen Services - 01642 204503

Camhs - 0300 013 2000

Shortbreaks Self referral - 01642 771247

Daisy Chain Family Support - 01642
531248 (Option 1)

Carers Together - 01642 488977

News Cont

PMLD Family opinions wanted!

My name is Fay, and I am a trainee educational psychologist studying at Newcastle University.

As part of my training, I am carrying out research into what works well in educational psychology support for families of children with profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD). My hope for the research is to develop a deeper understanding of their lived experiences, which can then inform good practice for EPs and wider professionals (that comes from the voices of the families themselves). In short, it would involve a parent/primary caregiver meeting with me and taking part in an interview about their experiences of working with an educational psychologist. I don't see this taking longer than 1 - 1.5 hours, and can take place at a convenient time and location for parents/primary caregivers. I have attached a leaflet with more information.

Prior to starting EP training, my background involved working/supporting learners with PMLD in a specialist post-16 setting. I also currently work as a personal assistant for a gentleman with PMLD, liaising closely with his family during many periods of challenge. I share this to give you a snapshot of 'me', and 'why' I am conducting research in the area.

I am hoping to gauge interest within North East families, and wondered if you would be willing to forward on my flyer and information to potentially interested families.

I am hoping to speak to around 5 families, so any interest is very much valued.

I appreciate how busy you all are, and the many competing demands on your time. If this is not of interest to yourselves, that is not a problem and I appreciate your time. Any support is greatly appreciated.



The flyer is titled "Call for participants" and features a lightbulb icon and a speech bubble icon. It includes a circular portrait of Fay, a trainee educational psychologist. The flyer is divided into several sections: "Who am I?", "Who can take part?", "What would I need to do?", "How do I take part?", and "QR code and video". At the bottom, it features the Newcastle University logo and a statement of ethical approval.

Call for participants

Who am I?
My name is Fay and I am a Trainee Educational Psychologist at Newcastle University.
I am interested in exploring the lived experiences of the parents/primary caregivers of children and young people with profound multiple learning disabilities (PMLD), and their experiences of educational psychology support. I hope to find out what parents/primary caregivers think works well, and what could be better.

Who can take part?
I am looking to speak to parents/primary caregivers of children and young people with profound multiple learning disabilities (PMLD) who have worked with an educational psychologist at some point in their child's life.

What would I need to do?
Taking part would involve having a one-to-one discussion (semi-structured interview) with myself at an agreed date and time (approximately 1 - 1.5 hours).
I will ask you about your experiences of working with an educational psychologist.
This could happen in person, or via Microsoft Teams.
The discussion will be audio-recorded so I can listen to it back.

How do I take part?
If you are interested in taking part, or know someone who might be, please contact me by email at f.f.mudd2@newcastle.ac.uk
I can answer any questions you may have, arrange an initial informal chat, and send additional information if needed.

QR code and video
Scan the QR code or visit www.bit.ly/NUPMLD to access a video recording of this information

 **Newcastle University**
This study received ethical approval from Newcastle University Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences Committee on 18/11/2023

Events

Upcoming events at our base, Grangetown United Hub

To book a place on the Short Break or Meet the Health Team event please email infosendfamilyvoicerc@gmail.com or inbox us on Facebook.

Parent and Carer Coffee Mornings

**F.R.O.G, Grangetown United
Community Hub, Derwentwater Road,
TS6 7PY**

Tuesday 9th April

Tuesday 7th May

Tuesday 4th June

Tuesday 2nd July

Event will run from 10am - 12.00pm and there will be free
tea/coffee and light refreshments.

Queries to: infosendfamilyvoicerc@gmail.com



Meet the Health Team

Tuesday 23rd April 2024

Grangetown United Hub, Derwentwater Road,
Grangetown, TS6 7PY

**An opportunity to come and meet members
of staff from NHS. A chance to ask questions
and find out the latest information.**

**With Alison Smithes from Speech and
Language Team**

and

**Helen Nixon, Service Paediatric Lead for
Occupational Therapy (OT) and
Physiotherapy**

To reserve a space please email
infosendfamilyvoicerc@gmail.com

Event will run from 10am - 12.00pm and there will be
free tea/coffee and light refreshments.



Soft Play Sessions at Grangetown United Hub

We have booked 6 exclusive sessions
at the Play Village at Grangetown
United Hub. All children under the
age of 6 years old who have a
diagnosed SEN need or on the
pathway are welcome to attend as
well as their siblings



A great opportunity to come along and
meet other parents in a safe and
welcoming environment.

Children can also play in an enclosed
setting and build friendships with other
children.

**Every Thursday 1pm until 2.30pm
18th April - 23rd May
Free refreshments available in the
cafe 2.30pm - 3pm**

Grangetown United Hub
Derwentwater Road, Grangetown,
TS6 7PY



Short Breaks Drop In Event

Tuesday 16th April 2024

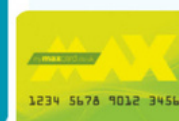
**Grangetown United Hub, Derwentwater Road,
Grangetown, TS6 7PY**

Do you know what Short Breaks are?

**Would you like your child /young person to
access after school and/or holidays clubs?**

Do you have a Max Card?

**No? Then this is the event for you! Come along
and chat to representatives from the club
providers and members of staff from the Local
Offer and Children with Disabilities Team**



Event will run from 10am - 12.00pm and there will be free
tea/coffee and light refreshments.

Queries to: infosendfamilyvoicerc@gmail.com



Events cont

Home Educated SEN Sessions

Rebecca, one of our parent representatives, is a home educator and organises lots of SEND sessions around the Redcar and Cleveland area and further afield!

These sessions are open to children who are home educated and have a diagnosed SEND or on the pathway. Rebecca will be advertising her events on the Facebook page. She has also set up her own Facebook group called, SEND Home ed Support group- Redcar, Teesside, County Durham and Tyne & Wear.

The next event is Big Science on 1st May at 10.30am at Encounter Church, Stockton, which includes an interactive science show and hands on workshop. These sessions are for children aged 6 to 14 years and cost £20 per child. Siblings are welcome to attend and there will be a refreshment break.

Details of this event and other upcoming events are on the Facebook group.

You can send a request to join the group here <https://www.facebook.com/share/wRkww2rFVuILpS4o/?mibextid=K35XfP>



**SEND Home ed Support group
- Redcar, Teesside, County
Durham & Tyne & Wear >**

Are you an autistic or neurodivergent adult aged 18+?

Do you want to connect with others, and make friends in Redcar & Cleveland?

Get in touch to find out more about My Life My Community, accessible wherever you live in Tees Valley.

www.daisychainproject.co.uk
mylife@daisychainproject.co.uk
01642 531248

Wednesdays / 3:15pm - 5:15pm
Senses Wellbeing Centre, Unit 2 Birdswell Court, Watness Avenue, Skelton Industrial Estate, Skelton, TS12 2LL



What other events would like to see?
Please let us know by using our new
Comments and Suggestions Box!

SEN Sessions

This month we have tried to show some different offers of SEN friendly events. We will continue to try and add as many as possible. Some of these events are based out of the area.



Providing Forest and Beach School sessions to families throughout Redcar and Cleveland.

At Woods & Waves children and young people have the opportunity to connect with nature, use tools, enjoy the warmth of a campfire, complete scavenger hunts, engage in nature-art, arts and crafts and so much more. The sessions are very flexible and child-led, participants encouraged to follow their own interests and ideas, free play and exploration are a big part of the Forest School approach. Parent/carers stay and join in the fun too.

Children with additional needs are welcome to attend any of our sessions, and we also have SEND sessions every third Saturday of the month from 16th March.

To book a place visit our Facebook page @woodswavesforestandbeachschool Or use our booking link <https://bookwhen.com/woodswaves>



In addition we also have some availability on our fully funded 10 week SEND Forest School group:

Thanks to funding from Woodsmith Foundation we are able to offer fully funded small group Forest and Beach School to children and young people. To qualify the child/YP must: Be a 5-18 years, live in Redcar and Cleveland, and have an additional need or disability.

This is for a block of 10 sessions and we have a couple of remaining spaces for our Thursday 4pm sessions beginning in April, so you must be able to come along to Saltburn on this date to qualify. To express your interest in your child/young person being involved in this project please contact us: woodswaves2022@gmail.com / 07533366410