

SEND Family Voice

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

NNPCF Response to £200 Million Investment in SEND Training

The National Network of Parent Carer Forums (NNPCF) welcomes the Government's announcement of a £200 million investment to support SEND training for staff working across early years settings, schools and colleges. This commitment recognises the importance of equipping the wider workforce with the knowledge and confidence to support children and young people with SEND.

Parent carers often tell us how much difference skilled, informed and understanding staff can make to their child's experience of education. Investment in training has the potential to support more consistent approaches, improve confidence among practitioners, and strengthen inclusive practice across settings.

To maximise the impact of this funding, it will be important that training is high-quality, practical and supported over time. Education settings also need the capacity and wider support to embed learning into everyday practice, alongside access to specialist expertise where needed.

NNPCF believes that the involvement of parent carers and those with lived experience of SEND will be key to shaping effective training. Co-production and meaningful engagement can help ensure that learning reflects the realities of children's lives and leads to positive outcomes.

This announcement is a welcome step forward. NNPCF looks forward to continuing to work constructively with the Department for Education and partners to support improvements that make a real difference for children and young people with SEND and their families

We will keep you updated as to progress and updates. .

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/200-million-landmark-send-teacher-training-programme>

Events & Training Attendance

We have had a few events over the last couple of months where parents have booked a place to attend a workshop or training but then on the day not turned up without cancelling their place or letting the forum know. We appreciate that sometimes things come up last minute or children are poorly which means you cannot attend but we still need to know

A lot of training and workshops we put on for parents and carers is expensive which is why sometimes we charge a small fee for the training and lunch. If you are booked on a workshop or training event in the future and cannot make it please email the page at our info email address or message the SEND Family Voice page on messenger via Facebook.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Your Voice

We are keen to hear your views and opinions about the SEND services in Redcar and Cleveland. Please take a moment to complete this on the "Your Voice" section of the website. Good, bad or indifferent we want to hear from you!

<https://sendfamilyvoicerc.co.uk/your-voice/>



News & Information cont

Right to Choose update

We are aware of the recent changes that are affecting some Right to Choose providers. We have shared the information below following the update we received from the Integrated Care Board (ICB) who oversee and run services on behalf of the NHS.

Update on Autism and ADHD Assessment Services – 06 January 2026

Autism and ADHD assessment services across North East and North Cumbria continue to experience exceptionally high levels of demand, resulting in longer waiting times. This reflects a national picture driven by increased awareness and changes in how people seek and access support.

To manage this pressure in a planned, fair and responsible way, the ICB has temporarily agreed revised activity plans with Right to Choose (RTC) providers for new autism and ADHD assessments. This approach is designed to protect existing services and ensure that people already in the system continue to receive safe and appropriate care. It is being applied consistently across all commissioned RTC providers.

It is important to be clear about what this means:

- New referrals are not being stopped or paused – referrals for autism and ADHD assessment can continue to be made.
- The revised activity plans apply only to Right to Choose providers and do not affect NHS Trust services.
- Children under the age of six are not impacted, as there are no RTC providers commissioned to assess this age group; these assessments continue through NHS Trusts.
- Providers will:
 - Continue to see anyone with a booked appointment
 - Prioritise and assess anyone considered clinically urgent
 - Manage assessments for people already waiting within the agreed activity levels

As a result, people referred during 2025/26 may experience longer initial waiting times with RTC providers, but all existing referrals will retain their original referral dates. Anyone who already has an appointment, is part way through assessment, awaiting treatment, or receiving ADHD medication will continue to receive care without disruption.

Alongside this approach and immediate actions, the ICB is working closely with NHS providers and partners to redesign autism and ADHD services so they better meet the needs of our population. This includes:

- Reviewing how assessments are prioritised
- Improving the information, guidance and support available while people wait
- Making communication clearer for patients, families, professionals and the public
- Ensuring services are prepared to respond to questions and concerns

While waiting times remain too long and unmet need is significant with understandable anxiety for patients and families, it is also important to recognise that more people than ever before are receiving autism and ADHD assessments, and ADHD medication where clinically indicated. In 2025/26, more individuals have been supported than in any previous year.

Our aim is to be fair, consistent and transparent, while ensuring services are sustainable. This will allow a revised and improved approach to assessments to be implemented as soon as it is safe and responsible to do so. We will review this position in April 2026. Questions or concerns

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the NENC ICB Complaints Team.

Email: nencicb.complaints@nhs.net

Telephone: 0191 374 4218

Freepost: FREEPOST, NENC ICB COMPLAINTS Contact Address: Complaints Team, North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board, Pemberton House, Colima Avenue, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, SR5 3XB

We will keep you updated with any progress or reviews we are made aware of from the ICB and share accordingly with you all.

News & Information cont

Stay & Play Sessions

I am writing to inform you that Sunnyside Academy, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough, will be starting to host a monthly Stay and Play session for d/Deaf and visually impaired children aged 0–5. These sessions will provide a welcoming and supportive environment for children and their parents/carers to play, explore, and connect with others, while also offering opportunities to share advice and support.

We would be grateful if you could share this information with all schools and relevant settings so they can pass it on to parents and carers who may be interested. Parents will be invited to contact Sunnyside directly to express their interest and to receive further details about session dates and arrangements.

We hope this provision will support early engagement and inclusion for young children with sensory needs and their families. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information.

Autism Course

Tees Valley Woman's Centre based in South Bank is offering an NCFE certificate in Understanding autism. We offered this course before Christmas through Middlesbrough College. For anyone who missed our sessions this might be another option for you.

Please see the poster for more details and how to book.



Important Contact Numbers

LA Sen Department - 01642 304503

Redcar & Cleveland Transport Dept - 01642 444974

LA MACH Team 01642 130700

Email - RedcarMACH@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Camhs - 0300 013 2000

Single Point of Contact (SPOC) - 0300 013 2000
(option 3)

Short Breaks Self referral - 01642 771247

Daisy Chain Family Support - 01642 531248
(Option 1)

Carers Together - 01642 488977

James Cook Hospital
01642 850850

NHS Service
111 or 999 in case of an emergency

Health Visiting & School Nursing Team
01642 444011

Family Hubs:
Dormanstown - 01642 492940
Grangetown - 01642 770810
Green Gates - 01642 759070
Guisborough - 01642 495357
Ormesby - 01642 513665
Loftus - 01287 640523
Redcar Coast - 01642 776030
Skelton - 01287 612333S
South Bank - 01642 457291

Our Contact Details

Office 2T Civic Centre, Ridley Street,
Redcar TS10 1TD

Email : info@sendfamilyvoicerc.com

Events

SEND Family Voice Events

Our weekly drop ins have now moved to a Tuesday. At our offices every Tuesday from 9.30am - 12pm, members of the team will be available to offer advice and support around any issues you are facing. They can also complete membership forms and Your Voice submissions. There will also be free refreshments available. At some of the events we will also have professionals who will be there such as SENDIASS or Short Breaks etc.

Our online evening coffee event will take place on the first Monday of each month at 7pm, we look forward to seeing you for chat. At this coffee event we can offer support and signposting and also help complete membership forms and Your Voice submissions.

Clare will continue to host the Adoptive, Foster and SGO coffee mornings at our offices once a month. Come along to find out the latest information in the adoptive, foster and SGO world. This is also a great opportunity to come along and connect with others who are in a similar position to yourself. Please see our events calendar for dates of these sessions.

We have now started a dads group once a month at our offices. A warm and welcoming environment for dads, step-dads, grandads and uncles can come along and attend. This is a great way for dads and grandads to receive some support and meet other dads who are in similar situations. Please see our events calendar for dates of these sessions.

If you wish to receive our newsletter plus links to our training and workshop offers please ensure you have signed up to become a member. Our membership is free and your details are kept safe and secure and are not disclosed to any third party. Once you are registered you will be asked to confirm your email address. Once you have done this you will receive the latest copy of our newsletter together with a copy of The SEND Guide for Parents. The link and QR Code is below:

<https://sendfamilyvoicerc.co.uk/membership/>



Upcoming Member Events

Tuesday 5th February

Eating Distress in Children and Young People

Clare Sullivan, Psychotherapeutic Counsellor, from the Bungalow Partnership will be running this session all about Eating Distress.

Monday 16th February

Foetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder (FASD) with Clare

Join Clare for information relating to FASD including resources and strategies.

Upcoming Community Coffee Events

Tuesday 3rd February at 1pm - Loftus Family Hub

Wednesday 4th February at 1pm - Grangetown Family Hub

Tuesday 10th February at 1pm - Skelton Family Hub

Wednesday 11th February at 1pm - Ormesby Family Hub

Tuesday 17th February at 1pm - Greengates Family Hub

Wednesday 18th February at 1pm - Guisborough Family Hub

Upcoming School visits

Upcoming PINS coffee mornings or afternoons together with non-PINS schools visits for October.

Thursday 5th February at 1pm - Green Gates Primary School

Tuesday 10th February at 9am - Normanby Primary School

Wednesday 18th February at 9am - St Gabriel's Primary School

Wednesday 18th February at 1pm - Chaloner Primary School

Thursday 19th February at 1pm - Overfields Primary School

Our Place - Dormanstown School

We are still working in Our Place located within the grounds of Dormanstown Academy every Monday.

Parents and carers living in the Dormanstown and wider area can come along and see Our Place and the services been offered in there, Your child does not have to attend Dormanstown Academy to attend these sessions they are open to everyone.

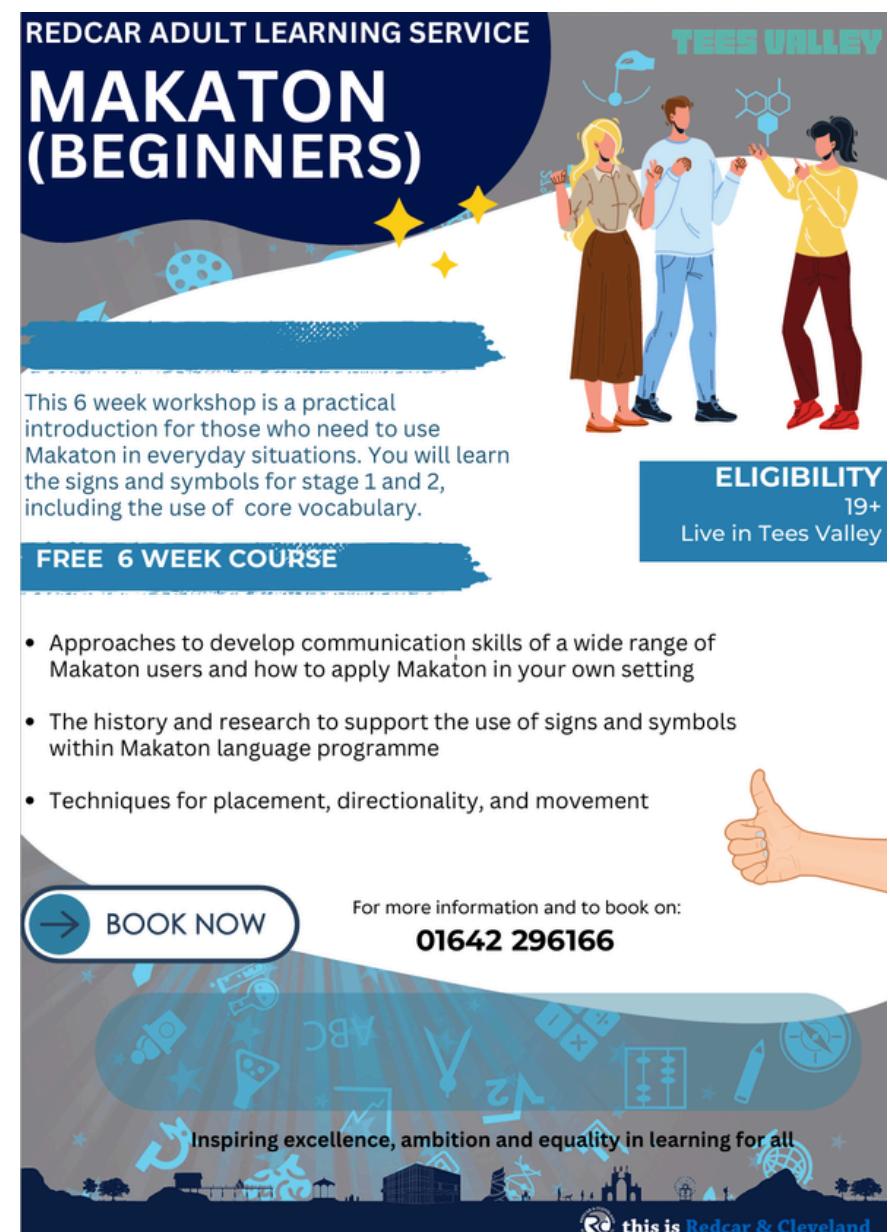
Events

Makaton Course

Redcar Adult Learning Service currently offer a Makaton course for beginners which you may be interested in. Please see attached leaflet for more information.

FREE 6 WEEK COURSE 19+ Live in Tees Valley

For more information and to book on: 01642 296166



Autism Central Courses

Autism Central is now commissioned and delivered by Anna Freud and are peer-led and co-produced, grounded in lived experience and research sessions free from NHS England. All sessions are online events for families of autistic people to reflect and work together, sharing knowledge and skills, including drop-ins, education family guide sessions and reflective sessions.

February's events are now online for parents and carers to book and this month's sessions are looking at: Self-harm, suicidality, and acute crisis; ADHD experiences: what works and Autism, ethnicity and culture. Use the link below to book your place:

<https://www.autismcentral.org.uk/events>

Early Bird and Early Bird Plus Training

The Redcar and Cleveland Early Years SEND Team have partnered with The National Autistic and KTS Academy to deliver the Early Bird Programme (see attached leaflet).

The 6-week programme will run from Redcar and Cleveland Family Hubs. The eligibility for accessing the course is you must be living in Redcar and Cleveland and your child has either received an autism diagnosis or is on the pathway awaiting an autism assessment. There are two courses available:

Early Bird – for children under 5 years

Early Bird Plus – for children aged 4 – 9 years

To register your interest please send the following details to Jane.Todd@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Which course you would like to attend – Early Bird or Early Bird Plus

Parent name

Parent email

Home address

Child's name and date of birth

Date of diagnosis or date accepted for an assessment



SEN Sessions

In and around the Redcar and Cleveland area.

1 TO 1 PRIVATE SWIMMING LESSONS

Galley Hill Pool, Guisborough, TS14 8PF

Monday	Availability- • 7:30-8pm	
Tuesday	• 2:30-3pm	
Wednesday	• 3:30-3pm • 7:30-8pm	
Thursday	• 3:30-4pm • 7:30pm	

ABOUT US
8 Years of Coaching. I have coached 100s of Children and Adults in a competitive environment up to County, Regional, National & International successes in Swimming, Triathlon, Aquathlon. Previous positions of Head Coach/ Senior Swim Teacher.

07762431538
www.swimwithdan.co.uk
swimwithdanltd@yahoo.com

25k
YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE
AYTON DRIVE, REDCAR TS10 4LR

GIRLS' GROUP

FEEL EMPOWERED AND JOIN A GROUP THAT IS SO MUCH MORE THAN HAIR AND NAILS. DISCUSS WHAT'S TRENDING, PLAY HILARIOUS GAMES AND PAMPER YOURSELF.

TUESDAY EVENINGS (TERM TIME) 6 - 8PM

Ages 11-18 **Cost: 50p per session**

For more information contact 25k Youth & Community Centre - Telephone 01642 772500 Email: james.tilly@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk Youth, Media, Media & Arts Co-ordinator Facebook: www.facebook.com/Tunred.in.Redcar

this is Redcar & Cleveland

FULLY FUNDED NEURODIVERSE FAMILY FITNESS
WEDNESDAYS 4.15-5PM

SUITABLE FOR FAMILIES WITH A CHILD ON THE PATHWAY, DIAGNOSED OR UNDIAGNOSED, DELIVERED IN A SENSORY SETTING

We encourage families to attend with children who are struggling with their weight, movement and sleep patterns.

45 min sessions Classes will rotate with BOXit, a glow class, silent disco, BALIt and We will Rock You Drumming Weights and Bootcamp

Purpose of these sessions is to engage, energise and encourage more movement Reduce falls and injuries Super for special awareness

SUPER FOR AGES 4-18 YEARS WHO MAY STRUGGLE WITH PEAT IN SCHOOL OR ARE HOME EDUCATED AND WOULD LIKE A COMMUNITY GROUP EXERCISE SESSION

To book:- <https://bookwhen.com/senseswellbeingcentreic>

Senses Wellbeing Centre CIC, Unit 2, Birdswell Court, Watness Avenue, Skelton, TS12 2LL 01678 650191

SENSES WELLBEING CENTRE

MIND OVER MOUNTAINS **Forestry England**

Feeling in need of a bit of respite? Finding life challenging or overwhelming? Join us on our FREE Mental Wellbeing Walks in guisborough Forest with Mind Over Mountains!

Half day walk combining walking in nature & mindfulness, supported by professional coaches & counsellors who walk with you. For anyone who might benefit from some time out with a friendly group, walking and talking together.




Places must be booked. Head to www.mindovermountains.org.uk for full details or scan the QR code

Please feel free to contact us with any questions - info@mindovermountains.org.uk



25k
YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE
AYTON DRIVE, REDCAR TS10 4LR

Manga Art

Step in to the world of anime and create your own Manga characters by learning various drawing techniques and using a series of art & multimedia resources.

Join the anime community and meet new friends!

TUESDAY 6-8pm
THURSDAY 7-9pm
(TERM TIME)
Cost: 50p Per Session
Ages 11 - 18

All Manga characters on this poster have been created by the young people that attend the Manga art sessions!

For more information contact 25k Youth & Community Centre - Telephone 01642 772500 Email: james.tilly@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk Youth, Media, Media & Arts Co-ordinator Facebook: www.facebook.com/Tunred.in.Redcar

this is Redcar & Cleveland

25k
YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE
AYTON DRIVE, REDCAR TS10 4LR

GAMES & TECHNOLOGY

Come along and socialise with your friends and chill out and play some board games. Prefer computer games? We have a selection of classic gaming platforms including Nintendo Wii & Xbox'. We also have Pool, Ping Pong, Team Games & More...

THURSDAY EVENINGS (TERM TIME) 7 - 9pm
Ages: 11 - 18
Cost: 50p Per Session

For more information contact 25k Youth & Community Centre - Telephone 01642 772500 Email: james.tilly@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk Youth, Media, Media & Arts Co-ordinator Facebook: www.facebook.com/Tunred.in.Redcar

this is Redcar & Cleveland

YOUTH CLUB

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS • 6PM - 8PM
BRECKON HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE, MIDDLESBROUGH, TS4 2DS

FRIDAYS • 6PM - 8PM
GROVE HILL COMMUNITY HUB, MIDDLESBROUGH, TS4 2RP

THE JUNCTION FOUNDATION PRESENTS A FREE, WEEKLY YOUTH CLUB WITH REFRESHMENTS, ACTIVITIES & MORE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGES 11 - 17 YEARS

01642 756000 info@thejunctionfoundation.com

TUNED IN! 2 MUSIC

FRIDAY EVENINGS (TERM TIME) 6-8PM AGES 11 - 18

VENUE: SKELTON YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE MARKET PLACE, SALTBURN BY THE SEA TS12 2HA

Music 4 Me is a place for young people to come and have fun making music. The sessions for 11-18 year olds include a variety of music making activities including singing, playing instruments, jamming and making music with technology.

This project is funded by Arts Council England as part of our "Breakthrough Music" Project

01642 772500 helen.higgs@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

this is Redcar & Cleveland

WELLBEING & RESILIENCE GROUP

Mind, body, soul

A group to feed your mind, body and soul through meditative practices combined with mindful movement. To empower and enable participants to learn different ways to relax and handle the stresses and strains of everyday life

Walk ins welcome!

Every Thursday Starting 1 - 3rd July 2015

1:00 - 3:00
18+ Living in Redcar & Cleveland
On a direct bus route

GUIDED VISUALISATIONS
TAI CHI
MEDITATION & MINDFULNESS
CHI KUNG BREATHWORK
Free!
Refreshments included

Contact Chris for more info
07394871751
cwpactivities@footprintsinthecommunity.co.uk

World of Play **SEN SESSIONS**

1st Sunday of every month 9.30am - 12.00pm

Come and enjoy World of Play when it's much calmer and quieter at our SEN sessions

This time is exclusively for children with disabilities and their family & friends

Full use of all our facilities is available

INCLUSIVITY

SKITTLES
LGBTQ+ GROUP

25k
YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE
AYTON DRIVE, REDCAR TS10 4LR

A Youth Group for LGBTQIA+ & gender non-conforming young people

Wednesday Evenings
AGES 12 - 16 **50p per session**

A safe space to be yourself! Come along & make new friends
If you require more information please contact:
Helen Higgs 01642 771245 helen.higgs@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk
All enquiries are treated in confidence

Premier League Kicks
TUESDAY

DISABILITY SPECIFIC 2023/24

WEDNESDAY

BOROBILITY EAST CRICKET CLUB
TS13 4LG
5pm - 6pm

FREE TO PLAY!

Foundati

BOROBILITY
Aeon Centre TS5 9QB
U12 PAN 4:45pm - 5:45pm
13+ PAN 5:45pm - 6:45pm




FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SITE SPECIFICS EMAIL: EVE.ALLEN@NPFC.ORG.UK

FOOTBALL 4 ALL

A team specially for Neurodiverse kids aged 4-16

Every Saturday Morning:
8:30-9:00 1-1 Sessions
9:00-10:00 Main Session

For more info contact:
Paul 07519607545 - Paulc_spr@outlook.com

COMETS
Disability + Football

Your place to play
A safe space for disabled children aged 5 - 11 to kickstart their football journey

Just be you!




Scan here to see Comets in action!

Time and Date: Saturday Morning - 10.00am to 11.00am
Location: Sports Hall, Nunthorpe School, Guisborough Road, Nunthorpe, TS7 0LA
Contact: Andy Fawcett **Phone:** 07967 023888
Email: Andy.f.spr@gmail.com

Get in touch to book your first session



SEND support across Redcar and Cleveland

There is a wide range of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) support available across the borough, including those who do not have a formal diagnosis.

Redcar and Cleveland Local Offer

Redcar and Cleveland's Local Offer is a free information directory that shows what support or provision is available in our area for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities aged 0 – 25 years old and their families.

<https://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/children-and-families-services/local-offer>

SENDIASS

The SENDIASS Service provides independent, impartial advice to parents/carers with a child aged 0-25 years old with special educational needs. We also provide advice to children and young people with SEN. We can help with education, health and social care.

We are open Monday - Thursday, 09:00-17:00 and Friday, 09:00-16:30.

You can reach SENDIASS by :

Kerrie Walker (SENDIASS Officer) kerrie.walker@barnardos.org.uk 07713787617
 Joanne Alton (SENDIASS Officer) joanne.alton@barnardos.org.uk 07934602584
 Phone: 01642 310806
 Email: southteesendiass@barnardos.org.uk

Redcar and Cleveland Early Years SEND Team

The Early Years Area SENDCo coordinates the support provided by the Early Years SEND Practitioners, who were previously known as and sometimes still referred to as Portage. The team support children who have a significant delay in two or more areas of their development, from birth to school age. To access the Early Years Practitioners, SENDCO's should complete a Family Hubs Referral form

Redcar and Cleveland SEN department

The SEND Team is responsible for Education, Health, and Care Needs Assessments (working in collaboration with the family, child or young person and professionals). They also manage the placement and provision for children with Education, Health, Care Plan (EHCP) as well as annual reviews. The SEND team consists of a Statutory SEND Manager, SEND Lead Officers, PfA Coordinator, SEND Officers, Independent Travel Trainers, SEND Business and Data Officer and the SEND administration team.

To contact either:

email sen@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Telephone 01642 304503

SEND Family Voice, Parent Carer Forum

We are a Department of Education funded forum of parents and carers of children and young people (0-25) with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Our main aim is to ensure the needs of our children are met. We bring together parent carer voices from across Redcar and Cleveland to improve engagement between services and families, to empower each other and influence policy and practice.

<https://sendfamilyvoicerc.co.uk/>

Redcar and Cleveland Family Hubs

Our Family Hubs and wider network, offer help and support to families with children aged 0-19 years (25 with SEND), across Redcar and Cleveland.

<https://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/family-hubs>

Preparing for Adulthood

'Preparation for adulthood' is a national framework that aims to ensure that all young people with special educational needs and disabilities have the support they need to ensure they achieve their full potential and live happy, healthy lives. Schools, colleges, health and social care services work together to help plan and prepare young people in four main areas;

- continuing education, training or getting a job
- living independently
- having friends and being part of the local community
- being as healthy as possible.

<https://informationdirectory.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/local-offer-send/preparing-adulthood-14-25-years/preparation-adulthood>

Short Breaks

Short Breaks are available for children and young people with special educational needs and or disabilities aged 0 - 18 years, some support may extend up to 25 years where there is an assessed need for the service to remain in place. Short Breaks support provides opportunities for parent carers to have a break from their caring responsibility while also providing fun and exciting opportunities for children and young people.

<https://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/children-and-families-services/short-breaks-for-children-young-people-and-their-families>