

# SEND Reforms

## Newsletter 9

### **SENDIASS Parent Conference**

On 5<sup>th</sup> March 2015, the Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS, formerly Parent Partnership) are holding their annual conference for mums, dads and carers. It is being held at Thurston Community Centre, from 9:30am until 3:30pm.

The conference will be made up of presentations, discussions, workshops and a marketplace of services that may be useful for you and your family. The focus of the day will be on the SEND Reforms and how they have progressed since the September start date; it will also give you a chance to feedback on the changes so far. A light lunch will be provided.

For more information and details on how to book please see the flyer at the address below:

<https://www.access-unlimited.co.uk/send-reforms/latest-news/local-news/sendiasm-formerly-parent-partnership-annual-conference-2015/>

### **Suffolk's Local Offer**

#### **Feedback**

We are currently developing a function for families and professionals to feedback on Suffolk's Local Offer. This will be put in an annual report to improve and develop the Local Offer. There is a star rating on Suffolk Infolink which is live as a method to feedback. You can also give comments and suggestions by emailing [sendreforms@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:sendreforms@suffolk.gov.uk)

#### **Developing the Local Offer**

We are keen to develop and add to our Local Offer. If there are services that you use, are aware of or you are involved with who aren't on the Local Offer but you feel should be please get in touch with us and we will support them to update their information. Please email [sendreforms@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:sendreforms@suffolk.gov.uk) with any suggestions.

### **KIDS Learning Zone!**

KIDS has created some useful e-learning modules for parents and providers on the SEND Reforms. There are modules on lots of different topics and a lot of the resources are free! For more information on these resources and to access them (you will need to register, free of charge, first) please click on the link below:

<http://elearning.kids.org.uk/>

## **EHCP Top Tips!**

In March, we are delivering 3 workshops across the county for all schools. The workshops will provide top tips on:

- how to refer for an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment
- what to include in a Transfer (EHC Needs Assessment) Review (transferring Statements of SEN to Education, Health and Care Plans)

The dates of the workshops are:

- Monday 23rd March 2pm – 3:30pm Elizabeth Room, Endeavour House, Ipswich  
Course code for CPD Online (to book): SCH 15/216
- Tuesday 24th March 2pm – 3:30pm the Ashley School, Lowestoft  
Course code for CPD Online (to book): SCH 15/218
- Friday 27th March 9:30am-11am Priory School, Bury St Edmunds  
Course code for CPD Online (to book): SCH 15/217

Please go to <http://www.suffolkcpd.co.uk/cpd/default.asp?homepage=1&ssid> to book your place!

## **The Care Act meets SEND Reforms**

On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015, the Care Act will come into effect and will have implications for all colleagues in Suffolk working with young people aged 14-25 with additional needs. Here are 3 relevant things you should know about the Care Act.

The Care Act 2014 states that:

1. Preparation for adulthood for young people with additional needs should start from Year 9 at the latest.
2. For young people with EHC Plans, their Transition to Adulthood Assessment should be incorporated into one of their annual statutory reviews of the EHC Plan.
3. CYP and ACS must cooperate for the purposes of transition to adult care and support.

If you would like to have any more detail about these 3 points or anything else Care Act related, please email [adam.thorp@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:adam.thorp@suffolk.gov.uk)

## Contact a Family

Contact a Family offer information, advice and support. They enable families to come together so they can support each other. Contact a Family provide services such as:

- A Freephone helpline
- A medical information directory
- Advice and support online
- Workshops and information sessions

For further information on what they offer please visit their website <http://www.cafamily.org.uk/> or call their helpline on 0808 808 3555

## SEND Reforms Working Group

The SEND Reforms Working Group continues to bring together representatives from the Local Authority and other agencies including parents to oversee the work of the Task & Finish Groups. The Local Authority Lead for the SEND Reform Working Group is Tony Sale, County Manager – SEN. [tony.sale@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:tony.sale@suffolk.gov.uk)

The Task and Finish Groups were established with identified Lead Officers responsible for developing a coordinated response to requirements of the SEND Reforms.

<b>Local Offer</b>	Lead Officer – Stacey Ford <a href="mailto:stacey.ford@suffolk.gov.uk">stacey.ford@suffolk.gov.uk</a>
<b>Workforce Development</b>	Lead Officer - Mark Dimes <a href="mailto:mark.dimes@suffolk.gov.uk">mark.dimes@suffolk.gov.uk</a>
<b>EHC Plans</b>	Lead Officer – Judith Hinchcliffe <a href="mailto:judith.hinchcliffe@suffolk.gov.uk">judith.hinchcliffe@suffolk.gov.uk</a>
<b>Joint Commissioning</b>	Lead Officer – Cheryl Sharland <a href="mailto:cheryl.sharland@suffolk.gov.uk">cheryl.sharland@suffolk.gov.uk</a>
<b>Personal Budgets</b>	Lead Officer – Janet Cooper-Medrano <a href="mailto:Janet.Cooper-Medrano@suffolk.gov.uk">Janet.Cooper-Medrano@suffolk.gov.uk</a>
<b>Local Authority ICT Applications</b>	Lead Officer - Tracy Winwood <a href="mailto:tracy.winwood@suffolk.gov.uk">tracy.winwood@suffolk.gov.uk</a>
<b>Moving into Adulthood</b>	Lead Officer – Esmee Wilcox <a href="mailto:esmee.wilcox@suffolk.gov.uk">esmee.wilcox@suffolk.gov.uk</a>

## How can parents/carers get involved?

Suffolk Parent Carers Network [SCPN] is represented in overseeing the implementation of the SEND Reforms. As a parent/carer please feel free to use the contact e-mail address for SCPN for any queries and or questions.

[suffolkpcn@gmail.com](mailto:suffolkpcn@gmail.com)

## How can schools get involved?

For advice, guidance and support for schools on the SEND Reforms please contact:

Paula Groombridge

[paula.groombridge@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:paula.groombridge@suffolk.gov.uk)

Schools can access information about the SEND Reforms at: [www.suffolklearning.co.uk](http://www.suffolklearning.co.uk)

The work to embed the reforms is ongoing. We will now be producing newsletters on a half-termly basis. We will be putting any urgent news on the Access Unlimited website so please check the website regularly for any updates.

<https://www.access-unlimited.co.uk/send-reforms/>

I hope you find the information in this newsletter helpful. Please do contact us with any queries or suggestions on [sendreforms@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:sendreforms@suffolk.gov.uk)

*Tony Sale*

Tony Sale

County Manager SEN

Inclusive Services

Children and Young People's Services