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Information & Events

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SEND Matters Live Event - Transition - from Preschool to school, between key stages and into Adulthood

27 June 2019 Community House, South Street, Bromley BR1 1RH

The second session of the Bromley SEND Matters Live series will focus on Transition from early years to primary school. Bromley parents and carers are invited to come along to the second of six sessions to ask about the issues that are affecting our families and to hear directly from professionals from both the Council and the CCG, the leaders of local health services.

Click [here](#) to read more and to book a place at the next session on 27th of June.

LATEST BPV NEWS

Cake & Share

Thank you to all our members for supporting the weekly Cake & Share group, BPV have met some fantastic parents/carers over the years and these sessions will be undergoing a revamp for the autumn term. Further information will be sent out via our e-bulletin, website, facebook & twitter shortly.

The remaining cake & share sessions for this summer term is as follows:

Wed 19 June - West Wickham

Wed 26 June - Beckenham

Wed 3 July - Orpington

Parent Empowerment Workshops Feedback

Two workshops were delivered by Doug Morris, Opi Group in March & May to help Parent Carers get the most out of services by understanding the emotional impact of caring for a child with additional needs, managing the practical issues and working smarter with those in Health, Education and Social Care. Please click [here](#) for the document from the workshops.

BPV Annual Conference - SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday 16th of October 10 am - 2 pm at Bromley United Reform Church, Widmore Rd, Bromley, BR1 IRH. Refreshments included.

NATIONAL SEND NEWS

Consultation opens on children not attending mainstream schools

The Department for Education is seeking views on proposed legislation to establish a register maintained by local authorities of children not attending mainstream schools, together with associated duties on parents and the proprietors of certain educational settings.

Please click on this [link](#) for further information.

Children with learning disabilities or autism living in mental health hospitals

This report from the Children's Commissioner for England highlights that "too many children are being admitted to secure hospitals unnecessarily – in some cases are spending months and years of their childhood in institutions when they should be in their community." Read the main findings [here](#) and access

New Blue Badge rules in England to come into force on 30 August

Last year the government announced its intention to expand the blue badge rules in England to make it easier for people with hidden disabilities such as autism to qualify. After a lengthy delay the government has now published regulations confirming that these [new rules will start to apply from the 30 August 2019](#).

DWP under investigation for recovering overpaid Carer's Allowance

MPs on the Work and Pensions select committee have started investigating the Department for Work and Pensions' decision to recover £150 million in overpaid Carer's Allowance from 80,000 carers. Contact, the disability charity, are calling on the government to [drop](#) its pursuit of carers who have been overpaid mostly due to innocent mistakes and the department's own administration issues.

End Child Poverty report finds fastest rises in poverty hit poorest areas

New findings published by End Child Poverty reveal that [child poverty is becoming "the new normal"](#) in parts of Britain. This echoes Contact's own [Counting the Costs research](#), which found that there has been a sharp rise in disabled children going without essentials such as specialist therapies and equipment at a time when financial support for families is being drastically cut.

Carer's allowance earnings limit rises to £123 per week

Carer's Allowance is the main benefit for carers. You can still get it even if you are working, so long as your earnings are no more than a weekly amount known as 'the earnings limit'. From 1 April the earnings limit went up to £123 per week.

For more information about Carers Allowance take a look at Contact's [Carer's Allowance webpage](#) or download their free factsheet on [Carer's Allowance](#)

New Universal Credit fact sheet

Contact has produced a new [factsheet](#) on claiming Universal Credit for a young disabled person. This free publication explains when a young person can claim Universal Credit in their own right and the impact this might have on any payments that their parents receive for them as a dependent. It also sets out the particular difficulties that young people in education face in trying to claim Universal Credit.

A review into the placement of children in Residential Schools called "Good Intentions, Good Enough?"

Dame Christine Lenehan undertook a review into the placement of children in Residential Schools called "Good Intentions, Good Enough?". The report made a number of recommendations including the setting up of a SEND System Leadership Board with an independent chair. Ministers from the Department for Education (DfE) and Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) further agreed to meet with stakeholders twice a year to hear directly the concerns of the sector. Click [here](#) for further information.

NNPCF's State of the Nation Report 2019

NNPCF has refreshed its [report](#) looking at the State of the nation, reflecting on the feedback received around the experiences of families and carers of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) around the country. It focuses on the experiences a year after the end of the of the implementation period for the Children and Families Act (over the last 12 months since the last report was published).

Damien Hinds speech to National Association of Headteachers

On the 3rd May the Secretary of State for Education [spoke](#) to the National Association of Headteachers (NAHT). In his speech, he focused on the funding challenges being faced by schools, particularly the support for children with SEND. For the last two years, local parent carer forums have been expressing concerns about the level of funding for SEND provision. The NNPCF have shared these with the Department for Education calling for appropriate funding to enable the legal requirements and ambitions of the 2014 reforms to be realised.

LeDeR Report

The learning from death reviews (LeDeR) programme is about stopping people with a learning disability dying younger than other people. The third annual report about the LeDeR programme has now been published by Bristol University. You can read the report, including the easy read version, [here](#)

Physically Disabled People and Homelessness

New government figures have shown that the number of physically disabled people experiencing homelessness has risen by more than three quarters in a 10 year period. This is partly due to a serious lack of accessible housing. More [here](#)

LOCAL SEND NEWS

Free Schools Bid Update

Bromley has successfully bid to be part of the DfE's new wave of special free schools and alternative provision. They have moved into the second phase of the wave, which is a bidding process for interested Academy Trusts to bid to provide the school. The process is led by the DfE who will choose the successful Trust.

Their proposal is to establish a 54 space Key Stage 2 school at the Hawes Down Centre. The school will be for children with ASD and associated learning difficulties (including anxiety and/or behaviours that challenge). A diagnosis of ASD will not be required, but all children will have a complexity of need relating to speech, language and communication, emotional wellbeing and behaviours that challenge.

Local Area SEND Inspection

The LB Bromley, Bromley Clinical Commissioning group and wider partners are currently preparing for the Local Area SEND Inspection which will be carried out jointly by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC). This is an inspection of

the Local Area.

The purpose of the area inspections is to look at how the changes brought in by the 2014 SEND reforms have been implemented. The inspectors will look across education, health and social opportunities. If they feel not enough progress has been made they may issue a written statement of action.

Please [click](#) here for further information.

SEND Matters Update

Bromley Council's SEND Matters monthly update is designed to give you that latest news and updates from the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) reforms happening across Bromley right now. Read the latest updates [here](#).

Autism 100 Day Challenge

There is currently significant work underway in Bromley to improve life outcomes for children and young people with autism. The [project](#) is called the 100 day challenge and is a tried and tested approach to unsticking problems in the system and involves mixed teams of people, professionals and parents using their variety of experience and expertise to identify the most pressing challenges, set goals and then work together to create and test solutions to them within a 100 day time frame.

Kings College Hospital Mental Health Strategy Event

King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust is holding a 'Mind and Body' care event on Tuesday 25th June, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, at the Princess Royal University Hospital. The session will provide an opportunity for you to tell the Trust how they can best support good mental health for their patients and families. See the [information poster](#) for further information about the event and for details on how to RSVP.

EVENTS & TRAINING

IPSEA Parent/Carer Training Days

Introduction to SEND Law is designed specifically for parents/carers & supporting family members, providing an introduction to the law on SEND & empowering families. For further information, please click on the links below:

[Nottingham - 24th June](#)

[Newcastle - 14th June](#)

Bromley MENCAP Young Carers Workshop

[FLYER](#) 'Being a Sibling' – Saturday the 29th of June (1pm – 4pm)

[FLYER](#) 'Hopes and Ambitions' – Saturday the 15th of June (1pm – 4pm)

Lunch and refreshments are included. To book a place please email Peter Hickman:
Peter.Hickman@BromleyMencap.org

Everyday First Aid

Tuesday 18 June 2019 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Community House, (Room G21, DeafPlus), South Street, Bromley BR1 1RH

A free workshop for carers delivered by [British Red Cross](#)

Don't miss this chance to build your confidence in dealing with some key first aid emergencies. You'll receive a certificate on completion of the course as well as access to online training resources.

For further information and to book please contact Bromley Well Adult Carers team on 0208 315 1925 or carers@bromleywell.org.uk

LEISURE & SOCIAL

Bromley Mencap Summer Fair

Saturday 15th June, 12 to 3pm at the Lodge Community Hub, Norman Park, Bromley

Gifts & Homemade crafts, cake stall & kiosk, reconditioned bikes on sale, Lucky Dip and more. Free parking available. More details [here](#)

Chislehurst Rocks Festival - Sat 22 June 1 - 10 pm

Accessible & Inclusive facilities available:

Inclusion and those with additional needs, Early access to the event 1 hour before the general public, Toilets with showers, hoist, adult sized changing table and attendant, Tracking for easy access across the grassed areas, Champions wearing green sunflower T Shirts to meet and greet you, show you around the event and help with anything you may need, Quiet Zone- if things get too much

Click on [link](#) for further information

Nantsidyll Farm Holiday and Respite Service

Holiday accommodation and respite round the year with full board or three meals per day for people with learning disabilities offering fun, adventure, and an opportunity to meet new friends. Located in Mydroilyn, North of Wales, Nantsidyll Farm is a stunning 7 acre farmland. With lots of opportunity to explore, it is a full

working farm with a variety of animals and pets which can be therapeutic and aid relaxation. Please click [here](#) for further information.

The support staff have years of experience working with people with learning disabilities and are all QCF level 2 or 3 Diploma qualified in Health and Social Care, DBS Checked and supervised by a team leader or manager. All staff are trained to administer medication as well as emergency epileptic medication.

INFORMATION & GUIDES

Easy Read NHS 111 Leaflet

This easy read leaflet tells you how you can contact NHS 111 by phoning 111 or going to the NHS 111 website. It also tells you about some of the help they can give you and can be downloaded [here](#)

Epilepsy Easy Read

An easy information guide on epilepsy can be found [here](#)

Constipation Resource

We know that people are dying too soon from constipation. The constipation working group at NHS England and NHS Improvement have been working on some information for people with a learning disability and an easy read leaflet can be downloaded [here](#)

Airport News

As the holiday season approaches these links for disabled people requiring assistance at airports may be useful – [Heathrow](#) [Stansted](#) [Gatwick](#)
[London City Airport](#)

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

The Mulberry Bush School, Oxfordshire

The Mulberry Bush School is a non-maintained residential special school and children's home. It is a national resource, based in rural Oxfordshire looking after vulnerable children aged 5-13 from all over the UK and actively working with their families. The School comprises five residential homes, an on-site school, a clinical therapies and networks team and a training team, all based on one outstanding spacious and well-resourced site. Real placement stability for hard-to-place and at-

risk children aged 5-13, flexible 38 week and 52 week provision available, Genuine early intervention with excellent evidenced outcomes, Integrated therapeutic provision with on site education.

<https://mulberrybush.org.uk/mulberry-bush-school/>

RESEARCH, SURVEYS, CAMPAIGNS & CONSULTATIONS

King's College ADHD Study - Volunteers required

The department of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry at King's College London are running ADHD research study on young volunteers aged 12-17. It's a [neuroimaging](#) study, where brain activity of teenagers with ADHD while they think about the future is looked at.

E-BULLETINS

[Disabled Living Newsletter](#)

[MENCAP newsletter](#)

VACANCIES

CASPA Vacancies

Bromley Autism Charity CASPA are seeking committed and passionate people to lead new and exciting over 18's work by recruiting for two roles:

- **Programme Manager CASPA Plus** (18+ independent living and pre-employment support programmes) - 23 hours per week (flexible hours)

- **Community Café Manager** - 25 hrs per week (largely on site in Anerley)

If you are interested in either of these roles and wish to either find out more information, ask any questions or request an application pack please contact Helen Dyer (Director) at helen@caspabromley.org.uk

MENCAP Vacancies

Please [click](#) here for the latest Bromley Mencap Vacancies.



Would you like to get involved?

Interested in volunteering to help with our activities?

Have any professional or other skills which could help us?

Would like to share ideas, experiences, or a great activity.

If so please [contact](#) us to let us know.



Have something to say, have a question to ask, would like to see something available?

Email us at;

[info@
bromleyparentvoice.
org.uk](mailto:info@bromleyparentvoice.org.uk)

or go to

[Have your Say](#)

on our Website and complete the current surveys and questionnaires



Useful Information

Click here for [Get Information](#)

[IASS formally known as Parent Partnership](#)

Information, Advice & Support Service offer free and impartial information, advice and support is available from IASS, Bromley who provide support on a wide range of SEND issues, to children, young people and parents

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