



# In Partnership e-bulletin

July 2015

A round up of the latest news and information from the SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (formerly Parent Partnership Service).

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## **From the Manager's office**

It's hard to believe that we are already in July and another academic year is coming towards a close. It's been an interesting year to say the least, with the SEND reforms coming into effect from September 2014 bringing in some new opportunities (and challenges!) to us all. Hopefully from your point of view, the new reforms will have brought some better outcomes for you and your family.

However, I don't think anyone would argue that there is a long way to go to ensure that the impact, and the spirit in which it is achieved, is realised for those children/young people with SEND. "Change" normally takes a period of time to really catch hold, and I don't think anybody expected that it would be the case that things would happen overnight – particularly in light of the economic pressures that services and families alike face.

I'm aware I'm starting to sound like a politician, for which I apologise(!), so I will finish by saying that only by all parties working together, understanding our role and responsibilities, and being creative in our thinking will we ensure the change happens.

I hope that these bulletins have been helpful in keeping you informed about developments and events that are happening – if you have any suggestions for any improvements, then please let us know.

Finally, I hope you all have a nice summer, that the weather is un-British and that the England cricket team are able to bring us some cheer by winning the Ashes back!

Chris Firth, Manager

## **Events and training opportunities**

The final session of this academic year is upon us, and we will be joined by colleagues from Contact a Family to present it.

<b>Date/time</b>	<b>Title of session</b>	<b>Location</b>
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon	An overview of the Children and Families Act 2014  &  Preparing and planning with a young person as they move towards adulthood	Limbrick Wood Centre, Thomas Naul Croft, Tile Hill, Coventry

To book a place on this **free** session please telephone 024 7669 4307 or email: [iass@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:iass@coventry.gov.uk)

SENDIASS are currently planning a series of free parent sessions around the city for 2015/16 - keep watching your inbox in September for further details. They will be emailed out as soon as they become available or keep an eye on the website!

[SENDIASS Parent Session information](#)

### **Dyslexia Parent Session**

One of our recent parent session “What is Dyslexia?” took place on 21<sup>st</sup> May and produced a healthy turn out at the first evening session of the summer. If you were unable to attend, notes from the session are now available on the SENDIASS website: [Dyslexia Testing hand-out](#)

Feedback from the event:

*“Fab, Fab, thankyou”*

*“A great session, very informative event”*

## Cerebra – Supporting families with neurological conditions (under 16)

Again, a healthy turn out followed for the session with Cerebra on the evening of 18<sup>th</sup> June. Cerebra's Charlotte Hobbs talked about the services that Cerebra offer to families with children who may have epilepsy, ADHD, ASD and other neurological conditions.

You can find out more about what Cerebra offer, including (amongst others) support around sleeping issues, grants for supportive equipment and a stress helpline for parents(!) by either visiting [the website](#) or contacting Charlotte directly (Tel: 0247 625 6174 or 07827 848612 E-mail: [charlotteh@cerebra.org.uk](mailto:charlotteh@cerebra.org.uk))

What attendees found useful about the session.

*“Dyspraxia is classed as a disability and support is available”*

*“Other parents input – (the opportunity to) network with each other”*

### ASD and Asperger's training workshops

#### **the curly hair project**

THEGIRLWITHTHECURLYHAIR.CO.UK

ASPERGER'S SYNDROME AND  
AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER  
WORKSHOPS COMING SOON!

MONDAY 6 JULY  
CITY COLLEGE, COVENTRY

THURSDAY 9 JULY  
CITY COLLEGE, COVENTRY

SATURDAY 22 AUGUST,  
SOLIHULL ARDEN CLUB

FOR INFORMATION AND TO  
BOOK YOUR PLACE, VISIT

[WWW.THEGIRLWITHTHECURLYHAIR.CO.UK/EVENTS](http://WWW.THEGIRLWITHTHECURLYHAIR.CO.UK/EVENTS)



These workshops are presented by The Curly Hair Project, a project run to support understanding and awareness of ASD and Aspergers. There is a cost of £15 per session or £20 to attend both.

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July – 10am – 12.30pm** – This workshop looks at why people with ASD have emotion management difficulties; how anxiety presents itself in the person with ASD; comparison of neurotypical and ASD anxiety; and strategies to manage anxiety.

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 10am – 12.30pm** – This workshop will look at why a teenager with ASD might find school difficult, and offer possible solutions for each challenge.

The workshops are designed for parents of children/young people on the autism spectrum, and professionals who are working with them.

For more information, or to book on either, or both, courses, simply click the link above.

## **New resources for families**

SENDIASS have a couple of new website pages dedicated to providing support to children and young people up to age 25.

From the webpage, young people can access the new leaflets around:

- Finding out what support you need.
- What SEND information, advice and support is available to you?
- The Local Offer – Finding out about support near you.

It is also possible to access YouTube videos which provide support and information to help young people make decisions post 16. [Click here to access the new website.](#)



Perhaps you could help us by letting your young person know this page exists. If they want to comment on the page or have any suggestions on how to improve the page, just ask them to email: [iass@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:iass@coventry.gov.uk). They could also follow us on Twitter: @coventry\_IAS

## **Information for education providers**

The Summer edition of the CDC Digest is now available to download and it is packed with the latest, policy, practice, resources and case studies. This edition Includes:

- 'Minister's Q&A' from Edward Timpson, Children and Families Minister in a special feature,
- Case Law Reviews by Steve Broach in a series to review the SEND reform,
- Short Breaks Partnership case studies that highlight effective delivery,
- Case Studies giving best practice examples for parents and young people
- Resources from our networks, members and across the voluntary sector



[http://councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/media/966817/summer-digest\\_2015\\_final.pdf](http://councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/media/966817/summer-digest_2015_final.pdf)

## **Other information**

### **Health Service User consultation – date for your diary!**

On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September, the Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership Trust is set to have a service user consultation event for parents/carers who have children with SEND in the early years (0-4 years).

We will be sending out more details as they arrive!

## **Short Breaks**

Community Short Breaks provide opportunities for disabled children and young people to relax, develop new friendships, take part in new experiences and have fun doing positive activities. There is a wide variety of sessions throughout the [Summer Holidays in 2015](#), for which details are available.

This is in addition to the term-time activities that are currently available:

- **Tuesday:** Breaks with Mates

Aged 5 -11 4.30pm until 6.15pm  
Aged 12 -18 6.30pm until 8.15pm

- **Wednesday:** Martial Arts

Aged 5 – 11 6.00pm until 7.00pm  
Aged 12 -18 7.00pm until 8.00pm

- **Thursday:** Sensory and Messy Play

Aged 5 -11 4.30pm until 6.15pm  
Aged 12 -18 6.30pm until 8.15pm

- **Saturday:** Saturday Club

Aged 5-11 11.00am - 1.00pm  
Aged 12-18 1.15pm until 3.15pm

- **Sunday:** Cooking Club

Aged 5-11 11.00am - 1.00pm  
Aged 12-18 1.00pm until 3.00pm



***All Term Time sessions are based at Broad Park Centre, Logan Road, Coventry, CV2 1AG.***

*For further details please contact Sam Price*

**Email:** [Sam.Price@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:Sam.Price@coventry.gov.uk)

**Tel:** 024 7678 7980

**Or visit the website:** [Short break activities](#)

## **Castle Wood Summer playscheme**

Castlewood School are running their annual "Summer Scheme" for 4 weeks during the summer holidays - 27 July 2015 through to 21 August 2015, 10.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.

Cost is £20/day per child. Siblings of children with additional needs are also able to attend. All drinks and snacks are provided but a packed lunch needs to be sent along.

For further information or to book a place, please contact Sandra Gourley on 02476 709060 or 07837776645. Email: [gourleys@castlewood.coventry.sch.uk](mailto:gourleys@castlewood.coventry.sch.uk)

## **Family Information Service**

If you're looking for childcare facilities or activities over the summer holidays, why not try the [Family Information Service directory](#)?

## **Coventry Blaze SEN Holiday Scheme**

Coventry Blaze summer scheme are offering a variety of sports and activities for children aged 12-18 years with SEN during the summer 2015 holidays.

27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> July, 10.00-3.00 @ Whoberley Youth Centre, Wildcroft Road, Coventry

10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> August, 10.00-3.00 @ Whoberley Youth Centre, Wildcroft Road, Coventry

The holiday scheme is free to attend but places are limited, available on a first come first served basis and must be booked in advance. To find out more or to book your place please email [sam@coventryblaze.co.uk](mailto:sam@coventryblaze.co.uk)

## **And Finally...**



Whatever you are planning to do this Summer Holiday, all of us here at SEND IASS hope you are able to enjoy it, and look forward to continuing to support you (in whatever form that takes) in the next academic year!

Please remember that we do operate with a reduced staffing level over the holiday period, so if you have any queries we'll do our best to support you!

## **Keeping in touch**

As well as a number of resources, links and information through our website ([www.coventry.gov.uk/iass](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/iass)), we are also trying our hand at other ways of keeping you informed. If you are signed up to Twitter, why not follow us @coventry\_IAS.





## Fill in our survey

The Information Advice and Support Service now have an on-line feedback form which is available for you to tell us about your experiences of the Service. If you have used the Service it would be helpful if you could spare 10 minutes to complete the survey which can be found at [www.coventry.gov.uk/iass](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/iass).

The survey is located in a yellow box on the main page of the SENDIASS website: <http://www.coventry.gov.uk/iass> All surveys can be completed anonymously or you can complete your contact details if you wish

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We hope you find this information helpful. If you are a School, organisation or other professional, please help us to share this information with parents and carers.

If you no longer wish to receive information from SEND Information Advice and Support Service please email: [IASS@Coventry.gov.uk](mailto:IASS@Coventry.gov.uk)