



Family Voice Peterborough

Registered Charity
1141009

Special points of interest:

- Participation News
- Opportunities to participate
- FVP Charity News

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Welcome to latest newsletter!

Seasons Greetings to all our forum members and readers of this newsletter. We have had a busy year and much more planned for 2017 so we hope you find what you read in here useful and we get to see you all again in the New Year.

We have our national, regional and local participation sections, caravan news, charity news and a very busy

diary dates section too.

Since moving to the new premises we have been able to expand our offer to families across Peterborough who have children/ young people with SEND and hope you can help us work on this more in 2017. The pilot of a SEN surgery and Parent Carer Drop -In service have proved beneficial to all those who have participated and we

will be extending this further. You can read a little more about these in the newsletter.

We would also like to pass on our thanks to all the volunteers, parent representatives, staff and parent carers who work so hard to make FVP what it is.

FVP Trustees

Don't bin me, pass me on to other parents!

Trustee Update

In case you do not know the FVP trustees are as follows:

- John Ravenscroft (Chair Person)
- Sara Rourke (Treasurer)
- Ralph Middlebrook (Trustee)

The trustee's would like to thank Mandi Rennie for over fours years service as a trustee and look forward

to working with her in her new role of volunteer.

The AGM is being planned and will take place in May 2017 and more information will follow.

Your Newsletter
Your Voices
Your Participation

National and Regional News

Ofsted and Care Quality Commission (CQC) Inspections

An update from Ofsted & CQC:

During the summer term, Ofsted and CQC carried out the first set of inspections and autumn term inspections have now begun.

Inspectors met and spoke with children and young people and their parents/carers during visits to educational institutions, early years and health care providers. Inspection teams also conducted webinars, to which parents/carers were invited to hear about the inspection process and contribute their views and experiences about what worked well and not so well in their local area. We would like to thank all of those parents and carers who participated.

Parents and carers sharing their experiences and insight with inspectors has been instrumental in gaining a fuller understanding of how services work in the local area and helped us learn where we can improve the inspection experience for parents, e.g. looking at how parents are made aware that inspections are due to take place and the timing and the format of meetings and webinars.

The published inspection letters

have highlighted areas of good practice and areas where improvements are needed. This is the most important aspect of inspection. It focuses the attention of local leaders on what needs to be improved as a priority but also identifies specific approaches that serve children and young people and their families well. Other local areas can learn and improve from this. The feedback from local areas about the overall approach has so far been generally positive.

It is important to note that published inspection letters set out the key findings from the inspections. Inspectors provide daily feedback to local leaders within the LA and CCG(s) on a wide range of areas and as with other types of inspection not all of this will be in the inspection report. In addition to building on the strengths and acting on the areas for improvement in the published letters, local areas should also take forward other learning that inspectors may have highlighted during the inspection.

We have received some helpful and constructive feedback following the initial inspections and look forward to continue engaging with all key

stakeholders, including parents and carers, to learn from experience and use this to bring about improvements.

Useful links

1. Published inspection letters:
www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-area-send-inspection-outcome-letters.
2. Information about the inspection for children and young people and parents/carers:
www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-area-send-inspections-information-for-families.
3. The inspection framework:
www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-area-send-inspection-framework.
4. The inspection handbook:
www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-area-send-inspection-guidance-for-inspectors.

Health Update

Hello, I'm Lynn Hoppenbrouwers, Contact a Family's new Strategic Health Lead. My role here is to support the development of our parent participation work in health and social care and Contact a Family's wider networks of national health partners. My work

Communication Channels

Facebook

www.facebook.com/fvpcommunity

YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/user/FamilyVoicePeterboro>

Twitter

@familyvoice1

Website

www.familyvoice.org

Email

participation@familyvoice.org

You can keep informed by linking with us through all these channels of communication.



National and Regional News Cont.

with the Parent Participation team builds on the nine health pilots with Forums and the #SENDTogether conference in March - the largest gathering of Forums and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG's) to date. And although I won't be working directly with all Forums on health issues - your regional advisors will do that and are familiar with the learning from our pilot - I would still love to know how your engagement in health and social care is going, and what else you need from us to help you do more.

Our goal is to help all Parent Carer Forums develop meaningful, working relationships with your CCG and other local health organisations. However we know from your monitoring and feedback that there are real challenges here. Part of my role includes working with NHS England to try and improve the environment for you locally, so please do get in touch (lynn.hoppenbrouwers@cafam.org.uk) if you have anything you think they and other national agencies need to hear.

Engaging with Local Health Partners - a toolkit for Parent Carer Forums

A little reminder of what support is already available: have you seen the health toolkit 'Engaging with local health partners'? This contains useful resources and information about how forums can start developing engagement with local partners, like CCGs. You can

also view a recent webinar that covers the main lessons learnt from the pilots and outlines some of the main 'levers' Parent Carer Forums can use to build their engagement in health.

The CCG audit tool - how Forums can use it to influence health partners

CCG's may be completing the Council for Disabled Children's CCG Audit tool to help them understand and develop their progress in implementing the SEND reforms. With the Ofsted/CQC SEND Local Area inspections, many areas are completing various self-evaluations. Have you worked with your local CCG on their audit tool? Do let me know if you have.

Sustainability and Transformation Plans - a quick guide

You may also have heard of Sustainability and Transformation Plan's (STP's) that local areas should now have submitted to NHS England. The term 'place based' planning and commissioning is being used to describe the local area 'footprints' that have been agreed - these are larger geographical areas and may cover several local authorities and CCG's.

Involving parents of deaf children in your Parent Carer Forum

An update from NDCS

There are more than 45,000 deaf children in the UK whose parents and carers may need support from their local parent carer forum. The National Deaf Children's Society is the leading charity dedicated to creating a world without barriers for deaf children, and we can link forums with local families who have deaf children. We work

with deaf children, their parents and professionals. We also have local parent groups which are affiliated to the National Deaf Children's Society. Parents in these groups are often active campaigners in their local community, as well as getting involved with national campaigns.

Polly is chair of her local National Deaf Children's Society group and recently got involved with the Lambeth Parent Carer Forum. She says: "I signed up to the parent carer forum via their website, which is clear and informative. My experience was very positive - the forum was well organised by knowledgeable parents. There is strength in numbers as there are lots of parents involved, and they are all in a similar position. I would attend again if I wanted to raise an issue with a wider group of parents, but it would be good to have more parents of deaf children involved."

We can help to encourage parents and carers of deaf children to attend forum meetings and join your mailing lists, so they are aware of upcoming events and consultations to discuss relevant issues for deaf children. These may include the Ofsted and Care Quality Commission inspections of support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. Together we can make sure that parents of deaf children are more actively involved in parent carer forums, and that deaf children's needs are reflected in their local services.

Local Participation News

CAMHs Update and Focus Group

Family Voice Peterborough have been involved at various levels in the developments taking place in CAMHs with a move towards the thrive model. With parent carer representation there has been co-production at a strategic level.

are due to be re-commissioned from spring 2017 and you have the chance to be involved.

There is a parent carer representative on the wheelchair services steering group and he would like to have as many views as possible from you to take to the group. This ensures your voices are heard. One way to get heard is to take place in a planned focus group.

This focus group will have a second theme of Short Breaks provision. A large scale survey is being designed based on one parent carers designed and completed in 2011.

This new survey will be piloted at the focus group.

1. Generating a Facebook Poll and Discussion
2. Creating and sharing an online survey
3. Holding a focus group

Full details will be placed on our website in due course so please do keep checking the participation page.

The focus group will take place on:

Date: Monday 13th March

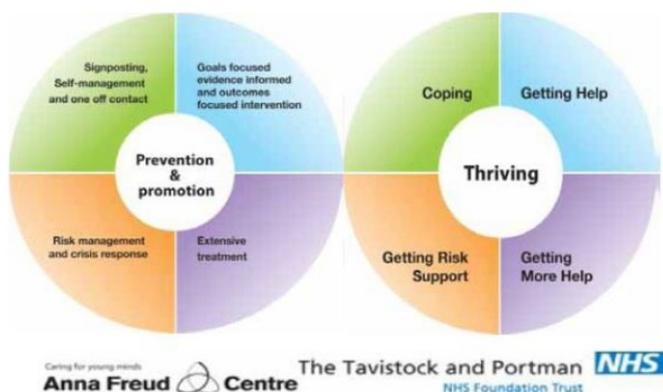
Time: 10.30 to 12.30

Venue: FVP, 105 Paynels, PE2 5QP

Schools Engagement

Work is still ongoing to engage with schools SEN staff and help parent carers get support and information when needed. FVP have a parent carer representative on the SENCo Forum who has been spending time building relationships with different schools across Peterborough.

Part of the work that this has included has been a review of all schools SEN Information reports the findings of which has been shared with schools. The results of this review have been used by FVP to help schools see what they can do to co-produce their SEN information reports with children and their parent carers and young people. A full report is available on the FVP website [http://www.familyvoice.org/sites/default/files/Schools%](http://www.familyvoice.org/sites/default/files/Schools%20)



Work remains on-going and more information is going to be shared on our website as soon as we have any.

The work is taking part in stages and one area that needs work before the beginning of February 2017 is the re-commissioning of services in the "getting help" quadrant. This refers to services such as youth counselling. Parent carers can get involved and participate in changes to services in this area via an on-line survey and focus group.

The focus group will take place on

Date: Friday 20th January 2017

Time: 10.30 to 12.30

Venue: FVP, 105 Paynels, PE2 5QP

Wheelchair Services and Short Breaks Focus Group

Wheelchair services for Cambridge-shire and Peterborough and Short Breaks services for Peterborough

Date: Monday 9th January 2017

Time: 9.30 to 10.30

Venue: The Little Miracles Centre

Transport

FVP have two parent representatives who have joined a Transport Review Board which is reviewing all local authority transport arrangements including SEND. One of the parent representatives has been tasked with the job of ensure as many parent carers voices are heard in this process and the other parent representative has been tasked with looking at national policy and practice.

To ensure as many are heard as possible the parent representative looking at parent participation will be doing a number of things

Local Participation News cont.

20SEN%20Information%
20Report%202016%20SR.pdf

If you would like to know more or get involved at an individual school level then please let us know.

Seldom Heard Engagement

Another area that FVP have been working in is engagement with parent carers who are from seldom heard groups in terms of parent participation.

Areas considered seldom heard are:

- BAME or EAL (Including new arrival families)
- Working Parents
- Parent Carers with Disabilities
- LGBT
- Parent Carers of CYP with Mental Health Needs
- Fathers
- Parent Carers on low income/benefits
- Rural families
- Traveller Communities

FVP have employed a parent carer in the role of parent participation officer whose main duties are to help seldom heard parents engage and participate in particular in areas relating to health.

In 2015 to 2016 the parents from this group created a service directory which available on the FVP website and at the child development centre (CDC). This year 2016 to 2017 the parents are

developing a "guide" to accessing the CDC which will be available when produced.

Working Breakfast Meetings

FVP have been using "working breakfast sessions" as a way to help parent carers engage. FVP meet at Van Hage and pay for those in attendance to have breakfast. During the session there are different ways parent carers are asked to participate. Sometimes there are online or hard copy surveys, or here are themed discussions with notes taken.

This information is then fed back into strategic meetings by the parent representatives through a variety of reporting methods.

Reports and Information

FVP complete reports of all participation work detailing:

- What participation has occurred
- Who has participated
- How people have participated
- What changes have occurred as a result of the participation

All these reports are available to download from the FVP website participation page.

There is now available a report detailing all the work of FVP

between September 2015 and September 2016.

Your Parent Representatives

FVP have a small and dedicated team of parent representatives whose roll is to attend strategic meetings and ensure parent carer perspectives are always incorporated in commissioning of services.

Claudia Dias—ASD, LD and Health

Jason Merrill—Wheelchairs and PFA

Sarah King—Carers

Sara Rourke and Vanessa Perry—Schools

Jo Woodhams—Eastern Region Parent Carer Forum

Getting Involved

Email:
participation@familyvoice.org

Phone: 01733 685510

Together we can achieve anything



Activities/ Events/ Support/ Training

Parent Carer Hubs

FVP have been trialling something new, drop-in sessions offering parent carer support via Carers Trust Peterborough.

These sessions have been running one Thursday a month between 10am and 12pm. At the sessions parent carers can pop by for a drink and chat and 1:1 sessions with Carers Trust. More recently 1:1 sessions have also been offered with Scope Independent Supporters.

The sessions have been well received with over 15 individual parent carers having direct support across areas from Education through to Benefits.

Sessions are planned through until March with some new days and times being offered.

Inclusion Surgeries

Another area of support that was piloted between October and December 2016 was called "SEN Surgeries" where parent carers could find out how the local SEN services were working especially with EHC assessments and plans and then also have the opportunity for a 1:1 session with a senior staff member from the Statutory, Assessment and Monitoring (SAM) service, SEND Partnership Officer and/ or Scope Independent Supporters. The surgeries ran on a Thursday and parent carers could attend between 1.30 and 2.30 Or 3.30 and 5.00.

The sessions will continue in 2017 and will the topics covered will be broadened which is why there is a change to the name of "Inclusion Surgeries". There will also be two sessions attended by an Educational Psychologist.

Training

There are a variety of training opportunities available between January and March 2017. All training is free to attend and support can be offered towards childcare and transport costs to make attendance easier.

Microsoft Basics

Date: Monday 23rd January

Time: 9.30 to 2.30

Venue: FVP, 105 Paynels, PE2 5QP

The workshop aims to teach the basics of word, excel, publisher and PowerPoint. By the end you will be able to create a table in word, format a basic cashbook in excel, create a flyer in publisher and put together a slide show in PowerPoint.

Expert Parent Programme

Date: Monday 30th January

Time: 9.30 to 2.30

Venue: FVP, 105 Paynels, PE2 5QP

This is NOT a parenting course. It is a course designed to:

- Navigate the health system,
- Get the best out of your time in an appointment
- Know more about health services

- Learn the importance of understanding outcomes and person centered approaches
- Understand that you know you are the "expert" in your child and
- How your unique knowledge will help others to get you the services you need

Parent Participation and Representation Course

FVP are running the in-house parent representation course between February and March. The five week course helps build confidence, increase understanding and support in parent participation.

Date: Friday 3rd, 10th, 17th Feb and 3rd, 10th March

Time: 9.30 to 2.30

Venue: FVP. 105 Paynels, PE2 5QP

Parent Participation Workshop

A full course is not for everyone so FVP will be running a one off workshop run by two parent representatives. Find out all about what parent participation is, how it started and how it can help you.

Date: Monday 27th February

Time: 9.30 to 2.30

Venue: FVP. 105 Paynels, PE2 5QP

BOOKING & FURTHER DETAILS

To book places and find further information go to www.familyvoice.org

Caravan News and Bookings

NEWS

We are pleased to announce some special news for the start of 2017. After much work we have successfully managed to secure support to upgrade the caravan at Butlins Skegness.

The caravan is a six berth, Willerby Rio Premier Wheelchair Accessible caravan. The caravan is being built to our specifications and will be ready for use by the Easter Holiday 2017. The caravan will have ramped access, widened doorways, a wet room and other adaptations to make it fully accessible.

BOOKINGS

Bookings are now open for

holidays in 2017 starting from Mid-March. Breaks are offered over three, four or seven nights at both Haven and Butlins Caravans. You will be required to complete a holiday contract and pay a £100 refundable deposit to secure your booking. The holiday must be paid for in full no later than six weeks before your holiday start date.

The deposit is in addition to the advertised cost of any holiday you book. We aim to return the deposit within 21 days of the end of your holiday.

To book a holiday please either
Email: holidays@familyvoice.org
Phone: 01733 685510

PRICES

A new easier pricing schedule is being trialled in 2017.

Off peak = £25 per night

Mid-Peak = £50 per night

Peak = £100 per night

All prices are for hire of the whole caravan (not per person), include all utilities and also wristbands/ passes for the resort

Off-Peak is any period outside of school holidays.

Mid-Peak is the Easter, May and October School Holiday periods

Peak is the Summer Holiday period

Family Voice Peterborough—Myth Busting and Facts

Myth busting

There are some common myths about FVP as a parents forum and we would like to bust them

Myth One:

Parent Representatives provide individual advocacy

Truth:

Parent representatives are representative of parent carers in general they do not provide advocacy

Myth Two:

FVP are a support group

Truth:

FVP are not a support group, sign-posting is used to help parent carers get support. FVP work

with other organisations who provide support to help parent carers.

Myth Three

FVP are a lobbying and campaigning organisation

Truth

FVP do NOT lobby or campaign and this has to be followed to receive DfE funding. FVP do however challenge if necessary.

Myth Four:

FVP are part of the Local Authority

Truth:

FVP are a completely independent organisation who works in partnership with the Local

Authority

Facts

To answer a few questions that we have been asked.

Fact One:

FVP is Pan-Disability (All Disability and Additional Needs)

Fact Two:

FVP is the DfE designated parents forum for Peterborough and a member of the NNPCF and ERPCF

Fact Three:

FVP works with parent carers not children and young people

Fact Four

FVP work to co-produce services and always work in Partnership

Dates to look out for

- ⇒ Wheelchairs Focus Group—9th Jan
- ⇒ Themed Parent Carer Drop-In—10th Jan
- ⇒ Parent Carer Drop-In—12th Jan
- ⇒ Attentional Difficulties Workshop—16th Jan
- ⇒ Inclusion Surgery—19th Jan
- ⇒ CAMHs Focus Group—20th Jan
- ⇒ Microsoft Basics—23rd Jan
- ⇒ EPP—30th Jan

All About Us

FVP started as group of parent carers who came together to actively seek to improve services in all areas of the lives of children and young people with disabilities or additional needs between the ages of 0—25 years. The main aim is to be the strategic consultative body within Peterborough for families, providing a liaison point for statutory and voluntary bodies. FVP also endeavour to bring parents and carers together to have a strong voice ensuring the future for their children and young people is a good one. As well as this FVP arrange national and local trips and activities for the whole family and provide short breaks at the seaside.

FVP are also a registered charity.

Family Voice
Peterborough

Together improving services for
children and young people with
disabilities and additional needs



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www.familyvoice.org

Face Book:

facebook.com/fvpcommunity

facebook.com/fvpfundraising

facebook.com/FamilyVoiceCaravan

Twitter:

@familyvoice1

We're on the Web

@
www.familyvoice.org



facebook

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