



Shropshire Parent Carer Council Monthly Newsletter. March 2024

Welcome to PACC's monthly newsletter.

If you have any questions or require any further information,
please email:



info@paccshropshire.org.uk



Information & Support | Influence & Change



Join our team...

**PACC has a paid administrative
role currently vacant.**

**Applications welcome by Friday
19th April 2024.**



Shropshire Parent Carer Council (PACC) are looking for a responsible administrator to help with the day-to-day operations and running of the charity, reporting to senior leads and working with the wider team. We are looking for an administrator with recent and relevant work experience, a knowledge of SEND and systems in Shropshire, who is organised and able to multi-task. This position is Part-Time (20 hours a week, Term-Time only) and working from home.

Contact- NHS Continuing healthcare funding



Does your disabled child get any NHS continuing healthcare funding in England?

We're getting many calls from parents who are having issues with continuing care funding — often during the process of transitioning to adult continuing healthcare.

To help, we're creating new resources on NHS continuing healthcare and want to hear from families who have already navigated this system and are happy to share their top tips.

To tell us how NHS continuing care has made a difference to your child and share your views on the process should be improved, please email: amanda.elliott@contact.org.uk

Ofsted 'Big Listen'



Ofsted has launched its 'Big Listen' consultation and wants to hear from parent carers, children and young people and practitioners who work in or with the education system.

Ofsted recognise that following some recent challenges there are areas where it can improve, while keeping the needs of children and learners at the centre of its work. Families have reported that they believe better information should be made available about education providers and local areas, and practitioners believe the way Ofsted works can be improved.

[READ MORE](#)

Introduction to SEND and Alternative Provision Change Programme



Shropshire is a member of one of the Change Programme Partnerships delivering the SEND and Alternative Provision Change Programme, working alongside Telford & Wrekin, Herefordshire and Worcestershire. Change Programme Partnerships are made up of local authorities, health professionals, schools and families and until at least March 2025, will be testing a package of reforms that focus on how SEND and Alternative Provision services work in local areas.

The Change programme is the Governments response to the 2019 review of the SEND and AP system and the SEND and AP Green Paper published in 2022, which highlighted multiple issues with the SEND system, such as:

- Families not getting information quick enough
- Families struggling to get support to meet their child's needs

In March 2023 the Government published the [SEND and Alternative Provision Improvement Plan](#) setting set out the government's proposals to improve outcomes for children and young people and delivering better experiences for their families.

[READ MORE](#)



Each month, we will be shining a spotlight on a child or young person in our SEND community.



This month meet Lucas.

Lucas is 18 years old and is currently at College.

I love singing and want a singing career when I leave college. My favourite singer is Lewis Capaldi and I recently went to a recording studio in Liverpool to record one of his songs. It was brilliant fun and I can't wait to do it again. I also enjoy football and go training with the Shrewsbury Town Foundation every week. I sometimes go training on a Saturday and afterwards I stay to watch them play live with my Dad and Grandad. My other favourite football team is Man City. I like to go to the pub with my dad to watch the games on the big screen.



I have been in the Scouts since I was 6 years old. I started in Beavers and had someone to support me when I needed it. It wasn't long though before I didn't need the 1:1 support. I have been camping with the Scouts since I very first started 12 years ago. I started with sleepovers and then as I got older I stayed for weekends and even a week at an international Chamboree with 4000 Scouts from all over the world. During my time in Scouts, a few of the things I have done are: caving, climbing, stunt jumping, archery, axe throwing, sailing, canoeing, riding a quad bike. There are too many things to list here but basically I have joined in everything the same as every other scout. Sometimes people think I can't do something but the leaders always believed that I could and so they made sure that I had a go. When I was younger I had more support but as I got older and became a Scout and then an Explorer, I became more independent and I just joined in the same as everyone else.

When I reached 18, I had to leave Explorers but they asked me if I would like to become a leader. I now volunteer as a leader for the Cubs. It's brilliant leading games and telling the cubs what to do! Scouting has shown what I can achieve when other people believe in me and I believe in myself.



Thursday 18th April
11:30-1:00

The Hideout
79 Cheshire Street
Market Drayton
TF9 1PN



Market Drayton- Coffee & Chat with PACC Reps

Join the PACC Rep Team for our Coffee & Chat drop-in session. We welcome Parent Carers to pop in and catch up with our team, to share your experiences, or simply to say hello.

These will be held at various locations across Shropshire.

No need to book, just pop along if you have chance.



PREPARATION FOR ADULTHOOD NAVIGATORS

"I have found Abi and Denise to be amazing, it has truly improved my ability to function and support my son & confirmed that I am not alone, & not being an overprotective mum, the difficulties are real ..."

Parent Carer Feedback

ARE YOU A PARENT CARER OF A CHILD/ YOUNG PERSON AGED 14-25?

We know how difficult it is to navigate the SEND system and how challenging it can be to find relevant information for your child or young person.

Abi and Denise work with Parent Carers of 14-25 year old's with SEND providing signposting and information to support and services in Shropshire to help navigate your child/ young persons journey.

Our PFA Navigators can schedule a 1:1 voice call or Teams call to talk through Preparation for Adulthood. Our Navigators can provide information and support on topics including:

- Further education
- Education, Health and Care Plans
- Annual Reviews
- Activity Plans
- Finances and Benefits
- Employment and Volunteering
- Annual Health Checks
- Staying Healthy
- Mental Health Support
- Being Part of the local community
- Housing Options
- Support for Parent Carers



Abi - PFA Navigator



Denise - PFA Navigator

For more information please contact our PFA Navigators:

Abi@paccshropshire.org.uk

Denise@paccshropshire.org.uk

Is your child transferring from secondary school to a post-16 institution this year? Do they have an EHC plan?



The deadline for local authorities to review and amend EHC plans for post-16 phase transfers is **31 March**.



 WWW.IPSEA.ORG.UK    @IPSEACHARITY



We want to hear **your thoughts** on local Special Educational Needs and Disabilities services.

If a child or young person you care for has used services in the last six months to support any needs related to **Neurodiversity including Autism (ASD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Speech, Language and Communication**, or received services related to an **Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)**, click the link in the text to complete our short survey by **7 April 2024**.



Easter

at Ludlow Library

Join us for a fun

Children's Craft Workshop

Tuesday 26th March

10.00—11.30

For ages 5–11

Limited places — booking essential

FREE but £1 deposit required per child which will be refunded when you attend

Pop into the library to sign up.

For more information, phone 01743 250510

or email ludlow.library@shropshire.gov.uk



Shropshire Libraries
Learn imagine discover

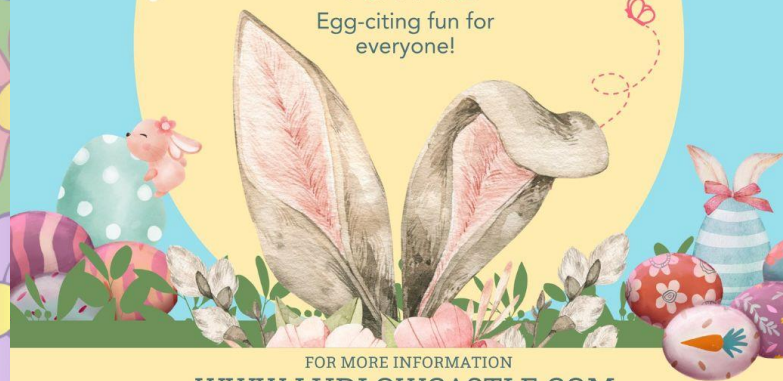
www.shropshire.gov.uk

LUDLOW CASTLE

EASTER EGG TRAIL

23rd MARCH - 7th APRIL

Egg-citing fun for everyone!



FOR MORE INFORMATION

WWW.LUDLOWCASTLE.COM

EASTER HOLIDAYS



FAMILY FILMS

One Love (12A)

Thur 28 March 7.30pm

Sat 30 March 7.30pm

Migration (U)

Sat 30 March 2pm

Sat 6 April 2pm

Mon 8 April 2pm

The Boy & Heron (12A)

Mon 1 April 2pm

Dune 2 (12A)

Thur 4 April 2pm

Fri 5 April 7.30pm

Sat 6 April 7.30pm

Iron Claw (15)

Mon 1 April 7.30pm

Tue 2 April 7.30pm

WORKSHOPS

Anne's Art Club: 10am - £8 per child

Thursday 28 March: Easter Crafts & Thu 4 April: 'Go Safari'

Telling Stories Sharing Shadows

Shadow Puppet workshop with the fantastic **Fetch Theatre**

Saturday 6 April 10.30am **Pay What You Can** £8/£4/£0

(no questions asked)



MALDEN KEY
ludlow
assemblyrooms

More information and booking online

ludlowassemblyrooms.co.uk

Box Office: 01584 878 141

EASTER TRAIL EVENT

25th March - 31st March

Discover our Easter Egg trail through Lilleshall's historic gardens, join us for egg-citing treats & fun activities for all the family this Easter!

Trail opens from 10am - 4pm.
Check in at Queens Cafe Reception
to collect your trail map.

No need to book, just turn up!

£3 per
child

Adults go free!

Ask a member of staff or
visit our website for details.

lilleshallhouse.co.uk

 LilleshallHouseandGardens

 Lilleshall
HOUSE & GARDENS



Letters from the
Easter Bunny
available now on the
Makaton Library!



makaton.org

Springtime Scavenger Hunt

Wed 3rd April 2024 11am-12.30pm

Join our ranger & look for the 1st signs of
spring on a ramble around the park. Look
for wildflowers, bursting buds, beautiful
blossom, insects, bird nests and more!

£4 per child,
accompanying adults
free. Call
01746 781 192
to book your place

 Severn Valley
Country Park



Meet n Chat SEND

Hosted by Shropshire Early Help

A chance for families of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) to get support with general SEND enquires. You can chat with people from Early Help, Education, Health and the Parent and Carer Council (PACC)

The theme for the Spring is Neurodiversity and Waiting Well. Professionals with experience in these areas will also be available to offer help and support.

**The Community Drop-in at Highley Library,
Severn Centre Bridgnorth Road, WV16 6JG**
Friday 22nd March 9.30am - 11.30am

The Centre, Oak Street, Oswestry, SY11 1LW
Monday 25 March 2024
9.30am - 12.30pm, and 2pm - 5pm.

**Sunflower House, Kendal Road,
Shrewsbury, SY1 4ES**
Monday 15 April 2024
9.30am - 12.30pm, and 2pm - 5pm.

**St Peter's Primary school, Shrubbery
Gardens, Wem, SY4 5BX**
Monday 22 April 2024, 11.30am - 2.30pm

**Monday 22nd
April 2024**

autism
west midlands

**10.30am to
12pm Shifnal & Chat**

For



**Shropshire
Council**

**Parent and
Carers**

Coffee/Tea and Chat Shifnal - Shropshire Council Residents

Join us for a free in-person session to meet members of Shropshire Families Autism West Midlands Team and other Parents for a relaxed coffee and chat - you do not have to stay for the whole time.

Please book a space so we know how many to expect.

Hosted by our Autism Specialists, the session is open to parents and carers of children in the Shropshire Council area only.

If you have any questions, please email
shropshire@autismwestmidlands.org.uk

At St. Andrews Church Shifnal

Recruiting Participants

The Research Project

I, Klaudia Niemiec, am currently carrying out a research project on 'How does attending a social group impact upon non-speaking autistic children's and adolescents' mental wellbeing?' and I would like to invite you to take part in this research project.

Rationale

This qualitative study is part of my degree programme and is being conducted in response to the lack of research about non-speaking autism.

Contact Information

Name: Klaudia Niemiec
E-mail: kn826@york.ac.uk

Please sign the consent form below on the day of receiving this flyer if you wish to participate.

https://york.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6gpMSXUoKfPtwge



Eligibility Criteria

- .Your child has non-speaking autism
- .Your child is between the ages of 4-18
- .Your child attends a social group
- .You are able to complete an online questionnaire that will take approximately 15-20 minutes

Definition- Social groups are designed to accommodate the needs of autistic children, adolescents or adults in a comfortable environment which offers an opportunity for connecting with peers and engaging in a variety of activities in a relaxed atmosphere.