

What has PACC been doing? – Issue 1.

PACC is committed to ensuring transparency in our work and will be producing three activity summaries each year, published in July, Nov and March. These activity summaries will provide brief updates on PACC work, ensuring that the Shropshire SEND Community are kept informed on key activity throughout the year. This will be in addition to our more detailed Annual Report.

If you have any questions about any of the information below, please contact us at enquiries@paccshropshire.org.uk

PACC Activity Summary: April – July 2025

Influence and Change Activity

This is always a busy period with monitoring to complete for the annual Participation Grant from the Department for Education, along with submitting the grant application for the coming 12 months. We are pleased to say that both our monitoring for 2024 – 25 and grant application for 2025 – 26 have been approved.

There have been some other key pieces of work happening since April. The 2nd year of the 'Partnership for the Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS)' started, so we have been busy organising visits to the new 15 primary schools which have joined the project. All new schools will have an initial visited by the start of the school holidays, meeting with parent carers to introduce the project and to talk about their experience of support in school and the local SEND system. PACC is also involved in the training offered to PINS schools and have been discussing the training programme for the next 12 months.

Short Breaks recommissioning has been ongoing for some time, but we are now reaching the point where tenders will be issued for the new contracts due to start April 2026. There will be 3 new contracts issued, for All In, Specialist Community Short Breaks and Overnight Short Breaks. Recently PACC has been provided input to all three tenders, highlighting what families have told us is important to them about these services, such as choice, flexibility, and wider and increased access throughout Shropshire. PACC will continue to be involved in this activity throughout the assessment of bids and the transition to the new contract.

The Shropshire Co-production Framework launch was jointly hosted by PACC and Shropshire Council in April, with a good attendance from practitioners and people who have experience of using services. We discussed what co-production looks like, why it is important and what needs to happen next to deliver Co-production in Shropshire.

PACC's 2025 Mad, Sad, Glad report was published in April, highlighting the experience of being a SEND family in Shropshire. This report was shared with representatives of both the Department for Education and NHS England as part of a recent meeting to review the progress made against areas of concern raised in the last Shropshire SEND Inspection.

Other activity that we have participated in include; Developing a SEND Joint Commissioning Strategy, attending Autism Strategy Subgroups and workshops, co-producing the new Shropshire SEND Strategy and outcomes Framework and the Get Yourself Active project, working with Energize and Disability Rights UK.

As well as attending numerous regular operational and strategic meetings to share the experience of Shropshire Parent Carers with practitioners across Education, Health and Social Care, we have been particularly pleased to have been able to increase the understanding of PACC's work and the lives of Parent Carers through the delivery of training to;

- Shropshire Head Teachers (via briefing meetings in June)
- The BeeU Neurodevelopmental Team
- The EHCP Team
- Shropshire SENCO's

Information Provision Activity

PACC share information for Shropshire SEND families on a daily basis. We aim to help families access the information they need, when they need it. We also work with statutory services to improve their information provision for SEND families. During this period, we have focused on co-producing information for the Local Offer about the Shropshire Children's Social Care offer, which we hope will be published soon.

Since April we have published 3 Newsletters, which have been emailed to all families on our contact database (currently nearly 1500 families), and sent to all Shropshire Nurseries, Schools and Colleges.

PACC has also co-produced two editions of the Shropshire SEND newsletter published by Shropshire Council - <https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/the-send-local-offer/support-for-parent-carers/send-newsletter-for-parent-carers-and-families>

Via our website we have shared information on national and local activity including;

- New funding for additional SEND provision - <http://www.paccshropshire.org.uk/additional-funding-to-support-send-provision-announced>

- Understanding the Welfare Reforms - <http://www.paccshropshire.org.uk/understanding-the-impact-of-the-government-s-welfare-reform-green-paper-on-families-with-send>
- Early Language Support for Every Child (ELSEC) update - <http://www.paccshropshire.org.uk/elsec-update>

PACC also shared.

- Understanding EHCP outcomes - <http://www.paccshropshire.org.uk/understanding-ehcp-outcomes>
- The Shropshire Adult Social Care Local Account - <http://www.paccshropshire.org.uk/understanding-the-impact-of-the-government-s-welfare-reform-green-paper-on-families-with-send>
- BeeU Myth Buster - <http://www.paccshropshire.org.uk/bee-u-myth-buster>

New website – We are currently working on a new website which will be launched in September. It has been designed to reflect our three work areas, making it easier for families to find help and information, understand what we do, and to get involved with PACC. We are keen to gather feedback on the website when it launches, so please let us know what you think.

Social Media

PACC post regularly on Facebook and Instagram, we currently have 2.2k followers on our main Facebook page and 126 followers on Instagram. In the last 90 days our posts have had 118,495 views and 1691 interactions (number of reactions, saves & comments). The most popular posts during this period have been posts about PACC's Healthy Lives Holiday Programme.

Recently 15 new closed Facebook groups have been created for the Year 2 PINS schools, bringing the number of closed Facebook groups we host to 33.

Community Support Activity

Preparation for Adulthood Navigator Service

PACC's Preparation for Adulthood Navigator service has continued to grow, offering personalised signposting to support and services for families with children and young people aged 14 to 25.

Number of parent carers offered support via PACC Navigators this period

| Contact | Year 3 Term 2 | Year 3 Term 3 | % |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------|
| 1:1 contact | 47 | 79 | + 68% |

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Community Support | 292 | 393 | +35% |
| Total | 339 | 472 | +34% |

Themes in feedback have included:

- Education, Health and Care Plans- Annual Reviews, Timeliness, Quality, Provision and communication with case workers.
- Post-16 education options
- Social Opportunities
- Accessing PA's
- Communication with Practitioners
- Housing Options
- Finances and Benefits
- Mental Health Support

We also published the Year 3, Term 2 Navigator [report](#), highlighting themes and issues families are experiencing. It is unfortunate that the themes experienced this term have not changed in the 3 years the Navigator Service has been contracted. Some of these themes may have reduced in the number of enquiries, however families are still reporting that they are experiencing similar issues.

PACC have attended an in-person Navigator session at Severndale, where our Navigator was able to explain social care to families and role of The Disabled Children's Team. PACC also attended a post-16 event at Keystone Academy, sharing information about social opportunities and next steps with Parent Carers.

All themes raised through the 3 year contract have been collated to create a [Preparation for Adulthood Guide](#), to support Parent Carers and Family carers to navigate their young person's journey- providing useful information on support and services, legislation, and further guidance across Education, Health and Social Care.

The PFA Navigator contact ends in July, due to the success of the project and the ongoing increase in contacts, from September PACC will be offering an all-age (0-25) Community Navigator Service.

Seeing You Seeing Me- Theatre Severn



Following the successful [launch](#) of "Seeing You, Seeing Me", the photographic exhibition was on display at Theatre Severn over April.

Healthy Lives Holiday Programme

PACC's Healthy Lives Holiday Programme has continued to grow, with new families registering for activities- for 2025 we have 263 children and young people registered. Over Easter, 268 activity spaces were available across 16 activities, with 34 children and young people aged 8-25 attending activity sessions. Over May half-term (Whitsun week) 142 activity spaces were available across 10 activities, with 50 children and young people aged 8-25 attending activity sessions.

In April PACC held an event for new activity providers to find out more about the Healthy Lives Holiday Programme, this event led to several new providers joining the programme for Summer 2025. The 2025 Summer Programme begins at the end of July, offering over 900 activity spaces, for all-age family activities, 8-14 activities and 14-25 activities. 151 children and young people with SEND in Shropshire have been issued with timetables of activities, with 77 siblings also attending.

PACC are also now working with Action for Children, to ensure Healthy Lives activities are not allocated on dates where children and young people are accessing Action for Children- this has significantly reduced the number of cancellations for activities.

To ensure accurate information is provided to families, we have reviewed our [Frequently Asked Questions information](#), and met with The Disabled Children's Team to explain how the holiday programme works.

Buddies Social Network

[Buddies Social Network](#) is PACC's term-time activity offer, including Buddies (14-25) and Buddies Jnr (8-14). The Buddies Social Network continues to grow, now having 393 members and events are well attended. Six Buddies bowling sessions have been held since April, across both the older group and Buddies Jnr, with approx. 50 children and young people bowling each month. There was also a Theatre trip to see Abba- 'Thank you for the Music' at Theatre Severn with over 50 Buddies members attending and a Buddies group of 84 attended Alderfest on the 5th July.