



Shropshire Parent Carer Council Monthly Newsletter. May 2025

Welcome to PACC's monthly newsletter.

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



info@paccshropshire.org.uk



PFA Navigators Report – Year 3 Term 2



This report focuses on the topics and themes our PFA Navigator has identified in term 2 of year 3 of the project. The topics that have been most frequently raised again related to EHCPs, communication, and social care. This term we saw an increase in discussions relating to Tribunals and Finances, as well as Supported Living and SEND Transport. Mental Health has continued to be a topic Parent Carers raise as a concern.

[READ MORE](#)

Understanding EHCP Outcomes



What is the purpose of EHCP Outcomes?

Section E EHCP outcomes are created to secure the best possible outcomes for a child or young person. The outcomes section is heavily influenced by Section A (aspirations), Section B (individual needs) and Section F (provision). Tying all sections together, Section E outcomes guide if the child has made the intended progress.

[READ MORE](#)



Mad, Sad, Glad- A Reflection Report



Our latest Mad, Sad, Glad report reflects on the feedback Parent Carers across Shropshire have provided. This year's report is unsurprisingly hard to read. Many families are experiencing difficulties, and these are often not single isolated issues, but a complex collection of concerns and needs that are increasing the frustrations felt by families.

[READ MORE](#)

NNPCF Responds to Reports on Potential EHCP Threshold Changes

The National Network of Parent Carer Forums (NNPCF) has expressed serious concern following recent media reports suggesting the government may raise the threshold for accessing an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). In response, the NNPCF have met with the Department for Education (DfE) and Dame Christine Lenehan several times, to seek clarity and ensure that the views of Parent Carers and local Parent Carer Forums (PCFs) are represented.

The NNPCF has conveyed the concerns and reactions from many families and PCFs about any move that could restrict access to essential support. Unclear and inconsistent messaging around these “potential” changes has damaged parental trust in a system many already feel is failing their children. Parents urgently need reassurance that any reforms will not jeopardise support for children and young people with SEND.

In its discussions with the DfE, the NNPCF has stressed the importance of a comprehensive engagement strategy to ensure genuine parent participation. We have also called for clear accountability mechanisms when children and young people's needs are not met.

[READ MORE](#)



Information & Support | Influence & Change

Neurodiversity Referral Survey



BeeU provides assessment for Autism for children aged 5 to 18 years and ADHD assessment, diagnosis, and treatment for children aged 6 to 18 years in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin.

PACC are currently collecting feedback from Parent Carers of their experience of being referred to and accessing this service.



Shropshire Inclusive Dance presents

SUNRISE TO SUNSET

A celebration of how we move through the day and how the day moves us.

Thursday 10th July

7:30PM

At The Walker Theatre,
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury

Adult £14/Child (under 16) £7



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Shropshire
inclusive
Dance

BOOK Box Office: 01743 281281
HERE: mail@theatresevern.co.uk

Adult Social Care Local Account 2023 -24



Shropshire Adult Social Care have published their Local Account. This is an Annual Report to inform residents about the achievements, challenges and priorities for adult social care. It provides a good insight into the different support offered by adult social care services throughout Shropshire and it's great to see information about activities and support available for young adults with support needs included in this edition.

[READ MORE](#)

Carers Wellbeing Fund

Did you know there's a Carers Wellbeing Fund you might be eligible for?

Up to £300/year toward:

 Gym memberships

 Hobbies

 Therapy

 Short breaks

Find your local carer's centre and apply

[READ MORE](#)



NHS

We can help you buy healthy food for your family

To see if you're eligible for Healthy Start visit:

www.healthystart.nhs.uk




CHILDREN'S CHESS CLUB

Come and join James in Oswestry Library. Beginners and experienced players welcome!

Saturday mornings, 10am till 11am

22nd March
12th April
17th May
14th June

Free drop-in
Parental supervision required for children under 6.



What to Do If the EHCP Process Is Delayed

If you're waiting too long for the local authority to take action on your child's Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), you have options. The law sets clear timelines for what should happen—and when. If those deadlines are missed or your emails go unanswered, you can take steps to challenge it.

Examples of Delay

- No decision within 6 weeks about whether to assess your child
- No EHCP issued after 20 weeks
- No response to emails or calls
- Annual review finished but no update to the plan

[READ MORE](#)



Stretch your legs in Shropshire's Great Outdoors

Shropshire's Great Outdoors is your guide to accessing the very best from Shropshire's glorious outdoor spaces. The website brings together over 300 walking routes, it also includes 100 cycle routes, 50 horse riding trails, wild swimming opportunities, outdoor activities, country parks and nature sites, plus a wide choice of volunteering options.

[READ MORE](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

As well as our online information, we run a free advice helpline for parents and carers with disabled children.





Join our **FREE** webinar

The SEND journey and your rights as a parent/carer

Monday 9 June, 12.30 - 1.30pm

WWW.IPSEA.ORG.UK

Sensory Processing Awareness



Sensory Processing Awareness
Webinar:

Thursday 17 July 2025 | 1 – 2pm | Free

Make sure to put this date in your diary if this is something that interests you.

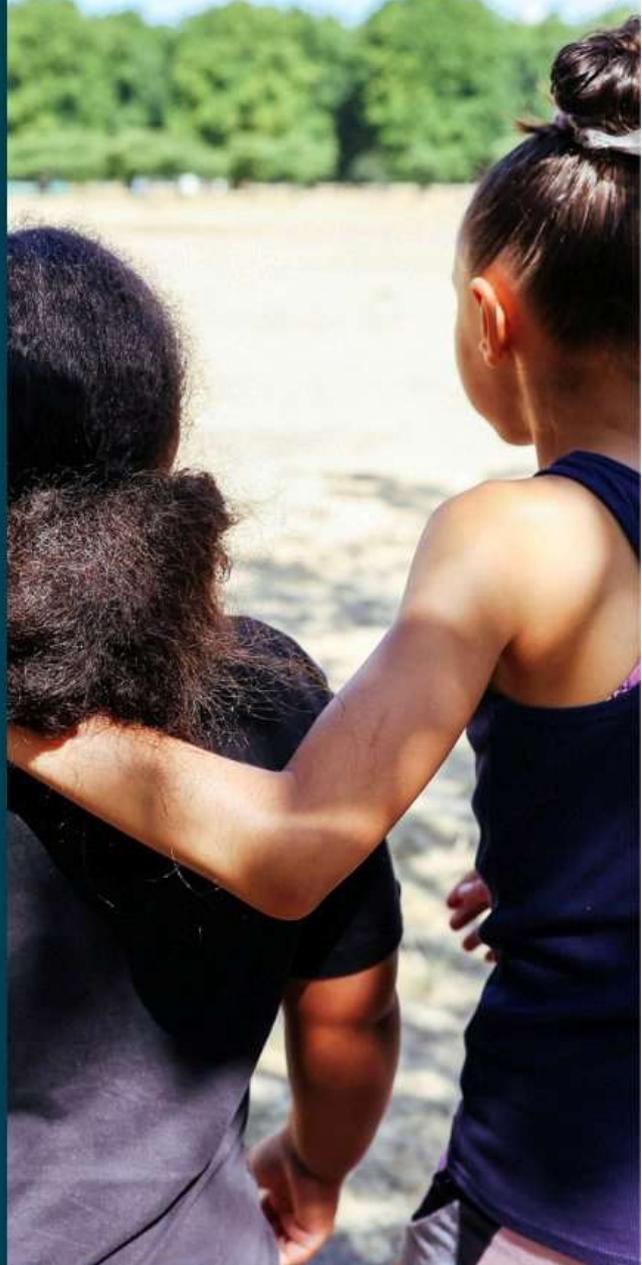
This 60-minute online webinar for parents and practitioners will provide information on sensory processing in children who have Down's syndrome.

FREE AUTISM WORKSHOP

Join us for our Supporting Siblings workshop

A two hour online workshop exploring feelings that children might have and how parents and carers can best support them.

FOR MIDLANDS BASED PARENTS AND CARERS



Ambitious about Autism



DLA eligibility

Did you know...



You don't need to wait for a formal diagnosis to make a claim.

It is sufficient that your child has some form of disability, and needs caring for/watching over more than other children their age due to their needs.

You don't need to wait for a formal diagnosis to make a claim. It is sufficient that your child has some form of disability, and needs caring for/watching over more than other children their age due to their needs.

However, you will need to show that your child needs substantially more care or supervision than other children of the same age who don't have a disability or health condition. Any decision to award DLA will be based on how your child's condition impacts on their day-to-day life.

OSWESTRY Community GAMES

• FREE EVENT - ALL AGES WELCOME •

SUNDAY 8th JUNE
Cae Glas Park from 11am to 4pm

OSWESTRY - SY11 2SZ

CHECK OUT OUR
FACEBOOK PAGE



WITH SPECIAL GUEST

KELDA WOOD MBE

World Record Holder, Para Athlete,
Charity Founder & Motivational Speaker

**PLUS local sports clubs, dance groups,
demonstrations, live music & much more!**

FIND A NEW ACTIVITY & HAVE A GO!

facebook.com/oswcommgames





Ages 0-8

**Saturdays
10:00-11:30am**

**Ditherington
Community
Centre**

- **Calm, inclusive play environment**
 - **Sensory friendly activities**
- **Gentle structure with space to explore**
 - **Singing, Makaton and stories**
- **A safe, non-judgemental space for parents and carers to connect**



Little Rainbows SEN Sessions



@littlerainbowssen



LUDLOW AUTISM GROUP



We meet on the 1st & 3rd
Thursday of the month

Time: 16:00 - 18:00



At the Rockspring
Community Centre, Sandford
Rd, Ludlow SY8 1SX



A friendly group where you can meet other families, in a relaxed atmosphere, there will be lots of toys and books for children to play with, in a warm and safe environment. Anyone with neurodivergence, with or without a diagnosis is welcome

Free cups of
tea/coffee
& biscuits



For further information please contact
Erica Garner 07974001310 | lacp.enquiries@gmail.com

Ludlow and Area Community Partnership (LACP) Registered Charity number 1209916

OPEN EVENT 20-25

Saturday 14th June

10:00am - 12:00pm

TOUR OUR FACILITIES

MEET OUR TUTORS

BOOK ONLINE
HLNSC.AC.UK



Parents/Carers of 13-17 yr olds
We want to empower you!

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

When your young person is transitioning from school to SEN specialist college

Come to our FREE Event to learn more about the transition process

September 20th 2025

The Grafton Centre

Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury SY4 1HF

Registration 9.45am

10am - 2pm (lunch inc.)

FREE Event



PRESENTATIONS INCLUDE

- EHCP's – getting it right, what should happen and when
- Funding for transport
- Disability benefit information
- Funding for education placements
- Free independent legal advice and support service (IPSEA)

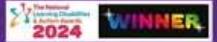
REGISTER NOW

To book your place register today

Speak to Michelle Docherty on 01743 872250

admissions@condovercl.org.uk

A Registered Society under the Co-Operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014.
A Charity exempt from registration. Reg. No. 231048



FREE AUTISM WORKSHOPS

Understanding Autism

Autism and Mental Wellbeing

Our Senses (part 1)

Our Senses (part 2)

Accessing Mental Health Support

Demand Avoidance

Personal Budgets and Employing a PA

Supporting Mental Health in Schools

FOR MIDLANDS BASED
PARENTS AND CARERS



Derwen College



Local Experience Day

**Thursday 12 June 2025
9.30am–1.30pm**



SUMMER TERM

SEND MEET & CHAT FAMILY DROP-IN

Hosted by Shropshire Early Help

Are you a parent or carer of a child with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)? Join us for an informal drop-in session where you can ask questions, get advice, and explore the support available to you within Shropshire.



RAVEN HOUSE

Thursday 19th June 2025
2:00pm-4:00pm

Raven House, 129 Cheshire Street,
Market Drayton TF9 3AH



HAVE YOUR SAY!

Scan the QR code to suggest topics and activities for future drop-in sessions.



Shropshire, Telford
and Wrekin



Coffee and Connect

Shropshire Autism Service

Join us for a welcoming coffee and chat session for parents of children with autism.

Connect, share experiences, and gain insights in a supportive space.

Come for advice, friendship, or relaxation, and build a community of understanding. We hope to see you there!

Details:

Start date: 3rd June 2025

Time: 10.30am-12.00pm

Where: Shifnal Trinity Centre, Victoria Road

To reserve your space, email:

kids.shropshire@kids.org.uk



SEND Drop-in

Free support for parents/carers of
children with
additional learning needs

With Georgina Roycroft from

WREN



SUPPORT

Drop-in dates

Running the first Friday of every month at
9.30am at **Albrighton Library**

Summer dates...

2nd May

6th June

4th July



www.wrensupport.co.uk

wren.assessment@gmail.com

HEALTHY LIVES



PROGRAMME

Activities for children & young people with SEND in Shropshire



REGISTER NOW

We are now planning this year's Summer Programme.

Locations of activities will be based off the locations of Children/ Young People registered across Shropshire.

If you have not yet registered, follow the link or scan the QR code.

**If you would like any further information, please email
info@paccshropshire.org.uk**

The Healthy Lives Programme is about supporting the physical and mental wellbeing of children and young people from the Shropshire SEND community, especially those from the Learning Disability and /or Autism communities.

It is about making community-based activities accessible to this group, bringing together activity providers into one co-ordinated programme that offers meaningful opportunities to learn new skills, build confidence, make friends and get active.

Importantly it provides these opportunities during the school and college holidays, a time families tell us can be difficult, when young people miss their friends and routines, and Parent Carers sometimes struggle to balance the demands placed on them.



Healthy Lives Summer Programme Frequently Asked Questions

What age is the programme for?

The Summer Healthy Lives Programme offers activities for 8–14 year old's, 14–25 year old's, activities for children and young people with complex needs and all age family activities.

What is the process for accessing the programme?

After completing the registration form, if more information is needed, a member of The Healthy Lives Team will contact you. When bookings go live and the programme timetable is released, those that have registered will be sent details and criteria for all activities, including a booking form where you will select 1st and 2nd choice activities. All details will be provided in emails and you will be given a key contact who you can ask any questions and get support booking any activities.

My young person needs 1:1 support. Can they take part in the programme?

Yes! Young people who require 1:1 support are more than welcome to attend the programme. The programme does not provide 1:1 support, so a PA or Parent Carer will need to attend the sessions to support.

My young person will only attend if they are with their friends. Is this an option?

When you register for the programme, you will be asked to give consent for your young person's name to be shared with others who are booked on the same sessions. We cannot guarantee this but will try our best to book friends on the same sessions.

As a family we struggle with transport, will this be provided?

Transport to activities is not provided. Last year a number of attendees shared lifts with other parent carers. You will be notified ahead of activities of who else is attending to see if this is an option for you. We are also happy to provide you with bus routes for activities.

My young person struggles in new environments and with people they don't know. How will they be supported?

Staff supporting the activity will be provided with information of your child/ young person's needs prior to the session and we are happy to discuss prior to the session how your child/ young person can be best supported in a new environment.



Healthy Lives Summer Programme Frequently Asked Questions

How do I know if activities will be suitable for my young person?

When you register for the programme, you are asked to provide information about your young person's needs, interests, likes and dislikes. The programme will give details of activities, which will indicate the sessions we have organised for young people with more complex need. Staff at PACC are also more than happy to call and chat through the sessions with you and whether needs can be met.

My young person is on medication, can staff administer this?

Staff will not be able to administer any medication. If medication is required during a session and your young person does not have a PA or Parent Carer with them, you will need to arrange to attend the session to administer any medication.

My young person has food allergies, will staff be made aware of this?

You are asked to give information of any allergies when you register. This information will be passed on to staff at sessions.

Do we need to register if we just want to attend family sessions?

Yes. You will need to register and provide information to access any activities on the programme.

If we book a session and cannot attend what do we need to do?

We ask for a minimum of 24 hours' notice if your young person is unable to attend to try and allocate the space to someone else. However, we do understand the difficulties Parent Carers face and how plans can change last minute. You will be provided with a contact number to notify us of any cancellations short notice.

What does my young person need to bring to the sessions?

For morning or afternoon sessions you will need to provide drinks and a light snack. For day sessions (i.e., 10am-2pm) a packed lunch will also be required. You will receive more information on your young persons' activity timetable for the programme, about any additional items needed for specific activities.

Is there any cost to participate in The Healthy Lives Programme?

To allow us to offer as many activities as possible, we ask for a contribution of £5 per child/young person per activity they are attending. This can be paid via PayPal.

Healthy Lives Summer Programme

The Healthy Lives Programme:



Provides a variety of activities to support physical and mental wellbeing



Provides the opportunity to make new friendships



Provides young people with SEND with opportunities to catch up with friends



Gives the opportunity to try new activities in a safe and inclusive environment



Develops skills- confidence, independence, communication.



Provides Peer support opportunities for Parent Carers

The Healthy Lives Programme:



Is not a holiday club



Does not provide 1:1 support



Is not childcare



Does not require a referral. Parent Carers register their child/ young person.
No formal diagnosis is required.

Healthy Lives Summer Programme



"Every activity that PACC puts on is always so wonderful and accepting. It's hard to be able to find activities which our whole family can attend. We are having the best summer holiday that our family has ever had thanks to the hard work PACC put in. Thankyou!" – Parent Carer Feedback (2024)