SENDIASS NEWSLETTER - ISSUE 2 - DECEMBER 2019

Dear Readers, this is our second newsletter of what we hope will be many over the next 6 months. The aim is to bring you up to date news and information around Special Educational Needs Disability (SEND) to support our shared goals to achieve the very best outcomes for your local area and the children, young people and their families. This newsletter is a shared resource in terms of what is published and as a partner to ourselves we hope you will help us in its development by sharing news about what you are doing for children, young people and their families. For example, new staffing changes, successful outcomes and achievements we want to hear about it and publish it.

SENDIASS Updates

We continue to develop the steering group and can’t thank our parents carers and young people enough for their continued support in helping us produce IASS in our local area. We will be holding more meetings in the new year.

SENDIASS Training Package for Schools and Early Years Settings

SENDIASS have developed a training package for Schools and Early Years settings around the SEND Code of Practice and the main principles of Chapters 5 and 6. The aim is to simply give some more information about the Code of Practice, and its implications on education providers. We are also hoping that it will provide an opportunity for us to meet more classroom based staff.

The training package is in its infancy and was first delivered last week- the feedback we have had from that school was very positive. The training takes up an hour with any members of staff that would find this useful, e.g. SENCO’s, SLT, Teaching staff and TA’s. We need access to a projector and computer but the overall aim is to encourage a dialogue between schools and Barnsley SENDIASS service so that there is a greater understanding of our role in supporting parents, carers and young people.

Legal advice and SEND

A SENDIASS service is expected to provide information, advice and support (IAS) to families (including those aged 16 to 25) on matters relating to SEND. All staff are undertake SEND legal training that is accredited by the Bar Standards Board who are the body that regulates Barristers and Solicitors. This training covers all aspects of SEND; The SEND Code of Practice (CoP), SEN Support, Transport, Exclusions and Education and Health Care Plans (EHCPs) including the health and social care aspects related to EHC plans. The service provides legal advice that relates to duties that the Local Authority (LA), Education settings and the NHS must provide and can also include best practice that is not statutory. The service can support families in challenging these services where these duties are not carried-out. The service can support families through complaints, dispute resolution, mediation and appeals to the SEND tribunal. Every Local Authority has a SENDIAS Service details about your local area IASS can be found at: www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk IPSEA provide training to SENDIASS’s and is also a service that parents and carers can go to for legal advice – www.ipsea.org.uk
Our parents and carers have been enquiring about financial welfare and access to benefits. Here are a few resources you may find helpful, click on links underlined below:

**Barnsley Council Welfare Rights Service**
Tel: 01226 775577 for further advice and support.

**Blue Badge Disabled Parking Permits**
Barnsley Council Blue Badge Disabled Parking Permits

**News - Hidden disabilities to qualify for blue badges in Barnsley**

**Contact Advice - Blue Badge Disabled Parking Permits**

If you need help with completing the form you can book an appointment at your library via the council on: 01226 773555 Monday-Friday 9am – 5pm.

**Contact for Families with Disabled Children** [https://contact.org.uk/](https://contact.org.uk/)

Contact support families to campaign, volunteer and fundraise to improve life for themselves and others. Personal Budget Factsheet by Contact - EHCP Education, Health and Care Plan

**DIAL Barnsley**
A local service supporting disabled people and their families. Enquire about DLA support.

**Dial Barnsley - Welfare Benefits Support**

**MAX Card**
Making days out more financially accessible for foster families and families of children with additional needs. There is currently no distributor in Barnsley, but we'll update you if this changes. See national website to apply [My Max Card](https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/community-and-volunteering/community-grants/)

---

**Support for Voluntary and Community Groups**
Voluntary and community groups rely on grant funding to help them provide services that make a difference to communities and people’s lives. You don’t need to be registered as a charity to apply for funding, but you must be a not-for-profit organisation. Visit the BMBC website for details.


---

**Training Opportunities**

We Find Any Learner is a training company based at Deepcar offering funded courses at their premises and can be arranged at other venues. You can contact them individually or as a group if you are interested. Criteria applies. Email: Kirsty@wefindanylearner.co.uk Tel: 01226 958888

The courses available are all Level 2 NCFE/CACHE accredited and delivered on a distance learning platform. All courses can be completed paper based or digitally and take around 20 – 30 hours to complete including: Understanding Autism, Mental Health Problems, Children and Young People’s Mental Health, Behaviour that Challenges.

[Click Here](https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/community-and-volunteering/community-grants/) to view all available courses.
Children’s Corner

Activity ‘passport’ to inspire school children and boost resilience

A ‘Passport’ of activities was launched to enrich children's experiences and skills, backed by the Scouts, Girlguiding and National Trust. See links to article and passport on government site:

Article - Activity Passport to Inspire School Children and Boost Resilience
Editable Activity Checklist

Lego Based Therapy

Bricks for Autism is a social venture that aims at supporting children with communication and learning disabilities through a therapy of building LEGO models. And whilst helping children with autism develop key skills, it also helps funding vital research.

Article - Autism Research Trust - Lego Based Therapy

Why not ask your local library about their Lego sessions or other activities…

Barnsley Libraries Activities for Children

Young People’s Place

*New* SENDIASS Young Peoples Support Group

Calling all Young People – would you be interested in joining in with the new ‘SENDIASS Young Peoples Support’ Group (SYPS)? A chance for you to shape the future of what Young People want from Barnsley SENDIASS. Please get in touch with Sarah or James for more information.

Local Youth Groups and Support

YMCA Barnsley
Chilypep
Tads Barnsley
TIAG Barnsley
Targeted Youth Support Service

What can an IAS Service do for you?

YouTube video link is below by the ‘Council for Disabled Children’ to help children and young people understand how IAS Services including Barnsley SEND IASS can support them.

IASS Video for Children and Young People - What they are / How they can help
Find and Compare Schools in England

https://www.gov.uk/school-performance-tables

Search for primary, secondary and special needs schools and colleges near you, and check their performance via the Department for Education website.

You can view and download:

- exam and test results
- Ofsted reports
- financial information

https://www.goodschoolsguide.co.uk/
https://www.specialneedsguide.co.uk/
https://www.schoolsearch.co.uk/

National News Links

National Children’s Bureau News and Opinions from across the sector

Council for Disabled Children News and Opinions from across the sector

Latest Documents Published by the Department for Education

What the SENDIASS Team are currently working on…

SENDAISS Website

SENDAISS are working towards an independent website in the meantime developing the existing webpage under:

Barnsley SENDIASS web page

Please keep visiting to see information about our service, guidance, forms, legislation, helpful resources, support networks, answers to your questions and much more…as valued service users we would love to hear about your ideas and contributions, so please let us know what you wish to see on there.

Barnsley Local Offer

Visit the Barnsley Local Offer website Local Offer Page, you will find lots of information about support services, things to do the Disabled Children’s Register and much more. Sitting alongside the website is the Barnsley SEND Local Offer Facebook page Barnsley Local Offer on Facebook posting daily updates, news and events.
New Inclusive Swim at Barnsley Metrodome

The new inclusive ‘accessible’ swim session is running at Barnsley Metrodome. Plans are the accessible swim will run once per month (Saturdays), normally 5.30-7.00 pm.

Next dates planned Saturday 18th Jan, 15th Feb and 21st March.

Contact Barnsley Metrodome Leisure Complex on 01226 730060 for more information or visit the website ‘under accessible sessions’ https://www.calypsocovewaterpark.org.uk/

Costs: One child (up to 16) with additional needs £4.55 or Young person 16+ £5.50 (prices include carer). Under 7’s ratio policy applies. Available for those who need extra support and have sensory needs. Additional sibling £4.55 / Additional adult £5.50.

Calming Behaviour and Stressful Situations

These resources could apply to children with a variety of conditions and complex medical needs. Here are some examples based on autism, visit the NHS website or your local G.P. for further support.

How to Help with Your Child's Behaviour - Autism

Help for Families of Autistic People

How to Help Your Child with Day to Day Life

The Challenging Behaviour Foundation

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services - CAMHS

CAMHS Barnsley

We welcome your feedback and useful SEND related information you would like us to share in the next newsletter. Please submit contributions by the 1st of the month to email below.

Barnsley SENDIASS website (click here)

www.facebook.com/BarnsleySendiass

Find us on twitter

Contact the Team: 01226 787234 Email the Team: sendiass@barnsley.gov.uk

Thank you to our service users for any contributions!

Finally the SENDIASS team wish all our parents, carers, children and young people a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2020!