



Local Offer Newsletter Autumn Term September 2023

Welcome to our Autumn Term Newsletter! In this issue:

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- Dates for your Diary
- Our next Local Offer Live Marketplace event
- Training opportunities.

What's New on the Local Offer Website?

All new Post-16 Offer

We have been working with our post 16 colleagues as well as health and social care professionals to create our new [Post-16 Offer](#) section on the Local Offer Website.

You can find it in the ['Becoming an Adult'](#) section of the site.

Its full of useful information for SEND (Special Educational Needs or Disabilities) young people and families who are looking at what's available after leaving school.

You can find information on:

- Further Education and training
- The 5-day offer
- What to do if you're wanting to go to University or Higher Education
- Social care
- Health care
- Money
- Transport
- What's available once your EHCP (Education Health and Care Plan) ends.
- Information, Advice and Guidance Services

Searching for services

We've made our [Search functions](#) simpler to understand. So, if you are looking for SEND services you now have 4 choices.

- **Type in the exact name of the service you are looking for:** Great if you know just who you are looking for and takes you straight to the service information.
- **Type in a keyword:** Not sure of the exact name? Looking for any service that might help? Then typing a keyword like 'Hydrocephalus' or 'Autism' etc will bring up any service that can offer related support.
- **Type in a postcode:** Looking for services nearby? Our Local Offer services can now be searched using a postcode.
- **Just click Search:** Want to look at everything? Don't type in the boxes, just click search and it will bring up all the services.

Remember the Local Offer is for SEND services only and Universal services can also meet family's needs. Take a look at the [Find Local Services section](#) on the Barnsley Family Service Directory for universal services

Changes coming this term.

As we move to our new Family Hub model, you will start to notice some changes to the Local Offer website.

Some will be just cosmetic; we might have a change to the colour scheme or the way the banners on the pages look.

But we will also be working hard to ensure that the information that we have on the site is

- Relevant
- As up to date as possible.

- Easy to read.
- Simple to find.

So, you might see a few new headings on the site or changes to the way information is located.

We will keep you up to date with any changes through our [Facebook page](#) as well as in next terms newsletter. However, if you find that something you need has moved and you can't find it, remember you can always give us a call on 0800 0345 340 and we can help you find the information you need.

Ways to get involved.

Take a look at the [Current ways to have your say](#) on the Local Offer website. We are regularly adding new consultations, surveys and ways you can get your voice heard.

Local Offer Steering Group

You may be aware that we have a Local Offer Steering group. The aim of the group is to look at ways to promote the website and make sure that we have the best information possible for SEND families. The group meets next in October and we would like to hear from you if you have any ideas on how we could promote the site , or think there may be information we could add to improve the site. Please email any ideas to infofis@barnsley.gov.uk

Let's Talk Local Offer Website

Help make sure the information on the Local Offer website works for families and young people. Tell us:

- How easy the section is to read?
- How relevant is the information?
- Are there any words or acronyms you didn't understand?
- What do you think is missing?

This term we will be reviewing 3 sections.

- September - [Money](#)
- October - [Becoming an Adult](#)
- November - [National Organisations](#)

Look at the sections and let us know what you think by filling in our online surveys.

Survey links and information will be shared on our Barnsley [Local Offer Facebook Page](#) in September, October and November, so why not follow the page.

SEND Events and Activities Survey

The Post 16 team would like to find any venues, sessions, events or activities that SEND young people, and their families would be happy to recommend to other SEND families. You can [complete a short survey](#) to let them know what you would recommend. We will be adding suitable recommendations to the '[Find things to do](#)' Section of the Local Offer

Dates for Your Diary

Come along to the [Local Offer Multi Agency Drop-in](#)

A chance talk to SEND services and find out:

- General information on SEND services including how they help and how to contact them.
- How services can meet your child's needs
- What kinds of educational support is available
- Having a break from your caring responsibilities
- How Health and Wellbeing services can support you.
- What opportunities are available post 16
- What Barnardo's can offer SEND children, young people and Families

When: The first Wednesday of every month 10am-12.30pm

This term's sessions are,

Wednesday 4th of October

Wednesday 1st of November

Wednesday 6th of December

Where: The Ozone at Barnsley Football Club (next to the ticket office) Grove Street S71 1ET

Targeted Youth Support Parent Carer Coffee Morning

If your child attends a Short Break or other Targeted Youth Support SEND session, then you are invited to an informal coffee morning.

The group meet twice a half term supported by the LDD co-ordinator for Targeted Youth Support.

They are a well-established group and are always looking for new members. the group offers parents and carers the opportunity to access peer support and information as well as the chance to feed into participation and co-production opportunities.

For more information on dates and times and how to join email; PaulaTM@barnsley.gov.uk

Vision in collaboration with Focus4Vision Does your child or young person have a vision need, would you like the chance to shape decisions about vision services?

The Participation Officer and wider vision service host an open session with parent carers, once a term.

It's a new opportunity for this year and will be developed as it grows, we really want to hear the voice of parents and carers of children and young people with vision needs.

If you would like more information, including about when and where the next session will be held, email SENDWorkingTogether@barnsley.gov.uk

SEND Participation Drop-in

The Participation Team are holding Monthly Drop-in sessions this term.

Come along, meet the team and,

- Find out about ways to get involved in sharing your opinions.
- Get support to access current participation opportunities (including online surveys)

10.10.2023	10am – 2pm Grimethorpe Family Centre
16.10.2023	10am – 12pm The Ozone
07.11.2023	10am – 2pm Kendray & Worsborough Family centre.
13.11.2023	10am – 12pm The Ozone
21.11.2023	10am-2pm Athersley family centre
11.12.2023	10am-2pm Penistone Library
13.12.2023	10am – 12pm The Ozone
19.12.2023	10am - 2pm Dearne family centre

They have a [new Facebook page](#) as well, which will keep you up to date with what the Participation Team are doing

Our next Local Offer Live Marketplace Event

We are pleased to announce plans to run another Local Offer Live Marketplace event in the new year. The previous events have run at Priory Campus at Lundwood on a Wednesday between 10am and 5.30pm.

Is this the best location, time and day for you?

Let us know your thoughts by dropping us an email infofis@barnsley.gov.uk

Training opportunities.

There are a number of different training opportunities running this term. You can apply for some of them yourself, but there are some training opportunities being offered to both parents and setting staff. To find out about these talk to your child's setting about applying for places.

Tuesday 7th November TESCO stairfoot, community room, 9:30-11:30am.

Makaton Taster

Audience: Staff and parent/carers

The Taster gives you a general introduction into what Makaton is and who uses it, with the opportunity to learn a few signs and symbols too.

The signs and symbols are aimed at pupils at the early stages of communication.

Parents need to self-refer, to book a place email gemmawhitfield@barnsley.gov.uk

Tuesday 14 November - Barnsley Town Centre venue, 9am - 12.30pm

Thinking differently

Does your child have social communication and interaction needs?

You can book onto sessions for families of children and young people with a Social Communication and Interaction need. Learn about:

- What is a Social Communication and Interaction need?
- Why does my child act and react in this way?
- How can I support my child?

If you are interested, please contact: melaniebooth@barnsley.gov.uk for more details and to book a place.

Tuesday 21 November - Barnsley Town Centre venue, 9.30am - 12 noon

First Steps' post diagnosis Autism Parent and Carer Workshop

- Has your child received an Autism diagnosis?
- Would you like to know more about Autism and the support available?
- Would you like to chat and share with other parents.

If you are interested, please contact: melaniebooth@barnsley.gov.uk for more details and to book a place.

The following training opportunities will need you to talk to your child's setting about making an application.

09/10/2023

An Introduction to Autism –

Supporting pupils in mainstream classrooms

This course introduces an understanding to autism. You will take away strategies that can be used to support and meet the needs of children and young people with autism in the setting.

24/10/2023 1pm-3pm (MS Teams)

An Overview of Using Social Stories and Comic Strip Conversations

An introduction to how and why using comic strip conversations and social stories can support children and young people with SCI needs. Learn how to write meaningful social stories within the session.

25/10/23

LEGO Therapy

Using Lego to help develop the child's knowledge, understanding and application of social skills and problem solving.

08/11/2023

Analysing and Managing Behaviour for Children with SCI Needs

(Including the use of STAR/ABC/Iceberg)

This workshop will offer you the opportunity to look at behaviour, to step back and look at those essential underlying reasons 'Why' and the function of a behaviour – before you then look at 'How' we can implement strategies to support the child or young person.

14/11/2023

Co-Production, why and how we work together with children, young people, parents and carers.

As part of a wider program of training on the requirements, benefits and methods of co-production this training has been co-produced with young people, parents and carers to support the development of co-production in education settings.

15/11/2023

Understanding and Using Visual Structure to Support Children with SCI Needs in Early Years settings and Schools.

This workshop will offer you the opportunity to look at why visual supports are important and help you to understand how to use and embed visual supports.

22/11/2023

An Overview of Music Interaction

An overview of the 'Music Interaction' approach which is an interactive approach primarily for developing children's social communication and interaction skills.

23/11/2023

Supporting parents/carers through the graduated approach

Supporting early years practitioners to reflect on how they work in partnership with parents of children with SEND and have those all-important initial conversations regarding concerns about their child's development.

This event is designed to be accessed by setting SENCOs alongside parents/carers.

Our Local Offer Newsletters go out every term, so keep an eye out for the next one at the start of the Spring term in January.