



March 2023 - Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) articles, information, news and updates on our service

We provide free and impartial information, advice and support about special educational needs & disabilities (SEND) for children, young people, parents and carers.

Recent training



Norfolk SENDIASS have recently put on some training to parent/carers and professionals with some lovely feedback!

We've put on 'Mediation and Disagreement Resolution' training for professionals alongside KIDS Mediation and Disagreement Resolution Service,

as well as 'How to appeal a final EHCP' professional specific training. Here is some of the great feedback we had:

"Very useful training! It has given me more confidence of what to look for and what evidence may help"

"The training delivered by Niamh and Leah was incredibly thorough and professional. I was aware of much of the areas covered but the training enabled a refresh of some aspects and an expansion of knowledge in others. Such a valuable training and an absolute investment of 3 hours. Thank you so much."

"Please continue to offer training for school staff and professionals to ensure everyone access the same messages."

"Thank you-wealth of knowledge shared that has left me yearning for more knowledge to better support the CYP and their families I support."

Due to phase transfer of an EHCP we also put on virtual and face-to-face 'How to appeal a final EHCP' training for parent/carers, this is some of the fantastic feedback we received from those that attended:

"SENDIASS is a godsend. I appreciate the unbiased advice and support"

"So helpful and beneficial. I now feel much more confident taking my child's case to tribunal. Thank you"

"Extremely useful session. Staff very friendly, interested in helping and patient. Well done!"

"Thank you Niamh and Leah for facilitating such comprehensive training. It has been really informative and helpful. You have both given clear advice in a really easy to understand way."

Unfortunately, across all the training we have done we have had more numbers book on than attend, we understand that things come up but if you aren't able to attend, please cancel your booking so we are aware of how many people to expect.

We had a number of people book on to our face-to-face training but unfortunately in the few days before the training a number of cancellations took place and then on the day of training a significant number didn't turn up to either the training or the one-to-ones, due to this we have made the decision to make all future training virtual.

Visible Fest



Nansa (Norfolk and Norwich SEND Association) have launched their Visible project and their first neurodiversity festival is taking place at The Forum on March 31st and April 1st, 2023. There will be discussions and workshops hosted by a range of guests as well as a range of information stands championing a more inclusive community for those with neurodivergent conditions.

Leah and Niamh will be in attendance on both days along with many others, if you would like to know more about the festival such as what workshops and discussions there will be please follow this link:

[Find out more about the Visible Fest](#)

Advice Clinics



The purpose of the advice clinics is to give parent/carers and young people the opportunity to go through paperwork with one of our trained advisers, something that isn't always easy to do over the phone.

When you book an advice clinic appointment, we will contact you to check what paperwork it is you want to discuss. It's important that if you are attending an advice clinic appointment you have the paperwork to bring with you. If you book an advice clinic appointment but don't have paperwork to bring with you or go through, you will be asked to book a telephone call with an adviser.

Keep an eye on our website and social media to book an appointment at our upcoming advice clinics, these are:

Visit our website to book your place.

- **20th April – Fakenham**
- **16th May – Great Yarmouth**
- **21st June – Costessey**

BOOK NOW

Family Voice Norfolk Conference



Niamh, Heather, and Hannah had a fantastic time at the Family Voice Norfolk Conference on March 11th. We spoke with many parent/carers, gave lots of advice and gave away lots of highlighters, bags and pens! There was also great turn out for Niamh at the 'speed-dating' portion of the day, where parent/carers could book in a one-to-one slot with a number of different professionals and have a 15-minute chat.

The whole day was a great opportunity for parent/carers, young people and professionals so well done Family Voice Norfolk and we look forward to 2024!

Norfolk SEND Youth Forum



It has been a busy month for the Norfolk SEND Youth Forum! Our much-anticipated trip (Bowling and Pizza) proved to be a wonderful opportunity for members to meet up in person. X7 young people, accompanied by their

parent/carer attended, and proved to be ace bowlers, with big appetites!!!



We are grateful to Paul Webb (Strategic Lead – Youth & Participation, NCC) for accessing the funding to enable us to do this, and we have also begun planning a further face to face opportunity, later in the year. This will be more about identifying potential projects our members are keen to pursue, as well as an opportunity to build relationships...and enjoy a hearty lunch!!

At our monthly on-line meeting, we had X7 young people attend. We were able to share with the group some feedback from professionals who have consulted with our members over the last few months, to demonstrate how their views and experiences have been listened to and are being utilised to develop and shape a range of SEND services. It is important that our members can see how their contributions are genuinely informing and shaping the development of SEND services.

One of our older members, who has been part of the group since our very first meeting, was able to share her experience of sitting on the Interview panel (NCC) for a Senior SEND role, and members were keen to hear about this. We are extremely proud of her, and her willingness to volunteer for several opportunities, she is growing in confidence, and is proving to be a real ambassador for the Forum!!

Dawn sought members experiences of their involvement in SEN Support plans and Annual reviews of an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP). This work is

to be continued, to develop some top tips in supporting children and young people to be supported to participate and co-produce information about them!

Finally, we made a shout out about the imminent NANSAs Visibility Festival which will be held at the Forum in Norwich on 31st March 23/1st April 23. <https://www.nansa.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Updated-Visible-Festival-2023-scaled.jpg>

We were also able to remind members to book their tickets for the SENDFEST, <https://www.norfolkmusiclub.org.uk/site/events/event/sendfest-2023/>

in June, and we advised them that we will have a stand on the day to promote the group and are thrilled that some members want to help with this. We had been thinking about potential merchandise for this event to promote the Forum; members suggested wrist bands, drinks bottles, drawstring bags and T shirts. We have now ordered these items and look forward to distributing/wearing/using them at future events!!

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 26th April 2023, 6.30 – 7.30pm online via Microsoft Teams.

To register interest in joining the Forum, please go to the SENDIASS website!

Bridget Robinson, Children and Young Person Supporter

[Register for the Norfolk SEND Youth Forum](#)

Contacts Listening Ear Service



Contact provide 1-1 telephone appointments with a family support adviser for parent/carers looking for a listening ear, reassurance and practical and emotional support. Appointments are 45 minutes long and it's important that you book a time and date that you know you will be free to talk, are somewhere that you feel safe and is quiet so that you can get the most out of the time you have.

If you would like to use Contact's listening ear service, please follow the link below to book an appointment.

Contact - Listening Ear

Big Norfolk Holiday Fun

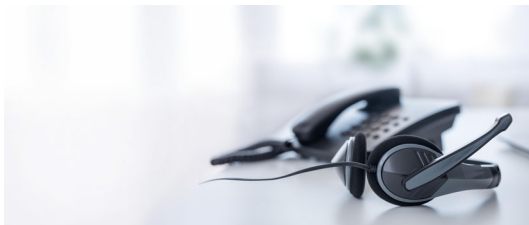


The Oak Circus centre are running a SEND offer for the BNHF Easter offer for children and young people with SEND:

[All Access \(SEND\) Arts Easter Fun Days - Big Norfolk Holiday Fun \(HAF\) provided by The Oak Circus Centre | EveryMove](#)

There are still some spaces available for SEND provider Able 2B for the Easter Holidays:

[Big Norfolk Easter Holiday Club For Children with Special Educational Needs provided by Able2B | EveryMove](#)



Contact us

Visit our website to book an

Norfolk SENDIASS updates

appointment with an advisor, or contact us by telephone. If we are unable to answer please leave a voicemail and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

If you are a professional looking for advice you can complete a Professional Referral Form via our website and we will contact you as soon as possible.

<https://www.norfolksendiass.org.uk/professional-resources/book/>

We apologise as we are currently extremely busy on our telephone helpline with extended wait times. Please cancel any unwanted appointments for other people to access. If you have a deadline you can book the next available appointment, complete the online consultation form and then send an email to norfolksendiass@norfolk.gov.uk to request a cancellation appointment. Please be aware we cannot guarantee to meet your deadline.

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Our mailing address is:

Norfolk SENDIASS
148 Woodside Road
Norwich
NR7 9QL

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