

# Partnership News Autumn 2007



The newsletter for parents and carers of children with special educational needs

**Members** of the Management Group





# Transition to **Secondary School**

My name is Wendy Bradnam and I am the Transition to Secondary School Officer (Choice Adviser) for Norfolk. I am assisted by the Transition to Secondary School

John Bale and Wendy Bradnam Administrator, John Bale. We will be working with parents/carers who find the secondary admissions system difficult to understand. As part of Norfolk Parent Partnership, we are at 'arms length' from Norfolk County Council and, therefore, are able to offer independent advice, information and support about the secondary admissions process and local secondary schools. You can contact us on:

Wendy Bradnam Transition to Secondary Officer (01603)704070 or (07747) 757540 wendy.bradnam@norfolk.gov.uk John Bale Transition to Secondary School Administrator (01603) 704070

john.bale@norfolk.gov.uk

# Have your say on special schools and units

Local area consultations are to take place during November, to consider the precise location of future complex needs schools and specialist resource base provision across the county.

Families will be able to attend five consultation drop-in meetings:

6th November - Holt (North)

Primary

8th November - Swaffham (West)

- 12th November Attleborough (South)
- 19th November Norwich (Central)
- 22nd November Gt.Yarmouth (East)

For more information ring 0844 800 8001 or look at the website: www.norfolk.gov.uk/SENStrategy or www.YourNorfolkYourSay.org email: SENStrategy@norfolk.gov.uk

### Norfolk Parent Partnership Woodside Road



Care Trust

connexions

Norwich **NR7 90L** 



01603 704070 Tel: 01603 704072 Fax:



email: parent.partnership@norfolk.gov.uk www.norfolkparentpartnership.org.uk



Norfolk County Council Anti-Bullying Awareness Wee 19 - 23 November 2007



Parents Conference on Cyberbullying At the John Innes Centre, Norwich On Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> November

6.30-9.30pm

This conference is offered free of charge to raise parental awareness of cyberbullying and what you, as a parent, can do if it happens to your child.

The conference will be made up with presentations from Childnet International, Securus and include workshops from Norfolk Constabulary, local school students and schools. We want parents to engage in 'hands on' experiences.

If you would like to book a place at this conference please contact Heather Haycox, Secretary to Rita Adair, Anti-Bullying Alliance Eastern Regional Coordinator, The Terrapin, Hewett School Site, Norwich, Norfolk NR1 2TJ or e-mail <u>heather.haycox@norfolk.gov.uk</u> or 01603 671400



Maria (Independent Parental Supporter) Working with Norfolk and Norwich Dyslexia Association



I have been an Independent Parental Supporter with Norfolk Parent Partnership for almost two

years and I became involved with the Norfolk & Norwich Dyslexia Association (NNDA) at the beginning of 2006.



The NNDA operate a drop-in session at Norwich City College on the first Saturday in each month.

There are two main elements to the work that we do. Firstly we screen both children and adults for the proberbility of being dyslexic; this is done using a piece of computer software and is by appointment only. The other element, which I am heavily involved in, is where people can just pop in and have a discussion about any concerns

> about their child's education. I am there to explain the role of Norfolk Parent Partnership and Independent Parental Supporters and talk them

through the maze that is the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice.

I also take a range of leaflets with me in order that I can signpost people to the relevant organisation if they need any further assistance.

Maria

Independent Parental Supporter Norfolk Parent Partnership

#### Volunteer Parent Representative for Contact a Family Norfolk

Hello, I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and my role as volunteer parent representative for Contact a Family in Norfolk. My name is Stephanie Chapman and I am Mum to 6 children ages ranging from 32 down to our 14 year old who has Down's syndrome.

Knowing how hard it is to find information I was really interested in getting involved with Contact a Family when I saw the advert for the post of Volunteer parent rep.

Contact a Family originated in London and in 1979 became a national charity working across the UK supporting families caring for children with any disability or special need - a learning disability, physical disability, sensory impairment, medical condition, rare syndrome, life-shortening

condition or behavioural

Norfolk County Council at your service

Parents and carers have your say on:

- o The Norfolk Children and Young People's Plan
- The Norfolk Parenting Support Strategy
- The Parent and Carer Involvement Strategy

If you take part you could win £50 worth of vouchers in the prize draw! \*

**Your views are important.** Please fill this survey in online to help us save paper and resources. Go to <u>www.everynorfolkchildmatters.org</u> and click on Parents and Carers Have Your Say. You can do this anywhere you can get access to the Internet, including any of the Council Information Centres in libraries, where staff can offer support. The consultation ends on 31 December 2007.

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If you would like to take part in the survey but do not have access to the internet, or want to give your views in any other way; if you need this survey in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language or if you are a group who would like to give your views as a group, please contact:

Kirsten Francis, Norfolk County Council Children's Services Parent and Carer Involvement Officer telephone: 07769742621 email: <u>kirsten.francis@norfolk.gov.uk</u>

\*Open to all except employees of Norfolk County Council.

difficulty. It is the only UK charity to cover such a wide brief.

My role as a local representative is to be the 'face' of Contact a Family in Norfolk. My aim is to provide parents and professionals with information about local services of help to parents, as well as keeping Contact a Family's head office in touch with the various initiatives that are taking place in my area.

I can be contacted on 01603 870781 (dedicated phone line with answering machine) and finally, if anyone has information about local parents groups, play schemes, toy libraries etc., which they would like me to pass on to parents, then I would be pleased to hear from you.

> Stephanie Chapman Volunteer Parent Representative for Contact a Family Norfolk



every child matters

or Norfolk's young people

#### The East Anglian Disabled Youth Football Club

Tired of watching from the sidelines?

If so then we have the perfect thing for you.

If you are aged between 6 and 16 and have a disability come and join us at

#### The East Anglian Disabled Youth Football Club

Training takes place every Sunday at Worstead Village Hall. So come and take a look or for more information call:

Lisa Dunham (Club Secretary) 01692 535003 For safety reasons a parent/guardian or carer must be present at all times

#### FITC Disability Soccer Centres

Children's Physical Disability Centre, Pan-Disability Centre,





#### "Number 1 for kids'

#### coaching"

www.fitc.org.uk / 01603761122Carrow Park, Norwich City FCDay/l(hard court area)Sep 15.00 - 6.00: 8 - 16 yrsNov 7Carrow Park, Norwich City FCDay/l6.00 - 7.00: 8 - 16 yrsSep 17.00 - 8.00: adultsNov 7DerehamDay/lNorthgate High SchoolSep 15.00 - 6.00: 8 - 16 yrsNov 76.00 - 7.00: adultsNov 7Price

Day/Dates: Wednesdays Sep 12, 19, 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28, Dec 5 Day/Dates: Wednesdays Sep 12, 19, 26, Oct 3, 10, 17, 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, 28, Dec 5 Day/Dates: Thursdays Sep 13, 20, 27, Oct 4, 11, 18, Nov 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Dec 6 Price: 12 weeks for £25 or £2.50 per session



Anti-Bullying Awareness Week (ABW) 19 – 23 November 2007 Safer Together. Safer Wherever

Friday 23rd November is 11 million Takeover Day/Blue Friday For further information and activities available from www.anti-bullyingalliance.

Anti-Bullying Charter - www.dcsf.gov.uk/bullying

Diana Princess of Wales Award - Young people who have made an outstanding contribution to tackling bullying in your school can be nominated for this award - www.diana-award.org.uk

Cyber Bullying - guidance for parents, teachers and pupils on dealing with cyber bullying - www.dcsf.gov.uk/bullying





#### Training course for Volunteers Spring 2008

Would you like to support parents who have children with special educational needs with educational issues?

Our next free, OCN accredited training course for volunteers will be held at:

Dereham Town Football Club, Dereham

Tuesdays: 20<sup>th</sup> May, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> June and 1<sup>st</sup> July (9.30 - 3.30pm)

Final interviews on the 8th July 2008

Book your place now!! For more information contact: Norfolk Parent Partnership on 01603 704070

email: parentpartnership@norfolk.gov.uk www.norfolkparentpartnership@org.uk



#### Norfolk Autistic Society

2 Seminars for parents and professionals on managing Autistic Behaviour at the Great House Training Centre 300 St Faith's Road Old Catton, Norwich. Thursday 1st November and Thursday 8th November

> To book a place contact 01603 631171

#### SNUG

SPECIAL NEEDS UNITED GROUP PARENT SUPPORT GROUP AT EMNETH NURSERY SCHOOL

Tel: Anne Thorpe on 01954 773175



## Talk to Parent Groups

My name is Carolyn Brock and I am the author of <u>'My Family is Different'</u> (published by National Autistic Society May 2007). I am willing to visit any parent groups to talk about the book and the experiences, which inspired it. It is a workbook for young siblings of children with autism, aimed to help them understand their brother or sister. I am a teacher and also the mother of a grown up son with Asperger syndrome and ran courses for parents in Nottinghamshire for many years.

Please contact me by email on: carolynmbrock@yahoo.co.uk

# Please let us know if you would like large print copies or if translations would be useful.

Let us know if you would like this newsletter in one of the following languages or any other language. *Portuguese*, *Bengali*, *Polish*, *Lithuanian*, *Latvia*, *Tagaleg* (*Phillipines*)

Norfolk Community Law Service is supporting us in translating this newsletter into several languages as part of their new Discrimination Service. For further information about their free legal services contact: Tel: 01603 496623 Email: info@ncls.co.uk www.ncls.co.uk

(Articles included in this newsletter are not necessarily endorsed by Parent Partnership)

Norfolk Parent Partnership is funded by Sourfolk County Council

working with the voluntary sector and other professionals to support parents and carers of children with special educational needs.