



# Partnership News

Autumn 2006



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

Members  
of the  
Management  
Group



Norfolk &  
Norwich  
Dyslexia  
Association

NANSA  
Norfolk & Norwich

SCOPE  
Association  
for people with  
cerebral palsy

Schools

WITCHAMPTON  
EAST ANGLIA



Norfolk  
County Council  
Children's  
Services

Norfolk Autistic  
Society



DSN  
Down's Syndrome  
NORFOLK

Central Norfolk  
Primary  
Care Trust

connexions  
NORFOLK

## Could you be an Independent Parental Supporter?

Jacqueline (Independent Parental Supporter) shares her experiences

In my opinion, the training was of the highest quality. The course leaders soon put me at my ease and encouraged me. Also the camaraderie between the students was marvellous. Our varying backgrounds and experiences added greatly to the value of the course.

At very comfortable venues, we were provided with all the tools for the job: people skills; assertiveness; information about special educational needs; equal opportunities; and personal safety. Role play was very helpful, and even if you were a little self-conscious, that feeling soon disappeared as you were immersed into the various case scenarios.

All the 'outside' people who came to talk to us helped us to grasp the overall picture. My file was quickly filling up!

At the final interview, equipped with file and relevant literature, I was warmly greeted. By this stage, we

had a fair idea that we were going to be suitable for each other, so this took the nerves out of the occasion. Soon, the formalities were completed. Stepping out into the warm sunshine — *I was an IPS!*



Jacqueline, IPS

Looking back, I certainly think the course prepared me for the job. My first case, accompanied by one of the team, gave me the confidence I needed. It was expected to be a relatively simple one but famous last words! Two hours later we emerged, exhausted! The client very grateful and reassured.

I am immensely enjoying the challenge that this new job has brought into my life. However, more Independent Parent Supporters are needed, so do apply and help us give much needed support to many families out there.

See page 6 for details  
of the next training course

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Woodside Road

Norwich  
NR7 9QL



Tel: 01603 704070  
Fax: 01603 704072

email: [parent.partnership@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:parent.partnership@norfolk.gov.uk)  
[www.norfolkparentpartnership.org](http://www.norfolkparentpartnership.org)

# Update on the Special Educational Needs Strategy

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who took the time to respond to the SEN consultation. We had an excellent response, with over 500 written replies. Many of the helpful and constructive suggestions you made have been incorporated into the proposals.

The Elected Members at the Children Services' Review panel have received the report and agreed our proposed next steps. See the full report on:

[www.norfolk.gov.uk/senstrategy](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/senstrategy)

We will be working with schools, Children Services' Staff and other agencies to develop the details of how the plan will be implemented over a 3 year time period. We will be presenting a report to the Children Services' Review panel in January 2007 with full details of the plan.

If you would like more information or wish to discuss this further please contact: Michael Bateman or Suzy Leverett on 0844 800 8001 or email [senstrategy@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:senstrategy@norfolk.gov.uk)

**scope**  
Registered charity no 208231



## West Norfolk School for Parents

Active learning for disabled children and their families

Schools for Parents are friendly, welcoming places where parents can learn how to work and play with their child. They use the principles and practice of Conductive Education to offer active learning to children and families. Sessions are based on the principle that the parent, the professional and the child are a team working together and have equal parts to play in the child achieving success.

Our Service currently runs three afternoons a week at Lynnsport.

Children learn by doing. The pathways in the brain involved in movement are actively being formed, particularly in early childhood. Through learning physical independence skills the children are laying down firm foundations for later learning.

Schools for Parents work with all aspects of the child's development - physical, mental, social and emotional. Every child has different needs, so each programme is designed around the individual and related to his or her abilities.

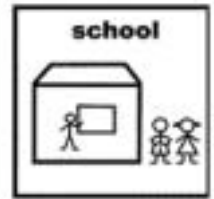
You will work with your own child - as part of a group - using toys, games and songs to make the sessions fun! Children and parents learn to solve problems and make the most of the child's abilities.

This service is currently grant aided by the BIG Lottery and there are no charges to parents.

**Contact**  
**Louise Wilkes (Team Leader)**  
**Tel: 07921404804**



**DO YOU HAVE A CHILD WITH  
SPECIAL OR ADDITIONAL NEEDS?**



**WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE  
A PARENTS' AND CARERS' COUNCIL IN NORFOLK?**

**WHO?** All parents and carers of children with special or additional needs. Come and meet Liz Ranger, Parent Participation Manager from the charity 'Contact a Family'.

**WHERE?** Clare School, South Park Avenue, Norwich NR4 7AU

**27<sup>th</sup> November** - Coffee at 7.00 pm for 7.30 start  
and

Wensum Valley Golf Club, Beech Avenue, Taverham  
Norwich NR8 6HP

**28<sup>th</sup> November** - Coffee at 10.00 am for 10.30am start

**For further details contact:**

**Ian at [i-midi@supanet.com](mailto:i-midi@supanet.com) or call**

**Liz Ranger at 'Contact a Family' on 020 7608 8784**



The National Autistic Society have launched a national campaign for the 'right' education for every child with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder. They are asking for:

1. **The right school for every child**  
Every child with autism should have local access to a diverse range of main stream and specialist educational provision.
2. **The right training for every teacher**  
All teachers should expect to teach a child with autism and must receive appropriate training to best support their needs.
3. **The right approach in every school**  
All schools should be autism-friendly schools which promote and provide a positive environment for children with autism now and in the future.

Asperger East Anglia and Norfolk Autistic Society launched this campaign on the 10th July 06 with the support of Norfolk County Council.

For information about the National Autistic Society's Campaign  
**'make school make sense'** see [www.autism.org.uk](http://www.autism.org.uk)

## Anti-Bullying Week: 20th - 24th November 2006

This year's theme is bystanders - often a neglected group by schools but they can play an important part in stopping bullying. Did you know that 85% of all bullying incidents are observed by an audience and in only 25% of cases peers help the victim? Yet recent research found that when they did, the bullying stopped in the majority of cases.

All schools will have received a CD Rom from the Anti-Bullying Alliance containing a wealth of ideas for the week. If your school can't find their copy go to the website -

[www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk) where you will find ideas on

assemblies, activities and facts about bullying and bystanders. Rita Adair in conjunction with Lorna Vyse, Victim Support has produced an activity for children from Year 5 upwards on the theme of the Bystander. Go to the website to download.

We would welcome parents and community members to any of the five local conferences we have organised throughout the week. These conferences will celebrate local anti-bullying initiatives and include a drama on the theme of the Bystander. Conferences are free and suitable for Year 5 upwards.

To book places please contact  
**Jean Powell on**  
[jean.powell@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:jean.powell@norfolk.gov.uk)

### Dates and venues

**20th November 9.45 - 2.45 p.m.**  
**Attleborough High School**

**21st November 10 - 12.30 p.m.**  
**King's Lynn PDC**

**22nd November 10 - 12.30 p.m.**  
**John Innes Centre, Norwich**

**23rd November 10 - 12.30 p.m.**  
**Imperial Hotel, Great Yarmouth**

**24th November 10 - 12.30 p.m.**  
**South Green Park Enterprise, Mattishall.**





## David Moat Seminars

Two Seminars For Parents and Professionals on  
Managing Autistic Behaviour.

23/11/06 - 'Effective Communication' and  
'Achieving Emotional Expression'.

30/11/06 - 'Understanding Behaviour' and  
'Beyond Management'

Tea and Coffee provided

- **Organisation Name:** Norfolk Autistic Society
- **When:** Thursday 23 Nov 10am to 1pm Thursday 30 Nov 10am to 1pm
- **Where:** Age Concern, Great House Training Centre, 300 St. Faiths Road, Old Catton, Norwich
- **Cost:** Professionals £28 Per Session or £50 for both.  
Parents £16 Per Session or £30 for both.  
and

### Guest Lecture

Author of 'Sensory Perceptual Issues in Autism and Asperger Syndrome'  
Dr Olga Bogdashina, will be speaking on Sensory Issues in ASD

- **Organisation Name:** Norfolk Autistic Society
- **When:** Wednesday 15 Nov 2006 at 8pm
- **Where:** John Jarrold Suite, UEA Sportspark, Norwich, NR4 7TJ
- **Cost:** Tickets for non-members £7.50 in advance or £9 on the door

For more details contact:  
Paula Cole, Tel: 01603 631171  
Contact Email:  
[info@norfolkautistic.org.uk](mailto:info@norfolkautistic.org.uk)



## New Parent Partnership Officer

We are pleased to welcome **Debbie Sands**, Parent Partnership Officer, to our team. Debbie is covering for Sarah Merrick, who has taken a year's break. Debbie has come from the Youth and Community Team and has a wide knowledge of working with children with special educational needs. The rest of the

team remains the same; Jan Eastwood, Parent Partnership Officer, Janina Schiebler, Parent Partnership Support Worker and Elizabeth Fletcher, who manages the office for us. If you are not happy about the progress your child is making at school or the support they are getting, then give us a ring and we will be happy to advise you.



## Free training course for Volunteers

**Spring 2007**

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

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

Aylsham Lodge Hotel,  
Norwich Road, Aylsham.  
NR11 6JH

**Wednesdays:**

**9th May, 16th May,  
23rd May, 6th June,  
13th June and  
20th June, 2007.**

**Final interviews held on the  
27th June, 2007.**

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

## Special Needs Norfolk Exhibition

Date for your 2007 diary  
**13th September 2007**

at the UEA Sportspark  
Norwich

## Has your child got Special Educational Needs? You may be entitled to benefits

Please contact your local  
Citizens Advice Bureau for further  
information

Norwich 01603 765783  
King's Lynn 01553 774719  
Gt Yarmouth 01493 856665

## Are you interested in Exclusions Training?

For further information contact  
**Norfolk Parent Partnership**  
on **01603 704070**  
or email: **parent.  
partnership@norfolk.gov.uk**



**Indigo Dyslexia**  
have a new help  
line number

**0845 3479322**


See their updated website:

**[www.4dyslexics.com](http://www.4dyslexics.com)**

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**Please let us know if you would  
like large print copies or if  
translations would be useful.  
*Now available in Portuguese.***

Norfolk Parent Partnership is funded by  **Norfolk** County Council  
working with the voluntary sector and other professionals to support parents and  
carers of children with special educational needs.