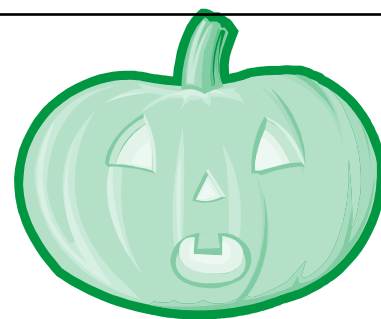




Partnership News

Autumn 2009



Helping parents and carers of children with special educational needs

Norfolk Parent Partnership
Woodside Road
Norwich NR7 9QL



Tel: 01603 704070
Fax: 01603 704072
Email: parent.partnership@norfolk.gov.uk

www.norfolkparentpartnership.org.uk

Members of the Steering Group



Schools



EAST ANGLIA
Assisting the able autistic
Registered Charity No. 1074699



Reg. No. 1111097
Company Reg. No. 5405276

**Norfolk County
Council
Children's
Services**

**Central
Norfolk
Primary Care
Trust**



connexions

NORFOLK

family voice
together improving services

Norfolk Parent Partnership is here to help you



If your child is having difficulties at school with his/her learning or behaviour it may be because your child has a special need. If you would like to discuss any concerns confidentially and privately with our adviser, please ring us on the above number or email. **Schools should send this newsletter to every child who has an IEP (Individual Education Plan).** If you know someone who does not receive one, they can ask school.

CALL US FOR IPS TRAINING - OCTOBER 2009 OR FEBRUARY 2010

Lamb Inquiry

(Annual Reviews – Parents will have further rights to appeal)

Ed Balls, the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families, has accepted the first findings from the Inquiry on SEN and is **recommending** that the law be changed by:

- **OFSTED reporting on the quality of education provided for disabled children and those with SEN**
- **To give parents the right of appeal if the local**

authority does not make changes requested at an annual review

This will not happen immediately; we will let you know through the newsletter when this applies, so make sure your child's school continues to send this newsletter to you.

Please look at the following website to see the full report:

www.dcsf.gov.uk/lambinquiry



The Rose Report - Identifying and Teaching Children and Young People with Dyslexia and Literacy Difficulties

Sir Jim Rose was asked by the government to look into how children with literacy difficulties including dyslexia are being supported at school and to recommend changes. He found there was some good support but that teachers needed more training and advice to recognise and help children with literacy difficulties, particularly dyslexia, earlier.

He said 1-1 support is not essential, that small group work has also been found to be helpful, and it is the quality of the teaching which is important. He suggested how teachers could be supported in teaching and advised these training levels:

Core Skills - All teachers should have at least a working knowledge of how to recognise a child that may have literacy difficulties and know where to go for advice.

Advanced Skills - At least one teacher in each school has this level of skill or there is a partnership arrangement with another school to share a teacher.

Specialist Skills - The Department of Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) should fund a number of teachers to take specialist training. Groups could be formed to share the specialist teacher.

Teachers can register with the Dyslexia-Spld Trust to show that they are interested in receiving the above training by emailing:
info@thedyslexia-spldtrust.org.uk

Sir Rose also recommended that:

Schools work with parents
to help children overcome their difficulties.

The DCSF to write guidelines
for schools and parents about how they can work together to better support children.

To see the full report go to: ➡

<http://publications.dcsf.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/00659-2009DOM-EN.pdf>



The National Federation of Families with Visually Impaired Children

Anna is the newly appointed Family Support Worker who will help support families with visually impaired children. Anna is available to give emotional support, advice and help with completing Disability Living Allowance Forms etc .

Anna will be working 4 days a week, Monday to Thursday and is based at the Sensory Support Centre, Woodside Road, Norwich.

Please contact Anna on **01603 704040** and ask for Anna @ Look
Or e-mail: anna@look-org.uk

www.look-uk.org



We are new to the Breckland and the South Norfolk area

Home-Start is a voluntary organisation, offering practical support and friendship to families of children under 5

Problems can come for parents who are lonely, depressed, bereaved or suffering from illness, Post Natal Depression, for example. The introduction of a supportive 'friend' can play a vital role in the well being of not only the parent but the whole family.

Support, when needed and given at the right time, reduces the potential for family breakdown.

Home-Start volunteers, who are usually parents themselves, visit families in their own homes, where the family's dignity and identity can be respected.

Parents supporting other parents.

All volunteers attend a basic course of preparation before being linked to families.

Great emphasis is placed on confidentiality throughout.

If you like the idea of helping a family with young children, by visiting for a few hours a week on a regular basis,

contact Carron on: 01842 765206
for more details.

Home-Start Breckland & South Norfolk
Registered Charity No. 294123



Transition to Secondary School Service Year 6 Pupils (aged 10-11)



What will happen?

During September 2009 your child will bring home an Admissions Pack with an Application Form and a booklet: '**A parents' guide to secondary schools in Norfolk**'.

What should I do now?

Name your preferred schools and return to Admissions before the closing date of **13th November 2009**. Or fill your form in online at:
www.admissionsonline.norfolk.gov.uk

What if I don't reply?

Your child may not get a place at the secondary school you prefer, or even your catchment school, but will be given a place at the nearest school with spaces.

Please note that this process is different to the one for children moving to high school who have statements.



Norfolk Parent Partnership and Parent Support Advisers (PSA)

Parent Partnership provides an arms length service offering **impartial, neutral and accurate advice** to parents of children with **Special Educational Needs**, on educational matters only. It supports on **ALL educational issues** including the statutory assessment process, Individual Education Plans and additional support in school as well as exclusions and attendance. It will signpost parents to services, including the PSA in the school cluster, who can offer support with other issues. Norfolk Parent Partnership covers the whole of Norfolk, following the SEN Code of Practice guidelines.

The Parent Support Adviser's role (PSA) is to **reduce exclusions** and **increase attendance** through **early support** and **parenting advice**. The role may offer parenting groups or courses.

The PSA will support all families offering advice on issues surrounding the family, including welfare benefits, housing and education. SEN issues will usually be signposted to Parent Partnership. The PSA is **based within school cluster groups**.



Norwich Parent Support Group



Held at the Surestart Rooms in the Norman Centre

First Thursday of every month from
9.15 - 11.30am

No charge for group
Someone from Family Support
Department always attends
Small library of books

Next group is on 1st October

Higher Education Information Day for Students with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (Enquiries through SENCO)

Tuesday 20th October 2009

The John Jarrold Suite,
UEA Sportspark,
University of East Anglia,
Norwich NR4 7TJ
09.30am - 14.15pm

To inform young people in year's 10 and 11 of the opportunities and support available in Higher Education and to give them a taster experience of university life.

Parking will be available at the Sportspark-UEA

N.B. We would encourage you not to wear school uniform at the HE Information Day. Please bring comfortable clothes - part of the day involves a tour of the campus and it is advisable to bring waterproof clothing if rain is predicted.



IPS Volunteer Training Spring 2010

Gt Yarmouth Racecourse

On Wednesdays

Introductory Day on 10th February, 24th February, 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th March
Post Course Meeting 31st March.

If you are interested in special educational needs and would like to support parents please ring Norfolk Parent Partnership for more information.

01603 704070

www.norfolkparentpartnership.org.uk

Are you the parent of a child with Special or Additional Needs?

Would you like to meet other parents and discover what support there is for your family?

Have more of a say in the planning of the services your child receives?

Be able to understand the jargon.

Hear and share ideas about enjoying life with your **whole** family however challenging that may seem at the moment?

These workshops are run by parents.

East City Children's Centre,
Duckett Close, Norwich NR1 2LR
on 22nd September, 13th October,
17th November and 1st December 2009.
They are FREE and we provide a FREE crèche on site and a nice lunch

For further information please contact Karen or Anna @bness-solutions.co.uk or telephone 01379 740909 or 01603 621927

Useful Contacts

Anti-Bullying Alliance

The leading coalition of anti-bullying organisations, working all year to reduce bullying and to create a safer environment.

Anti-Bullying Awareness Week

16th-20th November 2009

Cyberbullying

www.antibullying.net/cyberbullying

Contact a Family for families with disabled children

Information/Support/Advice/

Networking/Contact Visit

Helpline: 0808 808 3555

www.cafamily.org.uk

The Hamlet Centre Trust

Provides recreational, educational, social and vocational opportunities for all children with complex health and special needs.

Tel: 01603 625545

www.hamletcentre.org.uk

Norfolk & Norwich Families' House

Family support/parent groups/volunteer befriending scheme

Tel: 01603 621702

Email: admin@familieshouse.org.uk

www.familieshouse.org.uk

Scope for people with cerebral palsy

Working with disabled people, their families and carers.

Tel: 01284 731600

Email: east.anglia@scope.org.uk

www.scope.org.uk

Starfish Partnership Care for Children & Young People with Special Needs

A team of specialist practitioners who are able to respond to the needs of children with learning difficulties which are complex and challenging.

Tel: 01553 762742

www.starfishteam.uk.org

Disclaimer



Norfolk Parent Partnership

Norfolk Parent Partnership is not responsible for articles or events provided by third parties. Any views or opinions are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of Norfolk Parent Partnership.

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.