

Shropshire Parent and Carer Council

AGM and Open Meeting 2016

Participation Report



Information Support Influence Change



SHROPSHIRE Parent
And
Carer
Council

Charity Number 1150180

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PACC AGM and Open Meeting

24th November 2016

Central Baptist Church, Shrewsbury

Agenda

9.30am Refreshment and informal catch up - *including time to visit info stands - IASS/ PACC/Local Offer*

10am Welcome and housekeeping

10.05am AGM

PACC and the big picture

What we have achieved this year

Looking to the future

Financial Report

Chairs Report

Elections

11am Person Centred Approaches in Shropshire

Jess Swire Educational Psychologist, Shropshire Council

12pm Lunch

12.30pm Get Going Activity

12.45pm Workshops - Exploring using person centred approach to improve parent contributions to assessments & reviews

Workshop 1 – Early Years to Year 8 (Jess Swire – Ed Psych)

Workshop 2 – Transition Year 9 upwards (Gary Dean - SEN Team)

14.00pm Closing remarks

14.15pm Conference close

Attendance

30 people booked onto the AGM and Open Meeting

22 people attended - several people sent apologies due to illness

AGM

The activity for the year was reported on as per the PACC Annual Report. The report is available on <https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/23373615/PACC%20Annual%20report%202016.pdf>

No questions were received.

Elections to the PACC Management Board were held and the following individuals were successfully elected;

- Anne Lanham
- Sarah Thomas
- Zara Bowden
- Julie Davenport
- Gail Hogan
- Natalie Hughes
- Michael Thomas
- Christine Thomas



Person Centred Approaches in Shropshire

PACC is working with Shropshire Council to promote person centred approaches to both parent carers and practitioners. Jess Swire from the Shropshire Educational Psychology Service introduced this approach to those attending. Her presentation is available on the following link <https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/23373615/Person%20Centred%20Approaches%20Parent%20Intro%20Session%20-%202024.11.16.pdf>

Workshops - using person centred approach to improve parent contributions to assessments and reviews – two discussion groups.

Early Years – Year 8 Feedback

- Who should attend reviews ?- Designated key workers, Trusted adults e.g teachers who have a specific relationship with the YP/family, personal assistants etc
- TA's should be involved in providing feedback on like and admire
- Key to get the child's voice as well as parents voice when recording what is important now – suggested that things such as communication and relationships are considered
- 'Important For' examples from a parents perspective; to be heard, changes well managed, consistency where possible, recognise what works and keep doing it.
- Issues to be resolved; Recognising and engaging with all key adults in YP's life, parents should be able to initiate meetings, effective identification of needs (can take a long time), recognising that the review process is an ongoing process from the beginning of term (needs promoting), schools don't understand the role of plan writers or what info is needed, schools not understanding what is needed for panel to make an informed decision, improve SEN Governor's understanding of process
- Actions; enable parent feedback to be shared with SENCO Forum, improve guidance for parents about participating in reviews, improve understanding of Early Help, schools to give more notice of meetings, develop a meetings prompt sheet for schools, include like and admire in review paperwork and guidance prompts on review paperwork

Post 16 Feedback

Challenges

- 2 weeks' notice of review date not sufficient
- Staffing is over stretched – good will recognised but only able to respond to crisis – lack of staff to provide proactive support
- Schools led by Ofsted – which only focuses on academic performance
- Too little time given to complete 'All About me' - this either results in a poor document or delays process – should be done earlier at SEN Support
- Limited guidance and examples of what good looks like in terms of parental contribution
- No agenda provided for meeting with parents
- Schools not sharing / taking minutes of meetings or action points
- Teachers not allowing sufficient time for meetings – example given of 'only' having 30 minutes available and of teachers leaving meeting early
- Need to recognise that parents have other commitments too and meetings need to be planned with parent's availability in mind.



Good Practice

- One parent shared positive experience of a LAC review where the young person's picture was on the wall and a record of achievement was maintained. The YP was well engaged in the process
- All pupils should have a one page profile from year 9 – some schools do this
- One parent talked about being given significant notice of review date which enabled them to effectively prepare for the meeting.

Joint discussion

Not Working

- Need examples and paper work on website
- Longer notice of meeting dates to schools needed
- Use similar questions in all sections to get all perspectives – working / not working, like and admire/appreciate
- A blank form for parental contribution to reviews is daunting – needs structure to help / prompt parents to complete
- Completing the ‘not working’ box can have an emotional impact on families and they need support and preparation for going through what can be an upsetting process.



Actions needed

- Make it clear that termly meetings should be used to prepare for reviews – nothing should be a shock – include reference to support for parents in letters to school
- Provide a range of resources to explain the process - including videos
- Use everyday language – deformatize things – EHCP’s have become very technical document especially packed with ‘education speak’ which is not accessible to families
- Develop a range of example completed paper work for Local Offer
- Promote resources such as PFA and other websites with info about person centred approaches
- Provide the option of an electronic copy of all paperwork - not just paper copies
- Put parents in touch with each other at a school level to provide peer to peer support
- Provide clear information about what to do if parents experience difficulties with process.

Summary of Event Evaluation Forms

11 completed event evaluation forms were received, all from parent carers , providing the following feedback;

About the event

Has this event helped you feel more connected to other parent carers?

2 parent carers reported no change, 8 parent carers said they felt their connection with other parent carers had been improved and 1 said it had improve a lot.

Has this event helped you to feel more able to support your family?

3 parent carers reported no change, 8 parent carers reported that the event had improve how able they felt in terms of supporting their family.

Has attending the event increased your knowledge of services?

1 parent carers reported no change, 6 said their knowledge of services had been improved and 4 parent carers said that knowledge had improved a lot.

Has attending the event made you feel more confident or more aware of opportunities to participate in decision s that affect children with SEND?

3 parent carers reported no change, 5 parent carers said the event had improved their confidence or awareness of opportunities to participate in decision making and 3 said that confidence or awareness had improved a lot.

PACC AGM

Have you received sufficient information about PACC's activity for the last year, the outcomes that have been achieved, how we work and our plans for the future?

10 parent carers said yes, 1 said they were not sure.

Person Centred Approaches Presentation / Workshop

Has attending this event increased your understanding of person centred approaches and how they help you contribute to assessments and reviews ?

1 parent carer reported no change, 7 parent carers said that the event had improved their understanding and 3 said it had improved their understanding a lot.

Would you be interested in attending further training around the use of person centred approaches?

10 parent carers said yes, 1 parent carer didn't answer this question.

How did we do?

Rating of venue

5 parent carers rated the venue good, 6 parent carers gave a rating of very good.

Rating of refreshments

6 parent carers rated the refreshments as good, 5 parent carers gave a rating of very good.

Rating of organisation of event

2 parent carers gave a rating of good, 9 parent carers gave a rating of very good.

Comments

- **PACC AGM - have you received sufficient information.....**

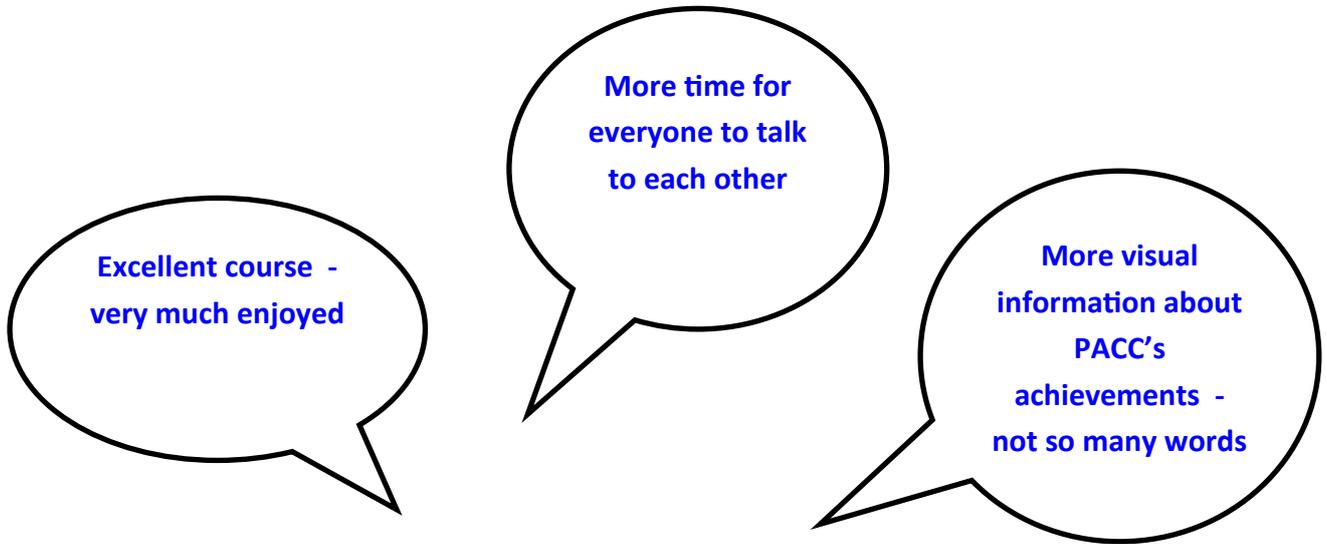


- **Person Centred Approaches - Is there any aspect of using a person centred approach that you feel you want to know more about it?**



How did we do?

- How if at all, could the event be improved in terms of time, content and structure etc?



Thank you to all parent carers and practitioners who attended this event. We appreciate the contributions that you all make and your willingness to support PACC. Particular thanks to Gary Dean and Sarah Sweeney from the Shropshire SEN team and Dr Jessica Swire from the Shropshire Educational Psychology Service for their time in planning and delivering the event.

