



**Parent Carer Council  
Shropshire (PACC)**  
*Championing the Voice of  
Shropshire's SEND  
Community*

**AGM & Inclusion Workshop  
21<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

**Information & Support, Influence & Change**

# Welcome

- ▶ Introductions and Housekeeping
- ▶ AGM
- ▶ Discussion activity – ‘Can Mainstream Schools be Inclusive and What Would that Look Like?’
- ▶ Close of Meeting

The poster features a background image of a group of people sitting at tables in a meeting room. Overlaid on this are several text elements: a logo for PACC Shropshire, a title in a blue bubble, a subtitle in a smaller blue bubble, event details in white text on a pink background, and a registration instruction in a light blue bubble. At the top right, there is a green vertical bar and the text 'Information & Support | Influence & C'.

Information & Support | Influence & C

PARENT CARER COUNCIL  
**PACC**  
Championing your voice  
SHROPSHIRE

**“The Importance of Inclusion”  
and PACC’s AGM**

Can mainstream schools be inclusive  
and what would that look like?

**Friday 21st March  
10:30am–12:30pm  
at Shrewsbury Wildlife Trust**

Join PACC to discuss how inclusion can  
work in mainstream schools, followed  
by our Annual General Meeting- hear  
updates on PACC’s year and our plans  
for 2025

Please complete the linked form  
to register your interest. For more  
information, please email;  
[Louise@paccshropshire.org.uk](mailto:Louise@paccshropshire.org.uk)

# Influence & Change

## Aim

Ensuring that the Shropshire Parent Carer Community has opportunities to have their voice heard and influence the decision making that impacts their family.

## Activity

PACC representatives attend an extensive range of regular strategic and operational meetings with Shropshire Council and Shropshire & Telford and Wrekin Integrated Commissioning System. This includes

- ▶ SEND & Alternative Provision Partnership Board and Workstreams
- ▶ Early Help Partnership Board
- ▶ SEND Comms Group
- ▶ Neurodevelopmental Pathway Group
- ▶ Autism Strategy Group & Sub Groups
- ▶ Learning Disability & Autism Operational Board



# Specific Influence & Change Activity 2023/24

- ▶ Proposals to Remove Discretionary School & Transport Assistance
- ▶ 5<sup>th</sup> Mad, Sad Glad Survey Launched
- ▶ Short Breaks Survey & workshop
- ▶ PACC response to SEND & AP Strategy & Outcomes Framework
- ▶ Co-produced Shropshire SEND Survey
- ▶ EHCPs – Named Placements Survey
- ▶ Re commissioning of Shropshire IASS
- ▶ Re Commissioning of Short Breaks
- ▶ Joint Conference with AWM – Living positively with Neurodiversity
- ▶ Neurodiversity and Social Care Conference
- ▶ Partnership for the Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS)
- ▶ Seeing You Seeing Me Exhibition – raising the profile of SEND in Shropshire



# Community Support

## Aim

Supporting SEND families to be better connected, reducing isolation and improving family life through social networks where information and support can be shared.

## Activity

- ▶ Actio Partnership
- ▶ Buddies Social Network
- ▶ Healthy Lives Holiday Programme
- ▶ Preparation For Adulthood Navigator Project





# PACC Community Support

## Year Update



### 14-25 Yrs Activities

Our activity offer for 14-25 is about making community-based activities accessible to this group, bringing together activity providers into one co-ordinated programme that offers meaningful opportunities to learn new skills, build confidence, make friends and get active. This year we have some returning providers as well as a number of new providers. Activities including Rock! Music school, Taylor Support independence session, Arthog, Kayaking, Singalongs, soft-play, yoga and art workshops.



### Family Activities

This year we have an increased offer for the younger cohort. Including all age family activities; including swimming, sensory disco and soft play, activities for 5+ including swimming, pool party, soft play, sensory disco and tennis, activities for 8+ including swimming, pool party and cycling. Please note that children attending these sessions will require a PA/ Parent Carer to support them during the session, and siblings are welcome to attend.



### Complex Needs Activities

This year we have an increased activity offer for young people with more complex needs including sensory story time, soft play, 1:1 trampolining and singing sessions.



147,206 hours of free activity offered over PACC's Summer Programme 2024



<b>PFA Navigator Service</b>	757 direct contact with Parent Carers
<b>Buddies Social Network (14-25)</b>	427 Children and Young People
<b>Buddies Jnr Social Network (8-14)</b>	227 Children and Young People
<b>Healthy Lives Programme</b>	189 Children and Young People
<b>Healthy Parent Carer Course</b>	1 course delivered
<b>Actio</b>	1310 Children and Young People registered



Buddies Social Network has seen an increase from 204 members to 372 members (82% increase)

Over 1300 people visited St Mary's Church to see the Seeing You Seeing Me exhibition



CELEBRATING YOUNG PEOPLE FROM THE SHROPSHIRE SEND COMMUNITY



Photographic Exhibition & Trail

Come and join us!

"I love the pictures showing us just doing ordinary things together - these are really beautiful"

St Mary's Church and around Shrewsbury Town Centre

Saturday 26th October until Friday 1st November



14 holiday activities  
18 term-time activities

# Information Provision

## Aim

Ensuring Parent Carers are informed with accurate and appropriate information. Providing information and signposting for parent carers so they can make informed decisions about the support they and their families receive.

## Activity

- ▶ Monthly Newsletter
- ▶ Website
- ▶ Direct Mailouts
- ▶ Social Media





# COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT



Facebook Visits

22.7k

↑ 77%

Facebook Followers / Likes

2.1k / 7.2K

↑ 28%



Web Posts

49



Newsletters

9



Surveys

6

Other Engagement

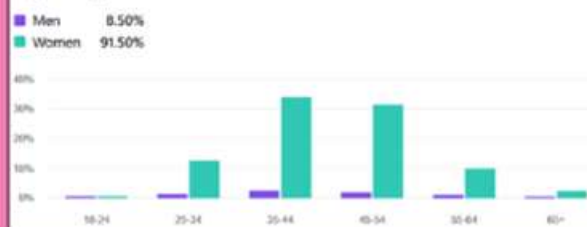
We send direct emails regularly to targeted groups that we have access to via the Actio Consortium Database. This has 925 members currently.

We share information and resources via Shropshire's Local Offer Newsletter and Email List, which has approximately 2,500 subscribers.

## Demographics of Followers on Facebook

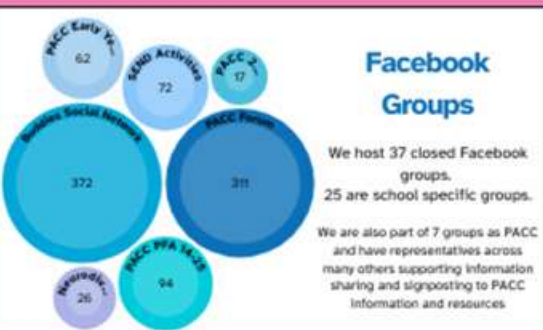
Shrewsbury	856
Telford	229
Oswestry	157
Bridgnorth	61
Whitchurch	60
Market Drayton	53
Ludlow	38
Broseley	25
Shifnal	24
Wrexham	23

### Age and gender



## Facebook Page Engagement

REACH 47.5K  
 VIEWS 63.8K  
 SHARES 2600



[www.paccshropshire.org.uk](http://www.paccshropshire.org.uk)



PACC Shropshire  
 12 posts 106 followers 62 following

Information & Support | Influence & Change  
 Championing your voice to influence change  
 Shropshire based SEND Charity  
<https://linktr.ee/paccshrops>



Followed by juss0702, zara\_fitness\_party and afterglow\_event\_hire

Following ▾

Message



Coffee&Chat PFA Navigators InfoProvision Influence/Cha...



Parent Carer Council Shropshire - PACC

1.6K likes · 2.1K followers



Official public facebook page for the Shropshire Parent and Carer Council (PACC). Charity No. 1150180.

Liked

Message





# Chairs Report

*“As a Parent Carer Forum, it is our commitment to support the SEND community to inform and influence local systems and services to be better, aspire for greater, and to deliver impact that means something to us as families. We have achieved a lot this year, it has not been easy by any stretch of the imagination, and it has certainly tested our strength as a representative team. But we have held firm on the high standards that we expect of the system, and we have been clear that your voices are at the heart of our contributions in coproduction and engagement opportunities.”*

*Zara*



# Finances April 2023 – March 2024

Budget Area	Carry Forward 22/23	Income	Spend	Carry Forward 24/25
DFE Participation Grant	NIL	£17,500	£17,500	Nil
Healthy Lives	£21,599	£15,000	£19,760	£16,839
Regional Fund	£8,404	NIL	£7204	£1200
Actio	NIL	£12,000	£10,171	£1829 (trans to Unrestricted)
Shropshire Autism in Schools	£4000	£4000	NIL	£8000 (trans to PINS)
North Midlands Autism in Schools	£41,457	£136,200	£157,244	£20,413
PFA Navigator Project	£31,387	£50,000	£35,616	£45,771
PA Pool Project	£1337	NIL	NIL	£1337
Unrestricted	£8011	£29,680	£5696	£31,995
	<b>£116,195</b>	<b>£264,380</b>	<b>£253,191</b>	<b>£127,384</b>

# Organisational Structure – thinking about the future

- ▶ Created 2008
- ▶ Registered as an unincorporated charitable organisation with The Charity Commission in 2012
- ▶ Constitution last reviewed in 2016
- ▶ 6 paid members of staff
- ▶ PACC as an organisation has developed and grown and it has become clear that this structure and constitution are no longer fit for purpose.

# The Way Forward

This was first discussed with the Shropshire SEND Community at the 2020 – 2021 AGM when it was agreed that PACCC would,

- ▶ *Explore alternative charity structures that would more effectively support PACCC's Sustainability*

*Due to a number of factors (Covid 19, increasing workload etc) this action hasn't been carried out in full.*

PACCC is currently exploring next steps with the support and guidance of 'Community Matters'

*(As a Parent Carer Forum supported by Contact, PACCC has access to advice and support from Community Matters who provide "support, advice and guidance, enabling local communities and organisations to grow and achieve" [www.communitymatters.org.uk](http://www.communitymatters.org.uk) )*

# Supporting Organisational growth

- ▶ An unincorporated association (PACC's current status) is not incorporated, so PACC cannot enter into contracts or own property in its own right.
- ▶ While PACC has no plans to purchase property in the near future, if the Community Support area of work continues to grow PACC may need to consider entering into delivery contracts in its own right, related to the delivery of services. This is a key consideration for PACC's future development. Being able to issue contracts would also provides more security for paid staff.

The background of the slide is a dark blue color with a pattern of lighter blue, 3D-style question marks scattered across it. In the top right corner, there is a vertical yellow bar.

Questions?

# Can Mainstream Schools be Inclusive and What Would that Look Like?

“This lost learning perpetuates cycles of disadvantage and stifles economic growth, casting a long shadow over the lives of children, families and communities. New analysis finds that children lost 6.8 million days of learning in the autumn term before the pandemic (2019/20) due to suspensions and unauthorised absence, but this rose sharply to 11.5 million days in the same period in 2023/24; that is an increase of 67%. Each year, more children lose out on more days of school: there was a rise of 10 per cent alone between the autumn terms of 2022/23 and 2023/24. Permanent exclusions are also up by over one-third, and elective home education has increased by one-fifth”

<https://the-difference.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/FINAL-Who-is-Losing-Learning-Solutions-Report.pdf>

# Parental Confidence

- ▶ Recent research found 90 per cent of parents of pupils with additional needs said their child was well supported in a special school, just 59 per cent said the same in a mainstream school.
- ▶ Government is promising a 'community wide solution' which will include "improving inclusivity and expertise in mainstream schools, as well as ensuring special schools cater to those with the most complex needs".
- ▶ Researchers concluded there is "some way to go to achieve the aim of building parents' confidence in the ability of mainstream settings to effectively meet the needs" of youngsters with SEND.



# The Education Secretary Says.....



**Belong**      **Achieve**      **Thrive**

**Trust**      **Accountable**      **Innovate**

**Collaborate**

**Welcome**      **Engage**

# What do they Need to Know?

As part of the SEND and Alternative Provision Change programme Shropshire Council is currently developing Inclusive Provision Guidance for Shropshire Early Years, schools and colleges.

- ▶ What do you think needs to happen to make mainstream schools inclusive?
- ▶ How will we know if a school is inclusive?



Thank You

