



# Shropshire Parent Carer Council Monthly Newsletter. April 2024

Welcome to PACC's monthly newsletter.

If you have any questions or require any further information,  
please email:



[info@paccshropshire.org.uk](mailto:info@paccshropshire.org.uk)



## SEND & Alternative Provision Change Programme: Advisory Tailored Lists



One element of the SEND & AP Change Programme is responding to feedback from families highlighting the need for improved support when they are considering which school can meet the needs of their child. The proposal being tested will mean that parent carers and family carers will be provided with an Advisory Tailored List, to support them to express an informed preference for a placement within their child's Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHC plan).

This will be an individualised list of mainstream, specialist or independent settings, as appropriate. All settings on the list will be considered likely to be suitable to meet the child's special educational needs, and supporting information will provide a clear picture of what each school or college offers.

[READ MORE](#)

## Continuing Health Care

contact



Continuing care is an NHS-funded care package for children and young people aged under 18 with complex health needs arising from illness or disability. A continuing care package for children is different from NHS continuing healthcare for adults. Children who receive a continuing care package are not automatically eligible for continuing healthcare for adults when they turn 18.

[READ MORE](#)

## Ofsted Thematic Inspection – Alternative Provision



What is Alternative Provision?

There is a 'duty to provide alternative education as outlined below.

'If your child is of compulsory school age but is not receiving education because:

- illness is preventing them from being able to attend school
- they have been permanently excluded from school, or
- for any other reason,

then under section 19 of the Education Act 1996, your local authority (LA) has a legal duty to secure suitable, full-time alternative education for them.'

IPSEA <https://www.ipsea.org.uk/getting-temporary-education-put-in-place>

The aim of such placements is to ensure that children and young people are able to access an education offer that is suitable for their needs and where possible are integrated back into the core education system.

[READ MORE](#)

## Update on Short Breaks Recommissioning in Shropshire



PACC has previously shared information about the recommissioning of specialist Short Breaks services in Shropshire. This work originally focussed on the overnight and specialist community sessions and groups delivered by Action For Children on behalf of Shropshire Council, however due to staffing changes and restructuring at the Local Authority, this recommissioning work now includes the All In programme, currently delivered by Actio. This means that new contracts will need to be in place for non-assessed Short Breaks (All In) and the two assessed Short Breaks offers from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025.

PACC has been working with Shropshire Council to ensure that the tenders for these contracts are informed by what SEND families say they would like the Shropshire Short Breaks offer to look like.

More information and Surveys to share your views are available on the PACC website.

[READ MORE](#)

# Surveys



PACC regularly share surveys to collect feedback from the SEND community. Below are links to active surveys created by PACC or surveys that influence the wider SEND system

## Shropshire Council- Shropshire's Draft Independent Living and Specialist Accommodation strategy 2023 to 2028.

The draft strategy describes the critical importance of housing as more than just shelter, emphasising the importance of providing more homes that meet various housing needs, especially for older, vulnerable, and disabled individuals.



## Shrewsbury Sports Village Transformation

We want to create a multi-feature centre which is more appealing to a wider demographic, is more accessible, will attract greater revenue and offers an energy efficient modern building, and we need your help to make sure we get it right.



## School Library Service

In Shropshire, the School Library Service (SLS) operates as a traded service, which schools can buy into, and around 65% of schools in Shropshire choose to do so. The service has been operating at a loss and feedback is being collected on possible options to continue the service.



## Advisory Tailored List- Parent Carer Survey

In areas where the SEND and AP Change Programme is taking place, local authority caseworkers will provide parents and carers with an advisory tailored list, to support them to express an informed preference for a placement in their child's Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHC plan). This will be an individualised list of mainstream, specialist or independent settings, as appropriate.



### Launch Party All-in Family Paddle Sessions 2024

5<sup>th</sup> May at Frankwell canoe ramp. 11am to 1pm. Ages 6 to 17 years old.

We warmly invite All-in families to join us, to launch this years' paddlesport programme. Meet the team and discover the activities we have lined up! We are really looking forward to greeting friends, old and new, and there will be plenty of opportunity to get afloat!

More information please email [info@docanoe.com](mailto:info@docanoe.com)



**Drummond Outdoor**  
Supporting paddlers since 1981  
[www.docanoe.com](http://www.docanoe.com)

**PADDLE**<sup>UK</sup>  
DELIVERY PARTNER

## Drummonds Launch Party!

Does your child/ young person have All In membership? This weekend (Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May) Drummonds are launching this years paddlesport programme for ages 6-17.

For more information, please email:  
[info@docanoe.com](mailto:info@docanoe.com)





## Preparation for Adulthood

### SEND law and young people (post-16)

Wednesday 19th June  
9:30am-3:00pm  
Location- Central Shrewsbury

**Are you a Parent Carer of a Young Person aged 14-25?**

**PACC's PFA Navigators are hosting a SEND law Masterclass with IPSEA.**

**The course aims to provide attendees with information about the law on special educational needs and disabilities and the considerations that apply in the context of a young person, empowering families to secure the right education for their child as they transition towards adulthood.**

- What your local authority and education setting should be doing to help
- The framework of the Children and Families Act 2014, including SEN support, EHC needs assessments, content of EHC plans and annual reviews
  - How the Mental Capacity Act 2005 may apply
- Social care duties, including the transition from child to adult social care
  - Transport duties relating to those over compulsory school age

**Please note, places for this event are limited and we cannot guarantee that everyone who registers an interest will be allocated a space.**

[www.paccshropshire.org.uk](http://www.paccshropshire.org.uk)  
[info@paccshropshire.org.uk](mailto:info@paccshropshire.org.uk)  
[@shropspacc](https://twitter.com/shropspacc)





# PREPARATION FOR ADULTHOOD NAVIGATORS

"I have found Abi and Denise to be amazing, it has truly improved my ability to function and support my son & confirmed that I am not alone, & not being an overprotective mum, the difficulties are real ..."

Parent Carer Feedback

## ARE YOU A PARENT CARER OF A CHILD/ YOUNG PERSON AGED 14-25?

We know how difficult it is to navigate the SEND system and how challenging it can be to find relevant information for your child or young person.

Abi and Denise work with Parent Carers of 14-25 year old's with SEND providing signposting and information to support and services in Shropshire to help navigate your child/ young persons journey.

Our PFA Navigators can schedule a 1:1 voice call or Teams call to talk through Preparation for Adulthood. Our Navigators can provide information and support on topics including:

- Further education
- Education, Health and Care Plans
- Annual Reviews
- Activity Plans
- Finances and Benefits
- Employment and Volunteering
- Annual Health Checks
- Staying Healthy
- Mental Health Support
- Being Part of the local community
- Housing Options
- Support for Parent Carers



Abi - PFA Navigator



Denise - PFA Navigator

For more information please contact our PFA Navigators:

[Abi@paccshropshire.org.uk](mailto:Abi@paccshropshire.org.uk)

[Denise@paccshropshire.org.uk](mailto:Denise@paccshropshire.org.uk)



**Healthy Lives  
Programme:  
Booking Now  
Open**

Our Healthy Lives Programme offers all age family activities, community based activities suitable for ages 14-25, and a selection of activities suitable for those with complex needs.

**Activities for children & young people with SEND in Shropshire**

For more information email [info@paccshropshire.org.uk](mailto:info@paccshropshire.org.uk)



### **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.



### **Family Activities**

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**

Offering activities for young people with more complex needs including sensory story time, soft play, 1:1 trampolining and singing sessions.





Each month, we will be shining a spotlight on a child or young person in our SEND community.



## This month meet Owen.

I am 23 years old and moved into my own home with some friends, two years ago. I really like the house because it is near to Shrewsbury Town Football Ground and I love football. I enjoy going to watch the Shrews play when I can, with either one of my support team or my Mum. I can't go to every home match at the moment, because I am busy with rehearsals for 'Shrek' with Identity Dance Group. I am playing Puss in Boots and dancing to my favourite song 'Holding Out For a Hero'. I like dancing, it helps keep me fit, I get to see my friends and I love performing. It makes me feel proud when people clap and cheer us.



I spend every Tuesday at the Shrewsbury Sports Village at the accessible activities session. Sometimes I spend time in the gym, play football or do some cycling on the track on the accessible bikes. I have been going for a while and now I also help Paula the instructor, with some jobs during the day. On Wednesday afternoon I join the pedal for health session, supported by Cycling 4 All Shropshire. I have been cycling with Cycling 4 All for a few years and I love being on the tandem with my Dad. We do some evening ride outs in the summer and stop at the pub for a drink!

When I am at home, I have jobs to do on a rota, and take it in turns to cook evening meals. I am the curry king!! I speak to my Mum and Dad every night after I have finished my time on my computer tablet and before I go to sleep. Mum and Dad visit me regularly and I spend every Sunday with them and my brothers. My eldest brother got married this year and I was the ring bearer, which I took very seriously.

I like living in my own home, but sometimes meeting new members of staff is difficult for me and I don't like it when there are agency staff I don't know on duty. Sometime people find it hard to understand me and to know what I want or how I feel, that along with changes to my routine can make me feel frustrated and angry. When this happens, I ring my Mum or Dad and they help me explain how I feel and to make a new plan if needed. Moving out of the family home has been a big change for all of us and a lot of work. We are still finding out how to make it work best, but we will get there.







**Shropshire - Rising to the Challenge  
(The Early Years)  
Face to Face Training**

9.30 - 11am  
6 Weeks Starting  
Monday 3rd June  
2024

**FREE**



Led by Autism Specialists, this series of training sessions is designed to provide parents and carers with a better understanding of their autistic child and ways to support them. This is open to all Shropshire Council Residents.

Weekly topics include:  
Monday 3rd June 2024- Understanding Autism  
Monday 10th June- Autism and Supporting Social Communication  
Monday 17th June - Autism and Sensory  
Monday 24th June - Autism and Behaviour  
Monday 1st July - Autism and Food  
Monday 8th July- Autism and Toileting/Sleep

Sunflower House, Kendal Road, Shrewsbury, SY1 4ES  
If you have any questions, please email  
shropshire@autismwestmidlands.org.uk

**autism  
west midlands**


## Autism West Midlands- Rising to the Challenge- face to face Training




Led by Autism Specialists, this series of training sessions focuses on the early years and is designed to provide parents and carers with a better understanding of their autistic child. Weekly topics include:

- ♥ Monday 3 June 2024- Understanding Autism
- ♥ Monday 10 June- Autism and Supporting Social Communication
- ♥ Monday 17 June - Autism and Sensory
- ♥ Monday 24 June - Autism and Behaviour
- ♥ Monday 1 July - Autism and Food
- ♥ Monday 8 July - Autism and Toileting/Sleep


[READ MORE](#)

 **W.E.M Where Everyone Matters**

**Wonka (PG)**



Sat 4th May  
SEN Screening @ 10.30am  
Dementia Screening @ 1.30pm



Lights are left on at a low level so audience members can move around, the sound is at a more comfortable level, no trailers played before the film, cushions on the floor for stretching out, and trained ushers on hand to assist. These screenings are Autism Friendly and perfect for younger children.

Based on the extraordinary character at the center of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, "Wonka" tells the wondrous story of how the world's greatest inventor, magician and chocolate-maker became the beloved Willy Wonka we know today. Starring Timothee Chalamet and Olivia Coleman.

[READ MORE](#)





Funded by:



# Taking Part Group Digital Skills Sessions

For **adults** with a **learning disability** living in **Shropshire**.



We support people to feel more comfortable using mobile phones, tablets and laptops.



**Dates**

**and times**



Friday 10th, Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th May  
10:30am - 12:00pm



**Location**

Nerdy Café, 49 Mardol, Shrewsbury, SY1 1PP

**Cost**



Free



Who will be there?

- Taking Part staff
- Volunteers
- Guest speakers



If you have not got a device we might be able to help you to get one.

**Join us and/or contact us to find out more!**



01743 363399. WhatsApp/text 07397 64 66 08



takingpart@takingpart.co.uk



Future dates will be added to our Facebook page and website.  
[www.takingpart.co.uk](http://www.takingpart.co.uk)

# Shropshire Teens Nerdy Cafe



£7.50

Come and hang out with us at the NERDY Shrewsbury for a fun-filled afternoon! Whether you're into board games, video games, or just love hanging out, this is the place to be. Meet new friends, play games, and enjoy some tasty refreshments!

## Date and Location

Thursday 30th May  
12:30pm - 3:30pm

NERDY Shrewsbury  
49 Mardol Shrewsbury SY1 1PP

## Getting there

Pick up and drop off will be the Frankwell Quay Car Park to make it easier for parents and carers.



**SEND  
Boxing Club  
4-17 Years**

**Wednesdays**  
4.45pm-5.45pm  
\*Term Time Only\*  
Shrewsbury  
Delivered by  
4 All Foundation & Marches Academy  
Trust



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



**SEND Music  
Sessions  
3-7 Years**

Selected Saturdays Monthly  
Oswestry Library  
Markey Drayton Library

Delivered by Shropshire Music  
Service and Shropshire Libraries



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



**SEND Multisports  
Sessions  
4-16 Years**

**Thursdays**  
4.15pm - 6.15pm  
Park Hall Stadium, Oswestry  
Multi-sports, fun, games, and  
social activities.

Delivered by The New Saints  
Foundation



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



**SEND Canoeing &  
Paddle Sports  
8-17 Years**

**Selected Dates & Times**  
Group Canoe Sessions and Paddle  
Sports on the River Severn or  
Shropshire Union Canal.

Delivered by Drummond Outdoor.  
Booking essential, please email  
[info@dcanoe.com](mailto:info@dcanoe.com)



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



**SEND Inclusive  
Dance Classes  
11-17 Years**

**Sundays (Selected dates  
each month)**  
2.00pm - 4.00pm  
Shrewsbury

Delivered by Shropshire  
Inclusive Dance



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



**SEND Animal  
Farm Fun  
5-11 Years**

**Selected Saturdays**  
10.00am - 11.30am  
Market Drayton

Delivered by  
4 All Foundation & Marches Academy  
Trust



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