

SEND Family Voice

A monthly newsletter filled with news, information and events for all things SEND in the Redcar & Cleveland area.

Bigger and Better

We were delighted to receive some funding from the National Lottery Community Fund which is allowing us to move in to a bigger office. We know some parents struggle to attend if they have to bring children due to the stairs. Our new office, directly opposite the lifts on the second floor, is now contained to allow you to bring children. We are hoping to have a small selection of fun toys and books to keep children entertained whilst you enjoy a warm drink and chat with fellow parents. The larger space will also allow for events and professional drop-in's with a more private environment to discuss any issues and difficulties. We will have a sign in the window so you can find us easily.

This extra funding will also allow for some more training opportunities and workshops which we will deliver from there. We have another exciting level 2 qualification being delivered by Michaela from Middlesbrough College, more details further on in the newsletter.

Some members of the forum are also being trained to deliver a course for parents called "Time out for Parents". This course is designed for parents who have children with additional needs with weekly sessions focusing on a different theme.

These sessions will be held in person at our offices for 3 hours once a week for 6 weeks.

We start by looking at what life is really like living with your child who has additional needs, helping them reach their potential and how to keep going. We consider how to boost self-esteem through play and learning, respond with good listening, and how our parenting style affects our children's responses.



The six sessions focus on the themes listed below:

- Session 1 Parenting children with additional needs
- Session 2 Self-esteem
- Session 3 Coping with feelings
- Session 4 Understanding behaviour
- Session 5 Managing behaviour
- Session 6 Home and school
- Session 7 The wider family

We provide tips and strategies on each theme and practice or talk through these with parents before they leave so you feel confident to put these in place at home.

Your Voice

We are keen to hear your views and opinions about the SEND services in Redcar and Cleveland. Please take a moment to complete this on the "Your Voice" section of the website. Good, bad or indifferent we want to hear from you!

https://sendfamilyvoicerc.co.uk/you r-voice/

News & Information

Be Heard Service

Be Heard is a free service offered to young people aged 11 – 16 years to help support and maintain mental health and wellbeing. The service is delivered in a youth club setting with different activities to give young people a safe and enjoyable place to meet with friends whilst gaining support and guidance from their trained Mental Health Youth Workers.

Be Heard currently runs from two locations, young people don't need a referral and can attend:

Guisborough Youth Centre Every Thursday 4:00pm - 5:30pm 11-13 yrs 5:30pm -7:00pm 14-16 yrs

A number of neurodivergent young people are accessing the service, however, it wouldn't be suitable for those with higher support needs. Young people can bring a safe person with them on their first session to support with transition. You can find more information on the posters below or by clicking the following link

https://www.teessidemind.org.uk/how-we-can-support-you/our-services/be-heard





Summer HAF

We are pleased to offer some HAF Sessions over the 6 weeks holidays for our children and young people with SEND. These sessions will be open to families who receive free school meals free of charge. For families who do not receive free school meals there will be a small charge of £5 per child to attend, adults are free.

If your child is attending and has any allergies will be allowing parents to bring their own food if they wish. As allergies can be severe, we cannot guarantee that food would not come into contact with another food and are therefore allowing food from home. Allergen information will be displayed from the caterer at all events and it is up to parents to check any ingredients before children eat any of the food provided, especially if there is an allergy or intolerance.

Did you know?

You can sign up for free to be a member of SEND Family Voice. Sign up via the QR code or link below to receive emails about training and workshops and to receive our fabulous monthly newsletter.

https://sendfamilyvoicerc.co.uk/membership/



We will also be offering a waiting list for events in case people cannot attend any of the sessions booked on. We would ask that you provide us with as much notice as possible if you need to cancel a place so we can offer this to another family.

Sessions we will be offering for the summer include:

- Two bouncy castle and soft play sessions for 0-6 years and 6 - 12 years.
- Two swimming inflatable / float sessions for 0-8 years and 8 - 16 years.
- A SEN Disco for 16 25 years

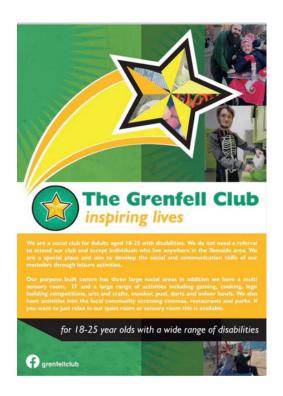
Any other suggestions for sessions please message the page or comment on our post on Facebook.

News & Information cont

18-25 SEND Session

The Grenfell Club are starting a new 18-25 SEND Session at their base in Redcar. Starting on 1st July the first session costs just £5 with an annual membership of £20.00.

Please contact The Grenfell Club for more details.





Post 16 Transport

Following the consultation in February this year, we are aware that Redcar and Cleveland Local Authority are now reviewing their transport offer for those aged 16 and over. We have reached out to the LA to ask about the reviews and understand from the team, that transport should be reviewed each year, however this has not been the case in Redcar and Cleveland. Transport is now being reviewed and we have received the following response:

"Home to School Transport Update

Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council provide transport assistance to around 1700 students, it's important to review applications periodically in line with the policy to make sure that information about student needs and eligibility is up to date.

The Council are currently undertaking reviews of the transport applications, initially the main area of focus is on discretionary transport, however, other applications will be reviewed over the coming months. If your transport request is due to be reassessed you will be contacted by your school.

Post 16 Transport Update

Following the public consultation in February 2025, changes to the Post 16 Transport Policy have will be implemented from September 2025. You can view the policy here. Current post 16 students who are continuing with their current course will continue to be eligible under the previous policy. Further information is being sent out to post 16 students who currently get transport assistance. The post 16 transport application form will be added to the web page from 31st May 2025".

We would urge anyone whose transport is currently been reviewed to ensure they forward all relevant documentation and information so this can be reviewed by the team.





Daisy Chain offer Autism Central virtual learning workshops free to families living in the North East. The free training is offered to families of children and young people with autism. To book please scan the QR code on the poster above or using the link below:

https://daisychainproject.co.uk/product/learni
ng-workshops/

Important Contact Numbers

LA Sen Services - 01642 204503

LA MACH Team 01642 130700 Email - <u>RedcarMACH@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk</u>

Camhs - 0300 013 2000

Shortbreaks Self referral - 01642 771247

Daisy Chain Family Support - 01642 531248 (Option 1)

Carers Together - 01642 488977

Events

SEND Family Voice Events

After half term, our drop in sessions are moving back to our offices and to accommodate parents that work we will be moving them to a Thursday. Starting Thursday 5th June, all drop ins will be in our new office 2T from 10am until 12pm. The enclosed office allows parents to bring children if they are struggling with childcare and also have a more private space to talk about any issues.

This months online evening coffee event will take place on Monday 2nd June at 7pm, we look forward to seeing you for chat and a catchup. There is no pressure to talk or even have your camera on but please feel free to come along if you can.

If you wish to receive our newsletter plus links to our training and workshop offers please ensure you have signed up to become a member. Our membership is free and your details are kept safe and secure and are not disclosed to any third party. Once you are registered you will be asked to confirm your email address. Once you have done this you will receive the latest copy of our newsletter together with a copy of The SEND Guide for Parents. The link is below:

https://sendfamilyvoicerc.co.uk/membership/







Level 2 Qualification for Parents

Michaela from Middlesbrough College is offering another course starting after half term. This will be a level 2 qualification in Understanding Children and Young Peoples Mental Health.

This is due to start at our offices on Wednesday 4th June at 9.30am. If you wish to enrol on this course please come down to the office for 9.15am to enrol and start that day.

Parent and Carer Conference

There are still a few places to sign up and attend our first Parent and Carer Conference. This event will be held on Friday 20th June 2025 at Redcar Leisure Centre.

With a light breakfast, lunch and refreshments provided throughout the day you will be sad to miss this. We are also inviting along a guest speaker!

Our conference is available for 50 people so be quick, the link to book your space is below:

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/parent-carer-conference-tickets-1354484051259?aff=oddtdtcreator

SEN Sessions

In and around the Redcar and Cleveland area.



















