



Parents' Forum for Bradford and Airedale

Easter Newsletter 2021

Spring is here, and another school holiday is almost upon us. While we can't do all the usual things we enjoy during this break, at least there are a few more options open to us since the last stage of reviewing the restrictions.

Read on to find out more about:

- Listening Event news
- What our Engagement Manager has been doing
- Our involvement at meetings
- Find help on the Local Offer
- EHCP workshops for the summer
- How you can help us



PFBA/Bradford Council Listening Event, 22nd April

Following our education-focused joint event earlier this year, we will be holding the next event on the *22nd April 2021 10:00am – 12:30pm*. The session will be held online. The focus will be Health and Social Care and two families will share their experiences of accessing services in the Bradford district.

We would like to encourage parents/ carers to send questions in advance of the meeting around SEND and their experiences and we will work with services to provide as many answers as possible on the day. If you would like to take part in this event please register your place via this link:

<https://pfba.wufoo.com/forms/q15vmnw40me26cz>) You can also send us your questions using this form.

If you are unable to attend but want to receive the feedback from the event direct to your inbox, or if you have any questions before the event, please email supportnews@pfba.org.uk.



Adele Jones, PFBA Engagement Manager

- I am going to be interviewed by The Children's Society in April. They are working with the Department for Education and a team responsible for returning to school and 'catch up'. The aim is to input into the Government, schools and other professional agencies long and short term response to help children and young people to recover from the experiences of the past year. I want to make sure that the experiences of children with SEND are heard and will be relaying the experiences you have all told us about. If you'd like to share your story of what the last year has been like for you, please send me an email adele@pfba.org.uk
- Over the last few weeks I have had the pleasure of speaking with two parents who are going to share their stories with professionals and other parents at a Listening Event in April and it got me thinking even though all our stories differ, the struggles are often the same and I have been able to link some parents up to support each other with issues they may be struggling with.

Our involvement at meetings

- Julie, Adele and Louise continue to represent parents at the SEND Strategic Partnership, Health SEND sub group, Transforming Care Group and Carers' Partnership and our Chair, Michael Firth attends Carers in Action.
- Julie is Chair of the Co-production and Engagement Workstream whose aim is to reach out to families who have children with SEN, provide them with information and updates and find better ways to communicate and support them.
- Julie has been part of the Joint Commissioning Workstream, helping to rewrite the strategy, with the focus being co-producing this with children/young people and parent/carers. This co-productive method will be used in future across health, education and social care to ensure children's and families' voices are part of the development and improvement.

Regional Network



The PFBA are part of the National Network of Parent Carer Forums. Across the Yorkshire & Humber region there are 15 forums who meet on a termly basis to share good practice, discuss issues that they are facing and information on upcoming events that are useful to all our families. We will be sharing these events and information as part of our newsletter moving forward.



Bradford's Local Offer

If you want to find some information about anything to do with disabilities and special educational needs for 0-25 year olds in the Bradford district, the Local Offer website is the best place to start.

They have a set of “One Minute Guides” which are a good place to start to find out more about:

- Annual Reviews
- Annual Review – if you are not happy with the outcome
- EHCP Content
- EHCP Process
- Extra support/SEN support
- Local Offer
- Personal Budgets
- Requesting an EHCP
- SEND Complaint Process
- SENDIASS

You can find these [here](#).

Have you used these? What did you think – did they help you? Did you know that you can feed back about any page or feature on the Local Offer website – they love to hear your views!

Due to covid, we have not been able to offer our usual EHCP group workshops, however, we have been able to run an online alternative.

We have recently started working alongside SENDIASS to deliver EHCP workshops in the Bradford area. This is broken down into a two-part programme:

- SENDIASS run part one. This is all about how the process of assessment works, the legal aspects etc
- The Parents' Forum runs part two. This looks at any particular issues the parents who are attending may have with their child's EHCP.

It is very helpful to attend part one, before part two, however you may still join in if you feel you know about the legal aspects already.

Part One	Part Two
Tuesday 13 th April 10-12	Friday 23 rd April 10-12
Wednesday 12 th May 10-12	Wednesday 19 th May 10-12
Thursday 10 th June 10-12	Tuesday 15 th June 10-12
Tuesday 13 th July 10-12	Monday 19 th July 10-12

To book Part One, please visit the [SENDIASS Facebook page](#) and view their events, or call 01274 5133000.

To book Part Two, please email supportnews@pfba.org.uk.

We need **YOUR** help!



We are planning to produce a newsletter every half term from now on. What would you like us to include in future issues?

We would love to include parents' stories – do you have a hobby that helps you to relax? Is there a group that has given great advice or support? Is there a particular place that you love to take your child? Do tell us! You can remain anonymous if you prefer and you don't have to provide photos – although we would love it if you did!

Also, if there's a particular topic you would like us to cover, please let us know.

You can contact us via supportnews@pfba.org.uk, or via [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).