

May 2023

The Parents' Forum for Bradford and Airedale

# News and Events Round-Up



## In This Issue:

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- 2 Spotlight on Services
- 3 The Local Offer needs you!
- 4 Play Day at Nell Bank
- 5 Get your Max Card for the summer
- 6 Transport arrangements for next school year
- 7 PFBA News

## Spotlight on Services

In late 2022/early 2023 we asked parent carers which disability-related services they would like to know more about. Many of the responses mentioned education and social care.

We have used the feedback you gave us to arrange two events during June. These are the first two of our "Spotlight on Services" series. You will be able to hear from representatives of Education and Social Care, and ask them questions directly.

Both events will take place at the Carlisle Business Centre, Carlisle Road, Bradford, BD8 8BD, from 10 am to 12 pm. Tea and coffee will be available. Places are limited and must be booked via the links below.



Charlie Lowe will be joining us for the first event on Wednesday 7th June to talk about changes in the SEN Team and to answer your questions.

You can book a place [here](#).

Later in June, on Wednesday 28th, David Stephens from the Social Care Team will be speaking about plans to update services, and will hear directly from parents what their concerns are.

Book a place via [this link](#).



If you are not able to attend the event(s), but would like to ask a question, please email it to [supportnews@pfba.org.uk](mailto:supportnews@pfba.org.uk). We will share responses to all questions asked after the events via email and social media.

May 2023

## Have your say about the Local Offer

On Friday 9th June at McMillan Tower in Bradford, join the SEN team and have a say in the improvements to the Local Offer website.

Free places need to be booked, and you can do that [here](#).



They would like to hear your feedback on:

- The quality of service information on the website.
- How the website will look, helping with a new design.
- How the website works, improving functionality and searching.
- Testing the website so that it is ready for delivery to families in the Bradford district by November 2023.

Refreshments will be provided and children are welcome too.



May 2023

## BIDS Play Day at Nell Bank



Bradford Inclusive Disability Service (formerly the Toy Library) have arranged another Disability Play Day at Nell Bank.

These are always great fun and an opportunity to meet other parents and for children to play in an understanding environment.

Please contact them directly for more information or to book.

**Saturday 24th June 2023**

**PLAY 1 - 4PM DJ / DISCO 4 - 6PM**

### Bradford Community Disability Play Day

**THIS IS A FREE EVENT FOR ALL CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES**

**FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS**

ICE CREAM VAN	LARGE PLAY EQUIPMENT
NELL BANK FAMILY ACTIVITIES	CRAFT STALLS
CLIMBING WALL	SPONGE TREE CRAFT
ARTS AND CRAFTS	IMAGINATION GAMING
INFORMATION STALLS	PICNIC AREAS

**PLUS LOTS OF OTHER FUN STUFF**

**Nell Bank, Denton road, Ilkley, LS29 ODE**

**B.I.D.S**

**BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL**  
To book your place contact:

[Bradfordinclusivedisabilityservice@outlook.com](mailto:Bradfordinclusivedisabilityservice@outlook.com)

Or Phone Emma / Michelle on:  
**01274 365463**

**Saturday 24th June 2023**  
**Nell Bank 1 – 6pm**

Aiming High Lodge available throughout day for Hygiene Suite & First Aid

Mini-bus available to transport families from Ilkley train station

Free Event funded by  
Small Grants  
Shortbreaks  
Funding & Partners

The Parents' Forum will have an information stall, so please do come and see us and say hi! We will look forward to meeting you.

May 2023

## Get your Max Card!



As the summer break approaches, you may start to think about what to do, and places to go. A Max Card offers discounts to a wide variety of attractions throughout the UK. For example:

Thackray Medical Museum in Leeds - two adults and two children go free.

Shibden Hall in Halifax - free entry

North Bay attractions (Scarborough) - 20 % off

Funzy inflatable park in Bradford - 20% off

These are just a few ways you can save money on days out using the card.

Cards cost £3 each (plus £1 p&p and 30p if you pay by PayPal) and they last for two years.



To obtain a card before the summer break, please apply [via this link](#) and pay for the card, by **Sunday 16th July** at the latest. Cards ordered after this date will not be issued until September.

You can find out more on our webpage, [www.pfba.org.uk/resources](http://www.pfba.org.uk/resources), and discover where you can use the card on [www.mymaxcard.co.uk](http://www.mymaxcard.co.uk)

## 5th - 11th June is Carers' Week and the theme for this year is 'Recognising and supporting carers in the community'.

Carers UK has a full, varied programme of events for the week. These include book discussion, mindfulness and a workshop about caring while in employment.



You can see their full programme [here](#).

Join them on Monday 5th June, from 11 am to 12.30 pm to kick off Carers' Week - they will be holding a special Care for a Cuppa chat where Laura Bennett, Head of Policy and Public Affairs at Carers UK, will talk through and share some key findings from their upcoming Carers Week research on identification and support for carers. Book via the link above.



Local organisation Carers' Resource also have a full programme for the week and you can find out what's on [here](#).

Carers' Resource also run regular meet-ups and activity sessions for parent carers - you can see what's on offer [here](#). They also have closed Facebook groups for parent carers, for different areas of the district.

We will be running our Spotlight on Services event on June 7th and we will look forward to meeting lots of parent carers - see page 2 for how to book.

## School Transport

If your child has an EHCP you should have received a letter about transport arrangements for the next school year, that is from September 2023.



If you have not received this, contact the Travel Assistance Team on 01274 439450 or email [schooltransport@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:schooltransport@bradford.gov.uk).

You can find more information about the transport policies, including eligibility criteria [here](#).

Home/school transport featured in the latest SEN Newsletter (you can read the newsletter [here](#))

For children and young people going through a phased transition to a new provision, the deadline for applications is **9th June**.

Travel assistance for compulsory school age children:

If your circumstances have not changed, you do not need to reapply if any of the following are relevant:

- 1) you have received a letter advising you that your child's travel arrangement will be renewed automatically.
- 2) Your child's school placement will be the same from September and your child is currently receiving travel assistance.

Travel assistance for Post-16 education:

You will need to make a new application if:

- 1) you are starting Post-16 education.
- 2) you have already had 3 years Post-16 assistance.
- 3) you are changing placement.



We are very happy to welcome three new Trustees to the PFBA.

Trustees collectively have control over the way our charity is run, so have a very important role.

Emmeline is a new trustee and is very passionate about SEND. As a GP, school governor and most importantly as a mum to a beautiful little girl who is waiting for an autism diagnosis, she wears a lot of hats. She understands and has personal, first hand experience of a lot of the issues that parents and services are facing. She is driven to change things for the better.



We will be introducing our other Trustees in future editions of our newsletter.

We always welcome new Trustees - click [here](#) to find out more about what the role involves.

There are other voluntary opportunities to help us meet our aims and enable us to reach more parent carers. You can read about the different ways you can help [here](#).

**We would love to know what you think of this newsletter. You can let us know, or suggest future articles [here](#).**