



Welcome to the SPCF Newsletter

February 2023

Our newsletters will contain details of events, information, surveys or anything else we think would be good to share with you all. This edition will look at:

- Meeting Feedback
- Annual Survey
- Activities Unlimited Holiday Guide
- Time to Listen Events
- Waveney Open Forum Event
- A message from SENDIASS
- Suffolk Libraries
- Local Offer Website
- Feedback Methods
- Half Term Opening Hours

Meeting Feedback

In order to increase our transparency and information sharing with parent carers we continue to provide these monthly updates published on our website.

The summaries can be found here: [Meeting Updates](#)

The minutes and paperwork for the SEND Accountability Board and SEND Programme Board are now being uploaded by Suffolk County Council for public access. If members come across any issues, please do let us know so we are able to inform them. The documents can also be found on the above link.

Annual Survey

SPCF released our Annual Survey on 10th January 2023. It closed on Monday 6th February and we are currently processing all of the results. We thank everyone that was able to complete the survey for their time, it really helps us to track the lived experience of families over time. If there were any barriers to you accessing the survey that you would like to inform us of for next time, please do let us know.



Activities Unlimited

Welcome to the Activities Unlimited February Half Term Guide 2023! [Download our Half Term Holiday Guide!](#)

We're delighted to bring you lots of exciting activities for disabled children and young people to take part in this Feb Half Term. More information on each break can be found on the website, along with details on how to book: [Activities Unlimited Website](#). Don't forget we love to see what you get up to, so do send us photos and reviews via emailing: info@activities-unlimited.co.uk or tag us on Facebook!

The Activities Unlimited Team

Time to Listen Events

Information about the Time to Listen events can be found: [Here](#)

In 2021, we published the final report following the independent review of [SEND](#) Services in Suffolk undertaken by Lincolnshire County Council. [You can read more about the review here.](#)

One of the things families fed back to us as part of the review was that you wanted the chance to meet with the leaders of SEND Services in Suffolk, to ask them questions and give them feedback directly. With that in mind, in late 2021 we restarted our Time To Listen programme, where senior leaders from the different parts of the Suffolk SEND Partnership offer appointments for families to come and talk about their experiences of SEND in Suffolk. Originally in-person events, we have moved these online to enable as many families as possible to attend.

This term, we have sessions available with the following senior leaders:

Allan Cadzow, Director, Children & Young People's Directorate, Suffolk County Council

Adrian Orr, Assistant Director for Education, Skills and Learning, Suffolk County Council

Ros Somerville, Assistant Director Inclusion, Children & Young People's Directorate, Suffolk County Council

Seb Smith, Assistant director MASH, Early help, QEPD, Safeguarding and Resources, Children and Young People, Suffolk County Council

Garry Joyce, Deputy Director of Transformation: Children and Young People, NHS

Lianne Joyce, Associate Director of Nursing for Children and Young People (CYP) and Maternity, NHS



Waveney - Open Forum Event





We invite you to join us at our Waveney
Open Forum Event
 on
 Tuesday 28th February 23 from 10:00am to 1:00pm
 The Hatfield Hotel, Esplanade, Lowestoft, NR33 0QG

Suffolk Parent Carer Forum are organising, with support from the Norfolk & Waveney ICB, an event for parents and carers in Waveney. It will be an opportunity to discuss any concerns or find out more about services/provisions for children & young people in Waveney. Themes are: Mental Health, Eating Disorders, Crisis Care, Neurodiversity, Speech Language & Communication Needs and SEND. We will also be joined by representatives from: Suffolk County Council, Family Voice Norfolk, SENDIASS, Lift Loud for Danny, PACT, People Participation & more. The LiquidLogic EHCP team will also be attending so attendees can try out & give feedback on the new online portal.

Participate! Refreshments will be provided








A message from SENDIASS

You probably know us quite well for being a service for parents and carers of children and young people with SEND. You may not know that our service also provides information, advice and support to young people directly too!

We want to find out the best ways we can reach young people directly and ask if you could please share our survey with SEND young people, and across your networks. We have a separate survey for practitioners and would be very grateful if you could find time to complete this.

We can provide printed copies of the Easy Read for settings to hand out. We would also be pleased to go into settings to meet with groups of young people to introduce our service and the survey to them. They can email enquiries@suffolksendiass.co.uk

You can find the links to both surveys, alongside an Easy Read version here: <https://suffolksendiass.co.uk/2023/02/young-persons-survey/>. The survey will close at midnight 28th February.

The SENDIASS helpline is open 9am to 5pm Monday to Thursday, and 9am to 4pm on Friday: 01473 265210 or Text ADVICE4ME to 87007. You can also subscribe to their [YouTube channel](#), [Suffolk Sendiass](#), where they have over 50 videos containing information on a variety of topics. You can also find a lot of information on the [Sendiass website](#). Including the Events Calendar with details of all the upcoming training events: [Events](#)

Suffolk Libraries

Did you know that there's a whole host of events that happen at libraries around the county? Visit the [Suffolk Libraries UK What's On](#) page for details on the courses, groups, play sessions and more coming up near you: <https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/whats-on>

SEND Local Offer Website

The Local Offer website is on the move! We are moving from our current platform to a new one later in the year, and we'd really like to involve parents, carers, practitioners and others along the way. We are looking for people to be involved in reviewing content, testing out the new system, giving us feedback and more! Find out more: [Here](#)



Feedback Methods

We want to ensure that providing feedback is as private as possible so we have devised a feedback section on our website which is always available to receive feedback. It can be found here: www.suffolkpcf.co.uk/feedback/ Members (and non-members) are also able to message the Facebook page: www.facebook.com/suffolkpcf . direct message on Twitter: www.twitter.com/suffolkpcf or email: info@suffolkpcf.co.uk.

We have also devised a Feedback Form for Professionals and Voluntary Sector colleague who support parent carers. It can be found on the website or directly via this link: [Feedback](#)

SPCF Half Term Opening Hours

The SPCF Team will be working at a reduced capacity over the school holidays so it may take us a little longer to respond to emails, phone calls and social media messages. We hope that you all manage to have a nice break and as always, if there is anything we can do to help, please do not hesitate to reach out.

If there is any content that you would like to see or have any suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact the team.