



Welcome to the SPCF Newsletter

May 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
- Psychology in Schools Team
- Activities Unlimited Activity Guide
- DfE - Call for Evidence
- Suffolk Libraries
- SENDIASS in Suffolk
- Suffolk Family Carers
- Bury St Edmunds Open Forum Event
- Upcoming Workshops
- A message from Linden House
- 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. They had some initial issues in regards to uploading some of the files which we believe has now been rectified. 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.

Psychology in Schools Team

The Psychology in schools team are very excited to announce their new childhood neurodiversity workshop programme. These free virtual workshops are open to all families and are booked through Eventbrite – so can be shared with whoever might find it helpful.

Please find attached the poster to share with parent carers: [Poster](#)

We very much look forward to welcoming as many families as possible on our first event on the 6th of June 2023.



Activities Unlimited Activity Guide

Welcome to our [2023/24 Provider Activity Guide!](#)

Here at Activities Unlimited, we give grants to activity providers around Suffolk each year to support them in providing fun and inclusive short break activities for children and young people with additional needs and disabilities.

More information about each provider can be found on the link for each listing in the guide. There's some information outlining the activities and a guide to the support levels at each, alongside details to enable you to get in touch with providers directly.



Holiday Free school meal places!

Where you see this symbol, the activity provider has signed up to the Holiday Activities and Food Programme - this means that free places and meals may be available during the Christmas, Easter and summer school holidays each year for families eligible for free school meals.

Lastly, we're always on the lookout for new providers and activities, so if you know of (or if you are) an organisation who provides inclusive activities, we'd love to get to know you! Drop us a line at aprovision@suffolk.gov.uk

The Activities Unlimited Team

Did you know?

When on the [Activities Unlimited Website](#), if you click on the: **'What are Short Breaks / What's available?'** drop down, it will show you a Google calendar with all the booked Activities Unlimited Events.



Call For Evidence

The Department for Education have launched a Call for Evidence on Improving Support for Children Missing Education. The government is committed to ensuring that all children, especially the most vulnerable in our society, are safe and have access to an excellent education.

Children missing education (CME) are children of compulsory school age who are not registered pupils at a school and are not receiving suitable education otherwise than at school (for example, through elective home education). This cohort comprises a wide range of children, including some of the most vulnerable in England.

CME are a very small minority of England's school-age children, but it is vital that they are identified and supported into education as quickly as possible, to minimise the negative impact of missing education. We want to understand current best practice approaches and how local authorities, schools and others can be empowered to go further to identify and support CME, ensuring that every child has an opportunity to an excellent education wherever they live and whatever their background.

Within the call for evidence on Improving Support for Children Missing Education, we are seeking the sector's views regarding:

- best practice in identifying and supporting CME
- challenges faced in identifying and supporting CME
- how challenges in identifying and supporting CME could be addressed

The call for evidence will be open until 20th July and can be accessed here: [Give us your views!](#)

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>



SENDIASS in Suffolk

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 Family Carers

Suffolk Family Carers have asked us to share this is a 6-week exercise course for parent carers of neurodivergent children and young people, starting Wed, 7 Jun, afternoons, at Leiston Leisure Centre.

This is an exercise course for parent carers of neurodivergent children and young people. The course will help you to learn techniques and exercises which will strengthen your body and mind, enabling you to incorporate self-care into your everyday life. This course may provide a brief period of respite for you, helping you to manage your caring role.

You are booking for a 6 week course. Please only book if you can attend all 6 weeks. There is facility to use the sauna, steam room and pool after the session also.

This event is funded by the Together Fund through Active Suffolk. The project is designed to provide greater access to physical activities for families who care for a neurodivergent child or young person.

Book here: [Stretch & Relax for parents carers of ND children Tickets, Wed 7 Jun 2023 at 13:00 | Eventbrite](#)

They also have a Groups and Events page on their website with a number of different events across Suffolk: [Groups & Events](#)



Bury St Edmunds - Open Forum Event



We invite you to join us at our
Open Forum Event - West

on
 Tuesday 20th June 23 from 10:00am to 1:00pm
 at

The Moreton Hall, Symonds Rd, Bury St Edmunds, IP32 7EE

Suffolk Parent Carer Forum would like to welcome you to our event for parents and carers in the West. It will be an opportunity to discuss any concerns or find out more about services/provisions for children & young people in West Suffolk. We will also be joined by representatives from: Activities Unlimited, Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Family Carers, SENDIASS, Specialist Education Service, Suffolk Primary Care LD Liaison Team, WS Family Action ND Support Service, SNEE ICB, Beans, Young Persons Network, EPIC Dad & more...

Refreshments will be provided



Call us: 01473 760933
 Find us: www.suffolkpcf.co.uk
 Email us: info@suffolkpcf.co.uk
 Like us: www.facebook.com/suffolkpcf





Upcoming Workshops

School attendance issues is something that we receive a lot of feedback about. Knowing the legislation and statutory guidance around the subject can be difficult. That is why we have booked a workshop with Define Fine – Parent Peer Support for School Attendance Difficulties to virtually host their workshops for our members.



We invite you to join us at our Meeting & Working Effectively with Professionals Workshop

Hosted by - Define Fine: Parent Peer Support for Attendance Difficulties
Thursday 6th July from 10:00am to 11:30am

This course focuses on reviewing the issues that surround the barriers to school attendance and school distress. Attendance difficulties can be due to a child or young person having SEND – Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities, physical or mental health issues. It will also review the importance of defining 'fine'.

Define Fine will then share:

The Define Fine Barrier to Attendance Guide.
Relevant legislation and policy.
What support parent/carers need and why?
Working with mutual respect and dignity.
Meeting methods: finding your voice and following up.

Please email to book your place: info@suffolkpcf.co.uk



Call us: 01473 760933
Find us: www.suffolkpcf.co.uk
Email us: info@suffolkpcf.co.uk
Tweet us: www.twitter.com/suffolkpcf
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A message from Linden House

Half Term Week
(Mon 29th May - Fri 2nd June)

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
10:00 - 13:00	10:00 - 13:00	10:00 - 13:00	10:00 - 13:00	10:00 - 13:00
Closed Bank Holiday Monday	Relax, Unwind, Play Games	Scavenger Hunt	Just Dance Contest	World Environment Day
	13:30 - 16:00	13:30 - 16:00	13:30 - 16:00	13:30 - 16:00
	Galactic Space Crafts	Fitness Afternoon	Seed Planting & Gardening	World Environment Day

☎ 07552 528594 ✉ lindenhouse@accessct.org
 🏠 147 King's Road, Bury St Edmunds | IP33 3DJ

Visit us today 

With [#HalfTerm](#) just around the corner, we're delighted to share what activities and events Linden House [#BuryStEdmunds](#) has planned! 🌞

Linden House will also remain open as a safe space for 11 - 17yrs olds to seek advice, guidance and employment support during this time.

For more information, see the graphic or contact lindenhouse@accessct.org

The Linden House Team

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 . or email: info@suffolkpcf.co.uk.

SPCF Half Term Opening Hours

The SPCF team will be closing over the half term break. We will be closing on Friday 26th May 2023 and reopening on Monday 5th June 2023. On our return we will respond to all emails, phone calls/voicemails and social media messages so please bear with us if there is a delay in getting a response. We hope that you all manage to have a nice break.