



# Partnership News

## Spring 2010



Helping parents and carers of children with special educational needs

**Norfolk Parent Partnership**  
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**[www.norfolkparentpartnership.org.uk](http://www.norfolkparentpartnership.org.uk)**

**Members of the Steering Group**



**Schools**



Reg.No.1111097  
Company Reg.No.5405276

**Norfolk County Council Children's Services**

**Central Norfolk Primary Care Trust**



**connexions**



### Parent Partnership and Statutory Assessment Booklets

If you would like copies of our **Norfolk Parent Partnership Booklet** or **Statutory Assessment and Statement** booklet in one of the following languages, just download them from our website.

**NPP**—Portuguese, Latvian, Lithuanian, Mandarin Chinese, Polish, Russian, Slovak, Tagalog and Turkish.

**Statutory Assessment** - Cantonese, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese and Tagalog.

### World Autism Awareness Day—2nd April, 2010

'Stand up for autism'. The United Nations has declared April 2nd each year as **World Autism Awareness Day (WAAD)**, to increase and develop world knowledge of autism. By bringing together autism organisations all around the world, the day aims to give a voice to the millions of individuals worldwide who are undiagnosed, misunderstood and looking for help. In the UK a number of regional autism charities, including Autism Anglia, have joined forces to recognise, raise awareness of and celebrate World Autism Day and 'Stand up for autism'.

Individual organisations will hold their own events to mark the day. There is a website **[www.waad.org.uk](http://www.waad.org.uk)** where individuals can upload photos of themselves or a loved one 'Standing up for Autism'. See video clips on YouTube. Please visit the website and add your voice to World Autism Awareness Day. To hold an event or find out more about what Autism Anglia is doing for WAAD please contact **Anna Rogers**.

Tel: **01206 577678**

email:

**[arogers@autism-anglia.org.uk](mailto:arogers@autism-anglia.org.uk)**  
or visit **[www.autism-anglia.org.uk](http://www.autism-anglia.org.uk)**





## Lamb Inquiry

### Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Parental Confidence

Brian Lamb was asked to look into parental confidence in SEN systems, disability, school inspections and the new tribunal system.

He found that parents felt they had to fight for their children and were policing the system. He felt this should not happen but said that many children were well supported; he saw happy parents and angry ones.

He said changes are needed in four areas...

#### **1. Children's outcomes at the heart of the system**

Looking at what works well, parents having direct access to the teams that work with their children. Giving those who need extra support the best teachers and resources. Schools having a greater understanding and more positive outcomes for disabled children.

#### **2. A stronger voice for parents**

Good, honest open communication is very important and can be achieved by closer working between schools and parents, shared information and a change of approach.



#### **3. A system with a greater focus on children's needs**

Specialist support needs to be put in early, schools must show how funding is being used and that it is working well, to be accountable.

#### **4. A more accessible system which gives better services**

Ofsted inspections to include SEN and disability.

Schools cannot be given a 'good' unless all children are supported well.

Brian Lamb says that all 51 recommendations need to be used to make a radical change and asked that this be done.

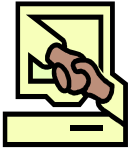
We will wait to see what happens next, most of these are only recommendations at the moment so we will keep you up to date through our newsletter as changes take place, some are already planned. Make sure your child's school continues to send it to you.

**To read the full report go to:**

**[www.dcsf.gov.uk/publications](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/publications)**

Written in partnership with family voice (norfolk)





## Access Through Technology (ATT)

The ATT Team provide IT equipment and training in school for children from the age of 3yrs - 19yrs who have communication needs.

Schools and specialists refer children who are then assessed by us. We do not provide equipment without assessment.

In some areas there is a considerable waiting list for children to be assessed and due to the economic

climate this is unlikely to change very quickly.

We know this equipment can make an enormous difference to children's lives and apologise for any delays in assessing your child.

**The Communication Technology Aids  
(ATT) Steering Group**

**Contact Info:**

**[anna.james@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:anna.james@norfolk.gov.uk)**

**Tel: 07748 623039**

## Parent and Carers of Children with Special Needs JOIN US NOW - FREE



An independent group for parents and carers of children with additional and special needs working with the authorities to improve provision in all areas including education, caring and health.

*Our strength and effectiveness is dependant on our membership.*

**The following FREE discussion meetings for parents and carers of children with additional and special needs are being arranged:**

Transition to adulthood: Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Feb; Weds 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> March 2010  
Education developments:  
Tues 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March 2010  
10:30am to 12:30pm.  
Refreshments will be provided.

For more information about what we do and a membership form please email:

**[membership@familyvoice.org.uk](mailto:membership@familyvoice.org.uk) or  
telephone: 07950 302937**

As a member you will have the opportunity to have your say and input on whatever you feel strongly about, at whatever level you wish.

Whether you are a member or not please come along to discuss and put forward your views on these topics. From time to time Family Voice arrange various parents and carers meetings.

**For more information about these  
parents meetings email:  
[pinnacle-fv@tesco.net](mailto:pinnacle-fv@tesco.net)  
or tel/text Anne on: 07774 033050**

## Are you the parent of a child with Special or Additional Needs?

### Would you like to:

- ◇ meet other parents, and discover what is out there in the way of support for your family?
- ◇ have more of a say in the planning of the services your child receives and be able to understand the confusing jargon?
- ◇ share ideas about enjoying life with your whole family however challenging that may seem at the moment?

We are parents of children with disabilities and we have received funding from the County Council and

the PCT to lead a series of workshops for parents. These workshops were written by parents, for parents and will be delivered by parents.

East City Children's Centre, Duckett Close, Norwich NR1 2LR on Monday February 1<sup>st</sup>, March 8<sup>th</sup>, April 26<sup>th</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup> 2010.

They are FREE and have a FREE crèche and lunch. For further information email:

[karen@bness-solutions.co.uk](mailto:karen@bness-solutions.co.uk) or  
[anna@bness-solutions.co.uk](mailto:anna@bness-solutions.co.uk) or

Tel: 01379 740909 or 01603 621927

## Transition Lead for young people with disabilities



I am Sharon Fradley, the Transition Lead for young people with disabilities and work jointly for Children and Adult Services.

This is a new post that has been developed to work across all agencies involved in the transition process to help young people from 13-25 years of age. This could mean a transition from school to college, (including colleges out of Norfolk), a transfer of service, a move from school or college into employment or a move back to Norfolk.

My role is to look at the Transition Service we have and, based on information and experiences from our young people and families, develop new systems and partnerships that will help in the future. The transition phase of a young person's life can become complex due to the amount of people or agencies involved. We need to ensure that everyone supporting the young person is working together in the most effective way for a positive outcome. Work is already underway to make transition an enjoyable and exciting experience.

**Sharon Fradley, Person Centred Transition Lead**

**Tel: 01692 408209 Email: [sfradley@connexions-norfolk.co.uk](mailto:sfradley@connexions-norfolk.co.uk)**



## Indigo Dyslexia Centre

### New premises next to:

Charing Cross Centre  
17-19 St John Maddermarket  
Norwich NR2 1DN

Now with a well stocked shop  
For further information:

[www.4dyslexics.com](http://www.4dyslexics.com)

**Tel: 0845 347 9322**

**Email: [indigo@4dyslexics.com](mailto:indigo@4dyslexics.com)**

## Afasic

UNLOCKING SPEECH AND LANGUAGE

Are you worried about your child's speech and language? Is your child's speech delayed? Does your child have a speech and language diagnosis? Do you want to meet other parents of children with speech and language disabilities/disorders? Do you want your child to meet other children with speech difficulties just like them?

Afasic now have a Norfolk Local Support Group where children can make friends and parents can access support and advice.

Afasic is a national Speech and Language Charity committed to supporting children and the families of children with speech and language problems.

[www.afasic.org.uk](http://www.afasic.org.uk)

For further information, whatever the age of your child, email Afasic Norfolk Local Group at;

[amybellawood@googlemail.com](mailto:amybellawood@googlemail.com)

or contact the Afasic helpline on

**0845 355 5577**

Open 10.30am - 2.30pm Mon to Fri



## IPS Volunteer Training Autumn 2010

### Venue to be arranged

On Thursdays

Introductory Day on 7th October,  
Sessions on 14th October, 21st October,  
4th November, 11th November, 18th  
November and Post Course Meeting 25th  
November

If you are interested in special educational needs and would like to support parents please ring Norfolk Parent Partnership for more information.

**01603 704070**

[www.norfolkparentpartnership.org.uk](http://www.norfolkparentpartnership.org.uk)

## Children and Families Support Group Great Yarmouth



**Held Fortnightly on  
Saturday Mornings  
10:00am - 12 noon**

### A Support Group for children aged 5 - 12 years and their families

A wide range of activities are available, craft activities, cooking, table top games and physical activities.

Our aim is to enable children with Asperger Syndrome to further develop and improve their communication skills and interaction.

Asperger East Anglia Members: £3.00

Non-Members: £4.00 per family

For dates, further information and availability of places

**Phone: 01603 620500**

or e-mail: [thecla@asperger.org.uk](mailto:thecla@asperger.org.uk)

[www.asperger.org.uk](http://www.asperger.org.uk)

# Useful Contacts

## Disability Soccer Centres

For adults and children whatever your disability. Sessions held in Norwich and Dereham.

01603 761122  
[www.fitc.org.uk](http://www.fitc.org.uk)

## Learn to Swim

Swimmers with a disability classes for children held at Colman School and Sprowston High School.

Call the Swimline on 01603 463282  
[www.cityofnorwichsc.co.uk](http://www.cityofnorwichsc.co.uk)

## Playful Penguins — Stibbard Children's Centre, Fakenham

Support group for families and carers of pre school children with additional needs.

Tel: 01328 829426

## Norfolk Ski Club

Adaptive ski sessions for those with special behavioural or educational needs, the visually, hearing or physically impaired.

Tel: 01603 662781  
[www.norfolkski.com](http://www.norfolkski.com)

## About with Friends

Supporting people with learning difficulties to enjoy a social life.

Tel: 01263 722547  
Email: [info@aboutwithfriends.co.uk](mailto:info@aboutwithfriends.co.uk)  
[www.aboutwithfriends.co.uk](http://www.aboutwithfriends.co.uk)

## Community Music East

Music and multimedia for children & adults.

Tel: 01603 628367  
Email: [enquiries@cme.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@cme.org.uk)  
[Www.cme.org.uk](http://Www.cme.org.uk)

## Junior Gateway Club—Gaywood

Providing leisure facilities for people with learning or physical disabilities  
4-18yrs old on Monday evenings, term time.

Tel: 01553 776154

## Gt Yarmouth & District Special Olympics

Swimming Club for disabled children and young people.

Tel: 01493 302975

### Disclaimer



Norfolk Parent Partnership is not responsible for articles or events provided by third parties. Any views or opinions are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of Norfolk Parent Partnership.

**Please let us know if you would like large print copies or if translations would be useful.  
Now available in Portuguese and Polish.**

**Norfolk Parent Partnership is an impartial service funded by Norfolk County Council**

Working with the voluntary sector and other professionals to support parents and carers of children with special educational needs.