

## EPT NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY, 22 JUN 2018

Don't forget EPT is run by parents for parents. It is your voice, so if you wish to send in anything you think other members may find useful or of interest for inclusion in the E-News, please send it to the email address above. Embedded useful links are underlined and in **purple**, hold down [Ctrl] & then [click] to activate them.

### Representation, Consultations & Campaigns

Reports on Representation and Consultations effecting our members.



#### Ofsted CQC (Care Quality Commission) Local Area Inspection

Monday 4th June saw the Redbridge local area receive notification of the week-long SEND Local Area inspection to commence Monday 11 June. This inspection covered not only the Redbridge local authority SEND education provision, but also that of Health and Social Care. Inspectors initially looked at the area from outside, via the [Local Offer](#) and other resources.

On Friday 8th June Brian Oppenheim, the Lead Inspector, hosted an online webinar for parents of children with SEND, asking some questions and allowing feedback through a comment box. In cooperation with RIAS, EPT held a group session at the Drama Centre for parents and it was well attended. Disappointingly, letters sent from the local authority did not reach any parents before the webinar. The only parents to register and log-in were ones who had heard via the EPT jungle drums. Inspectors were made clearly aware of this failing. Letters were also sent only to those whose children and young people had EHCPs. It is debateable if parents with those children and young people on the SEN registers in schools heard at all.

The inspection week itself was broken into 2 days of meetings, followed by 2 days of setting visits and concluded with report writing and a feedback meeting on the Friday. The schedule of the meetings, along with who was invited to attend them, was determined by the Inspection Team. EPT Parent Representatives were invited to several but not all of the meetings, to provide a parental perspective. A total of 12 parents offered to attend meetings as required and once the schedule and subjects were finalised 10 Reps were allocated meetings.

The subject of meetings included: Introductory Meeting & Presentation; Discussion of SEF (self-evaluation), Implementation of SEND Reforms & Innovation / Future Developments; Early Years Focus Group; Identification of SEND & Early Intervention; Transition to Adulthood; Assessment & Meeting Needs; and Joint-Commissioning.

Because Parent Reps weren't invited to all of the meetings, EPT requested that the LANO (local Area nominated officer) inform the inspectors that where EPT felt parental input was essential, that this be reconsidered. An additional meeting was therefore arranged for later in the week with the Lead Inspector, specifically to discuss those subjects covered in the meetings that EPT Reps had not been invited to. Topics covered at this meeting were: CDC (Child Development Centre); Vulnerable Groups with SEND; and Social Care. Joint Commissioning was also discussed.

In addition to these strategic meeting, all parents were invited to a private meeting with the Inspectors on the Tuesday, where parents were able to voice directly their experiences of services within the local area. Interestingly 5-6 young people were invited to meet with Inspectors in a Participation & Engagement with Children & Young People meeting. Some of these young people have been involved in the newly formed SEND Youth Forum, which has held a couple of recruitment type fun events this year. Inspectors also chose to meet with RIAS support workers in private.

Eight education settings which covered a broad spectrum of provision were chosen by the Inspectors for setting visits. These included: Woodbridge School (mainstream secondary); New Rush Hall (special); Gordon Primary (mainstream primary); Christchurch Primary School (mainstream primary); Loxford Trust (mainstream secondary); Wells All Saints (independent pre-school); Chadwell (pre-school); and Goodmayes Primary School (mainstream primary). Parents of current SEND pupils at these schools were invited to meet with the Inspectors during their visits.



The final feedback meeting occurred on the Friday afternoon. Sadly, the content of that meeting, like all the strategic meetings, was strictly confidential. Inspectors confirmed that the report or letter will be published in 28 working days from that date.



### [High Needs Review Report Feedback - Closing Date 29 June 2018](#)

In January parents attended a High Needs Review Consultation at City Gates Church in Ilford. The consultant has now looked at the current provision and drawn up a report suggesting ways LBR may change in order to meet the increasing demands on SEND provision. Parents can now comment on each of the proposals. Either follow the link to the relevant page of the Local Offer or use the documents attached on the email with this E-News. Responses need to be emailed to [maxine.ross@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:maxine.ross@redbridge.gov.uk) by Friday 29 June 2018.

### [Social Care Charging Survey](#)

Does your local authority charge you for care & support? If so please take part in this short survey. It is being carried out by a group of organisations and activists that have been meeting for past two years to think about how to move the independent living agenda forwards. You can read more about us here <http://www.in-control.org.uk/blog/losing-control.aspx>

They want to know about the experiences of people who access support from their local councils and find out how they are charging for care and support and how this affects people who use support. To help us understand these issues we would be extremely grateful if you could spare a few moments to complete this short survey to share your own experiences.



## In The News

Topics in local and national news that may affect or be of interest to EPT members. Where there are links, these will take you to the articles in question.



### [How Many Buses Does It Take For A Blind Man To Make A Journey On Public Transport?](#)

Sadly this isn't the start of a joke. Student Charlie Woodhead filmed his attempt in Manchester. Only 4 out of 43 stopped despite their own rules.

### [Universal Credit Rolls Out in Redbridge](#)

Universal Credit is the new benefit for people of working age who are out of work or working and on a low income. It is assessed and paid by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). There are some exceptions. Follow the link to see what's covered.



### [Government To End Unnecessary PIP Reviews For People With Most Severe Health Conditions](#)

New guidance coming into effect this summer means people who are awarded the highest level of support under PIP - and where their needs are expected to stay the same or to increase - will receive an ongoing award of PIP with a light touch review every 10 years.

### [A Life Around Autism: The Invisible Condition](#)

Published online on The Round this article is an account of a child's experience of growing up with ASD.



### [It Must Be Mum When To Stop Flogging A Dead Horse](#)

Published on It Must Be Mum in this article this parent relates her lessons learnt before coming to the realisation that she or anyone else could do would make the staff at her child's school follow legal processes.

## Useful Information & Publications

After all, knowledge is power.

### [The 5P Approach](#)

Hailed as more than just behaviour management, the 5P Approach provides a clear, structured and practical framework used by professionals, parents and organisations to meet an individual's needs and to understand, prevent and manage behaviour change. Follow the link for more information and links to useful books.



**PECS & SALT Resources for UK Parents & Professionals**

A handy Facebook page with all proceeds going to maintaining groups for children who have autism.



**Sensory Processing Disorder & Understanding Why It Can Take Longer To Toilet Train**

Follow the link to the Facebook page of Sensory Spectacle to watch the informative video of the reasons why SPD can cause difficulties in toilet training.

**Disabled Person's Trusts: When Making A Will Is Not Enough**

This article by Helen Jervis published on Special Needs Jungle explains what you need to consider when you have a child with a disability that means their future independence is doubtful.



**New Rough Guide To Accessible Britain**

This guide has reviews of over 180 accessible and inspiring days out and claims there is something for everyone. There is a video by Chris Packham explaining how the guide can help. You can view it online and download it for free.

**Future Events**

Follow the link above to the EPT FB Events Page and the links below to details of newly listed events.

**Sat 23 Jun - Hatton Special School Summer Fete**

**HSFA Summer Fete**  
 Saturday 23rd June 2018  
 Adults: £1 Children: 50p  
 Opening Times: 12 noon till 3pm  
 Come and enjoy a day full of fun, music and lots of activities, to raise money for the HSFA.  
**High Voltage Big Band**  
**Band Starts at 1pm**

**Sat 23 Jun - Little Heath School Summer Fete**

**Sat 23 Jun - Special Senses Day Colchester Zoo**

**Special Senses Day**  
 at COLCHESTER ZOO  
 Sensory Storytelling  
 Sing and Sign  
 Sensory Animal Crafts  
 Animal Handling  
 and more!

**LITTLE HEATH SCHOOL**  
 SPECIAL NEEDS SECONDARY SCHOOL  
**FUN DAY**  
 Saturday 23rd June 2018  
 11am-5pm  
 Little Heath School, Hainault Road, RM6 5RX

Henna  
 Bouncy Castles  
 BBQ (Halal & Vegetarian)  
 Summer Afternoon Tea

Lots of Stalls  
 Adventure Play ground  
 Art & Craft  
 School Choir & Cheerleaders  
 & lots more...

50% OFF ALL ACTIVITIES BEFORE 1PM  
 FREE ENTRY & FREE LIMITED PARKING Available next door West Ham United Academy

Supported by: TESCO Extra GOODMATES, KFC, Quality Foods, Classic Halal Food, Qute Cakes

All proceeds of this Fun-day to go towards refurbishment & new equipment for Little Heath's Sensory Room

For Stall Bookings, queries or donations contact:  
 folh@lhealth.net 020 8599 4864  
 Friends of Little Heath, Registered charity in England (800105)

This inclusive event is aimed at making the zoo more accessible for all abilities. Enjoy Sensory Storytelling, Sing & Sign, Sensory Animal Crafts, Animal Handling and much more.

## Tue 26 Jun - EPT Coffee Morning with Family Fund Grant Information Session

10:00am - 1:00pm

Aldborough Room, Fullwell Cross Library, 140 High Road, Barkingside, Essex IG6 2EA

If you are raising a disabled or seriously ill child or young person you may be eligible for a Family Fund Grant. A Family Engagement Coordinator will be making a presentation during this coffee morning to explain what Family Fund do, how to apply and give individual advice afterwards.



## Wed 27 Jun - LBR Short Breaks Parent Meeting

6pm @ Station Road, Barkingside

Redbridge parent carers are invited to this is a follow up meeting to the previous one held after the Norwood confusion. Tenders for the new short breaks provision contracts should now have been received and the first stages (legal and financial should have been completed). It is important for as many parents as possible, who have a vested interest in short breaks and respite provision, meet with the officers managing this process. Not the easiest time of day, but no time would suit everyone.



### EPT Parent Carer Events

Term Time Tues

Share & Care with **FREE**

### Family Fund

Grant Advice

Helping disabled children

Does your child or young person receive extra help in education?

Are you looking for support to help you and your child?

Would you like to meet other parents in your situation?

Come along and meet other parents, share experiences, advice, tried & tested strategies as well as provide mutual support.

Refreshments available.



**KEEP CALM and GET GRANT HELP**

If you are raising a disabled or seriously ill child or young person you may be eligible for a Family Fund grant.

A Family Engagement Coordinator will be making a presentation during this session to explain what Family Fund do, how to apply and give individual advice afterwards.

Application forms available on the day.

No booking required.



### EPT Parent Carer Events

Term Time Tues

Share & Care with **FREE**



### Advice Drop-In Clinic

Does your child or young person receive extra help in education?

Are you looking for support to help you and your child?

Would you like to meet other parents in your situation?

Come along and meet other parents, share experiences, advice, tried & tested strategies as well as provide mutual support.

Refreshments available.



**KEEP CALM and GET RIASS ADVICE**

Getting the correct support is the key to reaching potentials.

Redbridge Information Advice & Support Service (RIASS) provide a free & impartial advice service to C&YP with SEND & their parents or carers.

A RIASS advisor will be attending our sessions once a month to run a drop-in advice clinic.

Dates are noted below.

May require booking.

19 Sep. 10 Oct. 07 Nov. 12 Dec 2017. 09 Jan. 06 Feb.

13 Mar. 17 Apr. 08 May. 12 Jun & 10 Jul 2018

## **Tue 26 June 2018**



**10:00 - 13:00**



Fullwell Cross Library  
140 High Road, Barkingside  
Essex, IG6 2EA

For Booking, Membership & All Other Enquiries  
07737 095950  
info@empoweringparentstogether.org.uk



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07737 095950  
info@empoweringparentstogether.org.uk

## Tue 10 Jul - RIASS Drop-In Advice Session

Join EPT for a cup & a cookie. On this day one of the support workers from RIASS will be joining us to provide individual or group guidance and advice on Redbridge processes.

## Fri 27, Tue 31 Jul, Wed 08, Fri 24 & Tues 28 Aug - Lego Construction Challenge

10:30am-12pm, Wells All Saints Church, Inmans Row, Woodford Green Essex IG8 ONH  
Hosted by Dream Box Education

This event is for SEND children only & must be accompanied by an adult at all times. £5 each and light refreshments will be provided for both adults and children.



**DO MORE Summer Guides**

Apparently, there is so much to do in Redbridge there are now 4 guides for what to do this summer in Redbridge, which may explain why a hard copy hasn't landed on our doorsteps like they normally do. Guides are split into guides for adults and children and also a general Do More Guide and Do More Sports Guides.



*Securing the future of deaf children and young people*

**Wed 31 Oct - Hear & Now - Professionals' Training Conference**

This conference is described as ideal for your cpd and the day will include a training workshop, a resource pack and a Q&A session.

**Employment Opportunities**

**JOIN US**

**Job Vacancy - Peer Educators**

**Hours:** 5 hours per week

**Salary:** £3,120 per annum (£12 per hour)

**Location:** London Borough of Redbridge

**Closing Date:** Friday 29th June 2018 at 5.00pm

**Interview Date:** Tuesday 10th July 2018

Do you have lived experience of mental ill health or distress and recent knowledge of using children and young people's mental health services?

We have a number of exciting opportunities for Peer Educators to join our team providing valuable mental health awareness education to children, young people and families in a variety of settings. Peer Educators make a positive contribution to young people's lives by sharing experiences to audiences in and around the London Borough of Redbridge.

If you enjoy a challenge and are keen to be part of a team with a strong vision to tackle stigma and discrimination by empowering young people to speak out about mental illness, our exciting new project - Next Steps has the ideal job for you.

The project, funded by the National Lottery through the Reaching Communities Fund, will train a team of Peer Educators to deliver mental health awareness workshops in schools, colleges and other local organisations.

We are committed to equality of opportunity for all staff and applications from individuals are encouraged regardless of age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief and marriage and civil partnerships.

Applications must be returned by 5.00pm on Friday 29th June 2018. CV's are not accepted.

For more information about this post please contact us on [0208 925 2435](tel:02089252435), email [recruitment@oneplaceeast.org](mailto:recruitment@oneplaceeast.org) or download the application pack below.

**One Place East**  
Where disability matters

**Autism Ambassadors**  
Come And Join Us



We are a group of young people aged 12 to 16 with autism, who deliver presentations to raise awareness of autism spectrum disorders

Help us raise awareness

Free Lunch

Team building activities

Improve your public speaking

Build self-confidence

Make new friends

Check us out at [www.sycamoretrust.org.uk](http://www.sycamoretrust.org.uk)

To join, email [autism.ambassadors@sycamoretrust.org.uk](mailto:autism.ambassadors@sycamoretrust.org.uk) or call Alex or Rob on 0208 517 9317



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