

Weekly Roundup

Week of 13th October



**Lancashire
Parent Carer Forum**

Empowering SEND families across Lancashire

www.lancashireparentcarerforum.org.uk



Welcome

Well it's been a lively and productive week at Lancashire Parent Carer Forum! Here's a look at what we've been up to.

Our main aim is to gather the voices of parent carers across Lancashire, collate their lived experiences and feed this insight into the strategic work of both Lancashire County Council (LCC) and the Integrated Care Board (ICB).

To do this effectively, we need help from all parent carers who are able to feed into our channels - whether through drop-ins, surveys, social media or direct contact. The more voices we hear, the stronger we are in representing the real needs and experiences of families

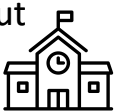
Podcast Trial - we're on the mic!

This week marked a milestone as we trialled our first-ever podcast session. Our dedicated volunteers have been working behind the scenes to bring this idea to life and we finally hit record! The episode is now in the editing phase and once we're happy with the final cut, we'll be inviting guests from across the SEND Partnership.

Got a question you'd like answered or someone you'd love to hear from? Let us know and we'll do our best to make it happen!

PINS Project - Community of Practice

We were proud to attend the first Community of Practice event hosted by the Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) in Kendal. It was a fantastic opportunity for schools to connect with other schools to improve inclusion, support for neurodiverse children in education and share best practice. We provided training in a train the trainer format for them to share throughout their schools.



We also visited 3 schools this week to offer support, signposting and to work with parents. Topics covered included sleep issues so specialist support has been sought for these parents. We have also shared the national sleep charity on facebook for all parents in a similar position who need specialist advice, information and courses.

Improvement Board Meeting

Our Co-Chairs attended the monthly SEND Improvement Board meeting at County Hall. These meetings cover key issues affecting families every day.

We raised concerns that many families aren't yet feeling the impact of changes and highlighted the need for better communication from the SEND Partnership.

You can find detailed information from these meetings here.

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/lancashire-send-partnership/send-improvement-board/>

We'll share the Independent Chair's update on our website once it's available.

Complaints & LGO Focus Group

We've launched a focus group to explore the complaints and Local Government Ombudsman (LGO) processes. Many families have told us this can be a difficult and frustrating experience, and we want to help improve it.

We'll be posting a short list of questions on Facebook soon - please contribute if you've been through this process so that our team can collate as much information as possible.

Family Hubs – Growing Connections

Our volunteers continue to build strong links with Family Hubs across Lancashire, which is evolving and growing all the time. This week, we've reached out to six more hubs to expand our network and our work with partner agencies is strengthening.

We're working closely with SENDIAS, who are committed to joining us at drop-in sessions. These events are vital for two-way feedback - please come along and share your experiences!

Check out upcoming events on our Facebook page - Lancashire Parent Carer Forum.

Want to get involved?

We're growing our volunteer team! Our current volunteers are working on an induction package to welcome new members on a larger scale.

Please bear with us while we get this up and running, we're excited to have more parent carers join our mission.

Contact Info

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Half Term Break

LPCF will be taking a short break over half-term. Our Facebook page may be a little quieter, but we'll catch up on emails and messages when we return.