

What's New? 1st Nov 23

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Our Voice presents: Get to know the Joint Service for Disabled Children (short breaks and social care)

See the attached booklet for more details about the event including the full agenda.

Book your place [here](#).

More information on our website events page [here](#).



Our Voice presents: Get to know Social Care, Short Breaks & the Joint Service for Disabled Children'

We are delighted to announce that booking is now open for the first in our series of 'Our Voice Presents.....' events which give parents and carers an exceptional opportunity to speak directly to the Heads of service areas supporting children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.



In this session we will be joined by Miri Dhamo the Head of the Joint Service for Disabled Children and responsible for short breaks (including Cheviots Children's Disability Service) and Social Care).

Registration from 9.30 am	
10 – 11 am	Overview and Q&A session
11 am – 12 noon	Either: Short Breaks workshop
	OR: Positive Behaviour Support workshop
	OR: 1:1 appointment (subject to availability)

**Thursday 16th
November 10 am to
12 noon
(registration from
9.30 am) at
Cheviots Children's
Centre**

**Sign up using this
link:**

[https://OVpresents-
Gettoknow-JSDC-
Nov23.eventbrite.co.uk](https://OVpresents-Gettoknow-JSDC-Nov23.eventbrite.co.uk)

For more information see the full brochure on our website events page <https://www.ourvoiceenfield.org.uk/events>

Or contact Our Voice on
Telephone 07516 662315
Email:
info@ourvoiceenfield.org.uk

Reminder: Choosing a primary school for your child with additional needs

Information session

If you are in the process of choosing a primary school for your child or are thinking ahead to making this choice in the next couple of years, come along to one of our 'Choosing a Primary School for your child with additional needs' videoconferences, in conjunction with SENDIASS and the SEN Services team.

The two sessions will be on Tuesday 7th November from 10.30 am to 12 noon and on Monday 13th November from 1 – 2.30 pm

We will look at what to think about when choosing a school, and how the process works (for children with or without an EHCP).

You can book your place via Eventbrite:

- o 7th November [here](#)
- o 13th November [here](#)

For more information about the process and the videoconference, and useful resources, see our website [here](#).

SENDIASS



Choosing a
Primary School



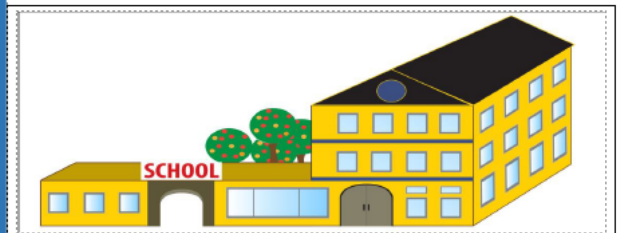
ENFIELD SENDIASS AND OUR VOICE PARENT CARER FORUM - INFORMATION SESSIONS

Does your child have additional needs?

Would you like more information on choosing a primary school, and how the process works?

Enfield Sendiass and Our Voice Parent Forum are hosting an **online information session** for parents who want more information on choosing a primary school for children with additional needs, and expressing your preferences for children who have Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). We will also be joined by a member of the SEN Team for additional advice on the process and timescales.

We will discuss the process, how you can get information about schools and what to look out for when making decisions.



Tuesday 7th November 2022: 10.30 am – 12 noon

Book at: <https://choosing-primary-school-23-am.eventbrite.co.uk>

Or Monday 13th November 1 – 2.30 pm

Book at: <https://choosing-primary-school-23-pm.eventbrite.co.uk>

The session will be hosted on Zoom. You will get the required Zoom link once you have registered. Please email Our Voice at info@ourvoiceenfield.org.uk or phone 07516 662315 if you have any problems booking.

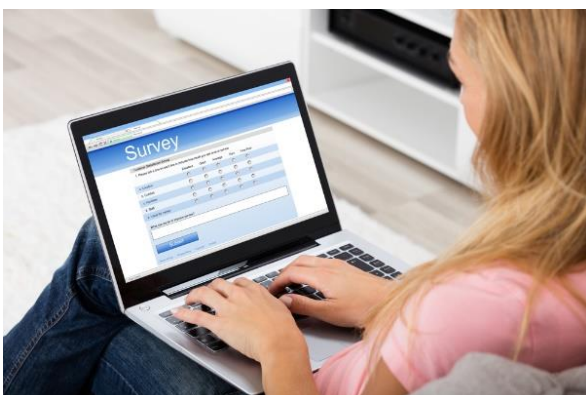


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Tell us about your experiences

We would really like to hear about your experiences when looking at Primary schools this year - whether good or bad. We know that all schools are meant to be inclusive for children with Disabilities and Special Needs – but is that the reality? Did you feel that your child would be welcomed and supported at the school, or were you discouraged (actively or subtly) from sending your child to that school?

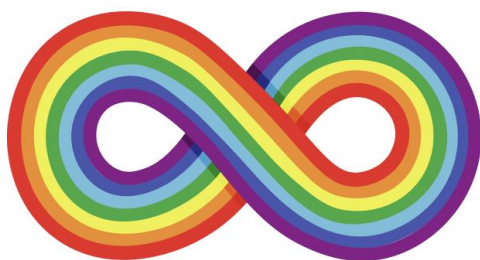


Please let us know by completing the short survey [here](#). It should only take around 5 minutes to do. To thank you for your time we will randomly select **3 survey entries to receive a £20 Amazon voucher** (see survey page for details and conditions)

SEN Coffee and Chat

SEN COFFEE & CHAT MORNINGS

To all Parent/Carers of children on the AUTISM/ADHD Spectrum, I would love for you to join me and other parents for my SEN Coffee & Chat Mornings.



DATES RUNNING 2023

**Friday 3rd Nov
(Special guest from OUR VOICE)
Friday 17th Nov
Friday 8th Dec**

**COSTA COFFEE
16 Station Parade
Cockfosters
EN4 0DN
9.30am-11am**

**Instagram @sen_with_elena
For more info
email me on senwithelena@hotmail.com**

Join this coffee morning in Cockfosters on Friday to chat with other parent carers, including a member of the Our Voice team.

Taking place at Costa Coffee in Cockfosters.

If you can't make it this week, there will be other sessions on 17th November and 8th December.

See also our 'It's good to talk' guide [here](#) for details of other coffee and chat sessions and support groups.

It's good to talk!

Events, coffee mornings and support groups for parents and carers



Being the parent/carer of a child or young person with a disability or special educational needs is often challenging, and parents can find it helpful to spend time talking to other parents who have similar experiences.

In this short guide we give details of a few of the local coffee mornings and other social and wellbeing events regularly run for parents of children with additional needs.

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Enfield Advisory Service for Autism (EASA)

Cuppa and chats

The [Enfield Advisory Service for Autism \(EASA\)](http://www.enfieldasa.org.uk) supports autistic children and young people (from 0-25 years) and their families. During November they will be running two of their 'cuppa and chat' sessions, each of which will take place from 9.30 to 11 a.m. at Russet House School, Autumn Close, Enfield, EN1 4 JA.

Early years and primary school-aged children on Thursday 9th November – an introduction to the Autism Education Trust for Children (AET)

Secondary/post 16 aged young people on Thursday 16th November looking at Exams and Revision

More information and booking links for both sessions [here](#).



EASA – time to play sessions for autistic children aged 18 months - 3 yrs 6 months



The Enfield Advisory Service for Autism (EASA) will be running its next 'Time to Play' sessions on Thursday 9th November.

These sessions are for families with autistic children (whether they are diagnosed or awaiting a diagnosis) between the ages of 18 months and 3 years 6 months.

More information and booking [here](#).

Autism Central events from the London Autism Hub

The London Autism Central Hub offers guidance to families, carers and personal assistants of autistic people. This includes opportunities to book one-to-one appointments and a range of different workshops. You can see details and booking links [here](#).

One-hour online sessions during November include:

Support for Siblings and young carers – 14th or 23rd Nov

Understanding Autism – for the whole family – 2nd or 22nd or 30th Nov

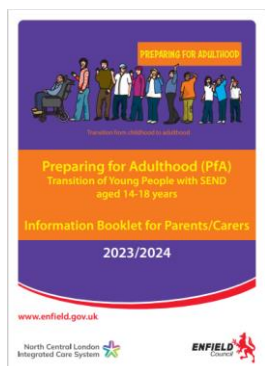
Understanding and Supporting an Anxious Child – 7th or 16th or 29th Nov

Parent and Carer online support group – 8th or 21st Nov

Understanding your child's behaviour – 9th or 15th or 28th Nov



Preparing for Adulthood reminder



Preparing for Adulthood or 'PfA' (previously known in Enfield as 'Moving On') is the process of moving from childhood to adulthood (including from child to adult services) and the resources and events to support you and your young person through that process.

The new booklet outlining the process (for 2023 – 2024) has now been published and can be found on the Local Offer [here](#) and on the Our Voice website PfA page [here](#).

We recommend that you start to attend Preparing for Adulthood Events when your young person reaches year 9 (although you can start earlier if you wish). These events provide opportunities to talk to professionals and other parents who can give you advice and information to help you and your young person make the right decisions about their future.

Enfield Preparing for Adulthood Events

There is a programme of events outlining different aspects of the transition. You can see the list of programme events set out on the Local Offer [here](#) including links to join each event. The booklet explains what each event is about.

If you are unable to make it along to any of the events, you can see the presentations [here](#) (scroll down to the bottom of the page).

The next two events are Understanding Welfare Benefits on 3rd November – 10.30 am to 12.30 pm at Park Avenue Disability Centre and Support Planning on 30th November 10.30 am to 12.30 pm at the Integrated Learning Disability Service.

Date	Time	Event	LINK/VENUE
3 Nov 2023	10:30 – 12:30	Understanding Welfare Benefits This event will help you to understand the welfare benefit system and find out how your benefits might change when your young person becomes an adult including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find out how to be an appointee The change at 16 years from DLA to PIP and what's the difference Understanding Universal Credit Benefit changes for parents Tips about bank accounts and savings It will also provide information about Council Tax discounts and exemptions.	Park Avenue Disability Centre 65c Park Avenue Bush Hill Park Enfield EN1 2HL
30 Nov 2023	10:30 – 12:30	Support Planning This event provides you with the opportunity to gain a good understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How co-production works in practice The importance of "whole life planning" How to develop meaningful outcomes Addressing areas of risk Making best use of contingency planning Personal budgets and how to use them. 	Integrated Learning Disability Service Carnegie Building 258a Hertford Road Enfield EN3 5BN



Preparing for Adulthood - Transition Drop ins

Enfield Integrated Learning Disability Service are committed to helping all parents and carers of young people with Learning Disabilities to have a smooth 'Transition' to adulthood



Our [Preparing for Adulthood website](#) has lots of information, and details of face to face and on online sessions throughout the year. We are also offering a monthly 'Drop in' where carers of young people 16 and over can come and ask about transition.

You will be able to talk to -



Jane Richards from Families in Transition to Adulthood (FTA)

Charlene Thomas – Head of Service and Transition Lead, Assessment and Care Management, Integrated Learning Disabilities Service or a member of the ILDS management team.



Sessions will be on the 1st Friday of the month from 10am – 12pm at The Enfield Integrated Learning Disability Service, Enfield Highway Carnegie Building, 258A Hertford Road, Enfield, EN3 5BN

If you would like to book a place, please call Jane Richards, Families in Transition to Adulthood (FTA) on 07816070098

You can also attend one of the regular monthly drop-in sessions to discuss any individual questions you may have. The next one takes place on Friday 3rd November. Please book your place by noon on Thursday 2nd November. You are welcome to bring your young person with you if you wish.

Play and Leisure – coming soon



See our What's on Guide [here](#) for information on SEN-specific and inclusive days out and play and leisure activities in and around the Enfield area. Events coming up include:

Coming soon – SEND supported Gym sessions

Following discussions with Fusion Leisure, there will be a 6-month pilot at Southbury leisure centre on Thursdays starting on the 16th November from 4.30 pm - 5.30 pm. The sessions will be:

- SEND Supported gym sessions for those 12 - 25 years and a plus-1 to support them.
- The cost will be £3 per session per person for those with SEND and their plus-1 support.
- Anyone attending will require a gym induction and need to complete a PARQ on their first session.
- There will be an allocation of 14 spaces in total (7 SEND and 7 support spaces)



We await the booking information for these sessions and will add this to our website's ['What's On?'](#) page as soon as we get the details.

Cinema: Relaxed /Autism friendly film showing this Saturday

Cineworld Enfield will have a relaxed showing of Trolls Band Together (certificate U) this Saturday 4th November at 11 a.m. Book via the website [here](#).

At autism-friendly showings lights are left on low, sound is turned down and there are no adverts or trailers. Don't forget that there is free access for carers with a valid CEA card see [here](#) for information.



Natural History Museum Book now for Dawnosaurus – Saturday 2nd Dec



Booking has just opened for the next relaxed event from the Natural History Museum, taking place on Saturday 2nd December. This is part of their programme of events called 'Dawnosaurs' when the museum opens early so visitors can enjoy the museum in a quieter environment before the general public is admitted. The events are supported by experienced Autism-aware facilitators and are aimed at children aged 5-15 (siblings welcome). More information is available at [Dawnosaurs: Relaxed Morning Visit | Natural History Museum](#)

nhm.ac.uk) These sessions can be very popular so it is worth booking as soon as you can.

SENdsational at the Tring Natural History Museum 12th Nov

At the Tring Natural History Museum there is a programme of events known as Sendarational, aimed at neurodiverse children and young people – information at [SENdsational Mornings at Tring | Natural History Museum \(nhm.ac.uk\)](#)

London Zoo

London Zoo will be continuing their programme of accessible events on 8th November with a relaxed early opening (8.30 am to 10 am) and an Audio-described tour at 10.45, and on 15th November with two British Sign Language tours at 11.15 am and 2.15 p.m. See pages 13 – 14 of our guide for info and booking links.



Halloween party

ENFIELD YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

HALLOWEEN

FANCY DRESS PARTY

CROYLAND YOUTH CENTRE
1 CROYLAND ROAD, N9 7BA
FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER
AGES 6-11 4.30-7.30PM

CRAIG PARK YOUTH CENTRE
2 LAWRENCE ROAD, N18 2HN
FRIDAY 3 NOVEMBER
AGES 12-19 6.30-9PM

PRIZE FOR THE BEST DRESSED!

Interested?

Email talisha.anderson-wright@enfield.gov.uk
www.enfield.gov.uk/youth

Enfield's Youth Development service will be running a Halloween-themed fancy dress party this Friday 3rd November for young people aged 12 -19.

This is not a SEND -specific event but may be of interest to some. Please contact Talisha at Talisha-anderson-wright@enfield.gov.uk if you have any questions or would like to book.

Events coming up in November

See our 'What's On' guide to ongoing inclusive and SEND-specific play and leisure activities and days out (last updated 30th October) [here](#). See our round-up of coffee mornings, social activities and coffee mornings for parents [here](#)

For parents/ carers of children/young people with SEND who are:	What	When	Where	Details/booking links
Autistic	Understanding Autism for the whole family	2 nd November	Online	See page 4
All	SEN Coffee morning – with guest from the Our Voice team	Friday 3rd Nov 9.30 to 11 am	Costa Coffee, Cockfosters	Page 3
Aged 14 and over	Preparing for adulthood – understanding welfare benefits	Friday 3rd Nov 10.30 am – 12.30 pm	Park Avenue Disability Centre	Page 5 and here
Aged 16 and over	Preparing for Adulthood drop-in session	Friday 3rd November 10 am – 12 pm	Integrated Learning Disability Service Carnegie Building	Page 5 and here
Autistic	Understanding and supporting an Autistic Child	Tuesday 7 th Nov	Online	Page 4
Starting primary school next year	Choosing a primary school workshop with Our Voice, SENDIASS and SEN Services	Tuesday 7 th Nov 10.30 am to 12 noon	Online via Zoom	Page 2 and here
Aged 16 and over, with an EHCP and interested in employment	Supported Internship programme open evening	Tuesday 7 th Nov 5-6 pm	West Lea, Haselbury Campus	See last week's update
Autistic	Parent and carer support group	Wednesday 8 th Nov	Online	Page 4
Finding it difficult to attend school for emotional reasons	Day 1 of 2-part workshop with the Educational Psychology Service	Wednesday 8 th Nov 1.30 – 2.30 pm	Online	here
Autistic, early years and primary school age	EASA cuppa and chat – Introduction to the Autism Education Trust for Children	Thursday 9 th November 9.30 – 11 am	Russet House School	Page 4 and here
Autistic 18 months to 3 years 6 months	EASA Time to Play	Thursday 9 th November 9.30 – 11 am	Russet House School	Page 4 and here
Starting primary school next year	Choosing a primary school workshop with Our Voice, SENDIASS and SEN Services	Monday 13 th Nov 1 to 2.30 pm	Online via Zoom	Page 2 and here
Interested in starting college	Barnet Southgate College	Wed 15 th Nov from 3.30 pm	Barnet Southgate College	See last week's update
Autistic secondary school age and post-16	EASA cuppa and chat – Exams and Revision	Thursday 9 th November 9.30 – 11 am	Russet House School	Page 4 and here
All	Our Voice presents: Get to know Social Care, Short Breaks and the JSDC	Thursday 16 th November 10 am – 12 noon	Cheviots Childrens Disability Centre	See page 1 and here
Finding it difficult to attend school for emotional reasons	Day 2 of 2-part workshop with the Educational Psychology Service	Tuesday 21 st Nov 1.30 – 2.30 pm	Online	here
Aged 14 and over	Preparing for adulthood – Support Planning	Thursday 30 th Nov 10.30 am – 12.30 pm	Integrated Learning Disability Service, Hertford Road	Page 5 and here
All	Our Voice Christmas party	Sunday 3rd December 2 - 4.30 pm	Russet House School	Pre-booking only – details coming soon

We hope that you have found our newsletter useful. If you have any feedback, or anything that you think we could be telling our families about, please let us know. Our contact details are:

Telephone 07516 662315 Email: info@ourvoiceenfield.org.uk

Website: www.ourvoiceenfield.org.uk

You can also follow us on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ourvoiceenfield/> on Twitter@EnfieldOurVoice and on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/ourvoiceenfield/>

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