



Welcome to the June edition of our Ambitious for SEND newsletter!

We are Ambitious for SEND in Sutton and it's important we communicate that ambition to the people that matter the most - parents and young people. Improving the way we communicate with you has been an important part of our journey over the last few years and as much as I hope that you find this newsletter useful, it is much more than just newsletters and websites. It's also very much about how we communicate with each other in our everyday conversations.

With that in mind, I wanted to share with you the work that a Parent Carer Forum ([Swindon SEND Families Voice](#)) have been working on. Its called '[reshaping conversations](#)' and it highlights the importance of using positive and constructive language in professionals' conversations with families. It gives practical examples of how small changes can make a big difference to families' experiences. This is something we want to work on across the local area, so please do let me know what you think, or if you have any suggestions about how we can do this better. You can also let us know through the [Sutton Parent Carers Forum](#), they can be contacted on suttonparentsforum@outlook.com or calling or texting 07557 760328.

This is one of the reasons we have made how we 'communicate' a central plank in our new SEND Charter (see below) - the Charter is a description of how we want to work in the local area. Of course, communication works both ways so, in that spirit, I really do welcome your views on the Charter - or anything else in this Newsletter - so please do be in touch at education.sendfeedback@sutton.gov.uk I, and our key partners across the local area, very much look forward to hearing from you.

Fiona Phelps
Assistant Director for Education and SEND

Ambitious for SEND - what have we been working on since our last update in February (at a glance)...

'at a glance' on what we have been working on, some of which have more information below:

- We have developed a draft '**SEND Charter**' with parents and professionals describing our values and attitudes to supporting young people with SEND (see below).
- We are finalising our plans for **supported internships** from September next year for young people with SEND (see below).
- We continue to establish a strong community of practice with our '**SENCO clusters**' - most recently creating an online 'knowledge hub' to enable SENCOs to share information and best practice as well as publishing our SENCO webpages on the [Local Offer](#)
- With the help of [Sutton Parent Carer Forum](#), Sutton has adopted the [Hidden Disabilities Sunflower](#) to support and raise awareness of those living with a hidden disability.
- We have invited bids from the education community in Sutton on **how we can invest over £3.5m** to improve the educational environment / facilities for young people with SEND across the local area as part of our 'Special Provision Capital Fund'.
- We have been invited by the GLA and RSA to take part in a '**deep dive**' **workshop on inclusion and nurture** - a subject very close to our hearts!
- We have set up a [Multi-Agency Learning and Development site](#) for anyone who is involved with children, young people and their families in the London Borough of Sutton.
- We have invited schools to take part in a **pilot programme to offer Independent Travel Training** to pupils in Sutton - delivered by school staff who know the children the best!
- We have undertaken the first phase of our **review on how we deliver therapies to children** in the Local Area.
- Last but not least one of our local area professionals Pam Fry, Founder and CEO of PlayWise CiC has been awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours for the for services to children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) - [read more here.](#)

Our new Draft SEND Charter now Published - let us know your views!

What is an SEND Charter?

The charter is a set of values and attitudes agreed with all stakeholders with regard to how we approach SEND in the local area. It provides us with a framework to pick up where we fall short, and more positively, a framework to celebrate when we are all working well together.



It is something we have worked up in partnership with Education, Health and Social Care professionals from across the Local Area, with the Sutton Parents Carers Forum, the Sutton Education Partnership, Cognus and Schools/education settings.

You can download a copy of the draft charter [here.](#)

We are very grateful to the Sutton Parent Carer Forum for their time and thought in helping us get to this point and want to hear the wider views of other parents from across the Local Area. Please let us know what you think by emailing - education.sendfeedback@sutton.gov.uk

What happens next?

Once we have confirmed the principles, we will work with partners from across the Local Area to develop our existing practices and processes in line with these charter principles.

Help us live our SEND Charter - volunteer for the Sutton Information and Advice Service!

Sutton Information and Advice Service (SIASS) is currently recruiting for the following volunteer positions:

- 3 x SIASS Steering Group Members - Parent/Carer Representatives
- 2 x SIASS Information & Support Volunteers

For more information about the roles please click [here!](#)

To find out more please take a look through their [Spring/Summer newsletter](#) or visit the [website](#).

Update on the Children's Therapy Review

The London Borough of Sutton (LBS) and South West London Clinical Commissioning Group, Sutton Borough (SWLCCG) have been working together to review therapy provision. The aim of the review is to develop and improve children's therapy services in Sutton, and develop a sustainable model which reflects national best practice.

We want to strengthen what works, as well as identifying ways to do things differently, to ensure we can continue to best meet the needs of children and young people, and improve their outcomes.

Read more about the [Children's Therapy Review](#).

Preparation for Adulthood - do you know someone with SEND that might benefit from a supported internship?

Supported internships are aimed at young people aged 16 to 25 with an Education, Health and Care Plan, They provide students with real life experience needed to gain paid employment. Interns will work for one year, completing three, ten-week job rotations and will be supported at every stage by a Job Coach.

Cognus have been also been busy...

- The SEND service met with over 60 local families collectively and individually to talk about key stage transfer - particularly critical during COVID-19. Placements have been agreed for September 2021 and we look forward to hearing of children's progress when they join their new schools!
- Praise for 'Brighter Futures' - Cognus together with local area partners have been recognised by the DfE when identifying 'what works' in how young people can be supported in making sustained post-16 transitions. Well done team!
- Making Music with Students with PMLD - Sutton Music Service's (SMS) mission is to provide access to music in all its forms for every young person in the borough. With support and training from [Open Orchestras](#), SMS has been working with Sherwood Park School (an all-age foundation special school) to create an orchestra accessible to young disabled people.
- Sutton young people can now learn about personal budgets [via a new video on the Local Offer](#). This will help young people understand the choices they have and work towards their goals.
- Supporting Sutton's Traveller community - Cognus have recently been working with St Elphege's RC Infant on an Early Language Intervention programme designed for reception pupils with some fantastic results! One of the traveller pupils supported through the programme scored joint highest in his class - a great achievement!
- The Hearing Impairment service have been enjoying being back out on home visits working with families. It has been great to see some our (almost) 2 year olds getting comfortable with their hearing aids something that is critical to early language skills.

Listening events across July

Cognus are holding a series of events to promote routes for local resolution for parents and carers. The aim of these sessions is to support families to have the right conversations at the right time, to improve communication and outcomes for children, young people and families at the earliest opportunity.

Sessions will be held on:

- 9 July 2021, 10.30am – 11.30am
- 23 July 2021, 2.30pm – 3.30pm

Please note, there are a maximum of 100 spaces available for each session. If we do not receive any objections, these events will be recorded for those that are unable to attend.

Please see the [Local Resolution Flyer](#) for more details

If you want to find out more about anything above or about the services that Cognus provide please do get in touch - enquiries@cognus.org.uk

Upcoming SPCF Events



PLAY & STAY 2021 – WE ARE BACK!!!

Welcome to Play & Stay and we are thrilled to be able to offer morning and afternoon sessions throughout the summer holidays!

These sessions are for children with additional needs and/or disabilities who are aged 0 – 10 years and their parents/carers and siblings.

Due to COVID-19 rules we can currently only have 15 parent/carers at each session so you **MUST BOOK** a place by emailing suttonparentsforum@outlook.com

Tuesday 27th July	Thursday 29th July
Tuesday 3rd August	Thursday 5th August
Tuesday 10th August	Thursday 12th August
Tuesday 17th August	Thursday 19th August
Tuesday 24th August	Thursday 26th August
Tuesday 31st August	

Morning session: 10—12 am

Afternoon session: 1.30—3.30pm

Parents & Carers are responsible for supervising their children, and MUST remain with them at ALL times.

Each session cost £1.50 per child per session

Please remember to bring a change of clothes, waterproofs/warm clothing sun cream and hats for your child

Come and Join Us At:

**Tweeddale Children Centre,
Tweeddale Road, Carshalton, Surrey, SM5 1SW**

Limited parking available on the street

Summer Inclusive Cage Cricket and Football Sessions

At Community Cricket we offer accessible and inclusive activities which allow people of any age, experience, ability or disability to enjoy the benefits of being more active in a safe and social environment.

Cage Cricket

This adapted format has worked spectacularly well with many charities including Dwarf Sports, LimbPower, Mencap, Special Olympics and Wheelpower along with Special Schools and with older people.

Football

If you would like to stay for a supported football skills session with Liam Roberts, this will be running for 45 minutes after our cricket sessions on 28th July and 11th August.

We are looking forward to working with children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities in Sutton over the summer holidays!

Dates and Times of Sessions:

There are 4 sessions a day and we are limiting it to 6 spaces per session in order to keep children and young people safe in line with the government recommendations on outdoor sports.

Wednesday 28th July

Cricket: 10am - 11am	11.30am - 12.30pm	1.15pm - 2.15pm	2.45pm - 3.45pm
Football: 11am - 11.45am	12.30pm - 1.15pm	2.15pm - 3pm	3.45pm - 4.30pm

Wednesday 11th August

Cricket: 10am - 11am	11.30am - 12.30pm	1.15pm - 2.15pm	2.45pm - 3.45pm
Football: 11am - 11.45am	12.30pm - 1.15pm	2.15pm - 3pm	3.45pm - 4.30pm

Wednesday 18th August

Cricket: 10am - 11am	11.30am - 12.30pm	1.15pm - 2.15pm	2.45pm - 3.45pm
----------------------	-------------------	-----------------	-----------------

Wednesday 25th August

Cricket: 10am - 11am	11.30am - 12.30pm	1.15pm - 2.15pm	2.45pm - 3.45pm
----------------------	-------------------	-----------------	-----------------

Address:

Harris Academy Sutton,
2, Chiltern Road,
Sutton,
SM2 5RD

Cost of sessions is FREE for families
These sessions are being funded by the London Borough of Sutton

These sessions are for **ages 12 - 25 year olds**
BUT if there is a demand for sessions for a **younger age group**, please email us and we will do our best to make that happen!

Please email suttonparentsforum@outlook.com to book a space!
Please include your child's name and a contact mobile number for Track and Trace!



Please visit the Sutton Parent Carer Forum website for more details of future events this summer.

www.suttonparentsforum.org.uk

Other news and updates

[The Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families launch new resources](#)

- The [Supporting children's transitions to secondary school booklet](#) has just been launched, which is accompanied by the [Moving up! transition animation and toolkit](#)
- In addition, you can sign up to their [free seminar on traumatic bereavement](#).

[The Solihull Approach](#)

- There is now a free online parenting programmes for anyone in Sutton to access. The Solihull Approach offers a series of parenting programmes for all parents-to-be, parents, grandparents or carers of any child from the antenatal period to age 18 years, with the aim of providing a safe space for parents and carers to feel more confident in their approach to parenting
- The courses cover different periods throughout a child's life and are suitable for all parents and carers, including those whose children have additional needs, i.e. ADHD or ASD.
- If any professional wants a virtual introduction to this please contact megan.pitt@sutton.gov.uk
- The courses are available to complete online, are available in 108 languages and are free for all Sutton residents.
- Register at www.inourplace.co.uk and apply the access code: 'TREE' To return to the course(s) go to www.inourplace.co.uk and sign in
- For technical support, contact solihull.approach@heartofengland.nhs.uk or call 0121 296 4448 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

For more information please visit [Sutton's Local Offer Website](#)

Copyright © 2021 London Borough of Sutton, All rights reserved.

Sutton Council, Civic Offices, St Nicholas Way, Sutton, SM1 1EA

[update your preferences](#)

[unsubscribe from this list.](#)

