

# Autism in Schools

Parents Supporting Parents Forum  
22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022

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# Update on school training...



## Training that schools have signed up for/completed:

- Making Sense of Autism - 5 schools
- Speech and Language - 9 schools
- Bereavement - 6 schools

# Update on parents/carers training...

**Training available for parents/carers to register for now:**

- Making Sense of Autism (2 hours)
- What is ADHD? (E-learning - 1 hour)
- Autism and Girls (E-learning)
- Bereavement (online - Eventbrite)

To register on any of the above training please email: [nelccg.fmhd@nhs.net](mailto:nelccg.fmhd@nhs.net)

- Young Minds Matter website (Online sessions)

[Parent and Carer Workshop Overview :: Young Minds Matter \(lpft.nhs.uk\)](http://lpft.nhs.uk)

# Peer to Peer Mentor Training

Parents/carers are being offered the opportunity to train as a Peer Mentor and support other parent carers at local events such as our SEND coffee mornings and other SEND activities throughout the year.

The mentor training will be funded and will be delivered online over six weeks via Microsoft Teams for two hours at a time. The dates and times can be arranged to fit around your other commitments.

Ten places have already been filled but a further ten places will be available after April.

Once you are trained you will be invited to attend our coffee morning sessions and three events throughout the year in your volunteer role as a qualified peer support mentor.

The training includes:

- 6 AQA Units exploring the Peer Mentor role, relationship with mentee, signposting and supporting peer mentors and their own self-care.
- A designated Learning and Development Practitioner to plan, lead and complete assessment and evaluation of learning.
- Workbooks and creative activities to support the learning
- AQA certificates on completion



# Upcoming events and news...

## World Autism Acceptance Week

- Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March - Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

## Pop-up Events

- 28<sup>th</sup> March 9:30am -11:30am Cleethorpes Library
- 29<sup>th</sup> March 9:30am -11:30am Waltham Library
- 30<sup>th</sup> March 9:30am -11:30am Grimsby Library
- 31<sup>st</sup> March 9:30am -11:30am Immingham Library

## Speech, Language and Communication Needs Survey

- [NELC SEND Local Offer | Speech Language and Communication engagement \(nelincs.gov.uk\)](https://nelincs.gov.uk)

# Book Club at Cleethorpes Library



Session	Date	Time	Session	Date	Time
1	Tuesday 19th April 2022	4.30pm to 5.30pm	7	Thursday 9th June 2022	4.30pm to 5.30pm
2	Thursday 28th April 2022	4.30pm to 5.30pm	8	Thursday 16th June 2022	4.30pm to 5.30pm
3	Tuesday 3rd May 2022	4.30pm to 5.30pm	9	Thursday 23rd June 2022	4.30pm to 5.30pm
4	Thursday 12th May 2022	4.30pm to 5.30pm	10	Thursday 30th June 2022	4.30pm to 5.30pm
5	Thursday 19th May 2022	4.30pm to 5.30pm	11	Thursday 7th July 2022	4.30pm to 5.30pm
6	Thursday 26th May 2022	4.30pm to 5.30pm	12	Thursday 14th July 2022	4.30pm to 5.30pm
HALF-TERM BREAK			13	Thursday 21st July 2022	4.30pm to 5.30pm

# Child/Young Person Voice



Video clip

<https://youtu.be/YKnmIEMxkhs>

# Reasonable adjustments

The statutory government guidance on exclusion says:

- Under the equality act 2010, schools must not discriminate against ,harass or victimise pupils because of sex, race, disability, religion, or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy/maternity or gender reassignment.
- For disabled children this includes a duty to make reasonable adjustments to policies and practices.
- “Schools must also ensure that their policies and practices do not discriminate against pupils by unfairly increasing their risk of exclusion. Provision within the Equality Act allow schools to take positive action to deal with particular disadvantages, needs or low participation affecting one group, where this can be shown to be a proportionate way of dealing with such issues”

Autism is generally considered a disability in accordance with the Equality Act, but you do not have to have a diagnosis to be considered a disabled person.

The equality act requires schools to make reasonable adjustments to avoid a child from being disadvantaged compared to their peers.

School must take positive steps to ensure pupils can fully participate in education.



# Task:

What small changes do you think would help/support a child or young person in their school day?



# Small change... big impact



- Talking to CYP 1:1 to ask what would help them
- Best position to sit in class... visually or auditory distracted?
- Allowing time to process
- Reduce language
- Time out/quiet/sensory space option
- Tasks/instructions broken down
- Tasks/instructions written down
- Tasks/instructions/rules using visual cues
- Not enforcing eye contact
- Leave the class early
- Visual timetable
- Visual aids - traffic lights, personalised needs
- Fiddle toys
- Homework on paper/electronic
- Privacy Boards
- Ear defenders
- Wobble cushions
- Appropriate equipment – Dyspraxia
- Social stories used



# Parents Supporting Parents Forums

- The next Parents Supporting Parents Forums are on:  
**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May:**  
**Infants and primary schools 9.30am - 11.30am** at St Joseph's Primary Academy  
**Secondary schools 1pm - 2pm** at Havelock Academy
- All information/correspondence is:
  - Emailed to schools to distribute and share with parents
  - Emailed directly to parents who have attended one of our sessions or contacted us directly
  - Available on the AIS webpage on NEL Local Offer [NELC SEND Local Offer | Autism in Schools \(nelincs.gov.uk\)](#)