



SENDIASS, Safety, Summer & Schools 21st July 2018

Dear All

The schools have closed and the sun is shining...

We are all parents and carers too, so whilst our phone and e-mail are monitored, we're also very occupied with our children so may take a bit longer to reply.

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1 SENDIASS

SENDIASS is the acronym for Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND) Information, Advice and Support (IAS). Not so long ago it was known as Parent Partnership, which we all thought was a comforting title!

Please see below the announcement for future SENDIASS services for Kingston and Richmond

"We are pleased to confirm that KIDS, as the contracted provider of SENDIASS services until June 2019 on behalf of AfC, has successfully applied for funding from CDC as part of the information-advice-and-support-programme announced in spring 2018."

https://www.afcinfo.org.uk/local_offer/blog_articles/1794-information-advice-and-support-ias-for-kingston-and-richmond

The Local Offer links for SENDIASS is here:

https://www.afcinfo.org.uk/local_offer/organisations/25475-kids-richmond-and-kingston-send-information-advice-and-support-service-sendiass?term=sendiass

And IPSEA (Independent Parental Special Education Advice) is here:
<https://www.ipsea.org.uk>

2 Signs of Safety

Achieving for Children is implementing Signs of Safety model:

"Signs of Safety is a partnership and collaboration grounded, strengths-based, safety-organised approach to child protection work. Signs of Safety expands the investigation of risk to encompass strengths, it can be built upon to stabilise and strengthen the child's and family's situation."

Whilst this is a child protection model, it has many similarities with how families might like to see annual reviews for our children and young people. For instance, the child is at the centre, what is working well, what isn't, and it focusses on strengths; what the family can do.

As families of children and young people with SEND, we are all automatically classed as vulnerable. Not great perhaps, but it's worth bearing in mind the models and approaches that family support workers and social workers may be utilising – if they are working with us.

As model, it has attracted international attention and some impressive results. For more information, follow this link:

<https://www.signsofsafety.net/what-is-sofs>

3 Richmond Mencap – survey for autumn activities

"It has been sad to have the last sessions of both of our youth clubs in the last two weeks, however we are confident that we will come back with something bigger and better in the autumn. We need your help so please give us your ideas and opinions on what your child would like, times and days that suit you and what's missing.

Please find below the link to a short questionnaire for you to complete, and a separate one for your child. Please do complete and return this as this will help us see where the gaps are.

<http://richmondmencap.org.uk/latest-news/wed-like-your-help/>

Please complete the questionnaire by Wednesday 25th July. The information we gather will help us apply for further funding to put on more activities.

Please make sure you keep in touch; we will most definitely be back after summer with some new activities so we look forward to seeing you soon. Please do feel free to contact me in the office on 020 8744 1923 or on office@richmondmencap.org.uk

*Laura Turner
Chief Officer"*

4 Kingston Mencap – dragon boat racing tomorrow

Kingston Dragon Boat Festival. Kingston Mencap have entered a crew for the 3rd year running. Please come and support us. A fun day with stalls, food and refreshments in Canbury Gardens, by the river Kingston. The event is free.

Dragon Boat Race

9.30am onwards - Sunday 22nd July

<https://www.kingstonmencap.org.uk/calendar/item/34934294>

5 MeToo&Co are hiring

Could you be their Development Manager?

Part time: 25 Hours per week

Salary: £20,000 (actual salary)

Home based with regular meetings in Richmond.

We need a Development Manager that is dedicated, flexible and has the energy, drive and skills to lead the development of Me too & Co."

More details and forms are here:

<https://mailchi.mp/887ea1dd9464/were-hiring-could-you-be-our-development-manager>

6 Activities on the Local Offer

With summer coming, the Local Offer recommends looking to their event's pages for the most current listings (these are often the first to be updated).

https://www.afcinfo.org.uk/local_offer/events

7 Sailing & Exploring

Have you got a young person in your school or setting that would love to sail the high seas and trekking across a breath taking landscape?

Jubilee Sailing Trust and British Exploring Society's Infinity Project

"The Infinity programme is in its pilot year. We are seeking 14 disabled and 14 non-disabled young explorers to participate in a pilot expedition in the UK this autumn. For the pilot expedition, young explorers need to be aged 16-18 (for the main expedition next year we are likely to expand to a wider age range). The young explorers will be required to contribute £150 per person (and travel costs to Dartmoor and from Southampton would also need to be funded). Otherwise, all costs are fully covered by a JST/ BES donor.

The young explorers will act as ambassadors for the full programme - but also to inform us and challenge us in the design of the final programme to make sure we've got it right. So first of all our participants need to be confident to participate in feedback - we would want them to actively benefit and grow from this kind of process.

The programme is about intensive personal development, adventure and directed learning opportunities around science, media, communications, teamwork and so on. The young explorers will need to be:

1. able to receive, understand and remember instruction including in relation to their safety in wild and remote locations
2. able to manage basic self-care and self-medication
3. cognitively able to benefit from the personal development and learning provided by the programme
4. able to progress positively as a result of supported challenge and stress provided by the programme."

Please email Jeremy Stephenson if you have any queries or require further information.

E: jeremy.stephenson@bristol.gov.uk

8 Knots Arts

"Our mission is to create inclusive, friendly and fun sessions were children and young people feel safe and supported to develop their communication skills and build friendships."

"We love running one off holiday projects for children and young people. This page is designed to show what we've been up to and to tell you all about new, exciting projects that are coming up!

Play in a Week – July 2018 – 11 years and over

Summer arts – August 2018 – 4 -10 years

Insects and Adventures puppetry – August 2018 – 7 – 12 years"

<http://knotsarts.com/projects/>

9 Moving On

"This can be a difficult time for many children, and those with learning disabilities often need additional help with planning for this time of transition.

The Moving On guide is an easy read guide offering top tips for pupils planning the move from junior to secondary school."

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/learning-disabilities/publications/moving-on-tips-for-pupils-with-special-educational-needs/>

10 The transition from primary to secondary schools...

[...multi-university study. Can you help?](#)

This study comes from Kingston University, the University of Roehampton and the Child Development & Learning Difficulties University

"We are looking at good practise in transition from Primary to Secondary Schools for children with neurodevelopment disorders such as ASD, Down Syndrome and William Syndrome. This work is aimed with a long term view to improve the application of EHC plans and make them more systematic and relevant to this group of children.

The children need to be moving to secondary school this September and therefore we need to get in touch with these families asap. We have initially gone through schools but this has proved increasingly difficult due to their time pressures."

What does taking part entail?

Two non-verbal games and a short interview with the children via video call.

Questionnaires and a short interview with parents and SENCos.

Contact details below:

E: Elizabeth.Burchell@Roehampton.ac.uk or m.ashworth@kingston.ac.uk

T: 020 8392 7308

11 <SEN.IMPLEMENTATION@education.gov.uk>

The latest news from the SEND Implementation people at Central Government... the July 2018 edition of the "0-25 SEND, Alternative Provision and Attendance Unit Newsletter" covers many subjects, of particular interest to us may be:

- SEND Tribunal: Single Route of Redress National Trial
- SEND mediation standards
- SEND Schools' Workforce programme of work
- Education Psychology Research Project on the Workforce in England
- SEND statistics

You can find the complete newsletter here:

<http://www.sendfamilyvoices.org/send-reforms/>

12 £1.5 billion funding gap for disabled children's services in the UK

...from Special Needs Jungle

"As if we're not already drowning in enough bad news about how disabled children and their families are bearing the brunt of council and school funding cuts, today there's fresh misery. The Disabled Children's Partnership (DCP) has revealed there is a UK funding gap of £1.5 BILLION for children's services for disabled children."

<https://specialneedsjungle.com/1-5-billion-funding-gap-for-disabled-childrens-services-in-the-uk/>

13 Tweets this week:

£2 million transferred from reserves into RBK children's services

<https://moderngov.kingston.gov.uk/documents/s78622/Emergency%20budget%20revisions.pdf>

Tips for new SEND parents:

https://claireyr123.wordpress.com/2018/07/14/tips-for-new-send-parents/amp/?__twitter_impression=true

Problem-solving toolkit for SEND families:

<http://www.cerebra.org.uk/practical-help/problem-solving-toolkit-for-families/>

Tackling lower life expectancy for people with learning disabilities finally becomes a priority for NHS England:

<https://www.hsj.co.uk/commissioning/exclusive-stevens-sets-out-10-year-plan-priorities/7022947.article>

A fabulous new CD and DVD from Singing Hands:

<http://singinghands.co.uk/shop/>

Down Syndrome research conference on 17/18 September:

<https://www.down-syndrome.org/en-gb/research/forum/2018/>

What does inclusion mean? A great blog:

https://inco14.wordpress.com/2015/01/06/inclusion-the-enterprise-of-putting-all-of-the-children-into-the-same-building/amp/?__twitter_impression=true

Primary to secondary transition - how can primary schools help?

<https://www.tes.com/news/send-transition-how-can-primary-schools-help>

When school staff refuse to accept a diagnosis: questions to ask

https://itmustbemum.wordpress.com/2017/02/18/when-school-staff-refuse-to-accept-a-diagnosis/amp/?__twitter_impression=true

14 Big Life Fix – series 2

A team of inventors attempt to change the lives of three inspiring people with very different problems.

Next Thursday 26th July – 8pm

BBC TWO - Episode 1 (of 4)

The Big Life Fix, Inventing the Impossible Episode 1 of 4

"Forty-year-old Graham was passionate about snowboarding until an accident dramatically changed his life. Now he is severely disabled, spending most of his time in a wheelchair, and with limited use of his arms and legs.

Alexander lives with a rare genetic disorder that causes extreme sensitivity to the sun's ultraviolet rays. He is 10,000 times more sensitive to sun light than the average person

Kyle's ambition has always been to be a hairdresser, but he was born with a deformed hand making it impossible for him to hold hair while cutting or styling it."

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0bcv44d>

As ever, if you have any queries at all, please ask and we'll always do our best to find an answer.

With best wishes from all at SEND Family Voices

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