



Rainbow Round-Up

Issue 1. June 2020

Hello Rainbow Resource scheme members!

Are you keeping safe and well during this coronavirus pandemic? It is a challenging time for many people. Everyone is having to communicate in different ways and adjust to this 'new normal'.

This is first issue of the brand-new **Rainbow Round Up**; the newsletter for Rainbow Resource scheme members (RR scheme members). We are pleased to have around 1000 RR scheme members and this number is growing all the time.

Who looks after your SEND Local Offer (Rainbow Resource) and the RR scheme?



'Hi, I'm Beckie and I joined the team in 2016; and prior to this I worked in the field of fostering. I live in a village just outside Midsomer Norton and outside of work, I spend my time with my husband, our two active young boys and our dog Archie. We love the outdoors and spend as much time on adventures in the countryside as possible. We love the summer months and long days outside, but my boys are also big fans of puddle splashing – so nothing much stops us from exploring! I enjoy a bit of gardening and we're branching out to grow some of our own veggies'



'I'm Gemma and I live in Keynsham with my wife and our dog, Nahla. I have a 20-year-old son who lives on his own. My hobbies include reading, crocheting and dog agility (her size doesn't stop her, she's pretty good at it!), I'm just getting into gardening too. I'm originally from Reading but moved to this area to go to university in Bath in 2006 and fell in love with the area, so I stayed! I've worked for the Council for 8 years, the longest I've stayed in the same job'



'I'm Mel and I live with my husband, our 13-year-old son and our whippet, Shadow. I've worked for the Council for a long time – more than 20 years. My longest time in a role has been in the P&C Comms team – so it must be a great team to work in! When not working, I love creative writing, reading (especially thrillers and crime novels) and walking my dog. At the moment, I am also ensuring my son is doing some home learning and resisting the lure of his Xbox...!'

Support during the COVID-19 pandemic

You can find lots of information to help support your family during this pandemic. There is a special coronavirus page on 1 Big Database Bathnes; www.bathnes1bd.org.uk/pages/coronavirus-covid-19 offers a range of activity ideas, mental and emotional support resources and lots of information for children with additional needs or disabilities.



If you use social media, follow our **Family Information Online Facebook page** www.facebook.com/BathnesFIS



For young people preparing for adulthood, we have **Youth Info. Instagram** www.instagram.com/Youth_Info_BANES/

Compassionate Communities Hub B&NES

Several organisations, including Bath & North East Somerset Council, Virgin Care, the local Clinical Commissioning Group and [3SG](#) (who represent third sector organisations) have come together to offer an advice and support hub for people who are self-isolating or shielding and in need of help. If you need to ask for help from others, ring the COVID-19 community support helpline on 0300 247 0050.

Autism information and resources

If you have a child or young person in your family with autism; there is a dedicated autism section on Rainbow Resource. See <https://www.rainbowresource.org.uk/pages/autism-information>

.....and don't forget there is information, resources and support for all ages and abilities; the 0 – 5 years old, 5 – 11, 11 – 14 and 14 - 25 web pages on Rainbow Resource provide information relevant and useful to these age groups of children and young people.

Have you used your RR scheme card anywhere? Let us know!

During 'lock down' none of us are going very far afield; but if you have used your RR scheme card prior to the pandemic, where have you used it? We'd love to know!

Where would you like to be able to use your card? We welcome your suggestions of attractions and other places we can approach to ask if they would like to be part of the Rainbow Resource scheme and offer a discount to our card holders.



Over to you...

This newsletter is for you....so we'd love to hear your thoughts; do you want to receive a regular RR scheme members communication and if so, what do you want it to include? Some of you might not want to receive Rainbow Roundup – and that's fine too; just let us know.

Your ideas and suggestions are welcome, so please get in touch with the RR scheme team at P_C_Comms@BATHNES.GOV.UK