



# SEND Newsletter



December 2024

## Latest News

Last month we held our revised, strengthened, Special Educational Needs, Disability and Alternative Provision Partnership Board dedicated to improving the outcomes and experiences of our children with SEND. YPAG fed back to the board as the voice of our children and young people. We heard updates on our ambition to strengthen our short break offer, the work taking place to improve transitions along with an update in relation to 'Ordinarily Available Provision' and how this work will be co-produced with the Council for Disabled Children. The Neurodiversity pathway progress was celebrated and the board reflected on NE Lincs self-assessment of SENDAP. Our parent carer forum NELPCF were exceptional in updating the board on the work they are undertaking and ensuring the board is listening to the feedback from many parents and carers. "Our Children, Our Future"★



## SEND Focus

I am so thrilled to be back here as the Principal Educational Psychologist for North East Lincolnshire. There is so much good news to share, many conversations had, and plans in motion about how we work within our community. In the new academic term we will be sharing more about our EMBRACE model, and our plans to be at the heart of prevention and early intervention work, as well as for those children and young people who need that extra support and assessment. To be a psychologist in this county right here and now fills me with pride, and I can't wait to carry on in the new term with the fantastic educational psychologist team.

*Dr Louise Jarvis  
Principal  
Educational  
Psychologist*



## Building for the Future

Locally we are creating 75 new SEND resource specialist places (or 'RSP's), a new specialist SEMH school, an extension of Cambridge Park 6th form & 2 new primary schools with RSP's. Our NEW primary schools Waltham Gateway Academy and Scartho Gateway Academy are progressing fast. Steel work is up and the builds are starting to take shape. Opening September 25 they have 12 SEND places in each for pupils with Social Emotional and Mental Health needs with an EHCP. Design of RSP spaces will start after Christmas

[SENDlocaloffer.nelincs.gov.uk](https://sendlocaloffer.nelincs.gov.uk)





# SETTING OF THE MONTH

## Edward Heneage Primary Academy



EHPA are really excited to be part of many different training opportunities, the PINS Project (Partnerships for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools) , Positive Regard (a whole school training programme to develop relational and trauma informed approaches), inclusive learning environments, SEND Mental Health, the Understanding Myself programme, Makaton and various speech and language courses. At EHPA we also like to raise awareness of all things that are important to us in our school community. For example, we hold special events and assemblies to raise money for charities, including raising £101.34 for Macmillan and £200.35 for The Cystic Fibrosis Trust. English as a second language is also another area in which we are developing or provisions, with the use of Widget symbols, making communication friendly environments for all. We are also developing our knowledge to promote accessibility for all parents too. In a recent PINS parent meeting, it was lovely to see parents sharing their knowledge around translator tools on mobile phones to help each other. This is something we are also sharing across our staff team too. We're really proud of our academy and all the EHPA community. We're so happy to see that all children achieve their potential and part of that means that our setting is inclusive to all, which was recognised as a strength within our recent Ofsted inspection.



## YPAG

In November YPAG met online to talk about getting around in North East Lincolnshire and transport to and from school and college. We looked at how everyone gets to school or college and there was a range of ways: walking, bikes, parents and taxis. Phil Rogers, manager of North East Lincolnshire's Education Transport service, told us all about the school transport team, the journeys and different routes that are covered everyday. John Cowan then told us about his job as a Travel Trainer and how he helps students become more independent by being able to use local bus routes, not just for getting to school or college but for social journeys too. YPAG fed back on their experiences, what matters to them and suggestions for improvement. This will feed into the next SENAP board meeting in the New Year. Click [here](#) for more information on Education Transport







## Key Date

### STARTING SCHOOL for the FIRST TIME

If your child was born between  
1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020  
You should apply **NOW** for a primary school  
place to start in September 2024



Apply online at [www.nelincs.gov.uk](http://www.nelincs.gov.uk)

Closing Date  
15<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024



## SEND SHOUT OUTS

A huge thank you to all the schools, clubs, charities, and providers for their continued commitment to SEND in North East Lincolnshire.

- Andy's (St. Andrew's Hospice Grimsby) patients and their families experienced a special Christmas Party. The afternoon was packed with fun, party games, delicious festive treats, and of course, a visit from Santa! Crazy Crew & Party Planners brought festive tunes and entertainment, and The Trin provided games and activities.
- North East Lincolnshire Parent Carer Forum CIC were prize givers at the Foresight awards ceremony at Cafe Aspire. Foresight is now the new office home of the PCF, with regular PCF coffee mornings taking place at Cafe Aspire in Freeman St. Grimsby.
- Nunny's Farm reached their fundraising target, allowing the farm to continue serving our community. They were helped by Harry who raised £960.08 by walking around People's Park 17 times, in the pouring rain. Just fantastic!



People with a learning disability who are 14 or older are eligible for a free annual health check  
<https://sendlocaloffer.nelincs.gov.uk/annual-health-check/>

## HEALTH SPOTLIGHT

### Community Dental Service

We offer oral health care for people who would struggle to access treatment from general dental services. This includes children with high levels of dental problems, and people with special needs such as physical disabilities, learning difficulties or mental health problems. Wheelchair users and bariatric patients can also be accommodated, and we have the facilities to offer conscious sedation and general anaesthetic. Where possible people should be treated within general dental services, our staff treat those who need more specialist care. We take referrals from other dentists, doctors, nurses, social workers and other health professionals.

Email: [nlg-tr.communitydentalservice@nhs.net](mailto:nlg-tr.communitydentalservice@nhs.net)  
[Community dental - Northern Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Foundation Trust](#)



# SENCO SPOTLIGHT

This month we hear from Kerry @ Havelock Academy



**Kerry Duffield**

Being a SENDCo at Havelock is a privilege; I work with the best students and staff alike. At Havelock our mission is "Broadening Horizons" and this is what we aim to achieve for all of our students. This means that we support our students to be the best version of themselves every day and our provision is set up to enable that. We want our students to thrive and leave with the education and values to enable them to achieve their dreams. My job involves me providing training and advice to all staff to enable them to effectively enact the strategies that their students need to succeed. I also collaborate with parents and external agencies to ensure that we have a joined-up approach to supporting our students. It gives me such joy to celebrate the achievements that our students make in and out of school, whether that is making a small step of progress along the way, or achieving a huge milestone. I am proud to serve our community and to ensure that students with SEND have every opportunity to reach their goals.



## Events and Training

- SCERTS training - 27th January. Unexpected and very limited availability. Humber Royal Hotel, Grimsby.
- Good Autism Practice - 22nd January, 29th January & 5th February. The Town Hall, Grimsby.
- SEND for Middle Leaders - Day 1: 26th February 2025. Day 2: 19th March 2025. (Both days must be attended). Centre4 Community Hub, 17A Wootton Rd, Grimsby.
- Making it REAL – Early Literacy Training 15th January & 22nd January or 12th March & 19th March 2025. (Must attend both dates) Central Family Hub, Edward Street, Grimsby.



**Book your Events & Training place**  
**NE Lincs SEND Local Offer**





# SEND Early Years

This month, Portage hosted a Christmas party filled with joy and festive cheer! It was fabulous to see our Portage children enjoying a relaxed visit with Santa, free from any pressure. The atmosphere was one of kindness and support, allowing the children to naturally develop their social skills and forge friendships. It was a truly special moment celebrating connection, growth and the magic of the season in a way that honoured each child's unique journey.

For more Early Years info take a look at the [SEND Local Offer](#)



## Supporting Neurodiversity

(Taken from the Neuro Newsletter 6th Edition)

The Neurodevelopmental Service team are working hard to address the waiting times but there has been a 79% increase in the referral acceptance rate from 2023-2024 to 2024-2025.

The current waiting time for an ASD assessment is approximately just under 1 year. The ASD pathway wait was reduced by 20 weeks with support from a private provider (targeting 109 CYP, repeating arrangements with a further 50 CYP shortly)

The current waiting time for an ADHD assessment is approximately 1 year & 32 weeks. ADHD pathway wait has reduced by 20 weeks in the last 3 months. The Service continues to respond to increased demand and has plans in place to reduce the length of wait

### Handy Hints & Tips:

Please ring the Neurodevelopmental Service Advice Line 01472 252570 (option 2) before putting in a referral for a helpful and friendly conversation about your concerns. If you are due to attend an appointment with the Neurodevelopmental Service, please let them know ASAP if you are unable to attend. 21 appointments were missed or cancelled (April - June 24).

For more info take a look at the [North East Lincolnshire Neuro Newsletter on the SEND Local Offer](#).





# OUR FAMILY

## British Sign Language

### Key Facts:

- There are at least 46,404 deaf children in England - a reported increase of 7% over the past year.
- 78% of school-aged deaf children in England attend mainstream schools.
- 3,530 children in England have at least one cochlear implant.

Fiona is North East Lincolnshire's ETHV Deaf Coach. She has created a range of videos to support families, friends and professionals with BSL. Take a look [here](#) and Sign along this season with our British Sign Language Advent Calendar and more!



British Sign Language



## What's On?

There are so many exciting events taking place in December and January in North East Lincolnshire. The best way to keep up to date is by taking a look at the link below.

## Our Children, Our Future



North East Lincolnshire Council

**Families Information Service**





# Preparation for Adulthood

## ASK ANNIE

### SEND EMPLOYMENT FORUM

This month marks the 1st anniversary of the NELC SEND Employment Forum. In that time we have provided information and guidance about Supported Internships, Supported Employment and the huge benefits employing people with SEND brings to the workplace.

We need your help to spread the word and in welcoming more people to become involved. If you know of any local businesses who would like to come along to the next SEND Employment Forum on 31st January, please get in touch via [askannie@nelincs.gov.uk](mailto:askannie@nelincs.gov.uk)

The tagline from this year's Project Search Conference was "Don't Stop Me Now" which is exactly what we will keep doing with your help.

## PfA News

This month our Supported Interns took part in a Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) Workshop with Humbleside Police - North East Lincolnshire.

Our Supported Interns are taking part in DFN Project Search, a work experience programme for young people with learning difficulties and/or autism.

If you're interested in applying for next year contact [askannie@nelincs.gov.uk](mailto:askannie@nelincs.gov.uk) or text Annie Cook at 07585 122306

I am enjoying the programme, a very positive experience compared to past experiences within the workplace. I have been taken in by everyone quite quickly and feel part of the team. I have a been invited to the Christmas night out. I have developed my communication skills, self confidence and more aware of my own abilities and self-care needs.

I have developed my communication skills, the staff are understanding, kind and pleasant. We can have a good laugh. The police team are nice and friendly, I have been welcomed into the team and I am really excelling with the tasks given and I am now doing tasks that police staff aren't trained to do. I feel trusted and valued within the workplace and I don't want to leave. I am always being praised and this is passed on to the higher managers. I have had a great, positive experience on this programme.



Text: 07585 122306

Email: [askannie@nelincs.gov.uk](mailto:askannie@nelincs.gov.uk)

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# SENDIASS

SENDIASS has had a very busy year. Within 2024, we responded to 891 enquiries (as of 17/12) where we have provided impartial information, advice and guidance on a variety of SEND subjects. Our numbers increase every year. 2023 we supported 735 enquiries. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!



## PARENT CARER FORUM



No parent carer should feel alone! We are working hard to support, listen, and signpost in a safe non-judgemental environment. We know all too well that caring for a child with SEND can be exhausting! We run regular coffee mornings, schedule events and we do bring your voices to the ears of the Local Authority. We guarantee factual and up to date information directly from the services who surround our children. Together we are making change happen.

We are the Parent Carer Forum, come along and meet us, what are you waiting for?

Find out more about the forum and where you can find them by visiting their Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/NELPCF>



### SEND Data

Total number of EHCPs held by NE Lincs LA	1957	↑
Number of EHCAR requests last month	37	↑
% of EHCPs issued last month within 20 weeks	17%	↓
Number of SEND transport routes	178	↓
Number of CYP with SEND aged 0-25 receiving transport	596	→
Attendance of pupils aged 5-16 with an EHCP	89.4%	→
Attendance of pupils aged 5-16 receiving SEN Support	90.2%	→

CONTACT US



SEN@NELINCS.GOV.UK