



NPFG

Northants Parent Forum Group

What is a Parent Carer Forum?

A Parent Carer Forum (PCF) is a group of parents and carers of disabled children who work with

- local authorities
- education settings
- health providers and
- other providers

to make sure the services they plan and deliver meet the needs of disabled children and their families.

- One of 151 Parent Carer Forums in the UK
- Part of the East Midlands Regional Network of 9 Local Authority Regions:

Leicester

Derby City

Nottingham City

Lincolnshire

Rutland

Leicestershire

Derbyshire

Nottinghamshire

Northamptonshire



What have we done so far

- We held our first conference in November 2012 at the Ramada Inn in Northampton to find out local issues with SEND services.
- An Open Space event took place in December 2013 at the Bee Hive in Kingsthorpe to gather more info on specific issues
- An Education themed “Solutions” event took place in July 2014 at the Saints Rugby Ground in Northampton where parent carers and professionals worked jointly in workshops to find solutions to current issues
- Subsequently a Health and Social Care themed “Solutions” event took place in November 2014 at Wicksteed Park, Kettering

We looked at issues relating to

- Respite Care
- Social Care Assessment
- Activities and short break services
- CAMHS
- Community Paediatric Services
- Therapies (Physio, OT and SALT)
- Assessment and Diagnosis pathways

Working Group Involvement

In addition to the DCYPDG our involvement include:

- SEND Area Inspection Board and Participation Group
- Education & Health Working Group, Transport & Local Offer Focus Groups
- High Needs Funding Panel
- Young Healthy Mind Partnership Board and Sub Group
- Carers Partnership Board and Commissioning Group
- IS Governance Board

Ofsted/CQC Inspections

- In May 2017 Northamptonshire County Council was inspected by Ofsted and the Quality Care Commission (CQC) to see how the local authority is implementing the changes to SEND outlined in the Children and Family Act 2014.
- NPFG was heavily involved in obtaining feedback from parent carers and provided a summary document to the inspectors highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of the local authority in our view.
- The report has been published on 11th June 2017 and can be found at:
<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/local-authorities/northamptonshire>

SummerSENDSation Events

In September 2015 we teamed up with NCC's Local Offer, IASS and Northamptonshire Sport to co-produce the

SummerSENDSation Event

A family fun and information day at Northampton College.

The feedback of 500+ attendees encouraged us to organise a repeat of the event in 2017, which took place on 11th June 2017.

This time we had over 730 people attending with 75 service providers. The feedback is calling for an annual event – watch this space!

To find out more or to get involved please

- visit our website www.npfg.co.uk
- find us on Facebook NPFG
- or call 07745 - 249094