



## WJPS Parents' SEND Newsletter February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now nearing the end of a busy few weeks of SEN Support Plan Reviews and I wanted to say thank you to all of you who have attended your child's review meeting alongside myself and your child's class teacher/s. They have been really successful and it has been a privilege to hear how well your children are getting on and the progress they are making in terms of their support plan targets.

If you have not had a meeting, and you would like one, please contact me via email at [gjordan@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:gjordan@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk) or [SEN@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:SEN@westjesmond.newcastle.sch.uk) and we can get one sorted.

### SEND Coffee Mornings

#### PINS Parent Carer Forum

Thank you to those of you who attended our coffee morning led by the Newcastle Parent Carer Forum, I know it was useful for them to hear your ideas and concerns. We are really keen to build on the way we communicate and support parents and carers of children with SEND so any suggestions are very gratefully received.

One of the things that came up was knowing about different support and funding that is available. They have forwarded some links, which I have added.

They are in the process of working with the local authority to co-produce a parent carer handbook, so have asked if you could please let them know if there is anything specific that you feel could be included.

The date for this coffee morning is going to be **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 9:15-10:15 am**. They have said that as part of this one, they will be inviting the local nursing team along. They will be able to offer advice and support around a range of health issues such as:

- Healthy lifestyles
- Advice with relationships (e.g. healthy relationship concerns or bullying)
- Emotional health and well-being (e.g. exam pressures, bereavement, self-harm behaviours)
- General health concerns

We will also be inviting our Family Partner, Sarah Steele. She is based at Byker Sands and she is employed by Barnardos. Here is a link to give some information about what they can offer:

<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/get-support/services/children-families-newcastle-east>

### OLT SENCOS Coffee Morning

I would like to give you some advance notice of another coffee morning that is being held, again for parents and carers of children with SEND. This is on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 10am-11am**, and is being held at Ravenswood Primary School. It is part of our Ouseburn Learning Trust network, run by the SENCOS within our trust.

We are hoping these coffee mornings give parents an opportunity to connect with other parents across the trust schools and also to get useful information from other visiting services. The first one was held at Chillingham Road in the Autumn Term and was a real success with parents from all of the schools

attending. I will be putting more information about what will be available nearer the time, but wanted to give plenty of warning

### **Mabel the Therapy Dog**

After having a bit of a break after Christmas, we are pleased to welcome Mabel our Pets as Therapy dog back into school most Wednesday afternoons. She has been a real success since she started her visits in the first half of the Autumn Term and we have now managed to open up a few more spaces so that even more of our children are able to visit her and read her a story. It is our hope that we will be able to build on this even more and allow an even greater number of children to have access to her so we will be sure to let you know when this happens.

### Website

I also wanted to let you know we have updated the school website so there is now a specific tab for SEND with a drop down menu. Here, you can find all of the information linked to SEND in our school, as well as signposts to other services, many of which I have included in the newsletters. It also has copies of all of the past newsletters for you to access any time. Please have a look and if there is anything you would like me to add to it, I am very happy to do so.

<https://www.westjesmondprimary.org.uk/web/>

### **Information and Advice Services:**

Contact - For Families with disabled Children

<https://contact.org.uk/help-for-families/information-advice-services/>

Children and Families Newcastle - Family Hub

<https://www.childrenandfamiliesnewcastle.org.uk/>

Newcastle Support Directory - Help while waiting for an appointment / treatment for your child/ren

<https://www.newcastlesupportdirectory.org.uk/support-whilst-you-are-waiting-appointment-treatment>

Skills for People - Support to families including information, advocacy, community connecting, opportunities to learn & grow

<https://skillsforpeople.org.uk/>

The Toby Henderson Trust

<https://www.ttht.co.uk/>

SPARCS

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1366911780003668/>

KAYAKs (Available to all, not just south Tyneside)

<https://southtyneside.gov.uk/article/10511/Kids-And-Young-Adults-Klub-KAYAKS-special-needs-support-group#:~:text=Kids%20And%20Young%20Adults%20Klub%20%28KAYAKS%29%20is%20a,by%20Autism%20%20ADHD%20and%20other%20Autistic%20spectrum%20conditions.>

Newcastle Carers

<https://www.newcastlecarers.org.uk/>

## Funding

Newcastle Access Fund - <https://www.newcastlesupportdirectory.org.uk/access-fund-nunsmoor-centre-trust>

Carers Trust <https://carers.org/grants-and-discounts/introduction>

Newcastle Disability Register - <https://newcastle.gov.uk/services/care-and-support/children/getting-help-children-and-families/helping-children-disabilities> (Register and you will be sent a MAX card <https://mymaxcard.co.uk/>)

Merlin's Magic Wand - <https://www.merlinsmagicwand.org/apply/#eligibility-criteria>

## Inclusive Activities and Events

### Social Opportunities for Children

Reflex Taekwondo - <https://www.reflextkd.com/>

Great Park Community Centre - <https://gpcc.communitybookings.co.uk/whats-on> (Karate / Taekwondo)

True Colours Theatre - <https://truecolourstheatre.co.uk/>

Gosforth Civic Theatre - <https://www.gosforthcivictheatre.co.uk/>

FAB Group <https://www.newcastlesupportdirectory.org.uk/fab-group> (Children aged between 11 - 25)

Smile for Life - Tuesday Club <https://smileforlife.org.uk/about-us/>

Benfield Gymnastics <https://www.newcastlegymnastics.org/events/sen-drop-in-session/>

### Places to go

Alan Shearer Centre - <https://alanshearercentre.org.uk/>

Pathways 4 All - <https://pathways4all.co.uk/>

Shiremoor Adventure Playground - <https://www.shiremoor-adventure-playground-trust.org/>

Clarty Commandos - <https://www.facebook.com/lonetreehilloutdoorexperience/>

Stomping Grounds Forest School - <https://www.stomping-grounds.org/what-we-offer/>



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## Useful websites for parents and carers of children with SEND



Newcastle Special  
Educational Needs and  
Disabilities Information,  
Advice and Support  
Service

# SENDIASS

0191 2116255

<https://www.newcastlesendiass.co.uk/>



[Listen and translate](#)

[Register](#) [Log in](#)

## Newcastle Support Directory

Search this site



Activities(615)

Childcare(236)

Education(139)

Information, Advice and Guidance(337)

Support Directory(470)

<https://www.newcastlesupportdirectory.org.uk/?localofferchanne=>



## NEWCASTLE LOCAL OFFER



Click on the links below to find out more about recent news and local events for children, young people and families with SEN.

<https://www.newcastlesupportdirectory.org.uk/node/4049>