

Newsletter

September 2021

Welcome to the Walsall SENDIAS Autumn newsletter! We are keen to keep you informed with information relevant to SEND and Walsall. Regular updates can also be found on our Facebook page so please do give us a [like](#).



Walsall Help & Support

To read the latest information, guidance and support regarding COVID-19 visit the dedicated page at Walsall Council [here](#)

Virtual Parent / Carer Workshops

At Walsall SENDIAS we will be running parent carer workshops every month where you can learn more about how children and young people with special educational needs/disabilities (SEND) can be supported. Please join us and improve your knowledge of the law around SEND so you feel more confident in discussions and understanding decisions.

Our upcoming sessions are:

Annual Reviews for EHCP's

Wednesday 6th October, 10am – 11am.

Appealing to the SEND Tribunal

Thursday 21st October, 2pm – 3pm

Please contact us for more details and we will send you the link to join.

Face to Face Drop in Sessions with SENDIAS

Do you have any questions about:

- What Walsall SENDIAS do?
- Anything SEND related?

Pop into our office at **Manor Farm Community Centre, WS4 1EU** and join our friendly team for an informal chat on the following dates:

Tuesday 28th September, 10am – 12pm

Tuesday 26th October 10am – 12pm

The Team at Walsall SENDIAS

Catherine Price – Project Manager

Claire Smith – SEND Caseworker

Tanya Joesbury – SEND Caseworker

Matti Henderson – Children and Young People's Caseworker

Secondary School Transfer Forms

There is no requirement for parents of a child with an EHC plan, or young people with an EHC plan, to go through the normal admissions process. EHC plans should be dealt with separately to this.



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Autumn Activities



The Beach Hut Play Centre run a number of SEND sessions at their soft play area. Find more information [here](#)

Some useful ideas for Halloween sensory games and activities for SEN learners can be found [here](#)

A bonfire night sensory pack can be found [here](#)

For top tips and information on taking the 'boom' out of fireworks click [here](#)



Phase Transfers

There should always be an annual review of the EHC plan before a transfer to a new phase of education (new into Reception, Secondary and Post 16 provision).

Regulation 18 of the SEN Regs requires that the EHC plan must be reviewed and amended before a transfer.

This means that the local authority will start the review process in the autumn term and should name the settings by the statutory dates:

- 15th February for school age children
- 31st March for Post 16 young people

Please contact us at SENDIAS if you would like any support or information.

Walsall Parent / Carer Forums

FACE Walsall Parent Carer Forum is a voluntary group of parents and family carers of children & young people aged 0 - 25 years with various disabilities working in partnership with Education, Health and Social care to help shape the future services in Walsall.

To find out more please email: facewalsall@gmail.com or visit their website [here](#)



The Parent and Carer Support Group for Walsall/Wolverhampton and surrounding areas are a support group for Parents, Guardians & Carers. They aim to connect members, potential new members and where appropriate professionals to local services and organisations from relevant sectors.



To find out more please email: Walsallwtonparentgroup@gmail.com or visit their website [here](#)

SEND Tribunal Powers on Health & Social Care Extended

The government has confirmed that the extended powers given to SEND tribunals in England that allow parents and young people a single route of appeal for education, health and social care elements of an EHC plan will continue.

More information can be found [here](#)



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Young People Update

We want to hear your voice!

We are very keen to set up a group for young people in Walsall. The aim of this group is to listen to the voices of young people. We want to know what they think about the support they receive from their school or college, the local authority, and us.

This group will be led by Matti, the SENDIAS Children and Young People's Caseworker. If you are a young person, or know a young person, who may be interested in joining please contact Walsall SENDIAS, or contact Matti directly.

WhatsApp/text: 07971 759232

Email: matti.henderson@family-action.org.uk



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You can access FREE and impartial advice from us on any aspect of SEN/disability in relation to education, health and social care for children and young people 0-25 years – just contact us with you questions.

SENDIAS Feedback

We welcome all feedback on our service. If you have used our service, we would appreciate it if you could complete a brief survey regarding the information and support you received from the team at Walsall SENDIAS.

Please complete the survey [here](#)
Thank you!

Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) Workshops

The friendly team at Walsall SENDIAS will be delivering a free 6 week course around Positive Behaviour Support (PBS).

PBS workshops are designed for families of children/young people with additional needs. Focussing on the reasons behind the behaviours and exploring different strategies to help with managing them.

Our next course will be starting late September – please get in touch for details!

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you would like further information or to book a place on the course.

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New Local Offer Website Launched

[Click here](#) to view the new SEND Local Offer website for Walsall.

A Local Offer brings together in one place information about health, education and social care for children and young people from birth to 25 years who have SEND and for parents and carers of children with SEND.

Please take a look and let us know what you think. Can you find the information you need to know and is it easy to understand?

If you have any feedback or queries, they can be emailed to localoffer@walsall.gov.uk

A SEND Local Offer User Group has been set up including professionals and parents to keep the Local Offer relevant and up to date.

Contact us:

Website:

www.walsall-sendias.org.uk

Email:

walsallsendias@family-action.org.uk

Phone:

0808 802 6666 – 24 hour messaging service

Find us on Facebook [here](#)