Support and Aspiration

Our partnership work to support every child and young person in Lincolnshire to achieve their potential has been reinforced recently by the publication of the Government’s plans for improving special educational needs assessment, planning and provision.

These plans are set out in the Children and Families Bill Draft Code of Practice and regulations consultation documents published in October.

Our Support and Aspiration project is aimed at further integrating our partnership support for children and young people with special educational needs and delivering locally the improvements envisaged in the Children and Families Bill.

Our project will involve children, young people and family representatives as key partners in the design and delivery of our new integrated approach to special educational needs assessment and provision.

The key elements of the new approach will be:

- A cohesive integrated system giving support to children and young people with special educational needs from age 0-25 years, where families benefit from a ‘seamless’ service that delivers support when and where they need it.

- A system where education, health and care services engage in planning together and jointly commission support for children, young people and families.

continued on p.3
Letters from our readers

Dear 4all
I’ve been trying to find funding for my daughter as my granddaughter has some physical disabilities and she would benefit from some extra things in the home that we can’t afford.
Family Fund has helped us already with a washing machine but I’m not sure where else to go?
Mrs J Elliott

As you say, Family Fund was a good starting place and other readers can find out more at www.familyfund.org.uk

Another place to try is www.disability-grants.org, which has a directory of grants for the disabled including grants for children and adults with disabilities, carers, disability groups and much more. It was set up by a parent whose child has Cerebral Palsy, and who wanted to share her knowledge.

Dear 4all
I’m not writing to ask for your help but to share with families a brilliant organisation I have found through 4all. My son is now ten but we are still having problems with incontinence and bedwetting. I was really struggling about where to look so tried my back copies of 4all and found an article about Fledglings. I logged on and found their latest “Toilet Training” leaflet and product solutions for teenagers. Just what I needed, so thanks for the inspiration!
Diana

Thank you Diana - we are thrilled to know we’ve been able to help in some way. Fledglings can be found on-line at www.fledglings.org.uk

Dear 4all
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Dear 4all
My 10 years old son has Autism but also complains about headaches, which appear quite severe, so I think they are migraines but I don’t know much about them.
Janey W

If you are worried about the headaches or they are becoming more frequent you should discuss it further with your GP.
Otherwise, there is a national advisory and support charity for adults and children who suffer from migraines called Migraine Action. They have a library of over 100 different leaflets and a telephone helpline on 0116 275 8317.
The charity has a website – www.migraine.org.uk – and can be emailed at info@migraine.org.uk for more help and information.

Amongst other things, my son has been diagnosed as having Tourette’s and I wondered if you knew of any support groups in Lincolnshire for this condition? Lincolnshire Tourette’s Action meets once a month 2pm - 4pm and vary their meeting place and activities. In November they are meeting in a pub in Navenby and are planning a Christmas Party in December.
Phone Mrs Mal Twelvetrees for more information on 01400 251467 or email mal12t@icloud.com
The national Tourette’s Action website is www.tourettes-action.org.uk and they also have a helpline on 0300 777 8427.

We would love to hear from you. Please send your thoughts on the magazine, what’s going on in your life or anything you would like to share with us and our readers. Contact us at: 4all@lincolnshire.gov.uk
Support and Aspiration (continued from front page)

- The provision of a clear ‘Local Offer’ of the services and support available in Lincolnshire to children, young people and their families, reviewed regularly with families and developed in light of any required improvements
- The replacement of the current SEN and learning difficulties assessment systems with a cohesive assessment process, leading where appropriate to an Education, Health and Care Plan and driven by new statutory timescales to ensure quicker decisions are made about need and provision
- The option for all young people and parents of children with an Education, Health and Care plan to hold a personal budget to be used for specialist support
- Improved support for young people in their transition to adulthood
- A strengthened mediation and resolution process in cases of dispute about assessment and/or provision.

We have an established stakeholder group to help drive the co-production of the new approach in Lincolnshire. The group is focused on involving children, young people, parents, carers, professionals, voluntary sector and partnership representatives.

In addition there is a programme of meetings and working groups where representatives will work together on the co-production of all aspects of the new approach to special educational needs assessment and provision in Lincolnshire.

This will be an exciting project involving new challenges and opportunities. We will keep you informed of developments via the 4All newsletter, on-line at the www.cwdsi.co.uk web pages and on our main www.lincolnshire.gov.uk website.

If you would like to ask any questions or be more involved in this project, please call the Project Officer, Rosemary Akrill on 07920 182307.

The consultation documents can be downloaded at https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/special-educational-needs-sen-code-of-practice-and-regulations

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Flu jab

Don’t forget parents and carers of disabled children are entitled to a FREE annual, winter ‘flu vaccination.

If your doctor hasn’t recorded the fact that you’re a carer and invited you for your jab, contact the surgery yourself and make an appointment.

Working Families booklet

Working Families have produced a booklet called “Getting into Work” for parents/carers of children with disabilities who would like to get back into work.

It is available to download at www.workingfamilies.org.uk

Minimum Wage changes

The National Minimum Wage rates increased on 1st October 2013. The adult rate is now £6.31 an hour.

You are entitled to get at least the National Minimum if you work, and if you employ a nanny or PA (Personal Assistant) you must pay the National Minimum.

More information can be found at www.gov.uk
Make some noise - Get connected

"Often the things that make us different are the things that make us". Having a disabled child can be tough; it involves an extra level of awareness and care. It takes extra energy. In soundLINCS’ work with children with disabilities and sensory impairments we have found that not only do our sessions provide stimulation for your children but they also provide a place where you can also relax and have fun.

One of our parents, Phillip, says of the group: "Making Noise is an excellent respite for us all, we get a lot out of it, sometimes it is hard to stop laughing. It’s a social get together for all, not just for the children, it’s fun for us both!"

soundLINCS have been delivering music for all for the last fifteen years and we pride ourselves on being able to tailor our sessions to meet the needs of each individual.

Our aim is to provide you with an inspirational environment where children with sensory impairments are able to engage with their family and with our music facilitators. We offer high quality musical expertise and can give you access to a range of musical equipment for all abilities.

For as little as £5 per family per hour you can see your child develop their musical talents.

Our Making Noise sessions are in 5 settings throughout Lincolnshire: Lincoln, Grantham, Louth, Sleaford and Skegness. If you or someone you know would like to receive more information or would like to see a session near you, contact us at info@soundlincs.org

Music has the ability to connect us all, so get connected!

Families of a Child with a Disability

Access to free counselling sessions with Relate Lincolnshire

The counselling sessions are offered in Lincoln and surrounding areas.

The sessions offer:

- Counselling sessions with a qualified BACP registered counsellor, trained to work with adults, young people, children and families.
- Our counsellors are trained in play therapy which can offer children the chance to express their feelings through a range of media.
- The sessions can be for the child with the disability, parents, siblings or the extended family and can be individual sessions or family sessions.

Relate Lincolnshire have been offering this service for a number of years for families of a child with a disability and it has made a significant difference to the lives of those who have engaged in the service.

To make an enquiry, book an appointment or for any information please contact Relate Lincolnshire on 01522 524922 or email: enquiries@relate-lincs.org.uk

relate
the relationship people
Tooth News

The dental helpline number listed in the Spring 2013 edition of 4all is no longer available. If you need to access a dentist these are the ways:

- NHS Choices website: [www.nhs.uk/dentists](http://www.nhs.uk/dentists)
- Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS): **0845 602 4384**
- Healthwatch Lincolnshire: **01522 705190**
- Urgent dental care: call **111**

Following a recent visit to a KIDS Crèche some of the parents have tried the triple headed toothbrush and found it really useful.

Just in case anyone wants to try the brush go online and search “triple headed toothbrush” to see what’s so good about it and to find a stockist.

**Key messages for healthy teeth:**

- Try and get your child on a trainer cup as soon as you can
- In-between meals, water and milk are the best drinks for teeth
- Start brushing as soon as the first tooth appears
- Use a small, soft toothbrush or electric toothbrush
- Use a toothpaste that has enough fluoride in to protect teeth
- Try and keep sugary foods and drinks to mealtimes if possible
- Always ask if a sugar-free medicine is available instead of a sugared version
- Start to visit the dentist regularly as soon as teeth appear.

For more information about oral hygiene for children with additional needs, please e-mail Gina Hargrave on [gina.hargrave@lincs-chs.nhs.uk](mailto:gina.hargrave@lincs-chs.nhs.uk)

Advance Notice of New Courses for Parents of Children with Autism

The **NAS EarlyBird Healthy Minds** programme is a brand new six session programme aimed at helping to promote good mental health and emotional wellbeing in children with autism. It aims to empower parents, carers and accompanying professionals and help them understand more about the mental health issues that young people with autism might face. To attend this course your child should be aged between 5 and 12 years old. Courses will run in Louth and Lincoln from January 2014 and a further course is planned for the south of the county in the summer.

**The Autism Seminars for Families** are one day workshops which are aimed at supporting parents of school aged children, both primary and secondary. Each seminar covers a separate topic including 'Understanding Autism', 'Managing Anger' and 'Sensory Sensitivities'. Dates are currently being arranged and courses are likely to take place from March onwards.

Both of these courses are being organised and delivered by the Applied Psychology Service.

For more information about these courses and/or to request an application form, please contact the Louth office of The Specialist Teaching and Applied Psychology Service and ask to speak to Ann or Bev. You can contact us by phone on **01522 553554**, email us at [EP_Admin_Louthbase@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:EP_Admin_Louthbase@lincolnshire.gov.uk) or write to us at: The Specialist Teaching and Applied Psychology Service, Eastfield House, Eastfield Road, Louth, LN11 7AN.
Work Experience

One of Disability Lincolnshire’s service users and member of their Shadow Transition Board, Matt aged 18, was given a fantastic opportunity of having three weeks work experience over the summer at the Disability Lincolnshire offices.

Disability Lincolnshire, Action for Children work with local children and young people with a wide range of disabilities from a wide range of ages, from 5 to 25 years old.

Matt was given this opportunity to help support him with his application to enrol on an ICT course at Lincoln College next year.

Matt worked on a variety of projects for the Disability Lincolnshire website as well as undertaking tasks with the Administration team.

One of Matt’s first tasks was creating blog entries for their website. You can read all about his first day of work experience and his other blog entries by visiting http://bit.ly/1SE492x

When asked to describe his work experience placement with Disability Lincolnshire, Matt commented: “It has been fun and challenging. The people there have been kind and fun”.

For more information about Action for Children, Disability Lincolnshire, including services available and their Shadow Transition Board, contact disabilitylincolnshire@actionforchildren.org.uk, visit www.actionforchildren.org.uk/disabilitylincs or call 01522 546516.

New career support for 16-24 year olds

Young people who are disabled will be given help to find sustainable paid employment through a new Supported Internship programme and a new Traineeship programme, Business Secretary Vince Cable MP has announced.

The Supported Internship, funded by the Department for Education will offer specialist employment-focused study programmes for young people aged 16-24 with complex learning difficulties and disabilities.

Offered through further education colleges, they will help trainees learn from expert career coaches while doing real jobs for a minimum of 6 months.

The Traineeship programme will give 16-24 year olds the workplace experience and job skills that employers require and will be open to disabled young people with less complex needs.

Mr Cable said, ”The Internship and Traineeship programme will help create a fairer society by putting young people with disabilities on meaningful career paths and give employers the opportunity to see what they can offer.”

The full article can be read at https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-announces-two-new-programmes-for-employers-to-take-on-young-disabled-people
SIBS

SIBS are the only UK charity representing the needs of brothers and sisters (siblings) of disabled children and adults.

siblings have a lifelong need for information; they often experience social and emotional isolation, and have to cope with difficult situations.

They support siblings of all ages who are growing up with or have grown up with a brother or sister with any disability, long term chronic illness, or life-limiting condition.

SIBS provide email information and support to young siblings (children and young people) on any sibling issue. They also provide telephone and email service for adult siblings for help with any sibling issue including emotional support, coping with isolation or guilt plus practical help in regard to planning for future care. There is an online forum for adult siblings and much more.

SIBS will also work with the parents of siblings via a parent’s telephone service helping them support siblings with sibling issues i.e. giving attention, explaining disability and dealing with feelings.

For more information, go on-line at www.sibs.org.uk, telephone 01535 645453 or email info@sibs.org.uk

Off to University

Congratulations to Tom Carney of Saxilby who has just started at Lincoln College, Oxford University and Maxim Hatful of Easton on the Hill, Stamford who is attending Cambridge University.

Tom is profoundly deaf, following meningitis just as he was starting Saxilby Primary School. He has a little residual hearing in one ear only and uses one hearing aid. He was provided with a radio aid by Lincolnshire Sensory Education and Support Service (SESS) which he used with varying levels of enthusiasm throughout his schooling. Tom later attended Queen Elizabeth’s High School in Gainsborough. He was supported to access the curriculum in school by two Teaching Assistants (one at primary, one at secondary) and he was also visited by teachers of the Hearing Impaired from SESS. Tom achieved A* in all his A levels.

Tom did not focus entirely on his education. During his time in the 6th form at ‘Queenies’ he also found the time to qualify as a pharmacy assistant and to mentor a primary-age hearing impaired boy in a Gainsborough school.

Max has had a significant visual impairment since birth and attended Bourne Grammar School. He was supported to access the curriculum in school by a Teaching Assistant with advice from a Teacher for Visually Impaired Children from SESS. He achieved A* in all his A levels. Max used a range of specialist equipment throughout school but eventually found using an iPad most useful.

Max is a keen sailor and won an award for designing a compass for visually impaired sailors. His ambition is to work for GCHQ.

For more information about the Sensory Education Support Service (SESS) contact Jane Hladun (teacher of the Hearing Impaired) c/o Sturton by Stow Primary School, School Lane, Sturton by Stow, Lincoln, LN1 2BY t. 07919 690758 or Sally Malloy (teacher of the Visually Impaired) at Grantham Health Clinic, St Catherine’s Road, Grantham, NG31 6TT t. 07919 690851.
Carly has just gained her Gold Duke of Edinburgh’s Award, and tells you a bit about her experiences in her own words.

My name is Carly. I’m the one in the pictures driving the wheelchair, so I expect you’re wondering how I was able to access the DofE.

Well, I had to learn how to instruct the other team members in doing the tasks. I know it sounds a cop out but believe me it is the most difficult thing to do to have to ask for help all the time, and to have to explain what you want doing is even more difficult.

I started at Bronze level then through to Silver and now onto Gold.

At Bronze level I had to learn a whole load of new vocabulary to start. Words like Trangia were like a foreign language to me and fly sheets and tent pegs and so on.

At Silver level I began to get a small understanding about maps and map reading, which is still a bit foreign to me even at Gold. I also started to become more confident at instructing and at Gold I led my group through their Expedition.

I had been working hard on instructing throughout the year. I would be given a tent and a Trangia and left to get my group together to put it up and make a cup of tea. It can be very frustrating to give the instruction and not physically be able to help, and to include everyone so no one is left out, but when you’re giving instructions it’s all part of the team building part of the DofE.

DofE has helped me to gain a lot more independence as well as experience of working in a team. I need someone to help feed me (just a normal thing for most people) and so far no one has ever let me down - although occasionally I have had to ask several times or starve!

I stayed in specialist accommodation in Derbyshire to do my Gold where the facilities were excellent (see the piece on Hoe Grange Farm on p. 23) and although we had all the facilities such as cooker and dishwasher, we still had to cook on the Trangia and wash up outside as though we were on camp. I must also apologise now to the team for my lumpy porridge. It’s surprising what you will eat after walking all day...

I travelled a total of 36 miles over 4 days and on one of the days my team had to pull me in on ropes because the battery on my wheelchair was flat – what a team!

I have now become a confident public speaker, as I did a presentation about my DofE journey to a school on my residential and amazed myself with how easy it was.

I would recommend everyone to do their DofE – it’s fun, it’s confidence building and most of all, I’ve made friends for life.

For more information about The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award, contact Jacky Secker on 01522 552007.
Disability Driving Lessons

UDrive MSM Ltd offers lessons to disabled drivers in the Lincolnshire area. UDrive MSM driving school was established in 2003 and UDrive’s disability tuition came about as we started to get enquiries from companies that specialise in helping people with disabilities who wanted to learn to drive, but no one in the Lincolnshire area was offering this service.

After discussions with BSM (who deal with the Motability grants for young disability drivers) we decided to invest in a fully adapted car to give young and old drivers with a disability a chance to learn and to pass their driving test giving them a freedom equal to other drivers.

The disability controls in use on the vehicle are:
- Two different types of steering wheel balls
- Flip accelerator pedal to accommodate both right and left leg only to accelerate and brake
- Push-Pull accelerator and brake with indicator switch for people with no use of legs
- Handbrake adapter.

We intend to increase the number of automatic cars offering disability lessons and aim to extend the functionality with even more adaptations than we currently have, including controlling the car from a specialist steering ball that does multiple functions such as accelerating braking, lights, wipers horn and much more.

In the meantime, if UDrive does not have the specific adaption for a disability but the student has their own car, a UDrive instructor can accompany the student in their own car. There are grants available to help with disability adaptation as well as for fitting dual controls to the student’s car for the purpose of teaching in their own adapted car. It is not generally known that in many instances students with a disability can start to drive at the age of 16 and we have undergone Driveability training to enable us to teach these young people. This is reassuring to parents/guardians that the student is in safe hands getting the correct tuition for the disability in their own car.

For more information, go on-line at www.udrivemsm.co.uk, email glyn.morgan@udrivemsm.co.uk or call 01522 246005 or 07855 968317.

Pelican Trust expands their provision!

Pelican Trust is a day service for people with disabilities or vulnerable adults who want to gain work experience, training and education.

They already offer excellent quality services such as printing, joinery, engraving and commercial packing but now have expanded in to the old Queens Park School which is now known as Growing Futures Community Hub, and are now selling novelty items such as printed mugs, bags, t-shirts, phone covers, mouse mats and many other items either for presents, personal use or to promote your organisation or group.

There is a community café there as well as a shop selling a variety of products from different charities and community groups and is open to the public from 10am to 3pm on weekdays.

Pelican Trust also offer a very wide and variety of training all free of charge. For more information, please phone 01522 513533 or email enquiries@pelicantrust.org
LN6 Community Group Grants
Grants of up to £1,000 are being offered to community groups, sports clubs and groups of friends in the LN6 postcode who want to become more active.

The grant can be spent on venue hire, equipment, to pay an instructor for a few weeks to get the group started, to run an event to raise the profile of the club or to fund a marketing campaign to encourage others to join in.

The deadline to apply is Monday 27th January 2014.

The LN6 Active Community Grant is available from Lincolnshire Sports Partnership. LN6 Active encourages healthy lifestyles and promotes the benefits of health and activity in the LN6 area. It is being delivered through Access LN6 – a multi-million programme to increase sustainable transport options in the LN6 area.

For more information about the community grant or LN6 Active, call Clare Gilman-Abel at Lincolnshire Sports Partnership on 01522 585 580 or email clare.gilman-abel@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Download an application form and guidance notes at www.lincolnshiresports.com/ln6active

Disabled Shooting and Archery Project

Saturday 11th of January 2014
£5.00 for individuals £20.00 for families of four resident at the same address per session
Lincoln University Sports Hall, Lincoln LN6 7TS

Please inform us of any adaptations you require to take part

For more information contact Dave Carter
01673 844404 or email dc_a@btconnect.com
Come and try target shooting and archery
All equipment provided
Pre booking essential

Visual, hearing and physical disabilities

Participate using foot pedals to shoot and aim
Lincolnshire small-bore rifle Association
Lincolnshire Archery

Using bench rest to aim and fire
Grantham Swimming Sessions

Grantham Meres Leisure Centre currently run three different swimming sessions for anyone with additional needs. We run sessions on Tuesday’s at 12pm for non-swimmers and non-confident swimmers. Tuesday at 1.30pm is for swimmers and Thursday 1.30pm is for all abilities. We have so much fun in the lessons especially on a Thursday where we include jacuzzi sessions, aqua fit, water polo and large floats!

The sessions are open to all ages - currently we have adults but in the holiday periods all ages are welcome. The sessions are £3 per person and the parent or carer can attend for free and can stay all afternoon if they wish!

As well as the swimming sessions we are currently devising a program to run across South Kesteven. It would be fantastic to hear from you as I can accommodate most sport wishes! Whether it’s for social inclusion, relaxing, meeting new friends, competition development or training to be a sport leader, I would love to hear from you!

We currently run the sessions at Grantham, where there is a fantastic day care facility run by Heritage Care; this is a fantastic low cost friendly day care option. You can drop your loved one off for the day in the knowledge they will have a fantastic time!

For more information please contact either Sue on swim.grantham@leisureconnection.co.uk, or Lisa on 07941 173899.

Drivetime

Michelle Fox has 20 years of experience with working with adults with Autism and associated learning difficulties and now joined forces with an experienced instructor who has designed a person-centered program using an automatic car to deliver driver training in the Peterborough and nearby area.

This could be an excellent opportunity for individuals to gain essential skills towards independence.

Go on-line to www.4u2-drive.co.uk for more information.
DS Active at Lincoln City FC

I am the father of Thomas Willmont who plays football for the Lincoln DSActive Team. The Down’s Syndrome Association (DSA) has partnered with Lincoln City FC Sport and Education Trust to launch a DSActive football team!

The team was launched in February of this year and weekly sessions take place at Lincoln City’s home ground Sincil Bank, LN5 8LD (on the 3G next door) between 11am and 12pm every Saturday. DSActive is open to anyone with Down’s Syndrome aged five and upwards. Adults are welcome too and we invite you to tell your friends.

The DSActive programme aims to develop social skills, confidence and physical ability whilst learning football skills and having fun! Members of the Lincoln City DFC DSActive team, as well as taking part in weekly training sessions, get the opportunity to compete in friendly matches against other DSActive teams and national festivals such as “The Premier League’s Down’s Syndrome Football Festival”.

Whilst we were only formed in February, we went to the National DSA Football Festival in March in Birmingham and won! A great day was had by all!

Those interested in attending the sessions are asked to pre-register by contacting Damon Parkinson (Lincoln City FC Sport and Education Trust) on 01522 563792 or email damon.parkinson@redimps.com

For more information, please visit www.dsactive.org, or please feel free to contact me direct on 07990 748502 and I will be delighted to speak with you.

Caravan bookings open January 2014

Since taking over the management of Lincolnshire County Council’s adapted caravans in June 2013, Lincoln City FC Sport & Education Trust has implemented new processes to ensure easier bookings and payments for next season. We are delighted to announce bookings will be taken as of Monday 6th January 2014, though available dates may appear on-line before then.

Dunes 53 has adaptions for wheelchair users, sleeps up to 5 guests and has a purpose-built bedroom/wetroom with a hoist. It is also just a few minutes’ walk from Village Reception to ensure easier access to the facilities onsite.

Sandhills 128 is for children diagnosed with autism or similar condition which demonstrates challenging behaviour, sleeps up to 7 guests and is in a quieter location of the caravan site, within a ten to fifteen minute walk of the Village Reception and main Butlin’s facilities.

Breaks in the caravans run either Monday to Friday or Friday to Monday and cost just £200, having been subsidised by Lincolnshire County Council.

Either of the caravans can be booked and used by families living in Lincolnshire, who have children or young people up to the age of 18 years with a physical disability, sensory impairment, autism or similar condition which demonstrates challenging behaviour.

The 2013 season was very busy, with both caravans becoming fully booked by mid-August so early booking is recommended to avoid disappointment.

For more information and for bookings, please visit www.lcfcset.com or email caravans@redimps.com
A New Era and a Greater Voice for Unpaid Carers in Lincolnshire

Formerly Lincolnshire Carers Partnership established in 2007 to represent the voice of adult carers. The refreshed Lincolnshire Carers and Young Carers Partnership Ltd now has a greater remit to impact on and influence change, gathering the views of carers and to ensure the voices of Young Carers, Young Adult Carers, Parent Carers and Adult Carers are heard and listened too.

Lincolnshire Carers & Young Carers Partnership Ltd, having appointed a voluntary board of non-executive directors in April, recruited a new staff team who took up their posts in September of this year.

The new team will focus on engaging with carers across the county and through a number of working groups and events, continue to develop the partnership in line with the needs of carer, and to shape a collaborative partnership ‘for carers, by carers’.

Clive Yates, the newly appointed Engagement and Development Coordinator said “the best way to predict the future for carers in Lincolnshire is to create it” and went on to explain that improving the lives of carers by working in partnership with them and other services that impact on them is at the heart of what LCYCP is about, “creating a world in which carers flourish”.

For more information, email anne@lincscarerspartnership.net or call 01522 846911.

Safespaces specialise in the design and manufacture of custom-made safe room and sleepsystems for people with special needs. Our biggest client group is children with conditions such as autism, epilepsy and challenging behaviours and other complex special needs.

Our main product is The Safespace - a versatile safe room system suitable for highly mobile people, with limited sense of danger or anyone unsafe in an ordinary room. Safespaces are used as safe bed or playrooms at home and in schools or other centres as safe chill-out and/or sensory space.

“It puts our minds at rest knowing she is safe and happy when she wakes in the night, and when she’s trying to bang her head in frustration she can’t hurt herself. It really is a genius idea and a solution to many safety problems.” Joanne Balausiak, Cumbria

The Cosyfit is a high-sided padded sleeping or recreation area suitable for people who can roll, rock & thrash but with limited standing & climbing mobility. It enables those who may otherwise be restricted to a wheelchair to be able to move or play safely, and is a robust high-sided bed. The Cosyfit can also come with a hi-lo base for those with nursing needs, and those who require height-adjustable, Trendelenburg or profiling bed options.

The Voyager is a safe travel bed which enables holidays or stays in respite for those with full or limited mobility. It provides safe temporary sleeping space that packs up into 2 carry bags which can be carried by car or plane.

Safespaces products have been installed in private homes and schools all over Lincolnshire. Go to www.safespaces.co.uk for more information including carer reviews, photos and films, or contact us on 01706 816274.
Cinderella at The Drill Hall

Come and join us at Lincoln Drill Hall for the most magical of pantomimes, as Cinderella is brought enchantingly to life by an outstanding cast, sparkling sets and costumes and all your favourite characters.

This well-loved rags-to-riches tale is full of ugly sisters, handsome princes and glass slippers, not to mention a Fairy Godmother to make the wildest of dreams come true!

Following last year’s smash hit ‘Peter Pan’, Lincoln Drill Hall is delighted to once again play host to this fun-filled festive tradition, and this year there are two shows on Boxing Day to extend the celebrations!

Tickets are sure to sell quickly so make sure you book yours early.

A wonderful treat for all the family not to be missed.

Some key dates for your diary are:

- **14th December** for the signed performance
- **20th December** which is the relaxed performance.

The relaxed performance is where the lights in the auditorium are left on low and the volume is turned down.

People are free to move around, make noise & bring their own refreshments. Suitable for all but designed to improve the Panto experience for our customers with learning disabilities and/or autism.

It’s also a great opportunity to introduce young children who don’t like to sit still for too long to the magic of theatre!

Tickets are £15 (£11 concessions) and £46 for a family ticket.

For more information or to book tickets contact Lincoln Drill Hall on **01522 873894**.
Other Lincolnshire Pantomimes

Robin Hood & Babes in the Wood
Lincoln Theatre Royal:
9th December to 12th January
www.lincolntheatreroyal.com;
t. 01522 519999

Aladdin
Boston Blackfriars Theatre:
13th December to 5th January
www.blackfriarsartscentre.co.uk;
t. 01205 363108

Snow White and the 7 Dwarves
Spalding South Holland Centre:
12th December to 2nd January
www.southhollandcentre.co.uk;
t. 01775 764777

Aladdin
Skegness Embassy Theatre: 17th to 31st December
www.embassytheatre.co.uk;
t. 0845 674 0505

Puddleducks Swimming
Puddleducks offer swimming classes across Lincolnshire for all ages, including fun classes for pre-schoolers.
They welcome all children and have told us that children with disabilities and additional needs are very welcome to attend.
Go on-line at www.puddleducks.com to find local classes and times.

There are many pre-schooler or parent and toddler swimming classes across Lincolnshire, many of which welcome children with disabilities.
It is worth giving your local pool a call to see what they offer and have a chat with the teacher to see whether the class will meet your child’s needs.

Children’s Centres

For activities for children under 5 and support for families, including disability support, and to find your nearest Children’s Centre, go on-line at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/childrenscentres or call the Family Information Service on 0800 195 1635.

Thanks from The Thomas Centre
To all of our visitors past and future - Thank You from the whole team at The Thomas Centre for your support during this year!
Don’t forget to call us in January to book your Short Breaks for 2014.
www.thethomascentre.co.uk
t. 01507 363463
e. enquiries@thethomascentre.co.uk
Baby Massage and Baby Yoga

This has been carried out in Lincolnshire Children Centres since 2009 by Kim Wooldridge, who is a qualified instructor in baby massage, baby yoga and the Massage in Schools programme, clinical aromatherapist and a member of the International Federation of Aromatherapists.

It has shown very good results for babies and young children including those with additional needs i.e. talipes, Down’s Syndrome, sensory impairments, Cerebral Palsy, encephalitis and other complex problems, and often becomes an integral part of life and relaxing activity before bed.

Of course it can only be given if it is wanted. Instructors teach parents (and school children) they must ask permission first as a way of engaging with the baby/child. Parents then learn to bond more with their babies as they engage together more through massage.

A natural progression from baby massage is baby yoga (it can stand alone but many mums move from massage to yoga). There is some massage involved as well as little poses plus stretches that strengthen children’s muscles and increase their spatial awareness. There is movement too as mums will practise yoga poses with their babies which are fun for both as well as gently stretching and toning mothers’ inner core muscles. This could also benefit children with additional needs.

Contact Kim Wooldridge MIFA on 01778 570120, m. 07759 695352 or go on-line at www.aromahealthcare.org

KIDS Playday Survey Report 2103

Only 47% of survey responders said that local services and playspaces were accessible to disabled children and young people.

KIDS is the charity that works with disabled children, young people and their families.

To celebrate Playday 2013, KIDS wanted to examine how inclusive play for disabled children has progressed over the past two years.

A survey of over 900 people working across play and leisure provision and disability services in England, found that although attitudes towards including disabled children and young people in mainstream activities has improved, most providers still do not have the resources or support needed to deliver good quality inclusion.

As a result, parents are not confident to leave their children in mainstream services and are preferring to place their children with specialist providers.

This lack of choice is further excluding disabled children and young people from their communities at a period when all children are experiencing a restriction in their ability to play out in their local area.

Parents of disabled children who responded to the survey expressed concerns that disabled children are more likely to be victims of bullying and face further isolation.

The report highlights the main concerns preventing disabled children from accessing local play and leisure provision, and some ideas on how to address these.

Disabled children and young people have a right to play out with their non-disabled peers too and would benefit from a broader range of options when choosing how to spend their play and leisure time.

You can download the report and survey responses here: www.kids.org.uk/information/108381/kids_playday_survey_report_2013/
The Jumbulance Trust is a small Charitable Trust with two unique specialist vehicles available for hire that are part coach and part ambulance. These vehicles are specifically designed and equipped to make it possible for those who are disabled or very ill to travel throughout the UK and Europe on holiday or Pilgrimage.

Each “Jumbulance” as we call them, can accommodate a maximum of 23 to include 10-12 disabled or sick passengers, each accompanied by a carer plus Nurses or Doctors if required.

The unique and special features include: wide platform lift for ease of access; fully adjustable trolley beds; reclining seats with extra leg room; spacious wheelchair accessible toilet/washroom; comprehensive emergency medical equipment including heart start and suction units, oxygen etc; kitchen for preparing small meals and drinks; generous storage for wheelchairs and luggage; mobile hoist; PA system; and air conditioning.

Please note that pre-formed groups and/or staff from care homes are advised before we can provide the special transport for groups to travel throughout UK and Europe.

For more information please contact: info@jumbulance.org.uk or call 01582 831444.

Grant funding organisations

**React (Rapid Effective Assistance for Children with Potentially Terminal Illness)**
Aims to improve the quality of life for financially disadvantaged children with life-limiting illnesses living in the UK.

[www.reactcharity.org](http://www.reactcharity.org); t. 0208 940 2575

**The Elifar Foundation**
Aims to improve the quality of life of profoundly disabled children and young adults, through funding specialised equipment, therapies and respite, which would otherwise be unavailable due to a lack of funds or no statutory funding. Needs evidence from a childcare professional and financial information of the family.

[www.elifarfoundation.org.uk](http://www.elifarfoundation.org.uk); t. 02392 267996; e. info@elifarfoundation.org.uk

**Make-a-Wish Foundation**
Grants “magical wishes” to children and young people who are UK residents aged 3-17 years who are fighting life-threatening conditions.

[www.make-a-wish.org.uk](http://www.make-a-wish.org.uk); t. 01276 405060; e. info@make-a-wish.org.uk

**Florence Nightingale Aid in Sickness Trust**
Consider requests for funding for people of all ages who are sick, in poor health or disabled and require medical items and services to improve their quality of life. Part-funding only.

[www.fnais.org.uk](http://www.fnais.org.uk); t. 0207 605 4244; e. ann.griffiths@independence.org.uk
Cerebral Palsy Support in Lincolnshire

Are you a parent/carer in Lincolnshire with a child or children with Cerebral Palsy? Would you like to join a support group dedicated to supporting advising and assisting parents/carers?

Has your child recently been diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy?

Feeling overwhelmed with concerns and questions? We would like to connect newly diagnosed parents with other experienced parents who can provide valuable reassurance at a difficult time.

It’s our aim to network with various agencies and professionals and produce a directory online that can be used to help you source valuable services and resources. Did you know that Lincolnshire now has its own dedicated forum looking at how services for children with Cerebral Palsy can be improved in Lincolnshire? This forum is open to health professionals such as physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, orthopaedic surgeons, paediatricians, but also other professionals working with children and families such as Educational Psychologists and Early Years Support Co-ordination Services. Most importantly this forum is open to parents/carers of children with Cerebral Palsy and young people with Cerebral Palsy themselves - in fact, anyone who’s interested. The aim of the forum is to work together to improve the way we support children with Cerebral Palsy and their families in Lincolnshire.

If you would like further information on contributing or joining the forum or support group please contact Karen James (parent of a child with CP) on 07900 916763 or go to: https://www.facebook.com/Cerebralpalsysupportlincs

Scallywags Lincs

If you are the parent/carer of a child with additional needs and/or disabilities aged 18 or under and live in or around the Mablethorpe area, Scallywags could be the group for you!

Scallywags Lincs is a voluntary organisation and is dependent on fundraising and donations. To take part in the activities, you have to become a member at the cost of only £10 per family per year.

The group is warm, friendly and welcoming and provides an opportunity for parents/carers, siblings and the child with disabilities/additional needs, to meet and make friends with others in similar circumstances.

Scallywags host a range of activities and events during the school holidays suitable for a wide range of conditions, ages and abilities where possible. Activities include fun days out, swimming, pantomime trip, parties, coffee mornings and sports activities (sports activities can include soft play, bouncy castle, sports wall, kurling, badminton, table tennis and more).

Scallywags also subsidises horse riding at a local riding school, whilst coffee mornings provide the children with a chance to play with a selection of toys and activities and meet other children in similar circumstances. Please be aware that whilst Scallywags hosts these activities, parents and carers remain responsible for their children at all times.

To find out more, you can contact us via our website at http://scallywagslincs.webs.com, email us at scallywagslincs@hotmail.co.uk or alternatively ring Jacqui Hurren on 01507 479889.
Lincolnshire Young Carers Count

is a new support service for young carers aged up to 25 years.

Young carers are children and young people who help look after a parent, sibling, or other relative who is affected by a physical disability, mental health condition, sensory impairment, substance misuse, or other long term condition.

The service is countywide, operates in all 7 District Councils, and currently supports over 1,200 young carers and young adult carers.

Support is targeted around the caring role on a tier level basis of need and can include one-to-one sessions with a dedicated support worker, information and advice, youth groups, help to access other services, regular newsletter and updates, and the opportunity to take a break, make friends and have fun! Young adult carers over the age of 18 years are also entitled to a Carers Assessment and Emergency Plan.

The new service, commissioned by Lincolnshire County Council and provided by Spurgeons, came into effect on 1st April 2013. Plans for the future include the provision of a bespoke young carer website with immediate access to social networking, online information and assistance, age related topics, and local contacts. Young carers have been involved in the planning and content of this new and exciting website, putting forward their views and ideas, with a launch due in the New Year.

A support network of volunteers is the next step forward to build on and improve service levels and to also reach those hidden and often isolated young carers within the county.

Are you a Young Carer who needs support?

Do you know a Young Carer who needs help?

- Research suggests there are 6,000 unpaid young carers living within Lincolnshire.
- The average age of a young carer is 12 years.
- 1 in 12 young carers cares for more than 20 hours per week.
- 1 in 20 young carers miss school because of their caring responsibilities.

Young Carers Count recognise that young carers often taken on practical or emotional caring responsibilities that can affect their friendships, learning and development, health and wellbeing, or future career choices.

Young Carers are not alone. We can help.

Contact us at: Lincolnshire Young Carers Count, Spurgeons Office, Unit 4, 1-2 North End, Swineshead, Boston, PE20 3LR

Tel: 01205 331322

Email: lincscarers@spurgeons.org

Professionals can make a referral to the service or families can self-refer.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING? Please contact Young Carers Count for further details.

We would like to hear from you!
Sensory Success

Emily has an eye condition called nystagmus and an associated visual impairment. Nystagmus is a condition in which the eyes oscillate rapidly or ‘flicker’ and which can reduce visual acuity (how clearly someone can see). Nystagmus can be affected by tiredness, stress and anxiety and therefore there may be some times when Emily’s vision is better or worse than at other times. Emily has very poor vision in her left eye and reduced vision in her right eye.

Teachers of visually impaired children from the Sensory Education and Support Service have supported Emily over the past eighteen years, providing advice at home and at school to ensure that her vision has not presented a barrier to her achieving her full potential. In this article, Emily describes her experience as a young person with nystagmus:

Hi my name is Emily Sykes and I am an 18 year old girl living with nystagmus. I go to college full time and am currently in my second year and so far I have received a range of qualifications such as: BTEC level 1 travel and tourism; LAMDA award; Certificate in British Sign Language; ASDAN PSHE award; AQA award in relationships; BTEC level 1 Jamie Oliver home cooking skills; and Functional IT skills

Over the next 2 years I hope to gain many more. Last year I did 7 months’ work experience in a charity shop and some of the activities I did were polishing, putting clothes in bags, taking books off the shelf, taking children’s books off the shelf. I also did work experience in The Shed Café in Oakham which was fun, I did it a couple of times in the summer, and then I did it until Christmas. We made bacon baps, cheese toasties and tea and coffee. I also did an animation workshop where I made a scene about a seaside with my friend Claire. I recently got nominated for an award at the council chambers in Oakham due to my work at The Shed Café.

Outside of college I do a range of activities including going to Guides, St John’s Ambulance Brigade, reading and shopping with my friends. I refuse to let nystagmus get in the way of my life and let it stop me doing the things I want to do.

In the future I really want to work in a nursery or work with disabled children. So my advice is don’t let anything get in the way of what you want to do.

For further information about the work of the SESS, please contact the SESS Team on 01522 553368.
If your child struggles to read books in the usual way due to an illness, disability or learning difficulty, such as dyslexia, Listening Books is here to help.

Listening Books is a UK charity providing membership to an audio book library service for over 29,000 people who find it difficult to read. Over 7000 fantastic titles are available including a vast range of fiction and non-fiction. Audio books are available in a range of convenient formats; you can choose to have (MP3) CDs sent through the post direct to your front door or your child can enjoy the freedom of downloading books from the website onto an iPhone or other portable device to listen on-the-go.

Alternatively, audio books can be instantly streamed online anytime of the day or night by simply logging onto the Listening Books website with your username and password.

Listening to books is a fantastic tool for children who struggle to read books. It means they are able to enjoy the same books that their peers are reading and, as Listening Books specially records educational books in-house to support the National Curriculum, listening can really help with school work as children are able to listen to the titles they would otherwise struggle to access in the classroom.

“I signed up my son for membership a couple of months ago as he was diagnosed with dyslexia last year. He is thoroughly enjoying membership. It has meant he can access books that he wouldn’t attempt to read. Listening to audiobooks has enabled him to extend his vocabulary and knowledge and has increased his interest in books.” Kim, mother of member.

Low cost subscriptions are available from just £20 per year but do get in touch if you would find this fee a barrier to joining the service as the charity might be able to help.

To sign up today or for more information, visit www.listening-books.org.uk, call 0207 407 9417 or email library@listening-books.org.uk

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**Updating the 4all database**

To ensure that you are up-to-date with the latest newsletter and information, please let us know of any changes in your child or young person’s address, school, diagnosis and needs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your name:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Your child’s name:</td>
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<td>Address:</td>
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<td>Postcode:</td>
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<td>Telephone:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child’s date of birth*:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Changes in needs:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please return your update form to:

4all Development Co-ordinator, 4all database (c/o Family Information Service), FREEPOST, PO Box 841, Lincoln, LIN 1ZE

*We need this to check we have the right person.

If you are a professional and would like to receive 4all, please contact the address shown or phone 0800 195 1635.
If you build it, they will come!

Laura Tilley and Kate Harding, who run the ‘Dare to be Different’ group in Bourne, were thrilled when the new inclusive play area on Recreation Road in Bourne was finally completed.

Discussions began well over two years ago when the lack of accessible play areas was raised as an issue. South Kesteven District Council was approached at a time when coincidentally they were looking at rejuvenating the play area on Recreation Road, having received finances from new-build houses locally. SKDC were very open to Dare to be Different’s ideas, along with local Councillors, after the group launched an online survey regarding local play spaces. It was agreed that this was a need that should be met, and worked alongside us on this project. The brief that we all worked towards was that the play area should incorporate play equipment that children with disabilities could access and enjoy playing alongside their peers, so that children of all varying ages and abilities could play together; a visit to a play park should be part of everybody's childhood memories.

The completed park is a triumph with as wide a range of equipment as the budget could allow. For Laura and Kate, it was an emotional day when they first took their children, both of whom are disabled to the park, where they were able to access almost all of the equipment. Some of the other children asked lots of questions about disabilities and were able to get first hand responses, which if they were not able to access the park would continue to be perceived as a mystery. Lots of fun was had and new friends made!

One mother at the park with her children said of the new park: “It’s fantastic to see some lovely new equipment. We saw the bright colours when we were driving by and have visited many times since.” Many of those that were asked felt that it was very important for their mainstream children to play alongside children with special needs so that they could learn about difference and diversity. Several children that were asked about the park said that it was “brilliant” and “cool” and they especially loved the roundabout.

Laura and Kate are so happy with the results of the hard work that everyone has put in and would like to thank SKDC, in particular Phil Jordan, for taking on board their ideas and allowing them to have such a big say in the new park.

Dare To Be Different is a group of parents and carers of children who have a wide range of disabilities. We mainly come together to share our experiences, offer support and above all to celebrate our wonderful children.

We meet at Bourne Children’s Centre on the first Wednesday of the month. For any further details please call Laura on 07980 753606 or Kate on 07889 178599.
A volunteer is not just for Christmas

Voluntary Centre Services operates across West Lindsey, Lincoln and North Kesteven, offering a range of services including support for organisations looking for volunteers.

Our thoughts are now beginning to turn towards some of the enthusiastic volunteers we hear from every winter, offering their assistance to others at Christmas-time, and often at very short notice.

If your voluntary or community organisation is planning any projects over the festive period that may require volunteers at short notice, (or you’d like to start recruiting now) we’d love to hear from you.

If your organisation is interested in involving volunteers but does not do so at present, we’d be happy to work with you to develop this.

Our teams can be contacted on info@voluntarycentreservices.org.uk or by visiting our website www.voluntarycentreservices.org.uk

Parent Partnership

National News

Children and Families

Bill update

In October the Government published the draft SEN Code of Practice and Regulations for consultation. The Support and Aspiration article on the front page describes how the changes detailed in these publications are being planned for in Lincolnshire, and lets you know how to find out more about getting involved.

Local news

Transition Workshops (helping to prepare your child for the move to Secondary School)

The dates for 2014 workshops are:

• 11th March 2014 – Horncastle
• 18th March 2014 - Bourne

We will send out flyers to schools, parent groups and Children’s Centres nearer the time with details of venues and how to book. Details will also be on the "Events" section of our website.

Drop In – the opportunity to drop by and have an informal meeting with Educational Psychologists and Specialists Teacher. No need to book. The dates for 2014 are

• 13th May 2014 – Lincoln
• 10th June 2014 – Bourne

Again, we will send out flyers to schools, parent groups and Children’s Centres nearer the time to confirm venues and put details on the "Events" section of our website.

We are currently looking for more parents to be represented on our Stakeholder Group. This is our management group, it meets four times a year and works a bit like a governing body, directing the work of the Parent Partnership Service.

If you would like to know more please contact us on 01522 553351 or email parentpartnership@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Access for All

Hoe Grange Holidays is proud to have been awarded the national Enjoy England Excellence Gold Award for Access for All 2011 and were Highly Commended in 2013.

With level thresholds, wide doorways and spacious wet room showers, our homely self-catering log cabins are designed for ease of access, and suitable for guests with disabilities. Prices include a wide range of specialist disabled equipment such as mobile hoist, electric profile bed, perching stool, shower chairs and bed rails.

Excellent disabled holidays are hard to find. We are happy to discuss your individual requirements - let us take the strain to make yourself catering holiday as comfortable as possible.

www.hoegrangeholidays.co.uk
**L.A.A.F.S (Louth Area Autism Family Support)**

LAAFS has gone from strength to strength since its launch in April 2013. The group held their first AGM and were gratified to find 40 families had registered since the launch and there are 165 followers on their Facebook page.

It has been a very productive and successful year to date and there is so much more to look forward to. In addition to the monthly meetings every second Saturday in the month from 2pm - 4pm at the Trinity Centre in Louth where the families meet, they are now holding parent coffee mornings every last Friday in the month at the Wetherspoons pub in Louth from 9.30am where parents/carers can have a relaxing drink and chat.

The group held a range of activities through the summer and since September the Saturday group have enjoyed some fun activity sessions at the Trinity Centre, a super scary Halloween party, Christmas Fair & Table Top Sale with lots of festive treats & gifts and Christmas Party & Raffle. Parents have continued to get together at Wetherspoons and a very informative evening was held at Louth Town Hall with a talk by Andy Howlett (Statement Procedure and Lincolnshire Rural Activities Centre) and Colin Pitman, author of “The House That Talks”.

2014 will begin with the first parent coffee morning on 31st January at Wetherspoons and family session on the 8th February at Trinity Centre, Louth. This is only the beginning, as lots of activities are in the planning for the rest of the year, including Dr Luke Beardon agreeing to be a guest speaker at a forthcoming event.

All above activities have free entrance, and for further information and updates contact Ray Smith on 07982 787823; email gallachertoni@btinternet.com; or Facebook LAAFS.

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**C.A.S.A (Carers Are Special Also)**

Please note it’s all change at CASA! The group are now meeting 9.30am to 11.30am on the first Monday in every month but are still at the Children’s Centre at Lacey Gardens, Louth.

A programme has been planned until February, and more exciting events are on the way with new members always welcome.

**6th January 2014** is a bring-and-swap, so all those Christmas presents that are not quite right or needed by the family just bring them along and swap for something more preferable. All children are welcome as it’s still in the school holidays. No money is needed - just “swapsies”!

**3rd February 2014** will be a chat-and-catch-up meeting, giving a chance for attendees to have input into future dates.

CASA are looking forward to welcoming carers who could not make Thursdays, so please bring along your ideas and suggestions for future programme planning.

For more information contact Michelle Mazzarella on 07917 161889 or call in.

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**Lincoln ADHD Support Group**

You are invited to the Lincoln ADHD Support Group Christmas Party, or the “Holly Jolly”, on Sunday 22nd December at:

The Hospital Club  
St. Anne’s Road  
Lincoln  
LN2 5RA

The party is suitable for all ages and starts at 6pm till 9.30pm.

Children’s tickets are £5 each and adult tickets are £2.50.

This will be a fun evening full of festivities including a buffet and disco plus many more Yule Tide treats for all!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Oh... don’t forget, its fancy dress!

You can get in touch by email at info@lincolnadhd.org or call 01522 508373.
Boston Deaf Children’s Group
Norfolk Lodge
Norfolk Street
Boston       PE21 6PW

The group runs on Saturday afternoons 1pm to 3pm on the following dates: 4th January, 1st February, 1st March and 5th April 2014.

Deaf Youth Club
Moneys Yard
Sleaford       NG34 7TW (next to Boyes)

Please come along and you won’t regret it! Things to do: upstairs ‘music’ room, art and craft room, pool table, musical instruments, table tennis, Wii, TV and plenty more.

The last date of 2013 is Friday 13th December 7pm to 9pm.

If you need to confirm dates or check dates for next year, please contact SILCS by email: sensorysupport@silcs.org.uk or text: 07702 939165.

SEN & The Children and Families Bill
Lincolnshire Parent Carer Council is holding 3 workshops to give parents, carers, friends, family and professionals information on both the current SEN system and an update about the incoming proposed Children and Families Bill.

Workshop 1 was held on the 14th October and covered SEN of today, DIY SEN, Children and Families Bill and the planned changes.

Workshop 2 will be on 12th December at Coronation Hall in Woodhall Spa (LN10 6PZ) covering school & governor’s duties, Statutory Assessment, Statement of Educational Needs and annual review.

Workshop 3 will be on 27th February at Osbournby Village Hall near Sleaford (NG34 0DQ) covering SEN Code of Practice, tribunals, the new SEN Code of Practice and a Q&A session.

All workshops are 7pm - 9pm and generally cost £8 for parents, carers and family friends, and £25 for professionals (there is a discount for early bird booking).

Children and young people aged 15 and over are welcome to attend with a responsible adult.

Send cheques payable to “LPCC” to PO Box 1183, Spalding, PE11 9EE, confirming which workshop you are attending.

For more information contact LPCC t. 0845 33 11 310; e. admin@lincspcc.org.uk or go on-line at www.lincspcc.org.uk

Does your child have autism, Asperger’s Syndrome, social and communication difficulties?

Do you feel isolated and need support?

Come along to our coffee mornings to meet other parents and listen to guest speakers. Share tips and advice and relax together in a supportive environment.

Upcoming dates:

- **30th January 2014** 10am to 12pm Penny Marshall from Gosberton House: “Understanding and supporting social differences”

- **13th March 2014** 10am to 12pm Anne Guthrie from Gosberton House: “Earlybird: families and teachers working together”

Come along to Malcolm Sargent School, Empingham Road, Stamford, PE9 2SR.

For further details contact Tina Cox, SENco on 01780 762708
## Useful contacts

Some services available for children and young people who are disabled and their families

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact info</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Action for Young Carers</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:ayc@carersfederation.co.uk">ayc@carersfederation.co.uk</a> Tel: 01205 358834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action for Blind People</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:loughborough@actionforblindpeople.org.uk">loughborough@actionforblindpeople.org.uk</a> Tel: 01509 632400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action for Children</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:disabilitylincolnshire@actionforchildren.org.uk">disabilitylincolnshire@actionforchildren.org.uk</a> Tel: 01522 546516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carers Assessment</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:carers_team@lincolnshire.gov.uk">carers_team@lincolnshire.gov.uk</a> Tel: 01522 782224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Centres</td>
<td>Find your nearest Children’s Centre at <a href="http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/childrenscentres">www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/childrenscentres</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Services, Social Care Team - Children with Disabilities Team</td>
<td>Referrals are via the Customer Service Centre Tel: 01522 782111, <a href="http://www.cwdsi.co.uk">www.cwdsi.co.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Customer Service Centre</td>
<td>Referrals to Children With Disabilities Social Care Team are via the Customer Service Centre Tel: 01522 546516</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deaf Lincs</td>
<td>Voice: 01522 554932 minicom: 01522 554933 fax: 01522 554934 SMS: 07702 820539 email: <a href="mailto:info@deaflincs.com">info@deaflincs.com</a> web: <a href="http://www.deaflincs.com">www.deaflincs.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Support Care Co-ordination Team</td>
<td>Referrals are via the Customer Service Centre Tel: 01522 782111 Or county co-ordinator is Jon Hird: 07795 968494</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exclusion National Helplines</td>
<td>Children’s Legacy Centre: 0845 345 4345 from 9am to 6.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helplines</td>
<td>ACE (Advisory Centre for Education): 0808 800 5793 - 10am to 1pm, Monday to Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Information Service</td>
<td>Family Information Service at: <a href="http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/fis">www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/fis</a> or Tel: 0800 195 1635 Mon to Fri 8am - 6pm or email: <a href="mailto:fis@lincolnshire.gov.uk">fis@lincolnshire.gov.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Service Directory</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/fsd">www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/fsd</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>KIDS Strut</td>
<td>KIDS and Strut in the Community, Commerce House, Outer Circle Road, Lincoln LN2 4HY Strut: 01522 557292 KIDS: 01482 467540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincolnshire Helplines</td>
<td>Choice Advice (for help with school admissions – 01522 552509 Autism Outreach - Tuesday from 1.30pm to 3.30pm on 01427 787178 Dyslexia Outreach - Monday 9.30am to 11.30am - 01427 787178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincolnshire Parent Carer Council</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@lincolnshireparentcarercouncil.org.uk">enquiries@lincolnshireparentcarercouncil.org.uk</a> PO Box 1183, Spalding, Lincs PE11 9EE <a href="http://www.lincolnshireparentcarercouncil.org.uk">www.lincolnshireparentcarercouncil.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Contact info</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Movement 2</strong>&lt;br&gt;Specialist Equipment Hire</td>
<td>Tel: 0116 2609 510 Mob: 07811 287378&lt;br&gt;www.movement2.co.uk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National Helplines</strong></td>
<td>Independent Parental Special Education Advice (IPSEA) can offer free, legal advice to parents on SEND - <a href="http://www.ipsea.org.uk">www.ipsea.org.uk</a>&lt;br&gt;0800 018 4016&lt;br&gt;IPSEA Tribunal Helplines - 0845 602 9579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Occupational Therapy (O.T.) Team</strong></td>
<td>Referrals are via the Customer Service Centre, Tel: 01522 782111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parent Carers of CWDSI (Children With Disabilities and Sensory Impairment)</strong></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:parentcarersofcwdsi@lincolnshire.gov.uk">parentcarersofcwdsi@lincolnshire.gov.uk</a>&lt;br&gt;Tel: 01522 554214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parent Partnership</strong></td>
<td>Tel: 01522 553351 Email: <a href="mailto:parentpartnership@lincolnshire.gov.uk">parentpartnership@lincolnshire.gov.uk</a>&lt;br&gt;www.lincolnshireparentpartnership.org.uk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Portage</strong></td>
<td>Lincoln &amp; District: 07710 796695&lt;br&gt;Spalding &amp; District: 07935 417289&lt;br&gt;Louth &amp; District: 07900 604923&lt;br&gt;West Linsdey &amp; District: 01427 615498&lt;br&gt;Bourne &amp; District: 01778 425203&lt;br&gt;Boston &amp; District: 01205 363395&lt;br&gt;Spilsby &amp; District: 07787 629042&lt;br&gt;Grantham &amp; District: 07857 689664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pre-school telephone helpline for professionals</strong></td>
<td>to speak to an Educational Psychologist about a pre-school issue call the helpline on Tuesday afternoon 1 pm – 3 pm, Tel: 01522 553473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Relate Counselling Service</strong></td>
<td>Relate Lincolnshire Tel: 0845 166 4110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sensory Education and Support Service</strong></td>
<td>Referrals can be made directly to the service. Tel: 01522 553364/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sensory Impairment Lincolnshire County Council Service (SILCS)</strong></td>
<td>SILCS can be contacted on tel: 01522 848295&lt;br&gt;Email: <a href="mailto:sensorysupport@silcs.org.uk">sensorysupport@silcs.org.uk</a> or visit <a href="http://www.silcs.org.uk">www.silcs.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Short Breaks Team</strong></td>
<td>Family Information Service, tel: 0800 195 1635 or email: <a href="mailto:shortbreaks@lincolnshire.gov.uk">shortbreaks@lincolnshire.gov.uk</a> or <a href="http://www.cwdsi.co.uk">www.cwdsi.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Specialist Changing Facilities</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.cwdsi.co.uk">www.cwdsi.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Specialist Nurse Trainers for Children with Disabilities</strong></td>
<td>Contact the team, Tel: 01522 521186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Teeninfolincs - information and advice for Lincolnshire Teenagers</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.teeninfolincs.co.uk">www.teeninfolincs.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Speech and Language Team</strong></td>
<td>Specialist Hearing Impairment, Grantham Health Clinic, St. Catherine’s Road, Grantham, NG31 6TT, Tel: 01476 577368; <a href="http://www.cwdsi.co.uk">www.cwdsi.co.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Toy Libraries</strong></td>
<td>Witham Park, Waterside South, Lincoln LN5 7JN, Tel: 01522 546215&lt;br&gt;Trinity Arts Centre, Gainsborough DN11 2AL Tel: 01427 676655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Training</strong></td>
<td>For more information about registering for the programme contact <a href="mailto:shortbreaks@lincolnshire.gov.uk">shortbreaks@lincolnshire.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Alternative Language

This information can be provided in another language or format. For all enquiries please contact 01522 782245.

Polish
Ta informacja jest także dostępna w innym języku i formacie. Razie jakichkolwiek pytań zadzwoń pod powyższy numer.

Portuguese
Esta informação pode ser fornecida em outro idioma ou formato. Para quaisquer inquéritos, contacte o número acima.

Russian
Эта информация может быть предоставлена другим формате. По все вопросам мвышеуказанному номеру.

Lithuanian
Ši informacija gali būti pateikta kitoje kalboje ar formate. Visiem pasiteiravimam prašome susisiekti su viršų nurodytu numeriu.

Latvian
Ja nepieciešams, šo informāciju varat saņemt citā valodā vai citā formātā. Uzzinājam, lūdzu zvaniet pa augstāk norādīto tālruni.

Slovak
Táto informácia môže byť poskytnutá v inom jazyku alebo formáte. So všetkými otázkami sa prosím obráťte na vyššie uvedené číslo.

Contacts

FREEPHONE: 0800 195 1635
Monday to Friday
8.00am - 6.00pm

GENERAL ENQUIRIES
Tel: 01522 782033
Fax: 01522 516137

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/4all-newsletter
Email: 4all@lincolnshire.gov.uk

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