



Lewisham Parent and Carer's Forum—Leemore Central Community Hub  
Bonfield Road, Lewisham, London SE13 5EU—Tel: 075345 68020 —  
[info@lewishamparentcarer.org.uk](mailto:info@lewishamparentcarer.org.uk) - [www.lewishamparentcarer.org.uk](http://www.lewishamparentcarer.org.uk)  
Registered Charity no. 1159533 in England

## NEWS BULLETIN - 29th March 2018

**Dear Parents and Carers, welcome to our Easter newsletter. Please find lots of information below that you may find useful. Please do contact us if you have any questions or require any information.**

### Parent Forum Update

#### **SEND STRATEGY**

**The Forum are currently working on the SEND Strategy with the Local Authority, covering the Local Offer, Communication and Engagement.**

This work includes making sure that the Local Offer (all information and advice on SEND) is user friendly and fit for purpose. Communication and Engagement is where we ALL look at how we work together and share vital information about the services and processes of SEND.

After Easter we will be contacting you for your thoughts on how we can all engage and communicate with each other, and we hope that you can share any ideas with us.

#### **SEND GUIDANCE PROJECT**

The Parent Forum and other organisations have recently been invited to work with Claudia Smith, Senior SEN Advisor, on the SEND Guidance Project, which clearly identified needs and the pathways that can be taken to support children and young people with additional needs from birth to post 16.

We will keep you updated on progress with this document.

#### **EHCP Quality Monitoring**

Parent reps will shortly be working with the local authority to look at the quality of some of the EHCPs in Lewisham. Parents/Carers will of course be contacted to approve scrutiny of the plans.

# LEWISHAM PARENT AND CARER'S FORUM

## Preparing for Adulthood

### “Moving into Adulthood with great lives - from school to college and beyond”

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2018 – 10.30am to 2.30pm – Main Hall, Leemore Centre

Speaker: Linda Jordan, Preparing for Adulthood, National Development Team for Inclusions (NDTI)



#### SEND Code of Practice

##### Young people aged 19 to 25

- 8.49 Local authorities should be ambitious for children and young people with SEN, raising their aspirations and promoting high expectations about what they can achieve in school, college and beyond. Local authorities should ensure children and young people have access to the right support and opportunities that will prepare them successfully for adulthood by helping them achieve the agreed outcomes in their EHC plan. This will enable many more young people with SEN to complete their formal education.
- 8.50 Local authorities **must** set out in their Local Offer the support and provision that 19- to 25-year-olds with SEN can access regardless of whether they have an EHC plan (see Chapter 4, The Local Offer). Further education colleges must continue to use their best endeavours to secure the special educational provision needed by all young people aged 19 to 25 with SEN attending their institution. For guidance on EHC plans for young people aged 19 to 25, see Chapter 9.

Please phone Sue Stocks on – 07534568020 or email [info@lewishamparentcarer.org.uk](mailto:info@lewishamparentcarer.org.uk) if you would like to come along to the workshop.

**Exercise Classes for Carers: Fridays 10am to 11am from 13<sup>th</sup> April**

Carers Lewisham, Barnes Wallis Community Centre, 74 Wild Goose Drive SE14 5LL.  
Cost £2 per class. Contact Carers at [info@carerslewisham.org.uk](mailto:info@carerslewisham.org.uk) or 020 8699 8686.

**Free soft play sessions at the Adventure Play Zone (Rascals) for children with special needs**, Bellingham Leisure Centre, 5 Randlesdown Road SE6 3BT. Usually on the third Monday of each month (but **please check before you go**).

From 9.30am to midday for under-fives, and from 3.30pm to 6pm for those aged 5 to 11 years. For more information contact Gary Buswell on 020 8461 2213 or [gbuswellbcp@gmail.com](mailto:gbuswellbcp@gmail.com).

**Picturehouse autism-friendly screenings:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month.

Next on 15<sup>th</sup> April: **Coco**. More details

here: <http://pheducation.wixsite.com/pheducation/autism-friendly>

**Holidays in Greece for people on the autism spectrum and their families:**

<http://www.amillionsenses.com/>

Above information provided by Signal Family Support



Nandini Ganesh

## DIARY DATE

### **SEN SUPPORT IN SCHOOLS – for those without EHC plans**

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2018 – 10.30 to 12.30 – join us for refreshments from 10am. – Leemore Centre, Bonfield Road, Lewisham SE13 5EU – map is found at the end of the newsletter.

1. The Law ( a slide or two)
2. What is considered SEN and what is not
3. Graduated approach (Plan Assess Do Review)
4. What is an effective review
5. At what point should you apply for a Plan
6. Equality Act
7. Reasonable adjustments
8. Mediation and Tribunals
9. Resources and how Contact can help

Contact Sue Stocks – Lewisham Parent and Carer's Forum at [info@lewishamparentcarer.org.uk](mailto:info@lewishamparentcarer.org.uk) or 07929031591

## **The Midi Music Company**

**Summer 2018 – starts 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018 - Budding Musicians Club - £55 for 10 weeks tuition**

Tuesdays - Guitar or Keyboards – ages 5 to 7 years – 4.30pm - 5.15pm, **5.30pm – 6.15pm**

Wednesdays - Guitar or Keyboards – ages 8 to 11 years – 4.30pm - 5.30pm

Band workshops 8 to 11 years PLUS Drums full kit 8 to 11 years

Contact Midi Music on 020 8694 6093/0789415 8554 – [theteam@themidimusiccompany.co.uk](mailto:theteam@themidimusiccompany.co.uk)

## **The Midi Music Company – SHORT COURSES AGES 11 TO 16 YEARS**

**Summer 2018 – starts Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

**MC/Spoken Word/Keyboard Skills/Keyboard Skills for Songwriting  
Music Production**

Thursdays – 10 weeks course – 4.30pm to 6.00pm

Contact Midi Music on 020 8694 6093/0789415 8554 – [theteam@themidimusiccompany.co.uk](mailto:theteam@themidimusiccompany.co.uk)

## **The Autism Show:**

Friday 15th-Saturday 16th June 2018

The Autism Show takes place on Friday 15th June (10am to 5pm) and Saturday 16th June (10am to 4.30pm) at the ExCel exhibition centre in Docklands. Tickets are £15 if booked online (£19 on the door); children under 16 are free with an adult.

For full details of talks, exhibitors, stands, how to get there and to book tickets, go to [london.autismshow.co.uk/](http://london.autismshow.co.uk/)



## INFORMATION FROM SIGNAL FAMILY SUPPORT

### Drumbeat: Free Workshops for Parents/Carers

Drumbeat Outreach provide FREE workshops for parents/carers of children on the autism spectrum.

All workshops take place at Drumbeat Brockley, Revelon Road SE4 2PR and run from 10am to 12pm on the following Tuesdays:

- 24th April: Developing Independence, Keeping Safe and Preparing for Transition
- 15th May: It's Different for Girls
- 12th June: Preparing for Puberty
- 10th July: Supporting Good Mental Health and Wellbeing

### Early Years Parent Training

In addition to the above workshops, Drumbeat are offering the following 3 sessions on Wednesday evenings 6-8pm at the same venue:

- 9th May: What is ASD?
- 16th May: Sensory challenges
- 23rd May: Communication

Although all places are free, booking is essential, so please contact Drumbeat Outreach Admin on 020 7635 9022 or outreach.admin@drumbeat.lewisham.sch.uk For more details, go to

<http://www.drumbeatasd.org/page/?pid=199>

### **London Zoo SEN Weekend:**

Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th May 2018

Once a year London Zoo holds a weekend of events for children with special needs and their families and friends, with increased specialist facilities and staff numbers, as well as special interactive events and discounted entry.

All Special Children's Day events are free.

Ticket prices: children over 3 years £9, carers free (other adults £13.25).

Please note that the Zoo is open as normal during this event, so be prepared for it to be busy!

[www.zsl.org/zsl-london-zoo/whats-on/special-childrens-day](http://www.zsl.org/zsl-london-zoo/whats-on/special-childrens-day)



**FREE talk from Lewisham senior educational psychologist Enomwoyi Damali**

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 10am-12pm** at Bellingham Children's Centre, 109a Randlesdown Rd, Bellingham SE6 3HB.

Hosted by Lewisham SENDIASS (SEN & Disability Information, Advice and Support Service).

Contact the team for more information: [lewisham@kids.org.uk](mailto:lewisham@kids.org.uk) or 020 3319 2163.

**Early Explorers at the London Transport Museum**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April, 8.30am to 10am** when the venue will open to the general public.

Enjoy the Museum when it is quiet, and the use of a Quiet Room until midday.

**For more information or to book, call 020 7565 7298.** There is also a visual story available in advance – to request a copy, please email [learningmailbox@ltmuseum.co.uk](mailto:learningmailbox@ltmuseum.co.uk)

**Lambeth Autism Fayre:**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April, 10am to 5pm, £3 entry.**

There will be a range of stalls and activities suitable for all the family.

For full details, go to: <http://www.ioi.london/event/lambeth-autism-fayre/>

**Event for Siblings**

Greenwich Mencap are running two free fun days for younger children with siblings with a learning difficulty/additional needs or autism.

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April (8-11 years) and Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April (4-7 years) from 10am to 2pm at Mycenae House, Blackheath SE3 7SE

For more information or to book places, email [tedmanager@greenwichmencap.org.uk](mailto:tedmanager@greenwichmencap.org.uk) or call 020 8305 2245.

**NAS ASSIST for Over-18s**

The National Autistic Society is currently running a new ASSIST programme in Lewisham to support those over-18s on the autism spectrum without a care plan in place.

This can include those who don't actually have a diagnosis but who might be seeking one. It could be your child or it could be you.

Based in Forest Hill, Project Coordinator Alasdair Duncan can offer one-to-one support for an hour a week. This support can cover anything from help with form-filling to managing anxiety and family problems.

The current project is set to run for 6 months but if there is enough interest this may be extended, so do get in touch. If you are interested, either for yourself or for your adult child, please contact Alasdair Duncan directly at [alasdair.duncan@nas.org.uk](mailto:alasdair.duncan@nas.org.uk) or 07881 501357 or 020 8962 3015.

## Debt Workshop

- Money Management
- What is a priority or non-priority debt
- How to negotiate with Creditors



*David Adams from Citizens Advice Lewisham is running a free workshop for parents/carers of disabled children and young people in Lewisham.*

Venue: Leemore Community Hub,  
Bonfield Road, Lewisham SE13 5EU  
Date: 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018  
Time: 10.20 – 12.30  
Refreshments will be provided

To book your place, please call the office on 02082978056 or email to  
[lewisham.office@contact.org.uk](mailto:lewisham.office@contact.org.uk)



## WHERE TO FIND US



**Based in the same building as CAB  
Leamore Centre, Bonfield Road, Lewisham, London SE13 5EU – through green gates at side  
of building in Bonfield Road – LPCF - 07534 568020**