

Your Voice

Support



Advice

Information

December 2024

Dear all,

Welcome to PPV's December newsletter, we hope you find it useful to see all the things we have been doing over the last month.

Wishing you a very Happy Christmas and the best for the New Year 2025.

PPV Team

PROJECTS PPV BEEN WORKING

This half term we have supported **164 parent carers** through parent hubs, drop ins and 1:1s.

Our top topics were **Neurodiversity support, Neurodiversity Profiling toolkit**, and **school issues**.

Coproduction Projects – This half term we have been co-producing the Local Offer live coffee morning which was held at the Central Library on 3rd December. Services such as Kooth, CAMHS, MHST and the ND team attended to support over 30 parent/carers from all over Portsmouth.

We have also been helping to co-produce the ND teams new information leaflets, and feeding back parent/carers views on logos, wording and language too!

Inclusion Conference – In October Cat and Flo attended the Portsmouth Inclusion Conference. The key note speaker Kit Messenger talked to us about building relationships with children and young people with SEND, and how we should be 'curious not furious' when something goes wrong for a young person. They also presented a workshop to schools and Councilor Suzy Horton about how to set up a parent hub in their schools. Two schools from the workshop have already started this process! Well done Cat and Flo!

October/November 2024

Time spent in strategic meetings,
parent hubs and 1:1s supporting
Parent/Carers

95

HOURS

25

MINUTES

164

PARENTS



SEND AP PANEL

Over the past 6 weeks PPV have been invited to become a member **High Needs SEN Inclusion Support Panel**.

A little background of why changes to the Inclusion Support Panel (ISP) have been made: The **SENDAP Change Programme** provided an opportunity for Portsmouth LA to look at their current SEN/EHCA/EHCP decision making processes in Portsmouth.

The intended impact of this specific area of the DFE reforms was to understand whether the quality of the local authorities EHCA/EHCP decision-making process is improved when working in a truly collaborative and multi-agency approach.

It also aims to improve confidence and understanding of parents/carers and education settings during the decision process, and while planning next steps.

The reforms focused on two key decision points – the decision to conduct an EHC needs assessment and the decision to issue (or not) an EHCP at the end of a statutory assessment.

In Portsmouth however a wider range of decisions are currently being presented to our existing panel and the LA intend to continue considering a full range of decisions in this adapted approach.

that the **Parent Carer voices are heard** during each session and to also anonymously vote alongside other professionals on a mix of new requests for anEHCA, wherever to issue a EHCP and to consider complex case management, PPV will even have a say if a plan should be ceased.

All PPV Staff/Reps will be provided training and ongoing support while attending these panels and will feedback any concerns at the end of each session to PCC staff.



Upcoming events 2025

**JAN
7**

CAMHS DROP IN
10:00am – 12:00pm
Portsmouth Central
Library, Guildhall Square,
Portsmouth, PO1 2DX

**JAN
13**

MORIAH COFFEE MORNING
10:30am – 12:30pm
Portsmouth Central
Library, Guildhall Square,
Portsmouth, PO1 2DX

**JAN
15**

ND DROP IN
9:45am – 11:45am
Portsmouth Central
Library, Guildhall Square,
Portsmouth, PO1 2DX

**JAN
15**

ZOOM SLEEP COURSE
10:00am – 12:00pm
Online
Booking required

**JAN
22**

ZOOM SLEEP COURSE
10:00am – 12:00pm
Online
Booking required

**FEB
04**

CAMHS DROP IN
10:00am – 12:00pm
Portsmouth Central
Library, Guildhall Square,
Portsmouth, PO1 2DX

**FEB
10**

MORIAH COFFEE MORNING
10:30am – 12:30pm
Portsmouth Central
Library, Guildhall Square,
Portsmouth, PO1 2DX

**FEB
12**

**LOCAL OFFER ON TOUR
COFFEE MORNING**
10:00am – 12:00am
St Michael & All Angels
Church, Paulsgrove,
Hempsted Road,
Portsmouth, PO6 4AS

**FEB
19**

ND DROP IN
9:45am – 11:45am
Portsmouth Central
Library, Guildhall Square,
Portsmouth, PO1 2DX

These sessions are open to parent carers of children and young people with additional needs and disability. Feel free to bring a friend or family member.

"Me and ##### would like to say a big thank you for the help that you have provided and the amazing meeting that we had. It has felt far from the easiest roads that we have been set on and feel like some of the weight has been lifted. We look forward in hopefully progressing and getting somewhere with school and making even the smallest of progress."

"Thank you for your guidance that day. it helped me understand better."

"That is hugely exhaustive and helpful - thank you."

spotlight on a Service



SPOTLIGHT ON A SERVICE: PORTSMOUTH SENDIASS

What is SENDIASS?

Portsmouth SENDIASS offer free, impartial and confidential information, advice and support to families where a child or young person aged 0 to 25 years has or may have special educational needs or disabilities.

What support do they offer?

- Signpost and provide impartial information and advice which enables parents/carers and their children to make informed decisions.
- Help to explain the content of reports/letters/draft EHCP.
- Make telephone calls on parents' behalf and support them with writing letters.
- Support parents to arrange meetings with schools and other professionals and attend the meetings with parents if required.

- Liaise with schools, the local authority and other agencies to promote positive relationships with parents, carers and young people.
- Equip parents, carers, children and young people with the skills and confidence to work with professionals and have their voice heard.
- Signposting parents, carers, children and young people to other sources of support.

SENDIASS are funded by Portsmouth City Council, but the service is managed independently by Barnardos. Providing free, confidential and impartial support, which means they do not take sides, and try to ensure that everyone's views are expressed and heard.

The Portsmouth SENDIASS site has a wide variety of information and advice available across a range of SENDIASS topics. Please do contact them for further information, They are a small team but aim to respond to your enquiry within 5 working days.

Where the service is provided?

They work with families living in PO1 to PO6 and can also support your child or young person to access our service independently.

website: www.barnardossendiass.org.uk/welcome-to-portsmouth-sendiass

email: PortsmouthSENDIASS@barnardos.org.uk

telephone: 023 9323 3656





GET TO KNOW A MEMBER OF THE PPV TEAM: CAT SIDWELL

Position at PPV and the year you joined: Chair, joined in 2019

Reason for joining: As a parent carer myself, receiving vital support from PPV, I wanted to be able to support other parent carers in a similar situation to myself.

Biggest achievement whilst working at PPV: I established relationships with people across the city from parent carers, to the Integrated Care Board, social care, voluntary sector and Portsmouth City Council, and through Shaping Better Futures Together (our monthly coproduction group) we have made a real difference to services across the city. One project I'm particularly proud of is the Post-16 transition work including direct changes to college brochures which are now accessible for young people.

The song that gets you on the dance floor: Everybody's Freeby Rozalla

Three people you'd invite to your dinner party (dead or alive): My dad, Michelle Obama and Charles Darwin.

What superhero would you be and why: Violet Parr from the Incredibles (invisibility) so that I could drink a cup of tea in peace and quiet.

What I wanted to be when I was a child: To work on a farm.

Happy Christmas from the PPV Team





Portsmouth Parent Voice



**PPV is closed from 19th December 2024.
We are back in the office on 6th January 2025.**

HAPPY NEW YEAR



Visit our website, read about what we do, reserve a face to face appointment, a zoom sleep course, contact us and more:

portsmouthparentvoice.org 

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