



Portsmouth Parent Voice (PPV)
Run by parents for parents of children and
young people with additional needs or
disability

IMPACTING ON YOU

Newsletter

October 2017



Information, advice and support for parents/carers of children and
young people (0-25) with special needs and disability

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Hi Everyone!

Thank you for your continued support and for your contributions to the newsletter. We have tried very hard to condense the newsletter this month and you can access the latest updates via our website.

If you are addicted (as I am) to Pinterest, you can find all lot of relevant links and info here: <https://www.pinterest.co.uk/portsmouthparen/boards/>

We have received a lot of enquiries about home to school transport last month and in response, we have included information on page 6 of this newsletter.

Our annual event, The Local Offer Live Information Day about special needs and Disability will take place on Wednesday 14th February at Miltoncross Academy Portsmouth. More details will be published in the forthcoming weeks, so keep an eye out and save the date!

We have a few events lined up this month including our coffee morning where we will be discussing CAMHS services as well as welcoming Barbara Hay from Awesome Coaching for Kids as guest speaker.

Looking forward to seeing you soon at one of our forthcoming events.

Barbara and the Team

General enquiries: ppv@p-d-f.org

Barbara McDougall: PPVcoordinator@p-d-f.org.uk

Kara Jewell: engagementofficer@p-d-f.org.uk

Alison Cooper: ppvadmin@p-d-f.org.uk

What's On?

Events and workshops coming up soon

Are you a parent or carer of a child or young person with additional needs and disability and living in Portsmouth?

We run various coffee mornings, events and training sessions in partnership with various voluntary groups (**Autism Hampshire**, **Contact A Family**) and statutory agencies (such as **CAMHS**- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services)

Event	Date and Time	Venue
PPV Coffee Morning Let's talk about CAMHS Barbara Hays from Awesome Coaching for Kids	Tuesday 17th October 10 am to 12 pm	The Frank Sorrell Centre Prince Albert Road Southsea PO4 9HR
Transition Workshop What happens post 16?	Thursday 23rd November 10 am to 12 pm	The Frank Sorrell Centre Prince Albert Road Southsea PO4 9HR
SEN and Home Education Catch Up Join us over coffee and cake and meet other parents.	Saturday 25th November 10 am to 12 pm	Make @ Aldingbourne 1 Cornwall Rd (off Fratton Road) Portsmouth PO1 5AA



The Local Offer Live Information Day about Special Needs and Disability will take place on **Wednesday 14th February 2018** at **Miltoncross Academy** Portsmouth. More details will be published in the forthcoming weeks, so keep an eye out and save the date!

Portsmouth Autism Community Forum

We are looking for people with autism, their families and carers, who want to improve the lives of people with autism in the city to attend the Portsmouth Autism Community Forum.

The Forum will be a place where different organisations who support people with autism meet, to discuss ideas and ways to improve services. The kinds of organisations attending will include Portsmouth City Council, Social Care, the Police, Housing Departments, Job Centre Plus, the Carers Centre, Autism Hampshire and Portsmouth Parent Voice.

It will meet every 3 months and give people with autism and their families the chance to share their views and have their voices heard. One of the key roles of the forum is to agree the Portsmouth Autism All Ages Strategy, and then make sure that the strategy's action plan is being put in place. It will also be a place to share information with different organisations.

The meetings will be informal, but run to an agenda, and you can say as much or as little as you want to. We will also send out details of what will be discussed at the meeting so you can give your views by email if you would rather.

If you would like to know more please come along to the first meeting!

Introduction to Portsmouth Autism Forum

10th October 2017

2pm - 4pm

Portsmouth Central Library

For more information please contact Rosie Penlington on 023 9268 8503 or email rosie.penlington@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Information on Home to School Transport

We receive many enquiries from parents about home to school transport and who is eligible to apply.

You can find a lot of information on the Portsmouth Local Offer Website:

<http://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org/local-offer-search/item/12> including changes taking place from **September 2018**:

[http://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org/images/Home to School Transport Policy 2018 leaflet.pdf](http://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org/images/Home%20to%20School%20Transport%20Policy%202018%20leaflet.pdf)

The decision whether to award home to school transport is based on the family's circumstances (including income, distance from the school ...)and uses a point system.

[http://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org/images/HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT AS DISTANCE POLICY - PART 1.pdf](http://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org/images/HOME_TO_SCHOOL_TRANSPORT_AS_DISTANCE_POLICY_-_PART_1.pdf)

For post 16 education, you can find more information here:

[http://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org/images/POST 16 LEARNERS STATEMENT - PART 2.pdf](http://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org/images/POST_16_LEARNERS_STATEMENT_-_PART_2.pdf)

If you disagree with the decision, you can appeal through the Inclusion Transport Panel:

[http://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org/images/Home to School Transport Appeal Process.pdf](http://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org/images/Home%20to%20School%20Transport%20Appeal%20Process.pdf)

You will have to provide more evidence to the panel as to why you are eligible to home to school transport. If you need help with issues around home to school transport, you can contact the organisations below:

Portsmouth SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SEND IASS) can provide you with help and advice: <http://www.portsmouthlocaloffer.org/local-offer-search/item/171>

Sentas is a non-profit Community Interest Company and was formed to provide parents and young adults with information, advice and advocacy around issues with SEN home to school and college transport: <http://sentas.co.uk/>

DEVELOPMENT OF NEW VOCATIONAL PROVISION

The Harbour School provides special education "alternative provision" and outreach services for children and young people with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Needs and/or medical needs.

There is an urgent need to move The Harbour School provision at the Fratton site due to the poor condition of the building which does not provide a suitable environment for learners and staff. The Vanguard Centre has been identified as a site which could be refurbished to accommodate the Fratton provision. The council has considered how to use this refurbishment project to best enhance SEND provision in the city.

There is strong national evidence which has demonstrated that a vocational curriculum can have a positive effect and better prepare the young people for further education and employment. The proposed Vanguard centre works will provide appropriate, specialist accommodation for a vocational curriculum, specifically tailored to meet the needs of these highly challenging and vulnerable pupils.

The scheme provides:

- Vocational teaching spaces for the following subject areas:
 - Mechanics (cars)
 - Hair & Beauty
 - Catering
 - Construction
 - Animal Care
- General teaching spaces for English, maths, art etc.

This is an exciting opportunity to have a specialist vocational provision within the city.

The Department for Education has allocated a capital grant to Portsmouth City Council of £0.77m. The purpose of this grant is to support the creation of places and to improve provision and facilities for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. The council will fund the cost of developing the vocational provision on the Vanguard site, including using the £0.77m grant funding that is available.

The council is consulting with the Empowering Children and Families Forum, the Shaping Better Futures Together (Parents co-production steering group) and with Portsmouth Parent Voice about this proposal. Comments can also be emailed to caroline.corcoran@portsmouthcc.gov.uk.

The closing date for responses is Friday 20th October 2017.

It is anticipated that the new provision at Vanguard will be operational from September 2018.

World Mental Health Day 2017



Tues 10th Oct
9.30am - 2.30pm

Friendship Centre
Elm Grove P05 1JT

FREE Event
Open to All
Drop in

Family Mental Health & Wellbeing
Information Stalls
Local Services
Energy advice
Workshops
Hand Massage & Health check-ups
Refreshments
Enter the quiz to win prizes*

Programme

9.30am	Start
10.00am	Opening address by The Deputy Lord Mayor of Portsmouth, Councillor Lee Mason
11.30am - 12.00pm	Human Library 'Powered by Personality Disorder - How righteous anger can be a force for good'
12.30pm - 1.00pm	Challenging Children
1.00pm	Light Lunch
1.30pm - 2.00pm	Manage your Wellness Wheel
2.30pm	End

For further information please contact Shipa Ahmed Khan on 023 92841762

*Winners of the quiz will be drawn after the event and notified by phone or email





Celebrating Childbirth and Early Years

24 October 2017
11am - 2pm

Landport Community Centre
Charles Street, PO1 1JD

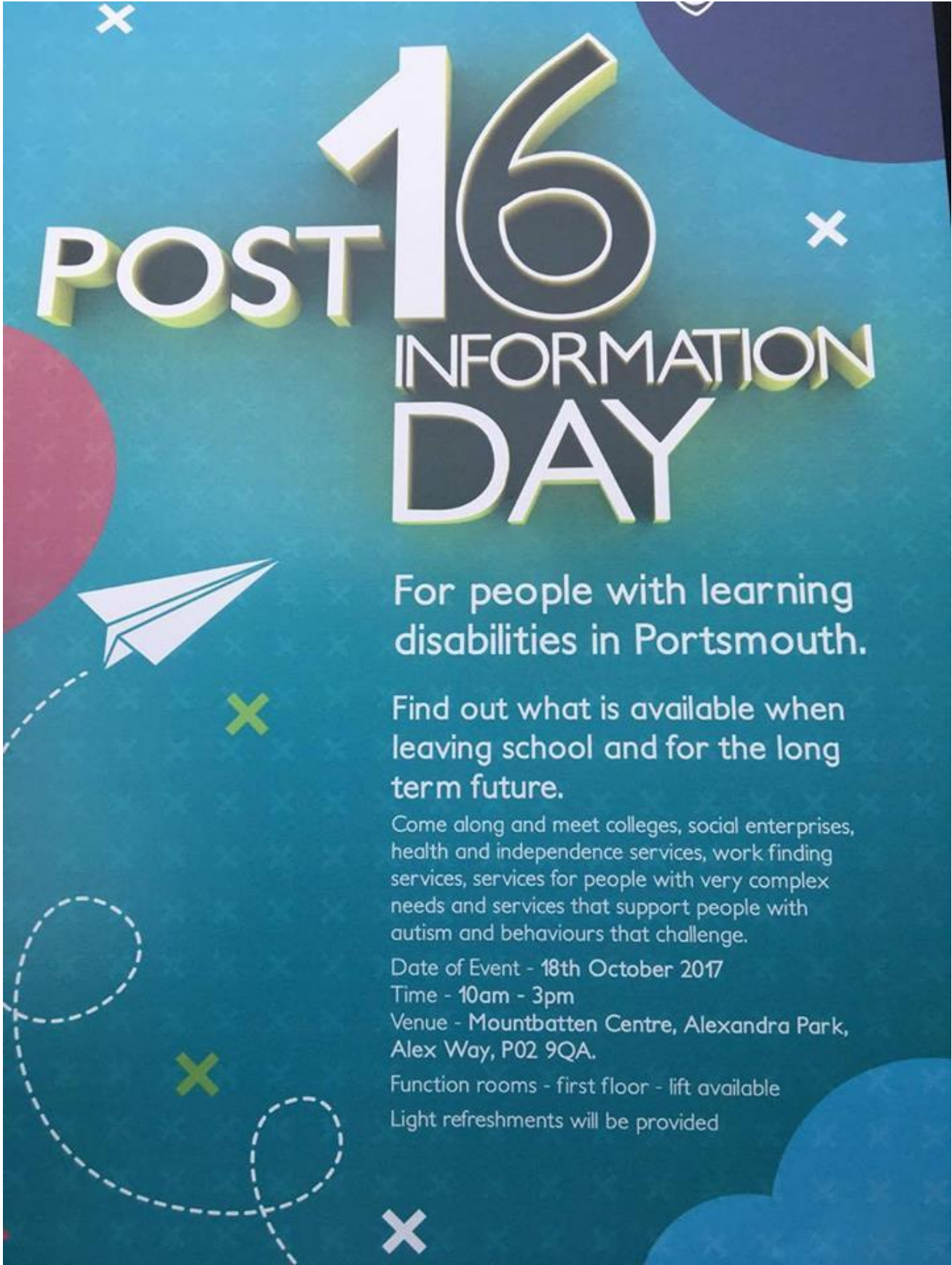


**Traditions and
Ceremonies
from around
the world**

Free event. Also includes:

- Health and wellbeing advice
- Gift packs
- Global snacks to try
- Activities for young children

Contact:
07741 235 508



POST 16 INFORMATION DAY

For people with learning disabilities in Portsmouth.

Find out what is available when leaving school and for the long term future.

Come along and meet colleges, social enterprises, health and independence services, work finding services, services for people with very complex needs and services that support people with autism and behaviours that challenge.

Date of Event - 18th October 2017

Time - 10am - 3pm

Venue - Mountbatten Centre, Alexandra Park, Alex Way, PO2 9QA.

Function rooms - first floor - lift available

Light refreshments will be provided

DISABILITY ?



Portsmouth Disability Forum Health Café "Open Afternoon"



Tuesday 17th October 12-30pm – 3-30pm
Frank Sorrell Centre, Prince Albert Road, Portsmouth PO4 9HR

Enjoy some cakes
and nibbles



Come and see the
services we provide



Find out more about
activities taking place at
The Frank Sorrell Centre



Representatives from various organisations
will be attending to network with us and offer support!



Raising awareness on Hate Crime
and how to report in Safety

Disability Information
Advice Line



Your Views and Consultations

Getting around Portsmouth-Understanding and improving how transport works or doesn't work for Portsmouth people and visitors.

Portsmouth Disability Forum (PDF) is undertaking research on transport in and around Portsmouth to attempt to influence councillors, and provider's views on what is needed to get individuals moving easily around the city and its services.

We need your individual experiences and comments to enable us to understand the full picture of what is needed in Portsmouth.

Please complete this questionnaire to help us to achieve this.

Thank you for participating in our survey. Your feedback is important.

You can complete the survey using the link below (closing date Friday 20th October)

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Getting_around_Portsmouth

Volunteer opportunity

We are looking for volunteers for several social groups for adults with High Functioning Autism or Asperger's.

If you have autism or have knowledge of the condition and would like to gain skills in running a social group and want to volunteer we would like to hear from you.

As a volunteer you will receive;

Training

Reasonable travel costs

Ongoing support

If you are interested or would like more information

Please contact Jamie Pratt on 02380 766 162

Jamie.pratt@autismhampshire.org.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/serendipitysocialgroups/>

NEWS IN BRIEF

Contact (formerly Contact a Family)

Contact has produced a brand new guide for parents and you can get your free copy here: <https://contact.org.uk/order-your-copy-of-the-helpful-guide-for-families-with-disabled-children/>

Titled “The helpful guide for families with disabled children”, you will find information about health, benefits, support and much more!

Celebra

The Celebra website offers a wealth of information about benefits, sleep issues and advice for parents of children with brain conditions including autism.

<http://w3.cerebra.org.uk/>

The Mad Hatters Immersive Charity Art Experience

From October 21st to October 25th , 10 am to 5 pm at Action Station, Historic Dockyard.

Come and visit the world of Wonderland - for real! In 2017 we will be raising money for [The BUS Rucksack Event Portsmouth - Part 2](#) and [The LifeHouse](#) with an immersive art exhibition, taking you through the story of Alice in Wonderland, chapter by chapter.

This art exhibition is totally immersive, meaning you are allowed to touch, sit down, play and take photos. It is wheelchair accessible, and perfect for all ages - from kids who are just being read Alice in Wonderland for the first time, to the elderly who have loved Alice in Wonderland their whole life, and everyone in between.

Entry is free, and there is a donation box at the end of the exhibit, which we hope you will put some money in to, in order to help us raise as much money for our chosen charities!

The venue is wheelchair friendly. It is an immersive exhibition, so we are encouraging you to touch, sit down, get involved and take photos! Each section is very different - there are lots of different sensory things to see and touch.

https://www.facebook.com/events/1834648750112404/?acontext=%7B%22ref%22%3A%23%22%2C%22ref_newsfeed_story_type%22%3A%22regular%22%2C%22action_history%22%3A%22null%22%7D

You can keep in touch with us using the following



Website: www.portsmouthparentvoice.org



Facebook: Like our page Portsmouth Parent Voice



Twitter: You can follow us at @PparentVoice



Email ppvcoordinator@p-d-f.org.uk



Phone: 07825 185 608



Instagram: [ppvcoordinator](https://www.instagram.com/ppvcoordinator)



Pinterest: Portsmouth Parent Voice



Write: Portsmouth Parent Voice

The Frank Sorrell Centre, Prince Albert Road, Southsea, PO4 9HR