



Autumn 2023



An update from your Chair

Where has the past three months gone? With the Summer and now Autumn term behind us, I hope everyone managed to get through the holidays and what is sometimes a stressful transition back into school, especially for those who moved placements this year.

As your forum WarrPAC continue to work on your behalf engaging with professionals in Education, Health and Social Care to bring your voice to the strategic table. We have brought you face to face with some of those professional at our “check in & chat sessions” which have always been well attended. This is something we will continue to do in order for you to engage with hard to reach team leaders. We will approach all our work on your behalf with a “you said...we did” approach. You wanted more information around EHC plans and the Annual Review process. We have been working with the Local Authority and Foxwood school to produce a guidance leaflet. This is now ready for publication and will be available very soon. We are also working on adapting the short breaks tool to try to make it less complicated with more transparency around specific areas of need. We know from our own experiences as well as you bringing your concerns to us, there are areas of the Neurodevelopment pathway that are not working as well as they should. So we are meeting with consultants from the CDC and health colleagues to address this and look at how we can improve this for you.

Since the Area SEND Inspection, WarrPAC have been heavily involved in the “Implementation Plan” addressing the areas Ofsted highlighted as needing improvement. I have a representative from WarrPAC on each and every sub group which are many, not doing work as such with them but holding them to account to ensure Education, Health and Social Care do what they say the are going to do ... what Ofsted, WarrPAC and you, our members expect them to do.

These are just a few examples of the work we are involved and committed to in an effort to get things moving in the right direction. Rome wasn't built in a day as the saying goes but I can assure you that WarrPAC is there for you and my team of volunteers and I will continue with our usual, passion, dedication, empathy, compassion, work ethic impartiality and transparency, to make things better for our SEND families. I look forward to seeing more of you at our sessions and contacting us for help, information advice and guidance as well as welcoming new friends we just haven't met yet!

Jean Fitzpatrick
CHAIR WarrPAC

Working
Together with

Warrington Parents & Carers Forum is a voluntary group of enthusiastic, dedicated and experienced parents and carers of children and young people with disabilities and additional needs



WARRINGTON
Borough Council



NHS

Tell It Once!

So what have we been up to?

The team have been working with the local authority to produce **new information leaflets for our families to help parents/carers navigate the complicated process of applying for an EHCP and preparing for Annual Reviews.** We have been hearing at our sessions that a lot of families find the process very difficult and confusing. In response, we felt it would be useful to produce this information in a short and simple format to help our families understand what to expect at each stage of the process. The leaflets have been fully coproduced and will be published very soon so look out for these in your inbox and across our social media.

Our **Check in & Chat Sessions** continue to be very well attended and we would like to thank you all for coming along and giving your feedback. It has been amazing to see so many of our parent/carers attending these sessions, positively challenging professionals and sharing your experiences to work together and make a positive impact to the services our children' and young people access. Our sessions for the rest of the year are already booked and we will circulate updated sessions throughout the year to anyone who is on our mailing list, so make sure you don't miss out and keep an eye on our social media for updates!

We have added some **extra sessions** through November and December including some **Evening Sessions.** These sessions are in addition to our usual check in & Chat sessions and are specifically themed around areas that the local authority are developing and improving in response to your feedback and the SEND inspection. These areas include

Preparing For Adulthood (PFA), developing a **'Tell It Once' Approach** as well as **consultation** around plans for a **post 16 to 25 offer** being developed at the Peace Centre. Please come along to these sessions if you can, they are a great opportunity to share your experiences and help to ensure our children and young people receive the best possible support. You can find further details of our upcoming sessions on the back of this newsletter. If you are coming along please let us know via our Facebook page or by emailing devofficer@warrpac.org.



Make A Difference

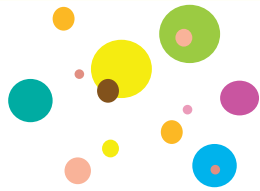
Our office is at Sandy Lane C

We work in partnership with parents and local organisations with the overall aim of improving the quality of life for our children and their families.



Could you Volunteer?

WarrPAC has an extremely large workload, we could do much more with a bigger team, If you would like the opportunity to volunteer alongside a friendly, professional, passionate, caring, fun loving team check us out, we have a great volunteer pack if you want to know more.



Volunteer Spotlight

'Being a volunteer means so much, I'm giving back for the support I've had in the past in gives me a sense of purpose, friendship and enables me to share my knowledge with other parents in order to help them with their journey.'

(Lorraine, Parent Representative, Warrington Parents and Carers.)



**Autism
Education
Trust**

Trainer

In December we are holding a **'Making Sense of Autism' Training session for parents** this training will be delivered by Chrissy from Warrington Borough council who has been working in partnership with The Autism Education Trust to deliver training around Autism and good Autism practice in education settings around Warrington. This training has been adapted to help support parents in understanding Autism and Chrissy has kindly offered to deliver this training at one of our sessions. This session will be held at Sandy Lane Children's Centre on Monday 4th December from 9.30am till around 11am, please let us know via our Facebook page or email devofficer@warrpac.org if you would like to attend.

What's On @WarrPAC



November 23
To
November 24

Tuesday 21st November - 7pm till 9pm **Alford Hall Sports & Social Club** Preparing For Adulthood Parent Carer & Professionals Evening Session

Monday 4th December - 9.30am till 12pm **Sandy Lane Children's Centre** Making Sense of Autism Parent Training Session

Monday 11th December - 10am till 12pm **Sandy Lane Children's Centre** Preparing For Adulthood Parent Carer & Professionals Daytime Session

Monday 8th January 10am till 12pm - **Sandy Lane Children's Centre** Check in & Chat Session

Friday 2nd February 10am till 12pm - **Sandy Lane Children's Centre** Check in & Chat Session

Monday 25th March 10am till 12pm - **Sandy Lane Children's Centre** Check in & Chat Session

Friday 26th April 10am till 12pm - **Sandy Lane Children's Centre** Check in & Chat Session

Monday 20th May 10am till 12pm - **Sandy Lane Children's Centre** Check in & Chat Session

Friday 21st June 10am till 12pm - **Sandy Lane Children's Centre** Check in & Chat Session

Monday 8th July 10am till 12pm - **Sandy Lane Children's Centre** Check in & Chat Session

Friday 13th September 10am till 12pm - **Sandy Lane Children's Centre** Check in & Chat Ssn.

Monday 7th October 10am till 12pm - **Sandy Lane Children's Centre** Check in & Chat Session

Monday 11th November 10am till 12pm - **Sandy Lane Children's Centre** Check in & Chat Ssn.

Please note - There will be professionals in attendance at some of the above sessions, these are yet to be confirmed and those already detailed may be subject to change. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for the most up-to-date information on these sessions.

find us on
facebook
/warrpac

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