



# PARENT & CARER SUPPORT GROUP

WALSALL, WOLVERHAMPTON &  
SURROUNDING AREAS

## NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN 2020

Welcome to our Autumn newsletter! We hope you are all staying safe and managing the transition and return to school. It is a time where we all need support; therefore, here at Parent and Carer Support Group (Walsall, Wolverhampton and Surrounding Areas), we are here to support those parents and carers of children or Adults (children) with additional needs.

We are run by parents for parents on a voluntary basis. We are building our successful community voluntary organisation (not for profit) to deliver support across the areas in all ways possible. Since our last newsletter, during the last few months we have delivered up to date:

- 135 self care packs (mug, key ring and magazine)
- Family activity packs for over 350 children with SEND and their siblings
- 'The Big night in' held bank holiday weekend saw over 80 families connect virtually and enjoy meals from the Ye Olde Toll House thanks to funding from awards for all, Wolverhampton voluntary sector council - one city fund and West midland Crime Commissioners Community Initiatives Fund
- With support from our funders Wolverhampton voluntary sector council - one city fund and West midland Crime Commissioners Community Initiatives

Fund, we were able to provide just under 200 children with special educational needs and or disabilities/health conditions with Sensory calming bags and over 200 siblings with activity packs during August 2020

- 'The Big night in' during September 2020, providing over 120 families with the opportunity to have a takeaway meal at home including choice of pizza, chip shop or fine dining experience from Ye olde toll house - thanks to funding from Awards for All Community Fund
- Home cinema packs were provided to over 120 families bringing the cinema experience to the home and provide some family respite to our registered members who successfully applied, thanks to funding from Awards for All Community Fund - we provided a choice of dvd, popcorn, crisps, sweets and chocolate for all the family
- We held 16 SEND stay and play sessions, which saw almost 40 families attend with almost 100 children accessing a Covid secure SEND play session and parents receiving support.
- We have provided almost 1000 emergency and weekly food parcels to families in need including those affected by the pandemic either financially, physically or due to isolation due to shielding
- Launched our members area on our website with built in webinar access



# PARENT & CARER SUPPORT GROUP

WALSALL, WOLVERHAMPTON & SURROUNDING AREAS

## Virtual Events

### Live sessions/webinars

Tuesday 30/9/20 @ 5pm on **Parent and Carer Support Group Walsall, Wolverhampton and Surrounding Areas Page** - PAST nurture programme - Autism with Love and Positive Autism Support & Training (Helping to put problems with Autism in the PAST)

- Our webinars will be accessible via **Zoom** (join via email link or members area on **website**) and live in **Parent and Carer Support Group Walsall, Wolverhampton and Surrounding Area facebook group** on Wednesdays from 8pm - 9pm for registered members only
- **7/10/20** Libby Hill - Small Talk Speech and Language Services
- **14/10/20** Dr Jenny Morris - SEMH Educational Consultant - Nurture Success Private Tuition and Educational Services
- **21/10/2020** Voice for Parents - Wolverhampton parent carer forum - Jayne Evans & Sarah (Chair)
- **28/10/2020** - Sarah Offley & CYP Representative - Dudley Voices for Choices - learning disabilities
- **4/11/2020** Walsall Parent Carer Forum - FACE Walsall - Jo Yarnall (Chair) Teresa Tunnell

### Online Zoom Meet-ups

Due to many members shielding and areas experiencing local lockdowns including Wolverhampton and Birmingham, we have decided to increase our online presence including virtual meet-ups, topical meetings and Webinars. We are therefore pleased to announce the following:

Grab your self care mugs or a drink and come join other SEND Parents for a friendly catch up!

- Monday Evening - 7pm - 8.30pm - via zoom
- Wednesday Morning - 11.00 - 12.30pm - via zoom

### Covid Secure Peer Support Meet-ups (2 pound per session - except park village - free meeting)

- Weekly from Tue 29/9/20 6.30 - 8pm - Five Star Community Centre, Willenhall Road, Darlaston (Pre Booking essential) - last admission 7pm due to social distancing rules of venue £2 per session
- Weekly - Tuesday 6/10/20 9.30 - 11.30am - Willenhall Chart Centre, Gomer Street, Willenhall, £2 per session
- Fortnightly - Mon 5/10/20 1pm - 2.30pm - Park Village Education Centre, Wolverhampton, WV10 (free meeting)