Issue 03 - Nov 2023



SEND Family Voice

A monthly newsletter filled with news, information and events for all things SEND in the Redcar & Cleveland area.

We are moving!

SEND Family Voice are taking up new offices in Grangetown United Hub in early November. This move allows us to have a base for parents and carers to access for events and coffee mornings. There is ample parking in front of the building as well as being on the number 64a bus route.

Grangetown United Hub boasts an under 5 play village for children, a cafe and a large function hall. Footprints in the Community are also based here providing support and assistance for families. A dedicated benefits advisor is also based at the Hub one day a week. These services are available to all residents in the Redcar and Cleveland area.

We regularly post events and information on our Facebook page and support group as well as via our membership channels. Feel free to join up and keep up to date with all the latest information from ourselves and professionals.





Join us on Thursday 9th November Anytime between 10am - 2.30pm F.R.O.G. Grangetown United Hub Derwentwater Road, TS6 7PY

All parents, carers and professionals are welcome to come along and see the venue and what facilities are available.



Your Voice

We are keen to hear your views and opinions about the SEND services in Redcar and Cleveland. Please take a moment to complete this on the "Your Voice" section of the website. Good, bad or indifferent we want to hear from you!

https://sendfamilyvoicerc.co.uk/your-voice/

News & Information

TFM Radio

SEND Family Voice we're asked to give an interview after it was announced in the news that a cross-party group of MPs have called on the Chancellor to invest heavily in SEND after the latest figures showed an additional £4.6bn was required each year to meet the demand for SEND support. You can read the full article by copying and pasting the link below into your internet browser.

https://planetradio.co.uk/tfm/local/news/teesside-parents-tired-fightingextra-send-funding-support/?fbclid=lwAR1dZoz4lQ9xdZC5zHppo6du3UQEE-Ha4lv7et-RBw3-Igj34-64mSAMTI8_aem_Afg9IPunUN40SRI5QZ4H2GR84zJ1Rly-AFpXTw4sZCSeryQXYsvmcXPq8Q0jWuQUILc

School Posters

SEND Family Voice school posters are being sent to all school, college and other relevant settings to advertise the forum and the work we do. We are keen to reach as many parents and carers as we can.



Please look out over the next few weeks and let us know when these are displayed in your local school.

> Does your child have Special Educational Needs and / or Disability? (SEND)

Do you have a concern about your child's health or development?

Speak to us today for advice, help and support.

SEND Family Voice, Redcar & Cleveland is the Parent and Carer forum, here to guide you and your family through the SEND system.

We have regular Coffee mornings, peer support groups, Learning opportunities and other events, open for everyone.

Scan the QR below for further details.

www.sendfamilyvoicerc.co.uk





North East and

Weekly Forum Update

We have started to add a new weekly forum update to our Facebook pages to inform parents and carers what members of the forum have been busy doing behind the scenes!

We will be updating this every Friday.

News & Information Cont

Concessionary Bus Passes

If you or your child has a disability you can apply for a concessionary bus pass. If you are applying for a child under the age of 18, a companion pass can be provided for a parent or carer. Please see the link below for more information and to apply

https://www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/roads-and-parking/bus-passes

CEA Cinema Card

The Card enables a disabled cinema guest to receive a complimentary ticket for someone to go with them when they visit a participating cinema.

The Card is also one way for cinemas to make sure they look after their disabled guests. If you require an adjustment to visit a cinema because of your disability, cinema staff should make them for you whether you have a CEA Card or not.

Max Cards





Max Card's for Redcar and Cleveland SEND Families (0-25 years)

Updated June 2023

The Max Card is the UK's leading discount card for families of children with special educational needs and disabilities. Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council are pleased to confirm following a successful pilot, Max Cards are available upon request (eligibility applies see page 2) to Redcar and Cleveland SEND families. Families can use their Max Card at venues across the UK to get free or discounted admission. The scheme is designed to help families save money on great days out at castles, zoos, bowling and much more



Where can I use my card?

Cards can be used at participating venue across the UK. You can view the full list of attractions that support the Max Card online at www.mymaxcard.co.uk

Redcar and Cleveland's Borough Council will be working with The Max Card Team and local venues to encourage sign up. Suggested venues can be emailed to **shortbreaks@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk**

Who can use my card?

The card can be used by the child and their carer. Venues reserve the right to ask you for proof of identity upon presentation of the card.

The CEA Card is available to applicants aged 5 years and above.

To apply, you will need: an

- <u>Proof of eligibility</u>
- A photo
- Payment of £6.00

You will need your previous card number if you wish to renew your CEA Card. You can pay for your card online or by post.

https://www.ceacard.co.uk/apply



How long can I use my Max Card for?

Your Max Card has an expiry date which is shown on the reverse of your card, cards are valid for 2 years, however, delivery and allocation of cards to families may impact on the remaining duration.





How much will the card cost?

There is no charge to families for a Max Card. The cards will be funded by Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council.

How do I apply for a Max Card?

Please email your request to Shortbreaks@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Please include the following information in your email:

- Name and date of birth of your child
- Address
- Proof of SEND status (only one of the following is needed)
 - 1. Confirmation your child has an EHCP
 - 2. Confirmation you are registered on RCBCs Disability Register*
 - 3. Name of your child's Social Worker*
 - 4. Any other evidence e.g. DLA award, proof of diagnosis
- How you found out about our Max Card Scheme

*If evidence provided is 1, 2, or 3 we will check our systems to verify eligibility



www.mymaxcard.co.uk



Send Family Voice Coffee Mornings

Come along and say hello at the next Parent and Carer coffee morning.

A safe environment for parents and carers to discuss any topics and share ideas and tips to help one another during the SEND journey. After October half term, we will be holding our coffee mornings every 2 weeks on a Wednesday.

A diagnosis related to Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) is not needed for parent and carers to attend this or any future events.

Wednesday 8th November we have a SEN Support Plan and EHCP Information Session planned with guest speakers from the local authority SEN team.

Parent & Carer Coffee Morning

Wednesday 8th November

Sen Support Plans and Education



Health and Care Plan (EHCP) Information Session

Come along to this month's parent and carer coffee morning where we will have guest speakers from Redcar and Cleveland's SEN department

F.R.O.G , Grangetown United Community Hub, Derwentwater Road, TS6 7PY

Event will run from 10am - 12.00pm and there will be free tea/coffee and light refreshments.

Queries to: infosendfamilyvoicerc@gmail.com





Derwentwater Road, TS6 7PY

Wednesday 4th October, Wednesday 8th November and Wednesday 6 December

Come along to our monthly coffee morning for parents and carers of children with special educational needs (SEN) and or disabilities. A diagnosis is not required.

All parents and carers as well as friends and family members are welcome. A safe environment where all topics are open for discussion - not just SEND.

There will also be information available to take away about Send Family Voice and other agencies.

Event will run from 10am - 12.00pm and there will be free tea/coffee and light refreshments.

Queries to: infosendfamilyvoicerc@gmail.com





Events cont

Autism Central & Daisy Chain

Free online sessions and workshops from DaisyChain which parents and carers can complete. As part of the support offered from Daisy Chain, there are weekly parent learning opportunities and Links parent support group.



 Are you looking for somewhere you looking for somewhere you looking listened to and understood?

 Autism Central is here to help.

 The Autism Central Peer Education programme is for parents, carers and personal assistants of autistic people. Daisy Chain is the Regional Hub for

Support is provided by parents and carers of autistic people who are happy to share their knowledge and experience with others.

North East and Yorkshire.

We are here to listen, offer guidance and tell you about services that are available in your local area.

Navigate you to services that can make a difference and empower you.

Increase your knowledge, understanding and provide you with skills to last.

As part of the programme, Daisy Chain will provide weekly Parent Learning Opportunities and Links Parent Support Group (based in Stockton, held during term-time) with additional sessions set up in locations across North East and Yorkshire.

3rd November - Girls and Autism / 10am-11:30am 10th November - Visuals / 10am-11:30am 17th November - Introduction to Autism / 10am-11:30am 24th November - PDA / 10am-11:30am 1st December - Transitions - Preparing for Christmas / 10am-11:30am 4th December - Transitions - Preparing for Christmas / 5pm - 7pm 8th December - Intro to Autism / / 10am-11:30am 15th December - Parent/carer Wellbeing over Christmas / 10am-11:30am 22nd December - ADHD / 10am-11:30am

27th October - Communication strategies / 10am-11:30am

Visit our website

support@daisychainproject.co.uk

01642 378461

Sensory Information Session

Please book your place via our Facebook page or email us.

Sensory Information Session

Wednesday 15th November An introductory session delivered by a qualified Occupational Therapist (OT) to raise sensory awareness and how this impacts your child or young person. Please note this is an awareness session and should not be used as a diagnosis.

F.R.O.G, Grangetown United Community Hub, Derwentwater Road, TS6 7PY Event will run from 10am - 12.00pm and there will be free tea/coffee and light refreshments.

Queries to: infosendfamilyvoicerc@gmail.com



Important Contact Numbers

Sen Services - 01642 204503

Camhs - 0300 013 2000

Shortbreaks Self referral - 01642 771247

Daisy Chain Family Support - 01642 531248 (Option 1)

Carers Together - 01642 488977

SEN Sessions



Get ready for a spine-chilling Halloween! Join us for our special SPOOKY screenings, guaranteed to give you goosebumps! 🙆 Tickets are £3.99 with popcorn and drink included. Or you can pay just £2.50 for the film only. Book your tickets here https://bit.ly/3Q7eey7

*not all titles will play at all locations, please check

Inclusive

Sessions

SENSE

Classes are fully inclusive for all abilities. Suitable for those with SEN and disability who are supported by family, carers and direct payment workers.

- Inclusive Toddler Group
- 'We will Rock You' Drumming class
- Saturday Cinema
- sensory play

COME AND JOIN US!!



area? Drop us a message on

our Facebook page to let us

know

MONDAY 9.45am - 11.15am

Inclusive Sensory Toddler Group Group for parents/carers to bring pre-schoolers to a fully inclusive, sensory setting.

£5

MONDAY 5pm

SEN Inclusive Drumming class'We will Rock You' FREE

'Let it Glow' - fully inclusive family fitness, moving to music with glow sticks FREE

Saturday Cinema. Inclusive Sensory Cinema. Contact for details. Room also available for Private Hire, sensory play and parties.

To book or for more information contact Karen: Karen@senseswellbeingcentre.co.uk 07794571933

• Senseswellbeingcentre



BOOK NOW Tickets £3.99

with popcorn & drink included!

Christmas SEN Sessions





Cherry Hill Garden & Landscape Centre 4 Sep · 🕥

We are pleased to announce this year's SEN Christmas activities have opened for booking.

These slots are designed for families who have someone with additional needs who would benefit from a quiet hour in which to enjoy their Christmas activities.

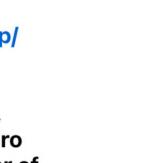
Slots are available every Sunday between 9am and 10.30am from 19th November to 10th December.

In these slots you can enjoy our regular Christmas activities of the Christmas Walk, Christmas VR ride and Santa's Grotto visits, just in a much calmer and quieter setting. To find out more information on any event all the details can be found online at

www.cherryhillgardencentre.co.uk/webshop/ events

To make a booking, please email your name, contact number and preferred Sunday date ro cherryhillpb@googlemail.com and a member of our team will give you a call to get booked in.







Quiet Santa Sessions at Beamish Museum

Beamish, The Living Museum of the North will be hosting two Quiet Santa Sessions in a sensory-friendly grotto for people with additional needs.

These sessions will take place on Sunday, 3rd December and Sunday, 10th December 2023 and will cost £8 per child (subject to availability).

Father Christmas will be welcoming children to his grotto above the bank in The 1900s Town. These sessions are aimed at people with additional needs who may prefer to meet Father Christmas away from his busier grotto at Rowley Station.

For more information, please email Samantha Swinbank, Volunteer and Access Co-Ordinator, email samanthaswinbank@beamish.org.uk or tel. 0191 370 4003.

To book, please visit https://beamish.digitickets.co.uk/event-tickets/44825?catID=44510&





Please note: these sessions are not affiliated with Daisy Chain, and no Daisy Chain staff will be present at the sessions.

Preston Park Museum & Grounds is offering two relaxed sessions to Meet Father Christmas, especially for children with additional needs and their families.

The relaxed sessions will take place in The Music Room after the museum has closed to the public.

Thurs 14 Dec & Thurs 21 Dec, 3.30pm-6.00pm

What to expect on the day

- · Enjoy a magical meeting with Father Christmas in a relaxed environment with more space and no queues
- Drop-in anytime between 3.30pm and 6.00pm.
- · Father Christmas will be sitting in his red chair next to the Christmas tree and will also be walking through the Victorian Street.
- · Children can exchange their ticket to meet Father Christmas and receive their gift at a time that is comfortable and convenient for them.
- · There will also be a self-led craft, reindeer dust activity and a selection of toys.
- · Children can get involved in as much or little as they want.

How much are tickets?

Tickets are £10 per child (including access to the museum for one child on the day of your visit) and include a small gift and a voucher for the Victorian sweet shop. Please have your email booking confirmation ready when you arrive.

How do I book tickets?

Tickets are bookable via a private web page that is password-protected, see instructions below:

- · Go to https://prestonparkmuseum.co.uk/relaxed-sessions-father-christmas/
- · You'll be directed to a protected webpage and will be prompted for a password.
- Type in Preston Park
- · You'll now be able to access the details on the webpage.
- · Go to how to book and click on book now!
- You'll be directed to Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's online booking system.
- · Select the date for your visit, click book and complete your booking and payment.

If you have any questions ahead of booking, please contact Stockton Council directly.

Very best wishes, **Daisy Chain**