

Short Breaks Forum - 9th September 2022

In attendance

Local Authority: Sam Ives, Beth Morgan, Kate Wright

Parent Carers: Andy, Elsa

Short Breaks Newsletter

Beth was introduced to the group as the new Short Breaks Coordinator in the Children with Disabilities Team and the aim of the role was detailed:

- Beth is creating a monthly newsletter to be shared with parents containing a calendar of upcoming events or targeted activities and any hot topics
- Parents stated that My Options had created a calendar previously, but it was not easy to access on the website
- LA acknowledged that it needs to be shared directly with the target audience
- Beth to put together a draft and share with the group for feedback
- LA are reinstating the CWD register, and links will be shared when registration is open
- CWD register and targeted activities sign up will be part of the same form to minimise the number of forms parents are filling in
- Parents would like an option on form for details to be passed over to Adult's Services when they reach 18 as often, they drop off the radar

Play Area Survey

We discussed the play area survey and shared the link with the parents, encouraging them to fill it in and share on their Facebook group. 'Take part in our 5-minute survey to have your say on local play areas, recreation sites and open spaces. Tell us what you like, dislike and what you would love to see more of: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/OJY54Q/>'.

Town Park

Parents discussed the option of having a sign in certain parts of the play area specifying that CWD have priority as the rest of the area can be accessed by all. Following the previous meeting, parents requested an update on the Bike Hub. Beth to email Kellie Thompson and feedback.

Short Breaks Marketplace Event

A date will be set for a Short Breaks Marketplace event.

Also muted the idea of a regular 'SEND surgery' for parents to book a face-to-face appointment to discuss topics such as targeted activities, concerns regarding transport etc. It was acknowledged that parents would prefer face to face rather than emails or phone conversations.

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'We Are Coming to See You' Leaflet

Beth will design a leaflet to be sent to parents and children in preparation for visits from the CWD Team. There will be a leaflet for parents/carers and an easy read version for children. Parents commented on what they would like to see on the leaflet and what would attract their children. They want it to be engaging, visually pleasing with simple language and minimal jargon. Parents would like a section of questions that will be asked to give them time to prepare and ensure their child understands. Beth to create a draft and share with the group at a future meeting.

Our Short Break Forum

We will discuss the format of the meetings at the next meeting to decide whether we need to change the date or time and the attendees. Parents asked for the 'maintenance Monday' information to be shared with these minutes.

Next meetings:

5 th Oct 6-8pm	TBA, with SEN Services
4 th Nov 12-2	The Pavilion, Hollinswood, with My Options
7 th Dec 6-8pm	TBA, with SEN Services

Getting in touch

We would love to see as many of you as possible in the forum. If that is not possible, and you wish to ask a Short Breaks service question please get in touch via the Short Breaks email: Shortbreaks@telford.gov.uk and we will address it in the following forum. Individual case issues should be addressed to your case worker.

Useful Links:

Childminders [Live Well Telford Childminders](#) or Family Connect on 01952 385385

Childrens Autism Hub - [About Children's Autism Hub | Telford Autism Hub](#) 01952 262062

SEND Activities & Events page [Activities & Events](#)

PODS [Home - PODS \(podstelford.org\)](http://podstelford.org)

My Options [My Options - Activity, Wellbeing & Care - Home | Facebook](#)

SNAC (Special Needs Activity Centre) [SNAC Telford: Special Needs Activity Centre | Facebook](#)