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NEWSLETTER

March 2026

A Busy Month for Your Parent Carer Forum

March has been a busy and productive month for the Parent Carer Forum. We've been out in the community attending school coffee mornings and key events, including the CANDDID Conference - NHS Fit for the Future, and the Neurodiversity & Mental Health Conference, where we were proud to present and we hosted our Benefits & Support webinar.

Alongside this, we've taken part in key meetings such as the SEND Partnership Board and post-inspection discussions, ensuring parent carer voices are heard at every level.

We also attended National Network meetings to strengthen our knowledge and feed back your views on SEND reforms.

Behind the scenes, we are reviewing responses from the 2026 PCF Survey, which we will use to influence policy locally and nationally in the upcoming SEND reform consultation. Our full report due in April.

A huge thank you to our volunteers, we couldn't do this without you.

PCF Team x



PCF News & Events



PCF Blogs and Updates



Parent Carer Forum
Cheshire West & Chester

Virtual Training
Thur 30th April 2026
10am – 11.30am



Supporting Education: SEND Parent Training Webinar

Gain practical advice and confidence
to support your child in school.

What We'll Cover:

Getting Support from School

How school support SEND children

Sensory Needs in School

Simple strategies and adjustments to
support your child's sensory needs

One Page Profiles

Using strengths-based profiles to
improve understanding and support

Practical • Supportive • Informative

Helping you feel confident working with your child's school

Booking link <https://forms.office.com/e/V23Am8Stsu?origin=IprLink>

www.pcfcheshirewest.org/whats-on



Parent Carer Forum
Cheshire West & Chester

Free Parent/Carer Event
Tuesday 12th May 2026
10:00am – 2:00pm

Education, Inclusion & Mental Health

What to Expect

Find out what's happening locally in education

Learn what support is available in Education and
Mental Health and how to access it

Meet local education and mental health services at
our marketplace

SEND Reforms – What You Need to Know

We'll be sharing a clear overview of the Schools White
Paper and SEND reforms, including:

- What the proposals mean for families
- What could change in the future
- How you can have your say

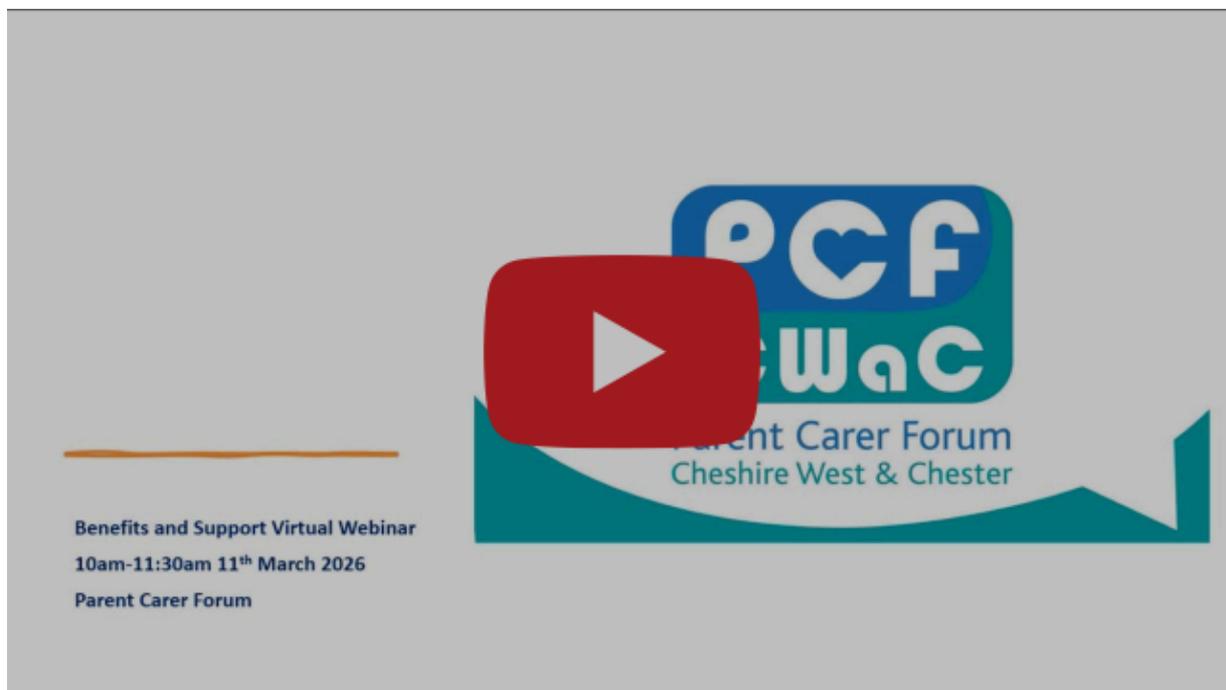
At: Vicars Cross Golf Club, Chester
Tarvin Rd, Christleton, Chester CH3 7HN

Free Event - All Welcome - Free Parking - Wheelchair Accessible

www.pcfcheshirewest.org/whats-on

Education & Mental Health Forum: [Book Here!](#)

PCF Blogs and Updates!



Benefits and Support Webinar: Connecting Families to SEND Support in Cheshire West and Chester

We recently hosted a Benefits and Support virtual webinar to help families understand the wide range of support available for children and young people with SEND across Cheshire West and Chester.

The session brought together a number of organisations and professionals who work with families every day, sharing information, advice and practical support.

Because many parents and carers are balancing work, school runs and caring responsibilities, the webinar was recorded so families who could not attend live can watch it back later.

These sessions are designed to ensure families know what support exists locally and how to access it.

[View the slides here at the bottom of the blog!](#)



Interface Between Neurodiversity & Mental Health

Jayne and Rachel, parent carer volunteers, attended this event alongside professionals from across Cheshire and Merseyside to explore how to better support neurodivergent children and young people to access mental health services. Rachel spoken passionately of her experiences with neurodivergent children and mental health issues.

[Interface between neurodiversity & mental health blog](#)



Parent/Carer Coffee Events

*There are a number of parent carer coffee events happening in Cheshire West and Chester, where our volunteers attend regularly including at the **children centres**, **SPACE charity** and **Koala**. Please keep an eye on our website where we will advertise them along with other SEND coffee events in the borough.*

Co-Production



SEND REFORM

Putting children and young people first



SEND Reform National Consultation

The Government has launched a national consultation on the future of SEND, and we are actively involved in feeding back our families' experiences, and conversations regarding the consultation, through the National Network Parent Carer Forum.

Join Us – SEND Reform Discussion 12th May | Education & Mental Health Forum: We'll be hosting a SEND Reform session to help families understand what this means, including the consultation, what happens next, and space for your feedback.

We're exploring additional ways to reach out and gather your views specifically on the consultation. We'll share more details as soon as our plans are in place.

SEND Reform Engagement Events

The Council for Disabled Children (CDC), alongside the Department for Education, is hosting a series of online and in-person events as part of the SEND Reform consultation.

These sessions are a chance for parents, carers and professionals to share their views. Each event includes an overview of the proposals and breakout discussions on key themes.

[calendar/send-reform-putting-children-and-young-people](#)

Reassurance for families

nothing is changing right now. The White Paper is not law it's a 12-week consultation, giving you the chance to influence what happens next. Any changes would still need legislation.

If you have questions, please get in touch. You can also share your views with the Government, even one response makes a difference.

[SEND Reform Easy Read: Have your Say!](#)



Tap for more information!

Padlet

LiveWellCheshireWest

Live Well Newsletter March 2026

The Live Well Newsletter will be published bi-monthly to provide you with latest updates and information. It is also your opportunity to get involved, have your say and improve our Live Well/Local Offer Cheshire West Website.





LiveWellCheshireWest

Spring/Easter Term Activities and Events

Here you will find activities and events during spring/Easter half term holiday.



Early Help Navigator Service

We know life isn't always easy. Sometimes you don't know where to go for help. You may need a bit of advice or support, or simply a friendly face to chat to about something that's bothering you.

**Early Help Navigators
are here to help**



Scan this QR code for details of drop-in sessions in your area, or to request an appointment.

We can:

Provide help, support and advice with family life

Be a listening ear

Signpost you to local and national support

Help you fill out forms

Attend GP appointments with your family

Provide food and baby bank referrals

Visit: www.livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/services/5751

or phone 0151 556 8378



**Cheshire West
and Chester**



Autism **P**actical **S**upport

A circle of support for autistic individuals
and their families, at every stage of life.

disability
positive



Get Involved





Join Our Growing Team at the Parent Carer Forum!

Are you a parent or carer of a child with additional needs or a disability in Cheshire West and Chester? We would love you to come and join our team, between us all we have a wealth of lived experience navigating the SEND system. There is someone in our team that understands and can help guide you in the right direction.

We are looking for enthusiastic individuals to join our team to help represent the perspectives of parents and carers in our community. Your feedback directly influences local services and SEND policies.

Call us on [07900840867](tel:07900840867) Visit our Facebook page, YouTube channel, website or email us to find out more.



Information Advice and Support Service (IASS)

Tel [0300 123 7001](tel:03001237001)

<https://www.livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/Services/1279>

SEN Team

Tel [0151 337 6505](tel:01513376505)

senteam@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

SEN Transport

Tel [01244973637](tel:01244973637)

Tel [01244 973564](tel:01244973564)

sentransport@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Starting Well

<http://www.startingwell.org.uk/>

Children's and Young Peoples Mental Health Services

<https://www.mymind.org.uk/services-and-contacts/cheshire-services/cheshire-cypmhs>

IPSEA- Call-in Helpline

Tel [0300 22 5899](tel:0300225899)

<https://www.ipsea.org.uk/Pages/Category/service-overview>

CONTACT Advice Line

Tel [0808 808 3555](tel:08088083555)

<https://contact.org.uk/>



Parent Carer Forum
Cheshire West & Chester

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Info@pcfcheshirewest.org

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