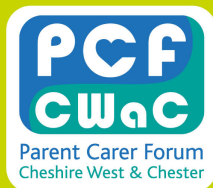


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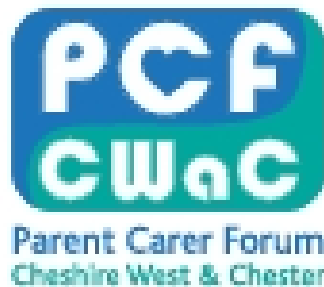
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[PCF Newsletter Signup!](#)



NEWSLETTER

May 2026



2026 Survey results

A Message From Our Chair, Julie Duff

We are incredibly grateful to the many families who contributed to this year's survey.

Since our last report in 2024, there have been important local and national developments in SEND. Your voices have played a key role in shaping conversations with the Local Authority, Integrated Care Board, councillors, and MPs, helping to influence ongoing improvements.

This report highlights what's changed, where challenges remain, and where families are beginning to see progress. It also shows how your feedback continues to drive our work as an independent, parent-led forum.

Thank you again for being part of this important work.

[PCF Survey 2026 Results](#)



PCF News & Events



*For all our upcoming events, visit: [Parent Carer Forum](#) | [Whats On](#) To help keep you **up to date** with everything we're involved in, we've also created a **Blog & Noticeboard** area on our website, where you can find the **latest news, updates, and insights** from the PCF team.*

[PCF Blogs and Updates](#)



Parent Carer Forum
Cheshire West & Chester

Virtual Forum
Tues 9th June 2026
10am – 11.30am

Short Breaks & Charitable Support

Find out about short breaks, respite services, inclusive activities and how to access support from local charities...

What is defined as Short Breaks / Wraparound Care and what the Local Authority is required to provide

What additional support is offered through the voluntary and community sector.

Book online on our website

[**www.pcfcheshirewest.org/whats-on**](http://www.pcfcheshirewest.org/whats-on)

Come and join us for an informative online session with local charities and the latest on Cheshire West & Chester's short breaks offers.

[Short Breaks & Charities: Book Here!](#)



A Day of Connection, Collaboration and Collective Voice

We'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who came along and supported the day. It was a powerful and positive space, bringing together parents, carers and professionals with a shared aim: improving support, inclusion and outcomes for children and young people with SEND.

If you weren't able to attend, or would like to revisit the day, you can watch highlights from the day in the video above

[Education Inclusion & Mental Health Forum Highlights and Slides](#)



11:30am 30th April 2026

Support in Education
Webinar

Catch Up on Our Support in Education Webinar

Missed a webinar? No problem. Our YouTube channel has a growing library of training videos and webinars you can watch anytime, at your own pace.

We've covered a range of topics that families have told us matter most, including sensory processing, eating challenges, trauma, and much more — with new content added regularly.

No sign-up needed. Just head to our channel, browse the playlist, and share anything useful with families, partners, school staff, or support workers.

[PCF YouTube Channel](#)





SEND Parent Carer Coffee Morning

Starting Well and the Parent Carer Forum are hosting a friendly SEND drop-in coffee morning.

Come along for a relaxed chat, meet other parent carers, and find out about services that can help you and your family.

In attendance:

Early Navigation Team • Starting Well • PCF • West Cheshire Community Learning Disability Team

Everyone welcome, we'd love to see you there!

Venue: Stanlaw Abbey Children's Centre

Alnwick Dr, Ellesmere Port CH65 9HE

www.pcfcheshirewest.org/whats-on

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



We've Had Our Say on SEND Reform — Shaped by You!

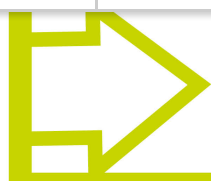
The Government is consulting on major changes to England's SEND system, and as your Parent Carer Forum, we made sure Cheshire West and Chester families were at the heart of our response.

Drawing on the lived experiences of over 760 families gathered through our 2026 Survey, tabletop discussions, letters, and direct conversations, we submitted a detailed response covering early identification, inclusive education, specialist support, EHCPs, workforce, funding, and accountability.

To make sure nothing was lost, we submitted both a full PDF response and completed the official online consultation form, so our evidence is comprehensive and fully aligned with the Government's process.

Thank you to everyone who shared their experiences. Your voice is in there!

[Read PCF's response to the consultation here!](#)



Signposting



Tap the images for more information!

Live Well Newsletter May 2026

Live Well Newsletter May 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.

<https://padlet.com/LiveWellCheshireWest/live-well-newsletter-may-2026-hbr7g8seb9hyi7uw>



Neurodiversity Hub
for Children and Young People 0-25



If you can't find what you were looking for, please contact:
Emma Walker
Live Well Coordinator (Children's)
emma.walker@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

We're here to help. On this page, you'll find:

- Crisis and urgent help when you need it most
- Guidance on when and how to reach out
- Peer support and helpful apps
- Ideas for self-care and everyday support
- Local and national services available to you
- Information on referred services
- Support for parents and carers



Live Well
Cheshire West



Energise

by Endorphins

May holiday SEND sessions in Chester

Fun and inclusive SEND sessions will include a variety of activities that meet your young person's needs. The activities may include, indoor and outdoor play, sports, arts & crafts and sensory play. This May holiday we have lots of plans for themed based fun!

Younger (Ages 4-11) Tuesday 26th: 10:00 - 13:00
Older (Ages 12-18) Wednesday 27th: 10:00 - 13:00

Dorin Park School - Wealstone Lane, CH2 1HD
If you would like to book a place or to find out more please contact: bookings@endorphins.uk

Energise

by Endorphins

May holiday SEND sessions in Winsford

Fun and inclusive SEND sessions will include a variety of activities that meet your young person's needs. The activities may include, indoor and outdoor play, sports, arts & crafts and sensory play. This May holiday we have lots of plans for themed based fun!

Younger (Ages 4-11) Friday 29th: 10:00 - 13:00
Older (Ages 12-18) Friday 29th: 13:30 - 16:30

Images Youth & Community Centre - Nixon Drive, CW7
If you would like to book a place or to find out more please contact: bookings@endorphins.uk



ENGLAND
FOOTBALL

SEND HOLIDAY CAMP

is open to book!

*join us for football and
creative activities with
our uefa & fa qualified coaches.*

**all for £14 per day
or £50 for the four days!!**

dates: monday 27th july-thursday 30th july

age: 5-12 year olds

head to our website for more details.

*please contact mathew.griffiths@cheshirefa.com
for more information*



The Link Between ADHD & Dyslexia

Join us for our free webinar.

[Register now](#)

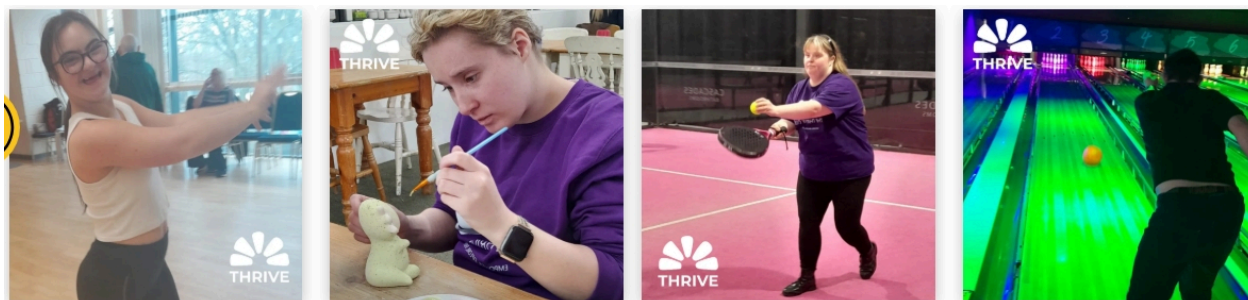
The logo for Disability Positive is set within a dark purple, rounded rectangular background. The word "disability" is written in a smaller, white, lowercase sans-serif font. Below it, the word "positive" is written in a larger, white, lowercase sans-serif font. A small, light green smiley face is positioned under the letter 'i' in "positive".

disability
positive

Disability Positive are commissioned by the Council to **support families** in accessing **funding for short breaks and activities** for their children and young people. They also offer a range of wider support, including **social clubs and advocacy** services for families.



Inclusive, accessible, high-quality learning, personal development and social activities for children, young people and adults with disabilities in Cheshire.



Down Syndrome Cheshire is excited to welcome young people and adults (16+) with learning disabilities, autism, and Down syndrome to experience Thrive Club.

At Thrive Club, we focus on what really matters:

- 👍 The right environment
- 👍 The right support
- 👍 The right opportunities to grow

Because every person deserves more than just a place to go they deserve a place to thrive.

Monday to Friday | 🕒 9:30am – 4:00pm

DSC Hub, Denton Drive, Northwich CW9 7LU

From cooking and volunteering to fitness, digital skills, and building social connections, every day is designed to inspire, empower, and support independence.

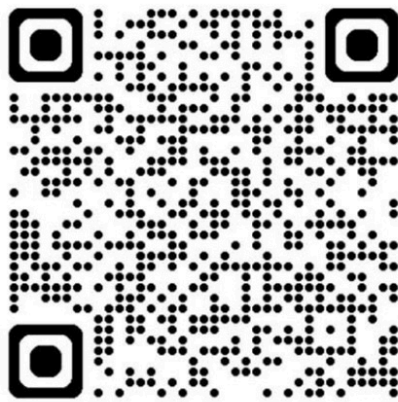
To find out more or register interest, email Lucy at: lucym@dscheshire.org.uk



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](http://www.livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/services/5751)

or phone 0151 556 8378



**Cheshire West
and Chester**

contact

For families
with disabled children


Support for Families – You're Not Alone

Looking for guidance, reassurance, or just someone who understands?

CONTACT provide online information and advice on a wide range of topics, including:

- ✦ Benefits
- ✦ Early years
- ✦ Education & learning
- ✦ Social care
- ✦ Money matters

...and much more.

 **Helpline Support:** The helpline is open to parent carers across the UK with a disabled child aged 0–25. Your child can have any type of disability or additional need, and no diagnosis is required.

Listening Ear Service

Need someone to talk to? We offer 1:1 telephone appointments for emotional support—because sometimes being heard makes all the difference.

Brighter Beginnings

At the start of your journey? Our workshop series supports parent carers in the early years, helping you navigate challenges and build confidence for the road ahead.

 **Reach out, connect, and access the support you deserve.**

[Contact: the charity for families with disabled children](#)



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

Our mailing address is:

Info@pcfcheshirewest.org

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)