



**NPFG**

Northants Parent Forum Group

# What is a Parent Carer Forum?

A Parent Carer Forum (PCF) is a group of parents and carers of disabled children who work with

- local authorities
- education settings
- health providers and
- other providers

to make sure the services they plan and deliver meet the needs of disabled children and their families.

- One of 151 Parent Carer Forums in the UK
- Part of the East Midlands Regional Network of 9 local authority regions:

Leicester

Derby City

Nottingham City

Lincolnshire

Rutland

Leicestershire

Derbyshire

Nottinghamshire

Northamptonshire



Formed under the initiative of “Aiming High” in 2008 the parent carer forums are now a crucial partner to ensure the success of the recent SEND Reforms.

- NPFG is a voluntary organisation representing parent/carers of children and young people with SEN and/or Disabilities up to the age of 25 living in Northamptonshire.
- Funded by the Department of Education, we receive a grant of £15,000 a year which is administered through Contact a Family.

# Activities / Successes

- We held our first conference in November 2012 at the Ramada Inn in Northampton to find out local issues with SEND services.
- An Open Space event took place in December 2013 at the Bee Hive in Kingsthorpe to gather more information
- An Education themed “Solutions” event took place in July 2014 at the Saints Rugby Ground in Northampton where parent carers and professionals worked jointly in workshops to find solutions to current issues
- Subsequently a Health and Social Care themed “Solutions” event took place in November 2014 at Wicksteed Park, Kettering

# Workshop titles included:

- Respite Care
- Social Care Assessment
- Activities and short break services
- CAMHS
- Community Paediatric Services
- Therapies (Physio, OT and SALT)
- Assessment and Diagnosis pathways

- Findings of all the above engagement opportunities were summarised and presented to the Disabled Children's and Young People's Delivery Group (DCYPDG)
- This document has greatly influenced the 2015/16 "Service Plan" for SEND provisions
- Now an identified need can access a service (previously there was a need for a diagnosis)
- NPFG has been advocating for a disabled children's sitting service which has now been incorporated into the Carers Strategy



# Working Group Involvement

In addition to the DCYPDG our involvement include:

- SEND Area Inspection Board and Participation Group
- Education & Health Working Group, Transport & Local Offer Focus Groups
- High Needs Funding Panel
- Young Healthy Mind Partnership Board and Sub Group
- Carers Partnership Board and Commissioning Group
- IS Governance Board
- [2016 NPFG meeting log \(Sept16\).xlsx](#)

# SummerSENDSation Event

In September 2015 we teamed up with NCC's Local Offer, IASS and Northamptonshire Sport to co-produce the

## SummerSENDSation Event

A family fun and information day at Northampton College.

The feedback of 500+ attendees encouraged us to organise a repeat in 2017

# Please support NPFG by:

- Letting us know what works and what does not work for you.
- We organised a few P2P engagement events but plan to join existing groups in the future. If you know of any gatherings of SEND parents please let us know.
- Share our information with your networks.
- Contribute to surveys etc. and make your voice heard.
- Get involved - we have a 3 tier membership structure:
  - Steering Group Members
  - Associate Members and our
  - Parent/ Carer Database
- Like us on Facebook and sign up to our e-bulletin to receive our communications

# Why?

- Being part of a group of like minded people with similar challenges and aims for their children
- Networking and information sharing opportunities
- Your opinion counts – remember you are an expert for your child, nobody knows your child or young person better than you
- With tighter budgets it is even more important that the money is spent in services that matter to people
- It's rewarding to be involved in achieving something positive
- Fantastic training opportunities
- Expense and remuneration payments

To find out more or to get involved please

- visit our website [www.npfg.co.uk](http://www.npfg.co.uk)
- find us on Facebook NPFG
- or call 07745 - 249094

# Financial Overview

## Income & Expenditure for year end March 31st 2016

	2016.00	2015.00	
Balance brought forward	1506.53		2327.53
<b>INCOME</b>			
Department of Education	15000.00	15000.00	
Donations	613.25	226.14	
Discretionary grant	1279.00	2085.00	
Bank Interest	1.68	4.52	
<b>Total</b>	<b>16893.93</b>	<b>17315.66</b>	
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Events	2947.91	2455.50	
Training	450.00	500.00	
Venue hire/meetings	1639.63	1828.68	
Development Info & Resources	2411.85	2515.31	
Web Development	1250.00	2239.68	
Parent Carer expenses	1120.00	1611.37	
Parent Carer Remuneration	1116.23	1267.76	
Infrastructure	891.22	1258.10	
Admin	4440.00	2818.26	
Hard to Reach	310.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>16576.84</b>	<b>16494.66</b>	
Surplus	317.09	821.00	
Year End Balance	2644.62	2327.53	
Bank	2636.66	2276.39	
Cash	7.96	51.14	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2644.62</b>	<b>2327.53</b>	