

OCTOBER 2025

Listen 4 Change Newsletter



Contact Listen 4 Change:

Website : www.listen4change.uk

Email: listen4change@outlook.com

Facebook private group -

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1815692118888096>

Facebook page - Listen4Change, St Helens Parent Carer
Forum | Saint Helens | Facebook

JOIN US FOR A COFFEE & CHAT – YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Each month, Listen 4 Change hosts daytime and evening coffee events for parent carers of children and young people (aged 0–25) with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND).

A relaxed space to connect with other parent carers, share experiences, and talk openly about local services.

Your feedback is shared by Parent Reps to help shape better support.

Whether you want to influence change or simply chat—we'd love to see you.



📍 Drop in and say hello:

Wonderland Community Centre cic
Canal St, Saint Helens WA10 3JQ

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Up and coming events for 2025

Tuesday 21st October - coffee evening

6.30-8pm Wonderland Community Centre WA10 3JQ

St Helens Council Head of SEND, Intervention & Inclusion and the Assistant Director of Education & Learning will be attending this event to speak with parent carers about the positive actions being taken as part of the 2024-2027 SEND Strategy, to answer any questions you may have and to listen to your feedback. This is also a great opportunity to meet and chat with other parent carers in an informal setting. No need to book, just drop-in!

Friday 7th November - Coffee morning

10am-12pm Wonderland Community Centre WA10 3JQ

St Helens Council's Inclusion Manager from the Education and TESSA Team will be attending to share information, to listen to your feedback and to answer any questions

Tuesday 25th November - Coffee evening

6.30-8pm Wonderland Community Centre WA10 3JQ

Are you a Parent Carer of a child or young person with Special Educational Needs and/or a Disability (SEND) aged 0-25 in St Helens?

Meet other parent carers in a relaxed setting for a drink, a chat and help shape better SEND services. Your feedback is shared with service leads."

Friday 5th December- Coffee morning

10am-12pm Wonderland Community Centre WA10 3JQ

Are you a Parent Carer of a child or young person with Special Educational Needs and/or a Disability (SEND) aged 0-25 in St Helens?

Meet other parent carers in a relaxed setting for a drink, a chat and even a game of bingo

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Listen 4 Change: What We've Been Up To in September

- We worked with the Senior Commissioning Manager of the Neurodevelopmental Pathway (NDP) to plan workshops to inform parent carers about the proposed changes to the NDP and to gather their feedback. Our first workshop - an online webinar - received lots of feedback from those parent carers that attended.
- We welcomed the Children's Commissioner for St Helens Council Children's Services to our coffee morning to listen to your feedback on services for Children and Young People with SEND.
- We worked with St Helens Council to plan the Preparation for Adulthood daytime and evening Forums on the 23rd September to ensure the information being shared was relevant to parent carers and answered your questions around preparing your young person for adulthood.
- We attended the Cheshire & Merseyside regional meeting of Parent Carer Forum Leads to discuss SEND services across Cheshire & Merseyside and how they are meeting the needs of children, young people and their families with particular focus on a new project across the region to make parent carer assessments more consistent and work being undertaken to improve children's experiences in healthcare.
- We met with the Director of Children's Services to discuss feedback from parent carers that has been shared with us at recent events

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- We attended the SEND Board Meeting to hear updates from local partners on developments around a SEND Data Dashboard and the Neurodevelopmental Profiling Tool as well as updates on EHCP performance, the early notification duty on health professionals to notify the local authority of children who may have SEND, The Bridge Centre offer and to share parent carers thoughts around these areas.
- We held a coffee evening with the Director of Children's Services and the Council's Lead for School Transport to inform parent carers about changes to the Council's Home-School/College Transport policy, to answer questions and to listen to parent carers feedback about the service.
- We attended our regular Keeping in Touch meeting with senior leaders from education, health and social care, chaired by the Director of Children's Services, and provided feedback/asked for updates on issues parent carers have shared with us around home/school transport, short breaks and overnight respite, waiting times for the ND Pathway and other key issues.
- We attended the Autism in Schools Steering Group to discuss next steps and hear updates about the NDP Profiling Tool and from TESSA
- We attended a meeting about making Haydock Library a more inclusive and SEND friendly space

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Preparing for Adulthood Event

Thank you for attending the Preparing for Adulthood Event. We hope you found the sessions helpful in understanding the support available as young people move into adult life. The information from the presentation have now been added to the SEND Information Hub. You can visit this here: [SEND Information Hub - Preparing for Adulthood Event](#)

Children and young people Mental Health Survey

Cheshire and Merseyside NHS are inviting you to take part in a short survey (just 10–15 minutes) that will directly influence how emotional wellbeing and early mental health support is funded and delivered for children and young people aged 5–25.

This work will help shape the region's youth strategy for years to come. If the right help isn't there yet, we want to know so we can try to make it better. Your voice matters - your answers will help us improve services for you and others.

The link for the survey is - <https://forms.office.com/e/fWKekxYJcJ>

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**iSupport children's rights-based standards for improving
children's experiences in healthcare**

iSupport is supported by an international group of health professionals, academics, young people, parents, child rights specialists, psychologists and youth workers who are all passionate about the health and wellbeing of children, especially when they interact with healthcare services. The Standards are based around principles for relatively simple ways to reduce the trauma experienced by some children and young people when undergoing health procedures. [ISUPPORT | Children's rights in health care](#)

The iSupport team are working with services across the Cheshire & Merseyside region to try and help make using health and social care services better. Please complete the survey to help them identify which services you think iSupport should visit first! [Making Services Better for Children and Young People - Parent Carer Survey](#)

Cheshire & Merseyside Neurodiversity report

Cheshire West Voluntary Action (CWVA) led on the coordination of a children and young people's neurodiversity pathway engagement programme across the Cheshire and Merseyside region.

The aim of the engagement was to hear and use the voice of neurodivergent children, young people and their families to influence the redesign of the current offer across Cheshire & Merseyside.

The findings reveal a range of systematic issues and will inform the Cheshire & Merseyside Neurodivergent Children & Young People Pathway, Oversight Group and associated workstreams.

The report can be accessed using this link:

<https://www.cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk/media/b0ijhzid/cwva-cyp-neurodiversity-report-24.pdf>

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ARFID resources / tools

These resources are aimed at Autistic children and young people and those with intellectual disability who have diagnosed or suspected ARFID (Avoidant/Restrictive Food Intake Disorder).

They do not replace medical or therapeutic advice. There are many factors which may underlie selective, avoidant or restrictive eating. If you have concerns please discuss these with your GP.

<https://www.canddid.nhs.uk/arfid>

Kidz to Adultz North – Free Event in Liverpool

Wednesday 3rd December 2025 | ACC Liverpool | 9.30am – 4.00pm

Free entry | Parking available | Fully accessible

One of the UK's largest free events for children and young people with disabilities and additional needs is returning to Liverpool this winter. Explore over 100 exhibitors, specialist equipment, services, and expert advice. This year's focus is navigating key transitions – from education and employment to greater independence.

- ✓ CPD-certified seminars
- ✓ Fun inclusive activities, Santa's Grotto & Bubble Ology
- ✓ Exciting competitions with prizes at M&S Bank Arena

Perfect for families, carers, professionals, SENCOs, and therapists.

👉 Register free and find out more: [Kidz to Adultz North](#)

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St Helens IASS



St Helens IASS is a statutory service providing free information, advice and support on matters relating to children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). The service is offered to children and young people with SEND, and their parents/carers

Please use the online form to help the team deal with your query in the most efficient way. Parents can contact the service, attend a SEND drop in and make a self-referral

<https://forms.office.com/e/ahV5HQfz6E>

More information can be found here

<https://familyinfodirectory.sthelens.gov.uk/kb5/sthelens/directory/service.page?id=CKytboDDiEw>

Neurodevelopment pathway drop ins



Mersey Care
NHS Foundation Trust

Come along to one of our drop in sessions in St Helens.

Our team will answer questions you have about the neurodevelopment pathway process.

You don't need to be using our service, you can drop in if you have any questions to ask about this.

We look forward to meeting you.

Tuesdays at Parr Children's Centre and Central Link Family Hub
See details and times below

12 August at Parr Children's Centre, 9am to 12 noon.

23 September at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

25 November at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

26 August at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

7 October at Parr Children's Centre, 9am to 12 noon.

9 December at Parr Children's Centre, 9am to 12 noon.

9 September at Parr Children's Centre, 9am to 12 noon.

21 October at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

18 November at Parr Children's Centre, 9am to 12 noon.

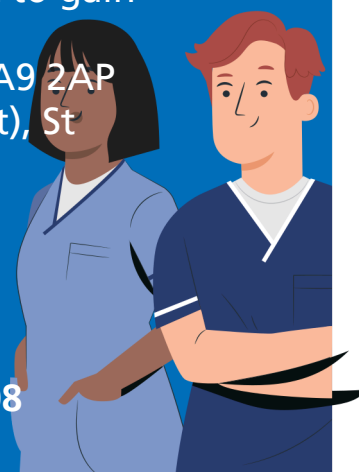
16 December at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

We work with children and young people with complex neurodevelopmental difficulties, who need an assessment to gain a better understanding of their needs.

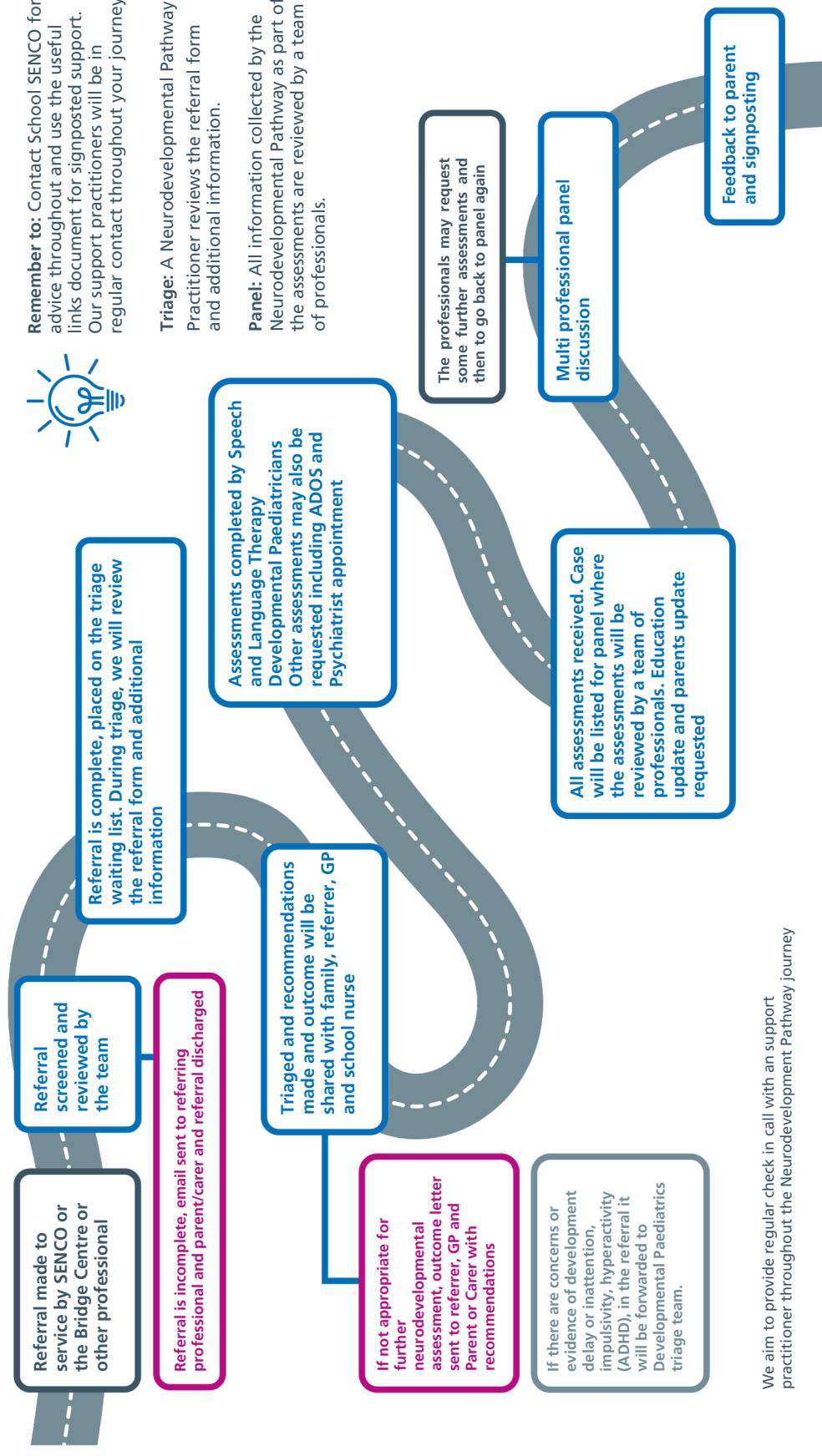
Parr Children's Centre, Ashtons Green Drive, St Helens, WA9 2AP
Central Link Family Hub, Westfield Street, (off Peter Street), St Helens, WA10 1QF

If you need more information you can contact us on or email: mcn-tr.sthelensneuropathway@nhs.net

01744 415 608



Journey through the Neurodevelopment Pathway



We aim to provide regular check in call with an support practitioner throughout the Neurodevelopment Pathway journey

Beyond and ISupport are working together to make health and social care services across Cheshire and Merseyside better for children and young people.

The ISupport standards call for children to be provided with information, given choices, have their views heard and be treated with respect and kindness.



Do health and social care services work well for your child or is there room for improvement?

Let us know by scanning this QR code and answering a few questions.
More info once you scan!

Your views matter and will help decide what services we should focus on. If you would like to know more or get involved as a Parent Ambassador then _____
email Lucy on brayl@edgehill.ac.uk



To learn more about the ISupport standards scan here
or visit www.isupportchildrensrights.com



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The ISupport standards call for children to be provided with information, given choices, have their views heard and be treated with respect and kindness.

Do your appointments with professionals work for you or could they be better?

Let us know by scanning and completing this QR Code. More info once you scan!



Your voice matters!

Could you get involved as a Young Person Ambassador?

Email Lucy at brayl@edgehill.ac.uk



To learn more about the ISupport standards scan here or visit www.isupportchildrensrights.com

