

Meeting at Kendal Childrens Centre

Jol wardle, Karen Hull, Tess Sachel, JC, Colin Ryan, Christine Hones, G P, S P, Richard Westwell, Jon Parnaby, Debbie Armstrong, Claire Borthwick, Shirley Gilpin.

Welcome and introductions

19th April Conference at the lakes Hotel, Penrith. For parents with children with additional needs. There will be a number of key professionals there for parents to ask questions and find out more information. Areas from Cumbria, including South Lakes, will be feeding back what has happened in their area since the last meeting. There will be a summary of this meeting sent to each person who attends and copies will be available to those who are unable to make it on that day.

Car share may be available if you need a lift or can offer a lift please get in touch with Shirley 07795346632. Mileage and child care costs re out of pocket expenses will be re-imbursed.

The Saturday meeting on the 16th January 2010 11am to 1pm was very well attended. Looking ahead the next weekend meeting will be on the 20th March however it was felt this was too early so another Saturday meeting will be arranged at Sandgate school preferably on the same day as the Cosmic kids group meets. Shirley to arrange with Julia.

The Access fund of £300 is available for families in need. This is for individuals within a family, per person per year and available to help purchase specialist equipment and to help children access mainstream activities eg fishing. This is not just available to children with additional needs. (From April 2010 to March 2011)

Oaklea trust has been successful in their tender bid re delivering services for families however we will know more after 30th March (ratification by cabinet) Points to monitor are range of ages and abilities/disabilities and sustainability very important for the longer term future.

The group was anxious that any money left over should be spent rather than given back. The Bendrigg lodge proposal was well supported by parents yet the funding not secured. Maria Keilty has since contacted me to say that the parents' requests have been listened to and that this is a countywide opportunity. Cumbria Community Foundation and Cumbria Youth Alliance have funding available to support projects. Cerebra also may have funding.

There are three full time inclusion workers who will be available to help tackle difficulties. Also the transition workers for our area include: Richard Page is the South Lakes transition worker and can be contacted on 01539 713288; Jonathan Ashworth (west) 01946 839871 and Paul Hart (north/East) 01228 603712

We discussed a membership card being available for families to prevent repeating giving information and delays in queuing.

The partnership boards – What is important to them? Safeguarding? The aiming high project board get to know about all the different work streams available. Short breaks; Emergency respite: there is fear that this might be lost. Capital money of

£700,000 available. Heartstreet issues as discussed no medical support or inclusion for children with physical disabilities. Use of hospice? Shared care? This is an area of major concern for parents who are not able to access respite

Jon Parnaby spoke about his concerns about sending the Access files for E mail distribution. He has now contacted me to say that as expected the files are too large and he has asked Jennie Taylor to load these onto the soul-trade website for all to view.

The Locality Stakeholder meetings who gets invited and when are these? Next meeting 28th April 9.30am to 11.30. Parents are encouraged to attend.

Communication: Jol encouraged everyone to use the website: <http://www.soul-trade.com/change> for up to date information and to post. Please continue with E mail circulation and any other form to help keep families informed.

Mark Mackay a fire safety officer will come to talk about dangerous substances and visit individual family's homes to give advice on fire safety and how to improve on this. They would like to be aware of the layout of the house, if there are any dangerous pieces of equipment (eg oxygen tank) and if there are any children who would need additional support so that in the event of a fire they are able to act as quickly as possible

Various leaflets for Easter activities were passed around the meeting and will be posted on soul-trade site.

"Me time" parents are invited to the first session in two days and we hope there will be more to follow in the new financial year if it is successful.

Training: Team teach has been requested by parents however it was discussed that there are insurance issues which has prevented parents attending in the past. There are courses for Manual handling and First aid.

Monday 10th May will be the next meeting at St Thomas childrens Centre 10am to 12 noon. All parents are welcome

Future dates for the meetings at St Thomas Children's centre will be on Monday 12th July, 13th September and 8th November.