

16th November, 2009. at St Thomas Childrens centre
Present: Claire Borthwick, JC, SP & GP, Jol Wardle, Shirley Gilpin.

It was briefly mentioned if we required a Chair we could try a rotating role with different people for each meeting if required.

Claire B. brought in the form Ms Rist asked people to fill in at the last meeting in Penrith – “Health and well-being of children and young people”. Both Claire and Glynis received the form and felt strongly it was a horrible form to complete. It was thought that families would be put off completing the form. Some families had not received the form.

Karen Hull is the groups local professional contact and will be invited to the next weekend meeting on **Saturday 16th January 11am to 1pm at Sandgate School.** Bi-monthly meetings have been arranged for **January 11th, March 8th, May 10th, July 12th, September 13th, November 8th all Mondays at St Thomas Childrens Centre.** These are all the second Monday of the month for 2010 avoids August school holidays and Christmas. The training room at St. Thomas childrens centre is a good size and very welcoming. However if we reached numbers of 20+ we may need to reconsider. Meetings are open for anyone to attend and new families are welcome it is important to get a wide range of experiences to ensure everyone is able to contribute.

Additional meetings may be arranged on a Saturday at Sandgate school for those families who can not make a Monday. However we will wait to see how many families turn up on Saturday 16th January before we make a firm decision re regularity. There will be other families there at this time and art activities arranged to entertain children. We would like to know in advance if children will be coming so that we can ensure the session is age-appropriate etc.

Maria Keilty (is she the champion for Eden?) Would she come to our next weekly meeting on January 11th? I have asked Maria and she will come to the meeting on Jan 11th. Who would she suggest to come and talk to us? Ask Marion Jones for PCT representative.

Lead professional: there was a long discussion about the lead Professional and who the best person would be, the professional best connected to the family? Initially at birth health visitor? However it is more complicated when child is diagnosed later perhaps, injury after birth, when introduced to education or later still -child high functioning and reaching all the targets at school but home life very difficult and dealing with social situations. There seems to be a communication problem re-occurring between health professionals – confidentiality/not passing on information. Sickness and too much pressure being put on those professionals who are good and efficient often meant families lost valuable support within the support social worker role.

Common assessment framework (CAF) was introduced and more information on this would be valuable...perhaps a blank copy of the form would be useful?

We spoke about the “Red shed” at Queen Katherine school and how families could self-refer for support. Claire B brought a leaflet to the group re Parent support advisors. Other resources families should be made aware of?

Recent programme “Mothers love not enough” which prompted a brief conversation about pain control and advice given about this (medication to relieve screaming during the night) and personalised profile passports being a good idea and well worth developing with the child.

Difficulties

:- with ADHD (attention deficit hyperactive disorder) in recognition and diagnosis and some acknowledging its existence.

:- social worker visiting and finding that today all seems well so ending contact. To recognise that days change and often quickly and support is still required even if a brave face is put on!

:- Dr Brady has retired and Claire B (and others!) is now in limbo until someone new is allocated.

We looked at the Durham mission statement and wondered if it would be worth adopting after further scrutiny – more information and tweaking required.

Expenses incurred re printing, travel expenses and refreshments etc.

Debbie Armstrong is collating all information - Joanne asked where she was up to with this. Big question:- what is already available in this area? We do want to concentrate on short breaks within south lakes and differing needs..Respite care – we have Heart street, Ulverston but there are conditions and some children do not fit their criteria – wont give medication/not “severe” enough for support, can’t stand on their feet etc. Dorian House, Chorley good but access only once a year?. Residential respite required with no barriers! Emergency respite care required. Weekend Fostering support? £1.50 hourly rate for shared care!!! And shortage of people available to do it.

AOB

Minutes to be posted on site, Glynis will have paper copy of those who do not have access to the internet. We acknowledged the need for funding to pay for printing costs or any other expenses to be challenged.

On a recent visit from Paul Birks he spoke about a trip to out similar to Blackpool Sealife last year possibly Beamish.

Open day at Bleasdale house school 27 emesgate Lanre, Silverdale LA5 0RG on 24th November 10am to 3.15pm

Minutes to be put on web link. (Save, copy, paste in- sounds easy!!!) Jol W. will post if problems (thank you!)

The Kendal Family Drop-In Centre will look into the tendering process for delivering services to the Aiming High short breaks re Playscheme and activities.
Cumbria Community Foundation are also offering grants.....

Jol edit—

We needed to know what was already available (as we await Debbie Armstrong's research) – and I have added a board for each area so that we can all add available projects, groups etc <http://www.soul-trade.com/change>

Also re – respite, child passports and lead professionals we agreed to invite professionals who know what is at present available, as well as what may be possible – if they don't know, then they may be able to suggest others who will know etc

See above for who we have invited...