

New Year 2025

NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our New Year 2025 Newsletter

Happy New Year to you all!

January 2025 is going to be a busy month for Plymouth Parent Carer Voice (as you will see in this newsletter). In this edition, you will find out about the January consultations for changes to PIAS and our parent carer drop-in sessions with Plymouth SEND and Health leaders. We are also offering you the opportunity to tell us about who you would like to hear from/what you would like to find out about during our annual SEND Conference in June and specialised Preparing for Adulthood Conference in February.

As usual, this newsletter also acts as a reminder about the FREE events and resources that are available to all PPCV members via the members portal.

We would like to encourage you to forward this newsletter to any of your friends or family members who may benefit from becoming a member of PPCV. It is FREE to register - just follow this link:
<https://www.plymouthpcv.co.uk/join/>

PIAS Consultation

Plymouth Information Advice and Support for SEND service (PIAS) provides impartial information advice and support to children, young people with SEND and their families.

The Local Authority are thinking about making changes to the PIAS team and how the service operates (restructure). They are holding 4 meetings to share these plans, give you the opportunity to ask questions and give your views (consultation).

As far as we are aware, the planned changes are:

1. Moving of Youth Ascends to the Children and Young People Participation Team;
2. Parenting programmes will move to Oncourse Southwest;
3. A reduction in the casework team.

You are invited to attend a consultation session on the possible/suggested/plans for the re-structure of PIASS. The meetings are all in January and will give you the opportunity to hear the plan, ask any questions and share your views.

You only need to attend one session from the dates below:

- 13th January 16.30 – 18.00 (Teams)
- 14th January 11am – 12.30 pm (Teams)
- 16th January 18.00- 19.30 (Teams)
- 17th January 12:00 – 13.30 (In person)

If you intend to attend the in-person meeting, please email piasconsultation@plymouth.gov.uk so that the organisers are aware of numbers.

If you have any accessibility needs or any questions, you should also contact piasconsultation@plymouth.gov.uk.

Links to the online meetings can be accessed via the PPCV website here:
<https://www.plymouthpcv.co.uk/piass-consultation/>

Your support by attending one of the sessions would be gratefully received.

Parent Carer Drop-in Sessions - Hosted by Plymouth PCV with Plymouth City Council & Plymouth Health Teams.

FAMILY FORUM

Our parent carer drop-in sessions are designed to offer you the opportunity to ask questions of the leaders of our Plymouth SEND services. For all the meetings, we are joined by leaders of Plymouth City Council SEND and Health Services.

These meetings started in September 2024, and are scheduled for every other month. They alternate between face-to-face and online events to reach as many people as possible.

Face-to-face meetings will take place at Moments Café (69a New George Street, Plymouth, PL1 1RJ) from 10:00am - 11:30am.

Online meetings will take place from 10:00am - 11:30am. A link will be sent to you when you have registered for the event.

Our next session is on **Friday 10th January 2025**. You can see all the dates below or find out more information and book your place by visiting our events page here: <https://www.plymouthpcv.co.uk/events/>

We are aware that many of our members are unable to make the planned sessions due to work or caring commitments. We have explored other options but are currently unable to hold evening/weekend sessions due to the working hours of the service providers. However, if you are unable to attend due to your work or other commitments and would like to raise a question, please let us know and we will ask on your behalf. You can do this by emailing Claire@plymouthpcv.co.uk

10 Jan SEND Parent Carer Forum Meeting (Face to Face)

07 Mar SEND Parent Carer Forum Meeting (Online)

09 May SEND Parent Carer Forum Meeting (Face to Face)

04 Jul SEND Parent Carer Forum Meeting (Online)

Annual SEND Conference

We are starting to think about and plan the Plymouth Parent Carer Voice 2025 Annual SEND Conference that will be held in June. The actual date and venue will be confirmed soon.

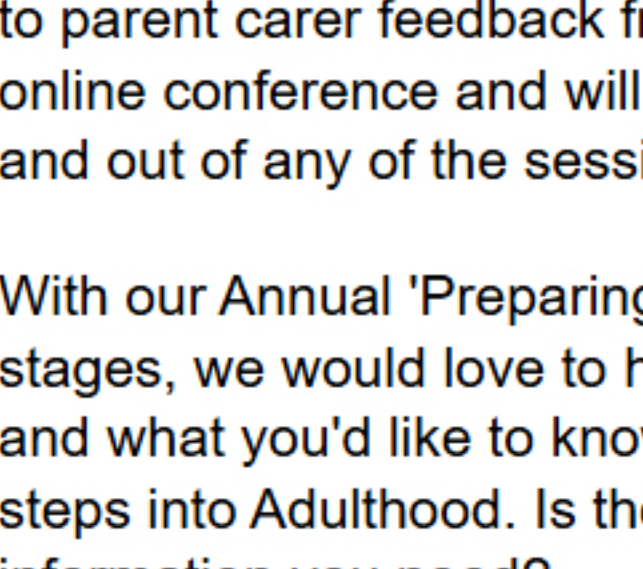
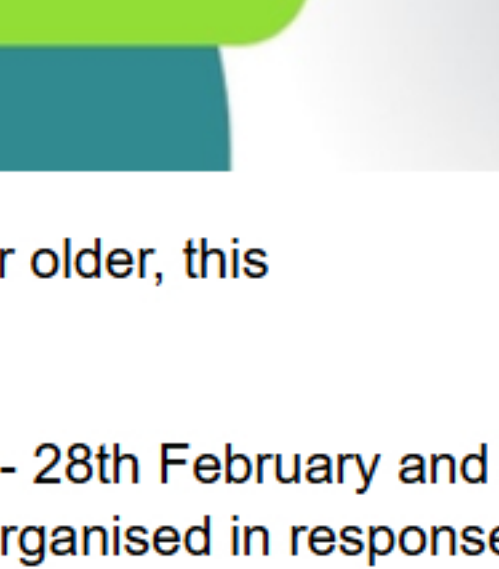
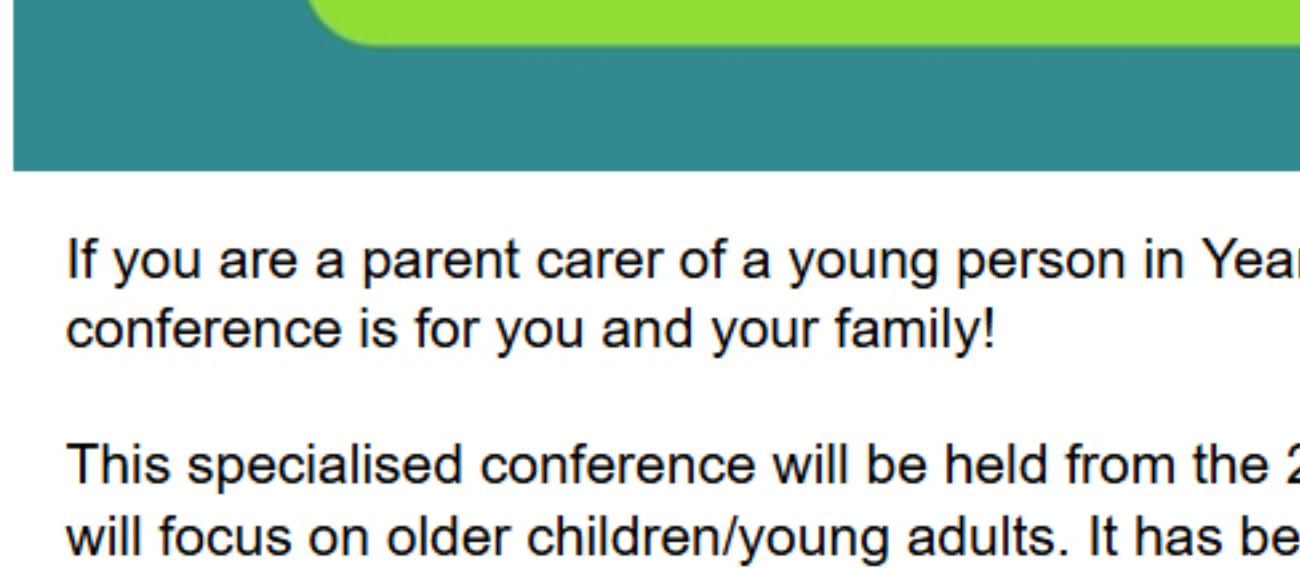
The conference is an exciting opportunity for those with SEND and their parents, carers, professionals and anyone with an interest in SEND in Plymouth to meet, question and learn from each other.

As usual, there will be lots of stalls from service providers who are dedicated to support families of children and young people (0-25) with SEND. We expect over 40 exhibitors who are looking forward to meeting you all and telling you about what they can offer. You are welcome to browse and chat at your leisure.

More details including dates and venue will be released in the coming months - keep an eye on your inbox!

If you have any thoughts about what you would like to find out more about during the conference, please email claire@plymouthpcv.co.uk

Preparing for Adulthood SEND Conference



PREPARING FOR ADULTHOOD

ONLINE CONFERENCE

24TH FEB – 28TH FEB

If you are a parent carer of a young person in Year 7 or older, this conference is for you and your family!

This specialised conference will be held from the 24th - 28th February and will focus on older children/young adults. It has been organised in response to parent carer feedback from our annual SEND conference. This is an online conference and will be spread over the whole week. You can dip in and out of any of the sessions on offer.

With our Annual 'Preparing For Adulthood Conference' still in the planning stages, we would love to hear from you about who you'd like to hear from and what you'd like to know about when thinking about your child's next steps into Adulthood. Is there a particular talk you'd like to hear or information you need?

Please let us know your ideas by contacting claire@plymouthpcv.co.uk with your suggestions by **15th January 2025**.

Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) training available

Training is available to help give everyone supporting children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) in Plymouth the same basic level of knowledge and understanding.

This training is not just for practitioners and service providers but is also available for family members and carers. The training is provided by the Council for Disabled Children.

The Local Area SEND Improvement Plan identified the need for core competency training as a key priority to ensure that everyone within the local area has a consistent understanding of SEND. It is being shared for staff in all partnership organisations to complete, including the NHS, schools and the local authority.

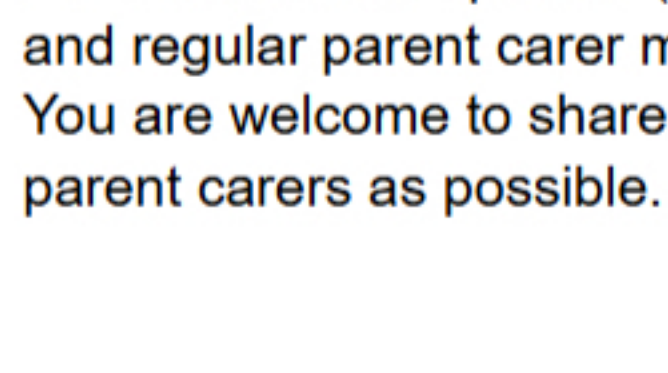
If you choose to complete the training, it will give you a better understanding of:

- **What we mean by SEND.**
- **Key principles for working with children and young people with SEND, with a focus on:** Inclusion, Co production, Personalisation and Advocacy.
- **Key processes which support children and young people with SEND, with a focus on:** Education, Health & Care Plans, Roles and responsibilities in a multidisciplinary team.

It can take up to 90 minutes to complete, although may be quicker depending on your prior knowledge and experience.

You can find the training online by [CLICKING HERE](#) (log in as guest)

PPCV Members Portal



Thank you for continuing to be a member of the PPCV community. We are always pleased to hear from you and welcome new members.

Did you know that your membership gives you access to the members portal on our website? It is here that you will find recordings of the presentations from our SEND & Celebration Conferences, useful resources and a number of presentations from our previous Coffee & Cake meetings. Log in and take a browse.

Can't remember your login number? No problem. Just email Chris who will be happy to help. You can contact him on admin@plymouthpcv.co.uk

If you have any questions you would like to raise from the presentations, do not hesitate to contact us and if we can't help you, we will point you in the right direction.

Follow us on Social Media

For all the latest updates (including reminders about our workshops, events and regular parent carer meetings) follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). You are welcome to share our posts to ensure we are reaching as many parent carers as possible.

