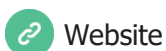




## December 2021 Edition



### LATEST NEWS

#### BPV November Coffee Morning Update

Thanks to a generous donation from the National Lottery Community grant, we hosted a series of coffee mornings this autumn term. The coffee mornings allowed parent/carers of children with SEND/YP to connect with each other & to seek advice & information. We are pleased that we reached a wide range of parents and we hope to repeat it again in the future.

#### Household Support Fund

Bromley households and families who are facing financial hardship can now apply for [financial support](#) to pay for food, utilities and other essentials.

#### NNPCF Conference - Minister's Keynote speech

BPV attended the Ministerial keynote speech at the National Network of Parent Carer Forum's Virtual Conference on 2nd Dec. Click [HERE](#) to view the recording & to catch up on the rest of the conference. (waiting for recording to be posted online)

### LOCAL NEWS

#### SELCCG Learning Disability Big Health Week Mon 6th - Fri 10th December

Following the success of last year events, SELCCG is pleased to announce the online [2021 Virtual Learning Disability Big Health Week](#). There are many great activities and [learning sessions](#) throughout the week.

## **YP with SEND Covid-19 Vaccine Feedback Required from SELCCG & London Borough of Bromley**

LBB & SELCCG have requested parental feedback regarding the Covid Vaccination programme for CEV children and young people (12-15 years). Please email: [info@bromleyparentvoice.org.uk](mailto:info@bromleyparentvoice.org.uk) by Friday Jan 14th 2022.

## **The Kiosk at The MENCAP Lodge, Norman Park, Hook Farm Road, Bromley**

The MENCAP Kiosk is now open regularly from Tuesday to Friday 10:30am to 3pm. MENCAP students are serving fresh coffee, hot & cold drinks & snacks.

## **NATIONAL NEWS**

### **Government White Paper on Adult Social Care Published**

Responding to the Government's publication of its [white paper on social care reform](#), Helen Walker, Chief Executive of Carers UK said: "We're pleased that the Government has published its Social Care White Paper which sets out some important and long-awaited proposals to reform the system. Importantly, unpaid carers are included throughout the proposals and recognised as an equal partner in care."

### **New rules for travelling or returning to England**

The [UK government](#) has reinstated some countries back on to the [red list](#) and travellers from those countries will be required to quarantine upon arrival to the UK.

### **Autumn and winter plan 2021**

The government has now published its [COVID-19 autumn and winter plan](#).

### **Booster vaccine dose extended to all adults**

Due to the new Omicron variant of Covid-19, the booster vaccine will be offered to all adults as well as those who are clinically vulnerable. [Find out more about the booster vaccine on NHS.UK](#). To Book [CLICK HERE](#)

### **First dose vaccinations for young people UK WIDE**

All young people aged 12 to 15 are to be offered a first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine. Some young people with complex health needs & OR a Learning Disability will be offered a second dose & can now book a vaccine [here](#) or can call 119 between 7am - 11pm to book an appointment.

## **INFORMATION FOR CARERS**

### **Free Carers Flu Jab**

If you are a registered carer of an elderly or vulnerable person/child OR are in receipt in of carers allowance, then you are eligible for a free flu jab this winter. Click [HERE](#) for further information.

### **Carer's Allowance**

[Carer's Allowance](#) is the main benefit for carers. If you are looking after someone vulnerable or elderly for 35 hours a week or more, you may be eligible to apply.

### **Carer's Credit**

If you aren't eligible to claim carer's allowance then you could get Carer's Credit if you're caring for someone for at least 20 hours a week. Carer's Credit is a [National Insurance credit](#) that helps with gaps in your National Insurance record. Your State Pension is [based on your National Insurance record](#).

### **Carer's Assessments: What are they and how do I get one?**

A carer's assessment gives you a chance to tell social services about the things that could make looking after your child easier for you. You can find out all about carer's assessments [HERE](#) & information on personal budgets and [Bromley Direct Payments](#)

### **Carers UK**

[Advice and information](#) for adult carers of both children with SEND and vulnerable/sick adults. [Carers passport scheme](#). [Carers rights](#)

## **TRAINING/EVENTS**

### **London South East College - Nido Volans Centre SEND Open Days**

#### **Do you have a young person looking for a college place?**

Email Maggie Stephenson to book a space on the [open days](#) for SEND students at the LSEC Nido Volans Centre. [Margaret.Stephenson2@lsec.ac.uk](mailto:Margaret.Stephenson2@lsec.ac.uk) or call **020 3954 4563**

### **LSEC London South East College Online Professional Skills Course**

Learn from the comfort of your home with one of LSEC's [free online courses](#) for those who are looking to change careers or are currently unemployed. .

### **Smart Bright Training**

Workshops aimed at parents & carers of sensory & neurodiverse children eg : Autism and ADHD. [FLYER](#)

## **SUPPORT**

### **Bromley MENCAP Autism Family Service**

Mencap [Children's Wellbeing service](#) and [short breaks service](#)

### **Bexley Girls on the Spectrum Network (GOTS)**

This is a [new support group for parents of girls with autism](#). Some meetings are specific to Bexley services however anyone is welcome to join.

### **Bereavement Cafe**

Providing support via qualified bereavement counsellors to people affected by the loss of a loved one. Message the Facebook page for a free call back:  
[www.facebook.com/bereavementcafe](http://www.facebook.com/bereavementcafe)

### **Florence Nightingale Aid in Sickness Trust**

[The Florence Nightingale Aid in Sickness Trust](#) provides life enhancing grants to help people of all ages in need who are ill, convalescent or disabled and need to purchase equipment.

## SERVICES

### **Bromley Well Mental Health Carers Support Service**

Offers [support and information](#) for carers supporting those with mental health issues in Bromley

### **Dyslexia Association of Bexley Bromley Greenwich & Lewisham (DABGL)**

Helping dyslexic people of all ages by providing information, support, events and screening appointments. Email [info@dyslexiawise.co.uk](mailto:info@dyslexiawise.co.uk) for [further information](#)

### **Bromley IASS (Independent Advice & Support Service)**

The [information, advice and support service \(IASS\)](#) offers free, impartial information, advice and support in confidence for children & young people with SEND aged 0 to 25 yrs & their parent/carers. IASS also supports children and young people with SEND around transitions from pre-school to primary school and onto secondary school.

## LEISURE & SOCIAL

### **Autism in Museums Accessible Events**

Click [HERE](#) for information on accessible events for SEND families in London & national museums. New events for Winter 21 -

[Book Accessible Ice Skating at Somerset House, London](#)

[Relaxed event for neurodiverse people at the Postal Museum](#)

### **The Beckenham & Penge Gateway Club**

The Beckenham and Penge Gateway Club has reopened its social club for people with a learning disability. [FLYER](#)

### **Buzzers Academy Sports Clubs**

Multisport camps in [various venues](#) around Bromley Borough. Ofsted child care vouchers accepted. Oct half term spaces available.

### **Bromley My Time SEND Family Sessions - FREE**

[Free pre-Christmas activity sessions](#) for children & young people with SEND & their siblings. [FLYER](#)

### **CASPA Activities**

Please click [HERE](#) for further information on the various CASPA Christmas activities for children/young people with Autism.

### **Dayspace - Penge**

Dayspace is a [new day service for adults with a learning disability](#) in Bromley on the site of the Kentwood Adult Education Centre in Penge

### **Destiny's Child SEND Children's Club**

Activities for children with SEND. Click on the [FLYER](#) for further information.

### **Freeze Social Skills Club for Teens with Social Communication Challenges**

A Beckenham based activity club working on developing social communication skills and how to navigate the world for teens with ASD & social communication challenges such as anxiety. [FLYER](#)

### **Heart N Soul**

Do Your Own Thing is a social Club for YP with learning disabilities & autism from 10 to 25 year olds. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

### **Maypole Project Sensory Cabin Hire - Christmas dates**

The [sensory cabin](#) at the Maypole Project in Green Street Green will be open throughout December. To book email: [helpline@themaypoleproject.co.uk](mailto:helpline@themaypoleproject.co.uk) or [click to buy raffle tickets](#).

### **Maypole Project Santa Bus**

To book a door step Santa visit to your home, click [HERE](#)

### **Super 1s Free Cricket Sessions**

Free [cricket sessions](#) every Tuesday from 4-5pm at Old Wilsonian CC, Hayes Hill, Bromley, BR2 7HN. All disabilities welcome 12 - 25yrs. Email: [brian.gasking@kentcricket.co.uk](mailto:brian.gasking@kentcricket.co.uk).

## **VACANCIES**

### **MENCAP Short Breaks Play Worker & General Vacancies**

MENCAP are advertising for staff for their [Short Breaks](#) Service for children & teenagers with special needs or disabilities. Would suit teaching assistants, youth workers & childcare professionals.

### **Bromley Healthcare Jobs**

Click [HERE](#) for current Bromley Healthcare vacancies where you can find all the details and how to apply.

### **Community Links Job Vacancy Board**

Click [HERE](#) for current local voluntary sector vacancies where you can find all the details and how to apply.

## **INFORMATION & GUIDES**

British Dyslexia Association - [The Empowered Parents Guide](#)

[Do You Know Autism Guide](#)

[Place2BE Children's Mental Health Guide](#)

[A Comprehensive List of Health Resources](#)

[A Guide to Annual Health Checks](#) - for Families, Supporters & Social Care Providers

[Easy Read - Annual Health Checks: for young people with learning disabilities](#), their families and supporters

[Annual Health Checks & Coronavirus](#)

[New Bromley GP Alliance Mental Health Guide for Bromley Residents](#)

[Rapid Coronavirus Testing](#)

## E-BULLETINS

[What's Going on in SEND - LBB](#)

[LBB SEND Matters newsletter](#)

[Autism in Museum newsletter](#)

[Bromley Mental Health Carers newsletter](#)

[Bromley MENCAP newsletter](#)

[Bromley Well Bulletin](#)

[Red Cross November Newsletter](#)

## LOCAL DIRECTORY

[Bayswater Support Group](#) - Gender Dysphoria Support for parents

[Bromley Local Offer](#) - SEND services in Bromley Borough

[Kent Association for the Blind](#) - Children & Families Support Service

[Bromley Downs Syndrome Support Group](#)

[Bromley/Orpington Samaritans](#)

[Bromley LATCH Project](#) - Support for homeless young people

[Bromley Homeless Shelter & Foodbank](#)

[Bromley Brighter Beginnings](#) - provides donations of clothes, toys & household goods for those in need. Referral needed.

[Bromley Foodbank](#) - referral needed

[Hays Community Foodbank](#) - no referral needed

[Bromley Citizens Advice Bureau](#)

[Bromley Healthcare 0-19](#) - Health care advice for children/young people in Bromley between 0-19 years of age

[Home-Start Bromley](#) - provides practical help & support for parent/carers of young children under the age of 5

[Talk Together Bromley](#) - Counselling Services



Would you like to get involved?

Interested in volunteering to help with our activities?

Have any professional



Have something to say, have a question to ask, would like to see something available?

Email us at;

[info@bromleyparentvoice.org.uk](mailto:info@bromleyparentvoice.org.uk)



## Useful Information

Click here for [Get Information](#)

[Independent Supporters](#)

Find out more about the new SEND reforms and

or other skills which  
could help us?

Would like to share  
ideas, experiences, or  
a great activity.

If so  
please [contact](#) us to  
let us know.

or go to

[Have your Say](#)

on our Website and  
complete the current  
surveys and  
questionnaires

how Independent  
Supporters could help  
you

[IASS formally known  
as Parent  
Partnership](#)

Information Advice and  
Support Service