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Parent Carer Forum
Cheshire West & Chester

NEWSLETTER

July 2025

PCF NEWS

In order to keep you up to date on all of the works we are involved in to ensure that your experiences are heard, we have created a new BLOG area on our website here <https://www.pcfcheshirewest.org/pfc-stories>

Here are some of the latest updates.....

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A message from our Chair, Jane Dunn

As we look back on the academic year 2024/2025, I want to take a moment to express my deepest thanks to the incredible parent carers volunteers and families who are the heartbeat of the Parent Carer Forum. This year has been filled with growth, progress, and powerful moments of connection, but none of it would have been possible without you! Whether you've attended a meeting, helped run an event, shared your story, or supported another parent, you've all made a difference. Your time, your voice, and your unwavering commitment is helping shape a better SEND system for families across Cheshire West & Chester. All those coffee events and forums, training sessions, strategy meetings, and survey feedback has shown that when families work together, meaningful change can happen. Last year we sowed the seeds, this year we see the "green shoots" of growth across the complex world of SEND.

Thank you again, with heartfelt gratitude to our volunteers, families, partners and stakeholders for being part of this journey. Your passion, strength, commitment and generosity have inspired us every step of the way to keep doing what we do. Here's to an end of another very busy academic year, as we now rest and recharge ready continue to nurture our "growing shoots" in 2025/2026.

All the best over the summer holidays, our inbox will still be open.

The Parent Carer Forum



As Parent Carers, we know that the school holidays can bring mixed emotions, a chance for rest and fun, but also a time that can feel overwhelming, especially for families of children with additional needs. Routines shift, support may feel less available, and the pressure to "make it magical" can weigh heavy. Please know you're not alone. Be kind to

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Take a look at some of our top recommendations for connection and support in our blog Navigating the SEND system.

[Navigating The SEND System](#)

:Padlet

Summer Holidays for Children and Young People with Special Educational...

Summer Holidays for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

padlet.com

Looking for ideas, activities, and support over the summer holidays? Check out the Cheshire West & Chester Summer Holidays Padlet – a growing collection of resources and opportunities for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

[Summer Holidays Padlet Cheshire West & Chester](#)

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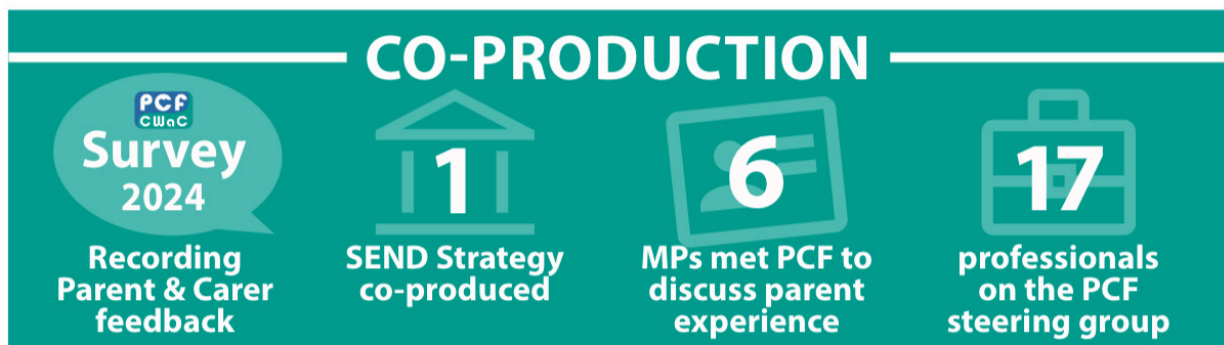
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Shared News & Updates

From coffee events to forums, training, blogs, newsletters, and co-producing strategy, everything we do is powered by the time, energy, and dedication of parent carers.

Every conversation, event, and decision reflects real lived experience and a shared commitment to making SEND voices heard in Cheshire West & Chester.

Here is a snapshot of our work in 2024/2025

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)**2024****2025****ENGAGEMENT****COMMUNICATION****CO-PRODUCTION**www.pcfcheshirewest.org

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Parent Carer Forum
Cheshire West & Chester

AGM and Transport

Wednesday 16th July

10am – 11.30

At our AGM on 16th July, we looked back on a busy year of sharing parent voice to influence improvement in services. We shared important updates on SEND transport. We also shared how your pledges are shaping our new Co-Production Charter and set out exciting plans for 2025/6 events, including new forums, Survey, training, and meetups

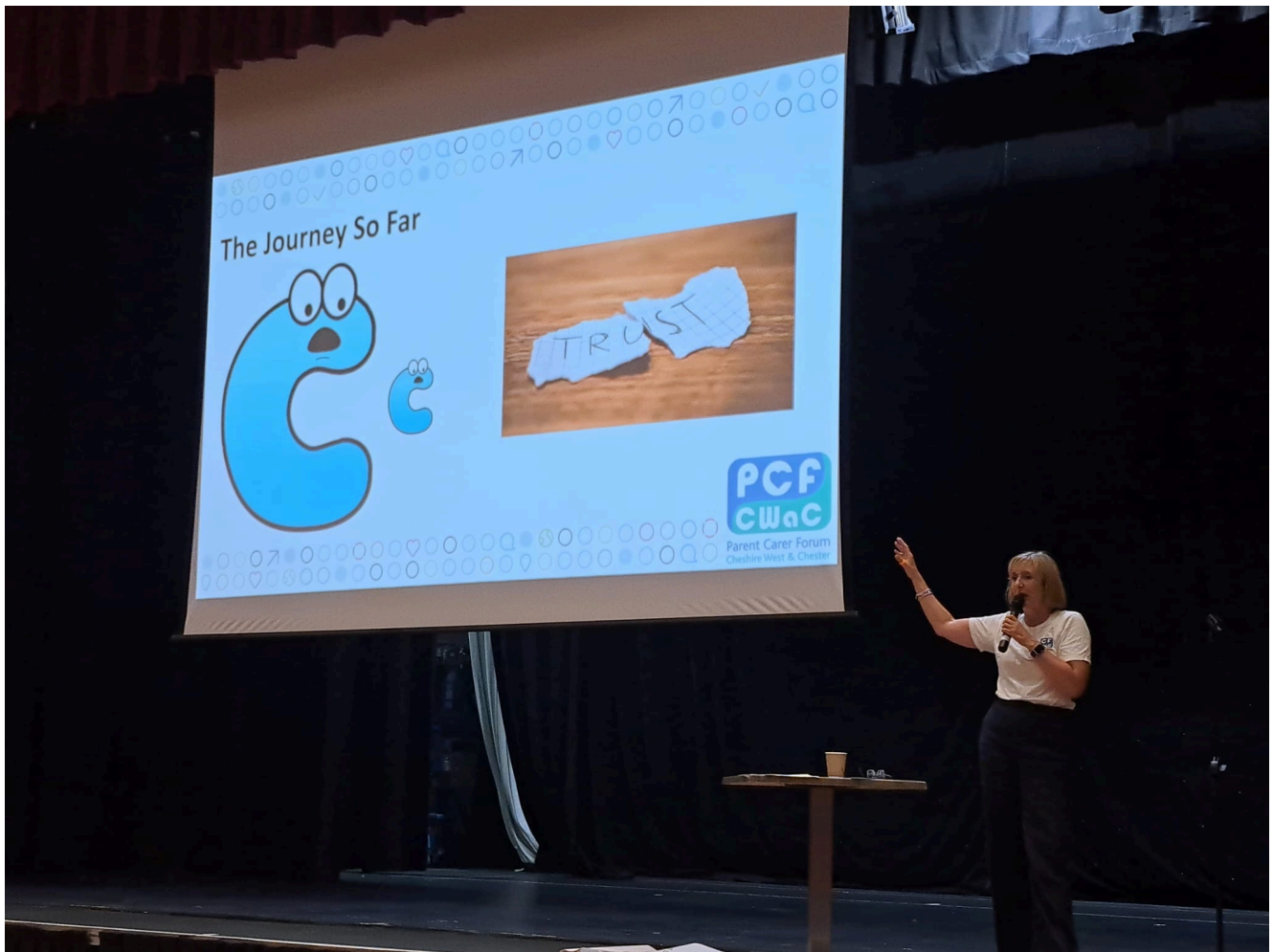
In case you missed it the full recording from the AGM is below along with our annual report, Q&As & presentation slides!

[AGM recording & Report Link](#)



As part of the 'Partnership for the Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools' (PINS) project the Parent Carer Forum has presented each of the 4 mainstream primary schools that took part in the project in 2024/2025 with a box of resources to be used as a library by children, parents, and teachers. The box is full of books and sensory equipment that can be used in school. The PCF also has a resource box that can be taken along to coffee mornings and meetings. The contents of the box can be seen in the photos and the attached list.

We are pleased to announce to be working with a new set of schools on the PINS Project in the Northwich and Winsford area in September.



Second SEND Summit 2025: A Snapshot

The Second SEND Summit brought together over 150 professionals, parents, and carers to reflect, connect, and contribute to real change for children and young people in our community. We would like to thank all our partners for the continued investment in improving culture change and outcomes for children and young people with SEND.

Explore the full range of presentations, data, and resources from the day on the link below.

[SEND Summit 2025](#)



Keep an eye out on our facebook and Website for when the next addition is available very soon!



Representation Stages

Dorin Park School - Representation Stage - CWPCF

Cheshire West and Chester Council and Dorin Park School are consulting to introduce a permanent increase of school places at Dorin Park School.

Further details about the consultation can be found on our website via the following link:.

[Dorin Park School and SEN specialist College - Increase the number of school places via Satellite site consultation](#) | [Cheshire West and Chester Council](#)

The formal consultation runs from Monday 09 July – Wednesday 06 August 2025.

We encourage everyone to respond and welcome feedback over the four-week formal consultation period by the **deadline of midnight Wednesday 06 August 2025**

Email: SchoolOrganisationandConsultation@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Engagement

Closing date for responses Friday 8 August 2025

The Sufficiency and Commissioning Group is tasked with developing a Sufficiency Plan for the next 5 years to support the development of places in the borough depending on need. To do this we want to coproduce what is required with parents and other key stakeholders.

Coproduction Groups Include

- Education Places – including places in mainstream schools (primary and secondary, including academies), special schools and independent non-maintained special schools
- Educated Other than at School, i.e. children who receive tutoring

Please see the link and QR code below to express your interest in getting involved.

Development of a Sufficiency Plan Closing date for responses Friday 8 August 2025

Development of a Sufficiency Plan
Closing date for responses Friday 8
August 2025



Co-Production

Centre for Autism, Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Intellectual Disabilities (CANDDID) Research team would like to invite you to co-production working group sessions to complete a time-limited piece of work. The aim of the working group is to refine the Portsmouth-Cornwall Profiling Tool to meet the needs of Cheshire and Merseyside young people.

Our first meeting will take place online via Microsoft Teams on:

Tuesday 22nd July 2025, 12 midday until 12.45

Future co-production sessions will be held at the same time on the following dates:

Tuesday 5th August

Tuesday 19th August

Tuesday 2nd September

Tuesday 16th September

Tuesday 30th September

Email to join the workshops here!





Cheshire West
and Chester

Parent Carer Survey 2025

Are you accessing childcare in west Cheshire?

We would like to hear your views in our parent/carers childcare survey.

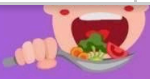
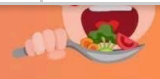
Your responses will help us to better understand parent/carers views on childcare in the borough and will help us work with childcare providers across west Cheshire to better meet your needs.

Please follow the below link or QR code to access the survey, where respondents can enter into a prize draw to win a £100 Storyhouse voucher.



<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ParentCarerSurvey2025/>

Survey deadline: Friday 8th August 2025

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)**SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2025**moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free**ANGUS STEAKHOUSE**

Kids under 8 eat FREE daily, 12pm to 5pm

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 daily, with no adult spend

ASK ITALIAN

Kids under 10 eat for £1 during school holidays

BEEFEATER

Kids Eat FREE with Newsletter Voucher this Summer

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main

BILLS

Kids Eat Free weekdays, 21st July – 29th Sept

BREWERS FAYRE

Kids Eat FREE with Newsletter Voucher this Summer

BREWDOG

2 Kids eat free with 1 adult, 19th July - 31st August

BURGER KING

From 28th July - 31st August, Kids Eat Free (via app)

CHIQUITO

Kids eat FREE Daily Until August 31st

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch

FRANKIE & BENNY'SKids Eat Free from 14th July – 31st August 2025**FUTURE INNS**

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day

HARVESTER

Kids eat for £1, Mon - Fri via the App

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

LAS IGUANAS

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

MARCO PIERRE WHITE

Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend

MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

PREMIER INN & TRAVELODGE

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult

PUREZZA

Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal

SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

SIZZLING PUBS

Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm

TABLE TABLE

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult

TESCO

Kids Eat FREE with a 60p spend until Aug 31st

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App)

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

TOBY CARVERY

Kids eat for £1 all day (weekdays) until Aug 29th

WHITBREAD INNS

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays

ZIZZI

Kids eat free this summer holidays (ex Saturdays)

Copyright of MONEY SAVING CENTRAL

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Exciting Summer Activities for Parent Carers in rural Cheshire West and Chester!!

CARERS TRUST

Cheshire and Warrington

Thanks to funding through the Westminster Foundation, we are able to fund 4 fun and inclusive activities for parent carers, children/young people with SEND and their siblings (free for one parent carer and one child/young person with SEND)

Friday 8th August- Reaseheath College Mini Zoo: meet at the zoo reception at 10.30am (The staff can supply you with sensory fidget toys and ear defenders if required and there is an excellent downloadable social story to prepare your child for the day) <https://reaseheathzoo.co.uk/>

Wednesday 13th August- Space, Chester- 10-12 noon (exclusive use of the facilities) <https://spacecheshire.org/>

Wednesday 20th August- Hayrack Church Farm: Meet at farm entrance at 10.30am- all facilities available (free animal food for children) <https://hayrackchurchfarm.co.uk/>

Tuesday 26th August- X-Plore Science Discovery Centre, Wrexham: Meet in reception at 11am <https://www.xplorescience.co.uk/>

Booking is essential and places are limited. Only 2 bookings per family please. To book, contact Clare Gallagher: Children and Families Lead, Cheshire and Warrington Carers Trust-



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MHST SUMMER WEBINARS & WORKSHOPS

For parents of children
attending an MHST school

NHS
Cheshire and Wirral
Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust

CWP NHS are
delivering a
series of FREE
group
interventions
for parents.

FREE support from Cheshire & Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CWP NHS)

If your child attends a Mental Health Support School, you're invited to join a series of supportive and friendly sessions this summer to help you understand and manage your child's emotional wellbeing.

Various sessions across the borough over summer!

Please ask the providers if your school is signed up with them.

To find out more, email: cwp.cheshiremhstadmin@nhs.net

Carefree



Need a Break? Carefree Can Help!

Through *Carefree*, hundreds of hotels across the country donate short stays to unpaid carers — giving you the

hotel stay with a companion, at a time and place that suits you.

Find out more and book your break here!

Volunteers Needed!



Join Our Growing Team at the Parent Carer Forum – Vacancies Available

Are you a parent or carer of a child with additional needs or a disability in Cheshire West and Chester? The Parent Carer Forum is looking for enthusiastic individuals to join our team!

Why Join Us?

Amplify Your Voice: *Represent the perspectives of parents and carers in your community. Your feedback will directly influence local services and SEND policies.*

Make a Difference: *Be part of a team that shapes positive changes for children and young people with SEND.*

Flexibility: *You can get involved at a pace that works for you—whether attending meetings, gathering parent feedback, or simply being a point of contact.*

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USEFUL CONTACTS



Live Well Cheshire West - <https://www.livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk>

Information Advice and Support Service (IASS) - Tel 0300 123 7001 <https://www.livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/Services/1279>

SEN Team - Tel 0151 337 6505
senteam@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Starting Well - <http://www.startingwell.org.uk/>

West Cheshire 0-16 CAMHS Tel - 01244 393200
<https://www.cwp.nhs.uk/services-and-locations/services/west-cheshire-0-16-camhs/>

IPSEA- Call-in Helpline Tel- 0300 22 5899
<https://www.ipsea.org.uk/Pages/Category/service-overview>

CONTACT Advice Line -Tel- 0808 808 3555
<https://contact.org.uk/>



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