

## E-bulletin from PODS Parent Carer Forum

### Beam Virtual Workshops & Lots More...

[Shropshire Beam](#) are pleased to provide a Timetable of Virtual Workshops for Parents & Professionals.

There are three Workshops which will be rolled out to the beginning of April 2022 at various different times and days to enable more people to attend, please see the following details of content: -

- **Supporting Children & Young People with Anxiety** – Aims & Objectives are to pass over psycho - education within the topic followed by practical suggestions of methods & techniques to help support the youth experience issues with anxiety.
- **Wellbeing Planning** – A Workshop which explains & provides a tool for Children & Young people to support their general Emotional Health & Wellbeing, it recognises triggers and promotes self-awareness, this can also be used as a relapse tool to support resilience.
- **Sleep Support** - Aims to pass over psycho - education within the topic followed by practical suggestions & advice of methods & techniques to help support the children & young people having difficulties with getting to sleep and staying a sleep.

All the details needed are below, all you need to do is **click on link at the appropriate time of your chosen workshop**. All workshops will be done via Teams video call.

- Thursday 27th January from 10am-11am - **Sleep Support** - [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Monday 31st January from 10am-11am - **Wellbeing Planning** - [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Monday 21st February from 10am-11am - **Supporting Children & Young People with Anxiety** - [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Wednesday 2nd March at 4pm - **Wellbeing Planning** - [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Wednesday 9th March at 4pm - **Supporting Children & Young People with Anxiety** - [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Thursday 17th March at 4pm - **Sleep Support** - [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Monday 21st March from 10am-11am - **Wellbeing Planning** - [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Monday 28th March from 10am-11am - **Supporting Children & Young People with Anxiety** - [Click here to join the meeting](#)

### PODS Forum Admaston Family Group

**Monday 7th February 2022 from 10am - 12pm at Admaston House, Wellington Road, Admaston, TF5 0BN**

Join us at our friendly Family group, a chance to catch up on updates, discuss services and access non-judgemental befriending peer support with fellow parent carers. Any family members welcome to join us and we'll supply the refreshments and treats too (donations welcome).

To book your place, please click here: [PODS Forum Admaston Family Group](#)



## PODS Pre-School Sensory Sessions

Join us for preschool sensory play! An opportunity for you and your little ones to play with our sensory toys and resources and chat to other parents in a relaxed environment. Hot and cold drinks included. Children must be supervised at all times. For queries please email [jeannie@podstelford.org](mailto:jeannie@podstelford.org).

Tickets available at: [PODS Pre-School Sensory Sessions](#)



## Autism in Schools Project: Parent Carer Survey

The Autism in Schools Project, covers the North Midlands Region (Telford & Wrekin, Shropshire, Staffordshire and Stoke). Two schools have been chosen for our local area - Dothill Primary and Charlton Secondary. The objective of this pilot project is to promote whole school cultural change, led by Senior team/Heads of your school and working closely with parent carers via PODS Parent Carer Forum.

**Pilot Aim:** "This is a cross system project to improve experience and outcomes for Autistic students in mainstream schools. This will include the development of school workforce and leadership to ensure that mainstream schools offer capable environments in which autistic students can thrive, in particular, supporting good mental health and promoting inclusion for this group of young people. There will be a focus on ensuring that key transition points for autistic students are supported effectively, ensuring a positive experience in terms of change and moving forward"

A range of support and opportunities to work with PODS Parent Carer Forum will be set up very shortly and we will be inviting you to join us at coffee mornings to discuss the project further.

To understand your experiences we would like to ask if you can please complete this survey: [Autism in Schools Project: Parent Carer Survey](#) All responses are confidential and will be anonymised when collated for the purposes of baseline assessments. Contact details are requested so we can send you information regarding opportunities for you to be further involved or discuss any points you have raised in this survey. Thank you very much, Jayne Stevens.

## New Short Breaks Forum

*Shared from Telford & Wrekin Council Team...*

"We are pleased to announce a new and ongoing Short Breaks forum as a partnership between local families and Local Authority representatives, with members working together to exchange information, views and opinions with the purpose of meeting the social care needs of children with disabilities in Telford and Wrekin.

The forum will reference the Short Breaks regulations and best practice, using lived experience and feedback to improve the offer, evaluate support, and identify development. It will also help to keep local families up to date via Short Breaks forum communications.

The first forum is on 27th January 2022, from 6-8pm, at Hollinswood Pavilion Community Centre. Further 2022 dates to follow. Please follow the below link for more information and to book a space: [Short Breaks Forum 27/01/22](#)"



## Shining Stars are Back!

Shining Stars is a Special Needs Group for ages 0-5 years. They are back with a new venue and day.

Please see the poster below for details.

**Shining Stars**

**WE ARE BACK**

**Special needs group for 0-5s**  
Led by friendly, experienced parents

**Where:** **NEW VENUE** The Linden Centre,  
Oak Rd, Overdale,  
TF3 5BT

**When:** **NEW DAY** Tuesday  
10-11.30am

**Come along and join us while your child plays**

**Email** [shiningstars2017@hotmail.com](mailto:shiningstars2017@hotmail.com)

A group with a range of play activities for children who have an additional need. Eligible for families prior, during or after diagnosis. Children must be supervised. Two children per adult. Siblings without an additional need are also welcome to attend.

**Shining Stars** Telford & Wrekin

## PODS Blists Hill Family Group

**Friday 28th January 2022 from 10am-12pm at Blists Hill Victorian Town, Legges Way, Telford, TF7 5UD**

Come and join us at PODS Family Group in Blists Hill Victorian Town for a chat, relax and meet with friendly faces. Ask us for some advice or just enjoy a walk around the village. Please note a facemask is required in some parts of the village. Tickets are available at a subsidised cost of £2.50 per person.

PODS will provide 1 tea/coffee/soft drink to each person booked, however you will have to purchase your own other refreshments if required. **Places are limited and booking is essential**, open to all PODS members living in Telford and Wrekin. Please note that the tickets are non-refundable. Children, of any age, are welcome however if they are under 2 years old, no ticket is required. We will be meeting at the entrance at 10am, please let us know if you will be late or can no longer make it so as the group can enter on time.

To book your place, please click here: [PODS Blists Hill Family Group](#)



## Wellbeing Independence Partnership (Learning Disabilities) Vacancies

If you would like to work in the Learning Disability Community, one of the roles in the poster below may be for you.

To read the full job descriptions and download an application form, please click here: [Wellbeing Independence Partnership \(Learning Disabilities\) Vacancies](#)





**Telford and Wrekin  
CVS**  
*Involving. Inspiring. Supporting*

We have a number of exciting opportunities for enthusiastic and motivated people to join our busy team. If you are passionate about working with adults with a learning disability and their families, then one of these roles could be for you.

**Wellbeing Independence Partnership (learning disabilities) vacancies:**

- Project Co-ordinator – 36 hrs per week
- Employment Champion – 21 hrs per week
- Community Link Worker – 21 hrs per week
- Community Café Co-ordinator – 21 hrs per week

The post holders will work in a multi-agency way, to include with adult social care, public health, Midlands Partnership Foundation and other VCSE teams.

**Do you want to find out more?**

Visit our website for more information at [Vacancies | Telford CVS](http://Vacancies | Telford CVS) ([telfordandwrekin CVS.org.uk](http://telfordandwrekin CVS.org.uk))

Application packs, to include full job descriptions and person specifications, are also available from Karen Morrow, HR Officer, on (01952) 916036 or by email: [karen.morrow@tandwcvcs.org.uk](mailto:karen.morrow@tandwcvcs.org.uk)

For an informal discussion about any of the roles, please contact Debbie Gibbon, CEO, on 01952 262066 or by email: [debbie.gibbon@tandwcvcs.org.uk](mailto:debbie.gibbon@tandwcvcs.org.uk)

The successful candidate may be required to undertake Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check. Where the position requires the post holder to work in contact with vulnerable adults, Telford & Wrekin CVS is entitled to ask exempted questions under the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 Exemptions Order 1975 and will require an Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service before any appointment can be confirmed. Telford & Wrekin CVS complies completely with the DBS *Code of Practice*; a copy of the code is available on request. Any criminal record shown on a disclosure will not necessarily be a bar to employment, any matter revealed will be discussed with the applicant before any offer of employment is withdrawn. Our Recruitment of Ex-Offenders Policy is available on request. Information obtained from the DBS will not be used unfairly.

The successful candidate will be required to complete a questionnaire to assess any health and safety workplace needs through the Local Authority's Occupational Health Service.

**Closing Date: 5pm on Wednesday 2 February 2022.**

Registered Charity Number: 702589

## Taylor Support Play Therapy

Please see the poster below for details on Taylor Support's Play Therapy offer.

# Play Therapy

**Therapeutic Play** is a method of helping children with behavioural and emotional needs, *teaching them to help themselves*.

**Who can access Play Therapy?** Children between 4-11 years.

*In Play Therapy, the therapist acts as a mirror, reflecting the child's thoughts and feelings.*



Image: Therapeutic Tool kit, Mr Wolf – mirroring. Rebecca Kitchen.

**Rebecca Kitchen – Trainee Play Therapist**, under the umbrella of Taylor Support is taking a limited number of referrals for Therapeutic Play Therapy sessions through to the completion of her Play Therapy qualification.

**Each Play Therapy session** will be available at a reduced rate of **£17.00 per hour** until qualified status is achieved.

Sessions will be regulated under a four-way agreement between the Therapist, Clinical Supervisor, Course Director with Play Therapy UK (affiliated with Leeds Beckett University) and Taylor Support.

Registered with Play Therapy UK and Professional Standards Authority.



Image: Sensory building blocks and role play items. Rebecca Kitchen.

For more information, please contact Rebecca Kitchen on [rebecca@taylorsupport.co.uk](mailto:rebecca@taylorsupport.co.uk) or 07512213521

## Hearing Checks in Residential Special Schools and Colleges

If you have a child at residential special school or college there is a new project around hearing tests (NHS England). Jayne can forward you the full email with more information on it. You can contact Jayne via email: [jayne@podstelford.org](mailto:jayne@podstelford.org)



### Hearing checks in residential special schools and colleges

#### About the project

Children and young people with a learning disability and/or who are autistic don't always have access to hearing checks or the checks are not always appropriate to meet their needs. We want to change this.



As part of the [NHS Long Term Plan](#) NHS England & NHS Improvement is starting to look at ways to provide hearing checks for every child.

Co-Production Collective are working with NHS England & NHS Improvement to put on a series of Sharing Ideas events to gather views and advance ideas about how to develop more acceptable hearing checks for children and young people with a learning disability and/or who are autistic in residential special schools and colleges.

## PODS Upcoming Family Groups

**Thursday 27th January 2022 - PODS Befriending Scheme Family Group - from 10am-11.15am at Admaston House, Wellington Road, Admaston, Telford, TF5 0BN**

Do you fancy a cuppa and a natter in a friendly, non-judgemental environment? If so, we would love you to join us at our first PODS Befriending Scheme Family Group of 2022, at Admaston House, for a chance to have a catch up, find out more about the Befriending Scheme and access non-judgemental befriending peer support with fellow parent carers.

**Places must be pre-booked**, through the Eventbrite link here: [PODS Befriending Scheme Family Group](#)

**Tuesday 25th January 2022 - PODS Group for Parents of Over 18s - from 10.30am-12pm**

Join us at our friendly group, a chance to catch up on updates, discuss services for your young people over the age of 18 - including health, social care, activities etc.

**This meeting will be held on line in the first instance and we will move to a venue when safer to do so.** To book your place, please click here: [PODS Group for Parents of Over 18s](#)

We hope you enjoyed reading our latest e-bulletin - we hope you continue to find it useful. If you have any suggestions to make it better feel free to let me know.