

# Let's Play Project Newsletter – April 2015



To find out about information, services & advice for families of disabled children, SEN & additional needs please go to:  
[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/disabilityinformation](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/disabilityinformation)

**Save the Date! Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2015**

Let's Play will be holding a Family Fun Day at Broughton Castle by kind permission of Lady Saye.  
More details to follow soon...

## **Sibs Charity - Support for Siblings**

Sibs is the only UK charity representing the needs of siblings (both young and adult) of disabled people.

<http://sibs.org.uk/>

## **Sibs Charity - Support for Siblings Workshops**

Would you be interested in attending a workshop run by Sibs charity (the only UK charity to support both young and adult siblings of disabled children/adults) <http://sibs.org.uk/>? I want to see if we have enough parents/professionals interested in such a workshop to support the event - if you are (it would be held on a weekday morning) then please email me. I appreciate that once the date is fixed you might not be able to attend.

**Supporting Siblings:** Workshop for parents  
3-4 hour in-house event, with 20 participants

**This workshop is for:**  
Parents of disabled children who want to know more about supporting siblings

**Purpose of the workshop:**  
This workshop will help parents of disabled children find ways of giving attention, information, and support to the other children in their families

**What participants will gain:**  
Insight into siblings' needs and experiences  
Practical ideas for giving siblings attention, explaining disability and supporting siblings with their feelings

The cost to parents to attend would be £10 - subsidised by support groups.

Melissa  
HIPPOS Support Group  
melissasheard17@gmail.com

## **Questionnaire - Parent Carers Voice Oxfordshire**

We have created a survey that has been designed to help identify awareness of the new guidance for SEN Support and how schools/settings have responded to it.

This questionnaire should be completed by someone who supports/cares for a child who has Special Educational Needs and/or Disability, formerly on SEN categories of School Action and School Action Plus, in Oxfordshire.

If you fit this category we would appreciate it if you would take 10 minutes to respond from your own experience. [fill it out in Google Forms](#).

We would like to assure you that the information collected within this survey will be used for the benefit of this project alone. All the research material is strictly confidential and all results will remain anonymous. Results will provide feedback to Oxfordshire local authority who have agreed to listen to your views and make changes accordingly.

Please visit: [www.facebook.com/ParentCarersVoiceOxfordshire](http://www.facebook.com/ParentCarersVoiceOxfordshire) for more information about what Parent Carers Voice do.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire and help us with our research, it is really appreciated.

Michelle Evans - Carers Voice Oxfordshire  
Email: [michelle@carersvoiceoxfordshire.org](mailto:michelle@carersvoiceoxfordshire.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/carersvoice.oxfordshire>

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## Face 2 Face Volunteer Training

Hello,

We now have a team of trained befrienders who are volunteering their time to support other parents of children with additional needs. We are now able to offer this training to ten more volunteers and we are pleased to say that the training is also now CPD (Continued Professional Development) accredited. I am just emailing to ask anyone who is keen to join us for the next Face 2 Face befriending training to confirm their interest to me by email and also let me know whether you are able to attend a taster session on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April. Venue for this and training is to be confirmed but will be in the Oxford/Cowley area. The taster session will be an opportunity to find out more about the training, meet some of the befrienders who trained last year and to hear more about what our service has been doing since we launched last July.

More information about the training is attached but we hope to begin on the week following the taster session. The training will be 9.30-2.30 on the following dates:

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June

The taster session will be 10-12 with opportunity to stay and apply for the course by talking it through with the trainer and coordinator after. Alternatively, if you definitely would like to go ahead with applying for the training then I can meet with you before this.

Please have a look at the information attached and feel free to send any forms back to me by email or bring along to the taster session.

All befrienders will need to provide two references as well as be willing to undertake DBS checks but this will be done after application.

If you know of anyone else who may be interested in this training please do pass this on.

Best wishes,

Anna

[anna.hinton@scope.org.uk](mailto:anna.hinton@scope.org.uk)

07775926572

I work Mondays and Wednesdays 9.30-2.30 and Thursdays 9.30-5.30

**Oxford Family Support Network E Bulletin:** <http://www.oxfsn.org.uk/index.php/oxfsn-news-bulletin-february->

## Big Plan Consultation - Oxfordshire's Learning Disability Strategy

**The results of the consultation on the draft Big Plan are now available.**

The Engagement Reports on the results of the consultation are accessible via the link below in summary, easy read, and full versions.

In addition, there is a report from the Commissioners responding to the consultation, and their final Big Plan Report to Cabinet with a link to the agenda and background papers for the Cabinet meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

<https://consultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consult/ti/bigplanLD/consultationHome>

Thank you to everyone who participated in the consultation and who assisted others to take part.