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Torbay PPF Facebook Group (members only)

Torbay PPF Facebook Page

MARCH 2017

PPF NEWS AND INFORMATION

Don't forget - the next **PPF Event** will be held on Thursday 23rd March, 10.00 to 14.00hrs at Upton Vale Baptist Church, Torquay. The theme is: **The Benefit System and Transition to Adult Services**. It is never too early to start thinking about the hopes and aspirations you and your child have for their future. There are still some places left, but don't leave it till the last minute to book: use the on-line booking form at <http://www.torbayppf.org.uk>

SPEAKERS CONFIRMED FOR THE EVENT SO FAR

Jason Creed and Julie Matthews will be attending from the Department for Work and Pensions, plus, from Torbay -

Lauren Wardle (SEN Caseworker) – Transition to adulthood from an education perspective to include what to expect from annual reviews and when to expect an EHC plan to cease to be required.

Alison Hitchings – Careers advice, focusing on the service that CSW Group are currently commissioned to provide.

Fiona Darby (Social Worker) – Children with Disability processes for transition to adulthood.

Sally Smith (Transitions Co-ordinator) – the role of the Transition Co-ordinator in Health & Social Care Co-ordination.

We hope also to have a short presentation on the Local Offer – how to find everything you need in one place

There will also be information stands for relevant support and services you can access

SURVEYS AND CONSULTATIONS

Torbay Council is consulting on its draft **Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Strategy**. This sets out the plans for improving outcomes and life chances for children and young people with SEND across Torbay, by ensuring help is offered at the earliest possible point, with children and young people with SEND and their parents fully involved in decisions about their support and what they want to achieve. The Council feel this will help lead to better outcomes and more efficient ways of working.

You can read the draft and give feedback here :

www.torbay.gov.uk/council/consultations/special-educational-needs-and-disability-strategy *

The consultation closes on 18th April 2017

Devon Local Authority is also consulting on its Strategy for Children & Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). [View the consultation](#) *

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Contact a Family have launched their biggest inquiry into school transport for disabled children, take part [here](#).

OTHER NEWS AND INFORMATION

The PlayTorbay Easter Programme is available now, <http://playtorbay.org.uk/holiday-programme/> * with lots of activities for children and young people of all ages. Please don't forget, if your child requires the support of the Play Inclusion Team contact Jemma at PlayTorbay as soon as possible - jemma@playtorbay.org.uk or phone 01803 850157.

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Play Torbay is seeking senior playworkers, playworkers and sessional Gardener (to work at QED concrete garden). They also need qualified staff able to cover for current staff and also for additional work in holiday periods. Your hours of work will depend on your own availability. There will also be a number of volunteering and training opportunities available. For more information, a job description and an application form please email admin@playtorbay.org.uk or call 01803 850157. Closing date is 22nd

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The Council for Disabled Children has published a report, **Understanding The Needs Of Disabled Children With Complex Needs Or Life-Limiting Conditions** which you can read here : [CDC Report](#)*

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PARENTS' EXPERIENCE

"Social Services have funded a self-opening front door to our house. It's taken four and a half years from first survey to completion, but it has made our lives so much easier - my son can come and go at will (not unreasonable for a 21-year-old!) and I'm not constantly panicking that I won't be home in time to let him in. Thank you to Suzie and the rest of the team"

If you have had an experience (good or bad) that you would like to share with other parent/carers, please e-mail it to info@torbayppf.org.uk