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Torbay PPF Facebook Group (members only)

Torbay PPF Facebook Page

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PPF NEWS AND INFORMATION

Torbay Parents Participation Forum now has a new name - **Torbay Parent Carer Forum (PCF)**, and a new logo to match. The Steering Group took this decision in order to :

- make it clearer that membership is open to parents and carers
- align the forum much better with the National Parent Carer Association
- reflect that we now work more in co-production than in participation

We also have a new Secretary, Claire Howells, who was voted into the position at the recent AGM

SURVEYS, CONSULTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

Under **Universal Credit** more than 100,000 families with disabled children will be worse off. This is because child disability payments are being cut by more than 50% for most disabled children. In fact families with disabled children are one of the groups who are most likely to be worse off. **Contact a Family is calling on the Prime Minister to reverse cuts to child disability payments under Universal Credit.** Add your name to their petition [here](#)

Linwood Teaching School Alliance are offering free places to parents and carers on their **Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities (PMLD) or Complex Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (CLDD) course** which is being held in Bournemouth in September. This conference brings together a range of experts in the fields of sensory processing difficulties who will be delivering key note presentations as well as linked workshops. For more information contact vickystrutt@linwood.bournemouth.sch.uk, 01202 525107

The **Disabled Children's Partnership** is a campaign which hopes to make social and health care better, to improve life chances for disabled children, young people and their families. You can [sign up for updates](#) about the how the campaign is going and to hear about chances to get involved.

The contracts to provide **services for children and young people in Devon** are due to be renewed from 1 April 2019, and the **South Devon and Torbay Clinical Commissioning Group** is taking the opportunity over the coming months to review and improve the system of care and support available to children and young people across Devon.

Services range from those that all children and young people come into contact with at

some point including: health visiting and school nursing; services to support those with mental health issues; services for children and young people with additional or special needs (up to the age of 25).

Between 13 July and 15 September, they are seeking the views of children and young people, parents, carers, professionals that work with children and those that refer into services to further inform our proposals. You can have your say [here](#)

OTHER NEWS AND INFORMATION

PlayTorbay's summer programme, which is free to children in the bay, is [here](#). If your child requires the support of PlayTorbay's Play Inclusion Team, contact jemma@playtorbay.org.uk or phone 01803 850157. They have team of highly trained workers skilled in playwork and youth work who are able to support young people on a one-to-one basis. Due to the loss of Children In Need funding, PlayTorbay now charge £20.00 per hour for this service.

There are many **mental health helplines**, this website - [Guide to UK Free Mental Health Helplines](#) outlines exactly what each of these free helplines offers for people suffering from mental health problems

SENDIASS Torbay will be holding events for parents every month from Aug 04 (view dates [here](#)) including family picnics in Cockington and coffee mornings with guest speakers from local organisations. For more information about the service, and the support available, view the website <http://sendiasstorbay.org.uk>

PARENTS' EXPERIENCE

My son and I recently spent a day at Paignton Zoo. It was very daunting for me as my son, 13, has gradually been losing the use of his legs and now has to use a wheelchair all the time. I'm not used to negotiating the world pushing a wheelchair!

But the staff at the zoo couldn't have been more helpful. Firstly I got a discount on my son's ticket and I was admitted for free as his carer. We were given a map showing which parts of the zoo were accessible and which parts (just a small area) were best avoided!

Clean accessible toilets and a very kind lady in the cafe who carried our tray to our table, fetched cutlery and cleared up after us

So we had a great day out and I'm now far more confident in my new role as mum to a wheelchair kid

Zoe from Brixham

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