

You Said, We Did

Update 3, (October 2019)

As a result of feedback from the Short Breaks Consultation for Children and Young People aged under the age of 18 with SEND, North Somerset Council have achieved the following:

You Said	We Did
<p>We need to provide more activities for children under the age of 8.</p>  	<p>We reported in our last update that 4 sessions for under 8-year olds were offered during the summer holidays and that 19 places were secured. Now the holidays are over, we can confirm that the take up for this age range was 28 places. Feedback from parents with under 8-year olds who attended these sessions said:</p> <p><i>"It did my child good, to get out the house, in a safe and stimulating environment, he came home happy and calm."</i></p> <p><i>"My child is non-verbal, but he really did appear to enjoy the session."</i></p> <p><i>"I was so worried to start with, he hasn't ever done anything like this before, he loved it, came home really calm and tired!"</i></p> <p>At all our under 8-year-old sessions, we were very lucky to have guidance, advice and feedback from the Learning Disabilities professionals from the Specialist Learning Disability Team – Drove Road. As a result of feedback, we have made some changes to the length of future sessions (made them shorter), to enable a more positive experience for the children attending.</p> <p>Springboard have been awarded a Children in Need grant to provide playschemes in Weston and Clevedon for 0-5-year olds with SEND and their young siblings. These will take place during the Easter and Summer holidays 2020-2023. We are thrilled that this award will provide the services identified by parents and carers as a current gap and we will continue to work closely with Springboard.</p> <p>We have begun discussions regarding our OFSTED registration for our playscheme activities. We will feedback progress via this newsletter and will update North Somerset's SEND page.</p>

You wanted professionals (including Drove Road colleagues) to have improved knowledge of the services offered by the Daycare Development Team and The Sitting Service.

We continue to work closely with the Disabled Children's Team and meet with all new members to ensure they are aware of our services and share updates at their team meetings.

Our number of enquiries from external services has increased which is a positive indicator that knowledge of our services is increasing.

We continue to raise the awareness with services that support children and young people with SEND.

You wanted us to improve how we advertise our clubs and activities to support parents and carers with knowing what they can access.

We have reviewed the take-up of our summer programme and are pleased to advise that we had an increase in attendance by 25% from 2018. This is a result of our improvements to how we promote / market our programme.



We will be attending Springboard's coffee morning in October/November and will be seeking feedback from parents and carers on the summer's activity program, their opinions on how we are able to continue to develop the service in line with views and feedback.

We attended September's, "For Parents, by Parents, Autism Support Group," and used the opportunity to talk to parents and carers to raise the awareness of the Local Offer, SEND Facebook Page and the new Online Disability Register.

We are attending the Social Communication and Autism Fayre on the 11 November and look forward to talking to parents, carers and professionals.



We continue to raise the profile of North Somerset Council's SEND Facebook page with colleagues/professionals that we work with and ensure that all services provided by the Daycare Development Team are promoted via this social media site.

The link is:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1062620207266942/>

The Daycare Development Team have completed a 2019 / 2020 activity calendar which runs from October-August 2020. Activities provide continuity of days for age ranges and all activities will be advertised on the Local Offer, SEND Facebook page, other social media websites as well as our newsletter which goes out to all registered families on the Daycare Development Team's database.

You wanted the Local Offer to have an Autism Friendly tab to improve access to information.

We shared with you in our previous update that an Autism Friendly tab had been added to the Local Offer. There are now 148 autism related groups and venues on the Local Offer. The team carefully curate these tags to ensure that services don't just add them with no evidence of actually providing services to children and young people with ASD/autism-friendly sessions.

	<p>The team are also working to dual-tag this online service as “sensory-friendly,” as parents / carers have asked for this. Please continue to let us know of any Autism Friendly groups / venues so we can add to the Local Offer.</p>
<p>You wanted the Daycare Development Team and Sitting Service to change their general team name from Short Breaks to something else to prevent misunderstanding.</p>	<p>The team came up with the name “Daycare, Short Breaks Team,” and sought feedback from parents and carers regarding this name. No feedback to date has been received. We will be carrying out a poll in November on the SEND Facebook page to rename the service.</p>
<p>You wanted an online Children’s Register.</p>	<p>The on-line register has now been created and is in a draft format whilst discussions with teams continue as to how we can improve it to make it more user friendly for families. The draft version can be found on the landing page of the Local Offer: https://nsod.n-somerset.gov.uk/kb5/northsomerset/directory/advice.page?id=BLdtLCF4zxs</p> <p>We will update you shortly as to when the register will go live.</p>