



Welcome to our first Add-On e-newsletter!

Add-On got off to a flying start following our launch in May, with over 200 members registered in the first few days! We hope that you are enjoying the benefits of being on the register and are making the most of your [MAX Card](#). In this issue we bring you a parent story, review of a day out with the MAX Card, news from Poole Parent Carer Forum, [Poole SENDIASS](#) and [Winchelsea School](#). Many thanks to all our amazing contributors!



Our next issue will be out in January. Please get in touch if you would like to tell your story, write a review of your MAX Card day out or let others know about services or fundraising activities.

Don't forget to visit [Poole's Local Offer](#) for information on services out there to help.

Poole Parent Carer Forum news

We are delighted to have so many new Poole Parent Carer Forum members via the Add-On register and wish to warmly welcome you.

Poole Parent Carer Forum (previously known as [PAX](#)) has undergone some changes, and we are now being supported by The [Rose Road Association](#). Rose Road has been working with children and adults with disabilities and health needs and their families since 1952, so are well placed to support our Parent Forum. We are very excited about the future of the forum and hope to become stronger and more responsive in our approach to supporting families and children with SEND. We now have a new name (Poole Parent Carer Forum), a new logo, administrator and a brand new website will be following soon.



We would like to invite you to meet the team and join us at our launch event with buffet and refreshments taking place on Tuesday 17 October 10am - 2pm at Rossmore Leisure Centre. Please email poolepcf@roseroad.org.uk to confirm attendance by 13 October. We look forward to welcoming you!

In the autumn term we will be looking for new members to join a steering group to support and influence the development of the online Local Offer with the Family Information Service

For enquiries about Rose Road please contact poolepcf@roseroad.org.uk

Your story - Kadin's journey

Hi, our names are Nikki and Steve, we live in Poole and are the parents of three children, one girl and two boys, aged 13, 12 and 10. We'd like to share our journey so far with our eldest son Kadin who is 12, and while he has an official diagnosis which includes [Autistic Spectrum Disorder](#) (ASD) including [Asperger Syndrome](#) and [Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder](#) (ADHD), he isn't limited or defined by this - he is simply a boy who dreams of being a professional footballer and owning a Ferrari just like many other 12-year-olds!



It's been an incredibly eventful journey and we've shed many tears and suffered many sleepless nights but we'd like you to read our story because we want everyone to know that Autism and ADHD are not something to be embarrassed or scared about, and with the right support and information you and your child can get the help you need. We're not going to lie - it will take time. You may find yourself in floods of tears, screaming and shouting, thinking why me, and feeling just like we did - totally without hope, but there is light at the end of the tunnel and taking it one step at a time helps.

When our son was born, after a few complications, we presumed everything was okay and physically he appeared to be fine. However, breastfeeding became an issue as he would take hours to feed, then at eight months the health visitor noticed he had a tongue-tie so we attended Southampton Hospital where it was quickly dealt with by a surgeon. We hoped the feeding would improve but it still took our son a long time to feed and we never really understood why...

[Read more about Kadin's journey](#)

Improving outcomes for children & young people with SEND

Thank you to everyone who took part in the consultation on a new Poole strategy to improve outcomes for children and young people with SEND. Thank you to PAX (now Poole Parent Carer Forum) for taking part in the consultation.



special educational
needs and disability

Throughout February and March 2017, partners in Poole including the Local Authority and Health, consulted with a range of children, young people and their families, including children in care and siblings of those with SEND. This was achieved through online surveys, discussion groups and other opportunities to better understand the changes you want to see.

Key issues you raised were the need for closer working between families and services (co-production); a better flow of information both between services and to families; personalisation of services and a 'whole family' approach; clear pathways of support; and better preparation for adulthood.

What you told us has shaped the new strategy and improvement plan. These are now being finalised and will be shared with you very soon, along with regular updates about the improvement we are making.

Dylan's Pokemon Walk for Autism Awareness

"My name is Dylan, I am 11 years old and I have autism. This means I think differently to other people. I find it hard to concentrate on more than one thing at a time and I get very frustrated and angry. My favourite thing in the world is Pokemon and I think about it all the time. I want people to think that we can all be who we want to be. Thank you for sponsoring me!"

Dylan decided he wanted to do something to help raise money for the National Autistic Society as part of National Autism Week 2017, so he came up with a Pokemon themed sponsored walk. Dylan walked from Shore Road to Bournemouth and back again, looking for Pokemon all the way and raised £510! Well done Dylan!



Have you done something special to help others? Please tell us about it and we may publish it in a future Add-On News!

Do you know about Poole SENDIASS?

Poole [SENDIASS](#) is a free, confidential and impartial service for children and young people with SEND living in Poole, as well as their parents or carers.



We can offer advice, information and support by:

- Listening to parent/carers and young people and helping them to voice their concerns and views
- Working with parent/carers and young people to explore different options
- Help to prepare for and support at meetings, including exclusions, Annual Reviews and other meetings with professionals
- Helping parent/carers and young people understand their rights in relation to special educational needs and disability
- Support for parent/carers and young people to resolve difficulties and find solutions
- Guidance and support through appeal processes, including mediation

SENDIASS also continues to provide independent support through the Education, Health and Care Planning process. This support is about guiding and advising parent/carers and young people through the whole process from the very beginning, right through to the final Education, Health and Care Plan being issued. This support is also available when a Statement of SEN is being transferred to an Education, Health and Care plan and for the Annual Review process.

Meet the SENDIASS Team...

Victoria Hunt: started in post in June 2016, as SENDIASS Manager.

Claire Murphy: joined in August 2016, as SENDIASS Officer.

Colin Phillimore: recently joined as SENDIASS Young Person's Development Officer.

If you think [SENDIASS](#) can help you please get in touch:

Telephone – 01202 261933 Email – sendiass@poole.gov.uk

Winchelsea Parental Engagement Project

[Winchelsea](#) is a community special school in Poole with 110 pupils aged 4-16. One of the strengths of the school is the close working relationship they have built with their parents, and strong links with Poole Parent Carer Forum. Nikki Jacques who works at the school and is an active member of the forum tells us about their Parental Engagement Project:

The special relationship between Winchelsea, its parents and Poole Parent Carer Forum has recently developed into a 'Parental Engagement Project' and our school is now working towards gaining a ['Leading Parent Partnership'](#) award.

Our staff and parents/carers work tirelessly together on the education, development and wellbeing of the children. We openly share information and parents are encouraged to be actively involved in the school (working in the classrooms, attending courses and training). There is a Parental Engagement Noticeboard for parents who are less able to be involved.

Part of the project's success is down to the support we receive from Poole Parent Carer Forum. They have supported the school and our parents throughout the school year in working towards this award.

Poole Parent Carer Forum provides a powerful listening ear and voice at our school events/activities, helping influence the improvement of services, and ultimately benefiting our children and young people.

We're really proud of the progress our school had made and it's our hope that once we have achieved our ['Leading Parent Partnership'](#) award other schools in Poole will be inspired to go for it too!

Find out more about [Winchelsea School](#).



My MAX Card Day Out - Sealife Centre Weymouth

(Sealife Centre Weymouth is a MAX Card venue with a discounted rate for card holders.)

My family and I went to visit the Sealife Centre in Weymouth. It was a very long journey but it was worth it! When we were there we saw lots of different types of fish and other animals like sting rays, sharks and turtles. My favourite animals were the penguins because they made me laugh a lot.

We also listened to the man telling us about otters and then we were allowed to feed them. This was really fun. Next time, I want to be able to feed the penguins!

Review written by Year 5 Pupil – Winchelsea School

Can you write a review on a MAX Card Day out for our next issue? We would love to hear from both children and their parents to get a perspective on both. Email your review to the [FIS team](#).

Check out all the [MAX Card Days Out](#) !



The next Add-On News is due out January 2018!

To subscribe to this newsletter you must join the Add-On Register. If you are not eligible to join the Add-On Register but are a professional working in SEND and wish to join our newsletter mailing list please [sign up here](#).

If you are a parent and no longer wish to receive Add-On News or be included on the Add-On Register you can unsubscribe from your account.

www.poolefamilyinformationdirectory.com/localoffer

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