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| **Leeds Local Offer (SEND) Ebulletin – December 2022** |
| Welcome to the December 2022 edition of the Leeds Local Offer ebulletin. The ebulletin is an opportunity for us to share with you SEND Leeds Local Offer website updates, training opportunities, good practice, resources and promote consultations that are taking place in the city by services under the Local Offer.  We encourage you to share the information within your teams and with children, young people and families you are working with. If you have any stories, service updates, groups or events that you would like us to feature in a future issue you can send them to me at [LLO@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:LLO@leeds.gov.uk) or give me a call on 07712 214392 if you have any questions.  Previous editions of the ebulletin can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/LLOEbulletin>  Kayleigh Thurlow  Local Offer and SEND Voice and Influence Coordinator |
| **\*News Flash\*** |
| **Leeds Local Offer Live**  **March 2023**  We are excited to announce that on **Tuesday 28th March 2022 we will be hosting Leeds Local Offer Live 10am till 2pm at Pudsey Civic Hall.**  The event will be a market place style event for families with a child with special educational needs and/or disabilities to come and find out about SEND services and support available to them within the city.  We have the space for 60 service stalls available on the day, this includes a table and two chairs. If you would like to request a stall at the event please email the following information to [LLO@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:LLO@leeds.gov.uk) by Friday 1st December 2022 and we will confirm service stalls w/c 4th December 2022.   * Service * Contact name * Contact email * Is electricity required? |
| **Leeds Local Offer Updates and Developments** |
| **Leeds Local Offer – It’s everyone’s responsibility**  All Local authorities must publish a Local Offer, setting out in one place information about provision they expect to be available across education, health and social care for children and young people in their area who have SEN or are disabled, including those who do not have Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans. In setting out what they ‘expect to be available’, local authorities should include provision which they believe will actually be available.  The Local Offer has two key purposes:   * To provide clear, comprehensive, accessible and up-to-date information about the available provision and how to access it, and * To make provision more responsive to local needs and aspirations by directly involving disabled children and those with SEN and their parents, and disabled young people and those with SEN, and service providers in its development and review.   The Local Offer must include provision in the local authority’s area. It must also include provision outside the local area that the local authority expects is likely to be used by children and young people with SEN for whom they are responsible and disabled children and young people.  Local authorities must publish comments about their Local Offer received from or on behalf of children with SEN or disabilities and their parents and young people with SEN or disabilities.  THE ASKS   * Get in touch with [LLO@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:LLO@leeds.gov.uk) to review your current service information, and to discuss how the Leeds Local Offer website can compliment your service and provide information to families * Add the Leeds Local Offer to your email signature: The Leeds Local Offer provides information about ALL services for children and young people with SEND <http://leedslocaloffer.org.uk/> |
| **Leeds Local Offer and Voice and Influence – how we can support your service**  The Voice and Influence Team within Children and Families service lead on the development and review of the Leeds Local Offer website and also providing advice guidance and support to teams and services to strengthen the voice and influence of children, young people with SEND and their parents and carers in the city.  To find out how we can support you visit our ‘offers’ section on the Leeds Local Offer website: <https://leedslocaloffer.org.uk/#!/search/list?query=LLO%26VI_offer&exact=1> |
| **Join the Leeds Local Offer Facebook Group**  The Leeds Local Offer facebook page is a way of us communicating service updates, events and other key information direct with parents, carers and professionals.  The Leeds Local Offer facebook group can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/leedslocaloffer> |
| **Useful service information and updates** |
| **Short Breaks and Fun Activities – Winter 2022 Newsletter**  Short breaks are activities for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) that enable them to have fun, spend time with friends and build their confidence and skills in a safe environment. Activities can last from one hour up to full weekend (residential) opportunities.  There are lots of exciting things happening within Short Breaks at the moment and this edition covers some of it, including upcoming play schemes for the February half term and information on residential Short Breaks.  Click here to view the Winter 2022 newsletter: <https://leedslocaloffer.org.uk/#!/model/page/service/34311> |
| **Scope Sessional Workers**  Do you know a young person who needs extra support accessing a leisure activity?  If a child / young person has additional needs or is disabled and would like to access mainstream leisure activities, Scope can help.  Sessional play workers can support children / young people to be included when they attend an activity. The play worker will support the activity to get to know the child and meet their needs.  Free training and resources will be provided to the activity provider and they will receive ongoing support.  To find out more email [LeedsPlayPartners@scope.org.uk](mailto:LeedsPlayPartners@scope.org.uk) |
| **MindMate News**  [MindMate News #12](https://www.mindmate.org.uk/updates/mindmate-news-12/) is now live for World Mental Health day 2022, featuring…  Leeds SpeakUp! Campaign for #BlackBoyJoy, the latest from Leeds Mind and Kooth, and find out how to invite MindMate into your school or college.  Please share with your colleagues and networks  <https://www.mindmate.org.uk/updates/mindmate-news-12/>  [MindMate News](https://www.mindmate.org.uk/updates/) is a regular bulletin bringing you news and up to date information about MindMate and young people’s mental health in Leeds.  Do you have any updates for the MindMate News bulletin?  Contact [liz.neill@commonroom.uk.com](mailto:liz.neill@commonroom.uk.com) to get your news featured in the next publication. |
| **CREATE - creative arts programme for students with autism**  [Create](https://createarts.org.uk/) are a multi-award-winning charity empowering lives, reducing isolation and enhancing wellbeing through the creative arts. Our focus is on engaging the most marginalised participants in inspiring, sustainable arts programmes in areas where provision is poor and engagement in the arts is low.  This project aims to give autistic children and young people the opportunity to take part in inspiring creative arts workshops inspired by Greta Thunberg’s speeches, empowering them to explore collectively the issues facing our planet.   * Two-year programme, to be delivered during 2022 and 2023. * Empowering 15-20 autistic children and young people each year. * Delivered in partnership with a school in an area of deprivation in Leeds that lacks creative arts provision from other external providers. * Eight full day workshops per year delivered in two blocks of 4 days. These can be delivered in am/pm workshops with two different groups of 8-10 children and young people. * Led by Create’s highly skilled professional, practicing artists (e.g.: musician / dance / actor / filmmaker / sculptor / writer). * Exploring the theme of ‘Environment’ inspired by Greta Thunberg’s speeches in the book ‘No one is too small to make a difference’. * Culminating in an annual showcase. * Artworks created in Year 1 will inspire artistic responses in Year 2. * Teachers will be asked to provide pre- and post- assessment of each child or young person who takes part across agreed skills. Evaluation will also involve each child and young person's responses.   For further information please contact Hannah Clayden  - [Hannah@createarts.org.uk](mailto:Hannah@createarts.org.uk); |
| **MindMate – Neurodiversity Hub**  ‘Neurodiversity’ (ND) refers to the concept that there is a range of difference in the way in which people think about, interpret and interact with the world around them. Everyone’s brain is unique, and this affects how we perceive and react to what’s around us. It influences what skills we have, our abilities and our needs.  Many neurodevelopmental differences fall under the neurodiversity spectrum. Conditions include Autism and ADHD, intellectual disability, Tourette’s Syndrome, dyslexia, dyspraxia and dyscalculia. People who are neurodivergent may or may not have a diagnosis of one or more of these conditions, and often they have traits of different conditions.  Having neurodivergent traits does not necessarily mean you or your child has autism or ADHD and whether or not you have a formal diagnosis should not affect your access to support.  Support should be offered on the basis of your child’s individual needs.  **The neurodiversity information hub on MindMate** is a reliable source of information about issues related to neurodivergence.  The hub includes resources for you or your child’s school to help support your child; information about diagnostic assessment processes where this might be helpful; and other services and sources of support that you might wish to access.  <https://www.mindmate.org.uk/nd/>  The MindMate neurodiversity hub has been developed over the past year with the help of Jenny Perry, Maisie Eastwick (Leeds CAMHS) and other colleagues. It’s a resource for parents and carers in Leeds and anyone else wanting information about Autism and ADHD, including what support is on offer for children, young people and their families.  Tell us what you think?  The content will be further developed in phase two of the build during 2023 and we are keen to hear your feedback to help this process - please share your thoughts about any of the current content and encourage colleagues.  We’re also looking for feedback from parents - primarily of under 11s - so if you are in touch with any parent carer networks please share the link also. The feedback survey is linked at the bottom of every page to enable feedback as you go.  Complete the short survey to share your feedback: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/V704E5/> |
| **Mencap – Supported Internships Open Day**   * Are you an employer wanting to be more inclusive? * Are you supporting young people with a learning disability/difficulty/autism and an EHCP to plan their next steps? * Are you your self-aged 16-24, with an EHCP and looking for support to gain paid work?   Come and learn about Mencap’s Support Internships!  Wednesday 7th December, 11am till 4pm at Kala Sangam Arts Centre, BD1 4TY  Please email [Roxanne.coleman@mencap.org.uk](mailto:Roxanne.coleman@mencap.org.uk) to confirm your attendance. |
| **Lighthouse Futures Trust**  Lighthouse Futures Trust is a specialist post-16 college based in Headingley.  We have a range of programmes for young people with an EHCP for whom employment is a potential next or future step.   * World of Work (WoW): a 1-day-a-week offer for students at mainstream or specialist schools.  Students come to us, with their support staff, from 10 am to 2.00 pm.  Whilst here they participate in a practical and engaging programme that helps them develop the social and employability skills they will need in the workplace.  This includes: a focus on developing specific skills; taking on team roles in a group project; meeting employers and more. * Pre-internship: this is a 1-3 year programme for young people aged 16-18, or those over 18 who are not quite ready for the world of work.  The varied programme is an in-depth version of our WoW and takes place, at our College site, for 4 days a week.  Students also study English and Maths and will get some work experience, too. * Supported Internship: this 10-month project allows interns to experience what it is like to do a real job in a live business setting.  Groups of 3-4 interns are based at one of our 7 employer sites in Leeds for 3 days a week, and are supported by an on-site Job Coach from Lighthouse Futures Trust.  The 4th day is used to study English, Maths and to run a specific project of their choice, all designed to extend their skills and increase their self-confidence.   We are actively recruiting for all our programmes now, and have some Open Days over the next few months.  To receive further information, please email [info@lighthousefuturestrust.org.uk](mailto:info@lighthousefuturestrust.org.uk) |
| **SENDIASS – Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information Advice and Support Service**  SENDIASS have a new service offer, you can view the service offer here: <https://leedslocaloffer.org.uk/#!/model/page/service/6566> |
| **Children and young people information and consultations**  (Please share these with young people you work with) |
| **Leeds SEND Youth Forum**  Are you aged 11-25 with additional needs?  Want to help make Leeds an *even* better city for young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)?  The Leeds SEND Youth Forum is an online network of young people aged 11 to 25 years old with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) who live in Leeds or attend school in Leeds.  What the SEND Youth Forum Do  You will get the chance to:   * attend monthly SEND Youth Forum zoom sessions * work on issues important to young people * give feedback about services by completing online surveys * sit on interview panels * meet with bosses to share your experiences and feedback about services   What is in it for you?   * Being part of the SEND Youth Forum, you will: * meet new people and make new friends * learn new skills * be able to include it on your CV and future job application forms * contribute to improving SEND services for young people in Leeds * share ideas and experiences with decision makers * receive gift vouchers as a thank you!   Join the Leeds SEND Youth Forum here <https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/SENDYC/> |
| **Children and Young People’s Plan – consultation survey**  The Children & Young People’s Plan is the strategic document that guides the work of the children’s partnership in Leeds.  We have identified several areas that we would like to change and would welcome your views on those proposed changes.  In identifying these proposed areas of change, we have acknowledged the increased focus on children and young people’s mental health and wellbeing following the Covid-19 pandemic, greater advocacy for action on the climate emergency, and the cost-of-living crisis.  View our current plan here:(<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/childfriendlyleeds/Documents/CMT18-022%20Childrens%20and%20YP%20Plan%2018-23.pdf>)  If you would like to contribute to the refresh, please complete the survey here: <https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/A4STDB/?fbclid=IwAR1kyxgM7-Ljb2tnAy9OnaZI4kAlU4bxkKB9GEBlnWlNQIDZEe0DKGupFkY> |
| **Raising awareness of disabilities and how others can support young people** Members of the Leeds SEND Youth Forum want to raise awareness of disabilities and how others can support young people in different situations.  The SEND Youth Forum are developing ‘my journey’ information sheets that explain the challenges young people face in everyday situations and what can be done to support them.  We are looking for young people to share experiences with us, these will then be added to the resource which will be shared with professionals.  All journeys will be anonymous, and won’t include names.  Please complete our short survey here to share your experience:  <https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/MyJourney/> |
| **SEND Youth Activities Survey 2022** Community Committees need your help to find out what activities they should provide in the area you live.  Please complete their survey to help them understand what activities young people like to do.  It should only take you a few minutes to answer all of the questions and remember to click Finish to submit your response to us. **The last day that you can respond is 31 March 2023.**  If you need to speak to someone about this survey then please email [CommunityCommitteeFunding@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:CommunityCommitteeFunding@leeds.gov.uk) or telephone 0113 378 5808  Complete the survey here: <https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/AEF68V/> |
| **Your Neighbourhood, Your City, your Planet**  The ‘Your Neighbourhood, Your City, Your Planet’ consultation focuses on ways we can shape planning policy (the rules that developers have to follow when building new houses and other buildings) to reduce our city’s impact on the environment and help the city achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2030.  We are asking people what they think and feel about issues regarding climate change in Leeds and in local neighbourhoods, as well as feedback on emerging planning policies on the following topic areas:   * **Carbon reduction** - changing the way buildings are built, and how we generate renewable energy. * **Flood risk** – helping reduce the impact of flooding in Leeds. * **Green and blue infrastructure** - making the most of our green spaces and natural environment. * **Place-making** – guiding new development to places that offer the best opportunities for walking, cycling and public transport. * **Sustainable infrastructure** – integrating low emissions transport and improved digital connectivity, helping reduce journeys by car.   If you would like to participate in our consultation please use this link to access the survey: <https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/Lpupdyth/>  The consultation ends on Monday 19th December so try to get your comments submitted by then. If you would like to leave some contact details we will enter you into a prize draw to win one of five £10 shopping vouchers as a thank you for helping us.  If you would like some more information about this consultation you can look at our webpage: <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/local-plan-update> |
| **Children's Rights - do you know your rights?** Have you heard of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Children, known as the UNCRC?   Governments across the world have agreed that all children under 18 years old should never be hurt in anyway. There is a list of 42 things that children need, this list includes   * Houses to live in * Places to play * Looked after * Access to schools * Be safe and happy   All children have all these rights, no matter who they are, where they live, what language they speak, what their religion is, what they think, what they look like, if they are a boy or girl, if they have a disability, if they are rich or poor, and no matter who their parents or families are or what their parents or families believe or do. No child should be treated unfairly for any reason.  Your rights are about survival, development, participation and protection.  More information about Children’s Rights can be found on the Leeds Local Offer website at <https://leedslocaloffer.org.uk/#!/model/page/service/34282> |
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| **Leeds City Council is running a public consultation on the 2024/2025 admission policy for Leeds community and voluntary controlled schools** The consultation is open until 7 December 2022.  You can find further information about the survey, and complete the survey here: <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions/give-feedback-on-a-school-admissions-policy/changes-to-the-admission-arrangements-for-leeds-community-and-voluntary-controlled-schools>  The 100 community and voluntary controlled school this consultation is for are listed in the consultation information on our website.  170 Leeds schools are academies, voluntary aided, foundation and free schools. These schools all consult on and set their own admission policy, so this consultation doesn’t apply to any of those schools. |
| **MindMate**  The MindMate Neurodiversity Hub <https://www.mindmate.org.uk/nd/> is now live.  This has been developed over the past year with the help of Jenny Perry, Maisie Eastwick (Leeds CAMHS) and other colleagues. It’s a resource for parents and carers in Leeds and anyone else wanting information about Autism and ADHD, including what support is on offer for children, young people and their families.  Tell us what you think?  The content will be further developed in phase two of the build during 2023 and we are keen to hear your feedback to help this process - please share your thoughts about any of the current content and encourage colleagues.  Complete the short survey to share your feedback: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/V704E5/> |
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| **Opportunity for parents / carers of a child with SEND to take part in a research study**  A trainee Educational Psychologist at the University of Nottingham is looking for parents and carers to take part in a research study.  The study hopes to explore parents / carers experience of working with a local authority Educational Psychology Service within the stages of early intervention. I plan to hold semi-structured interviews with identified parents/ carers that have been offered or accessed Educational Psychologist support with the involvement taking place outside of the statutory EHCP process.  Participation in this study would be totally voluntary and they would be under no obligation to take part.  If parents/ carers are interested in taking part in the study, please email [Jennifer.winstanley@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Jennifer.winstanley@leeds.gov.uk) . |
| **What is secondary school is like for young people who have a long-term physical or mental health condition and how support can be improved?** A team of researchers at the UCL’s Children & Families Policy Research Unit is carrying out a short survey to understand what secondary school is like for young people who have a long-term physical or mental health condition and how support can be improved. By long-term we mean need help from a GP, nurse, psychologist or another health professional for one year or more, regardless of whether appointments are regular or not. You might have a diagnosed condition (for example, diabetes, anxiety) or you might not have a diagnosis.  We’d like to hear from:   * Young people aged 16 to 25 years who have/had any long-term physical or mental health conditions while at secondary school * Parents/carers of a young person aged 11 to 25 years who has/had any long-term physical or mental health conditions while at secondary school.   If you’re interested, click here for more information: <https://qualtrics.ucl.ac.uk/jfe/form/SV_bC1fRIoFdgKhPue>  If you have any questions about the study, please email Lauren at [l.herlitz@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:l.herlitz@ucl.ac.uk) |
| **SENDIASS Information Sessions** SENDIASS information sessions are short or medium length, narrated videos aiming to give parents and carers information and advice about key (Special Educational Needs and Disability) SEND processes. They may also be useful for professionals who are working with families who are considering or are going through these processes.  Information videos aim to support parents and carers to understand SEND processes in a step-by-step format, and include targeted videos which can be viewed whilst filling out forms.  You can view all SENDIASS information Sessions on the Leeds SENDIASS You Tube channel by following this link:  <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHzY7c0_VtCPjf_Spem9vfQ?view_as=subscriber> |
| **Professionals - consultations / opportunities / training** |
| **Help make Leeds an inclusive play city**  Thank you to all those who have already signed up to be on our trial session map.  We vision this been a city-wide map with all activity suppliers that provide an inclusive service. This not only promotes your activity but supports children and young people with additional needs to access your service and see if it is for them.    There is a significant number of children that are excluded in play, we recently attended Leeds play sufficiency plan, their research found 1 in 4 children could not play out with their friends ‘this particularly came through strong in workshops with PRU (Pupil referral unity) and SILC (Special inclusive learning centre) pupils.  Follow @leedsplay to find out more.    We need your help to ensure all children have access to play    If you would be happy to be included on the map, please let me us know by emailing the following to [leeds@scope.org.uk](mailto:leeds@scope.org.uk)   * What you would like to be included on your description – whether this just be your name or a short explanation of your offer * Your trial session offer (be specific) for example 1-hour free trial on a Wednesday or Thursday * Any social media links such as website/Facebook etc   This map will then be posted live on the local offer website [Directory (leedslocaloffer.org.uk)](https://leedslocaloffer.org.uk/#!/directory)  If you don’t already advertise your activity on the local offer, you can email [llo@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:llo@leeds.gov.uk) |
| **Leeds Libraries – The Storymaker’s Apprentice**  Festive show for children aged 3+ and their families  <https://www.leedsinspired.co.uk/events/libellule-theatre-presents-storymakers-apprentice>  There are a series of shows available for families:  **Audio-Described performances** - Sunday 11th December - 11am & 2pm  Audio-described performances have live commentary to describe the action onstage for attendees with visual impairments. Before the performances, touch tours are available to explore the stage and set, as well as handling selected props, costumes and scenery for familiarisation purposes.  **BSL Interpreted performances** - Sunday 18th December - 11am & 2pm  During signed performances, trained BSL interpreters will stand in view of the audience to interpret the show while it is being performed.  **Relaxed performance** - Thursday 29th December - 1:30pm  A Relaxed performance has a more informal atmosphere particularly aimed to welcome those with sensory sensitivities and autism. Performances remain the same but with small adjustments, e.g. the house lights will remain on, loud noises are softened, and audience members are free to leave and re-enter. |
| **Resources** |
| **Preparing for Adulthood Family Resource**  This course has been developed to support families, so you they have accurate information to Prepare for Adulthood with your young person.  The modules:   * Preparing for Transition * Education, Training, Volunteering and Employment * Health, Wellbeing and Relationships * Independent Living * Coordinating Transitions   Videos and presentations for families of children and young people with SEND to support preparing for adulthood  The course is intended to be delivered in a facilitated group of peers. It builds on the "Family Leadership Program" a pilot course delivered by professionals across education, health and care to parents of young people with SEND. Parents found the opportunity to network with their peers and ask questions particularly helpful. Ideally, the five-module course will run over a number of weeks.  Find out more about the resource here: <https://www.leedsforlearning.co.uk/Page/19941> |
| **MindMate Ambassadors** Would you like MindMate Ambassadors to come to your school or college to run a wellbeing stall?  What will students get out of it?   * MindMate Ambassadors are young adults with lived experience of mental health issues. Students can talk freely with them about wellbeing and support. * They can check out the MindMate website so they know where to get information about common issues and support services. * They can take away cool merchandise and enter an interactive competition to win a £10 voucher prize.   How will your school benefit?   * Free MindMate posters and leaflets. * Information about ways to build on this further in school, such as the MindMate Champion programme and the school MindMate Ambassador programme.   To arrange a visit contact [liz.neill@commonroom.uk.com](mailto:liz.neill@commonroom.uk.com) |
| **SENDIASS – Resources for young people** SENDIASS Information videos for Young People are now available on the Leeds SENDIASS You Tube channel, visit the video playlists by following this link: <https://www.youtube.com/@leedssendiass4614/playlists>  Videos cover the Leeds SENDIASS Service offer and provide information, advice, and support about SEND topics in a simple step by step video format, they include the graphics and characters designed in consultation with young people in Leeds and aim to support young people to understand and participate in SEND processes. Published videos include the Leeds SENDIASS service offer, Impartial and Confidential Information Advice and Support, Leeds SENDIASS service animation, Education Health and Care Needs Assessment, Education Health and Care Plans and Education Health and Care Reviews. Videos in development include SEND Support in school and college and decision-making support.  Young people can help us to develop new information videos, send in your ideas and your views by emailing the team at [sendiassproject@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:sendiassproject@leeds.gov.uk) |
| This email has been sent by the Leeds Local Offer Team at Leeds City Council. You are receiving this email as you previously signed up to the Leeds Local Offer Network or are part of one of our existing SEND networks. If you no longer wish to receive our emails, please [UNSUBSCRIBE](mailto:LLO@leeds.gov.uk?subject=Unsubscribe%20LLO%20mailing%20list) and we will remove you from our mailing list. |