

25th October 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you may be aware, last year we set up a Parent/Carer Group at the Learning Centre. The group meets every half term and gives parents and carers the chance to talk to each other in a mutually supportive environment.

As the group evolved, it became clear that there were common worries, questions and concerns shared by families. To give families more information and to answer their questions, we decided to invite a number of professionals to come in and talk to the group about pertinent issues such as the transition from children's to adult services from a health and social care perspective, respite provision and legal matters etc. These talks have taken place at other times, running alongside the parent/carer group meetings.

I would like to invite you to the next meeting of our parent/carer group which is being held on **Monday 12th November at the Learning Centre commencing at 2pm**. This is our half termly meeting just for families and new faces are always very welcome (you may be interested to hear that Mrs Gillett's food industry students provide the refreshments for the group – highly recommended!).

The next talk from a professional will be on **Monday 3rd December**, again at 2pm at the Learning Centre. We have invited Toyoba Khanam, Senior Social Worker with the Children with Additional and Complex Needs team, to talk to parents and carers about assessments and short breaks for young people under the age of 18.

Shamin Akhtar, our bilingual family liaison worker, will also be in attendance at the meetings to help with any translating that may be required.

We know from the feedback we have received that those of you who have attended previous meetings have really appreciated the opportunity to share experiences, worries and stories with other families. We hope you will be able to join us for the next meeting and we are looking forward to welcoming you.

If you have any questions about the group, please do not hesitate to contact me at the Learning Centre.

Yours sincerely,

John Barker
Deputy Head of Learning Centre