

St. Marie's Inclusion Group

Activities and training for parents of children with special educational needs or disabilities

[Sheffield to have SEND provision inspected](#)

From Sheffield Parent Carer Forum Website

From 12 to 16 November 2018, Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) will visit Sheffield to find out how effectively the local area meets its responsibilities to children and young people aged 0-25 years who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

The inspectors will investigate how well Sheffield:

- identifies children and young people with SEND;
- assesses and meets the needs of children and young people with SEND;
- improves outcomes for children and young people with SEND.

How can parents submit their views to the inspectors?

- **By email:** You can send your comments to lasend.support@ofsted.gov.uk. The inspectors will read your comments, but they won't be able to reply to your email or follow up on individual cases.
- **Via a webinar:** You can watch a pre-recorded webinar any time between now and 13 November. You can register here: <http://bit.ly/LASENDSheffieldcitycouncil>. The webinar consists of someone reading out 12 questions (such as "Do you believe your child's needs have been identified effectively?"), which you can then answer by clicking on Yes, No, or Don't know. This takes about 15 minutes. You **cannot pause the webinar or scroll through it**; if you are interrupted, you'll have to watch the whole thing again from the beginning! After the webinar, you have 30 minutes to submit comments.
- **By filling in our State of Sheffield survey:** We have just launched a refreshed version of our State of Sheffield survey: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/stateofsheffield. The survey covers all aspects of caring for a child with SEND – education, social care, health, leisure, transition, impact on parents and siblings, work and childcare, and lots more. It is specific to Sheffield and a lot more detailed than the webinar. The survey will remain open until the 4th of January 2019, but it would be really helpful if lots of parents could fill it in **now**. It takes around 20 minutes to complete. You don't have to do it in one sitting – you can close it down and come back to it the next day; your previous answers will be saved. We will share **preliminary findings** with the inspectors. **The more parents take part NOW, the stronger the evidence will be!**
- **By attending an open meeting:** The inspectors are holding a meeting, which will be open to ALL parents of children and young people with SEND. This will take place on **Tuesday 13th November, at 11.45am-1pm**. The venue is yet to be confirmed, but is likely to be within a short distance of the city centre. Please book onto the session by emailing Mbox.SENDInspection@sheffield.gov.uk. Please include the following information in your email: your name, email address, contact phone number, any access needs you have, and your child's age and whether they are supported via SEN Support or have an Education Health and Care Plan. If you do not have access to email you can contact Alyson Whitfield on **0114 2053386**. Participants will be informed about the venue as soon as this has been

confirmed. Please note that arrangements may be subject to change dependent on numbers wishing to participate.

[Sheffield Parent Carer Forum](#)

Date and Time	Activity	Details	Cost	Venue
11:00am - 1:00pm Wednesday 14th Nov 2018	SEND advice drop-in	This is a drop-in session for parents and carers of children and young people (0-25) with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). You'll be able to talk to a worker from SENDIAS about anything SEND-related. For example, you may want to ask about your child's support in school or college, EHC plans, SEN transport, health and social care services, disability benefits, and much more. Please note: This is an OPEN GROUP SESSION with other parents. No need to book, just turn up.	Free	<i>St Mary's Church and Community Centre, Bramall Lane, Sheffield, S2 4QZ</i>
10:30am - 12:00pm Thursday 15th Nov 2018	Coffee morning	Come and chat to other parents and carers. Tea, coffee and CAKE! Pop in for a few minutes or stay for the whole session – no need to book. We welcome all parent carers, whatever their children's needs, whether diagnosed or undiagnosed, mild or severe. Pre-schoolers and home-educated children welcome.	Free	<i>St Mary's Church and Community Centre, Bramall Lane, Sheffield, S2 4QZ</i>
6:00pm - 7:00pm Tuesday 20th Nov 2018	JumpStars trampolining (Nov)	This is a discounted, disability-friendly trampolining session for children and young people with additional needs and their siblings. £4 per jumper, Sheffield Parent Carer Forum members only. More information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disabled child: £4.00 • Sibling: £4.00 • Participating adult: £3.96 	Jump Inc., Meadowhall, Vulcan Road, Sheffield, S9 1EW
10:00am - 12:00pm Friday 30th Nov 2018	Education subgroup meeting (Nov)	Please come along to our Education subgroup to talk to other parents about special educational needs (SEN), swap	Free	<i>St Mary's Church and Community Centre,</i>

		useful information, and help us influence education policy in Sheffield. This is a friendly and informal group, and new members are always welcome. No specialist knowledge required – being a parent is enough! No need to book, just turn up.		<i>Bramall Lane, Sheffield, S2 4QZ</i>
10:30am - 12:00pm Tuesday 11th Dec 2018	Coffee morning	Come and chat to other parents and carers. Tea, coffee and CAKE! Pop in for a few minutes or stay for the whole session – no need to book. We welcome all parent carers, whatever their children’s needs, whether diagnosed or undiagnosed, mild or severe. Pre-schoolers and home-educated children welcome. This meeting will have a focus on managing employment and caring responsibilities . Staff from the Sheffield Carers Centre and Sheffield Occupational Health Advisory Service (SOHAS) will be available to talk to you about your rights as an employee, flexible working, the duty to make reasonable adjustments to a job, and the range of support available for carers.	Free	<i>St Mary's Church and Community Centre, Bramall Lane, Sheffield, S2 4QZ</i>
6:00pm - 7:00pm Tuesday 18th Dec 2018	JumpStars trampolining (Dec)	This is a discounted, disability-friendly trampolining session for children and young people with additional needs and their siblings. £4 per jumper, Sheffield Parent Carer Forum members only. More information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disabled child: £4.00 • Sibling: £4.00 • Participating adult: £4.00 	<i>Jump Inc., Meadowhall, Vulcan Road, Sheffield, S9 1EW</i>
11:00am - 1:00pm Wednesday 16th Jan 2019	SEND Advice Clinic	Book a 30-minute individual appointment with a worker from SENDIAS, to talk about anything related to your child’s special educational needs or disability. For example, you may want to ask about your child’s support in	Free	<i>St Mary's Church and Community Centre, Bramall Lane, Sheffield, S2 4QZ</i>

		school or college, EHC plans, SEN transport, health and social care services, disability benefits, and much more. Booking essential.		
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[ACCT](#) (Asperger's Children and Carers Together) Sheffield

Date and Time	Activity	Details	Booking	Venue
10:00am - 12:00pm Every Saturday (apart from 22 nd and 29 th December 2018).	Acctivate children's club	Acctivate is a club on Saturdays for children with Asperger's syndrome or High Functioning Autism and their siblings. Current activities include computers, board games, Lego, art, outdoor fun, a sensory room, and much more! Children with Asperger's syndrome or High Functioning Autism who are over the age of eight years are welcome to stay without their parents or carers after our Project Coordinator has registered their details and support needs. We also welcome younger children, siblings and parents of course if they wish to stay. In addition, we have a parent carer room with hot drinks where adults can meet to chat and support each other. Parents and Carers are very welcome to meet here even if their child does not attend Acctivate.	Pre-booking is essential as places are limited. To book a place call or text Nicola on 07527 824034 or email nicola.hough@acctsheffield.org.uk . We have a waiting list should the clubs be full so you can call on the day of the club to check availability.	<i>St Mary's Church and Community Centre, Bramall Lane, Sheffield, S2 4QZ</i>
10:00am - 12:00pm Monday 19th November 2018	Coffee Morning and Drop In	Tea, coffee and cake! Friendly support, advice and signposting. Borrow books from our library.	Everyone welcome Not a member? Enrol on the day!	<i>First floor Meeting Room, St Mary's Church and Community Centre, Bramall Lane, Sheffield, S2 4QZ</i>

For more examples of advice, activities and support, try the [Local Offer](#) website within the [Sheffield Directory](#).

[Learning Hubs](#)

Training sessions organised by Christians and Sheffield Schools and the Methodist Church in Sheffield

Date and Time	Activity	Details	Booking	Venue
7:00pm - 9:00pm (refreshments from 6:45pm) Wednesday 14th November 2018	Exploring Self-Worth	Dr. Claire Rush, Girls' Brigade	Sessions are all free, but booking essential . Contact Fiona Walton, fiona.walton@casssu.org.uk or Jonathan Buckley, jonathan.buckley@sheffieldcircuit.org.uk Donations welcome to enable the running of similar sessions in the future.	Montgomery Centre, S1 2LG
7:00pm - 9:00pm (refreshments from 6:45pm) Wednesday 13th February 2019	Mental Health	Tim Jansen, Pontes Training		Wesley Hall Methodist Church, S10 1UD
7:00pm - 9:00pm (refreshments from 6:45pm) Tuesday 21st May 2019	Online Bullying & Social Media	Jody Wigfull, Founder of 'Unique' course		Hillsborough Trinity, S6 4HE

Support for Adoptive Parents

Stars Group

This is a group of parents who share stories of their adoptive parent experiences – troubles and triumphs! We mostly communicate through a Whatsapp group and have a social evening (no kids!) in a local pub every 6 weeks or so. Sometimes the evenings are themed around discussions which affect the majority of parents, e.g., education, but often they are just a chance to talk to others who recognise the challenges of caring for children who have been removed from their birth families.

The next evening planned is on Wednesday 21st November from 8pm. Please let me know if you would like more details – Cathy Wilson 07946 490576 / clwmail-school@yahoo.com