

PARTNERSHIP IN NEURODIVERSITY IN SCHOOLS PROJECT - PINS

Welcome to the PINS project which your school is currently a part of this exciting project

The PINS project aims to enhance outcomes for neurodiverse students in mainstream schools by fostering partnerships between parents, schools, and health services. Key objectives include:

- Supporting whole school inclusivity for neurodiverse needs.
- Focusing on needs rather than diagnoses, including those without formal diagnoses.
- Strengthening parent-school partnerships and developing confidence in supporting neurodiversity.
- Improving school environments for better engagement and learning.
- Promoting an inclusive culture that enhances other interventions.

Starting September 2024 until March 2025, the program is implemented in 40 selected primary schools in Milton Keynes, the Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) brings health and education specialists and expert parent carers into mainstream primary settings in the local area.

Our 40 Schools

Russell Street School, Chestnuts Primary School, Holne Chase Primary School
Fairfields Primary School, Abbeys Primary School, Bow Brickhill CofE Primary
School, Caroline Haslett Primary School, St Mary and St Giles School
Merebrook Infant School & Emerson Valley, Whitehouse Primary School
Cold Harbour CofE Primary School, Priory Rise School, Rickley Park Primary
School, Broughton Fields Primary School, Water Hall Primary School, New
Bradwell School, Priory Common School, Brooksward School, Wood End
School, Germander Park School, Bradwell Village School, Summerfield Primary
School, Willen Primary School, Wavendon Gate School, Olney Infact Academy,
Oakgrove Primary School, Portfields Primary School, Orchard Academy (Primary
School), Falcon Hurst School, Christ the Sower Ecumenical Primary School,
Jubileewood, Moorland Primary School, The Willows School, Southwood
School, Castlethorpe First School, Newton Blossomville CofE School, North
Crawley CofE School, Sherrington CofE School, St Andrews CofE infant School,
Stoke Goldington CofE School

SEND Coffee Mornings

PACA MK has been busy visiting schools for the first PINs coffee mornings and its been great to meet you all.

There are still more in the diary so please reach out to your school on the next date when we will be visiting.

We hope you have managed to grab a copy of our free Supporting your Neurodiverse child resource book written for parents by parents

If you haven't then why not view our online version via the QR code



Who are PACA MK- Parents and Carers Alliance Milton Keynes ?

PACA MK is an independent and voluntary group of parents and carers of children and young people with disabilities or additional needs. PACA MK works in collaboration with service providers in health, education, social care and leisure services in Milton Keynes. Our aim is to fully include parents and carers in the development and improvement of local services.



Become a PACA Member – PACA Membership is FREE! And open to parent carers of children and young people with disabilities or additional needs aged 0 – 25 years, and who live in the city of Milton Keynes. Members receive regular information and newsletters to keep you up to date with local developments, events and activities.

Complete our online form on our website -<https://pacamk.org> Or, email us to receive a membership form pacamk@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook – Parents and Carers Alliance MK for information on our events from online Autism & Sleep sessions to Parent/Carer Yoga sessions and not forgetting our family coffee mornings available to all members

We are excited to offer as part of the PINs project the below Parent and Carers sessions open to all Families with children with SEND from the 40 schools participating in the project



Monday 16th December 9.30am-11am

Join us online for an Occupational Therapy session with Dimitra Charalambous, a Specialist Children's Occupational Therapist who is also a Advanced Sensory Integration Practitioner.

Learn all about sensory processing and how it can affect emotional regulation

Please email pacamkpins@gmail.com by December 13th to be sent the link to access the session

**Please see below
details of upcoming
webinar sessions.**

**These are open to all
Families of schools
taking part in the PINs
project links will be
shared in our next
newsletter sent
around 6th January
2025**



Parent / Carer Webinars

An Introduction to Neurodiversity

In this session we will explore key characteristics of neurotypes such as ADHD, Autism and Dyslexia, cooccurring conditions, executive functioning and support strategies.

Wednesday 15th
January 2025,
1pm

Understanding and Supporting my Child's ADHD

In this session we will explore elements including ADHD subtypes and presentations, executive functioning difficulties, with strategies to support.

Friday 24th
January 2025,
1pm

Understanding and supporting Dyslexia and Dyscalculia

We will explore how dyslexia and dyscalculia may present at home and strategies to support.

Tuesday 28th
January 2025,
1pm

Understanding and Supporting my Child's Mental Health

We will explore potential mental health challenges, identify what to look out for and discuss strategies to support.

Thursday 6th
February 2025,
1pm

Supporting Neurodiversity in the Home Environment

We will explore how environments can impact our ND child and discuss strategies to adjust elements of the environment to support regulation.

Tuesday 11th
February 2025,
1pm

Neurodiversity and Girls

We will explore prevalence and disparity in diagnosis rates for girls and boys and we will explore how ND may present differently in girls.

Wednesday 26th
February 2025,
1pm

Understanding and supporting my child's Dyspraxia

We will explore how dyspraxia may present and strategies to support daily life.

Thursday 6th
March 2025,
1pm

Understanding and supporting my child's Autism

We will explore elements including presentations, masking and strategies to support.

Monday 10th
March 2025,
1pm

Empowering my ND Child

This session will explore how to empower your child with strength-based information about neurodiversity and discuss strategies to support from diagnosis to daily life.

Friday 21st
March 2025,
1pm

Collaborating with other professionals supporting my Child

This session will focus on advocating for your child, and building collaborative relationships with professional to ensure positive outcomes for your child.

Wednesday 26th
March 2025,
1pm

SEND Local Offer website!

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Local Offer

What is the Local Offer?

The Local Offer provides information, support and signposting for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their families.



What can I find on the Local Offer?

- A calendar with information on clubs, activities and events in the local area for children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) and their families
- A mental health and wellbeing hub, coproduced
- Information about the Short Breaks scheme and with our health colleagues how to apply
- SEND Support advice and information for parents, carers, schools and settings
- Information on EHCPs, including information on processes and how to make an application
- A directory of services in and around Milton Keynes

AND MUCH MORE!!!!

For more information, please visit our website

<https://www.mksendlocaloffer.co.uk/>

SEND Support Line

Can't access the internet or find what you're looking for on the Local Offer?

Email us on:

SENDSupport@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Regular information, events and support can be found on our Facebook page at:
www.facebook.com/MKSEND



SEND Newsletter

Milton Keynes SEND team and Parents and Carers Alliance (PACA MK) work together to produce a half termly SEND newsletter.

The newsletters includes information about:

- Local events, holiday time events, where to use Short Breaks vouchers
- The team - profiles of new and existing staff
- Resources for parents and carers

To sign up visit the link below and enter your email address:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKMK/signup/32649>



MK Milton Keynes
City Council