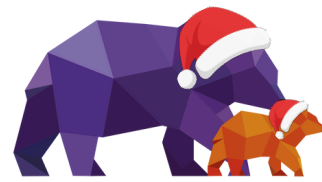


Update

December 2025



WARWICKSHIRE
PARENT CARER VOICE

Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice CIC is an independent, parent carer led organisation for everyone in Warwickshire who has a child or children with special educational needs and / or disabilities (SEND) aged 0-25.

We are the recognised parent carer forum in Warwickshire and work with Education, Health and Social Care decision makers. We make sure parent carers are included when designing services for our children / young people and their families. We invite all parent carers to join us and to get involved.

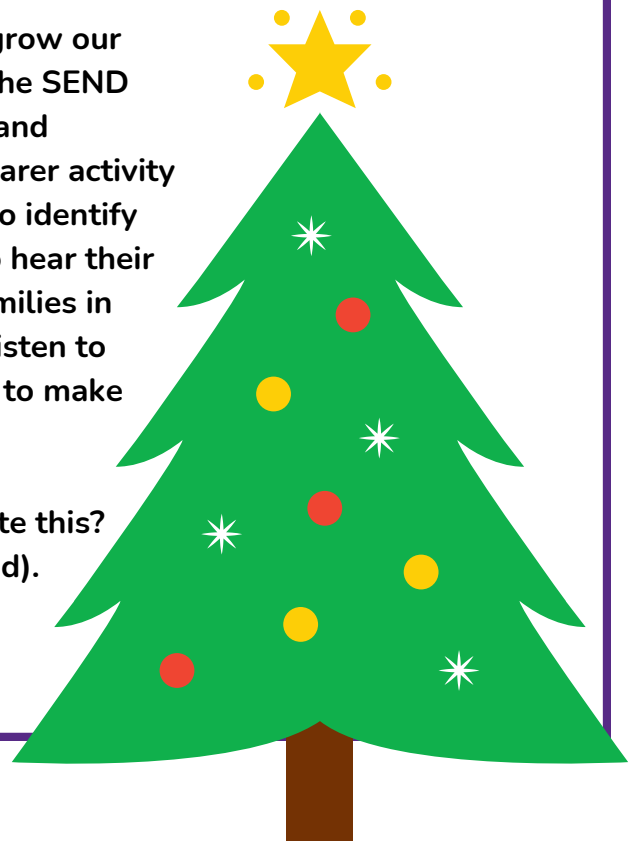
Message from the Directors

As a parent carer forum we feel we seem to always be having a 'New Year' as we work with the calendar year, the financial year and the academic year but as we come to the end of 2025 it is important for us to reflect on where we have made a difference and plan for the year ahead.

It's been another busy year for us and we've continued to grow our membership, increase the strategic representation across the SEND system in Warwickshire (also influencing across Coventry and Warwickshire in relation to health and supporting parent carer activity across the wider West Midlands and nationally). It's hard to identify our highlights but its always great to meet with families to hear their experiences and we are proud to be representing SEND families in a Local Authority that are open to engaging with us, who listen to what we are saying and who are prepared to work with us to make changes.

Next year will be our 5th Birthday - how should we celebrate this? Let us know what you think (and if you want to get involved).

Best wishes and Happy Christmas Holidays,
Elaine, Emma and Olivia



Contact Us

hello@warwickshireparentcarervoice.org

www.warwickshireparentcarervoice.org



[@warkspcf](https://www.facebook.com/warkspcf)

Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice CIC,

Office 12, Brewsters Corner Business Centre, Pendicke Street. Southam, Warwickshire, CV47 1PN

Short Breaks & Parent Carer Support Survey

Thank you to everyone who completed our Short Breaks and Parent Carer Support survey. You can read the full report [here](#).

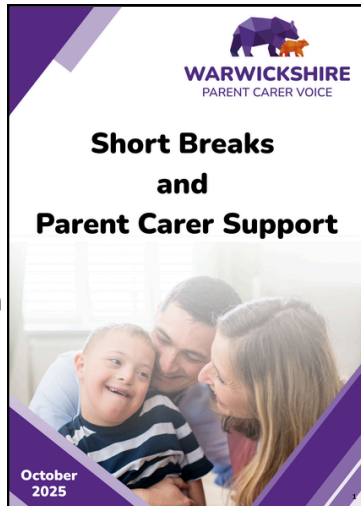
59.7% of parent carers didn't feel there was a short break that met the needs of their family

39.2% of parent carers reported having never had a carers assessment

ALL parent carers reported that a lack of support / short breaks has impacted on their mental health

Sadly, the findings will not be a surprise to parent carers and reflect similar national reports.

We are looking forward to working together with Warwickshire County Council over the next year to make positive changes for families.



Stay in touch to see how you can get involved with this work.



We Need Your Feedback

Please tell us about your experiences of support or services (good and bad) so that we know what is happening, can prioritise what is important for the parent carer community and share with the local area partners to celebrate the successes and work to make improvements.

You can do this by talking to us at an event, sending us an email or adding a post to our feedback wall www.padlet.com/warwickshireparentcarervoice/feedback. The more feedback we have the better we can represent you.

2025 Review

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We have engaged with parent carers online through our website, online feedback wall and social media (2.2k facebook followers). We attended the Kidz to Adulz Show, Carers Events and others, we ran 'walk and talk' and 'coffee and chat' events, attended parents evenings at special schools. We carried out a survey about experiences of short breaks and parent carer support.



OUR PEOPLE

We have:

- 3 Directors - Elaine, Emma and Olivia
- 3 additional Focus Leads - Avril, Elissa and Kirsty
- 2 members of staff - Gemma (PINS) and Eleanor (admin / office manager)
- 33 Parent Carer Reps in our online Parent Carer Panel (WPCV community)
- Over 650 Parent Carers in our Membership



RELATIONSHIPS

We have regular meetings with the:

- Executive Director for Children and Young People (Nigel Minns)
- Director of Education (Johnny Kyriacou)
- Director of Children and Families (John Coleman)
- Head of SEND (Ross Caws)
- Designated Clinical Officer (Julie Brotherton)

and many others across education, health and social care.



WORKSTREAMS

We represented parent carers on over 20 different workstreams including:

- SEND Partnership Board
- work with SENDAR (e.g. 20 Week redesign, EHCP Quality Assurance)
- work with social care including Short breaks and parent carer support
- work with health partners including autism, ADHD and long term health conditions

We currently Co-Chair the Autism Partnership Board.



INTERVIEWS

We have been part of interview panels and stakeholder groups at interviews for many different roles across the Local Authority (education and social care), ones that are joint with the Integrated Care Board and with an NHS Trust (health provider), including the increased staffing for SENDAR, Children and Families Service Managers, Commissioning roles and a CAMHS Service Manager.



COMMISSIONING WORK

We have played an increasing role in commissioning activity this year including coproducing tender specifications, evaluating the bids and then being part of mobilisation and monitoring. Some of the tenders we have been involved with include Short Breaks, SEND Mediation, the 'Wraparound service' and CAMHS Service 1 (prevention and early support).



PINS PROJECT

We are coordinating the parent engagement for the 42 Warwickshire Primary Schools that are part of the national Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) project. Meeting with parents to find out families experiences and then working with the school leadership teams to make changes. We developed our Great Groups Training about setting up parent engagement groups (available to all schools) and supported the Community of Practice and training for Governors.



COUNCILLOR ENGAGEMENT

With the change of Council following elections in May we supported SEND training to all of Warwickshire's county councillors who sit on Cabinet and Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee (CYP OSC). We are part of the SEND Members Panel which brings together councillors from the CYP OSC to focus more on SEND and attend OSC speaking as members of the public as appropriate. We also meet with councillors and provide information for them as requested.



The PINS Project

The Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) is a national project now in its second year (running until March 2026) aiming to support the education and health needs of neurodivergent children in primary schools through a partnership approach working with health services, local authorities and parent carer forums.



The project aims to work together to:

- help shape whole school SEND provision,
- provide early interventions at a school level,
- support and upskill school staff
- strengthen partnerships between schools and parent carers.

The Warwickshire PINS project is working with 42 mainstream primary schools across the county - 23 from Year 1 who have an 'embed' offer including joining a 'Community of Practice' to continue their learning and continued support from us to develop the parent engagement groups to be led by parent carers from their community and 19 in Year 2 who are currently accessing their full menu of support - training, audits and other resources as well as support from us to facilitate their parent engagement groups.

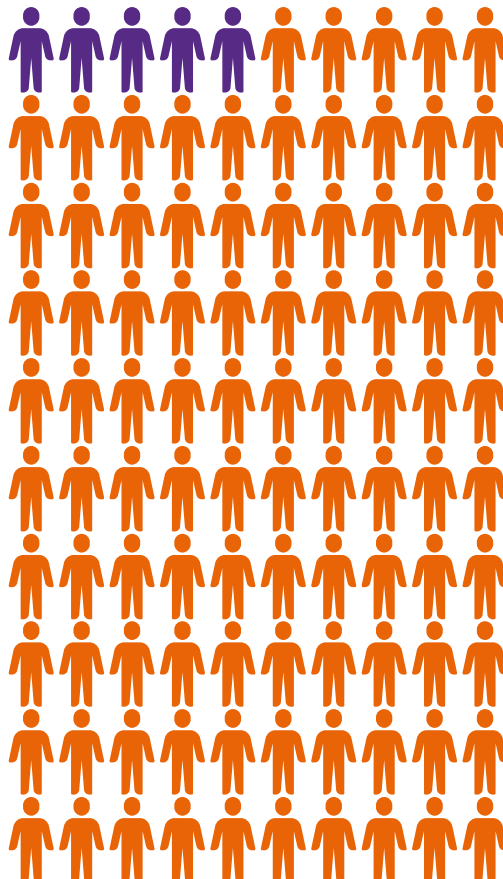
Thank you to all of the schools involved for signing up to the project, completing your school evaluations, sharing the parent survey with your families and welcoming us to your school. Thank you to all the parent carers who have attended our meetings in their school or have provided us with feedback. We look forward to continuing to work with you in the new year.

Membership Matters

Only 5% of our membership is male - this means that we are not reaching enough dads and cannot be sure that their voices and experiences as parent carers are being heard.

We welcome all Warwickshire's parent carers into our membership but for the next quarter we would like to focus on getting more male representation. Can you help us change this statistic by inviting any SEND Dads you know to join us?

Join us [here](#)



Can you be our Dad Champion?

Our Focus Leads are part of our wider Parent Carer Panel who have a specific area of focus. Their role is to help us reach parent carers in a particular demographic.

We'd love to have a Dad focus lead to help us increase our reach - get in touch if you are interested.



Useful Links

Warwickshire SEND Local Offer

The SEND local offer contains information about the local services and support available across education, health and social care for families with children and young people aged 0 to 25, who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/sendlocaloffer



HEARD

Warwickshire County Council Family Information Service

The Family Information Service (FIS) will listen to you and help you access information and services that can support you.

Email: fis@warwickshire.gov.uk Phone: 0800 408 1558 or 01926 742 274



SAFE

Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice padlets (digital clipboards of useful links)

www.padlet.com/warwickshireparentcarervoice/neurodiversity

www.padlet.com/warwickshireparentcarervoice/supportgroups

www.padlet.com/warwickshireparentcarervoice/sendactivities

www.padlet.com/warwickshireparentcarervoice/books



HEALTHY



SKILLED



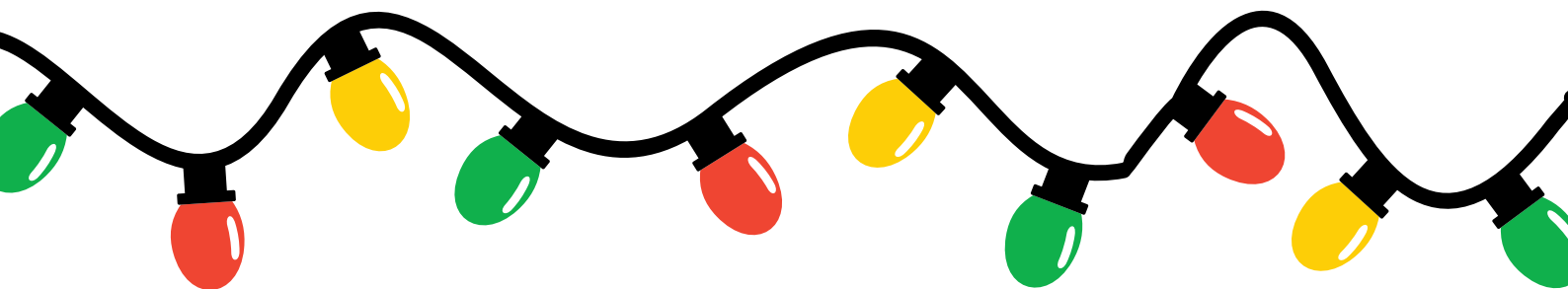
HAPPY



Free, confidential and impartial service for parents, children and young people age 0-25 with SEND

Email: warwickshiresendias@barnardos.org.uk

Phone: 01788 593159



Happy Christmas

from



WARWICKSHIRE PARENT CARER VOICE