



Supporting families with children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

**NEWS 17.09.2020**

## **Virtual Come Together! Coffee Morning and Back to School**

We're into a new term with new things to get used to.

We hope the information we've been sending out during lockdown has been useful.

### **Virtual Come Together! Coffee Morning - Wednesday 23rd September, 10.00 - 12.00**

We haven't met for such a long time!

Next week we'll have our first virtual Come Together! Coffee Morning via Zoom, jointly hosted as usual by Lambeth Parent Forum and Family Action Lambeth.

We hope you can join us. We'd love to hear about your experiences over the last few months during the pandemic.

- How was summer? Did you access any summer activities? How were they?
- How has it been with school? - Before the summer and going back this term?
- Has your child moved to a new setting - primary school, secondary school, college? How is it going?

You can email us with your experiences [here](#) and join us at the Coffee Morning for a chat.

#### **Please register in advance for the Coffee Morning:**

<https://family-action.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMtceGvqD8uHNeTTqZnnTdd3SrC6U0nsAq3>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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### **Back to School Information**

There's a lot of information and advice available about going back to school.

Hopefully most children are settled back at school already but the following may be useful:

#### **Government Guidance:**

- [What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term](#)
- [Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak](#)
- [Guidance for full opening: Special schools and other specialist settings](#)
- [Letter to parents and carers from Vicky Ford MP - Minister for Children and Families](#)

#### **Advice**

- [Contact: Back to school advice](#)
  - [NAS guide for Parents - preparing your child for school](#)
  - [Schools Wellbeing Partnership - Mental Health and WellBeing in Primary Schools](#)
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## Useful Organisations

### In Lambeth

- **Lambeth SEN Team** - Tel: 020 7926 9460 or 020 7926 7754  
Email: [sendsupport@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:sendsupport@lambeth.gov.uk)
- **Lambeth IASS** provide impartial information, advice and support for matters relating to SEND. Parents can contact Anita Bey ([abey@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:abey@lambeth.gov.uk) 020 7926 1831) or Chris White ([cwhite@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:cwhite@lambeth.gov.uk) 020 7926 9805)
- **Lambeth Educational Psychology Service** have a number of videos on [YouTube](#) including 'Managing back to school anxiety'. Advice for Parents during Coronavirus is still available on the [Local Offer](#) but the EP telephone advice line is now closed
- **Lambeth Autism Group** have a number of events coming up. Information is on their [website](#)
- **Lambeth ADHD Support Group** can be contacted on [lambethadhd@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lambethadhd@hotmail.co.uk)
- **DASL** (Disability Advice Service Lambeth) provides advice, advocacy and Direct Payment support <https://disabilitylambeth.org.uk/>
- **Carers Hub** supports all carers including parent carers and young carers. Find out more on their [website](#). They have recently launched the [Lambeth Carers Card](#). Look out for more details about the card coming soon.
- **KOOTH** - an online counselling service for 10 - 25 year olds living in Lambeth offering access to self-help materials, support from qualified counsellors in one-to-one sessions, and peer-to-peer support through moderated online forums. Find out more [here](#)
- **Lambeth Parenting Team** provides free parenting support across the borough for parents who want to understand more about children's development, learn techniques for managing children's behaviour, support their relationship with their child, manage parental stress, improve their co-parenting relationship. Parents and carers can self refer for parenting support [here](#)

### National

- **Contact - the charity for families with disabled children**, have a wealth of information on their [website](#). The free national helpline number is **0808 808 3555** and can provide advice on education, benefits and finances, childcare, social care, medical information and more. They have recently launched a **1:1 listening ear service** providing advice and emotional support - more information [here](#).
  - **IPSEA (Independent Provider of Special Education Advice)** offers free and independent legally based information, advice and support to help get the right education for children and young people with all kinds of SEND. Find out more [here](#)
  - **Disability Law Service** - is a national charity that provides free legal advice and information to all disabled people in the UK. See their website [here](#)
  - **Disabled Children: a legal handbook** is available on the Council for Disabled Children [website](#)
  - **Just for Kids Law - School Exclusions Hub** - Information and resources to support families challenging school exclusion. Details on their [website](#)
  - **SOS!SEN** telephone helpline **0208 538 3731** offers information and advice on SEND. Online workshops are also run regularly. Find out more on their [website](#)
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### Activities

- **Engine Shed** runs play sessions for autistic/ADHD children who love trains. They have sessions running at Kew Steam Museum on some Sundays coming up including this Sunday, 20th September. Booking essential - [details here](#)
  - **CEF Lyncx** are running October Half Term Activities. Details are on their [website](#)
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## Coming Up

Look out for our Annual Reviews workshop - coming soon

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## Join Lambeth Parent Forum

Lambeth Parent Forum is open to all parents and carers of children and young people with additional needs and disabilities aged 0 - 25 in the London Borough of Lambeth. Our aim is to provide opportunities for parents and carers to contribute to developing services that meet the needs of their families, whilst sharing experiences and knowledge with other parents and carers.

If you know anyone who would like to join Lambeth Parent Forum, please ask them to complete our joining form on our website [www.lambethparentforum.com](http://www.lambethparentforum.com)

We look forward to seeing you soon