



PARENT AND CARER ALLIANCE CIC

HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE – WE NEED YOU!

ADVICE AND SUPPORT EVENTS

WORK FOR THE ALLIANCE

WE NEED YOUR HELP



You may have seen on our Facebook page that the Alliance has been lucky enough to win a place to work together with the British Institute of Human Rights to create practical change using human rights.

We can't show that there's a need for change without your help. A single side of A4 paper, or a chat with us, could make a real difference.

We are hoping that you will be kind enough to agree to support us in this work as we need case studies to show the kind of challenges families face. The case study should be a story in as much detail as you are willing to provide in less than one page of a word document.

It should focus on a decision made by a school, local authority or health service that has impacted your child's (or your entire family and your own) wellbeing, autonomy, privacy, ability to take part in their community, ability to enjoy being at home and interacting with the family or ability to enjoy having relationships with others.

Examples could be having no education provision, intrusive approaches into family life from social care, or putting up barriers such as eligibility criteria, that prevent disabled children and young people from accessing support that they are entitled to.

These real-life examples will be used to provide strategies for parents to advocate for their SEN children using human rights principles to secure necessary support and accommodations, as well as explaining how the application of Article 8 can lead to broader community changes, promoting inclusivity and understanding of SEN challenges. This will mean that case studies will be edited to demonstrate the issues, rather than all the details.

Anything you submit will be made anonymous and we are happy to help you write up your situation, or to do a recorded audio interview if that's easier.

Your help would be very much appreciated - please let us know if you can contribute a case study, by sending an email to info@parentandcareralliance.org.uk

SEN Advice Webinar 300824 10:30 TO 12:00

Join us online for a chance for you to discuss with our advisers any Special Educational Needs issues that you are having - especially any that are about school places.



We will also be sharing more information, and answering questions, about our SEN support services.

[Click here to book your place](#)

(HAF) PROGRAMME ALTERNATIVE FOOD PROVISION For Activities provided in Summer 2024

A reminder that Parent and Carer Alliance CIC has obtained funding to provide alternative food provision for sessions provided by the Gloucestershire Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme where the planned food provision is not suitable. This project is limited by the funding provided and is for this summer only. [Click here to complete this form, in as much detail as possible](#), to share your child's need for alternative food and one of our Advisers will be in touch as soon as possible.

In-person SEN advice coffee morning 180924 10:30 to 12:30 Gloucester Guildhall



Join us in person on Wednesday 18th September 10:30 to 12:30 for a chance for you to discuss with our advisers any Special Educational needs issues that you are having - especially any that are about school places.

[Click here to book your place](#)

WESTONBIRT at a time and date to suit you

Book now to come to Westonbirt - the perfect place for you to escape, relax or have an adventure! Take a journey up into the canopy on the STIHL Tree Top Walkway, stop by the café for a tasty treat, or enjoy being in nature.

The entry costs for disabled children, their siblings and their carers will be funded by the Alliance. Any additional adults attending will need to pay their own entry cost. You can choose your own date up until 31st March 2025, provided that we have tickets still available. [Click here to book so we can confirm if tickets are available](#)

OUR AIMS AND OUR TEAM

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

If you have the desire to make a real difference and ensure the voices of children and young people who have special educational needs and disabilities, and their families, are at the heart of everything you do, then please apply for our current job opportunities.

We are looking to recruit another Family Support Worker, [click here for more details](#) and independent social worker, [click here for more details](#).

You will need to be able to work from home, and the work is variable and mostly flexible - cases will be referred to you for you to accept or decline – however, as families are depending on you to be reliable - once you have accepted a case you will be expected to travel and attend meetings as necessary.

Your hours will vary according to your availability, funding being available, and the number and complexity of requests for support. If you would like an open and informal discussion regarding these roles, then please contact info@parentandcareralliance.org.uk

Parent and Carer Alliance CIC is an independent, not-for-profit organisation who works with over 1900 families whose children have additional needs to ensure they feel less alone, more recognised

and supported to have a choice of opportunities and that they gain strength, advice, and support from what we offer.

We work to ensure families have a voice in the decision-making processes which affect their lives, can access their rights, and feel more able to champion getting the needs of their vulnerable children met. We contribute valuable lived experience when working for positive change on disability issues in local and national projects.

We have 3 Directors – Lucy Fullard (Founder and CEO), Louise Arnold and Alice Gardner. Our advocacy and SEN support services have our Head of SEN Support - Beth Edmonds, and 3 family support workers – Ria Allen, Laura Grace and Jody Nayegon. We are all parent carers with lived experience of both the challenges and joy this brings. We all work part-time around our caring responsibilities, doing our best to give as much support to families as possible. We also have access to amazing independent social workers – Deborah Ryding and Duncan Siret, who we fund to assist with our advocacy services.

JOIN US

To gain all the benefits – being informed of events first and having priority booking – all for free, [click here to become an Associate](#)

SUPPORT US AND HELP US TO DO MORE FOR FAMILIES

All of our work is dependent on funding from grants, and so what we are able to offer varies according to grant money being given, and to the conditions attached to the grant (such length of time we can provide a service for, the types of service we can give, and how often).

GUIDE THE ALLIANCE

The Alliance is always happy to welcome new steering committee members. We aim to meet every few months to discuss the work of the Alliance – where to focus our efforts, what's important to parent carers and their families, and how to keep funding services and events. We also we meet up and socialise alongside gaining your views, so together we are growing the strength and relationship between members of the steering committee.

If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please join us:

Steering Committee meeting 021024 7 pm to 8:30 pm

We'll be discussing the work of the Alliance over a glass of wine upstairs at the [Portivo Lounge](#), Gloucester Quays Designer Outlet, St. Ann Way, Gloucester, GL1 5SH, come and join us and help us to support more families for positive change.

You can [find out more about the steering committee here](#), and if you can't make the meeting but would be interested in being involved please [contact us by email](#)

If you are good at thinking of ways to raise money and/or like what we do/need our support or know families who do, then please get in touch to join our fundraising team/become a member of our steering committee/volunteer at an event. [CLICK HERE to email us, any support you can give will be most appreciated.](#)

SUPPORT SERVICES

Parent and Carer Alliance C.I.C. understands the difficulties families can experience when trying to get the support and services their children need. One of our aims is to ensure families feel supported in finding their way around the maze of different services, assessments, and plans.

ADVOCACY FOR FAMILIES LIVING IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Thanks to being awarded funding from both the National Lottery Community Fund, and from the Barnwood Trust, we are able to offer up to 7 hours of free 1:1 support to families whose children have additional needs and who live in, or receive services from, Gloucestershire.

All support now starts with a free 30 minute consultation, [Click here to request this support](#)

If, during this consultation, it becomes clear that you will need some more support, then the adviser will ask for more details and make a referral for you to receive up to a further 6.5 hours of support.

This support might include individual support for your family, help preparing for, and attending, meetings with any agency supporting your child (assessments, reviews, planning meetings, child protection conferences, EHCP reviews, health care planning meetings etc); supporting you to make effective complaints; facilitating meetings between you and professionals to ensure effective communication; helping you through complex procedures, writing letters, putting across your views etc.

If you are a **Professional** looking for support for a family, [please complete this referral form](#) in as much detail as possible to share your concerns, and one of our Advisers will be in touch as soon as possible.

SEN SUPPORT SERVICES

Parent and Carer Alliance CIC offers a range of self-funded SEN support services to families who would like us to undertake the administration tasks related to their EHCP/Appeal, or who need ongoing support for difficulties they may be facing in relation to getting the right support for their child's/young person's SEN. As a Community Interest Company (CIC) we have tried to keep these services as affordable as we can, whilst covering our costs and helping us to continue to support families.

If you are not already known to the Alliance Advice service, then all of our support services will start with a free 30-minute Advice Consultation to enable us to make recommendations as to which services could be beneficial to you. Services include:

- SEN Support for difficulties your family may be facing in relation to your child/young person's SEN.
- Attendance at a mediation appeal
- Support with an Application for appeal or amendment of appeal
- EHCP check - our advocates will complete a check of your EHCP. This can be at draft stage or to prepare for an annual review.
- Enhanced EHCP or Working Document check -
In addition to the above work, this includes reading up to three professional reports that you have, identifying the needs and provision and inputting the information into the relevant sections of either an EHCP template or your working document using the required key.

- Professional report check - Our advocates will read your professional reports at draft stage and ensure the language and content is appropriate for the purpose required. This includes checking that all recommendations are specified and quantified.
- EOTISC (Education Other Than In School or College) Package - 1 hour telephone consultation, reading the EHCP, followed by a written summary of suitability of EOTISC
- EOTISC Proposal - if an EOTISC package is a viable option for your child/young person and you would like support, our advocates will create your EOTISC proposal and costed Personal Budget (PB) request.
- Case Management - a service to support you through your appeal. This includes administration tasks related to the appeal, including ongoing work on the working document, preparation for the hearing, and emails to and from the Local Authority or SENDIST.

[Click here to find out more and to request SEN support](#)

DIRECT PAYMENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Parent and Carer Alliance CIC are now providing services to support parent carers with managing direct payments.

A direct payment is a fund made available to you so you can buy services to meet assessed needs, rather than having it delivered to you by your local authority. The payment must be enough for you to buy services that meet the assessed needs, and the money must be spent on services that meet those needs.

For example, you may agree to receive a direct payment in order to employ personal assistants. You will be required to keep a record of how you spend your direct payment, and your local authority will want to see those records, usually once a quarter.

Services which are available are:

- Initial Set up
- Annual auto enrolment
- Annual support
- Payroll processing
- Processing new starters or leavers
- Posting payslips, HMRC payment details letter and Nest Pension submission summary
- Holiday calculations and
- Nest Pension submissions.

[Click here](#) to find out more details and to sign up for this service.

EOTAS PERSONAL BUDGET SUPPORT SERVICES

Parent and Carer Alliance CIC are now providing services to support parent carers with managing Education Otherwise Than at School (EOTAS) Personal Budget Payroll payments.

An EOTAS personal budget is a fund made available to you so you can buy services to meet assessed needs, rather than having these services delivered to you by your local authority. The payment must be enough for you to buy services that meet the assessed needs, and the money must be spent on services that meet those needs.

For example, you may agree to receive a personal budget in order to employ tutors, therapists, etc.

You will be required to keep a record of how you spend your personal budget, and your local authority will want to see those records.

Services which are available are:

- Initial Set up
- Annual auto enrolment
- Annual support
- Payroll processing
- Processing new starters or leavers
- Posting payslips, HMRC payment details letter and Nest Pension submission summary
- Holiday calculations and
- Nest Pension submissions.

[Click here](#) to find out more details and to sign up for this service.

PHYSIOTHERAPY FOR CARERS



KIMBERLY MORRIS, BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy, Member of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (MCSP) specialises in Paediatric and adult musculoskeletal physiotherapy, orthopaedics, neurodevelopmental management, neuromuscular and neurological conditions, respiratory management, and provides the **free** following services:

EMERGENCY PHYSIOTHERAPY

This service is for Carers living in Gloucestershire, who have developed pain or injury as a result of their caring role and whose condition is not so severe as to need urgent investigation.

[Click here](#) for more information and to request this service

ONLINE PHYSIOTHERAPY CONSULTATION

This service is for Carers living in GLOUCESTERSHIRE, who need one session of advice to

- understand the impact/prognosis of a diagnosis/injury/operation for the person that they care for,
- to know what to look out for, and
- to safely provide care within their own physicality

[Click here](#) for more information and to request this service

PARENT AND CARER ALLIANCE CIC CONTACT DETAILS

[Website](#)

[Email](#)

[Facebook Closed Group](#)

[Facebook Page](#)