**Autism in Schools - Parents Supporting Parents Forum**

**Tuesday 1 November 2022 – Grimsby Town Hall**

The Forum was led Abi Fleming and Nicola Chappel,

other practitioners that attended included:

* Leanne Turner Psychology assistant from Compass Go!
* Jamie Rowell, IDOX (software company that developed the EHCHUB)
* Lauren Thompson, SEND Local Offer Coordinator

At today’s Forum we discussed the following subjects.

* update on Autism in School
* EHC Hub, Jamie Howell from IDOX, attended today to gain parent/carer feedback on the Hub, what works well and what could be improved.
* Open discussion
* Local Offer navigation by Lauren Thompson.

* 5 parents/carers attended, 2 apologies were sent, 1 school champion attended and 6 apologies
* Parents/carers attended had children and young people in primary schools
* Questions were encouraged throughout the session
* Abi and Nicola gave an update on AIS
* Parents/carers were given copies of all the training that has been arranged with the dates /times that they preferred.
* Jamie Rowell from IDOX wanted to hear ways in which IDOX could improve the hub to make it more accessible and easier for parent/carers to navigate. He explained the proposed plans to make the EHCHUB more mobile phone friendly for the user by trying to remove barriers parent/carers face. The discussion was open and both our parent/carers, school champion and practitioners felt this session was successful and productive.
* Parents/carers were given the opportunity to share their own experiences to date and new challenges they face. With the help and support from each other and their shared experience alongside practitioners’ knowledge and advice, had a positive impact.

Not only for their own individual circumstances but that they’ve supported a peer and come up with a range of tools to problem solve or strategies to try.

Lauren explained where to find the Local Offer and gave a brief

overview on the information it contains. Suggestions were made which

Lauren will try and implement.

* At the end of the session parents/carers were asked to

complete an evaluation form to help us develop future forums.

On the following page are some of the comments we received.

Upcoming dates/times of training workshops:

**Encouraging Positive Behaviour Workshop:**

Thursday 9 February 6pm - 8pm - Online

Thursday 4 May 10.30am - 12.30pm - Face-to-face Grimsby Townhall

**Sensory Workshop:**

Tuesday 22 November 12.30am - 2.30pm - Online

Thursday 2 February 10am - 12pm - Online

Thursday 27 April 10am - 12pm - Online

**Support For Parents of Children with Anxiety:**

Monday 28 of November 10-12:00 – Online

The next Parents Supporting Parents Forum is on:

**Grimsby Town Hall**

**Autism in School Christmas celebration event,**

**Wednesday 7 December**:

**Infants, primary and secondary schools 9.30am - 2.30pm**

Any further questions please get in touch

* Abi Fleming [**abi.fleming@nelincs.gov.uk**](mailto:abi.fleming@nelincs.gov.uk)
* Nicola Chappel [**nicola.chappel@nhs.net**](mailto:nicola.chappel@nhs.net)

Parent/carer Feedback on AIS Parenting Supporting Parents Forum –

1 of November 2022

**Early Years SEND Programme**

This collaborative programme is part of the Early Years Partnership co-production

offer, funded by DfE. The co-production Action Learning Sets bring together

practitioners and parent carers to build relationships between families and services,

increase awareness of This the impact of disability on families and enable

more effective, positive communication. The programme will enable families of

disabled children and practitioners in the Early Years SEND field to work in

active partnership, make shared decisions and listen to each other to put the needs of children at the centre of strategy and support. Understanding the experience of families can help practitioners to develop a better start to the working relationship with parent carers. Families feel empowered to voice their experience, can come together to create positive changes. You will access tools to support you as you identify and take positive actions and measure your success.

* The Action Learning Sets consist of:
* 3 sessions to take place before February 2023
* Up to 30 participants
* We invite participants to attend all three meetings. This helps your area to build consistency and get most out of this specialist support.
* Your feedback will be important for this DfE funded project and will help us to continue this important work

**Action Learning Set 1** - **8 November 2022 - 10am-12:30pm**

* This will cover what participants understand about parent

engagement and co-production. We encourage participants to

consider how their area is doing

now on co-production, for the different teams and services.

And we look at participants’ expectations from this work.

* We introduce the Four Cornerstones of Co-production

(Genuine Partnerships model), which are the principles needed to create

a good quality culture of inclusion and co-production.

* **Action Learning Set 2** **- 13 December 2022 - 10am-12:30pm**
* Session 2 looks at what it feels like when you do these things well, or don’t get them right, from a parent carer perspective and for practitioners. It encourages staff and families to share their experiences and consider each other’s perspectives and considers the behaviours which help to establish trust.
* **Action Learning Set 3- 27 January 2023 - 12:30pm-3pm**
* Session 3 covers how progress can be identified and measured and introduces two toolkits to support the ongoing development of co-production in Early Years. It offers the chance to consider specific points where co-production is key, for example in planning children’s transition to primary school, or other strategic work the local area may be planning.
* [North East Lincs - Early Years Coproduction Local Action Learning Sets Tickets, Tue 8 Nov 2022 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/north-east-lincs-early-years-coproduction-local-action-learning-sets-tickets-400702761747)

All information/correspondence is:

* + Emailed to schools to distribute and share with parents
  + Emailed directly to parents who have attended one of our

sessions or contacted us directly

* + Available on the AIS webpage on NEL Local Offer

[NELC SEND Local Offer | Autism in Schools (nelincs.gov.uk)](https://sendlocaloffer.nelincs.gov.uk/neurodevelopmental-conditions/autistic-spectrum-disorder/autism-in-schools/)