**SPACE Forum - *(Settings, Parents and Carers for Education)***

*(previously known as Autism in Schools - Parents Supporting Parents Forum)*

**Tuesday 17th of October 2023 – Grimsby Town Hall**

The Forum was led by Abi Fleming and Nicola Chappel and the following subjects were discussed:

* The “Understanding Myself Programme” was discussed and shared with parent carers and practitioners present. We gave an overview of all 6 sessions to give them an insight of the programme and share with them the strategies and resources included in the programme that may help to support their child or young person at home too.
* The forum is the only one within NEL that consists of parent carers **and** settings; therefore, the name should reflect this. The name that was chosen is **‘Settings, Parents and Carers for Education’** better known as **SPACE Forum**.
* Three logos have been designed for the SPACE Forums and the logo with the highest number of votes was selected.
* Moving forward, the forum will open to **all education settings** within the Local Authority not limited to the schools that took part in the Autism in Schools project.
* Future planning and ideas were shared for the academic year 2023-2024.
* It was shared with the forum that the SPACE Forums are now open to **all parent carers and educational settings** in North East Lincolnshire.
* 7 parents/carers attended, 1 practitioner attended and 4 apologies were sent.
* There were open discussions throughout the Forum.
* Questions were encouraged during the session.
* Abi Fleming shared that she now is a part of the SENDIASS team as their Parent Engagement Champion.
* Young Minds Matter (YMM) and Access Pathway teams have been transferred to NAViGO, who were appointed as the new provider of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services in April 2023. The pathway will be integrated with the current Young Minds Matter specialist assessment team which will allow for improved collaboration between care teams. This will create a single point of access to a Neurodevelopmental Assessment Team for the referral and specialist assessment of neurodevelopmental disorders for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). Please join us for the opportunity to meet representatives of the NAVIGO/YMM and Access Pathway Team. They will be joining us at the SPACE Forum on Tuesday 21*st* November to introduce and discuss the new referral form for neurodevelopmental assessments (ASD and ADHD) in the North East Lincolnshire area. If you would like to join us please use the QR Code below to secure your place:
* The topic for the next forum on the 21st of November was explained in more detail. It was explained that due to the capacity of the room we are restricted to number of attendees and **therefore it is important to register to be able to attend this particular Forum**. **We must stress that if a place hasn’t been allocated to you will be will not be able to attend the session.** To avoid disappointment, we have created a register that you can access through the QR code below:



**Question & Answer Section:**

At the last SPACE Forum we received the following question regarding the Littlecoates Primary School Audit/Action Plan :

***Has the Launchpad unit involved in the audit process? If so, it would be useful to see the statistics for the school itself as a separate entity, without the inclusion of the unit and its staff.***

Answer from Vicky McGuire *(Autism Education Trust/Cambridge Park Academy)* who completed the school audits:

**Launchpad was not part of the original AIS project. It was the primary school. However, as Kate was the AIS champion, Launchpad now benefits from her expertise that has been enhanced by hers and the school's participation.**

**We look forward to continuing our partnership and working together.**

Below are the dates for the next academic year **SPACE Forum** (previously Parent Supporting Parents (PSP) forums) will be held at Grimsby Town Hall.

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| September 19th 2023 | Discussing the final audits with parent carers and school champions for the AiS project |
| October 17th 2023 | Understanding Myself training (to showcase the programme and make amendments through collaboration with our parent carers) |
| November 21st 2023 | NAVIGO/YMM and Access Pathway Team will be attending to look at the new referral form. |
| January 16th 2024 |  |
| February 9th 2024 |  |
| March 19th 2024 |  |
| April 23rd 2024 |  |
| June 11th 2024 |  |
| July 9th 2024 |  |

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**The next SPACE Forum**

**(previously the AiS Parent Supporting Parents Forum)**

**Tuesday 21st November 2023**

**9.30am - 11.30am**

**Grimsby Town Hall**

**Please remember: The SPACE Forums *(previously known as AiS Parents Supporting Parents Forums)* are open to all parent carers and educational settings in North East Lincolnshire.**

Any further questions please get in touch:

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Nicola Chappel **nicola.chappel@nhs.net**

**Feedback from Parent Carers and** **Practitioners:**

***“Everyone’s ideas and recommendations” Parent carer***

***“More professionals need to attend” Practitioner***

***“I hope schools find the time to put the programme in place” Parent carer***

“I like that parent carers and SENDCos can get together to talk and collaborate.” *Parent carer*

***“A great way to understand yourself”* Parent carer**

***“Positive delivery of Understanding Myself programme” Parent carer***

**“I liked the resources available” Practitioner**

***“Welcoming and informative” Parent carer***