



Hello again....and welcome to the 10th issue of the Children's Disability Newsletter.

In this issue you will find the summer break Leisure for All activities, with the dates you can apply from.

After our last issue we ran a Parental involvement session with over 30 parents in attendance, most of whom have since completed a 5 week training course. We hope that the parents involved gained lots of useful skills and knowledge and can go on to enrich the lives of their families and pass that knowledge and learning on to further families. During the course we also considered how Wigan's Parent Carer Forum could look.

Towards the back of this issue we also ask your views on this, if you do have any thoughts on this please complete the inside of the back page, tearing it off and returning it to me at the address provided.

Remember if your child is registered on the Disability Data Hub you are a recognized and greatly valued member of the forum.

We welcome your comments and suggestions for future articles. If you are a parent or carer and would like to get involved or be referred to any of our services, please contact: **Liz Saunders** on **01942 486102** or **Liz.saunders@wigan.gov.uk**



> Parent Participation Training



Week 2 Parents homework from week 1 of the training had been to produce a 5 year plan for their loved one. The parents came up with some fabulous pieces of work, and reported that it had helped them focus on what they need to do to set these plans in action.

Parents said they particularly enjoyed :

- "Information and listening to other parents journeys"
- "Sharing ideas with other parents"
- "Looking how others see their kids in 5 years"
- "ideas from the posters"
- "Letting you know what helps and how"
- "different types of plans and the purpose of them"
- "never considered taking the solution to the table before but it makes sense (plan or be planned for)."
- "The wealth of information"
- "chatting with other parents and forming new friendships"

Parent/carers need to have a good understanding of their hopes and feelings for the future of their loved ones in order to have a strong foundation to start from, if and when they get involved in participation work.

"If you don't know where your heading, how will you ever know if you've arrived?"





Short Breaks Activities

Wigan Sports Development are running a series of sports sessions throughout the summer for children and young people aged 5-19 years with a disability. Please see the table below for details.

Multi Sports (Targeted) – For boys/girls with ADHD & Challenging Behaviour (associated with a disability)
Multi Sports (PAN) – For boys/girls with physical, sensory or learning difficulties
Dance & Cheerleading - For boys/girls with physical, sensory or learning difficulties
Rebound Therapy – For boys/girls with autistic spectrum conditions (hoist available)
Wheels for All – For boys/girls with physical, sensory or learning difficulties

Weekly Activities (Summer)			
Activity	Times	Ages	Facility
Multi Sports (PAN)	10am – 2pm	8 - 19	TBC
	10am – 12noon 12:30pm – 3pm	5 - 11 12 – 19	TBC
Multi Sports (Targeted)	10am – 2pm	8 – 14	TBC
Rebound Therapy	10am – 12noon	5 – 11	TBC
	12:30pm – 3:30pm	12 – 19	TBC
Wheels for All	10am – 2pm (1 hour slots)	5 – 19	TBC

All sessions £2 per hour

Places are limited so please call to book your place in advance

For more information please contact Wigan Sports Development on 01942 404982 or email sdu@wlct.org



sports development



Creative Workshops

for young children and young people with learning disabilities



Inbetweeners

at Platt Bridge Community Zone, 10am to 12.30pm

Sunday

Our **Inbetweeners Workshop** is for young people between the ages of 16 and 19. We offer a range of creative activities, including drama, music, dance and singing. Only £2.00 per session.

Minis

at Platt Bridge Community Zone, 5.30pm to 7.30pm

Tuesday

Our **Minis Workshop** is for children between the ages of 6-10. We offer fun, creative activities designed to promote and encourage teamwork, develop social skills, build relationships, and increase self-development and awareness. The sessions run in term-time only and are £2.00 per session.



Tots Taster Sessions

Please leave your details and we'll get back to you

Coming soon!

Our **Tots Group** will be for parents and tots up to the age of 5. We will be offering a range of creative activities to enable children to gain more confidence, communicate and make new friends. Our aim is to provide an environment where parents can share experiences and support each other.



For further information, please contact Sue Seager:

Phone: 01942 735426

Email: sue.morethanwordsac@gmail.com

Please note: Please let us know your child's support needs when you enquire about these services, so that we can provide the right level of support.

> Carers Week 2013



Carers week 2013 is 10th-16th June

The theme for 2013 is
'Prepared to Care'

We are currently arranging lots of activities and events for the week which will include a health awareness day on **Thursday 13th June** 10.00am till 4pm. During the day there will be a chance to have a health check, take part in a chair based exercise session, see demonstrations on healthy eating and natural beauty products or simply call in for a cup of tea and a chat.

On Friday 14th June we will be holding taster sessions of Jin Shin Jyutsu.

On Saturday 15th June 11am till 4pm we will be holding a Family Fun Day. Lots of fun for all the family, no need to book just turn up and enjoy the fun. Stalls, food, refreshments plus Children's activities and competitions as well as a visit from the Mayor and Local Mp's.

Contact Wigan and Leigh Carer's Centre for more information on 01942 705959

> Wigan and Leigh Deaf Children's Society

We are a local group for families with a child with any level of hearing loss

We aim to provide:

- Support and guidance for families
- Fun activities for children of all ages and their siblings
- Events and workshops for parents and carers
- Support for newly diagnosed families

Contact us:

Email: WiganLeighDCS@outlook.com

Katie: 0787 2664995

Jodie: 07817 531430



Embrace Wigan & Leigh

1 Smithy Court, Smithy Brook Road, Wigan - WN3 6PS



Our Futures - sustainable circles of support for people with disabilities

Never Watch Alone - Matching buddies with fans to connect communities together
...and much more... visit our website for the latest information

Half Term activities with Embrace

The team at Embrace, with support from their volunteers, have delivered another successful February half term activities scheme.

The sessions were run at Hope School Library from 10am till 3pm for young people aged 14 -19yrs and fun was had by all. During the half term the young people created unique pieces of art which they were able to take home to share with their families. The theme was around Valentine's day, so on the 14th February the young people were busy making Valentine cards and heart-shaped dream catchers. At the end of each day the young people were asked which activity they liked best and the one which was enjoyed most of all was T-shirt painting.



Along with being creative the young people gained some independent living skills while out and about in the community. It was great to see the young people come together and have fun during the half term and watch new friendships being formed. While chatting to one parent she remarked that the short break from her caring role was a 'life saver' and that her son loved coming on the activities and regarded his time there as "his special place".



The team at Embrace are currently planning the summer holidays activities so watch this space and remember to book as places are limited.



> **Introducing Wigan Youth Zone**

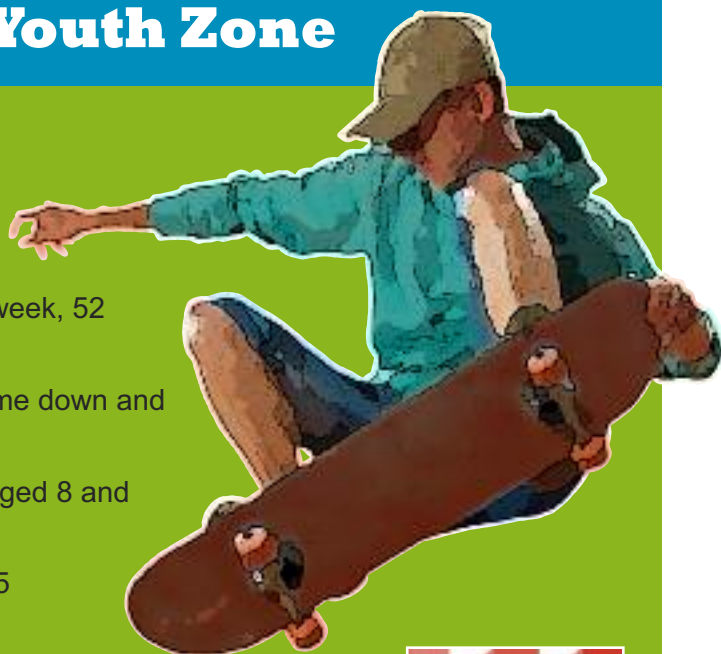
Opening on the 8th June

What is it?

- * Wigan Youth Zone will be open seven days a week, 52 weeks of the year
- * More than 25 activities Every night - or just come down and hang out in the cafe
- * It's for ALL young people, OF ALL ABILITIES aged 8 and over in Wigan and Leigh
- * It's affordable. ENTRY IS JUST 50P WITH A £5 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE

For more information contact inclusion and disability youth worker ruth.ozkan@wiganyouthzone.org or register your interest on our website at www.wiganyouthzone.org

Join us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/wiganyouthzone
Follow us on Twitter: [@wiganyouthzone](https://twitter.com/wiganyouthzone)



> **Leisure For All**

Skate Nights

Wigan Roller Rink, Swan Meadow Road, Wigan, WN3 5BD

Due to the popularity of the skate sessions at Wigan Roller Rink, we have made several bookings for 2013 –

- **Tuesday 4th June 2013**
6-30pm – 9pm
- **Tuesday 6th August**
2pm – 4-30pm (this is within the school summer break).

To book, please contact **Kelly** or **Lynne** on **01942 486073** or e-mail **Kelly** – k.piper@wigan.gov.uk



> Just Join In



Interested in playing football?

Why not join Wigan Athletic Community Trust's Just Join In football teams. Just Join In is a Premier League and PFA funded project allowing children and young people with disabilities the opportunity to play football in a fun and safe environment. Wigan Athletic has three Just Join In football teams that are part of the Greater Manchester Ability Counts Football League and are always looking for new players.

Training takes place on a Wednesday evening throughout the season and the league games take place once a month with transport provided.

If you are aged 11-16 years with a disability and are interested in playing football then why not come down to our training sessions?



The details are:

Venue: Abraham Guest Academy, Greenhey, Orrell, Wigan, WN5 8HN

When: Wednesday's

Time: 5.45 – 6.45pm



For any more information please contact **Chris Baxter** on **01942 488530**, mobile **07702736099** or email **c.baxter@wiganathleticct.com**

> Wigan Family Information Service

All you need in one place

Looking for childcare? Want some ideas of where to go with your children? Need some help and support?

The answers are all in one place, and with the online family service directory (www.wiganfis.org.uk), it's now available 24 hours a day 365 days a year.

Wigan Family Information Service provides parents with a one stop shop for anything ranging from children's study support services to advice on tax credits for paying for childcare. You can access the service by email, phone or the online directory.

The directory provides information about organisations and services for children, young people and their families living in Wigan Borough, including: leisure activities, family support, children's centres, education including special educational needs, volunteering, health services and other specialist services.

As well as the directory www.wiganfis.org.uk you can find out more about Wigan Family Information Service by visiting the web page www.wigan.gov.uk/familyinformationservice



PARENT PARTICIPATION

Below is a list of some of the existing groups parent/carers sit on. See contact details for further information or if you would like to get involved

Group	Chair or lead person & contact number	Email	Membership type	Places available Yes/No	Minutes
LDBP	Sally Hobs 01942 489453	S.Hobs@wigan.gov.uk	Need to be representing a sub group	No	To existing members or on application
Transition Sub Group	Frances Topping 01942 489492	F.Topping@wigan.gov.uk	Open to parent carers	Yes	To existing members or on application
Transition event planning group	Julie Wilkinson 01942 486196	J.Wilkinson@wigan.gov.uk	Open to parent carers	Yes	To existing members or on application
Family Forum LDPB	Lynne Hamnett 01942 233323	L.hamnett@embracewiganandleigh.org.uk	Open to parent carers	Yes	Notes and actions only
Co-Production group looking at transition respite	Sharon Lomax 01942 489513	Sharon.Lomax@wigan.gov.uk	Open to parent carers but limited numbers	Need to contact lead	To existing members or on application
Carers Strategy					
	Dorothy Latham 01942 705981	D.Latham@wigan.gov.uk	open to parent carers pan disability	Yes but please contact lead	To existing members or on application
Carers Training Group	Bernadette Campbell 01942 486475	Bernadette.Campbell@wigan.gov.uk	Open to parent carers pan disability	Yes but please contact lead	To existing members or on application
Carers Forum	Jim Barton via Carers Centre 01942 705959	info@wiganandleighcarerscentre.org.uk	Open to parent carers pan disability	Yes	To existing members or on application
Pathfinder PPG					
	Steve Walker	S.Walker@wigan.gov.uk	Limited to 2 parent/carers 0-25 years	No	Minutes published on the Pathfinder Website: www.wigan.gov.uk/Services/EducationLearning/Pathfinder/
Single Plan and personalisation	Steve Walker	S.Walker@wigan.gov.uk	Limited to 2 parent/carers 0-25 years	No	Notes and progress from group fed into PPG
Local offer	Steve Walker	S.Walker@wigan.gov.uk	Limited to 2 parent/carers 0-25 years	No	Notes and progress from group fed into PPG
Vulnerable groups	Ash Patel	A.Patel@wigan.gov.uk	Limited to 2 parent/carers 0-25 years	2	Notes and progress from group fed into PPG
Training and workforce Development	Richard Foster	R.Foster@wigan.gov.uk	Limited to 2 parent/carers 0-25 years	2	Notes and progress from group fed into PPG
Information and Communications Group	Debbie Haffner	D.Haffner@wigan.gov.uk	Limited to 8 parent/carers 0-25 years	Currently no vacancies	Finished into leaflets published and circulated via the Children's Disability Newsletter and will be on the Pathfinder Website: www.wigan.gov.uk/Services/EducationLearning/Pathfinder/

> Parent Participation Training

Week 3

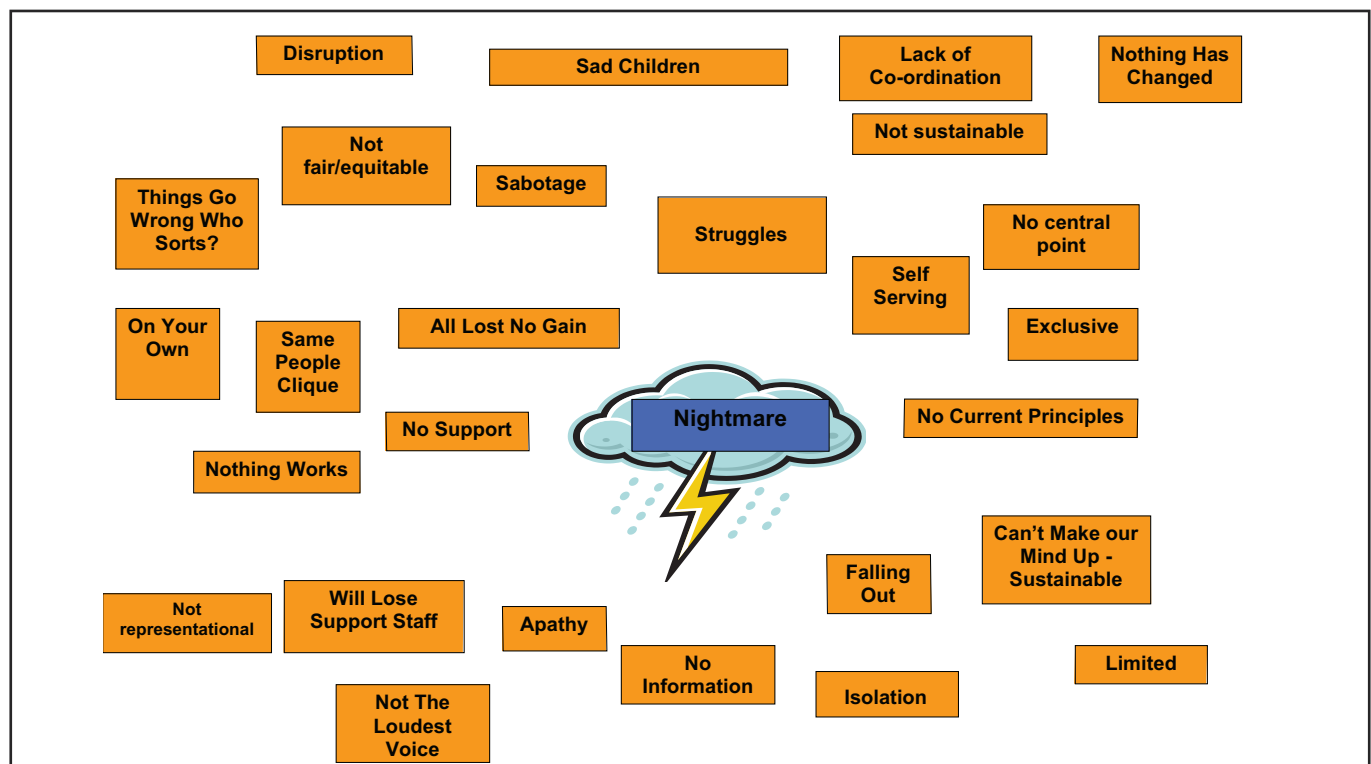
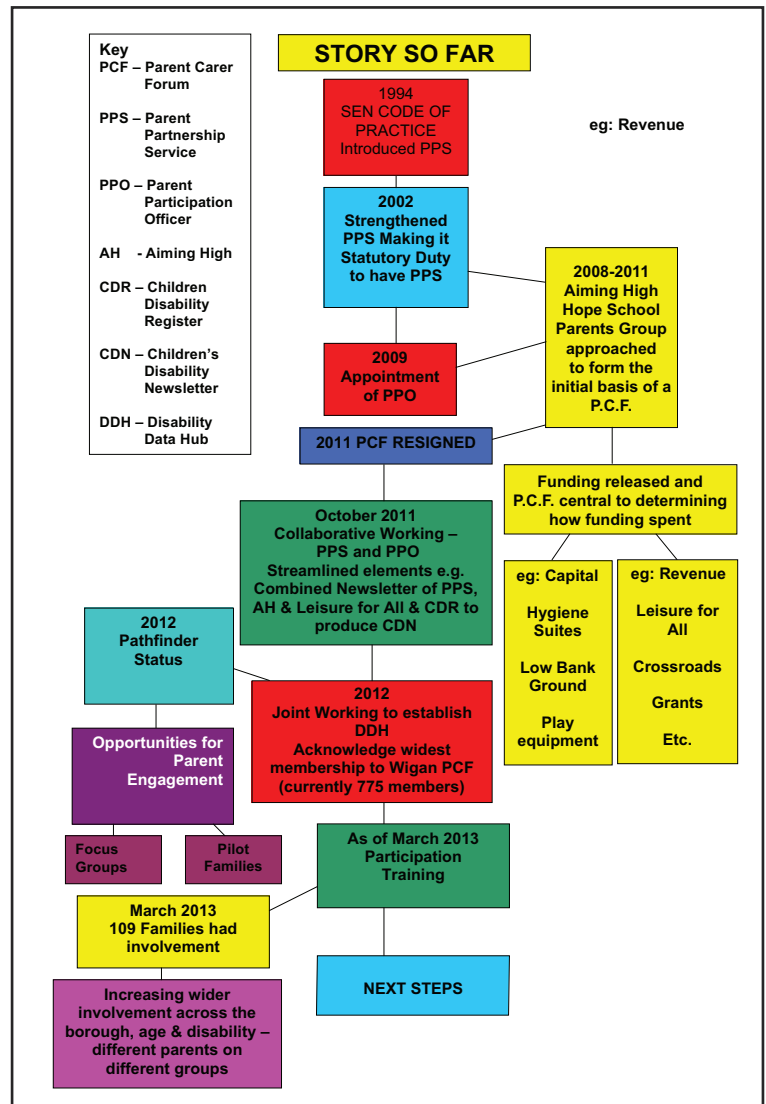
In week three the group were asked what they want from Participation in Wigan.

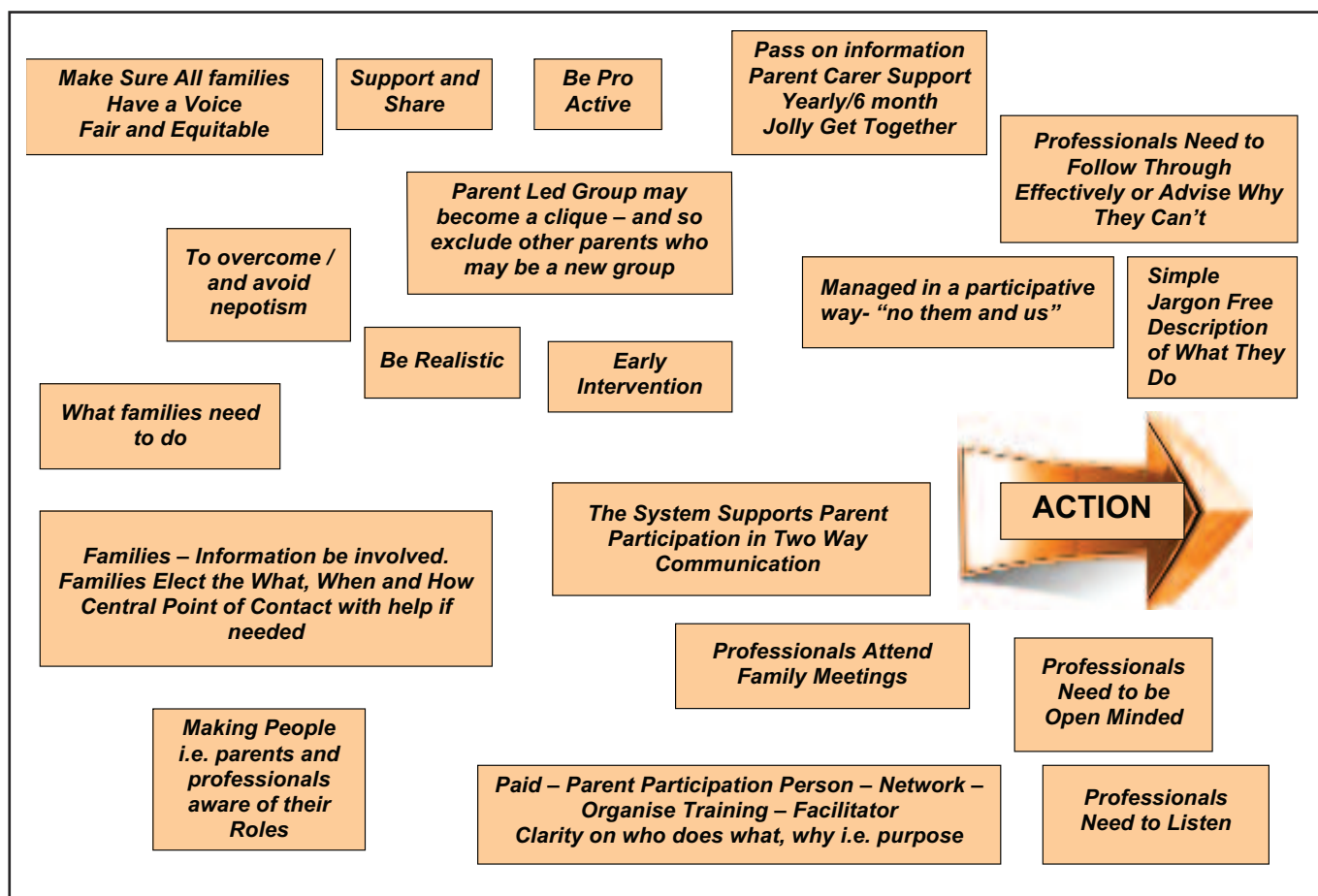
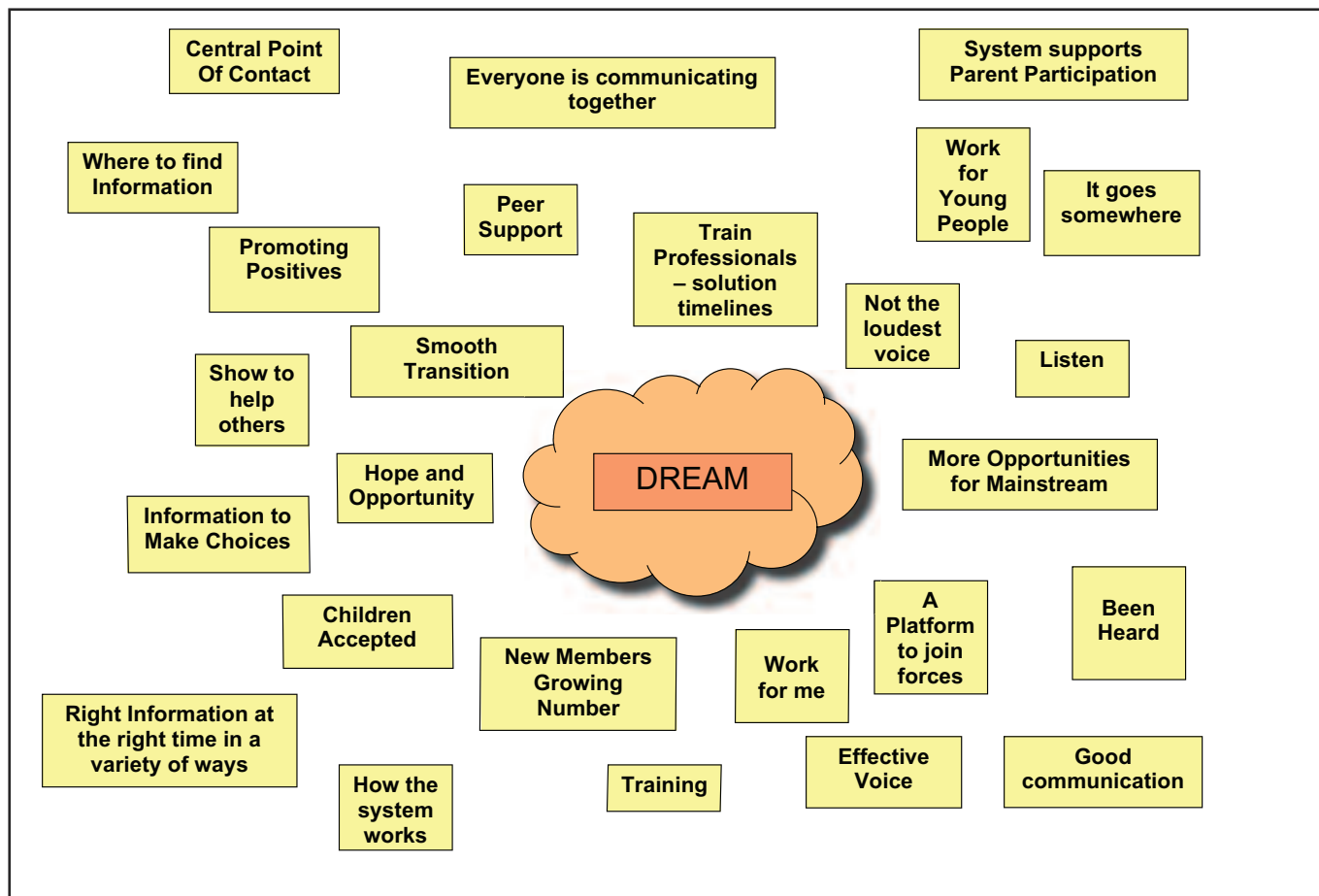
We looked at the Story up to the present day:

We looked at the **Dream**:

We looked at the **Nightmare**:

And We looked at an **action plan**:





> Leisure For All

The **Leisure for All summer programme of activities** is available to children and young people with disabilities who live within the Wigan Borough (live in a house that pays Council Tax to Wigan). Children and young people must be aged between 3-19yrs (Can use LFA until the end of their last term at school). Please note that some activities will be age restricted / height restricted. We will also state what level of wheelchair access activities / outings and venues have.

Bookings for the summer activities will be taken from 9-30am on **Wednesday 12th June 2013**. Please contact **Kelly, Lynne** or **Kat** on that date by phone, **01942 486073** or e-mail **k.piper@wigan.gov.uk** **lynne.harrison@wigan.gov.uk** or **k.mccooey@wigan.gov.uk**

Allocations will be started week commencing Monday 24th June, you will receive your child / young persons allocated dates by Wednesday 3rd July 2013.

Parent / carers must state the activities they would like their child / young person to access in preference order. Once requests are received, the activities will be allocated as fairly as possible to ensure that the maximum number of children and young people are allocated places. The dates your child / young person has been allocated will then be sent to you with an invoice for payment.

Please note - You may not be allocated all of the dates that you request – please check allocations letter and invoice for dates allocated.

> Leisure For All - 2013 Summer Programme

For information - Penson Street has a hygiene suite with adjustable changing bed, shower and hoist

Week 1	Activity	Venue	Times	Cost	Lunch / Refreshments	Additional info
Monday 22nd July	Nature's Den - Fire and tools. We will travel in accessible transport, leaving from and returning to Robin Park Arena car park.	Leigh Road, Worsley, Manchester M28 2LJ	9am - 4pm	£18	Packed lunch and drinks required	You will require a full change of clothing including shoes. All activities are fully accessible.
Tuesday 23rd July	Acorn Farm - Stroke and feed the animals. Horse rides, accessible outdoor play area, plant sales, farm shop, café and lots more.	Acorn Farm, Depot Rd, Kirkby, Knowsley L33 3AR	10am - 4pm	£14	Packed lunch and drinks required	Optional horse rides £2. We will travel on accessible mini-buses leaving from/returning to Robin Park Arena Car Park. There are DDA compliant toilets but no hygiene suite.
Wed. 24th July	Penson St. On-site activities, local walks and parks, arts and crafts, cookery and outdoor play etc.	WCVYS Building, Penson St, Wigan WN1 2LP	9.30am - 4pm	£13	Packed lunch and drinks required	Optional swimming - £2.50. You must request swimming upon booking to ensure suitable staffing ratios. The pool has a hygiene suite and pool hoist.
Thursday 25th July	The Sensory Zone - Light and sound room, dark / UV room, hydrotherapy pool, soft play area. Each person will spend 1 hr in each area / pool.	The Sensory Zone, Gorseley Place, Skelmersdale WN8 9UP	10am - 3pm	£20	Packed lunch and drinks required	You will require swimwear, towels etc. We will travel on accessible mini-buses from Robin Park Arena Car Park. There is a disabled toilet and pool hoist available.

> Leisure For All

Week 2	Activity	Venue	Times	Cost	Lunch / Refreshments	Additional info
Monday 29th July	Manchester Football Museum - The Urbis. Come along and have some fun finding out everything you want to know about your favourite game.	The Urbis, Manchester City Centre. Travelling to / from Wigan Wallgate train station	9.40am - 3.40pm	£12	Lunch / drinks are included in the cost.	We will go by train into Victoria Station. After our visit to the museum we will go into Manchester City Centre. We will have lunch in the city centre - the cost of lunch is included.
Tuesday 30th July	Blackpool Zoo. Come and meet the creepy crawlies in the bug house, watch the feeding of the big cats and listen to the penguin and sea lion talks.	East Bank Drive, Blackpool, Lancashire FY3 8PP	9.30am - 4.30pm	£21	Packed lunch and drinks required.	Max £5 spending money. We will travel in accessible transport, leaving from and returning to Robin Park Arena car park.
Wed 31st July	Penson St, On-site activities, local walks and parks, arts and crafts, cookery and outdoor play etc.	WCVYS Building, Penson St, Wigan WN1 2LP	9.30am - 3.30pm	£12	Packed lunch and drinks required.	Optional 10 Pin Bowling, additional £3.95 per game. You will require your bus pass / bus fare.
Thursday 1st August	Morecambe - Happy Mount Park and Taylor's Fun Fair. Activities in Happy Mount Park include - miniature golf, floor level trampolines, play area, splash zone (outdoor water play area).	Happy Mount Park and Taylors Fun Fair, Marine Rd, Morecambe LA4 5AQ	10am - 7pm	£30 - will include transport, park activities & evening meal	Packed lunch and drinks required. Evening meal will be provided.	Optional Fair Ground Rides - spending money required. We will travel in accessible transport, leaving from and returning to Robin Park Arena car park.
Friday 2nd August	Penson St, On-site activities, local walks and parks, arts and crafts, cookery and outdoor play etc.	WCVYS Building, Penson St, Wigan WN1 2LP	10am - 4pm	£12	Packed lunch and drinks required.	Optional pamper session - hand massage, nails, nail art etc.
Week 3	Activity	Venue	Times	Cost	Lunch / Refreshments	Additional info
Monday 5th August	Nature's Den - The Gruffalo "A mouse took a stroll through the deep dark wood. A fox saw the mouse and the mouse looked good.	Natures Den, Leigh Road, Worsley, Manchester M28 2LJ	9am - 4pm	£18	Packed lunch and drinks required	You will require a full change of clothing including shoes. We will travel on accessible mini-buses leaving from and returning to Robin Park Arena car park.
Tuesday 6th August	Skating at Wigan Roller Rink. The rink is fully accessible and you can go on the rink in your wheelchair if required.	Wigan Roller Rink, Swan Meadow Road WN3 5BD	2pm - 4.30pm	£6	There is a small snack bar to buy refreshments	Please do not bring your own refreshments. There are supported places or come along with family and friends.
Wed 7th August	Penson St. As part of the activities on this day there will be a trip to Withy Grove accessible play area - Bamber Bridge (weather dependant).	Penson St, then - Brindle Road, Bamber Bridge, Preston, Lancashire PR5 6YJ	9.30am - 4pm	£16 including transport	Packed lunch and drinks required	We will travel on accessible mini-buses leaving from and returning to Penson St within the times of the session.
Thursday 8th August	Alton Towers Theme Park, rides, shows and much more. We travel on accessible mini-buses, leaving from and returning to Robin Park Arena car park.	Alton Towers Resort, Alton, Staffordshire ST10 4DB	9am - 9pm	£55 per person	Packed lunch / drinks req. Evening meal and drink is included in the cost.	Please wear appropriate footwear; there is lots of walking. Please send packed lunch / drink in a throw away bag. Wheelchair access is good; there are many DDA compliant toilets.
Friday 9th August	Penson St, On-site activities, local walks and parks, arts and crafts, cookery and outdoor play etc.	WCVYS Building, Penson St, Wigan WN1 2LP	10am - 4pm	£12	Packed lunch and drinks required	

> Leisure For All

Week 4	Activity	Venue	Times	Cost	Lunch / Refreshments	Additional info
Monday 12th August	Natures Den - Outdoor Art. You will require a full change of clothing including shoes.	Leigh Road, Worsley, Manchester M28 2LJ	9am - 4pm	£18	Packed lunch and drinks required	We will travel on accessible mini-buses leaving from and returning to Robin Park Arena car park
Wed 14th August - Friday 16th August. 2 night short break	We will stay in the Adventure House - a large bungalow with dormitory style rooms. We will participate in on-site activities including - trampolines, camp fire, outdoor ropes challenge course, robot wars, local walks etc. All activities are accessible as is the Adventure House. Waddow is owned by Girl Guiding UK. The accommodation is set in 178 acres of Lancashire countryside overlooking the River Ribble.	Waddow, The Adventure House, Waddington Rd, Clitheroe, Lancashire BB7 3LD	Leaving Wigan at 1.30pm on Weds 14th August Returning to Wigan at 2.30pm on Friday 16th August.	£95.00 - this includes accomm., all meals and drinks, activities, transport etc.	All meals and drinks included from evening meal on Wednesday 14th to lunch on Friday 16th August. There is a small tuck / gift shop, max £10 spends please.	Everyone will require three full sets of clothing and footwear, water proof coat, towels, toiletries, torch etc. A full kit list and additional permission form will be sent closer to the date. The children and young people will be supported by the Leisure for All team. There will be waking night staff on duty. The activities are provided on-site by the Waddow Hall instructors. We will travel on accessible mini-buses leaving from and returning to Robin Park Arena car park.

Week 5	Activity	Venue	Times	Cost	Lunch / Refreshments	Additional info
Monday 19th August	Kitty Wake Canal Cruise. We will travel along the canal to the Waters Edge in Appley Bridge and return.	Leaving from the Orwell, Wigan Pier	10am - 4pm	£19	Packed lunch and drinks required	Your child / young person must be able to climb up and down the five steps into the boat independently.
Tuesday 20th August	Martin Mere Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust. Come along and see this years chicks, enjoy a boat ride on the waterways, play on the adventure play area or catch a glimpse of the otters.	Fish Lane, Burscough, Lancashire L40 0TA	10am - 4pm	£16	Packed lunch and drinks are required. We will provide an afternoon drink and light snack	Please wear suitable footwear. We will travel on accessible mini-buses leaving from and returning to Robin Park Arena car park. Max £5 spending money.
Wed 21st August	On-site activities, local walks and parks, arts and crafts, cookery and outdoor play etc.	WCVYS Building, Penson St, Wigan WN1 2LP.	9.30am - 3.30pm	£13	You can bring a packed lunch or money to buy your lunch.	If buying lunch, £5 max please.
Thursday 22nd August	Challenge4Change. Another chance to try this unique and challenging indoor course. Jacobs ladder, cargo nets, high ropes course, leap of faith etc - everything is accessible to everyone. www.challenge4change.org	373 Trafford Park Rd, Stretford, Greater Manchester M17 1AL	9.15am - 2.45pm	£24	Packed lunch and drinks are required	Following a very successful visit in Feb 2013 we are offering this activity again. There are hoists available to support anyone requiring it to climb / complete the course. You will require sturdy footwear.
Friday 23rd August	Bolton Food Festival - demonstrations from celebrity chefs, food stalls from around the world, street entertainment and live music.	Bolton town centre and market place.	10.30am - 4pm	£9.50 plus lunch money	Lunch will be purchased from around the food festival. Please provide a drink.	We will travel on accessible mini-buses leaving from and returning to Robin Park Arena car park. Spending money required £20 max.

Week 6	Activity	Venue	Times	Cost	Lunch / Refreshments	Additional info
Tuesday 27th August	Rivington Ramble - Enjoy an energetic walk up to the top of the Pike or a walk on the accessible paths around the reservoirs. We will travel in accessible transport, leaving from and returning to Robin Park Arena car park.	Rivington, Bolton Lancashire BL6 7SB	10am - 2.30pm	£13.50	A late lunch in the café at Rivington is included in the cost.	Please send weather appropriate clothing and a change of footwear. There is a DDA compliant disabled toilet but no hygiene suite.
Wed 28th August	On-site activities, local walks and parks, arts and crafts and outdoor play etc.	WCVYS Building, Penson St, Wigan WN1 2LP	9.30am - 4pm	£13	Packed lunch and drinks are required.	Optional cinema trip - if you have a free carer pass please bring it on the day. You will also require £6 and your bus pass or fare.
Thursday 29th August	The Sensory Zone - Light and sound room, dark / UV room, hydrotherapy pool, soft play area. Each person will spend 1 hr in each area / pool.	The Sensory Zone, Gorsey Place, Skelmersdale WN8 9UP	10am - 3pm	£20	Packed lunch and drinks are required.	You will require swimwear, towels etc. We will travel in accessible transport, leaving from and returning to Robin Park Arena car park.
Friday 30th August	End of summer party - Come along and celebrate the end of the summer break. Games, music and much more.	Venue to be confirmed	11am - 2pm	£6	Buffet lunch and soft / hot drinks included.	There are supported places available or you can come along with family, friends, your PA etc. Extra tickets are £3 per person and include buffet.

Overnight short breaks in 2013

The Leisure for All Team have organised two short residential holiday breaks for 2013.

The first is to **Waddow** in August 2013 and the second to The **Bendrigg Trust** in October 2013.

Waddow – 1-30pm on Wednesday 14th August – returning at 2-30pm on Friday 16th August (2 nights).

Waddow is owned by Girl Guiding UK but is available for youth groups and organisations to hire. We will be staying in the Adventure House – a large bungalow with dormitory style rooms. We will participate in a range of on-site activities including – Trampolines, camp fires, ropes courses, robot wars, local walks etc.

All of the activities are accessible as is the Adventure House.

We will travel to and from Waddow on Accessible Transport leaving from and returning to Robin Park Arena Car Park.

The cost of the break is £95.00 and includes transport, all meals and refreshments, activities and accommodation.

Bendrigg – (definite times to be confirmed) approx 10.45am on Tuesday 29th October – approx 2.30pm on Friday 1st November (3 nights).

The Bendrigg Trust is a fully accessible outdoor pursuit's centre specifically catering for the needs of children, young people and adults with physical and learning disabilities. We will stay in the main lodge at the centre and participate in numerous outdoor activities for example - climbing, walking, accessible cycles, zip wire, caving, canoeing, camp fires etc.

We will travel to and from Bendrigg on Accessible Transport leaving from and returning to Robin Park Arena Car Park.

The cost of the break is £265.00 and includes transport, all meals and refreshments, activities and accommodation.

If you are interested in either of the short residential holiday breaks please contact **Kelly** or **Lynne** before **Friday 28th June** to log your interest.

Places will be allocated for both breaks week commencing Monday 1st July 2013 you will receive notification during that week.

On the Data Hub? Then you are a member of Wigan Parent Carer Forum

What do you want Wigan Parent Carer Forum to do for you?

What is a parent carer forum (PCF) and who can join?

Contact a Family describe it as:- a group made up of parents and carers of disabled children who work with local authorities, education, health services and other providers to make sure the services they plan and deliver really meet the needs of disabled children and families.

Forums are 'pan disability' which means that parents or carers of a child with any type of additional need or disability are welcome to join, as they are likely to need to access services and support.

How should/could a PCF operate?

There are no set rules for how a PCF should look – however the important factors to consider are that it:

- has an effective voice and is given opportunity to influence service development and delivery
- meets the needs of the majority of parents living in the area it serves.
- offers opportunity for fair and equal representation

What is happening in Wigan?

Wigan Local Authority currently commissions and funds a Parent Participation worker to further promote and develop parent participation. A major development of this role has been the establishment of the Disability Data Hub (DDH) and the development of effective communication routes including the Children's Disability Newsletter.

The Children's Disability Newsletter (2500 copies) is sent out 3 times a year and is a really useful opportunity to exchange information. Parents are encouraged to also share email details as this is proving to be another extremely efficient way of sharing information, offering opportunities for involvement etc not only speedily but also economically! There is always an open invitation for new parents to register on the data hub and thereby automatically be acknowledged as an equal member of Wigan PCF.

Wigan now has a well established parent carer forum with currently 740 members.

By choosing to operate the PCF in this way therefore aims to:

- ensure the maximum number of parents are given equal opportunity to be kept informed, submit views and/or participate in opportunities as and when they arise.
- does not assume any obligations on parents to commit lots of time. Parents can have some choice and control over what and when you wish to get more involved in.

There are many different models of PCF across the country, and we are not bound or obliged to follow any particular one.

We are keen to do it 'WIGAN' way, based on what you as parents suggest and what you as parents feel is important.

There are no right or wrong answers and it may well be that there will be different ideas, and it is right that there are, as you are all individuals with your own views and preferences. We may not be able to incorporate all your individual suggestions, but together we need to consider what is fair, equitable, representational, sustainable and 'do able'!

It is absolutely vital that we put our energies into ensuring that Wigan PCF is truly effective and inclusive and always mindful of the purpose it serves.

So.....we have the foundations, i.e:-

- an increasing number of parents joining the PCF
- a Participation worker to support us
- technology to aid us

We have taken the opportunity to bid for a grant from the Department for Education to support parent participation. Contact A Family are responsible for approving and monitoring the grant applications.

The grant is worth up to £10,000.

Conditions of the grant are available

http://www.cafamily.org.uk/media/638179/parent_carer_participation_grant_application_2013-14_-_guidance_notes.pdf

Eg. Training and/or events – topics of interest; Publications, promotional materials.

> OVER TO YOU

1. We intend hosting a Wigan Parent Carer Forum open event (subject to grant) do you have any suggested Agenda items or topics to cover?

2. Do you have any suggestions of articles for the Newsletter which would improve Parental Participation?

3. What Types of training and events would you like. (bearing in mind that these must be Pan Disability events)?

4. Do you have any suggestions as to how we could further promote the Data Hub (PCF) and encourage more family members to get involved on groups etc.?

Children's Disability Data Hub

The Children Act 1989 requires that every local authority maintains a register of children and young people with disabilities living in its area, in order to help plan for future services and ensure families receive up to date appropriate information. In Wigan this was formerly known as the CDR (Children's Disability Register).

What information will it hold?

It will hold data on your child such as: name, date of birth, address, ethnicity, gender, child's disability / additional need and the services they receive.

Some basic details about you such as: name and address (if different to your child) and if applicable an e-mail address.

Inclusion on the database is voluntary and all personal information is kept confidential.

Names can be deregistered at any time.

Who will have access to my information?

Wigan Council and NHS Ashton, Leigh and Wigan will have access to your information, but this will be on a need to know basis only.

What are the benefits?

- You will receive up-to-date information.
- We will be able to consult with you on the development of disability services.
- We will have better information that can be used to plan the right services for the right people.

Registration Form Overleaf

**Data Hub for Children and Young People with a
Disability / Additional Needs
Registration Form**

Details of Child

First name: Surname:

Date of birth : Gender:

Address:

.....

Postcode:

Ethnicity: First Language:

Details of Primary Carer

First name: Surname:

Date of birth : Gender:

Address:

.....

Postcode:

Ethnicity: First Language:

Tel No.: Mobile No:

*Email:

*Due to Wigan Council security settings we are unable to send emails to private email addresses. Therefore, should you wish to receive information via email please send an email to liz.saunders@wigan.gov.uk stating your name and address along with your request to register on the Data Hub.

Disability / Additional Need

In what ways does your child's disability / additional need affect them? (tick all that apply)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physically | <input type="checkbox"/> Learning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sensory | <input type="checkbox"/> Behavioural / Emotional |

Other (please state)

.....

Does your child have a formal diagnosis? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, what is this

The data will be held by Wigan Council and shared with professionals across the local authority and health service to assist with planning and providing services. Information will be shared on a need to know basis only. By registering on the Data Hub you are recognised as participants of the Wigan Parent/Carer Forum. [Please sign to agree your data being stored by Wigan Council](#)

Signed: Dated:

Please reply to: Liz Saunders
Wigan Council, Progress House, Westwood Park Drive, Wigan WN3 4HH.
Phone: 01942 486102
E-mail: shortbreaksteam@wigan.gov.uk
www.wigan.gov.uk/shortbreaks