

# SEND Weekly Newsletter 3 July 2019



Issue 44

## Hello from SEND statutory Team Assessment hub

### Who are we and what do we do?

Following changes to the SEND Statutory Team, the Assessment Hub has developed and now consists of 5 x Senior Assessment and Review Officers (SAROs), and 3 x Assessment and Review Officers (AROs), led by Gemma Reeves, SEND Operational Manager. Pictured from left to right are Carrie Morrell, Mandy Brightman, Richard Matravers (all SAROs) and Demi Richardson, Louise Holley and Charlotte Bigby (All AROs). Not pictured are SAROs Rod Mitchell and Lianne Wadham (currently on maternity leave). The team have a broad range of experiences including school support inclusion, SENCO, Get Set, Early Years practitioners, legal and social care backgrounds. We also have a good depth of knowledge of SEND and the [Code of Practice](#) from our longer serving team members. This part of the SEND Statutory Team are responsible for coordinating education, health and care (EHC) needs assessment and producing plans in line with statutory guidance by working closely with our partnership agencies and with families to ensure those children and young people with EHC plans have the right support and a school place in line with their wishes.

For all enquiries please call Somerset Direct on 0300 123 2224.



### Study-up Somerset website is here

There's a new website that showcases and provides information about all the Higher Education courses on offer in Somerset. It should be a really useful resource for careers advisors, curriculum staff and students alike. It also includes information about funding, how to apply for HE and FAQs. The website can [be accessed here](#).

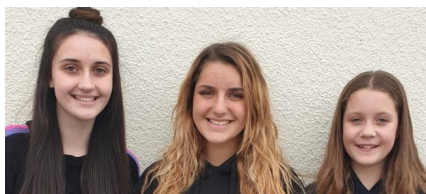
Any feedback on the website would be welcome, as the team is keen to make it as useful as possible.

In Somerset there's a wide range of HE courses at Level 4 and above - the aim is to provide a one-stop online place to get all the info. Please feedback to Julie Young [JAYoung@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:JAYoung@somerset.gov.uk) and Rachael Moore [RMoore@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:RMoore@somerset.gov.uk)



## Get involved in the Youth Parliament

Have you heard about Somerset Youth Parliament? We've got three members of the UK Youth Parliament representing this County and their task is to make sure the voices of all young people are heard. Coming up soon is the biggest youth consultation in the UK - the Make Your Mark campaign and our MYPs are getting the asking schools, youth clubs and other groups to get as



many young people involved.

They're being asked to vote on the issues that matter most to them.

Find out how to get involved by emailing

[Kdarlington@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:Kdarlington@somerset.gov.uk)

## Epilepsy guide launched

A new free online guide for schools has been launched on supporting young people with epilepsy.

It includes information on seizure first aid, epilepsy's impact on learning and behaviour and key elements of support that should be in place.

There are template documents, including an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) and a seizure record form.

There's also an ABLE tool (Assessment of Behaviour and Learning in Epilepsy). It's a simple questionnaire used to flag potential areas of concern.

You can access the site here:

[www.youngepilepsy.org.uk/guide-for-schools/](http://www.youngepilepsy.org.uk/guide-for-schools/)

## Summer is upon us - have you had these yet?

With the summer holiday three weeks away it's time to start planning your activities.

If you're a parent carer of a child or young person with Special Educational Needs and/or a Disability you should have had the following through your letter box:

- Summer Activity Calendar
- Summer Newsletter
- Activity Passes Flyer 2019-2020

There's a fantastic array of affordable breaks and activities.

And don't forget - there's a **free** Family Fun Day at Brookside Academy in Street this Saturday! There's no need to book, you can just turn up.

Parking and all activities are **free!**

There's a bouncy castle, all ability bikes, fun sports, music and art activities and loads more.

It runs from 11am to 3pm - refreshments are available to buy on site.

The location is Brooks Road, BA16 0PR.

If you haven't received your Short Breaks publications [visit here](#) to view and download.

Call the team for further information or if you want to receive these publications on 01823 358117.

