

Dear Carer, Parent or Professional

The next Helping HANDZ workshop is almost here. You can find details for this and upcoming workshops below.

I hope you all had a nice half-term; and that some of you managed to escape the rain.

Helping HANDZ Workshops

The next Helping HANDZ Surgery is on Tuesday 4 March. Workshops are free and a crèche can be provided with notice.

Workshop topics are suggested by and designed for parents, however professionals are most welcome to attend. Please pass on or share with clients, colleagues and friends.

Helping HANDZ surgeries are held at **Redlees Play Centre, Worton Road, Isleworth, TW7 6DW**. For more information please contact Helping HANDZ on **020 8583 3626**.

Tuesday 4 March 2014

10am – 11am – SEN Workshop – The SEN Panels and SEN Funding – Kodjo Ayebi-Kwakye (Head of SEN) talks about the SEN Panels, the decision-making processes and how evidence is considered. Kodjo also answers your general SEN questions and talks about the ways in which schools are funded to support children with SEN.

11am -12pm – SEN Workshop 2 – School Travel Assistance - Steve Devlin (Parent Partnership Service Coordinator) explains the law on School Travel Assistance and gives practical guidance on completing applications forms.

Tuesday 1 April 2014

10am – 11am – SEN Workshop 1 – Choosing Schools - Steve Devlin (Parent Partnership Service Coordinator) talks about the different types of schools, including Academies, and answers your questions about moving schools. This includes transferring schools when a statement is issued, primary to secondary transfer and preparing to leave school. There are also opportunities to ask general questions about Special Educational Needs.

11am - 12pm – SEN Workshop 2 - One-to-One Support – Guest speakers to be confirmed.

Parent Partnership Service SEN Mobile Workshops

Do you work in a school, community setting or support group? Would you like to arrange a free workshop for parents and carers on special educational needs?

The Parent Partnership Service now delivers free workshops for groups of parents and carers in your setting. This can be a general introduction to SEN with a question & answer session, or an individual session tailored to your needs. The Parent Partnership Service offers free confidential and impartial information across a range of educational topics including:

- The SEN Code of Practice
- School Action and School Action Plus
- Individual Education Plans
- Schools duties to pupils with SEN
- Statutory assessment and help with statements
- Choosing schools
- Annual Reviews
- Communicating effectively with your child's school or the local authority
- Exclusions
- Information on access

Best wishes

Steve

Steve Devlin **Helping HANDZ Network & Parent Partnership Service Coordinator**

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Helping HANDZ www.hounslow.gov.uk/helpinghandz

Parent Partnership Service

http://www.hounslow.gov.uk/index/education_and_learning/schools_and_colleges/parentpartnership.htm

The Helping HANDZ Network is the new name for the Hounslow Children with a Disability Network. It was suggested by disabled young people in Hounslow and chosen by parents. It stands for Helping **H**ounslow **A**dditional **N**eeds and **D**isabilities **Z**one and is a free resource for families with a disabled child. Visit the website above for details and how to join.