

Our Future Tasks

Our overarching focus is to ensure parents, carers, children and young people are prepared and confident as the changes in law take effect.

We have other tasks:

- Consulting with families in bringing together the health and social care services that will provide integrated support for children and young people with SEND. We wholeheartedly support the longer term proposal to provide a dedicated building for these services – **a one stop shop**.
- Consulting with families on the transition support services offered as children move between the school transitions (eg primary to secondary school) and finally into adult services. This includes active participation to inform new post-16 educational provision and pathways to employment (or other destinations).
- Working in partnership with other public services, such as Public Health and the commissioning groups to ensure families' voices are heard and listened to.
- We aspire to support AfC with the commissioning and purchase of services for children with SEND, including supporting their understanding of needs (needs analysis), drafting service specifications and taking part in commissioning panels.

Want to know more?

For the most up-to-date information and news from the world of SEND in Richmond – please join our e-mail distribution list by emailing richmondsendfamilyvoice@outlook.com - we will post copies if that suits you best.

We will also put updates and newsworthy links regularly on our **Facebook page**. Please *Like* the page and click *Get notifications* to receive information this way.
www.facebook.com/richmondsendfamilyvoice

Visit our website:
www.richmondsendfamilyvoice.org

Telephone: **07758 305 472**

Other useful contacts

Richmond ADHD
Tel: 07768 600 706
E-mail: richandtwickadhd@gmail.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/AdhdRichmond

Richmond Dyslexia
Tel: 020 8940 4626
E-mail: info@richmonddyslexia.org.uk
Website: www.richmonddyslexia.org.uk

Richmond NAS
Tel: 07810 505 982
E-mail: richmond@nas.org.uk
Website: www.richmondnas.org

Richmond Mencap
Tel: 020 8744 1923
E-mail: Teresa@richmondmencap.org.uk
Laura@richmondmencap.org.uk
Website: www.richmondmencap.org.uk

TRAPHIC (Twickenham & Richmond Area Parents of Hearing Impaired Children)
Tel: 020 8977 6801
E-mail: gavandnic@blueyonder.co.uk

Richmond SEND: FAMILY VOICE



Working in partnership to
give families a voice...

Richmond SEND FAMILY VOICE



Who are we?

We are a local community group, formed in June 2014, in response to the opportunities offered by the SEND reforms; these are the changes in law which aim to create equal partnerships between families of children and young people with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) and the professional services.

We work independently from, but in partnership with, *Achieving for Children** and other public services to develop measurable changes and improvements for children and young people with SEND.

We're a mix of individual parents, plus leads from disability specific support groups and specialist schools; we all offer our time on a voluntary basis and take responsibility for representing the views of a wider group of parents.

By ensuring families' voices are heard, and listened to, we empower children and young people to obtain the best possible care and services in Richmond.

*Achieving for Children (AfC) is a social enterprise company created by the Royal Borough of Kingston-upon-Thames and the London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames to provide their children's services.



Our First Task

The SEND reforms radically change the approach to working with families of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. They place the child or young person at the centre – ultimately this means their experiences will be of a system which is less confrontational and more efficient. In Richmond, there are nearly 4000 families of children and young people with identifiable needs – of these, around 900 receive additional funding to support them in school. With such an overhaul of a system that has been in place for 30 years, these changes are going to take time to become truly effective and this means that EVERYONE - families and professionals - are learning and developing as we go.

Richmond **SEND: FAMILY VOICE** is undertaking a programme of open meetings to explain and discuss these changes. We want to know, "What do you understand about the new system of SEN Support and Education, Health & Care plans?"

We want to listen and take away your questions, then find answers to help us all make these changes work.

Programme of Open Meetings

Monday 3 November, 10am-12 noon
York House, Twickenham, TW1 3AA

Wednesday 5 November, 7pm-8.30pm
Grey Court School, Ham, TW10 7HN

Tuesday 11 November, 7pm-9pm
York House, Twickenham, TW1 3AA

Thursday 13 November, 10am-12noon
Down's Syndrome Association, Teddington, TW11 9PS

Tuesday 25 November, 10am-12noon
The Old Sorting Office, Barnes, SW13 0LF

Monday 1 December, 10.30am-12noon
Strathmore School, Petersham, TW10 7ED

Tuesday 2 December, 7pm-8.30pm
Barnes Primary School, SW13 0QQ

Wednesday 3 December, 10am-12 noon
Whitton Youth Zone, Whitton, TW2 7JX

Date to be confirmed
Clarendon School, Hampton, TW12 3D

There may be new dates published after you receive this leaflet, so please check our website or facebook page, for the most up-to-date schedule. If you would like to invite us to a meeting or coffee morning with your network of families, we are very willing to come along.