

SEND

OUT!

Our newsletter for Children and Young People




SPRING 2026



Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter for children and young people!

We wanted to bring you some of our latest service updates, and remind you that we are here to support you if you need us! We hope you get to enjoy the brighter days we have ahead as we move into spring.

In this edition you will find:

-  A new 'Service Spotlight' – with local charity organisation Mentoring Plus.
-  An outline of where we've been and some service updates
-  Resources and useful links all about our Theme of the Month for April.
-  Details about SEND Out, our participation group and opportunities to share your feedback

Happy reading!



Where we've been

Bath Rugby Foundation's Hi5! Sports & Social Club

In February, we popped along to share our information and resources with the young people at the group, and were kindly invited to join in with bowling! We had such fun!

Youth Voice Matters Conference 2026

Our Children and Young People Ambassador, attended the IASSN's Youth Voice Matters Conference in Birmingham during half term.

The conference brought together children, young people and professionals from across the country to participate in a variety of workshops, all about youth citizenship.

The day highlighted just how important it is for young people to be part of shaping the decisions that impact their education and support.



Southside Family Hubs

In March, we were invited to Radstock Family Hub Group to share our information and resources. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to get out and about in the community meeting families to raise awareness of the service.

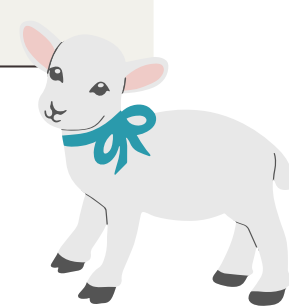
Bath College's Apprenticeship & Careers Event

Thank you to those of you who stopped by to chat to us at the Apprenticeship Fayre at the Apex Hotel in March.

It was wonderful to meet so many of you, hear your ideas about your next steps and tell you more about our service!



Thank you to all staff and volunteers for welcoming us at your events this term!



**SEND
OUT!**

Participation group updates

Our youth participation group is all about giving young people the opportunity to share their views and have their voices heard.

You do not need to have joined us before to come along, you are always welcome at any time to join us. Whether you have SEND yourself, know someone who does, or have an interest in SEND – everyone is more than welcome!

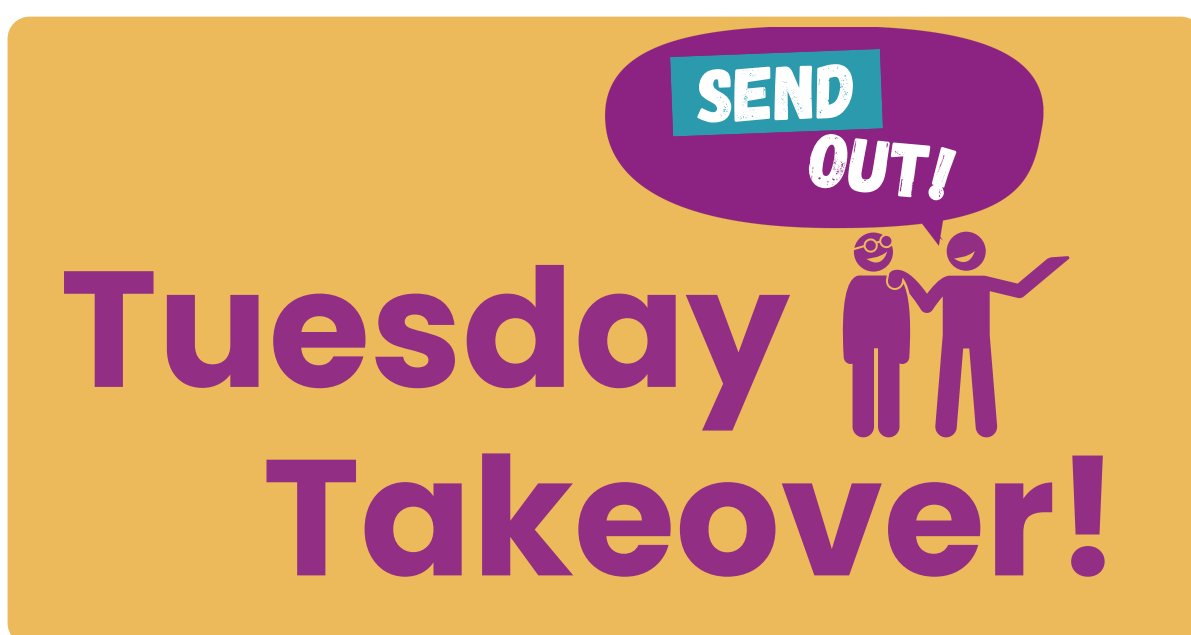


What can you expect at a SEND Out session?

- A chilled, welcoming icebreaker to help everyone settle in
- Plenty of space to ask questions and get comfortable
- A group conversation using fun, easy-to-use resources that help you share your thoughts and ideas – everything you submit is anonymous, and we explore it together as a group
- And before we wrap up, we'll ask you what themes you want us to explore next, so future sessions are shaped by what matters most to you.

**You can book a space at our next session below
– we would love to see you there!**

eventbrite.co.uk



Introducing Tuesday Takeover!

You may have spotted some new colours being used amongst recent social media. We have begun rolling out content specific to children and young people on Tuesdays!

If you would like to get involved in suggesting & creating content for us to share, please do get in touch with us.

Please do keep an eye out for links to surveys and feedback opportunities. These are a great way for you to use your voice and share your thoughts and views with us about different topics, influence change and make a difference in the world of SEND!



Have your say!

There are lots of consult opportunities currently open for you to share your thoughts and ideas, and contribute to the future of SEND policy.

What is a consultation?

A consultation is a way for people to share their views, give ideas, suggest changes and say what they think might work or not work

The government uses consultations to help make decisions.

After the consultation closes, the Department for Education will read all the responses, look at ideas and suggestions, and decide if changes are needed.

SEND Reform

The Department for Education is consulting on its plans for SEND reform set out in its white paper. The consultation; [SEND reform: putting children and young people first](#) is open until 18 May 2026.

A White Paper is the first step towards changing the law.

The ideas in a White Paper are not final, change after people give their views, and are discussed before any decisions are made.

You can use this form to give your views for us to share on your behalf - [Click here](#)

Or if you would like to take part in a focus group, please do contact us and let us know.

You can find PDFs on the Council for Disabled Children's website that detail more about the proposed changes. Accessible and inclusive formats are included.

[CDC website](#)

Supporting pupils with medical conditions at school

The Department for Education is consulting on proposed updates to the statutory guidance on [supporting pupils with medical conditions at school](#).

The consultation seeks views on proposals to strengthen the way children and young people with medical conditions and allergy are supported and kept safe. The [consultation](#) is open until 1 May 2026.

Theme of the month

Consent, capacity & preparing for adulthood

Understanding consent, capacity and who can support you in making decisions is key as you prepare for adulthood, as this often comes with an increased expectation to make decisions about your future, support you would like, and your aspirations.

Consent, Capacity & Preparing For Adulthood



[View our animation here](#)



Resources: Preparing for Adulthood (PfA)

In this section, you can find signposting to some organisations and resources that may be of interest to you to explore.

This is a list of just some of the organisations that work locally with young people as they prepare for adulthood.

LiveWell Banes

Offer a range of information relating to PfA topics on their website including, wellbeing, employment, education and training options, 16+ transition support and friendships, relationships and community.

[Preparing for Adulthood \(14-25\)](#)

[Young People Information & Support](#)



Skills Connect

This is a free service designed to help you explore your career and training options. If you are unemployed, aged 18 or over, and a resident of B&NES, they can provide personalised support

[Learn more here](#)



Project SEARCH

They offer a supported internship programme that provides young adults with structured in-work job coaching to help them make a positive transition from education into the world of work

[Learn more here - Fosse Way School Website](#)



Bath Rugby Foundation

Bath Rugby Foundation can help 16 – 24 year-olds get back into work or training via their friendly sessions. This includes developing young people's employability skills through their work experience programme.

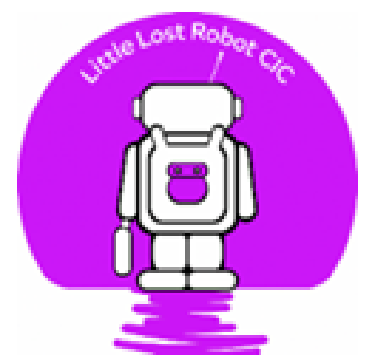
[Bath Rugby Foundation Website](#)



Little Lost Robot

Their creative activities are open to the public, fully funded for anyone to drop-in and join in. They work to create community, support learning and facilitate practicing employability skills and career development for creative people.

[View their website here](#)



The Council for Disabled Children (CDC)

The CDC have a variety of curated guides, toolkits and resources on their website to support young people as they move into adulthood.

[Explore their PfA page](#)



Youth Connect South West

Youth Connect South West have a host of PfA resources available to view on their website. From wellbeing and targeted support to post-16 options, careers advice, their services are designed to help you build confidence, feel supported and move forward.

[YCSW Support for Young People](#)



Taking next steps as you prepare for adulthood can feel incredibly daunting, and it can be hard to know what exactly is out there.

The 'Your Pathways' booklet, developed by Youth Connect Southwest, is published annually and shared widely with children and young people who are at the beginning of looking into their options and next steps.

It is a great starting point as you begin to think about your aspirations and where you want to be. It details a full list of potential pathways, and includes contact details of organisations that can support you.

[Read the booklet in full here](#)

Your Pathway-

Helping you choose the best route for your education and career

2025 to 2026



Service Spotlight

Mentoring Plus

Service spotlight is an opportunity for us to highlight services and organisations within Bath & North East Somerset that support children & young people

For this edition's Service Spotlight, we had the pleasure of sitting down with Helen, Head of Practice at Mentoring Plus to learn more about the charity, hear about how they work to empower and inspire the young people they support.

We explored Mentoring Plus' service support, and discussed the differences between each type of mentoring that they offer.

We touched on the importance of consent when working with children and young people, and how that underpins the positive impact the work they do has as they complete mentoring programmes with the children and young people they support.



Image provided by Mentoring Plus.

You can hear our conversation in full here

[Sendias Bathnes Youtube](#)

Here are a list of the topics we cover throughout:

Who are Mentoring Plus?



Examples of when a Child or Young Person might use Mentoring Plus



Mentoring Plus Youth Clubs



Professional support offer vs. Volunteer support offer

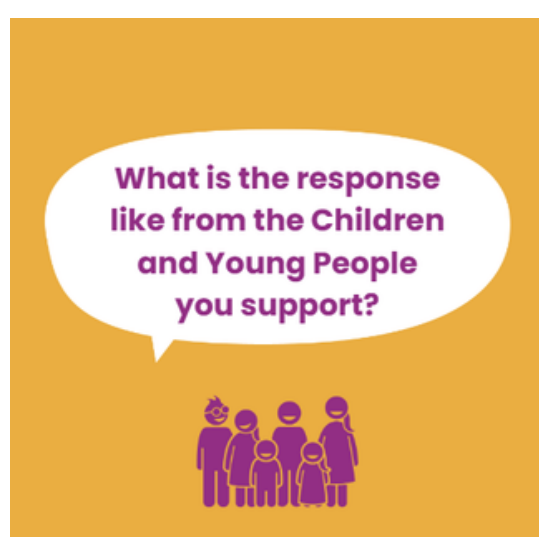


What is the support process for a Child or Young Person?



What are the aims of mentoring and how might those be achieved?





Some further information...

As well as their mentoring services, Mentoring Plus have free open access youth clubs available to children and young people aged 11-19 during term time.

ART CLUB

Wednesdays
5:30-7:30PM

A quieter, calmer space—great for young people who prefer smaller groups or have sensory needs.

YOUTH CLUB

Thursdays
6:00-8:00PM

A mix of activities each week: sports, music, crafts, cooking, games.

Location: Riverside Youth Hub, London Road, Bath, BA1 6AE

Contact information and links:

[Mentoring Plus Website](#)

[Further youth club information - click here](#)

[Learn more about their mentoring offer here](#)

Email: inspire@mentoringplus.net

Phone: 01225 429694



Other service updates and reminders...

We are here for you!



In our last edition we shared our new postcards. A resource that amplifies how we can support you to make next steps that work for you. We have been busy delivering these to local schools and organisations that work directly with you to raise awareness of our service.

We can empower you to express your views, make informed choices, and ensure your voice is heard in decisions that affect your education and wellbeing.

Please remember you can contact us in whichever way is most comfortable for you at any time - via text, by calling us, sending us an email or by using our 'Get in Touch' form on our website and choosing 'I am a Child/Young Person' on the drop down list.



Volunteer with us!

Could you spare a few hours a week to chat with families over the phone who've used our service?

We're looking for a volunteer to help us gather feedback from the people we support.

It's a really interesting role that is completely flexible, and **full training is provided** – so even if you've never done anything like this before, you'd be very welcome to give it a go.

It's a great way to build experience and confidence while making a real difference.

[You can find more details on the volunteer section of our website.](#)

If you'd like an informal chat about the role, feel free to call Jane on 01225 395065. She is more than happy to answer any questions you might have.

Bookable Appointments

Our Bookable Appointments are available to young people.

If you would like to book an appointment to have a chat to one of our team on the phone, we have times and dates available for you to book on our website.

We also run appointments in person at Keynsham Library on Wednesdays

These are 30 minute appointments available between 10:00 – 11:30AM. They can be in person, by phone or on Teams.



You can see what times and dates are available to book on our website now. [Click here.](#)

It may be that the times and dates available might not work for you. If that's the case, please do let us know and we can find an alternative that works for you.



Contact Us

sendias
bathnes

Please contact us in the following ways:

Via our website: sendiasbathnes.org.uk/getintouch

Call us: 01225 394382

Email us: sendias@bathnes.gov.uk

Text us: 07401 404081

Stay connected with us on Facebook and Instagram for the latest updates and upcoming events