

## Email Update January 2016 (sent 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016)

**Dear Parents' Voice Supporter**

Happy New Year! This is a relatively short email to start 2016 (but we think the information is important).

We hope some of this email will be of interest to you. You are welcome to share it (or parts of it) with your friends or groups, but please mention that it came from [Parents' Voice](#) if you do, thanks.

- 1) Parents' Voice news
- 2) Local Surveys and Consultations
- 3) National Surveys
- 4) Talking Walk-In Drop-In Sessions

### 1) Parents' Voice news

- i) Dates for your diary - 14th January and 20th January

Our next evening meeting is this Thursday, 14th January, 7.15pm - 9pm at [Perdiswell Young People's Leisure Club](#) in Worcester. The committee will be planning events for 2016; if you would like to join us please email us at [<info@parentsvoice.co.uk>](mailto:info@parentsvoice.co.uk).

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January we are supporting a Focus Group for parents' views about how the 0-19 prevention and intervention service in Worcestershire should look. This will take place in Worcester between 10.30am and 12 noon. The new prevention service will bring together and replace various services; these include Breastfeeding support services, Health Visiting, Family Nurse Partnership (more intensive support for first time young mothers) and some Early Help support (eg: Parenting support, Online information and advice).

Ring 07595 091200 ASAP if you would like to attend (you can also send a text if you would prefer). Refreshments will be provided.

A focus group may sound official but it's a chance for you to find out more and then give your opinions about proposed changes.

### 2) Local Surveys and Consultations

We have already told you about these two important local consultations which will affect 0-19 services for families in Worcestershire and the use of Children's Centres. Please share details of these consultations with your friends and any Worcestershire groups which might like to respond (please mention Parents' Voice when you do, thanks).

Worcestershire County Council is redesigning services for children, young people and families to help prevent problems occurring and to identify problems early so they don't get any worse. The Council is going to commission a new service to support families with children/young people aged 0-19 years, bringing together and replacing a range

of existing support services (eg: Health Visiting, Breastfeeding Support, Family Nurse Partnership, School Health Service), some of which families can currently access at Children's Centres. This means that from October 2016 services will be different for some families.

Both consultations close on Friday 29th January.

i) [Redesign of 0 - 19 prevention and intervention service](#)

Worcestershire County Council is going to commission a new service to support families with children/young people aged 0-19 years, bringing together a range of existing support services.

The new prevention service will bring together and replace the following services:

- Health Visiting (who carry out pre-school child development checks plus targeted support)
- Family Nurse Partnership (more intensive support for first time young mothers)
- Breastfeeding support services
- School Health Service (who carry out school-age health and development reviews plus targeted support)
- Some Early Help support delivered in each district. This includes:
  - o Some of the support delivered through Children's Centres
  - o Parenting support
  - o Online information and advice

They are asking for your views to help shape the new 0-19 prevention service. Any information you provide will be kept confidential.

You can find further details with the consultation here: [bit.ly/1BvYZz](http://bit.ly/1BvYZz)

This [survey](#) closes on Friday 29th January. There will also be a focus group about the proposed changes which will take place on 20th January (as mentioned above).

ii) [Worcestershire Children's Centres](#)

Worcestershire County Council is going to commission a new service to support families with children/young people aged 0-19 years. This means that from October 2016 services will be different for some families.

Children's Centres are historically seen as providing services for families with children aged 0 - 5 (the age they were aimed at initially); however, this consultation is open to **everyone** and it will help determine what the buildings are used for in the future, what ages any activities are aimed at and other considerations, eg: what days/times they are open (and whether they are open all year or during school terms).

Each Children's Centre currently offers a range of services depending on the needs of the local community (eg: some Centres hold regular Saturday Dads' events or are used by family carer support groups, many are used for Worcestershire Speech and Language Therapy for their Talking Walk-In Drop-In Sessions). The Council is asking for [views on the use of Children's Centres](#) buildings around the county.

The consultation is short and you can respond about specific Children's Centres if you want to. Questions 3 and 5 have expanding text boxes for you to make any comments.

You can find further details with the consultation here: [bit.ly/1N1m1nX](http://bit.ly/1N1m1nX)

The [consultation](#) closes on 29th January 2016.

### 3) National Surveys/Consultations

There are a number of current national surveys and consultations which we have already told you about - if you think one of these would be relevant to someone you know, please pass on the details.

#### i) [The Big Nappy Survey](#)

Go Real is a not-for-profit project that promotes the use of reusable nappies through a range of activities. This [national survey](#) is a research project to find out which nappies parents choose to use and why.. They "don't mind if your baby/toddler is still in nappies, or if your children have grown up and moved out. If you are a parent and have used nappies, cloth or disposable." So if you're a parent reading this email you can take part in this [survey](#).

You can find the survey here: [bit.ly/1QyxhhP](http://bit.ly/1QyxhhP).

#### ii) [Implementing the English Baccalaureate](#)

The Department for Education is seeking views about the government's proposals on how to get at least 90% of pupils to take GCSEs in the EBacc subjects. This consultation closes at 5pm on 29th January 2016.

Parents' views are wanted, as are those of pupils.

You can find the documents (including a downloadable response form) about this [consultation](#) and a link to respond online here: [bit.ly/1S3Gps2](http://bit.ly/1S3Gps2).

#### iii) [Wraparound and Holiday Childcare](#)

The Department for Education is seeking views on draft departmental advice about how schools should respond to requests regarding wraparound and holiday childcare.

'Wraparound childcare' is childcare that schools provide outside of normal school hours, such as breakfast clubs or after school.

Parents' (or carers') views are wanted.

This [consultation](#) closes on 29th February 2016.

#### iv) [Teen Issues - a parent's perspective](#)

Family Lives would like to know what understanding parents have of the issues young people are facing with regards to relationships, sex and the digital age. They have a [short survey for parents](#) to complete.

You can find the survey here: [svy.mk/1L8NF3w](http://svy.mk/1L8NF3w)

#### v) [Ofsted Parents' Panel](#)

Ofsted are setting up a Parents' Panel. You can find out more about this and take part in their survey here: [svy.mk/1Mxo8nj](http://svy.mk/1Mxo8nj)

#### 4) Talking Walk-In Drop-In Sessions

The following dates have been published by Worcestershire Speech and Language Therapy for their Talking Walk-In Drop-In Sessions. Parents of pre-school children can go along for general advice and if appropriate refer their child.

Please note that these dates have been publicised as taking place; we are not responsible if any are cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances (we will try to let you know if we learn of any changes).

Wed 13th January, 11.00 - 11.30 am - MALVERN  
Evergreen Children's Centre, Worcester Road, WR14 1SP

Wed 13th January, 11.00 - 11.30 am - WORCESTER  
Saffron Children's Centre, Stanley Road School, Stanley Road, WR5 1BD

Fri 15th January, 11.00 - 11.30 am - PERSHORE  
Blossom Vale Children's Centre, Abbey Park First School, Abbey Road, WR10 1DF

Thank you for reading this email and for your continued support, we really do appreciate it.

#### **Parents' Voice - Worcestershire**

Email: [info@parentsvoice.co.uk](mailto:info@parentsvoice.co.uk) Web: [www.parentsvoice.co.uk](http://www.parentsvoice.co.uk)

Twitter: [@parentsvoicewor](https://twitter.com/parentsvoicewor)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ParentsVoice.co.uk>

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