

Summer 2017

# Local Offer Update

Newsletter

## Bolton's Local Offer

Bolton Council, the health services, parents and young people have all been involved in developing **Bolton's Local Offer**.

### What is a local offer?

From September 2014, each local authority in England has to publish a Local Offer for children and young people aged 0 to 25 years who have a special educational need or disability.

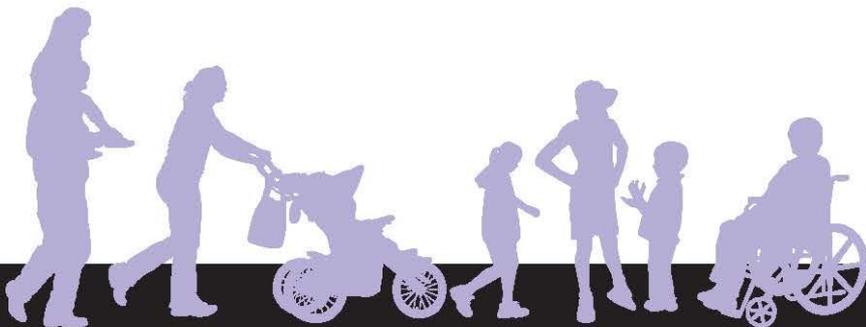
The purpose of the Local Offer is to provide a single point for information to help families' access details about services available to them and offer guidance in multiple areas, such as:

- Early years places
- Schools (including academies and free schools)
- Colleges
- Health and care
- Leisure activities

It also includes guidance for parents when they need to speak with practitioners and professionals and information on giving feedback, raising concerns and making complaints.

**Bolton's Local Offer can be found at** [www.mylifeinbolton.org.uk/localoffer](http://www.mylifeinbolton.org.uk/localoffer) and details about special education needs and disabilities support at [www.bolton.gov.uk/SEND](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/SEND).

Please help us to make sure that the Local Offer is accessible to everyone by answering this short survey - <https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=150064963266>



## Contact us...

Get in touch and share your ideas, advice and anything of interest to other families. We can advertise events, tell people when your group meets, pass on useful tips and celebrate your success stories.

Contact us on **01204 337102** or email us at [therecord@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:therecord@bolton.gov.uk)

**Bolton**  
**Council**

## In this edition.....

We would like to take the opportunity to introduce you to some of the services that you can expect to find on the Local Offer and find out about some of the activities and support that they provide.

The newsletter will also be an opportunity for readers to share their knowledge, experience and ideas with other families.

There is some fantastic work going on in Bolton and we would like to hear about any success stories that we could share with families.

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## AFC Masters

**AFC Masters** is a thriving charter standard development football club that provides fun, friendship and football for children and adults who have a disability. We are based in Bolton and welcome players from all over the region to attend our weekly training sessions which are every Saturday morning in a fantastic sports dome and outside on a Monday evening. Everyone is included in our sessions and we have various teams that cater for all levels of ability and age groups, with our youngest player being 5 years old to our oldest in his late forties.

Training is carried out by qualified FA football coaches who work hard at providing new and exciting sessions each week for our players. AFC Masters regularly take part in friendly and competitive matches and tournaments up and down the country and also in regional leagues. Inclusion is very important to us, and together with Horwich Saint Mary's, we have a pathway into playing mainstream football through their set up playing in the Bolton Bury District Football League (BBDFL).

Most importantly, we welcome new players into our "AFC Masters family" and many friendships have been built up through this with players and their families alike. Off the pitch we build on this with regular social outings, parties and fundraising events – not forgetting our annual awards night which is a highlight in the calendar for everyone.

To find out more, follow us on twitter and instagram @AFCMasters and visit our website [www.afcmasters.co.uk](http://www.afcmasters.co.uk).



## Information

## Advisory Service

**Information and Advisory Service**, SEND, is a free, impartial service that parents, carers and young people aged between 0-25 years can self-refer to. Using legally based knowledge and experience, we can support you with many aspects of SEND, covering education, health and social care issues. We also provide an additional service called The Independent Support programme, where individual tailored support is given to those navigating the transfer from a statement of SEN to a new Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

IAS has good links with local schools, support agencies and professionals across education, health and social care, and sits on the Bolton Parent Carer Consortium.

You can contact the service on **01204 848722**.



**Kidz2gether** is a charity supporting children and young people between the ages of 0-25 and their families. We are open to all who fit the criteria of having a social/communication disorder/autistic spectrum disorder.

We plan and manage specially created clubs, groups and outings throughout the year which are age and ability appropriate, risk assessed and designed to promote socially acceptable behaviours and values. We work in partnership with various organisations to provide a friendly, reliable service. We also promote the importance of emotional as well as physical wellbeing. We support the families of the children and young people with advice, support and friendship. We are a friendly bunch and all our staff and volunteers have many years' experience working in this field.

Email: [info@kidz2gether.org.uk](mailto:info@kidz2gether.org.uk)

Website: [www.kidz2gether.org.uk](http://www.kidz2gether.org.uk)

Tel: 01204 669821

**Bolton Parent Carer Consortium**

We are a parent forum for Bolton families with children or young people, aged 0-25 years, who have, or may have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

**What can we do for you?**

- Have a Say**  
Help shape local services
- Information**  
We are a source of SEND information
- Peer Support**  
Meet other families who understand

We work with Bolton education, health and social care providers, and also nationally as part of a larger parent carer forum network.

Members of supported by supported by

[www.bpcc.org.uk](http://www.bpcc.org.uk) 07715 201798  
@BoltonParents boltonparents  
Bolton Parent Carer Consortium enquiries@bpcc.org.uk

The Consortium works with parent/carers to improve services in Bolton for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

It provides parents and carers numerous ways to contribute their opinions, concerns and aspirations so that as a consortium, it can represent a wide variety of experiences.



**Breaking Barriers NW** is a charity based in Bolton. It was founded in 2012 by parents of disabled children. The aim is to challenge the barriers to inclusion for disabled children, young people and their families. This can be done in a variety of ways including facilitating a number of groups and activities, advice, advocacy, signposting and assistance with form filling.

We ensure families have a voice by representing the voluntary sector at board level through Bolton Together as well as sitting on various strategic groups across the borough.



Have you had your free Carers Information Pack?

When you're caring for a family member – whether that's a partner, parent or child who needs your help due to illness or disability – it can feel as though you're the 'only one out there'. Yet, you are part of a large community of 'carers', as over 30,000 people in Bolton have caring responsibilities. Looking after a family member is often hugely rewarding, yet caring can also have a profound impact on your own health, finances, employment prospects, and friendships. It can take people up to 5 years to identify themselves as carers, during which time they miss out on information and support. Bolton Carers Support, an independent registered charity, is here for you. We do outreach work in the community, and work with General Practices, to reach carers earlier and signpost to services and support.

If you are interested in receiving a free Carers Information Pack giving you more information about our service, please contact us on 01204 363056.

[www.boltoncarers.org.uk](http://www.boltoncarers.org.uk)

## Daytrippers

Daytrippers (Bolton) is a parent/carer led group that provides days out and activities to families who have a child/children with disabilities.

Have a look at our website

[www.daytrippersbolton.org.uk](http://www.daytrippersbolton.org.uk) for further information about what we do and how you can get involved or call 07742693157 for an information pack.



## Bolton Disability Sports Association (BDSA)

is a voluntary organisation working to provide quality, inclusive sporting and recreational activities throughout Bolton for people with disabilities and additional needs.

Take a look at our website for more information.

<http://boltondisabilitysport.co.uk/>



**Don't be in the dark – for information about activities and support services for children and young people with a special educational need and/or disability, go to....**

<http://www.mylifeinbolton.org.uk/>

<http://www.bolton.gov.uk/SEND>