

Family support and information day

Newry Locality Planning Group (NLPG) invites parents and carers of children or young people with a disability, with additional needs and/or awaiting a diagnosis in the Newry and Mourne area, to an event to find out more about services in the area and to meet other parents and service providers.

“Our Journey Through Disability” is a free event and has been organised by parents and carers in partnership with the NLPG’s Disability Sub Group. It will be held at Mourne Country Hotel on Wednesday 27th March from 10am, finishing with lunch at 1pm.

Darren Curtis, Children and Young People Strategic Partnership (CYPSP) said, “We want parents and carers to realise they are not alone and there are connections to be made with both services and other parents, and we want their voices to be heard to tell us what barriers they face and how they can be overcome.”

The aim of the event is to ensure parents and carers are aware of services available locally to help them better support their child and families. It will also be an opportunity for them to share their challenges and work with services to come up with appropriate solutions.

Jim McDonnell, who is a parent and member of the NLPG said, "From darkness to enlightenment just about sums up my journey through disability with my daughter, I have become an expert, I have become stronger than I ever thought, I have become frustrated, but I have become part of a huge team for Caoimhe, who all have her interests at heart."

Morgan Brannigan, Southern Health and Social Care Community Development Worker, Newry and Mourne said, “We hope this event will help parents to better negotiate the often confusing new world in which they find themselves when a child is diagnosed with a disability, and that service providers will be able to hear and respond to parents’ concerns directly.”

To register for this event, please contact:

Darren Curtis, Locality Development Officer (Southern Area),
darren.curtis@hscni.net,

Ends

For further information, contact the Health and Social Care Board Communications Office on 028 9536 3278

Locality planning details can be found at www.cypsp.org/locality-planning-groups