

New River College Parent/carer Partnership 2020-2021

New River College’s parent/carer partnership working aims to involve parent/carers as far as possible in every aspect of the work of the school. This is the best way to ensure that your child fulfils their potential during the time that they are with us.

Parent/carer partnership focuses on working together around decision making e.g., co-production of relevant policies and procedures, communication, providing support with parenting and, learning at home.

NRC aim to ensure all parent/carers are connected to what their child is learning at school. Parent / carers are provided with support to overcome any barriers to their child’s attendance and participation in school/remote learning. Half termly meetings are offered with teacher/support staff to ensure parent/carers are confident to support with learning at home including remote/blended learning if children have to quarantine. The school is in regular contact to help families respond early to children’s learning challenges; and to share ways to extend children’s learning around the things they are passionate about. The school aims to make participation as easy as possible so parent/carers are contacted by phone, email and letters and meetings can take place face-to face or online at a time that suits the family most.

During COVID-19 the school has very regular contact with parent/carers to maintain connection, gain feedback from families and offer support where needed. The school has worked with families around access to laptop/Wi-Fi/learning resources to ensure children can continue with learning if at home. Parent/carers have an acceptable use of ICT agreement so that all are aware of ways to best safeguard children and adults when working online.

Monthly parent/carer meetings are organised on a range of topics and we invite representatives from organisations such as CAMHS, Early help/ New River College Family Support Team, Islington Healthy schools, Educational Psychologist and other outreach services to facilitate some of these sessions.

New River College Family Support Team

We provide family and individual support for families that are having difficulties in managing at home but don’t need or want the involvement of social services. We can provide a range of support that can range from a chat on the phone right through to 1:1 or family sessions to help families work together to find solutions to the difficulties affecting them as a family. Families can access this whenever they may need it and for as long as families think they need or we agree to work together. We can also help for short or longer periods of time to provide a listening ear, practical help or support accessing community services to make life at home better for everyone.

We also support the college with identified parents and/or carers who may need additional help over the school holidays and during lockdown periods.

Key Contacts	Role	Contact email/Phone number
Jo-anne Lee	<p>Lead for Parent/carer partnership</p> <p>Parent/carer engagement/co production of relevant policies and procedures in consultation with NRC staff and family Support Team</p> <p>Consultation with parent/carers to all behaviour policies.</p> <p>Questionnaire to go to all parent/carer for feedback on policy</p> <p>Support with referrals to external agencies e.g. SENDIAS, SEN transport, Chance UK</p> <p>Support for parent / carers in completing applications for financial and other support needed for the family e.g., DLA applications, housing letters.</p>	<p>Jo-anne.lee@nrc.islington.sch.uk</p> <p>0207 504 0534</p> <p>07795 318996</p>

	<p>Continue signposting parent/carers to agencies that can support them</p> <p>Calendar of monthly parent/carer meetings established and on the school website under news and events.</p> <p>Gaining parent feedback on suggested sessions.</p>	
Paul Badham	<p>Family Support Senior Practitioner – New River College</p> <p>Support and Supervise Family Support Practitioner and Education Support Practitioner in their work.</p> <p>Support any parent support groups and events.</p> <p>Help families and school identify if they need any family support and at what level.</p> <p>Liaise with Children’s Services if further family support is needed for children who may have recently had a social worker but don’t need one involved any more (e.g., previously on an CIN or CP plan).</p> <p>Support any referrals to NRCFST from teaching or pastoral staff in New River College</p>	<p>Paul.Badham@islington.gov.uk</p> <p>0207 527 3168</p> <p>07813 548 865</p>
Margaret Obiora	<p>Family Support Practitioner</p> <p>Support parents who may be struggling to manage their children’s behaviour at home through home visits and sessions.</p> <p>Support parent through home visits and 1:1 work to develop parenting strategies for children with additional / SEN needs and to address their own emotional well-being.</p> <p>Do direct work with children to help them understand their own issues and improve relationships at home.</p> <p>Support parents with practical difficulties such as managing finances, accessing community resources and returning to training and/or employment.</p>	<p>Margaret.obiora@islington.gov.uk</p> <p>07812 491 842</p>
Education Support Practitioner (Still to recruit)	<p>Support students who are struggling to get into school or participate fully in their timetables – through home visits and direct work.</p> <p>Support young people who are transitioning from and to mainstream school.</p> <p>Support pupils through direct work to address issues affecting attendance such as peer group issues, low self-esteem, confidence, emotional well-being, etc.</p> <p>Support pupils to build positive community networks such as positive activities, hobbies and raise their aspirations.</p>	TBC
Heads of Centre Teachers / Tutors	<p>For any day-to-day communication about your child.</p> <p>At induction parent / carers to be provided with an introduction letter, welcome pack with all the workshops on offer and also information about external agencies.</p> <p>Providing opportunities for parent/carers to take part in whole school events such as cultural days / celebrating diversity, sports day, summer fetes, end of term and achievement assemblies.</p> <p>Providing opportunities for parent/carers to volunteer to support learning e.g. reading with children.</p> <p>Parent / carer satisfaction questionnaires termly with actions following feedback.</p>	0207 504 0534

<p>SENCOs Karen Galvin (Carl Keegan- Maternity cover for Primary) Fiona Brennan- (Maternity cover for Medical) Anna Wolmouth- Secondary</p>	<p>Support for parents around concerns around SEN needs your child may have. Support with submitting requests for statutory assessments (EHCP requests) alongside other services such as Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy, The Bridge Outreach Support Service, Samuel Rhodes Outreach and CAMHs Day to day communication with parents around any SEN developments Responsible for organising and holding annual reviews for children with EHCPs Ongoing liaison with outside agencies including attendance at TAC/TAF meetings Support for parent and child when transitioning to a new school Support for parents around strategies to support meeting Special educational needs at home</p>	<p>Carl.keengan@nrc.islington.sch.uk Fiona.brennan@nrc.islington.sch.uk Anna.wolmouth@nrc.islington.sch.uk 0207 504 0534</p>
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Events calendar

Whole school coffee morning (Virtual)

Thursday 4th February 2021

Thursday 25th February 2021

Thursday 18th March 2021

Thursday 8th April 2021

10.30 via Zoom (links will be send via your email)

Anti-bullying workshop

Thursday 21st January 2021 10.30 (link to be sent to your email closer to the time)

CAMHS at NRC (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service)

Non-Violent Resistance

This group is now full however there will be further groups, dates to be confirmed

The NVR Group aims to help parents and carers address violent, destructive and harmful behaviours in children and adolescents.

We hope the group will run weekly for 10-12 sessions from January 2021.

**Please see NRC CAMHS offer letter found in Parent/ carer and Community (NRC's website)

Emergency Support

Food

- Islington Food Bank – 07753 222 755; info@islington.org.uk
- Food Vouchers:

Money

- We are Islington – 020 7527 8222
- StepChange Debt Charity – 0800 054 6734

Wellbeing

- SPA – Candi – 0800 917 3333 (24 hours) ADULTS!
- EDT – 020 7226 0992
- St Pancras (instead of A & E)
- Free online counselling and support: <https://www.kooth.com/>
- NSPCC – 0808 800 5000 help@nspcc.or.uk (08:00am – 10:00pm except weekend)
- Child Line – 0800 11 11 (07:30AM – 3:30AM)
- <https://www.samaritans.org/> 116 123

Other useful contact details

Family Action (SENDIAS)

<https://www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/children-families/send/islingtonsend/>

islington.send@family-action.org.uk

We provide Impartial Information, Advice and Support on Special Educational Needs and Disability, for parents/carers and children and young people aged up to 25, who live in the London Borough of Islington. We are open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. We offer:

- Advice, information and support on education, health and social care issues.
- Support for parents/carers and children/young people to express their views and wishes.
- Support at meetings with schools and the Local Authority.
- Help to complete Special Educational Needs and Disability related paperwork.
- Support around the Education Health Care plan process.
- Support with applying for disability related benefits
- Signposting to other services.

<https://www.islington.gov.uk/>

Provide a variety of local services such as Financial/benefits advice/benefits advice/housing/SEN (Special educational needs)/children and families etc.

Centre 404

404 Camden Road

London

N7 0SJ

T: 020 7607 8762

<https://centre404.org.uk/>

- Housing related support so that adults with a learning disability can live as independently as possible in their own homes

- Information, advice and advocacy to empower family carers to improve their access to support and services and to reduce isolation
- Learning and Leisure groups and activities for children, young people, and adults with a learning disability or autism that build social networks, reduce isolation and promote independence

Islington Council's Local Offer – Sets out the services and support available in Islington for children and young people under the age of 25 with special educational needs and those who are disabled.

Council for Disabled Children – An umbrella body for the disabled children's sector. They have an online library of resources about disability policy and practice which includes a selection of materials specifically written with parents in mind. Address: National Children's Bureau, WeWork London Fields, 115 Mare Street, London E8 4RU

Family Information Service – A free and impartial telephone and web-based information and advice service for families with children and young people 0-25, and practitioners working with them. Address: Family Information Service, 222 Upper Street, London N1 1XR; telephone: 020 7527 5959; email: fis@islington.gov.uk; website: www.islington.gov.uk/fis

The National Autistic Society – A British charity for autistic people. The purpose of the organisation is to improve the lives of autistic people in the United Kingdom.