

Parent Carer Support Drop-In Sessions

Advice, information, support and a friendly welcome – all in one place



Upcoming Sessions

Date: Friday 18 September 2026

Time: 10.00am – 2.00pm

Venue: Chesterfield Football Club, The HUB, East stand, S418NZ.

Date: Friday 6 November 2026

Time: 10.00am – 2.00pm

Venue: Melandra Castle Rd, Gamesley, Glossop SK13 6UQ (Sports Hall)

Following the wonderful feedback, we received from parent carers attending our recent drop-in sessions, Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice is delighted to be bringing these events back for the new academic year.

These sessions provide a welcoming and informal space where parent carers of children and young people with SEND can access support, ask questions, gather information, and connect with both professionals and other parent carers.

Many parent carers told us how valuable it was to speak directly with services in a relaxed, non-judgemental environment, with one parent sharing:

"It was so helpful having everyone in one place. I left with information, reassurance and a clearer idea of where to go next."

Whether you're seeking advice about education, emotional wellbeing, neurodiversity, SEND processes, mental health support, or simply want a friendly chat over a cup of tea, we'd love to welcome you.

Support Available

Our aim is to bring together a range of services so that parent carers can access information, guidance and support all in one place.

At our sessions, you may have the opportunity to speak with representatives from:

- Derbyshire Educational Psychology Service
- Gary Saul Head of SEND for Derbyshire County Council
- Derbyshire Information, Advice and Support Service (DIASS)
- Neuro Hubs
- Compass Changing Lives
- CAMHS
- Inclusion Support Advisory Service (ISAS) Teachers
- Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice Trustees and Representatives

No appointments are needed to attend the drop-in itself—simply come along whenever suits you between 10am and 2pm.

Bookable Educational Psychology Conversations

We're delighted that Derbyshire Educational Psychology Service will once again be offering bookable 30-minute conversations for parent carers.

These one-off conversations provide an opportunity to:

- Talk through your experiences in a supportive, non-judgemental environment.
- Explore different ways of understanding a situation.
- Consider possible next steps together.
- Discuss concerns and questions with an experienced Educational Psychologist.

With your consent, an Educational Psychologist may also discuss your young person's situation with their linked school or setting where appropriate.

All conversations are confidential and nothing will be shared without your explicit consent.

Why Parent Carers Tell Us They Attend

To access several services in one place

To get answers to questions about SEND support

To understand what services are available and how to access them

To talk things through with professionals in a relaxed environment

To meet other parent carers who understand

To enjoy a cuppa and a friendly chat

Come Along for a Chat

Even if you'd just like to stop by, meet other parent carers and chat with Forum Trustees and Representatives, you'll be very warmly welcomed.

There's no pressure, no expectations and no judgement—just a friendly space where you can take things at your own pace.