



Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing this letter to you to inform you of some changes to our Play Sessions at the Autism Resource Centre. As you may or may not have been aware we have had some funding issues over the last 18 months and we have had to make changes to the times and increase prices. We have had to subsidise the cost of the sessions, with some charity funds, we had available to try and keep the costs down and to ensure we could keep them up and running. We have thought that we were going to have to stop the sessions but this was the last thing we wanted to do, as we know how valued and needed the sessions are.

So we have some good news! After a successful tender we are now able to offer Lancashire Break Time Short Break Sessions again which means we can continue to run the sessions over the next year, hopefully up to March 2019 and with reduced cost to yourselves.

What does this new funding mean?

We can continue to offer sessions on a Saturday during term time. The new sessions will be for 2.5 hours in the morning for Junior School age Children and 2.5 hour sessions in the afternoon for Senior age children. Amy Whittle will be issuing new booking forms with times and dates as soon as possible. The cost for Saturday sessions will now be £8.75 per child per session.

We will be able to offer Play Sessions in the May Bank Holiday Half Term Week. We are able to offer 4 hours per day over the week, 2 days for Juniors and 2 days for Seniors. The cost of this will be £14.00 per child.

In the Summer holidays we have funding to provide Play Sessions for 4 days per week, for 4 weeks for 6 hours per day. There will be 2 days a week for Junior children and 2 days a week for Senior Children. The cost of these sessions will be £21.00 per day per child.

Note;

Unfortunately these sessions can only be provided at this price for children and young people who are not assessed and do not receive direct payments. Children and young people who do have a care package can attend the sessions but the cost for the sessions will be £13.50 per hour. We can accept direct payments so please speak to Amy about this.

Children and young people who do not receive direct payments/are not assessed but require 1:1 can attend the sessions but a cost per hour will be agreed after an initial assessment from the Childrens Team.

Wednesday Sessions and Family Sessions will continue as before with no changes.

Amy will be sending out booking forms shortly for term time and holiday and we ask you return them promptly so we can organise staff and the sessions efficiently. There is a limit to how many children can be funded so please make sure you return your forms to Amy so she can guarantee your child the required places.

We need 24 hours for cancellation of any sessions as a minimum or full charges for the missed sessions will be required. We look forward to seeing you and you children at the ARC in the near future!

Kind regards,

Hanna Ingleby

Project Director