



# Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS)

## Parent Newsletter

### What is the PINS Project?

As a reminder PINS aims to

- Improve outcomes for neurodivergent children, through a more inclusive school environment
- Enable parents and schools to work together as equal partners where everyone's experience, knowledge and skills are used to create better outcomes for children in the school
- Deliver a sustainable impact including ongoing engagement between parent carers and school leadership teams

### What have we done so far?

We would like to provide you with an update about the progress of the Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) Project at your school and the 23 other primary schools in Hertfordshire.

Representatives from Herts Parent Carer Involvement (HPCI) have so far visited 21 schools to meet with parents and senior leadership teams to hear parents' views and experiences of how all children (especially those with additional needs) are supported and included in the school, and to collect ideas of how parent carers can work in partnership with the school to make sure it is even more inclusive.

Most attendees have been parents of children with SEN although all parents at the school are welcome and the number of people at the parent meetings has ranged from 1 – 15.



# Partnership Between Schools and Parents

Across the 24 schools we have heard lots of great examples of how school staff and parents are working together to support children. These include:

## Co-producing

Solution focused, creative planning, developed and continually improved through partnership working

Parent governors  
Class parent representative meetings  
SEND parent representative

## Co-designing

Information contributed by both families and school.  
Planning developed together.

Developing SEN documents (plans, pupil passports etc)  
Working together to obtain an EHCP  
Developing strategies and reasonable adjustments

## Engaging

Information contributed by both families and school.  
Planning led by school.

Parent evenings and SEN review meetings  
Referrals  
Coffee mornings / parent meetings

## Consulting

Providing information and asking families for views.  
School listening and making decisions.

Communication about a child's behaviour  
Parent survey, suggestion box  
Trash, treasure, tweak meetings

## Involving/Informing

Providing information.  
Providing advice.

Daily school/home books  
Postcards home  
Evidence books  
Food diary  
E-mails, meetings, newsletters, websites, social media, Arbor, Class charts  
Parent attendance at school events  
Discussing significant information at the start or end of the school day



# Examples of Inclusive Practice in Schools

We have also heard lots of examples of inclusive practice, and many of these benefit the whole school community. Examples include:

Education	Support	Environment	Communication	Pastoral support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess, Plan, Do, Review or similar</li> <li>• Differentiated teaching</li> <li>• Scaffolding</li> <li>• Learning aids / resources</li> <li>• Tiered wave approach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individualised support</li> <li>• Reasonable adjustments</li> <li>• Transition support</li> <li>• Social stories</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sensory room</li> <li>• Forest school</li> <li>• Nurture PE/club</li> <li>• Specialist classroom</li> <li>• Quiet space for lunch and/or playtime</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Listening</li> <li>• Sharing information</li> <li>• Working together</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social, emotional and mental health support</li> <li>• Interventions</li> <li>• Supervised play</li> <li>• EBSA support</li> <li>• Family liaison</li> <li>• School dogs</li> <li>• Zones of regulation or similar</li> </ul>

## Possible Barriers to Involvement in PINS

We have heard from parents and school staff about possible barriers to parents taking part in the project, such as timing of meetings and language barriers and we are working to ensure that all parents that want to participate can in the future.

## What's Next?

We are working with the schools to arrange attendance at future parent meetings or school events and dates and individualized agendas will be shared in due course.

We also aim to

- Agree the purpose of future meetings with school and parent input (e.g. themed discussion, support/community etc)
- Work with parents and Senior Leadership Teams to develop opportunities for co-production
- Link more with the healthcare element of PINS
- Evaluate the parent survey results further and take actions

If you have any feedback, comments or questions about the PINS project please email:

[contact@hertsparentcarers.org.uk](mailto:contact@hertsparentcarers.org.uk)

*Thank you for reading this newsletter.*