

# in focus

A Journal for Carers and Professionals Working with Children and Young People in Powys

## Powys take forward the 'Team Around the Family' approach

Welsh Government's Families First programme promotes that clear systems for multi-agency support, with an emphasis on prevention and early intervention are put in place. The Joint Assessment Family Framework (JAFF) which includes a 'Team Around the Family' model of working is named in the Families First guidance as the backbone of this integrated working.

In Powys the JAFF consists of three processes.

- The Common Assessment Framework (CAF) form is the access or referral form completed by a practitioner with a parent/carer and the child, or young person.
- The CAF goes to a multi-agency panel, known as the Local Resource Solution Panel, for discussion, and solutions are agreed as part of a plan for the family.
- A 'Team Around the Family' (or 'Team Around the Young Person' if they do not have family) meeting is then arranged involving those directly working with the child/young person/family to review, monitor and add to this plan.

See page two for a diagram outlining the JAFF process.

I never thought that we would get to have a happy home because there was so much unhappiness... I was thinking this is it. Now we sit and talk to each other, don't look at the negatives anymore, it's gone. I can't ask for anything else for me and my son." (Parent comments)



The 'Team Around the Family' (TAF) is a process for delivering integrated services for children, young people and their families with additional needs at Level 2 following a Local Resource Solution Panel (LRSP) discussion.

Most professionals in Powys are now familiar with the LRSP, but the TAF is still a new way of working for the majority.

Feedback from families shows that they feel the TAF meetings are not intimidating because they know every person sitting round the table. The fact that the child/young person and family are always involved in making decisions that affect them is at the core of 'Team Around the Family'. The meetings only take place with full consent from the family.

Continued on page 2...

### In this edition

- \_ Housing Benefit changes
- \_ Healthy pre school success
- \_ Substance misuse service
- \_ CRB changes
- \_ Child Protection Fora
- \_ Training
- \_ Powys Assisted Places



Bwrdd Lleol Diogelu  
Plant Powys  
Powys Local Safeguarding  
Children Board



**POWYS**

Children & Young People's Partnership  
Partneriaeth Plant A Phobl Ifanc

**Continued from front page...**

If the family are unable to be there, and do not give consent for the meeting to go ahead without them, the meeting does not happen. Like the CAF form it needs full consent to proceed, and the voice of the child and young person needs to be heard throughout the process.

'I think that I have done really well and that I am not losing my temper and I really like going to youth club... me and mum get on much better now and we both enjoy looking after our new dog. I go to lots of different clubs and have made new friends. I am not getting in trouble at school as much and I have been allowed to go on trips because of good behaviour.'

(Powys young person, aged 14)

The TAF process works with young people up to the age of 25. Not all young people have parents/carers who support them, so the process for them is called 'Team Around the Young Person' (TAYP).

This whole process is underpinned by the role of the Lead Practitioner (LP) who can be from either statutory or voluntary sector agencies. They take a 'lead role' to ensure that front line services are co-ordinated, coherent and achieving intended outcomes. They act as a single point of contact for

the child/family which means the family are not telling their story repeatedly to every professional. They also ensure that work is not being duplicated.

Many professionals say that when they attend multi-agency meetings they often do not realise the other agencies already working with the family. The TAF model means that everyone knows who is involved with the family, and it reduces overlap and inconsistency in the services received. The LP is accountable to the LRSP, and each TAF member is accountable for their own actions and delivering their part of the plan. Families feel most let down when professionals do not turn up to TAFs, and do not give updates or feedback. There is no doubt that when everyone is involved and working to the process, there are positive outcomes for the families and young people.

The Lead Practitioner initiates the 'Team Around the Family' by contacting the Joint Assessment Family Framework Officers who arrange the meetings. The team provide administrative support to the process by sending out invites to the professionals involved and circulate the action plans following the TAF meeting. The TAF enables the young person and parents to take responsibility and have some actions to see through too as the process keeps them central.

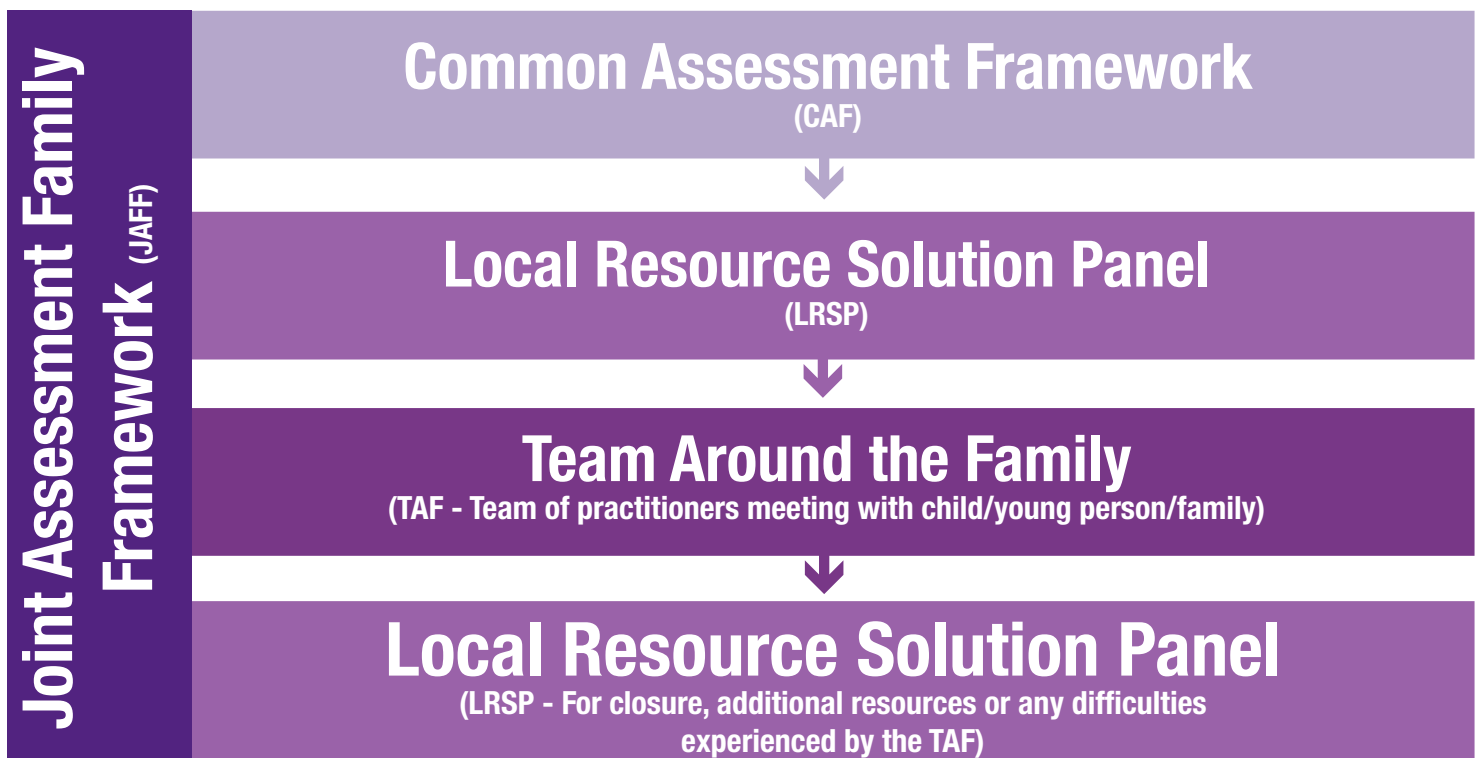
"One of the differences it makes to a young person's life is that it supports them between home and school so when they come into school we can chat about the support outside of school that they are getting."

(Teacher commenting on the TAF)



The JAFF Team have produced a DVD about all aspects of the JAFF process. There is a film aimed at families, and a film aimed at practitioners. You can loan a copy by calling **01597 826246** or emailing [caf.admin@powys.gov.uk](mailto:caf.admin@powys.gov.uk). It is also downloadable from the CYPP website at [www.cypp.powys.gov.uk/jaff](http://www.cypp.powys.gov.uk/jaff)

**See page 8 for details of training on all aspects of the JAFF process.**



# A Day in the Life of ... a Foster Family

**Kathryn and Gareth Griffiths have been fostering children in Powys for almost five years, we find out more about what inspired them to take up this important role and what it's really like for them.**

**Kathryn explains: "We have three children of our own, they were growing up and we were keen to continue to care for children so we decided I would give up my job working in accounts and become a foster family.**

"We didn't realise exactly what it would involve but have learnt a lot along the way. We've looked after 22 children in this time, some just for short respite stays and the longest placement was for three years."

Gareth points out that it's the whole family that fosters, not just the parents. He says: "It very much involves our own children and the extended family of grandparents and aunts and uncles. It's important that you make sure friends and family remain a part of your life."

Kathryn says: "It's a very busy lifestyle, you need to be organised to juggle the various meetings with school and family life. Some people don't understand that you are looking after someone else's child that is in the care of the local authority and this involves a lot of responsibility. We attend contact meetings for the children to see their birth parent, pick ups and drop offs from school and then there's preparation for adoption when adoptive parents have been found. This involves the adoptive parents virtually living with us for two



weeks prior to the children moving on with them. "

Gareth notes: "There are many rewarding times and happy memories. Seeing the children playing and enjoying themselves gives you a real buzz, kids are so comical and can just make you laugh. One of the boys we were fostering had never seen the sea, so we booked a weekend in Newquay, as the sea came in to view, he said with astonishment "Wow, now that's a big river!". We'll never forget his amazement."

Kathryn describes the pride she feels at a school concert or sports day, she says: "When you see the child or children you've fostered up on the stage beaming at you it's fantastic. It's good to look back and think how we as a family have helped the child to grow and supported them to move on."

"Strangely the hardest day since we have been fostering has also been the best day. We looked after two brothers for three years and on the day they moved on to their adopted parents, aged eight and five, it was terribly hard for all our family. But as our youngest daughter, who was then aged nine, pointed out, it was because of our support and because we'd looked after them for that time that things were now ready and they had found fantastic adoptive parents."

"Preparing children for adoption is part of our role, but as with other aspects of what we do, it is supported by many others. The Social Worker helps to prepare us and our children for the move, as well as supporting the fostered child for the change."

"As foster carers we work with a lot of other people such as Social Services' staff including our Foster Carer Link Worker and the child's social worker, adoption staff and the psychologist, but also school staff such as the Head Teacher and Education Coordinator, health staff including health visitors, the LAC nurse and doctors, and others such as the Court Legal Guardian as well as the child/ren's birth family."



Kathryn helps on the Skills to Foster course. This training helps prepare prospective foster carers and makes them aware of what is involved. She says: "Talking to those who already foster is really important to prepare prospective carers, and staying in touch with each other provides on going support. I'm often asked what is fostering really like, I'm honest and say it can be tiring, emotional and your home becomes a much less private space, but we really enjoy it and that's why we do it."

## Inspired by Kathryn and Gareth's story?



**Powys Fostering Service needs couples, individuals and families who can offer anything from one weekend a month to a longer term home to local children and young people in Powys.**

If you have enthusiasm, a commitment to children and a willingness to work with the team, as well as a spare bedroom, we would like to hear from you. Previous experience is not essential as training and on-going support is provided and generous allowances paid.

### **Want to find out more?**

Contact the Fostering team on:

**01874 614030**

## Working together to safeguard children in Powys

Members of the Junior Safeguarding Board, 'Eat Carrots be Safe from Elephants' opened the fourth annual Powys Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) conference in Llandrindod Wells. Crystal Burt 19 years old, and Aidan Sharp 16 years old, were amongst those that presented to over 200 professionals at the 'Voice of the Child' safeguarding event.

Teachers, social workers, health professionals, Barnardo's, police staff and county councillors were amongst those that listened as the young presenters outlined the role of the Junior LSCB, including its work on mental health, domestic abuse and alcohol misuse issues. Thoughts and experiences of the young group members were delivered as 'digital-stories', giving a poignant snapshot of their reflections and research.

Paul Griffiths, Chair of Powys LSCB and Powys County Council's Strategic Director - Communities, Skills & Learning commented: "In order to continue to safeguard the children and young people in our county we must really listen to them and then act on what they say. We must do this, not just as individuals, but across the various professions and sectors.

He continued: "It is heartening to see so many people who work with children and families from so many different organisations coming together in their commitment to safeguarding. To have guest speakers with expertise from across the UK is a great opportunity for us to learn from each other. It is by working together and all taking

responsibility that we will better be able to keep children in Powys safe. Safeguarding children is everybody's business."

The Children's Commissioner for Wales, Keith Towler praised the work of the 'Eat Carrots be Safe from Elephants' group and noted how it had influenced change through the whole of Wales. The Eat Carrots group met last year with Ministers and civil servants to discuss safeguarding issues and consequently their views have been reflected in the proposed Social Services (Wales) Bill.

Crystal Burt from Welshpool comments: "I've been a member of the 'Eat Carrots' group for four years now and I'm very proud to be involved. It's great to get our voice heard at such a big event and to help protect and improve the situation for other young people in Powys."

Other members of the 'Eat Carrots be Safe from Elephants' group that took part in the event were Adam Richards aged 14 from Welshpool, Kylie Steadman aged 18 from Knighton and Danny Percy aged 18 from Llandrindod. Workshop topics included online safety, early intervention to improve outcomes for families and also the new Integrated Family Support Service's work on supporting families to stay together.

Information for both parents and adults working with children and young people is available from [www.lscb.powys.gov.uk](http://www.lscb.powys.gov.uk). On-line leaflets include 'Keeping Children Safe - A Guide for Parents and Carers' and 'A Quick Guide to Child Protection - Protecting and Caring for the Children and Young People of Powys.'



Cllr Melanie Davies, Powys County Council's Cabinet Member for Children and Partnerships, Parry Davies, Director of Social Services for Ceredigion County Council and Strategic Director - Care & Well-Being for Powys, Paul Griffiths, Powys LSCB Chair, Crystal Burt and Aidan Sharp, members of the Eat Carrots be Safe from Elephants group, Alison Davies, Safeguarding Manager for Powys and Keith Towler, the Children's Commissioner for Wales.

## Regional Child Protection Fora

Powys Local Safeguarding Children Board supports the running of Regional Child Protection Fora which bring together frontline staff to brief them on relevant safeguarding matters and help build good relationships. It is important that agencies support the Fora and that there is good attendance across the range of agencies that support children/young people.

The next round of fora will take place at the dates and venues below. All sessions will run from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. and there will be a buffet lunch for those who book to attend.

Date:	Venue:
15 November	Antur Gwy, Builth Wells
16 November	Canolfan Hyddgen, Machynlleth
26 November	Cartrefi Cymru, Brecon
29 November	The Assembly Rooms, Welshpool
30 November	The Welfare, Ystradgynlais
03 December	Llanidloes Sports Centre, Llanidloes

Topics to be covered will include:-

### Core Group Functioning

- Pegasus Scheme (Helping the Vulnerable to Make Themselves Known to the Emergency Services When in Need of Help)
- Promotion of the work of the Junior LSCB (showing of latest digi-stories dvd)
- Sharing of learning (taken from case conclusion reports)
- Time to discuss local Issues and share experiences
- Compromised Parenting (Links between Children's and Adult Social Care)

To book a place email:

[melanie.hardwick@powys.gov.uk](mailto:melanie.hardwick@powys.gov.uk)

Places are limited to 40 at each session.

# Housing Benefit Changes – How it will affect families in Powys

As a result of the UK Government's Welfare Reform Act 2012 tenants of working age, living in the social housing sector who are in receipt of Housing Benefit and are deemed to be under-occupying their home, will from April 2013, lose part of their Housing Benefit. This is known as 'the bedroom tax'.



In addition, from October 2013 it is proposed to introduce Universal Credit whereby each "head of household" will receive a monthly allowance from which they will be responsible for paying their rent, Council Tax and other household bills. Currently rent and council tax are paid directly to the Social Landlord and the Council.

In Wales, the UK government estimate that 40,000 tenants (which is 42% of social housing tenants of working age) will be affected by 'the bedroom tax'.

Many of the households liable to be affected by these changes will be households with children, some of whom may be receiving support from your service or you may be working directly with vulnerable young adults. These households will need to be supported to manage their household income and the impact of personal debt and homelessness on vulnerable clients is likely to be particularly severe.

Social Landlords including Powys County Council's Housing team are preparing to support the needs of families as the changes take place and will update you further in the next issue. For further information email [mitch@powys.gov.uk](mailto:mitch@powys.gov.uk)

## Could you help Genesis to help families in Powys?

The Genesis Project may be able to support individuals with funding towards training, childcare costs, equipment and transport costs to enable them to enter training/education or to return to work.



Do you know anyone that needs that extra support to access training or work? If so, and they meet the following criteria, please get in touch.

- Lone parent in receipt of Income Support
- Individual with caring responsibilities
- Parents of dependent children who are not in receipt of benefit and not in work.

For more information on how Genesis can help someone you work with then call **01597 825236** or email [info@dyfodol-powys-futures.org.uk](mailto:info@dyfodol-powys-futures.org.uk)



## Go-kart Success

Powys Youth Service has been running a project in conjunction with Coleg Powys Newtown, offering a Motor Vehicle qualification for young people in the Montgomeryshire area. It is aimed at young people between the ages of 14 and 17 and offers accredited learning opportunities. It is primarily aimed at young people that are at risk of exclusion or offending. The project takes place at the Motor Vehicle department of Coleg Powys Newtown one evening a week for approximately 14 weeks. The sessions include:-

- The assembly of three Go-Karts
- Basic motor vehicle tool use
- Health and safety equipment and clothing
- Basic vehicle maintenance
- Testing the Karts

All participants are provided with their own overalls and boots which they are allowed to keep at the end of the project. If the course is completed then the participants will receive an OCN level 1 accreditation in Motor Vehicle Maintenance.

The Go-kart programme has been running over the last six years with almost 80 young people achieving an OCN qualification and a large number of these using the qualification to go on to attend the full Motor Vehicle course in Coleg Powys. As one of the participants said, "It's brilliant. I have something to do in the evenings, I learn new skills, meet new friends and the test drive is ace fun!"

For further information on the course contact Newtown Youth Centre on **01686 629808**.



## Bibliotherapy Book Review

### AGES & STAGES

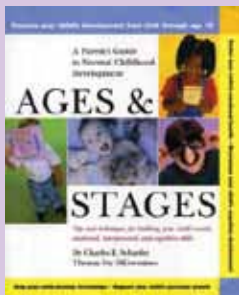
A Parent's Guide to Normal  
Childhood Development

By Dr Charles E Schaefer and  
Theresa Foy DiGeronimo  
(Book list number 15)

**Issue:** Development

**Keywords:**  
Parenting,  
understanding  
child  
development

**Age range:**  
0 - 10



The book reflects upon children's advancement in emotional health, cognitive development, family and peer relationships and growth and character development. The authors take the reader on a journey explaining generic childhood progress in stages; birth to 18 months, 18 months to three years, three years to six and six to nine years. Recently, a mother read and discussed this accessible text with her key worker; the mother commented that the book had been insightful and that she had changed her parenting approach to accommodate all three children's individual needs according to their different ages and stages.

This book is recommended by  
Bibliotherapy Coordinator, Sian Lee.

Further details can be found in the explanation booklet in the Bibliotherapy Resource Pack. For more information on the scheme: [www.cypp.powys.gov.uk/bibliotherapy](http://www.cypp.powys.gov.uk/bibliotherapy) or contact Sian on 01686 617450 or email [sian.lee@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:sian.lee@wales.nhs.uk)

# Success for Healthy Pre-Schools in Powys

Eight pre-school settings across Powys are among the first in Wales to achieve the new national Healthy and Sustainable Pre-Schools awards. Less than 20 settings across Wales have been successful so far.

Congratulations to the following, who have achieved the first two of seven awards - Nutrition & Oral Health and Physical Activity & Active Play:

- Camau Bach Cedwyn, Ystradgynlais
- Canal Playgroup, Newtown
- Cylch Meithrin Ystradgynlais
- Cylch Ti a Fi Ystradgynlais
- First Steps Nursery, Llandrindod
- Forden Pre-school Playgroup, Welshpool
- Trehafren Children's Centre, Newtown
- Ysgol Ardwyn Playgroups, Welshpool

The Welsh Government scheme was launched in Powys less than a year ago, but the enthusiasm and engagement of member nurseries, playgroups, parent and toddler groups, and the commitment of supporting agencies have already ensured success for Powys in 2012.

The national award scheme was set up to promote health and well-being in pre-school settings across Wales. The Scheme has been developed as an extension to the successfully established Healthy Schools Scheme and is supported locally by the Powys Healthy Schools team based in Public Health.

In Powys, Officers from four associated organisations (Mudiad Meithrin, Dyfodol Powys Futures, Wales Pre-school Providers Association and



Powys Children and Young People's Partnership – Flying Start) are supporting member settings across the county. The scheme has also been supported locally by the Local Health Board, with input from Health Visitors, Community Dieticians and the Designed to Smile Programme.

The aim of the Pre-School Scheme is to help give children the best possible start in life by encouraging and supporting pre-school settings to create a healthy ethos and environment, form healthy habits early, as well as promoting a healthy lifestyle to children, families, staff and the community.

Fourteen settings piloted the programme in 2012. Membership will extend to twenty during 2013. However, all settings will benefit from the guidance and support provided by the scheme through website development, networking and training opportunities across the county in 2013.

For more information email:  
**HealthySchools.PowysPHT@wales.nhs.uk**  
or call : **01874 712 738**

## Community Focused Services Team join the Schools Service

The Community Focused Services (CFS) team is now part of the Schools Service within the School Effectiveness Team area of 'working with others'. The CFS team will be working together with schools and communities to reduce the impacts of child poverty on outcomes for children and young people.

The CFS team will help schools look at partnership working with outside individuals and organisations. They can help schools consider:

- The contribution to an effective school from the family and community
- The contribution to the family and community by an effective school
- The impact of local context and area based responses to 'narrowing the gap'

They will help schools consider the:

- Physical environment
- Culture and ethos
- Current activities and opportunities

The team cover the following areas and will be working directly with targeted schools within these areas:

**Sheela Hughes:** Welshpool, Llanfyllin and Llanfair Caereinion  
[sheela.hughes@powys.gov.uk](mailto:sheela.hughes@powys.gov.uk)

**Sioned Pritchard:** Bro Ddyfi and West Radnor  
[sioned.pritchard@powys.gov.uk](mailto:sioned.pritchard@powys.gov.uk)

**Karen Finucane:** Newtown and East Radnor  
[karen.finucane@powys.gov.uk](mailto:karen.finucane@powys.gov.uk)

**Jacquie Brown:** Brecon, Gwernyfed, Crickhowell and Ystradgynlais  
[jacquie.brown@powys.gov.uk](mailto:jacquie.brown@powys.gov.uk)

# Powys Youth Forum update

Powys Youth Forum (PYF) meets four times a year for a three day residential. Members of the forum work hard on local and national issues, policies and legislation but it always includes an element of fun.

## Powys' first Participation Standards Kitemark Awarded

**Tros Gynnal, Powys Advocacy Service, has been awarded the Participation Kitemark that focuses on the 'National Children and Young People's Participation Standards'.**

Tros Gynnal successfully completed their online assessment, which enabled them to compare their current practice in line with the Participation Standards. The completed self assessment form was then followed by a visit from a team of Young Inspectors.

Powys Youth Forum members have been trained as Young Inspectors and a team of four, ranging from 14 – 20 years old, met with Tros Gynnal's staff and clients to judge if they were carrying out their work with children and young people in line with the standards.

The inspections allowed the young people to use skills they had gained in training to critically inspect the organisation. The Young Inspectors then produced a detailed report looking at areas of good practice and also areas for improvement. This was then sent to the national Participation Unit, in order for the Kitemark to be awarded.

Overall, Tros Gynnal passed the criteria for the Participation Kitemark and were presented the certificate by CYPP's Joint Chair Cllr Melanie Davies at a meeting of the Junior Safeguarding Children's Board, otherwise known as 'Eat Carrots be Safe from Elephants'.



Pictured L – R: Powys Youth Forum member and Young Inspector Jack Gillum, Tros Gynnal's Trudie Jordan, 'Eat Carrots be Safe from Elephants' members Adam Rogers, Hannah Evans and Danny Percy, Joint CYPP Chair Cllr Melanie Davies and Youth Participation Officer Stephen Parkinson.

**If you are interested in learning more about the Participation Standards Kitemark, or to start your self assessment visit [www.participationworkerswales.org.uk/standards](http://www.participationworkerswales.org.uk/standards) See page 8 for details of Participation Standards training.**



## Funky Dragon

Powys Youth Forum have elected new representatives for the National Children's Assembly for Wales, otherwise known as Funky Dragon. Each representative tells us a bit about their role:

*My name is Lucia Jones and I am the representative for statutory organisations in Powys. I've been elected as a Co-chair for the Health portfolio of Funky Dragon which means that I will meet with the Health Minister for Wales to negotiate progress on issues that we have put forward.*

*My name is Ben Young and I'm the rep for voluntary organisations in Powys. I went to Funky Dragon's Annual General Meeting (AGM) in July and loved wearing a suit to the ball. I'm looking forward to feeding back to my youth forum.*

*Hello, My name is Jack Gillum and I am the School Council representative on Funky Dragon. I am looking forward to representing School Councils on Funky Dragon and on Powys Youth Forum and making sure that all views of young people are represented in the county and Wales.*

*Hi, I'm Tom Turner and I'm the equalities representative for Powys and I'm also on the Funky Dragon management committee.*

If you would like to get in touch with the Funky Dragon reps please contact [youth.participation@powys.gov.uk](mailto:youth.participation@powys.gov.uk)

Pictured above L to R: Jess, Ben, Jack, Lucia, Haz at Funky Dragon's AGM in July. Jess and Haz are the outgoing reps who, along with Tom Turner and Tom Childs, represented Powys on Funky Dragon from 2010 – 2012.

## Participation Hub launched

The Participation Hub ([www.participationhub.org.uk](http://www.participationhub.org.uk)) has been designed as a simple, fun and attractive space for children and young people to find the support they are looking for. A single click will link them from the portal to the relevant service or resource in Wales. Although aimed at children and young people it is also a useful site for practitioners where they can find information and resources in one place.

Many of the materials on the Participation Hub have been produced as a result of the Welsh Government adopting the United Nation's Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), and in doing so making a commitment to ensure that all children and young people in Wales have access to their rights.



# Training for adults working with children and young people in Powys

## Information Sharing to support Integrated Working – half day

This course will promote a working knowledge of the regulations and practice on Information Sharing between agencies. This training will support effective multi-agency working as part of the Local Resource Solution Panel and Common Assessment Framework initiatives.

Date	Time	Venue
4 Dec	2-4pm	Llandrindod Wells
6 Dec	2-4pm	Newtown
11 Dec	2-4pm	Brecon
29 Jan '13	2-4pm	Llandrindod Wells
30 Jan	2-4pm	Newtown
26 Feb	10am-12pm	Brecon
14 March	10am-12pm	Newtown
18 March	2-4pm	Llandrindod Wells

## Other training coming up soon:

### Children's Rights - An Introduction

This training will look at Children's Rights, outlining the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and how these rights impact on the way we work in our settings. The Welsh Government are leading the way in the UK with the Children's Rights Measure. Find out about children and young people's rights and how these affect the way you work. Delivered by the CYPP Youth Participation officers.

**22 November 2012** (morning) Llandrindod  
**5 December 2012** (morning) Newtown

### Participation Young Spice

Involving 5 - 11 year olds in decision making with a tool kit of resources. Full day course on **27 February 2013** in Newtown

### Children and Young People's National Participation Standards – an Introduction

This training will outline the Children and Young People's National Participation Standards for Wales. You will pick up tips on how to gain the National Kitemark award. The course offers professionals guidance on how to involve young people in your setting. Delivered by the CYPP Youth Participation officers.

**22 November 2012** (afternoon) Llandrindod  
**13 March 2013** (twilight) Newtown  
**20 March 2013** (twilight) Brecon

## Lead Practitioner: The Team around the Family and the Local Resource Solution Panel - Full Day

This course will promote effective use of planning and service delivery interventions to children and their families and also promote effective multi-agency working.

Date	Venue
5 Dec	Newtown
12 Dec	Llandrindod Wells
15 Jan 2013	Newtown
16 Jan	Brecon
19 Feb	Newtown
20 Feb	Llandrindod Wells
12 March	Brecon
21 March	Newtown
26 March	Llandrindod Wells

It is recommended to attend the CAF Training before attending this course.

## Motivational Interviewing

### Engaging people in a process of change - working with Intrinsic Motivation

A motivational approach can help workers in a range of settings to support individuals to explore and hopefully resolve their ambivalence about behaviour change. This course will provide participants with a clear understanding of the principles and goals of Motivational Interviewing. The course looks at the following: What motivates people to change? What leads to sustainable change? The communication skills that enhance motivation in others. Strategic questions designed to elicit a change in behaviour.

**11 January in Newtown and 4 February in Brecon**

## Common Assessment Framework (CAF) and Local Resource Solution Panel (LRSP) Training

To promote effective use of the CAF and associated tools to deliver early interventions to children and their families.

Date	Venue
5 Dec	Llandrindod Wells
22 Jan 2013	Newtown
23 Jan	Llandrindod Wells
6 Feb	Brecon
28 Feb	Newtown
20 March	Llandrindod Wells

For further information or to book any of the above courses contact the Powys Training Unit via [cyptraining@powys.gov.uk](mailto:cyptraining@powys.gov.uk) or call 01597 82 9569

The Integrated Training Programme is available online at [www.powys.gov.uk/socialcareworkforce](http://www.powys.gov.uk/socialcareworkforce)





## Incredible Years wins NHS Wales award

A programme to help parents, teachers and children in Powys to address behaviour problems has scooped an NHS Wales Award. The Health Board, CYPP and Barnardo's Cymru have worked in partnership to support families and schools to develop skills that will help with early intervention and prevention of behaviour difficulties in children.

The development of the Incredible Years programme was recognised by judges of the NHS Wales Awards in the Working Seamlessly Across Organisations category.

Shelley Davies, Strategic Manager Powys Children and Young People's Partnership, said, "We are delighted that the work of all our organisations to improve the lives of children, young people and their families in Powys has been recognised with an NHS Wales Award. By working with parents at an early stage we can help them to develop positive coping skills that will help their children and prevent behavioural problems occurring."

Thanks to investment from the health board and Powys CYPP, a consultant child psychologist was employed to be used as a mentor in all of the Incredible Years programmes and the results have been significant.

More than one thousand parents have attended parent groups and have shown significant improvement in parental mental health and well-being. There has also been a significant reduction in parental reports of child behaviour difficulties. Forty per cent of primary and infant schools have now received training in the IY Teacher and Child programmes and the benefits of the programmes have been noted in Estyn inspections.

Judging the award, Jo Farrar, Chief Executive, Bridgend County Council, said, "The Incredible Years Programme demonstrates true partnership and collaborative working at its very best. Touching the heart of the community this sustainable programme shows how public service organisations can deliver whole systems improvement. The leadership of this programme has been unwavering and is a credit to the multiple agencies involved."



**Pictured: NHS Wales Chief Executive David Sissling, Shelley Davies CYPP, Delyth Raynsford Barnardo's and Dr Sue Evans Powys Teaching Health Board**

## Powys Assisted Places Scheme increases support

Mudiad Meithrin is piloting a new scheme with the support of Powys County Council. The scheme is open to children between 0 and 14 years of age (16 years old if the child has additional needs) to give a financial contribution toward the cost of childcare in playgroups, day nurseries, holiday clubs, After School Clubs and parent and toddler groups.

The aim of the funding is to provide the opportunity for children, who might otherwise be excluded, to participate in two sessions per week so that they can develop skills and socialise with their peers. The scheme will allow the parent or carer time to seek advice on returning to work or finding out about training opportunities in the area.

Parents or carers are eligible to apply for funding if they receive any of the following:

- Income Support.
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit.
- Any other income-based incapacity benefit not noted above.

The maximum funding available for each child per week has increased and is now:

**Holiday Club** - £12 x 1 day (£12 per week)

**Sessional care** - £5 x 2 sessions (£10 per week)

**Parent and Toddler Group** - £2 x 1 sessions (£2 per week)

Time sheets will need completing every half term instead of monthly. Funding is limited and will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis. To find out more about the scheme including the terms and conditions contact

[menna.stephens@meithrin.co.uk](mailto:menna.stephens@meithrin.co.uk) or call Mudiad Meithrin's Main Office on 01970 639 639.

## Healthy Lifestyles in Brecon

The Brecon Community Alcohol Partnership (BCAP) is now well underway having been launched back in April. Promoting a healthy lifestyle for the young people in Brecon is an aim of the scheme. This has resulted in plans for two innovative developments in the town starting in the New Year.

**1. A Youth Café** – Young people in Brecon will be central to the planning and running of the café which will provide a safe and friendly place to hang out, plus regular activities that may include street dance workshops, DJ nights and cinema trips. An initial six week pilot is planned but may be extended if successful.

**2. Half price admission to Brecon Leisure Centre activities on a Friday evening**, including ten pin bowling, swimming and racquet sports. There will also be healthy suppers in the café and occasional special activities.

If you would like to know more about the Brecon Community Alcohol Partnership visit the Community Safety Partnership website at <http://csp.powys.org.uk/index.php?id=12488>

[community.safety@powys.gov.uk](mailto:community.safety@powys.gov.uk)

01597 827312

# Substance Misuse Service

**CAIS is the Young Person's Substance Misuse service in Powys, working in partnership with Kaleidoscope who provide substance use services to adults in the county.**



A team of five substance misuse workers and one substance misuse support worker cover the county to make a positive difference to the lives of young people and their families who are affected by drugs and alcohol. They are based within the Youth Intervention and Youth Justice Services in Newtown and Brecon and also have a temporary home with Kaleidoscope in Llandrindod.

The team offer a harm reduction approach to helping young people through the use of evidence-based therapeutic interventions, treatments and substance misuse information for young people aged 11 to 18. They also offer advice and support to the families.

CAIS have developed training in the last 18 months around the treatments they provide, such as Motivational Enhancement Therapy, which is a form of Motivational Interviewing, Social Behaviour Network Therapy, Concerned Other Training and Controlled Drinking. There is a strong belief that people can and do change.

In order to engage with young people at an early age and as part of a preventative strategy the team are delivering group sessions in schools and in youth clubs to raise awareness about substance misuse.

CAIS work alongside a number of organisations to deliver a range of opportunities for young people in Powys including:

- **'Face It' art group in Brecon**
- **Street Art project in mid Powys**
- **Drama scheme in Newtown which resulted in the production of a DVD with a harm reduction message.**

The team support, advise and jointly work with fellow professionals and volunteers to offer brief interventions and information to the young people they are working with.

Team leader, Rob Lynch says: "We are always willing to talk through any concerns. We have developed training around a Drug Use Screening Tool (DUST), which can help those who have concerns to assess a young person's vulnerability to substance use and can help them to decide if a referral to our service is appropriate.

"We also offer training around substance use/misuse awareness and emerging drugs, or so called 'legal highs' and we will be rolling this out in the near future." Contact CAIS if you would like to:

- make a referral to CAIS (with the young person's permission)
- talk through any concerns you have about a young person's substance use
- take advantage of training
- develop a joint project

Call **0845 87 37 660** or contact Rob Lynch directly on **07833 318639** or email: [robert.lynch@cais.org.uk](mailto:robert.lynch@cais.org.uk)



*Pictured left: A celebration event held on the 29 October to raise awareness of the achievements of some of the people the team have worked with. Those at the event were able to speak to the young people about their art and roles in the DVD, as well as chatting with members of the team.*

The Cais Team



## Face it'

Twelve young people aged 14 - 17 years old from the Brecon area took part in the 'Face It' Project. This new project set up by the Youth Intervention Service, Leaving Care Team, Community Arts scheme, Youth Service, and CAIS was run over 10 weeks this summer.

It engaged young people in an art programme that developed self exploration and reflection. In addition the young people have also received an Agored Cymru qualification for their work.

An exhibition of the art work created by the young people took place at Brecon Library in the autumn.



**Reminder:** To make a referral about a young person who may need more than one agency to support their needs then you should complete a CAF (Common Assessment Framework). See page one for details.

## Leaving Care event

The Leaving Care Team held a residential at Llangrannog Urdd centre for 12 young people over two days this summer.

Along with activities such as horse riding, skiing, go karting, climbing and swimming the group also undertook some consultation work. They discussed areas such as foster placements, independent living skills, kinship care and ideal characteristics of a social worker....along with some enjoyable games of scrabble.



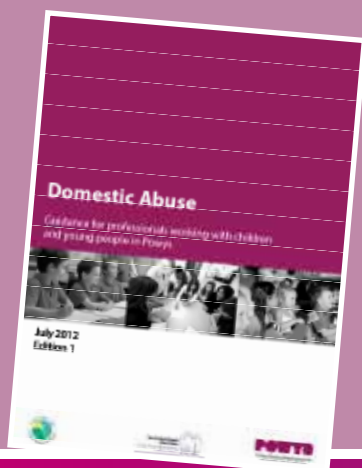
Participation Officer, Jane Evans explains: "One of the great things about this trip was that one of our wheelchair bound members was able to take part in a lot of the activities, including skiing and horse riding. Also another member was able to bring along her four year old daughter, who shamed us all on the climbing wall!"

The group had a very enjoyable trip and gave positive feedback. Joint CYPP Chair Cllr Melanie Davies also attended and was keen to return to the residential next year.

## Domestic Abuse Guidance for practitioners

A booklet which outlines the issues around domestic abuse and gives advice to professionals working with children and young people in Powys is now available.

This booklet has been published to help minimise the harm to children and young people who are living with or have witnessed Domestic Abuse. It is available to view and download on line at [www.cypp.powys.gov.uk/domesticabuse](http://www.cypp.powys.gov.uk/domesticabuse)



## Youth resident's survey

**Views are being sought from young people in Powys in an online survey developed in conjunction with Powys Youth Forum.**

The online survey aims to capture the views and satisfaction ratings around key council services including education, leisure and transport. If, in your work, you are able to promote the survey to a young person please direct them to [www.cypp.powys.gov.uk](http://www.cypp.powys.gov.uk)

There is a chance for one respondent to win an Ipad. The survey closes on Friday 23 November 2012 and is open for anyone aged between 11 and 25 years.

Caitlin Smith, Youth Forum member said: "I really enjoyed shaping the survey questions and hope the Council consider the findings carefully when planning future services."

## CRB Changes

The Government have scaled back the CRB system with changes that came in to effect from September.

The key principles of the new Disclosure and Baring Service are:

- A proportionate balance between civil liberties and safeguarding vulnerable groups including children.
- Rebalancing the role of the employer and the state; reinforcing disclosure and barring as one part of the wider recruitment and employment process.
- Reducing bureaucracy through the introduction of portable certificates.
- Trusting employers to make rounded decisions about who they employ.

Previously, many organisations could apply to process CRB disclosures for their staff. Changes now mean that unless an organisation is processing over 100 applications per year, they will need to use an umbrella body for this service.

Powys County Council gained CRB Umbrella Body status in April 2012, this enables them to process CRB checks for clients who are not registered to process themselves. They can process a CRB form for a self employed individual or a large organisation employing hundreds of staff.

The cost of the checks are £44 for an enhanced check and £26 for a standard check, CRB checks for Volunteers are free. There will also be an administration fee of £15 per application for the service; however, this administration fee will not be applied to Volunteer checks.

For further details on Powys County Council's Umbrella Body Service, call **01597 826814** or email [crb@powys.gov.uk](mailto:crb@powys.gov.uk).

Looking ahead Powys County Council are implementing an electronic system for the processing of CRB application forms. The system will be live from April 2013. 90% of CRB checks can be processed and returned using the system within four working days. This service will be made available to the Umbrella Body customers.

# RAP success

The international exchange project Rural and Proud (RAP) linked young people from Powys (Cymru) and Bengtsfors (Sweden) and explored the themes of democracy, human rights and citizenship.

15 young people from Powys visited their Swedish exchange partners in August and a film produced about the RAP exchange has recently won the Film category in the British Council and Ecorys 'Your Story' Competition. Some of the RAP members will attend a ceremony in London later this month to accept their award.

RAP was part of a Youth in Action project, funded by the European Union and was organised by Powys Youth Service and the Powys Young Carers project. The partnership between statutory and voluntary sectors was key to the success of the project and looks set to form the basis for ongoing work.

To gain insight into the project and to look at films, pictures and stories visit <http://ruralandproud.wordpress.com/>



Young people on the exchange

To view this magazine online visit [www.cypp.powys.gov.uk/news](http://www.cypp.powys.gov.uk/news)

If you receive In focus and no longer require a paper copy please let us know.



## A Guide to Levels of Need

A booklet and poster have been produced to offer guidance for staff working with children, young people and their families in Powys.

These resources give a broad overview of the 'levels of need' that have been agreed within the Children and Young People's Partnership (CYPP) and the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).



Wherever possible children and young people's needs will be met through universal services such as schools, primary healthcare, youth service and leisure centres. If children need extra help the booklet should assist practitioners and managers in assessing and identifying:

- A child's level of need
- The type of services/resources which may meet those needs
- The processes to follow in moving from assessment to provision of services, including appropriate referral to statutory services

An A3 poster is also available that outlines 'levels of need' and available interventions and represents the Joint Assessment Family Framework process. To download these resources visit [www.cypp.powys.gov.uk](http://www.cypp.powys.gov.uk) or contact the CYPP.

The Family Information Service provides free, confidential and impartial information to families about childcare and related services in Powys. If the FIS don't have the answers then they will find out who does.

Contact the Family Information Service by:

[www.powys.gov.uk/fis](http://www.powys.gov.uk/fis)

Email – [fis@powys.gov.uk](mailto:fis@powys.gov.uk)

Telephone – 0300 111 0234

(9-5pm Monday to Thursday and 9-4.30pm on Friday (calls at standard call rate and included in bundled landline and mobile tariffs).



Barod Llun Siogeta  
Plant Powys  
Powys Local Safeguarding  
Children Board

View the LSCB website at:  
[www.lscb.powys.gov.uk](http://www.lscb.powys.gov.uk)

## Contact the CYPP

CYPP, County Hall, Llandrindod Wells, LD1 5LG Tel: **01597 826058**

Email: [children.youngpeople@powys.gov.uk](mailto:children.youngpeople@powys.gov.uk)

Download this magazine from [www.cypp.powys.gov.uk](http://www.cypp.powys.gov.uk)

## FEEDBACK >

Let us know what you think of this newsletter and help shape future editions.

Email [michelle.wozencraft@powys.gov.uk](mailto:michelle.wozencraft@powys.gov.uk) with ideas, contributions and feedback for Edition 6.