

Rutland Parent Carer Voice Newsletter – Autumn 2025

Welcome to our latest newsletter!

As we move into a new school year, the weather begins to turn, and the days grow shorter, it's a natural time for reflection and reconnection.

For many of us in the SEND community, the transition back to school brings mixed emotions — excitement, anxiety, change, and hope. At Rutland Parent Carer Voice, we understand the importance of having a strong support network during these times.

This newsletter is here to keep you informed, connected, and involved with what's happening locally — from helpful updates to events, training opportunities, and ways to engage with other families who truly understand. Whether you're new to RPCV or a long-standing member, we hope you find something valuable in the pages that follow.

Remembering Sue Mullinger

As many of you will now know, since our last newsletter we have lost our dear friend and a true cornerstone of our RPCV community, **Sue Mullinger**.

Sue was a passionate advocate, a kind friend, and a tireless supporter of families of children with SEND. Her warmth, strength, and determination helped shape our forum and touched the lives of so many in Rutland and beyond.

Our thoughts remain with Sue's family and loved ones at this time.

We are committed to continuing the work she cared so deeply about and to honouring her legacy through everything we do at RPCV.

SEND Reforms – What's Happening?

Concerns are growing about proposed government changes to SEND support – including suggestions to reduce the number of children with EHC plans in mainstream schools.

We've been following comments from MP Alicia Kearns, who has voiced her opposition to the reforms. She continues to challenge proposals that may put legal rights and much-needed support at risk.

 Want to stay informed? Visit SaveOurChildrensRights.org.uk to learn more and join the national campaign.

Post-16 Transport Q&A

Getting the right support for your young person's travel to education settings after 16 can be confusing.

Thanks to Contact's helpline, some of the most common Post-16 transport questions have now been answered.

 Read the FAQ: [Click here](#)

School Attendance + Behaviour

New government hubs are being rolled out to improve attendance and behaviour in schools – but many families are concerned about how this will impact SEND children.

Contact reminds us that SEND-related absences (due to anxiety, pain or medical needs) are valid.

Read more about this here: [Education secretary announces new behaviour and attendance hubs in England as the school year starts](#)

Let us know your experiences – your voice matters.

Local SENDIASS Update

Rutland's new SENDIASS provider is now live, with support currently being offered via Cambridgeshire & Peterborough's Local Offer.

 More localised Rutland info is coming soon, but in the meantime you can explore:

- [SENDIASS Facebook Page](#)
 - [Cambridgeshire Local Offer](#)
-

Celebrating 10 Years of RDYF!

Huge thanks to **Rutland Disabled Youth Forum** for inviting us to their fantastic 10th Anniversary Party!

We loved the presentations, pizza, cake (of course), and the final game of 21.

It's always a joy to see young people connecting, sharing, and celebrating together. 

Learn more about the Rutland Disabled Youth Forum [here](#)

Stay Connected

Don't forget – our Facebook group is a great place to ask questions, share resources, and connect with other parent carers across Rutland. But meeting in person is even better for building connections. We'd love to see you at one of our upcoming events.

 [Find us on Facebook](#)

And check our website for the [latest news & upcoming events](#)

 Email us at: rutlandpcv@gmail.com

Thank you for being part of our community.
Your voice. Your journey. Your support network.

Warm wishes,
The RPCV Steering Group