

# Rotherham Parents Forum Ltd

## Annual Impact Report

### April 2024 to March 2025



"RPCF is a committed and compassionate group living and breathing the 4 Cornerstones, Welcome and care, Value and Include, Communication and Partnership, that influence the culture for Children and young people with SEND in Rotherham."

*Area SEND Inspection October 2024*

[www.rpcf.co.uk](http://www.rpcf.co.uk)

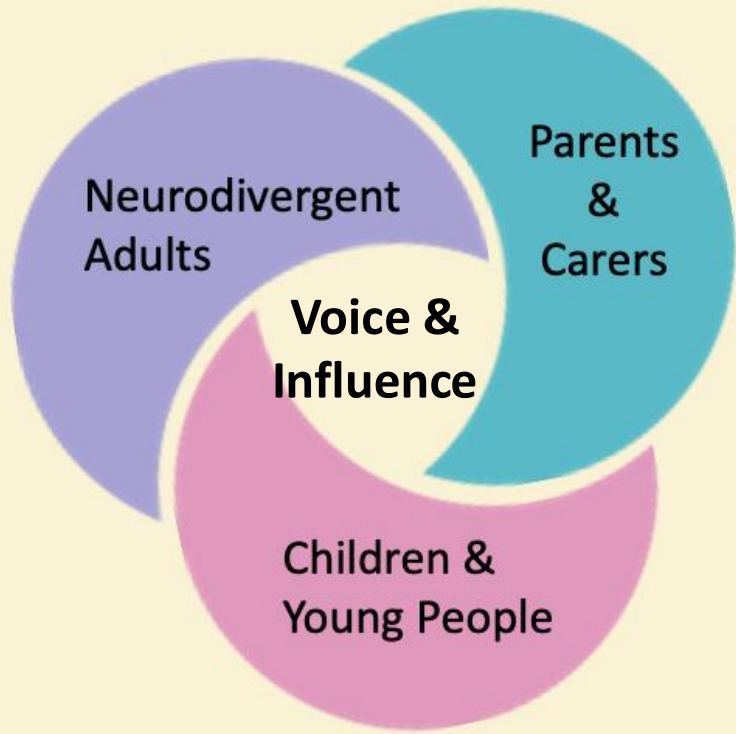
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Rotherham Parents Forum Limited



## Our Vision

Our Vision is to create a society where young people with SEND and their families, and the neurodivergent community, are embraced, understood, and have access to all they need to succeed and flourish.

## Our Mission

Our Mission is to reduce isolation and empower parent carers, young people with SEND, and neurodivergent people in daily life and in accessing services in Rotherham. To foster a community that champions inclusion and understanding and raises public awareness to ensure that individuals are seen, heard, and supported to overcome any inequalities they face.

**Our team** currently consists of 23 staff members—a dedicated team with relevant lived experience. Additionally, a network of passionate volunteers contributes their time and expertise to various activities, donating over 1700 hours to our charity in the past year. We are immensely grateful for their input and all they give.

*Rotherham Parents Forum Ltd (RPFL) for this period operated two distinct but interconnected services: Rotherham Parent Carers Forum (RPCF) and the Rotherham Adult Neurodiversity Support Service (RANSS).*



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# Our Core Ethos – Genuine Partnerships and the 4 Cornerstones

## Welcome and Care

We approach all those we encounter with understanding and kindness, recognising unique challenges and strengths, and welcoming the gift that each person brings.

## Partnership

We believe in teamwork and partnership. We work alongside individuals, Services, practitioners, and the community to create a supportive network and champion the rights and needs of individuals for an inclusive and accessible environment.



Everything we do is underpinned by our values which when embedded strengthen TRUST

## Value and Include

We treat everyone with respect and dignity, valuing their perspectives and contributions.

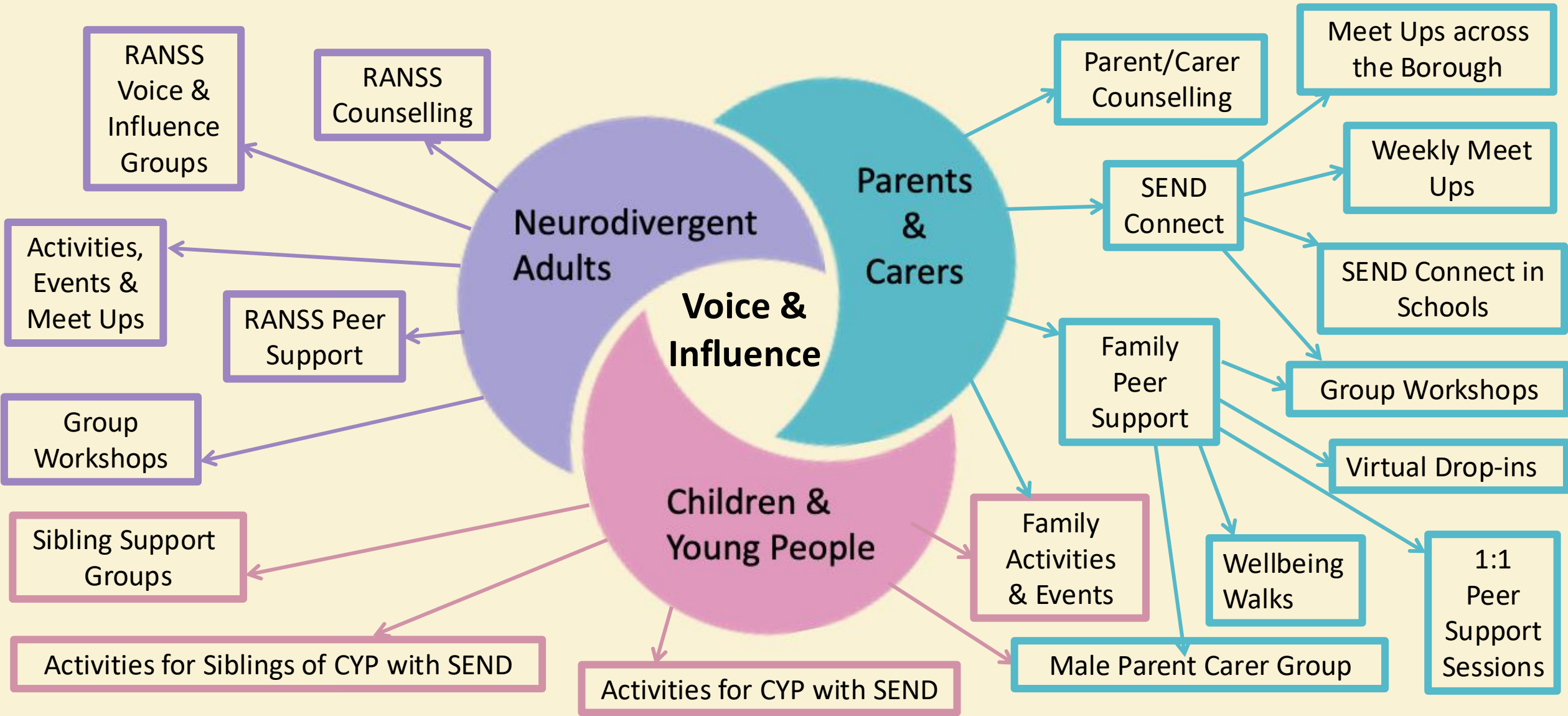
## Communication

We empower individuals and their families by striving to provide them with the resources and information that they may need.



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# Organisation Model and Workstreams



We are pleased to share the **2024/2025 Impact Report** for Rotherham Parents Forum Ltd (RPFL).

This year has been defined by change, collaboration, and inclusion for many families of children and young people with SEND and neurodivergent adults across Rotherham. Through the relentless dedication of our community, team, innovative projects, and strong partnerships, we have impacted lives and helped build a more inclusive and supportive Rotherham community.

At the heart of our work has been a commitment to ensuring that the voices of parents, carers, and neurodivergent adults are heard and valued in shaping the services and policies that affect them. By sharing this lived experience with statutory partners across the system, we have made meaningful contributions to improving the quality and accessibility of SEND and neurodiversity provision across the borough.

Alongside many charities, we have faced significant challenges this year, including funding pressures and rising demand. This has called for creativity and resilience, and thanks to the dedication of our trustees, volunteers and staff —alongside the strength of our community—we have continued to deliver essential support.

This report celebrates the milestones we have achieved together. Within its pages, you will find stories, experiences, and evidence of the difference that partnership and living experience can make.

We thank you for your continued support and commitment to making Rotherham a better place for families of children and young people with SEND and Neurodivergent people across our community.

Sincerely,

All the Team at RPFL



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## RPCF Membership Data - April 2024 to March 2025

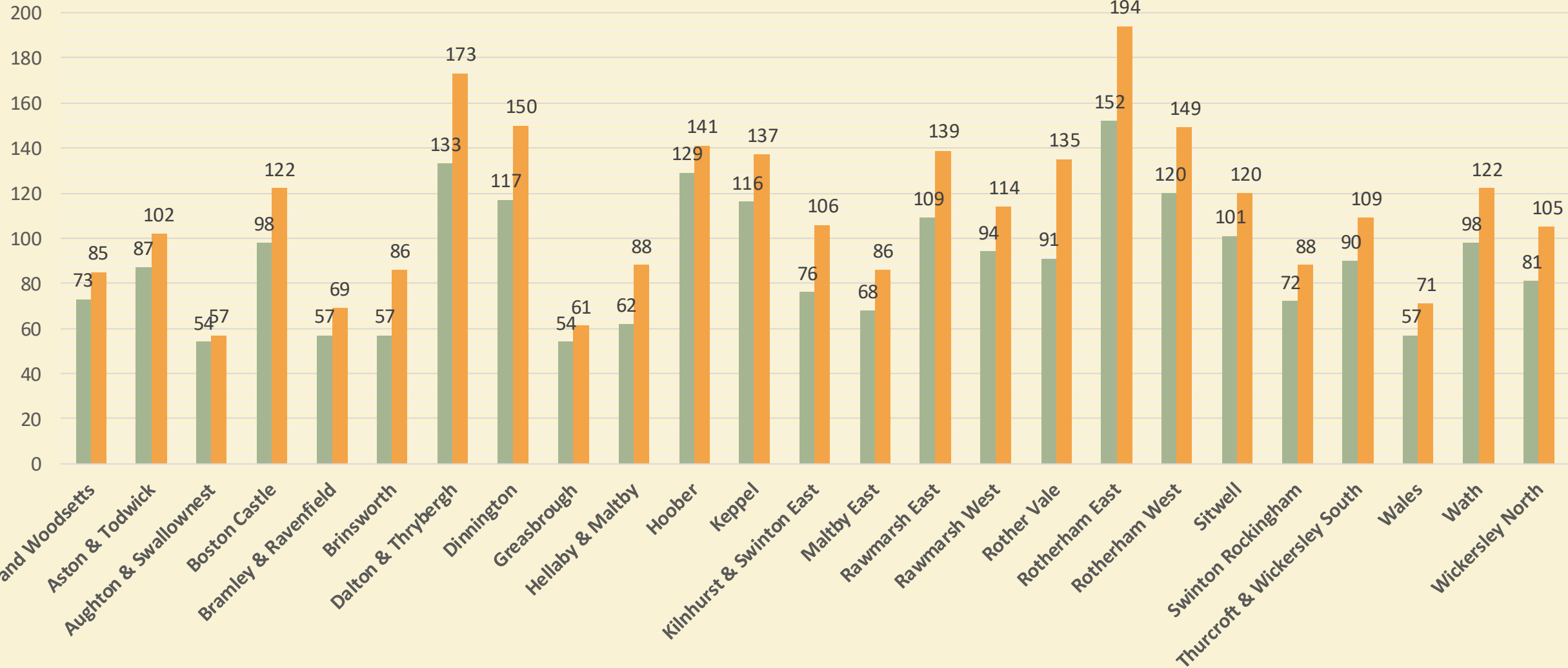
- ❖ Rotherham Parent Carers Forum has **2810** registered members living in Rotherham.
- ❖ **1412** unique parent carers actively engaged with RPCF during the year.
- ❖ **654** new members signed up between April 2024 and March 2025, a **29% increase** from last year 2023-2024
- ❖ **24%** of new members were signposted to RPCF via word-of-mouth recommendations, **19%** via the internet and social media, **15%** from schools and settings and **13%** from CDC and CAMHS.
- ❖ According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) **27%** of our families are living in the most deprived (top 10%) of neighbourhoods in England. This is higher than the comparable rate for Rotherham of 22%.



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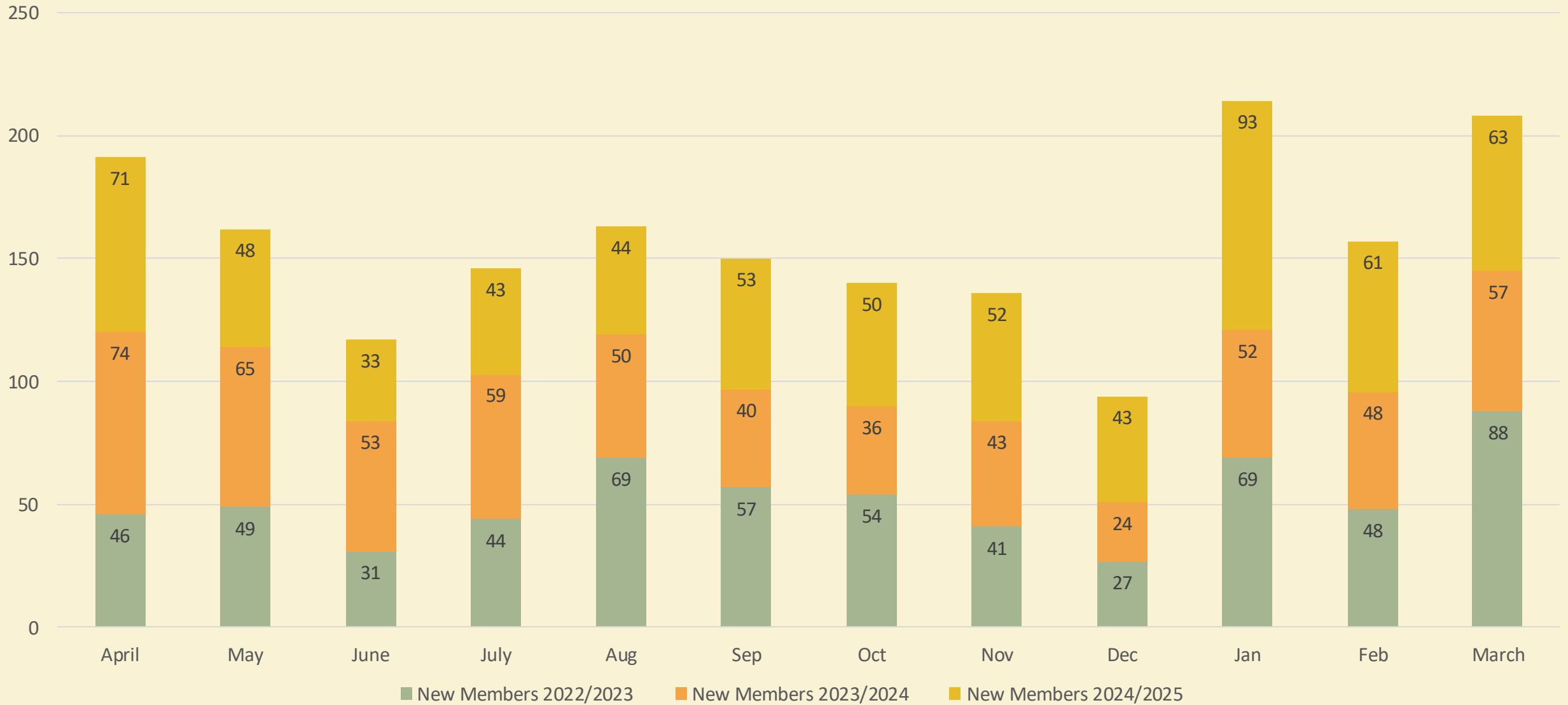
# Distribution of RPCF Members Across Different Wards in Rotherham

2023-2024 2024-2025



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# Spread of New Rotherham Parent Carer Memberships by Months

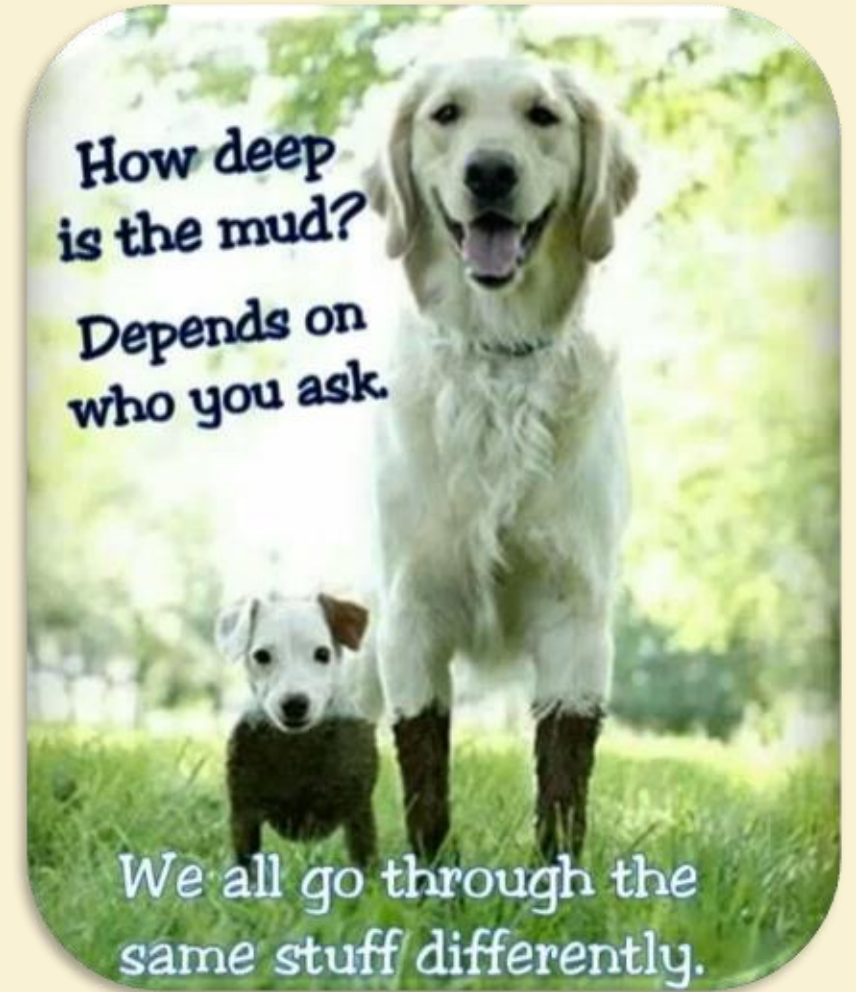


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April 2024 to March 2025

## Voice and Influence of Parents and Carers to Effect Strategic Change in SEND Provision



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## Engagement and Participation – April 2024 to March 2025

- ❖ **354** opportunities for parent carer participation were facilitated over the year. The total number of parent/carers attendances at these participation events was **2391**
- ❖ **179** events or activities were facilitated to allow children and young people with SEND and their siblings to have the opportunity to share their voice and experience.
- ❖ SEND Connect held **109** face to face evening and daytime meet-ups around the borough supporting **134** unique parent carers with total attendances of **620**.
- ❖ A further **75** parent carers were supported via coffee mornings held in **7** different schools across the borough.
- ❖ A further 164 parents across 10 primary schools met and worked in partnership with school to inform the inclusion of neurodivergent children as part of the Partnership for Inclusion in Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) programme,
- ❖ **849** responses to consultations and living experience examples from families, that can influence ongoing development of services, these were shared at relevant workstreams attended by RPCF.
- ❖ Parent Carer representatives from RPCF presented the living experience of families at over **336** meetings across all SEND workstreams.



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**Parent Carers Strategic priorities from Annual Survey 2024-2025**

**Examples of Workstreams RPCF attended in 2024/2025, Where Parent Carer Voice Influenced Strategic Change in SEND Provision**

1. Education, Health, Care Plans (EHCP)	EHCP monthly Audits (anonymised), SEND exec board, SEND Partnership Board. 1:1 service lead meetings with thematic focus.
2. Mental health and wellbeing for CYP with SEND	Monthly manager meeting with CAMHS and ADHD leads, SEMH board, Dynamic Support Register, Care, Education Treatment Reviews, SEMH board.
3. Access to therapies (including mental health)	Regular 1:1 and multi-agency meetings with SEND Designated Clinical Officer and TRFT (Rotherham Hospital) Learning disability Strategy, All age autism strategy
4. Assessment waiting times	SEMH board, monthly manager meetings with Camhs assessment, 1:1 and multi-agency meetings with SEND Designated Clinical Officer, multi agency CDC review ,
5. Availability of Education placements (SEN sufficiency)	SEN sufficiency board, Accessibility grant funding, EY grant funding, EY SEND workforce development training scoping.
6. Support for SEND CYP in Education Settings (Graduated response or SEN support)	SEN support group, SENCO network, regular 1:1 and multi-agency meetings with SEND lead and Assistant directors. PINS project meetings.
7. Preparation for Adulthood	PfA Strategic board, co-chair PfA health, Co-lead on Voice, Guiding Voices – 4 workstreams
8. Parent Carer mental health and wellbeing	Borough that cares, CYPS Consortium, Suicide prevention group, Family /early Help strategy group and partnership board, Genuine Partnerships meetings with partners, local offer meetings.
9. Home to School/Setting SEND transport	Policy review meetings with transport leads, SEND Executive Board, and SEND Partnership Board. Adhoc/seasonal thematic voice shared with leads. .



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## Some Impact Examples of the Voice and Influence of Parent Carers and Partnership Work with Services Influencing Change in SEND Provision 2024/2025

- ❖ Monthly EHCP audits by RPCF in Partnership with health education and social care, providing a parent carer perspective - identifying areas of good practice, non-compliance and areas for improvement in EHCPs
- ❖ Worked actively in partnership with family hubs to ensure accessibility for SEND families
- ❖ In partnership with Statutory services and VCSE, and in response to the voice of young people, RPFL facilitated 'Futures Fayre' giving opportunity to YP with SEND age 14 to 25 to explore preparation for adulthood and understand the offer in Rotherham.
- ❖ As a result of presenting at the SENCO network families and partners have a greater awareness and understanding of partnership working resulting in reducing isolation and empowering parents to work in partnership for better outcomes.
- ❖ Ongoing work as co-leaders of Genuine Partnerships by involving and supporting parent carers and young people at all levels of the co-production involved and leading to an increase in wellbeing Further details can be found at [www.genuinepartnerships.co.uk](http://www.genuinepartnerships.co.uk)
- ❖ RPCF were asked by partners in RMBC to lead on the refresh of the Autism strategy partnership board. Results from hearing the living experience of autistic people and their family, carers and loved ones will inform the delivery plan and implementation. The updated strategy can be found here: [Autism Strategy 2024 2027.pdf \(rotherham.gov.uk\)](#)
- ❖ RPCF are a Key delivery partner in yr 2 of a National initiative - Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools – PINS. This is a direct result of parent carer voice around provision for neurodivergent young people in mainstream schools. Rotherham is adding 8 schools in 2025 to the original ten primary schools in 2024.



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## Some Impact Examples of the Voice and Influence of Parent Carers and Partnership Work with Services Influencing Change in SEND Provision 2024/2025

- ❖ From the parent/carer voice, we worked in partnership with SENDIASS to facilitate workshops on EHCP, SEN support, and reasonable adjustments (Equality Act) to empower and increase parental confidence and knowledge.
- ❖ Reinstated parental confidence meetings with EHCP team leads.
- ❖ The elective home education policy was reviewed and implemented through the voice and engagement of this community
- ❖ RPFL led on the Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity (PINS )project (year 1) across 10 schools, including 164 parents.
- ❖ Sensory toolkit co-created and launched in partnership with sensory health leads, schools and settings.
- ❖ Continuation of partnership work with the Rotherham SEND Local Offer . The changes implemented following parent carer voice can be found by following the link - [www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org.uk/you-said-we-did](http://www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org.uk/you-said-we-did)
- ❖ RPCF Co designed and co-delivered SEND Awareness training to practitioners across health, education and social care throughout the borough.
- ❖ RPCF co-chairs the SENDAP partnership board; the 9 priority areas arising from parental voice are embedded in the agenda and plans.



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# Impact and Outcomes of the Voice and Influence of Parents and Carers Effecting Strategic Change in SEND Provision - Feedback from Parent Carers

“I really enjoyed coming to the SENDIASS workshop, I feel like I know what I need to do now, it’s nice to hear different parents experiences too” – **Parent quote from the EHC workshop**



“I really liked how the team met with families to gather their experiences it shows they are interested in what life is like for families like mine who are currently home educating” – **Feedback in the elective home education policy review consultation**

“It was fab to be able to listen to what the council are doing to make things better for kids like mine, I liked how open the SEND lead was, she wasn’t saying everything is perfect but instead listened to our concerns and wants to make things better” – **SEND sufficiency focussed discussion**

"We attended **Urgent Care** and received fantastic support for our young person who is autistic, non-verbal and has intellectual disabilities. We felt listened to and received great support"

# Impact and Outcomes of the Voice and Influence of Parents and Carers Effecting Strategic Change in SEND Provision - Feedback from Practitioners

“The support that RPCF provided in hearing the voices of families during the recent review of the Elective Home Education Policy was invaluable.

They were able to engage with families in Rotherham and share their views through initial engagement events to support in shaping the proposed Policy.” ( **Head of Service Access to Education RMBC**)

“Working with the Rotherham Parent Carers Forum helps The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust to work closely with the parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities. It is obvious how many people rely on the Rotherham Parent Carers forum, not only at their meetups, but by facilitating peer support through their Facebook pages and messenger groups. Working in co-production the Trust’s Carers Promise, and subsequent events to support carers have been invaluable to raise awareness to carers of the support that is available to them, but also with Trust staff to encourage them to care for carers and how they can do this.” ( **TRFT**)



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# SEND Connect

Send Connect is a support network for parent carers to come together in a safe environment, to share experiences and offer each other mutual support. We do this through regular weekly daytime and evening drop-ins at Rawmarsh and Canklow and events in the wider borough such as breakfast meet-ups, craft & chat sessions, scrapbooking and workshop/training opportunities. We also offer schools the opportunity to invite us to attend sessions for their SEND parents to meet.

## Schools Attended in 2024/2025

- Maltby Manor Academy
- Herringthorpe Juniors
- Kelford
- Ferham Primary School
- Wickersley Comprehensive
- Our Lady & St Josephs Wath

“Coming to group really helps me to know where to go for support for my son, the team always make me feel welcome!” - **Parent quote**  
**Rawmarsh SEND Connect group**

"I wish I could meet more people like you ! I feel like I have known you ages, the way in which you just understand & get it " **School Visit - Herringthorpe Juniors**



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## SEND Connect Drop-ins & Workshops

"I've really valued the opportunity to hear more about the dynamic support register and what support could be available, I don't think we quite need it yet but it was great they came to explain it to us" – Parent, Focussed discussion

"I was so nervous about coming today, but you coming over & talking to me about what to expect from the group today & in the future, put me so at ease. Thank you. I will be back !"

"Send Connect is like AA, sometimes you fall off the wagon & just need to attend to be heard & understood, but sometimes you can get by for a few months on your own, its just nice knowing I can drop into group at anytime" (Send Connect – Rawmash)



"...is amazing she makes us feel like an equal, me and my daughter was worried at first but the forum group encouraged me to work together with her, I'm so glad I did it's helped my daughter loads"

## SEND Connect In The Community

"As a bloke & not being great in social situations, I am surprised how well I have felt today coming. You have all made me feel so welcome ! I am glad I came along today" - (Kiveton Group)



"I really appreciated hearing other parents experiences who have children who are older than mine, knowing that I'm not on my own in this was lovely.... I feel like I can be me in this space" Parent – Dunelm Coffee evening

# Reducing Isolation – Voice of Parent Carers

“I started attending the group at Brampton and have now started coming to the more regular group at Rawmarsh... There was so much I was dealing with at home with my son that until I attended the group I didn't realise was all part of his SEND behaviour – as experienced by other parents.”

“I can't believe there are activities I can take my son to & finally I can have the opportunity to speak to practitioner's online as I feel so lost & need direction & advice.”



“Reduced my isolation. Time for me, once a week. Others understand me and my child's challenges.”

“The peer support sessions are invaluable and are having positive changes for me and my family and making me feel supported and less isolated”

# Voice of Parents and Carers Empowered to Work in Partnership with Schools, Settings and Services

"You have helped me to take my boxing gloves off when I'm attending school meetings."

"I really valued having the opportunity to meet with an EP, they really listened to me and gave me some great advice... I now feel like I can go back and work with school to make things better for my daughter" **Parent EP virtual drop-in**

"I am so impressed with how I am now able to work with school effectively to overcome the challenges my daughter has been having. Despite them saying they do not see what I see at home, they have listened, and I feel believed and validated." **(Parent on working with a Primary school)**

My EHC coordinator always gives me time to process what's been said to me..... she's been a life line in a very stressful process" – **EHC survey response**

"Early help made me feel like they really cared about my family. They helped me validate that what I was feeling was ok. They created social stories to show my children"

welcome and care

value and include

communicate

work in partnership



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# RPCF Family Peer Support Service

## Report for the Period April 2024 to March 2025

"Peer Support is an amazing service that has helped me to feel less alone. From sending me helpful links to websites, to attending the wellbeing walks, it has been so beneficial. Personally sharing your experiences has helped me to see the power of talking to other SEND parents. It's like living in a village with people who can validate your experiences, that are not there to judge you, but to listen and support you. I no longer feel alone."



### Aim of the Service

"To provide peer support to parents and carers of Children and Young People, who are accessing, or about to access mental health services. This support will enable them to cope better with the challenges resulting from interaction with the various services and any emotional wellbeing or mental health issues."



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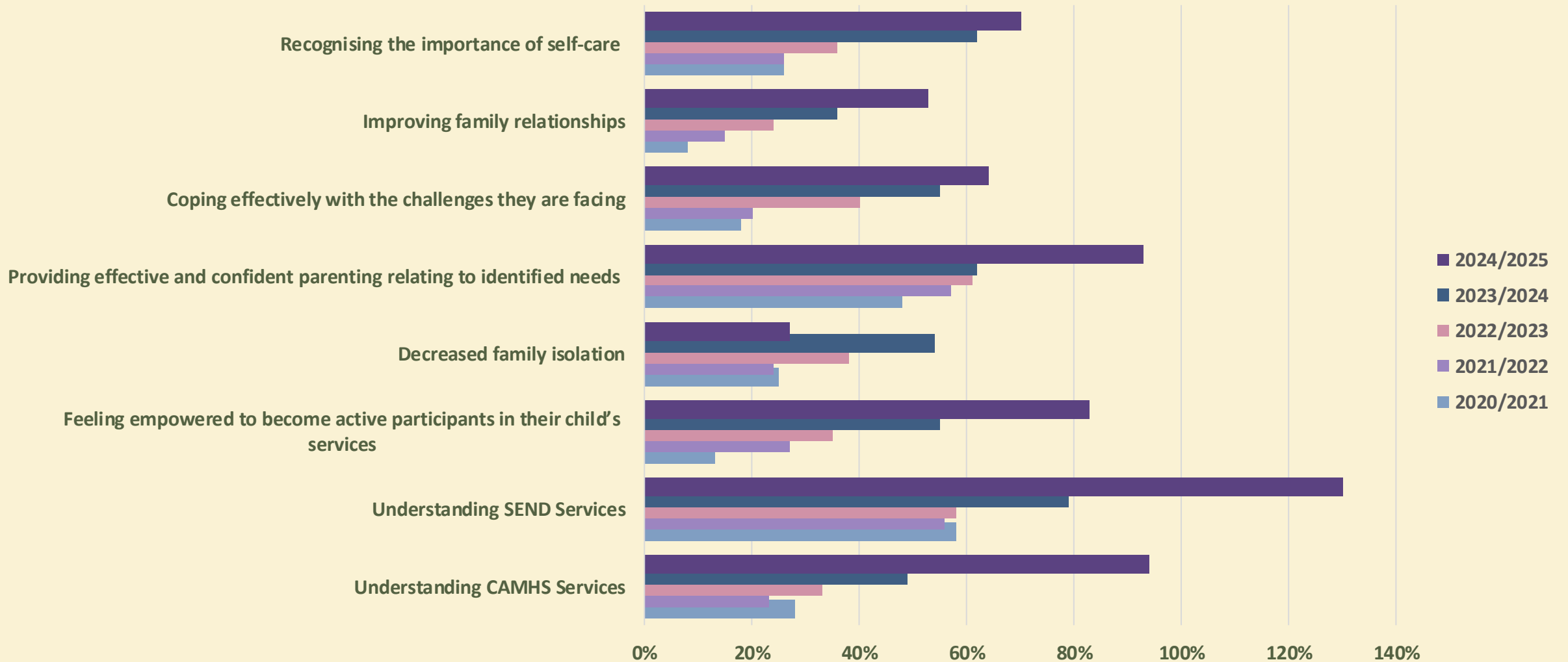
## Family Peer Support Summary – April 2024 to March 2025

- ❖ A total of **273** unique parent carers were actively supported through the Family Peer Support Service as a whole.
- ❖ **189** unique families accessed Family Peer Support sessions.
- ❖ **82** unique **parent carers** accessed the wider offer through virtual drop-ins, wellbeing walks and the Male Parent Carer Group.
- ❖ **582** 1:1 Peer Support Sessions were delivered
- ❖ **27** Group training workshops were delivered in the areas of Managing Anxiety, Advocating for your Child, Emotional Regulation and Sensory Differences
- ❖ There were **110** attendances at group workshops
- ❖ According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) **26%** of of the families accessing Peer Support sessions are living in the most deprived (top 10%) of neighbourhoods in England. This is higher than the comparable rate for Rotherham of 22%.



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## Average Percentage Increases From Baseline to Discharge For Each Outcome



# Outcome - Supporting Families to Understand Specialist CAMHS and Other SEND Services

"It's been absolutely fantastic. It's been really helpful to know what to do and where to go. Your advice and information has really helped us to progress. I wouldn't have known where to go without this service."

"It has been great, having things explained to me in a way that makes sense, having the jargon and processes explained has helped me understand processes and now I feel less overwhelmed"

"Peer Support has been great and talking with someone that is has the personal experience is so helpful. I really appreciate the signposting and sharing helpful resources too!"

"Peer Support have been very supportive, the information has been invaluable. Links provided on E-mail have been very useful, and have helped us navigate our way around the SEND world as well as applying for a EHCP."

"Suggestions like one page profile and useful sites for further advice have been good"

"You've listened and worked really hard to tailor advice. The shared experience (knowing someone else has been through it) has been very helpful. It's helped to receive the resources and strategies that have helped"



# Outcome - Empowering Parents and Carers to Become Active Participants in their Child's Services

"It's all been very positive. When we came to you we didn't know what to do. We felt like we were fighting a losing battle and didn't know where to turn. Peer support has given us great strategies, helping us to know what to say and to who. It has made such a difference. The courses have also been very good. We would definitely recommend the service. It has been absolutely fantastic, we dread to think where we would have been without it."

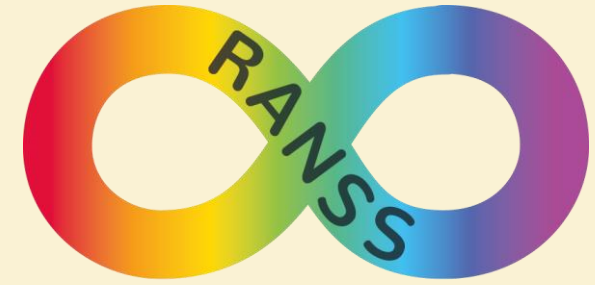
"I Feel a lot more confident and knowledgeable in my child's needs. I am able to work co productively with services which has helped put some support in place for my child"

"Peer support have taken us through some very dark days" "I feel more empowered about the future."

"I have found that having the emails to look back on for information, has been very good in preparation for school meetings"

"Peer Support has been so supportive to me. It helped me to pluck up the courage to advocate for my child to get the help she needs. It has been amazing and I feel like a weight has been lifted"





# Rotherham Adult Neurodiversity Support Service

**Report for the Period  
April 2024 to March 2025**

“The past three years have been a huge chapter in my life. I have learned more about myself and the world than the previous 18 years, I have learnt to embrace autism. Without RANSS I would not have my job. You have helped me so much with my career and person life.”



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## Neurodivergent Adults Summary – April 2024 to March 2025

- ❖ **470** unique adults accessed support from RANSS during the year.
- ❖ **20%** of adults accessing support had a diagnosis of ADHD or a dual diagnosis of ADHD and autism.
- ❖ RANSS delivered **1071** support sessions including counselling, 1:1 peer support and group workshops.
- ❖ **Mental Health** was the most common area adults chose to focus on during their 1:1 Peer Support and Counselling Sessions.
- ❖ **187** RANSS Activities and Events were held with **197** unique adult attendees and a total of **1741** attendances.
- ❖ **47%** of the adults who accessed support with us are in employment or education and **46%** are female. The ages of neurodivergent adults accessing RANSS range from **18 to 81 years old**.
- ❖ According to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) **30%** of RANSS service users are living in the most deprived (top 10%) of neighbourhoods in England. This is higher than the comparable rate for Rotherham of 22%.



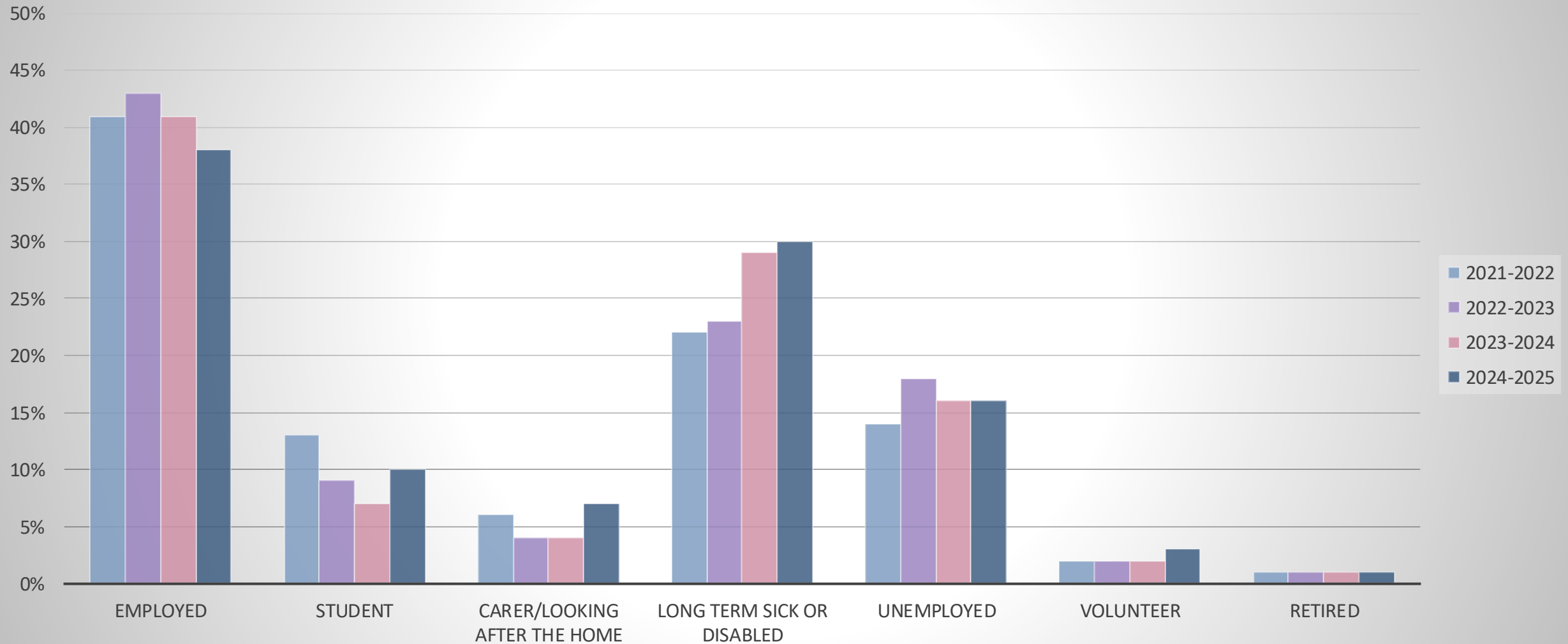
# Distribution of RANSS Adults Accessing Support By Wards in Rotherham

2023-2024 2024 - 2025



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# Employment Status of Adults Accessing RANSS



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# Voice of Adults Accessing RANSS 1:1 Peer Support Sessions

“This support has helped by giving me a place that felt (and feels) safe. Ultimately, I needed that as I felt insecure and everything around me felt unsafe and was changing at pace”

“I always feel like you listen and don't judge me, even when I am talking about negative things.”

“We're so lucky to have this service in Rotherham.”

“Before the peer support sessions I could not have foreseen that I would be open about sharing my diagnosis at work.”

“My ADHD diagnosis gave me relief and validation, but without RANSS, that would have quickly dropped off to ..."what do I do now?" ...I had to unpick a lifetime of issues and without RANSS, this would have been a difficult road to navigate and I would feel more isolated.”

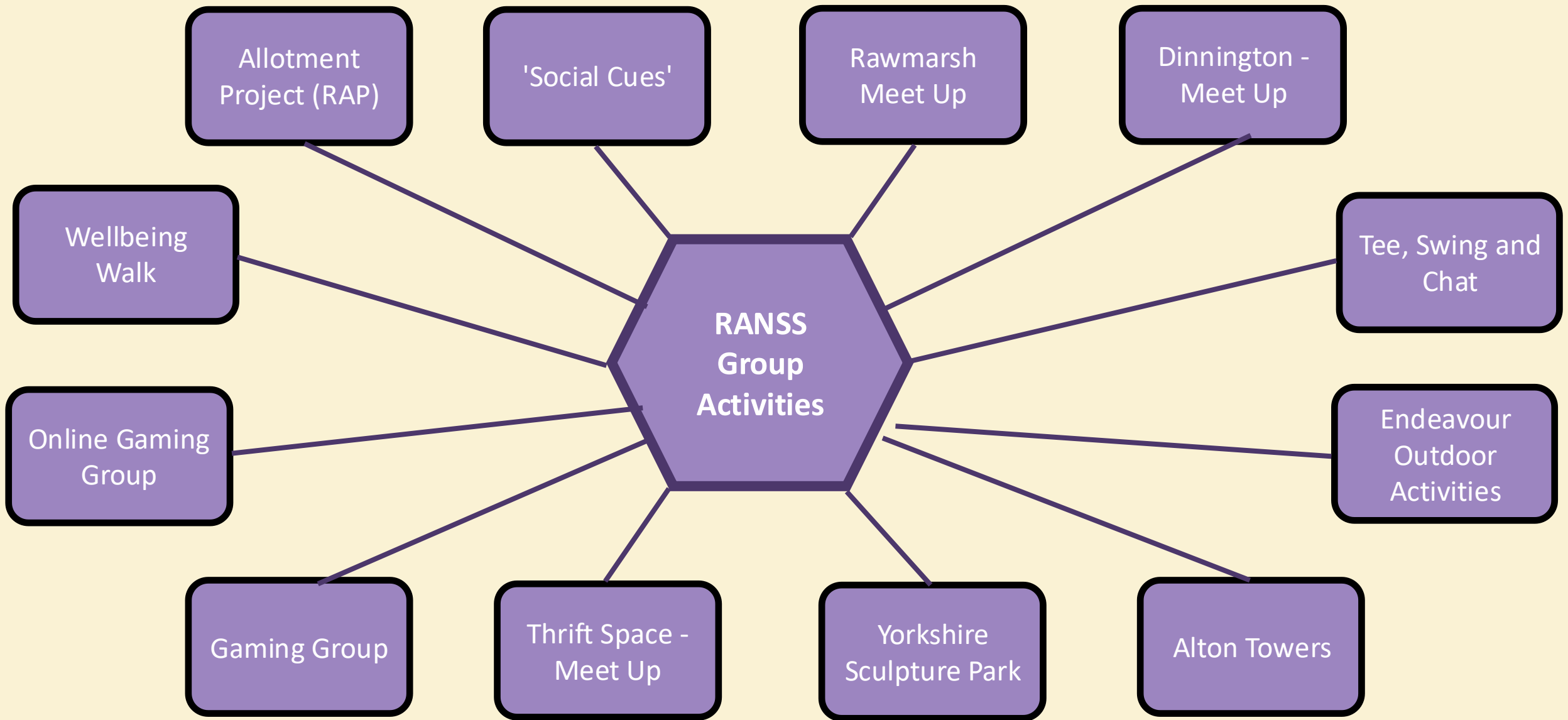
“Knowing I will not be 'discharged' ever though I have accessed everything RANSS has to offer is helpful...life throws curveballs at you all the time. RANSS' presence allows me not to worry as I know someone is there to help me break it down into bite size chunks and process things if I don't understand.”

“I think it's speaking to another neurodiverse person that has helped, someone who lives with autism really understands.”

“It's been useful to speak to somebody neutral because it's difficult to speak to family members about things that are so personal. Things were difficult for me at work and at home and RANSS has contributed to me being in a better state after just two months or so using RANSS.”



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# Voice of Adults Attending RANSS Activities

'RANSS is a perfect outlet for neurodivergent people to meet new friends and have new experiences ... I don't feel lonely and isolated anymore. I feel part of something'.



'It's really nice to be able to come out for some exercise and social contact, with no pressure at all.'



'My communications skills are much better, I feel much more confident in myself ... I made a lot of new friends. I love every bit of coming to RANSS.'



# A Poem Written by an Adult Accessing RANSS Counselling

Right back at the beginning, a fear sat deep within,  
I didn't understand, how 8 sessions, could possibly underpin,  
The many new pieces of information, I had come to find,  
And all the previous anguish, I was yet, to leave behind.  
Before, it had taken me 20 sessions, to sit upon the floor,  
To feel safe and comfortable enough, to build a decent rapport.  
I had to prepare myself, and acknowledge the pending danger,  
To push myself and accept support, from a perfect stranger.  
Research- A face to a name made it easier, alongside my pending desire,

To truly gain the knowledge, I had adamantly, set out, to acquire.  
The sessions have been invaluable, but if the truth be told,  
This wouldn't have been possible, if I were not enabled, to unfold,  
Claire could see right through me, from the very start,  
And suggested that I take the lead, Claire knew I needed to impart,  
My own information and take back the control in my life,  
Find my own unique colours and say goodbye to their strife.  
So have my sessions been successful, and were they justified?

I do believe their importance, simply - cannot be denied,  
Because;  
· I am the colour Purple, Grey, Green and Turquoise  
· I am Shiny, Glittery and Metallic  
· I am NOT two people  
· I am Whole and Unique  
· I am Autistic  
· I am Me!

(The short version is- I found a safe space with a safe person to begin to explore what I thought/felt at one point in my life was impossible. )





# Sibling Support April 2024 to March 2025

RPCF Sibling Support Groups create opportunities for siblings of children with SEND to meet other young people who are in similar situations and share their thoughts, feelings, opinions and insights, as well as having lots of fun on the journey too. This year we have worked with 4 different Primary schools and 1 secondary across the borough to deliver our school-based sibling support sessions.

- ❖ 31 unique siblings of Children/Young People with SEND took part in Sibling Support Sessions in schools across Rotherham with total attendances of 149.



# Voice of Children & Young People Attending The Sibling Support Groups



“I can talk about my brother in here and not feel guilty that I am being horrible because I now know it is ok to feel the way I do.”

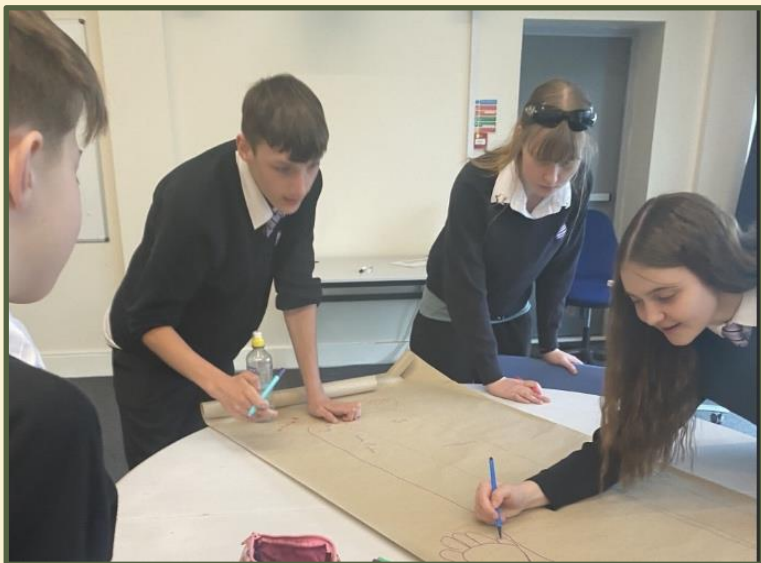


“In classes with all your friends, you think you can never let stuff out. Second you get in this room, you can just say everything. It doesn't leave the room, say all your most private things, and everybody just keeps it secret.”



“But when we talked a lot more about the word autism, and I've learned what a lot more than I used to know about it and understand why my sister does some stuff.”

# Opportunities are Created for Siblings of Young People with SEND to Share their Voice and Experience and Offer Each Other Mutual Support

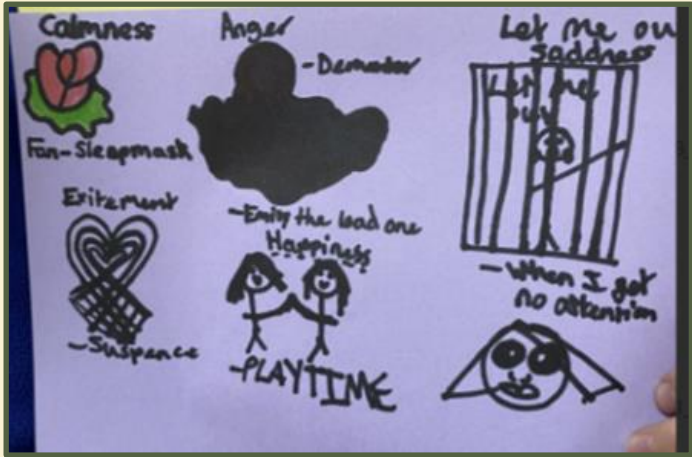


“I have always been embarrassed to talk about my sister because she is always in trouble at school and I feel embarrassed, but I have made a friend in this group & I know she gets it.”

“I feel that both home and school keep piling bricks on my back but coming to sibs & talking about my brother has helped take some bricks off.”

“I didn't talk to anyone before I came to this group as I was embarrassed but I have met someone now, who I know I can share stuff with about what is going off at home and they get it.”

“I feel a lot better to talk about this stuff as I feel safe in here- you know, you've had experience & get it. I feel better that other people have gone through similar stuff. I felt really embarrassed to tell anyone before I came here.”



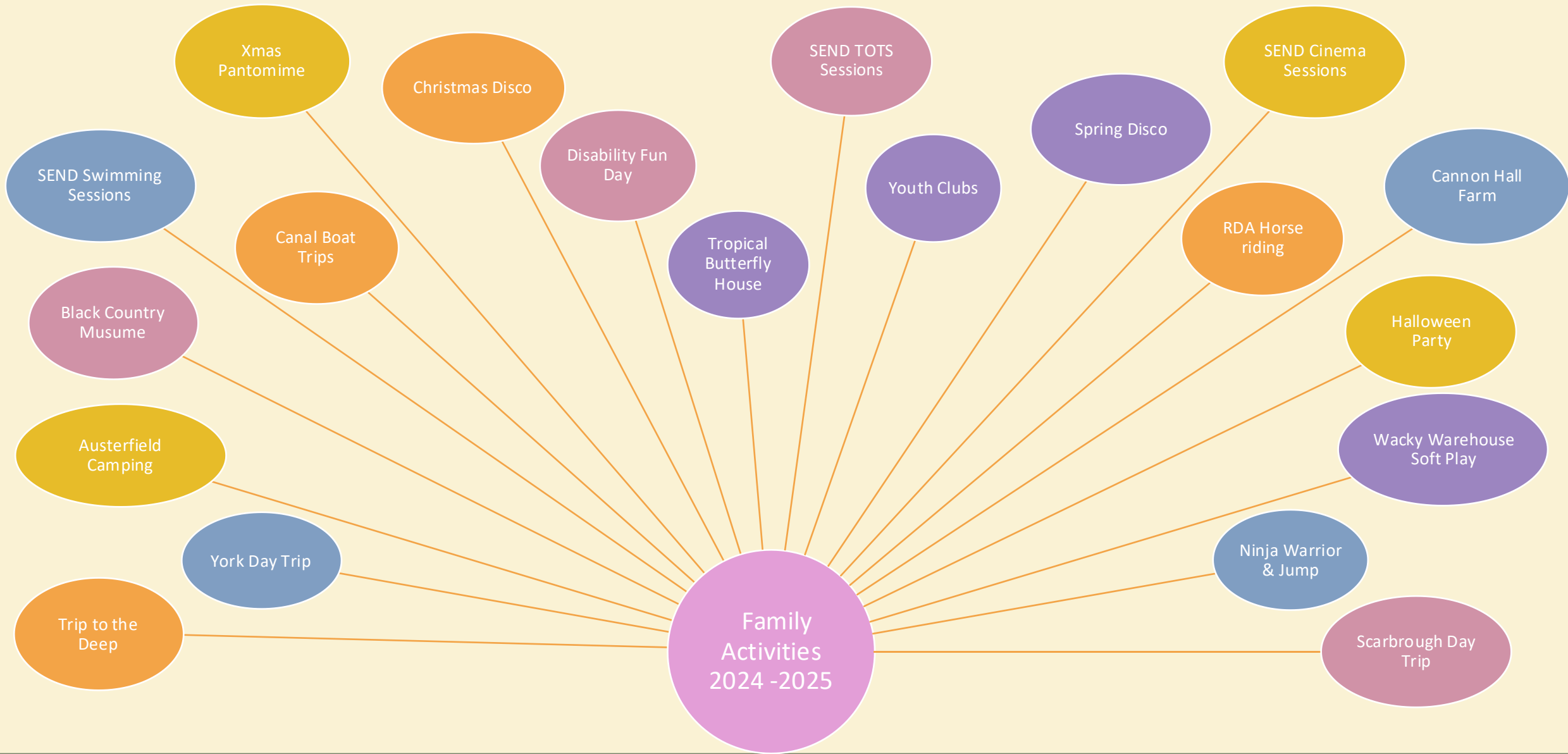


# RPCF Short Breaks Activities April 2024 to March 2025

- ❖ **340** unique Children/Young People with SEND accessed RPCF Activities
- ❖ **104** unique siblings of Children/Young People with SEND accessed RPCF Activities
- ❖ We had a total of **2161** attendances at RPCF activities from children/young people with send and **260** attendances from siblings across a total of **158** delivered sessions.
- ❖ **415** families applied for Max Cards through RPCF giving them discounts for family days out.
- ❖ In a recent survey, **100%** of children and young people told us they enjoyed the activity they attended and **91%** of families reported feeling less isolated by coming to activities



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# Short Breaks Activities are Accessible Inclusive and Valuable to Families



“We only really attend RPCF activities and trips as the atmosphere is very relaxed, inclusive and supportive.  
It’s literally like one big family.”

“Having safe and inclusive activities adjusted to cater for those like N makes a huge difference. Allows him to have activities outside of school and also gives us confidence to go to such places. Also gives us opportunity to meet other families and exchange and share experiences. Truly is so valuable”



“As a parent I find RPCF activities invaluable being able to speak to other SEND parents. They give me such fantastic advice from their own experiences. My son loves all the events, particular Ninja Warrior ,Jump and Camping. My son enjoys socialising with other children with SEND as they understand him Many thanks for all your hard work”

# Families Have a Sense of Belonging within the SEND Community and are Less Isolated



“The activities are varied and really engage our children. They love being together with each other.”

“As always, fantastic events arranged by the team. My son enjoys his time at RPCF events as he feels like he fits in with children who have similar needs.”

“Great choice of activities and friendly workers who always have a listening ear to navigate the SEND world.”

“Really helpful to parents get out and not be judged too having like-minded people to chat to, who know what your feeling makes a big difference and keeps us parents going.”



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# Children and Young People Make New Friends, Develop their Social Skills and Feel Safe



“RPCF Activities are enjoyable for the children and adults. Everyone is friendly ,staff and volunteers.”

“Fabulous evening where the children are able to be them self’s and fit in and burn some energy off and make friends that don’t judge them.

“My Children have attended both Jump and Ninja warrior RPCF sessions. They both love attending as the events are not overcrowded and this suits them both. My children both have SEN and find it hard to mix with other people, these events make them feel safe and at ease to enjoy themselves.”

“Kids rely on these sessions to be included ,make friends and feel safe and supported.”



# Increasing Independence and Confidence Through Fun, Engaging Activities



“The young people have really enjoyed the opportunity to get together and have a sing and dance. Thank you it have been a pleasure to see them having a great time.”

“My young person loves attending, it builds their confidence mixing with other children and making new friends, your team do a fantastic job catering for all ages.”

“My son loves coming to all the events trips and activities - it has given him so much confidence and independence as well as great family memories we will never forget”

“First Time we have attended a disco, We loved it. My boys have had a fab time, and my big lad has built the confidence to go on stage and sing! Never thought he'd do that, Thank you!



# SEND Hub for Children, Young People, and Neurodivergent Adults in Rotherham Town Centre

This year we continued to work in partnership on the ground-breaking project that is set to enhance the lives of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and neurodivergent people in Rotherham. The innovative Hub will be located in the Eric Manns building in Rotherham Town Centre, and we hope to be fully mobilised in the coming year.



Eric Manns building on Morrgate road  
New home to RPFL

"This is an exciting opportunity for children, young people, families, and neurodivergent adults. With inclusion opportunities in the heart of town, the new hub will foster accessible daily living and a real sense of belonging, as the community shapes the space together. Rooted in lived experience and strong partnerships, we look forward to working with families, people, schools, services, community groups, and businesses across Rotherham to shape its future."

*Jayne Fitzgerald, Strategic Director at Rotherham Parent Forum Ltd*



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