

Parent Carer Support Group Network Event Short Breaks and RADAR



Monday 22nd June 2026
10 till 12.30
Pudsey Civic Hall, Stanningley, LS28 5TA



The Leeds Parent Carer Forum and Voice, Influence & Change Team at Leeds City Council host three parent carer support group network events a year (February, June & October).

The events are an opportunity to:

- Hear about the top issues raised by parents and carers in Leeds.
- Hear from services about their responses to the issues raised and next steps. he
- Network with other parent carer support groups.

The event

The parent carer support group network event took place on Monday 22nd June 2026 at Pudsey Civic Hall. 20 parent cares booked to attend, with 14 attending on the day. There was representation from Little Hiccups, National Deaf Children's Society, SNAPS, Leeds Mencap and the Leeds Parent Carer Forum.

The event covered:

- Sharing your feedback with the Leeds Parent Carer Forum - Padlets
- Leeds Parent Carer Forum annual survey
- Short Breaks and RADAR

Leeds Parent Carer Forum

The Leeds Parent Carer Forum (LPCF), represent the voices of families of children and young people aged 0–25 with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

They work closely with:

- Leeds City Council
- Schools and education services
- Health services
- Social care teams

Your experiences help them challenge, influence and improve services.

They know things can be difficult right now, and many families are facing challenges. That's why it's so important that they hear from you - whether your experiences have been positive, negative, or mixed.

Padlet

The LPCF have started using 'Padlet' to gather feedback from families across Leeds. It has given parent carers a space to share their experiences honestly.

There are three feedback Padlets:

- [What is working well](#)
- [What is NOT working well](#)
- [Suggestions- How could it be better](#)

How your voice is shared

All feedback collected through our Padlets is shared directly with the Leeds SEND & Alternative Provision (AP) Improvement Board.

This board has recently undergone a restructure and now has an independent chair who has committed to using this feedback to support improvement work across services.

After each meeting, the LPCF will receive a response from the board which will be published on their website.

Annual survey

The LPCF annual survey is now available for parents and carers to complete.

Your responses will help the LPCF to:

- Identify what is working well
- Highlight where things need to improve
- Provide evidence directly to services and decision-makers
- Shape LPCF priorities for the year ahead
- Track changes over time through our annual surveys



Short Breaks and RADAR

Types of short breaks in Leeds

Universal

- Most children's needs are met by their family or universal services that are available to everyone, provided as a right to all children, young people and their families.
- This could be through after-school clubs, groups such as scouts/brownies, sports clubs etc
- Family arrange this independently, it does not need EH/Lead professional/SW

Targeted

Activities for children and young people who:

- need extra support to take part in activities
- attend education with access to 1:1 or small group learning
- would benefit from social activities with their peers
- These activities are staffed with a higher number of professionals who are trained and experienced in supporting children and young people with SEND.

Specialist

Specialist short breaks are designed for children and young people who:

- have more complex needs
- need highly specialist care that targeted support cannot provide
- have a care package that recommends specialist short breaks.

RADAR (Resource Allocation, Decision and Review)

Requests for specialist care packages must be based on an assessed social care need, evidenced in a CAFA or Early Help Plan.

Care packages are not a benefit/grant like DLA or child benefit, and are not means-tested.

Care packages are in place for the child, not the parent. They shouldn't simply be just for respite for the parents, they should be there to meet the child's social care need.

Packages should be focused on the child's social care needs which arise because of their disability, eg: social isolation, lack of independence, limited opportunities to engage with peers/spend time in their local community

Ideally, packages should be designed to provide regular short breaks for the disabled child over a prolonged period of time (e.g. 12 months), building consistency

Universal and targeted services should be fully explored first by family and lead professional before requesting a specialist package from RADAR.