

chip+

Children in the Highlands Information Point



CHIP Bulletin

March 2018

News for families who have children with additional needs and the professionals who work with them

CHIP is now a SCIO!

We have changed our legal status from being a Company Limited by Guarantee to a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation). This means we now have OSCR (Scottish Charity Regulator) as a single regulator and no longer have to report to Companies House. Don't worry - you won't see any difference in the day-to-day running of **CHIP+** - however this change will help us to streamline some of the background processes, which will save us both precious time and resources in the ever challenging economic climate. This has also provided us with the opportunity to refresh our constitution (our governing document) and ensure we are operating in line with best practice. Our new constitution is available on the **CHIP+** website (<http://www.chipplus.org.uk/home>) and we are in the process of updating all of our information including membership forms etc. Watch this space!

Iain Nisbet/Falkland House School Event.

A great turn out of parent/carers & professionals came along to the event in the Mercure Hotel, Inverness. The staff of Falkland House residential school for boys with Additional Support Needs spoke of the achievements attained by pupils at the school, including a couple of powerful personal stories. Iain Nisbet, independent education law consultant with Cairn Legal spoke about placing requests, transition, dispute resolution and answered interesting & relevant questions from the 60 or so attendees. Thanks to all who came along & also visited the **CHIP+** information stalls!



Needs to learn

If your child has an additional support need, is aged between 12 to 15 years and they want to make a change to their school education, a new service from the Health & Education Chamber of the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland could help. Called "needs to learn", it's a step by step guide on how to make an appeal to the Tribunal, either through a claim or a reference. There are contacts who can help you, what to expect at every stage and what to do if you think you've been treated unfairly in school because of your disability. A parent can help with any part of the process. Go to <https://www.healthandeducationchamber.scot/needstolearn/home>

The new payment card for those in receipt of SDS Option 1 will start to be rolled out across Highland from 1st March. It's like a bank or debit card and will be loaded with the agreed amount for the Direct Payment budget every 4 weeks. The issue of the card will mean that there will be no need for quarterly reports to be filed and new people to the scheme will not have to set up a separate bank account.



Jeni-Lin Knott, Payment Card Project lead says that: *"the Payment Card has been a long time thought about and a long time coming for Highland. We have learnt from the National Pre-Paid Card network about the benefits of Payment Cards and how to implement the system within Highland. The Payment Card was in response to the request for more streamlined system and less paperwork for people who use Direct Payments. So far, many people have been pleased to hear about the changes NHS Highland/The Highland Council are implementing to overall improve applying for and managing a Direct Payment."*

There will be a drop-in session at Cantraybridge College on 5th April from 10am to 3pm if people want further info or assistance around the payment card. More details about the card are on the **CHIP** website <http://www.chipplus.org.uk/news.asp>



There is a new Facebook page aimed at providing advice & activities to both parents and professionals with regards to speech, language and communication. Find it under Highland Children and Young People's Speech and Language Therapy Service. Helpful posts talk about listening skills and teaching language and vocabulary to young children.

Highlife Highland are running a two part short course for parenting in a digital world at a new Digital Skill for Families course. Parents will learn about strategies & skills to support your child's safe use of digital media at home as well as screen time & managing cyber bullying. Full details on the **CHIP** website <http://www.chipplus.org.uk/news.asp>



Grow in Nature is a new outdoor learning and play centre based in the James Cameron Centre, Dalneigh, Inverness.

Through play in an outdoor experience all children, especially those with social, emotional & behaviour issues will learn life skills & practical skills. The sessions are done on a one to one or small group basis, full details on the **CHIP** website <http://www.chipplus.org.uk/news/2018/feb/26/grow-in-nature>



The foremost Cystic Fibrosis charity in Scotland, The Leanne Fund works with individuals and families across the Highlands, Islands and Grampian, providing vital social, practical, emotional and financial assistance - supporting the whole family. Cystic Fibrosis (CF) is one of the UK's most common life-threatening inherited diseases affecting over 10,500 people in the UK, that's 1 in every 2,500 babies born. Cystic Fibrosis affects the internal organs, especially the lungs and digestive system, by clogging them with thick sticky mucus. This makes it hard to breathe and digest food. CF patients must follow a rigorous daily treatment programme including physiotherapy, nebulisers, medication, exercise and nutrition.

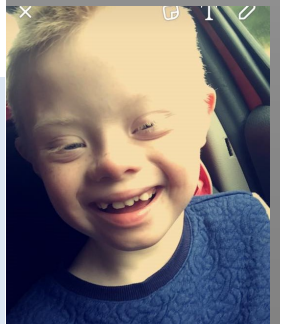


...because life is 4 living!
Making a difference in the lives of young people with Cystic Fibrosis.

Each week, five babies are born with Cystic Fibrosis, each week, two young lives are lost to Cystic Fibrosis.

Full details on the services they can provide to families are on the website <http://www.theleannefund.co.uk/> or on the fb page <https://www.facebook.com/theleannefund/>

Nicola Morgan is the author of over 100 books including The Amazing Teenage Brain & The Teenage Guide to Stress. Her new book is out in June 2018, entitled The Teenage Guide to Life Online. Nicola has also written about screen time on her website. Go to <https://www.nicolamorgan.com/tag/screen-time/>



#supportingparentcarers

Agnes for Girls

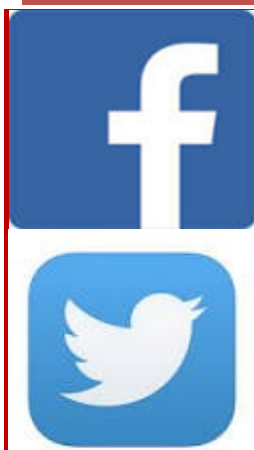
Teenage years can be hard to negotiate with pressures from all sides. Agnes for Girls is a website full of sensible, practical, positive advice for teenage girls on everything from boiling an egg to planning your career to relationships. Go to <https://agnesforgirls.com/>

There's an American website that has good information written by parents of children with medically complex needs & disabilities. They share information in simple language on all aspects of caring for a child with special healthcare needs including therapy, medical information and conditions. Go to <http://complexchild.org/>



Connecting Young Carers
A better life for unpaid carers in Highland

Young carers can apply for a new grant, the Young Carer Grant starting in Autumn 2019. Young carers not eligible for Carer's Allowance could qualify for this new, annual payment and will also get free bus travel in Scotland. Give your views & ideas on how this grant could benefit you, as a young carer on Thursday, 29th March in Mac's Café, Mackenzie Centre, Culduthel Rd, Inverness from 2-5pm. Contact Kirsty on 01463 723562, text 07950 328264, email kcampbell@connectingcarers.org.uk or DM at www.facebook.com/ConnectingYoungCarers/. Help with transport on request, there will be food.



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If you would like to be placed on our mailing list or contribute to the bulletin, please contact us

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CHIP+ is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO), SC024835, regulated by the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR)

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