



SNAP!News: Winter 2011

Welcome to SNAP!News

Message from SNAP:

We have been busy putting together some useful links pages for our website, this will be going live at the beginning of November – however one great website led to another... it continues to be a 'work in progress' as we strive to give you a SNAP One Stop Shop for all your special needs information. If you have favourite websites, please let us know!



[Click here to view](#)

Season's Greetings to all our Readers!

Coram Children's Legal Centre Launches Child Protection Project

coram **clc**
Children's Legal Centre

FREE Child Protection Advice Line: 07884

262362

(Monday-Friday, 9:30am-5:30pm)

Coram Children's Legal Centre (CCLC) has launched a new national telephone line offering **free legal advice** and information to frontline practitioners.

The Child Protection Advice Line is part of a new CCLC project funded by a grant from the Department for Education's Improving Outcomes for Children, Young People and Families Fund. The Child Protection Project (CPP) offers practical tools and services aimed at clarifying the legal obligations of frontline practitioners.

Coram Children's Legal Centre (CCLC), part of the Coram group of charities, specialises in law and policy affecting children and young people. Since its foundation in 1981, it has become one of the leading campaigners for children's rights in the United Kingdom and providers of practical legal assistance and advice to children.

The Services

The Child Protection Project is a three-pronged service offering information to frontline practitioners in the statutory, non-statutory and voluntary sectors through a variety of mediums. The above-mentioned telephone line provides bespoke legal advice and information on child protection and safeguarding issues provided by an experienced family law solicitor to the range of professionals, volunteers, and other staff who have a duty to ensure the wellbeing and safety of children they encounter through their work. A new innovative website is due to launch early 2012, which will provide information on a broad range of child protection and safeguarding issues, including a comprehensive overview of the child protection system in the UK, and information on a range of cross-cutting issues such as disclosure and confidentiality, obligations regarding information-sharing and consent



which arise in many child protection and safeguarding matters. Specialist legal information will also be included on the website, such as child protection issues affecting minority groups, concerns regarding

Coram Children's Legal Centre Launches Child Protection Project Continued...

and obligations towards asylum-seeking children and young people, provisions for young people leaving care, and the impact of domestic violence, substance abuse, and parental mental health on child protection and safeguarding, among others.

A web-chat facility will also be accessible via the website, through which users will be able to communicate with the CPP's solicitor. Online training programmes will also be available through the website, and in-person (single- and multi-agency) and bespoke training courses will also be provided. A broad range of topics will be covered in the training courses, including modules on children's human rights, recording information regarding child protection concerns, profession-specific training on confidentiality and disclosure, and other aspects of child protection and safeguarding.

How might the Child Protection Project benefit you?

I am a SENCO in a primary school. One of the students I work with has recently had a marked change in behaviour—she is unusually withdrawn and quiet, and has lost her usual enthusiasm and interest in our classes. I am concerned about her, particularly given that she has special language and communication needs, but am not sure if this is a child protection issue or not. *A call to the CPP advice line would help to clarify what the SENCO's duties are in this situation and what action should be taken, if any.*

Call us today on 07884 262362

For more information about the CPP, email cpp@essex.ac.uk



SEN Assist – Free Christmas Animation

SEN Assist have added a lovely Christmas animation and resources to their website, which is free for anyone to use and designed for children with special educational needs. Take a look www.senassist.com

2012 Marathon Dad

Through Virgin Money Giving, you can sponsor parent Stuart Corke (with support from his daughter Darcy) for the 2012 London Marathon.



Darcy was born on Boxing Day 2003. She was premature at 26 weeks, weighing 1lb 12oz's. After 6 long months in a special neo-natal unit, Darcy was discharged from hospital and allowed home.

Being so premature can cause many long term health issues with disability high in terms of probability. A few months after Darcy left hospital she was diagnosed with Spastic Quadriplegia Cerebral Palsy.



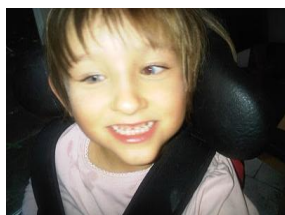
Darcy has many challenges ahead of her. She has a determined attitude and a joie de vivre that inspires all around her. With support from her mother Nicky, her nanny Sarah, her new SNAP nanny Victoria and all her therapists and the staff at Richard Cloudesley school we hope to provide a network that gives the utmost chance of Darcy succeeding at whatever makes her happy.



Scope's vision is a world where disabled people have the same opportunities to



fulfil their life ambitions as everyone else.



<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-web/fundraiser/showFundraiserProfilePage.action?userUr>

[I=StuartCorke](#)

Neurological Physio

The role of the paediatric Neurological physiotherapy is to enable the child to reach his/her full potential through developmental play, therapeutic exercise and functional training activities, with a focus on the role and involvement of the parent and extended family.



For children with associated neurological problems they may have difficulty with fine motor tasks, such as writing; or experience trouble with maintaining balance and walking; or be affected by involuntary movements, such as uncontrollable writhing motion of the hands or drooling.

It has been shown that physiotherapy from an early age can help babies with neurological dysfunction to maximizing their abilities and preventing deformities and contractures.

Modern paediatric physiotherapy has expanded to become more than just intervention, such as exercise prescription or positional advice. Instead, the individual physiotherapy regime is now considered in conjunction with the active participation of the family or carer.

The use of technology as an adjunct to hands on therapy is also increasing - The Wii and other Virtual Reality technology can be used during therapy sessions for balance, strengthening muscles and regulating tone. Commonly used for children with cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, head injury and spina bifida.



Using contemporary treatment modalities e.g. functional electrical stimulation (FES) can also help children to perform everyday activities like walking, which helps to stimulate the unused muscle to perform desired task.

PhysioFunction Ltd is one of the UK's leading providers of specialist Neurological Physiotherapy services and has clinics available from Thirsk to Brighton and throughout the Midlands. Home visits are also available in these areas.



PhysioFunction has helped many people with conditions such as Cerebral Palsy, Head Injury, Spinal Cord Injury, Muscular Dystrophy and Spina Bifida, as well as Stroke, Parkinson's Disease and Multiple

Sclerosis. Patients who have difficulties with balance, walking, spasticity, spasm or pain have been helped by a combination of hands-on therapy and appropriate technology.

If you think PhysioFunction can help you or your child's condition, please call free on 0800 043 0327.

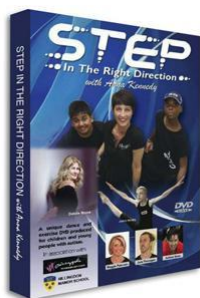
www.physiofunction.co.uk



Autism specialist Anna Kennedy launches DVD with Pineapple Dance Studio

The founder of a school for children with autism in Bromley has launched a new DVD aimed at helping autistic children through exercise and dance.

Anna Kennedy, director of Baston House School, came up with the idea of the DVD to help children connect with each other by going through carefully structured dance and exercise routines. Step in the Right Direction was produced by the world-famous Pineapple Performing Arts School in London, and features students from another autistic school set up by Anna, Hillingdon Manor School in Middlesex.



She said: "Every child is different, but experts agree that early intervention helps with development, and dance aids children with autism.

"Research suggests that autistic children need multiple types of stimulation to process information.

"Music and dance help the brain to organise itself. "Hearing, listening, processing and repetition helps children with autism build new learning pathways."

Debbie Moore, founder of Pineapple dance studios, said: "This is a truly wonderful and highly imaginative dance production.

"It is a must-have DVD for parents, carers, mainstream and special schools, after-school and youth clubs."

The DVD also features a host of celebrity guests, in-depth interviews and information and advice from Anna and her team, including Jane Richardson, an occupational therapist at Baston House School.

To order a copy, visit annakennedyonline.com or call Lisa Robins on 01895 619734, email lisa.robins@thevines.org.uk

To find out more about Baston House School visit www.bastonhouse.school.org.uk

Changing Faces

One in 500 children and young people has a severe disfigurement and one in 100 has some form of visible difference. In our appearance-obsessed society, these children have to deal with other people's pre-occupation with their appearance on a daily basis. Staring, comments, questions, ostracism and bullying can regularly occur and without support, their confidence and self esteem may well suffer.





Changing Faces is an organisation which offers practical and emotional support and represents people with a wide range of disfigurements and other conditions affecting appearance. These can be caused by conditions including birthmarks, cleft lip and palates, craniofacial conditions, skin conditions, and scarring from burns, road traffic accidents or dog bites.

When a child or young person has a disfigurement, the whole family are likely to be affected. Changing Faces offers email, telephone or face to face support for a range of Issues including: ways to deal with other people's reactions and how to explore their own and the child's feelings about their appearance. Parents can be helped to talk about looking 'different' with their child and how to use books to do this. Families can discuss how to prepare for a child's hospitalisation, operations and medical intervention or problems at school. Children and young people and their parents can also attend confidence building workshops and can access a range of age appropriate self-help booklets and story books from the Changing Faces website

If you would like to find out more, visit www.changingfaces.org.uk.
email info@changingfaces.org.uk
or phone 020-7391-9282

NetBuddy teams up with SIBS UK to support parents and siblings of children with learning disabilities

There are over 1.5 million people in the UK who have a brother or sister with a disability. Siblings often feel socially and emotionally isolated, and have to cope with challenging situations. As a parent, it can be difficult supporting siblings – answering their questions about disability and dealing with issues that arise.



www.netbuddy.org.uk is delighted to be teaming up with sibs.org.uk, the UK charity for siblings of disabled children and adults, to provide an interactive advice forum for parents.

The new Ask a Parenting Siblings Advisor is now available online to answer parents' concerns about issues such as explaining disability to siblings, giving siblings attention, helping them with their feelings and supporting them through difficult situations.

The service is free of charge and available to all families and professionals working with people with learning disabilities.

Deborah Gundle, www.netbuddy.org uk's Director said: "There is so little information out there for parents about supporting siblings. Having a brother or sister with special needs can have a major impact on people at every stage in their lives. We are thrilled to be working with Sibs in this way to help siblings, whose needs are also important and can be so easily overlooked."

For more information visit www.netbuddy.org.uk

NannyTax – Basic Holiday Entitlement Useful Factsheet

Holiday entitlement can be calculated by the number of **hours** a nanny works per week or the number of **days** a nanny works per week.

It is recommended to calculate holiday entitlement based on hours when a nanny works different hours on different days.

When you calculate holiday entitlement, bank holidays are included: a full time nanny will have a statutory minimum of 28 days including bank holidays. Therefore if the nanny takes all the bank holidays off,



of which there are 8 per year, the nanny will have 20 days remaining.

Statutory holiday entitlement: 5.6 weeks per annum for a full time nanny.

Days worked per week

Days worked per week	Minimum holiday entitlement	Rate of accrual/month
1 Day	5.6 days	0.4 days
2 Days	11.2 days	0.9 days
3 Days	16.8 days	1.4 days
4 Days	22.4 days	1.8 days
5 Days	28 days	2.3 days

Hours worked per week

Hours worked per week	Minimum holiday/year	Rate of accrual/month
10 hours	56 hours	4.6 hours
20 hours	112 hours	9.3 hours
30 hours	168 hours	14 hours
40 hours	224 hours	18.6 hours
50 hours	280 hours	23.3 hours

Bank Holidays 2012

If a bank holiday falls on a weekend day, the holiday defaults to the next working day.

Holiday	Day & Date
New Year	Monday 2 January 2012
Good Friday	Friday 6 April 2012
Easter Monday	Monday 9 April 2012
May Day	Monday 7 May 2012
Spring Bank Holiday	Monday 4 June 2012
Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee	Tuesday 5 June 2012
Summer Bank Holiday	Monday 27 August 2012
Christmas Day	Tuesday 25 December 2012
Boxing Day	Wednesday 26 December 2012

Young Epilepsy – previously NCYPE

After months of planning we launched our new name earlier this month. We became **Young Epilepsy** having previously been known as the **National Centre for Young People with Epilepsy**.



We know there is a huge demand for our services and the new name better reflects what we do. We recently published the results of a survey carried out among parents of children with epilepsy*. Of the parents questioned, only 32% were part of an epilepsy support group or had friends or relatives they relied on for support.

The survey also asked parents about the effect epilepsy had on their child’s schooling. In total 51% said epilepsy had a “significant” impact on their child’s education with 46% saying their child had been excluded from classes while a quarter said their child had been bullied.

These survey results show there is a lot to be done to support individuals affected by epilepsy. Our aspiration is to be known as the national organisation that works exclusively to support the 112,000 children and young people with epilepsy in the UK and their families. The name also reflects the evolution of the charity from a special school and college into an organisation that offers a diverse range of health, education and support services.

St Piers School and College remain a vital part of the services we provide. We’ve operated a school for over 110 years and we continue to do so with students attending on both a residential and day basis.

Over the past three years, however, we have established a helpline service and produced a range of handbooks for those that need to know more about



epilepsy. We've also published seizure diaries, both online and hard copy, for children and teenagers that need to keep a record of their condition. In this time we have become a major provider of training services to teachers, schools, medical, health and social care providers and travel across the country providing training sessions.

We also work in partnership with Great Ormond Street Hospital and University College of London – Institute of Child Health to improve health care for children with epilepsy. At our headquarters we operate the National Centre for Young Epilepsy, the first purpose built centre for paediatric epilepsy in the UK. It hosts a wide range of diagnostic, assessment and rehabilitation services. It brings together medical, therapy and research expertise to diagnose and treat children and young people with epilepsy from across the UK.

With our name change, we have also announced the creation of parental support groups. Parents interested in these groups are encouraged to contact us. These groups will help us campaign for better services and will be a great way for us to support families and we eventually plan to roll them out across the UK.

Our message to young people with epilepsy and those that care for youngsters with the condition is that you are not alone. Please get in touch if you need support. Although we have a new name, we have more than a century's worth of experience to call on and we will do all we can to help the 112,000 children and young people with epilepsy.

For more information and to contact Young Epilepsy

Website: www.youngpilepsy.org.uk
Helpline: helpline@youngpilepsy.org.uk / Tel: 01342 831 342
Facebook: www.facebook.com/YoungEpilepsy
Twitter: [@youngpilepsy](https://twitter.com/youngpilepsy)

Jessica Kingsley Publishers



Jessica Kingsley Publishers is a wholly independent company, committed to publishing books that make a difference.

Recognised as the leading publisher on autism and Asperger syndrome, we publish in a range of areas including social work, education and arts therapies. More recently we have published extensively in the fields of mental health, counselling, palliative care, and practical theology.

Our books are for parents, professionals, academics and the general reader.

Website: <http://www.jkp.com/>
Tel: +44 (0)20 7833 2307
Email: post@jkp.com

The English language can be extremely confusing and illogical, especially for people with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) who interpret meaning in a very literal way. Why should an announcement that cats and dogs are falling from the sky indicate heavy rain? And what have chickens got to do with being a coward?

It's Raining Cats and Dogs is a witty and stylish insight into the mind of someone with an ASD. It beautifully illustrates why people with ASDs have problems understanding common phrases and idioms that others accept unquestioningly as part of everyday speech. The quirky drawings will entertain and inspire those on the spectrum, giving them the confidence to recognise figures of speech, feel less alienated and even use idioms themselves.

The drawings will form instantly memorable references for those with ASDs to recall whenever they need to and will be helpful for anyone curious to understand the ASD way of thinking. They will enable



people on the spectrum and their friends, families, teachers and colleagues to better understand and communicate with each other.

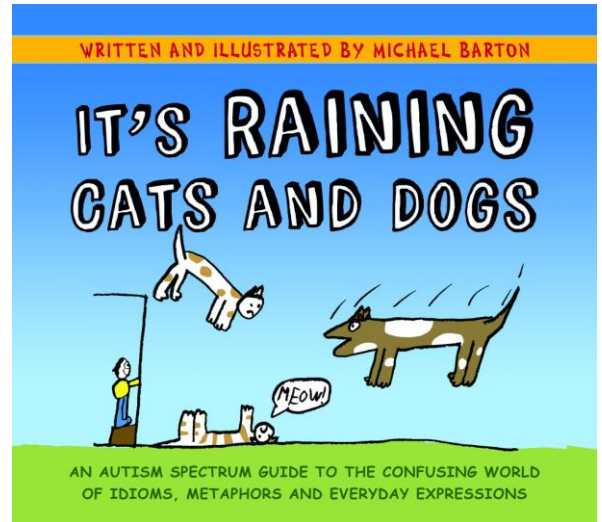
Michael Barton is a student with high functioning autism. He is currently undertaking a Physics degree at the University of Surrey. He gives talks at conferences and schools about the positive aspects of being on the spectrum, hoping to provide encouragement for both parents and children. Michael is a talented musician, playing jazz piano and the French horn, and he also enjoys judo.

Contents: Introduction. 1. Classic idioms. 2. Shortened expressions. 3. Everyday expressions and sayings. 4. Double meanings. 5. Metaphors. 6. Instructions and statements.

SNAP'S REVIEW HERE....

"It's raining cats and dogs" is a simple, yet informative book. It gave me a great insight into the mind's of those on the autistic spectrum disorder – it also had me giggling at times, too. Worthwhile read for everyone, especially those who are on/live/work with those on the ASD.

~ Rachael Meeks, SNAP Childcare



Special Offer for SNAP Readers!

If you buy Michael's book "It's Raining Cats and Dogs" from the JKP website you can get £2.00 off the listed price of £9.99, just quote BARSNAP when ordering.

Website: <http://www.jkp.com/>

If you would like to contribute an article to a future issue of SNAP!News, please contact Jackie at SNAP on 020 7729 2200 or e-mail: info@snapchildcare.co.uk

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