

Notes, Questions & Queries from the North Tipperary Children Disability Network Team (CDNT) Family Network Meeting event in Nenagh on the 16th April 2024

In Person Meeting: Scouts Hall Nenagh – 10am to 12.30pm

Present from the North Tipperary Family Network Committee: Ann Somers (CDNM), John McCusker (Independent Facilitator), Donal Leenane (Parent Representative) Reiltin Walshe (Minute Taker).

Apologies: Mary Griffey (Parent Representative)

NCSE were invited but could not attend today – hopefully will attend next meeting on 13th June.

Agenda:

1. Welcome & Introductions (Ann)
2. Ground Rules (John)
3. North Tipperary CDNT Update from CDNM (Ann)
4. Role of the Family Network & Family Reps (Ann)
5. Feedback from Regional Forum (Mary is sick today)
6. Group Discussion
7. Review of Actions

North Tipperary CDNT Update from CDNM:

See attached presentation. Update given on each vacancy recruitment process.

Group Discussion:

- Parents would like support for the family & particularly sibling support.
- Parents say that after they receive the diagnosis there is little to no help
- Parents feel they have to fight for everything both in school & for all services
- Parents say that no one on the team is checking in with them
- Parents say that when the diagnostic report goes to school that nothing is put in place in school – raise with NCSE at next meeting.
- Parents would like to build relationships with staff
- Parents suggested having speakers in schools around diagnoses
- Parents are very interested and happy to attend groups such as Transition to Secondary school & Puberty group but will need to be informed e.g. Newsletter.
- Parents suggested linking with the A-Team re groups/courses

- Parents also highlighted that there are other outside organisations that provide parent support groups and/or training.
- Parents also highlighted the need for training for non-autistic families
- Ann added that some of the team will be getting Parent Plus training
- Some other CDNT's have a What's App Group – Neuro Diversity Ireland and Dyspraxia Ireland also have a What's App Group – parents to consider
- Discussed alternative days of the week, times of the day and venue options for future meetings. Agreed next meeting in-person in the morning as hopefully NCSE will attend.

Items for Parent Reps to bring to Regional Family Rep Group:

1. Timeline for Newsletter
2. Timeline for website update
3. Section 39 pay gap
4. Recruitment & Retention
5. Booklet/Leaflet at consultation phase

Actions for Local Group:

1. Timeline for Introduction to Service- Ann committed to 4-6 weeks.
2. Update Website/Communication
3. Post diagnosis support group
4. Invite speakers from different groups/organisations

The Regional Group next meeting is in May 2024.

Next North Tipperary Family Network Meeting – 13th June in the Abbey Court – NCSE invited to attend.

Following meeting on 4th October to be held virtually.