



CONTACT US

-  www.bwdpip.org.uk
-  bwdpip1@gmail.com
-  **07923 252483**  [@bwdpip2](https://twitter.com/bwdpip2)
-  [blackburnwithdarwenparentsinpartnership](https://www.facebook.com/blackburnwithdarwenparentsinpartnership)

BwDPIP, The Community Hub,
35-37 Railway Rd, Blackburn. BB1 1EZ



The funding for this leaflet is provided from the Department of Education Parent Participation Grant



Your Parent Carer Forum
for Parents & Carers of
Children/Young People (0-25) with
Special Educational Needs/Disabilities



Members of Parents in Partnership are parents just like you. Our children have a wide range of needs, ranging from mild to severe. Some have 'hidden' impairments, like mental health issues, ADHD or dyslexia. Others have developmental delays or behavioural problems, but no firm diagnosis. For example: a Learning Disability, Physical Impairment, Hearing Impairment, Visual Impairment or Speech and Language Needs

You Don't Need A Label To Join Us
Go to our website bwdpip.org.uk and complete the online form.
Alternatively contact us to request a paper application form
(see back of leaflet for contact details)

Empowering Parents Through Information Sharing

ABOUT US

We are a group of volunteer parents and carers of children and young people (birth -25 years) with disabilities and additional needs. We believe parents' and carers' views are vital when bringing about changes which will enable all children and young people with disabilities to lead full and enriched lives. We attend strategic meetings to ensure the voices of parents and carers are heard.

We welcome new members and want our forum to represent people from all parts of our community.

BwDPIP provide a range of options to enable parent carers to come together to learn from and support each other including: informal coffee mornings, drop-in sessions, information events, training workshops, focus groups, our website, use of social media, and our Annual Disability Information Day.

We are independent of the Local Authority and Health Services, but we work closely with them to ensure that they are informed of parents and carers opinions and the issues that they face.

Parents in Partnership is recognised by the Department for Education as the Parent Carer Forum for Blackburn with Darwen. The Forum is a member of the NNPCF (National Network of Parent Carer Forums) and "Contact – for families with disabled children" which both feed into national policies and strategies.

This group is the best. I would say it is the A-Team, answers to almost everything. *Parent*

Since becoming a volunteer with Parents in Partnership, I have felt truly listened to for the first time. Regardless of what is going on in their own lives our volunteers are always there to listen and support. They truly understand what I am going through and that is invaluable. *Volunteer*

Blackburn with Darwen Parents in Partnership work together to ensure that Parent Carer views and opinions are heard. It is a service we are extremely proud to support, actively involving Parent Carers in designing local services. This gives us a greater understanding of what the daily issues are for carers supporting any kind of additional need for children & young people in our borough. Thank you very much to all our parents who volunteer to provide a supportive community and work in collaboration with Council staff. *Head of Education, BwD*

BwDPIP make a significant contribution to inform strategic improvement programmes across a wide range of health agendas for children and young people with SEND and more broadly. They have an ability to gather insight from the local community at pace and provide first-hand experience which helps shape services and bring focus back to outcomes for children and young people with friendly challenge. It is a pleasure to work in partnership with BwDPIP. *Children, Families and Maternity Team, NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB*

Parents in Partnership are 'the strong voice of parents and carers at the heart of Blackburn with Darwen's delivery of services for children and young people 0-25 years with disabilities and additional needs and their families'.
Ofsted Local Area SEND Inspection 2019

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q I am looking for information to help my family, can you help?

We can signpost to local and national services who might be able to help you. You can come to one of our coffee mornings and chat to other parents/carers who are in a similar situation, we can support each other.

Q I don't like group meetings, I prefer talking to someone on a 1-2-1 basis

Not everyone is comfortable in a group, you can contact us on the phone, email us, send us a message on Facebook messenger, or arrange to meet one or two of our volunteers at our office in the town centre

Q Are you part of the Council?

No, we work with the council (and other services) to shape services for families with additional needs, but we are all parents ourselves with experience of our own children and young people with a variety of needs.

Q Where does the money come from?

The Department of Education provide funding for parent participation in the form of a small yearly grant.

Q Are you looking for volunteers?

We welcome any parent carers who would like to be involved, come and have a chat and see what we do!