

## **Important information for parents and schools from Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust - Opportunities and support for parents and carers**

### **Get involved with the ASD/ADHD (neurodiverse) pilot project**

Kent Community Health Foundation Trust (KCHFT) is planning a pilot to improve the support to children and young people with potential autistic and/or ADHD or neurodiverse traits.

This service would work with young people and their parents to better understand themselves, support them with coping strategies and if needed, liaise with their schools and support parents seeking a formal assessment for their child.

By speaking to those parents and young people who are experiencing this at the moment, we hope to make the pilot and future service as effective as possible.

### **How do I know if I can help?**

You don't need to have a child with a diagnosis of autism or ADHD to take part, it just needs to be something that you think might be an issue. The project will work with primary school aged children but if your child is at secondary school you can still help as you will have a longer perspective which will be helpful.

### **Can this help my child?**

The pilot will be in one area of Kent helping primary school aged children. This means that unless your child is in that area they will not be able to access this support during the pilot. After the pilot a service may be rolled out across Kent, depending on the evaluation.

### **What do I need to do?**

You will join a virtual meeting via a link. This will be very informal and you don't have to speak and there is no obligation to attend more than one session if you don't want to. Our next meeting is **10.30 to 12pm, 29 April**. If you are interested in joining this meeting or being involved in the pilot, please email [juliette.wales@nhs.net](mailto:juliette.wales@nhs.net).

### **Virtual Carers Support Group**

Do you care for a young person with autism and/or ADHD? Do you feel Isolated?

With thanks to funding from the National Lottery Community Fund, we are offering parent/carers a chance to meet others in the **Sittingbourne, Sheppey, Faversham, Maidstone, Canterbury, Thanet, Gravesend & Dartford** areas. There will be a choice of day time or evening zoom virtual group over a six week period starting in June 2021 with a maximum of eight people in each group, with two family support workers. If you'd like more information or to book a space, please contact [info@autismapprentice.co.uk](mailto:info@autismapprentice.co.uk) or phone 0300 011 0300.