

'News Flash March 2012'

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Brighton & Hove Intensive Interaction Special Interest Group.

The Intensive Interaction Training Team has set up a Brighton & Hove Intensive Interaction Special Interest Group.

Meetings are held every 2 months and are open to people who have attended the one day Intensive Interaction training Course provided by Brighton & Hove City Council.

The meetings are an excellent opportunity to:

- * ask questions
- * share good practice
- * feedback on how Intensive Interaction is being implemented within services
- * access support and the chance for further regional networking

If you think your services would benefit please contact Diane Skudder at the Community Learning Disability Team on 01273 295550 or email diane.skudder@brighton-hove.gov.uk

The next meeting of the Brighton & Hove Intensive Interaction Special Interest Group meeting is on:

- * **25th April 2pm at Denmark Villas**
- * The theme will be barriers to Intensive Interaction

Total Communication Project News 2012

Total Communication Update February 2012

TC Workshops

Good to see those of you who came to the first workshop of the year on 2 February; those of you who couldn't make it - you were missed! Here's a quick update:

* We watched East Sussex's Total Communication DVD - it's a brilliant film about the Total Communication approach and the different resources - really informative and inspiring.

A copy of the DVD will be included in the new Total Communication Resource pack which East Sussex will be marketing this year - watch this space for more information on when (and how much!).

Please note the workshop line up for this year has changed slightly:

TC Workshops 2012			
Date	Where	Time	Workshop
29 March 2012	Avondale Centre	3.25 - 4.30pm	Intensive interaction
31 May 2012	Avondale Centre	3.25 - 4.30pm	Assistive Technology showcase - YET TO BE CONFIRMED
26 July 2012	Avondale Centre	3.25 - 4.30pm	Art Therapy
27 September 2012	Avondale Centre	3.25 - 4.30pm	Sensory Integration
29 November 2012	Avondale Centre	3.25 - 4.30pm	Talking Mats

TC Charter Review meetings - heads up Communication Champions

Our fantastic Communication Champions had their first meeting of the year on 19 January - great to see those who were able to come, and sorry

to miss the ones who couldn't be there - here's a quick summary:

* We talked about evidencing Standard 1 in your services by creating a Communication Policy.

Standard 1 is: 'Services know about the Communication Bill of Rights. These are rights about communication. Services agree with what the Bill of Rights says'.

4 services are working on their Standard 1 at the moment and will be bringing their draft policies with them to share at the March meeting.

We've put together some Communication Policy Guidelines to help you get started [Communication Guidance Guidelines](#)

Charter Review meetings 2012		
Date	Where	Time
22 March 2012	87 Denmark Villas	3 – 4.30 pm
17 May 2012	88 Denmark Villas	3 – 4.30 pm
12 July 2012	89 Denmark Villas	3 – 4.30 pm
13 September 2012	90 Denmark Villas	3 – 4.30 pm
15 November 2012	91 Denmark Villas	3 – 4.30 pm

NEWS! NEWS! NEWS

Total Communication Project News 2012, 2011 and 2010

Total Communication Update January 2012

Happy New Year everyone!

Here's what's been going on over the last few months at the Total Communication Project and what's to come in 2012...

TC Advisory Group Workshops

We had some interesting and informative workshops in 2011 - Intensive Interaction, Graphic Recording, Objects of Reference, Visual Timetables.

The last 2 were a much requested re-run of the popular Makaton taster session with Peter Craske from the Workforce Development Team in September; and a talk about Social Stories by Tom Evans from Southdown Housing Association in November, which was a great success and sparked lots of enthusiasm and ideas.

The next workshop is:

- **Thursday 29 March 2012** (*workshop to be confirmed*) - 3.25pm at the Avondale Centre Grace Eyre

These workshops are about different communication resources or issues - for example we've had workshops about Social Stories, Graphic Recording, Talking Mats, Intensive Interaction, Communication Passports and Makaton. These are for anyone who works with carers for, or supports people with a learning disability is welcome.

Our first workshop of 2012 in February will be a talk about Total Communication with a showing of East Sussex's excellent TC film; we'll also be planning for the coming year and taking a vote on what workshops we want to have, so it's a 'must attend' event!

Please do email me your suggestions for total communication ideas or resources you'd like to learn more about in these sessions

lucy.westcott@sussexpartnership.nhs.uk

We now have 18 Communication Champions across Brighton & Hove implementing Total Communication in their services!

Services signed up to the TC Charter are:

- Outreach 3way
- Grace Eyre Foundation
- Brighton & Hove Day Options - Wellington House, Buckingham Road, Belgrave Centre, Albany View, Connaught Centre
- Brighton & Hove Residential Services - Windlesham Rd, Preston Drove, Beaconsfield Villas, Leicester Rd, Old Shoreham Road
- Care Management Group
- Southdowns Housing Association
- St John's College

- Brighton & Hove Workforce Development Team
- Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals (BSUH)
- Brighton & Hove Community Support Team
- Beach House, BHCC Respite Service

Progress is reviewed through the nominated Communication Champions at bi-monthly Charter Review meetings.

This year we're going to start awarding certificates for achievement of the Charter Standards so these meetings will be hotting up!

The next TC Charter Review meetings are:

- **Thursday 29 March 2012** at 86 Denmark Villas, 3 - 4.30pm

If you'd like to know more about the Total Communication Charter, contact Lucy Westcott, TC Project Officer, lucy.westcott@sussexpartnership.nhs.uk

TC Charter News

At the TC Charter Review meeting in October we welcomed two new sign ups to the Charter - Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals (BSUH) and Beach House.

11 August 2011:

TC Advisory Group Workshops are workshops about different communication resources that are held every 2 months

NEXT WORKSHOP - put this in your diary - Introduction to Makaton on Thursday **29 September** 2011 at the Avondale Centre 3.25-5pm - come and learn some basic signs and have fun trying them out!

for TC Workshops update see the [TC Workshops](#) section below:

9 March 2011:

Future meeting changes: The hour long **TC Advisory Group** meetings held every two months will now be given over completely to the workshop – events planning will be done separately when needed and the **TC Charter Review** meetings every 2/3 months will be the main support for Communication Champions.

31 January 2011:

Calling Communication Champions!!!! Don't forget the **TC Charter Review meeting – Thursday 24 February** at 3pm at 86 Denmark Villas, Hove– Communication Champions remember to put together your TC monitoring sheets and bring photos or other evidence to show us how your service has been doing with the Total Communication approach

Marker pens at the ready! The next **Total Communication Advisory Group**

meeting is on **Tuesday 9 March** at the Avondale Centre – the workshop will be about **Graphic Recording** – come along and find out how big paper & coloured markers can help break the communication barrier...

Check your inbox for email reminders for both these meetings!

27 January 2011:

Intensive Interaction: At the last TC Advisory Group meeting on 27 January Diane Skudder from the Behaviour Support Team came to talk about Intensive Interaction (II) which is an approach that can be used with people who have complex communication needs. It was a really interesting presentation and watching clips of II in action was uplifting and moving.

We will be posting more information about Intensive Interaction training courses and support group meetings locally very soon but in the meantime please click on this link to find out more

<http://www.intensiveinteraction.co.uk/>. Here is Diane's presentation if you would like to take a look [Intensive Interaction presentation](#)

TC Charter Scheme - what's it all about? Have a look at the new document [What is the Total Communication Charter](#) – if you have any questions or want your service to sign up please contact Lucy Westcott at lucy.westcott@sussexpartnership.nhs.uk

7th December 2010:

TC Charter News – LOOK! We've added the [Total Communication Standards](#) and the [Communication Bill of Rights](#) documents here – this is what the services who signed up to the TC Charter Pilot are using to improve communication – we want lots more services to sign up to the Charter from February 2011 – keep an eye out here for more information about how to do this or contact Lucy.

30th November 2010:

Spreading the word! In October the Speech & Language Therapy Team ran a Total Communication Workshop for staff at the Person Centred Approaches Learning forum – we had excellent feedback from the people who came.

TC Event 2011 – HOORAY! The Total Communication Project has been given funding for another Total Communication event in Spring next year – we're in the very early planning stages right now so watch this space for more information...

TC Charter Scheme - we don't need wings! From February 2011 the Total Communication Charter Scheme is no longer a pilot – it's flying free! We want as many services as possible to sign up to the scheme and pledge to improve Total Communication for their service users – keep an eye out here to find out what it's all

about...

Total Communication Advisory Group meetings – CHANGES

The meetings will now be held every 2 months at the Avondale Centre. The next meeting is on Thursday 27 January 2011 at 3pm – the workshop is about Intensive Interaction. Next years TC Advisory Group meeting workshops will be about Graphic Facilitation, Talking Mats, Social Stories, Visual Timetables and Objects of Reference – watch out for the 2011 meeting dates – they will be posted on here SOON!

Total Communication Charter Pilot Scheme meetings - calling all Communication Champions! The next Charter Pilot Review Meeting is on Monday 24 January 2011 at 3pm – it will be at 86 Denmark Villas – we are looking forward to seeing you there and hearing how your service is doing putting Total Communication into action!

For further information on anything TC
please email the Total Communication Project Officer at
lucy.westcott@sussexpartnership.nhs.uk

We had a Total Communication Launch Day

It's good to communicate...

Nearly 200 people attended the Total Communication [launch day](#) at Hove Town Hall on April 27 to find out about different communication resources – from Communication Passports and Talking Mats to Intensive Interaction and Assistive Technology.

Visitors loved the Makaton signing and Social Story workshops, and enjoyed making peppermint foot cream, fruit smoothies and 'All About Me' collages.

There were also films from Oskabright and tasty treats served up by Feast, a catering company run by people with learning disabilities based at Buckingham Road day centre.

Many services and providers signed up to the Total Communication Charter Pilot, a set of ten standards to help carers and staff make sure they are using and continue to use the most relevant and effective ways of supporting communication.

Look out for a booklet about the day coming soon that you will be able to download on this website!

For more information about the Total Communication Project and the Total Communication Advisory Group contact the Total Communication Project Officer on 01273 295121 or email lucy.westcott@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Break the communication barrier!



Total Communication Advisory Group Workshops 2011 and 2010

NEXT WORKSHOPS:

Introduction to **Makaton** on Thursday **29 September 2011** at the Avondale Centre
3.25-5pm - come and learn some basic signs and have fun trying them out!

How to facilitate a Social Story (Tom Evans) - Thursday 24 November 2011 - 3.25pm
- Avondale Centre - NB this has yet to be confirmed

TC Workshops update:

* The TC Advisory Group workshop on 5 July 2011 was about **Objects of Reference** (ORs) - Claire Bartlett talked about this resource and showed a DVD about someone using objects to communicate and make choices.

We worked in groups with specific clients in mind, filling out a work sheet to help us to come up with some OoRs to use. Some good ideas were a bottle of scented oil for a reflexology session; and a child's trainer for going for a walk - it's useful to think about size and portability of object. If used consistently and correctly almost anything can be used as an OR. Please see the attached handouts for more information.

- [Objects of Reference - overview](#)
- [Objects of Reference - Sheet](#)
- [Objects of Reference - list](#)

* The TC Advisory Group workshop on 10 May 2011 was about **Visual Timetables** - Vicky McCall talked about what they are and how they can be used. We made visual timetables using templates and cut out images and symbols. Visual timetables should be tailor made to the client but you can use the attached handouts as a guide.

- [Visual Timetable Guidelines](#)
- [Visual Timetable Template](#)

* The March TC meeting was about using graphics to communicate – Lucy Westcott from the Community Learning Disability Team talked about **Graphic Recording, Graphic Facilitation** and **Graphic Coaching**. Everyone got busy with big paper and coloured marker pens and discovered hidden talents! Staff had lots of good ideas about how they could use graphics to support people in their services. If you'd like information about Graphicking please email lucy.westcott@sussexpartnership.nhs.uk

Kick Start Communication

Invite you to a fun, interactive and **FREE** event for people with Autism Spectrum conditions, their family and friends and people who support them.

Tuesday 20 September 2011
10.00am to 3.00pm

Come and see us at:
The International Lawn Tennis Centre
Devonshire Park
College Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 4JJ



Guest Speaker: Ros Blackburn

Ros is a highly respected international speaker on autism - 10.30am to 12.30pm.

There will be:

- * An Information Market Place
- * Chill Out Rooms
- * Communication Equipment

Workshops:

- * Interactive Media
- * Sensory Sessions
- * Social Stories
- * Music
- * Drama

For further information please contact:

Helen Page, Speech & Language Therapist on
01273 336555 or Email:
helen.page@sussexpartnership.nhs.uk