



Education & Advocacy for SEND Parents in Merton



Merton Peer
Support Group
Meeting



Date: Monday
22nd September



Organisation: My
Child Has A
Speech Delay CIC



Welcome & Purpose



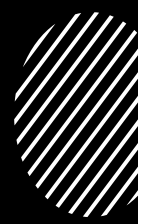
Warm welcome to
Merton parents/carers

Objectives:

- - Highlight local support & services
- - Share experiences and advocacy
- - Build stronger community ties



Why Peer Support Matters



Shared lived experience within Merton = understanding & empathy

Local knowledge of navigating Merton schools & services

Reducing isolation through peer connection

Empowering families together



Education Rights & Local Framework



Right to inclusive
education

EHCP (Education, Health &
Care Plan) overview

Merton Local Offer – SEND
hub for services 0–25

Importance of early
intervention



Merton SENDIASS (MIASS)



Free, impartial SEND
support for families 0–25

Drop-ins:

- - Tues: Church Road Children's Centre (9:15–12, 1–4:15)
- - Thurs: Acacia Children's Centre (9:15–12)



020 8543 8854 |

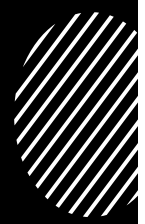


miass@merton.gov.uk





Parent Carer Support in Merton



Kids First (Merton Mencap forum): workshops, peer steering group, advocacy

MAPS (Merton Autism Parent Service): peer-led support, Wed mornings

Free membership, newsletters, and events for parent carers



Additional Local Resources



Merton Autism Outreach Service (MAOS) – school referral only

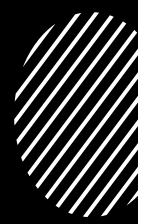
Family Hubs & FISH parenting support

Carers First, NAS Merton, Home-Start, Citizens Advice, Healthwatch

Explore via Merton Local Offer online hub



Practical Advocacy Tips for Merton



Keep	Keep records of meetings, reports, communications
Attend	Attend MIASS drop-ins and workshops
Connect	Connect with Kids First and MAPS for peer voice
Use	Use Local Offer to explore services and feedback



Local Workshops & Events



Kids First SEND updates & workshops

MAPS peer sessions every Wednesday (term-time)

MIASS drop-ins weekly

Encourage joining local parent networks for support



Discussion & Sharing



Which Merton services have you accessed?



What worked well?



What challenges remain?



How can we support each other locally?



Next Steps & Closing



Recap: MIASS, Kids First, MAPS, MAOS, Family Hubs

Encourage connections via WhatsApp/FB/email groups

Attend workshops & drop-ins for support

Together in Merton, our voices are stronger!