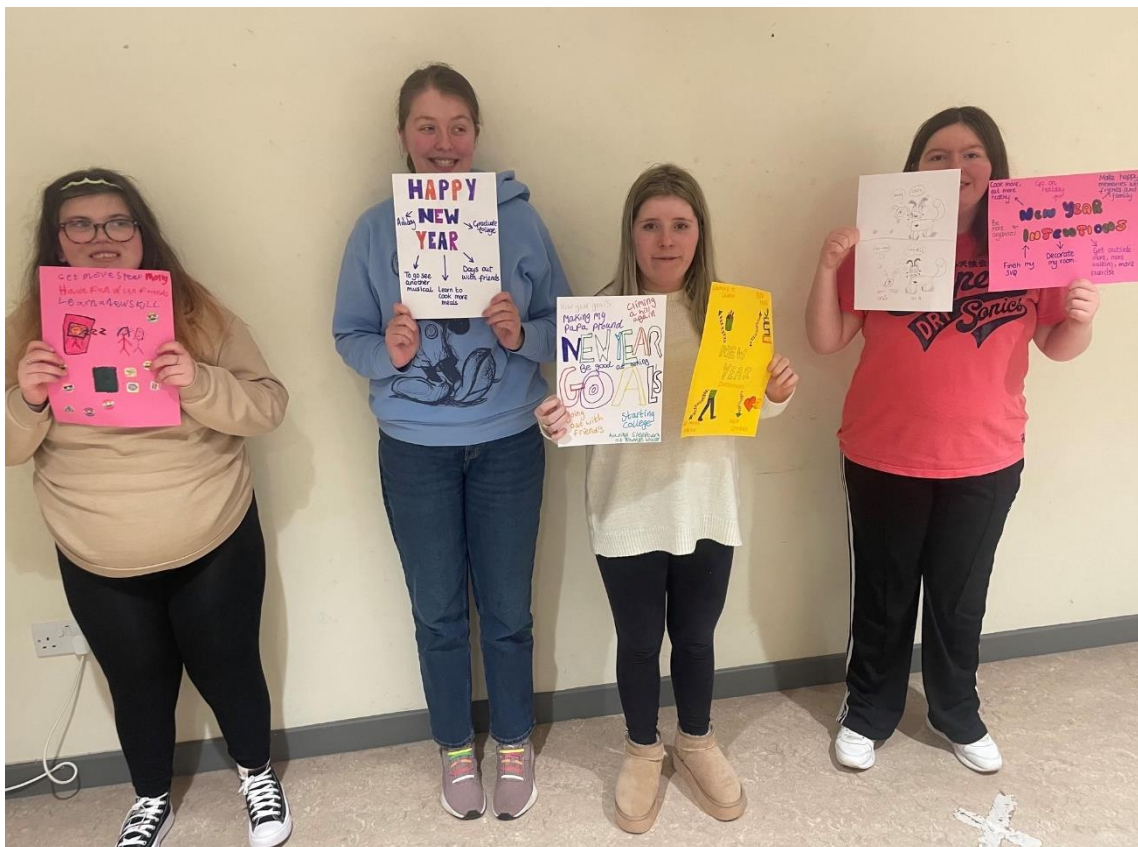


January 2024

Issue #22



Welcome!

In this issue...

- Find out about the CCPS' Rethink To 13 campaign
- Take part in two new surveys
- Discover our 'Service of the Month' campaign
- Join our upcoming events
- Read news from your service

Rethink to 13

The Coalition of Care & Support Providers in Scotland (CCPS) is calling on the Scottish Government to #RethinkTo13 - i.e. to increase pay to at least £13 per hour for all social care staff from April. As part of this, CCPS is sharing stories and views from social care and support workers about what they do – and the difference a pay rise would make. In their first story, Zoe from C-Change shares the difference £13 per hour would make for her. You can listen to Zoe's story and find out more about the campaign at ccpscotland.org/campaignwork/.

Survey on Accessible Information in Self-Directed Support

Two new surveys have recently launched which are looking for information from people with communication support needs and their families and guardians. The first, carried out by the Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE) on behalf of the Scottish Government, will inform work to improve people's access to accessible information on Self-Directed Support (SDS) and social care. Self-Directed Support (SDS) is how social care is delivered in Scotland. Anyone with a sensory impairment who accesses, wants to access, or has been refused access to SDS or social care and support is welcome to fill in the survey at smartsurvey.co.uk/s/SurveySDS/.

Deaf Children Today Survey

The second survey, launched annually by the National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS), aims to find out about the experiences of parents, guardians and carers of deaf children and young people aged 0 to 25 in the UK. Those who participate could also win one of three £100 Amazon vouchers. To take part, please visit bit.ly/ndcs2024.

Service of the Month

The Sense Scotland Recruitment and Communication teams are working closely together to launch a new 'Service of the Month' campaign, which aims to address areas with critical vacancy levels and increase staffing throughout these areas. Each month, we will be launching targeted advertising in a new area. The first service of the month will be our Perth service, with particular support from both teams for the service throughout the month of February. Stay tuned to our Facebook page at facebook.com/sensescotlandcharity for more information including recruitment events, and in the meantime, if you know of anyone looking for a job in the Perth area, please direct them to our job site at jobtrain.co.uk/sensescotland/Home/Job.

Upcoming Events

Connect and Sensory Play – TouchBase Fife – Wednesday, 7 February, 10am – 2pm

Our next Connect and Sensory Play session at TouchBase Fife will take place on Wednesday, 7 February, from 10am – 2pm! Drop-in anytime and see the wide range of sensory toys we have on offer and take part in our fun activity of the day.

The sessions are available for parents and carers with a child aged 0-18 with additional or complex needs. Children and their siblings are welcome to come along. This is also a good opportunity for professionals working with families to come along and find out more about our services and how we can help support the families you work with.

If you would like more information, please email

LindaMitchell@sensescotland.org.uk or call us on 01592 646015.

Connect and Play – TouchBase Ayrshire – Saturday, 10 February, 10am – 1pm

Join our Early Years and Family Advisory team's Chinese New Year-themed Connect and Play session for children aged 0 - 12 with communication and sensory support needs, their siblings and family. Book your free slot at bit.ly/4928ugW.

Connect and Play – TouchBase Lanarkshire – Saturday, 17 February, 10am – 1pm

Join our Early Years and Family Advisory team's winter-themed Connect and Play session for children aged 0 - 12 with communication and sensory support needs, their siblings and family. Book your free slot at bit.ly/3vSN3Rq.

Coffee and Connect – Online via Zoom – Wednesday, 28 February, 10am – 11am

Come along and join us online for a catch up and a cuppa. This will be a great opportunity to catch up with parents/carers from over the country and speak with one of Sense Scotland's advisors. Book your free slot at bit.ly/3Oc2WbK.

Please let us know what you think of Care and Connect. Send your feedback to communications@sensescotland.org.uk. You can find older issues at sensescotland.org.uk/care-and-connect.