



Kolourful Unique
Community
March 2024

Welcome to Kolourful Unique's first Community Newsletter

Kolourful Unique was founded by Lenora Borsje in June 2018.

We have witnessed so many parents struggle with their child's education where there is a social emotional problem, behavioural problem, Autism, ADHD or any Additional Learning Need.

Where do you as parents go when schools cannot provide for your child's needs?

Kolourful Unique offers **Counselling, 1-2-1 Teaching and Respite** for children with Additional Learning Needs and their families.

Join the 'Kolourful Unique Community'

We are excited to invite you to join the Kolourful Unique Community. We would like to share our knowledge and experiences with you as parents to be able to help and support in the best possible way.

To register your interest, head over to our website <https://www.kolourful-unique.com/>

At the right side of the heading click on the login button and create an account. This signs you up to receive email updates with our newsletter and information on **future events** such as **coffee mornings** for parents and **information evenings** for parents and other professionals.



You can find us
on Social Media

Facebook
Instagram
LinkedIn

Kolourful Unique has a new email address:
kolourfulunique@gmail.com



About us

Kolourful Unique has decided to register the business as a **Social Enterprise**.

This gives us the opportunity to apply for funding elsewhere.

We are hoping in the near future to be able to offer more funded spaces for children with Additional Learning Needs and their families to access **Counselling, 1-2-1 Teaching and Respite**.

Many of you will be aware the Local Authority has had to make difficult decisions to cut spending on Education and Social Services. This will specifically reduce the amount of money that is available for schools, which results in reduced support provided for children with Additional Learning Needs. Kolourful Unique is always looking to provide for you and your child's needs in the best way possible.

Check out our updated website for more information <https://www.kolourful-unique.com/>

Lenora Borsje

Founder, Director and CEO

Lenora is a fully qualified Primary School Teacher, Special Needs Teacher, Children's Counsellor, Home School Tutor and Online Tutor. Over the past 20 years I had the pleasure and privilege to teach and care for hundreds of unique and Kolourful children age 4-16 years, many with very special, unique and individual needs.



Mary Camfield

Director

Mary has over 5 years of experience working as a nanny in different settings and holds a level 3 qualification in home-based childcare. She brings a contagious love for children as well as a passion for nurturing growth and development. Her child centred approach, adaptability and fun-loving nature fosters an encouraging environment for all ages and stages.



Michelle Edwards

Secretary

Michelle is working for over 20 years as an administrator in finance within small businesses. Her knowledge and connections in the local community is bringing valuable insight to Kolourful Unique. She has a first-hand understanding of parenting children with Additional Learning Needs, which adds a compassionate perspective to the team and the aims of Kolourful Unique.



Website:

www.kolourful-unique.com



Contact:

075105 94670



Email:

kolourfulunique@gmail.com

Testimony

My Husband and I are parents to 2 children living here on the beautiful North Wales coast where we have both grown up. Our birth daughter will be celebrating her 17th birthday in April and she currently studying her A-Levels in mainstream education. Our Son who we adopted at 13 months old is currently 9 years old and not currently in education. Lenora is currently supporting him with home tutoring and some therapeutic support too. Prior to becoming adoptive parents we were assessed by the adoption agency over a period of 12 to 18 months to ensure we could meet the required 'criteria' to become adoptive parents and were finally accepted by panel in 2013. We then waited patiently to be 'matched' to our new child in 2015.



Prior to becoming adoptive parents I had a successful professional career, my Husband was self-employed and continues to run his own Plumbing & Heating business and our Daughter was thriving in Main stream education. We loved to socialise, dine out and travel frequently.

Between the ages of 3 to 5 years old our son was thriving in primary mainstream education however we were really struggling at home with his physical & challenging behaviour's. We contacted the adoption agency as we felt at risk of an adoption breakdown and we were sign posted to our local Council's therapeutic services and provided with a family social worker for some in depth intervention work to support our family at home. Over the next 2 year period we were provided with therapeutic skills and responses that were needed to meet his needs and saw lots of positive changes at home.

Our Son's educational needs started to increase when he was around 6 years old and it was becoming clear that mainstream school settings were not able to meet his needs. In summary - over the past 2.5 years he was excluded/sent home on a regular basis, restrained frequently, locked in rooms, segregated from class rooms and his peers and eventually sent to attend a pupil referral unit on a full time basis (PRU). Within this 2 year period he attended 4 different educational settings and was at high risk of permanent suspension from education, I also had to give up work due to the frequency of exclusions and meetings I was required to attend. It was also within the same period of time that socialising with friends and family became more difficult for us as a family along with trips and holidays.

Our Son was refused from the NHS neuro developmental waiting list to try and obtain an ALN diagnosis for him. He has since been accepted onto the list after I enlisted support from our local MP! The current waiting time is around 3 years. He is now also being supported by CAHMS.

In December 2023 we were becoming increasingly concerned for our Son's welfare in the PRU setting due to the high level of restraint being used and the impact this would be having on his already deteriorated mental health needs. I therefore decided they could not meet his needs and he has been at home full time since then and engaged with the services from Kolourful Unique. Lenora has quickly obtained a positive relationship with our Son both academically and therapeutically which just confirms how a child with complex learning needs can flourish with the correctly skilled professionals!

We will continue to 'fight' our Son's needs both academically and long term mental health needs. The 'systems' surrounding these services can be so hard to navigate your way through and at times as a parent you can also feel isolation, compassion fatigue, loneliness and exhaustion. Self-care is important and my new passion for Yoga and meditation is great. We take each day as it arrives and remind ourselves in difficult times - tomorrow is another day.

- Sara -

“Our goal is to enable every child to reach their potential, no matter what their capability and starting point.”

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