

Our Mission Statement:

"Working in our district so people with learning disabilities can change their community"



Background

The Tunbridge Wells District Partnership Group (TWDPG) is a group of like-minded professionals, carers, community members and people with learning disabilities who want to improve the lives of those with learning disabilities.

Our aim is to enable people with a learning disability to:

- Have a voice and share their views
- Assist in changing local and national policies which affect people with a learning disability

We follow and promote the 'Valuing People Now' Government paper, which says that all people with a learning disability have the right to lead their lives like anyone else. We support the council and other local organisations to help make this happen.

We were set up by the Kent Partnership Board to implement 'Valuing People Now' in the Tunbridge Wells area. The Board is based in Maidstone with Kent County Council and meets every two months. We let them know what's happening locally and they tell us about the latest policies, procedures and projects that are being implemented by different services, organisations, and the Government.

We run the following projects:

- **The 'Centre Point Community Café'** which takes place every Thursday lunch-time. It is a place for people to socialise, have fun and form friendships. A wide range of professionals visit and run sessions on many different subjects, from First Aid to Card Making. They give advice, training, support and sign posting to other services.
- **The Disability Sports Focus Group.** This is a bi-monthly meeting of professionals and organisations from across Tunbridge Wells who aim to improve sporting opportunities for the disabled. It has its own website (www.tunbridgewellsdisabilitysports.co.uk) and an action plan.
- **The Speaking Up Group** meets once a month, to enable people with disabilities to have a voice. It is run by people with disabilities for people with disabilities. The group discuss the issues that are important to them and decide how to act upon these issues, in order to improve their community.
- **Socialize** holds regular social events, such as discos and quizzes.

For more information on these projects, please look at the TWDPG website.

www.twdpg.org