

# West Berkshire SEND Local Offer DISC Newsletter Summer 2018



West Berkshire  
COUNCIL

# West Berkshire draft SEND Strategy 2018 to 2023: Consultation

West Berkshire Council and partners across the health, education and voluntary sector, together with parents and carers, have developed a new draft strategy for children and young people aged 0 to 25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

The draft SEND Strategy sets out our vision for children with SEND in West Berkshire, the outcomes we want to see for our children and young people and the actions we plan to take to achieve this over the next 5 years.

Please read the draft SEND Strategy:  
[www.westberks.gov.uk/sendstrategy2018](http://www.westberks.gov.uk/sendstrategy2018)

We would really like to hear your views about our draft strategy. You can share your views with us by completing our questionnaire  
<http://info.westberks.gov.uk/sendstrategy2018>

This should take approximately 20 minutes to complete

**The consultation will run from 11 June 2018 to 20 July 2018 (midnight)**

## Our Local Offer website

West Berkshire's Local Offer gives children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities and their families' information about what support and services are available in the local area. This information can be found by visiting

<http://search3.openobjects.com/kb5/westberkshire/fsd/localoffer/page?familychannel=4>

It helps parents, carers and young people to see clearly the range of services, support and information that are available to them in their local area and understand how to access them.

### What is the Local Offer and what does this cover?

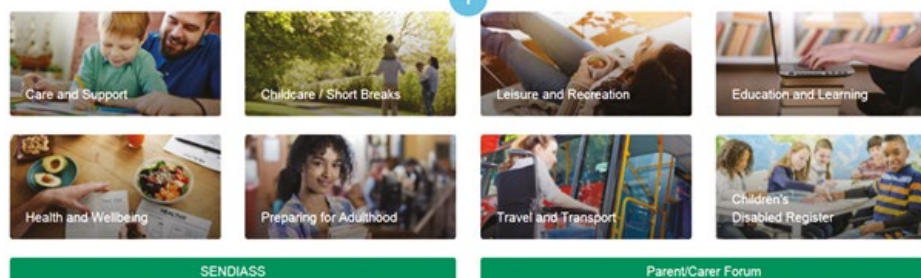
- Benefits and financial guidance and assistance
- Health & Social Care
- Schools, Education & Transport
- Leisure and social activities
- Special educational needs
- Short breaks
- Support groups
- Early Years & Childcare

If you don't have access to a home computer the Local Offer can be viewed online at your local library.

Alternatively email  
[fis@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:fis@westberks.gov.uk)

Call us on 01635 503100 Lines are open Monday-Friday 9am - 4.30pm

This is a sneaky preview of our new West Berkshire Offer website which will be launched in the next few months!



Quick links to some common questions



# SEN Team Success

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Nearly 1,000 children with disabilities and special educational needs are now benefiting from an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Over the past three years the SEN team have been working with young people, their families and teachers to put the new plans in place. Children whose educational needs cannot reasonably be met by resources within their school can access additional support through an EHCP.

Previously known as a Statement of Special Educational Need, the statements were replaced with new Education, Health and Care Plans in 2014. The new assessments provide a more holistic assessment of children and young people and now as well as education the plans also covers their health and care needs. These plans are developed in partnership with children and their families with young people put at the heart of the assessment and planning process.



Over the past three years the Special Educational Needs team (pictured) has been working to convert Statements of Special Educational Needs to the new Education, Health and Care Plans for nearly 1,000 children across the district. This work was completed in March and means all young people who need additional help are now benefiting from the improved, broader ECHPs.

One parent whose child is now supported by an EHCP said:

*“The EHC is far superior to the Statement. Its focus is my child and it is so much more direct with regards to what must be put in place to help him achieve. I thought that it was just another paper exercise but am pleasantly surprised by how it has helped me already in assuring that my son is supported adequately in his further education.”*

Speaking about the benefits of the plan Ian Pearson, Head of Education said:

*“These new Education, Health and Care Plans provide better support for our young people and rightly put them at the heart of the assessment. We recognise the contribution of EHCs towards young people reaching their full potential and have worked hard to have them in place quickly. It has been a big piece of work but it was important to us that young people start benefiting from these plans. I applaud the team for their efforts over the past three years.”*



## Family Information Service

The Family Information Service (FIS) is a statutory service providing FREE individually tailored information, advice, and guidance on any family matter. The service is available to any family member taking care of children or young people aged 0-19 years of age living and/or working in West Berkshire, inclusive, as well as professionals working with families in West Berkshire. Information is available on Ofsted registered childcare, educational services, support organisations, health, leisure activities, Family Hubs, special needs and much more . . .

The Disability Information service (Local Offer) forms part of the Family Information Service and is also a FREE impartial information, advice and guidance service for 0-25 year olds who have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). The whole service is delivered by Level 4 qualified staff in Information, Advice & Guidance (IAG)

***If we don't have the information we will research it for you!***

We are available Monday - Friday (9am-4pm) all year round except for Bank Holidays.

We can be contacted by phone (01635 503100), e-mail [fis@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:fis@westberks.gov.uk) or face to face with an appointment at:

West Street House, West Street,  
Newbury, RG14 1BZ,

Face to face visits require an appointment which can be arranged by phone (01635 503100) or e-mailing [fis@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:fis@westberks.gov.uk)

Or you can find the information independently by visiting our website: <http://fis.westberks.gov.uk>



# DLA

## Don't miss out

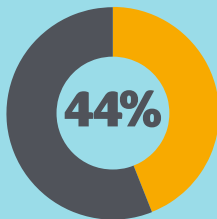


Disability Living Allowance (DLA) is the main benefit for disabled children. It is there to help meet some of the extra costs of having a disabled child.

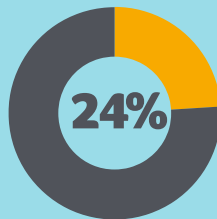
**Families describe getting DLA as life-changing.**

**However, take up is low and millions go unclaimed.**

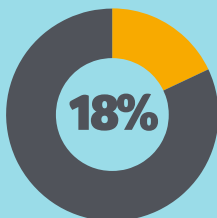
New evidence<sup>1</sup> from the Counting the Costs campaign finds the main reasons why families are not making a claim for DLA are often linked to misconceptions about DLA eligibility.



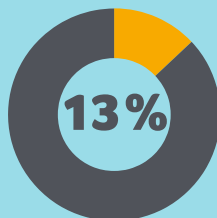
**think their child's disabilities wouldn't count**



**think they need a diagnosis for their child**



**feel uneasy claiming benefits for their disabled child**



**were told by someone their child wouldn't be eligible**

“ DLA means my son gets the chance to do the same things other kids do. ”

“ Before I spoke to Contact I didn't think that my daughter would get DLA. ”

“ I didn't think her condition was severe enough. ”

“ I felt unsure about the idea of claiming benefits at all. ”



**The Counting the Costs campaign want more families to get advice on this life-changing benefit.**

**Call our free helpline on 0808 808 3555 so we can talk you through the rules for getting DLA and send you our free guide.**

1. Based on responses from 481 families currently not claiming DLA for their disabled child

# Disabled Children & Young People's Register

West Berkshire's Children and Young Peoples Disability Register is a secure database which aims to capture information about all children and young people aged 0-25 years with special educational needs and/or disabilities in West Berkshire. The information that you give us will be used anonymously to show the use of and demand for services in West Berkshire. The Register is purely voluntary and this information will help us to plan, monitor and develop appropriate facilities and services for the future

for disabled children and their families.

When this is launched in the coming months, we would like to encourage as many of you as possible to register so that we can get as clear a picture as possible of the needs for services in West Berkshire.

To find out more please email [fis@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:fis@westberks.gov.uk) or phone 01635 503100

## SEND Ofsted Inspection

Thank you to all who contributed to our SEND Ofsted inspection in May. These inspections can be traumatic no matter how well prepared we are but it all went very well.

The Ofsted inspectors visited schools and met with many parents and carers. We appreciated those of you who gave up your time to attend focus groups at short notice, responded to questionnaires and joined in on the Webinar forum. This all provided a holistic picture of SEND in West Berkshire.

We will receive the report in July and it will be available for you to view on our FIS Facebook page

[www.facebook.com/West-Berkshire-Family-Information-Service-458641437598685/](https://www.facebook.com/West-Berkshire-Family-Information-Service-458641437598685/)

and the Local Offer website

<http://fis.westberks.gov.uk/kb5/westberkshire/fsd/localoffer.page?familychannel=4>

***Keep your eyes peeled!***

## British Dyslexia Association (BDA)'s inspirational marathon stories

After months of creative fundraising and consistent training, 11 dedicated British Dyslexia Association (BDA) runners successfully completed the London Marathon on Sunday 22 April 2018.

This is a particularly significant achievement as this year was confirmed the hottest on record, making it 26.2 miles in the 24C degree heat.

The BDA is incredibly grateful to our team of highly motivated individuals: Amy Lisle, Frances House, Dewi Meredith-Smith, Robbie Webb,

Harry Madgwick, Jenny Wheatley, Iain Wheatley, Ben Walker, Sarah Breslin, John Martin and Matthew Jewson.

Together they have raised over 15K towards creating a more dyslexia-friendly society.





## Team of superstars

Amy Lisle was inspired to take part by her personal experiences and challenges as a university student with dyslexia. She participated despite falling ill with tonsillitis before the race, demonstrating her grit and determination.

Frances House and Dewi Meredith-Smith completed the London Marathon the same way they undertook their training and fundraising: as a pair. In their case a double round of congratulations is due: the first for finishing the marathon and the second on their engagement.

At 18 years old, Robbie Webb is the youngest member of Team BDA 2018. Currently training to become a chef, he brings the same level of hard work and dedication to his running as he does to his career.



While the 24C heat made conditions almost unbearable on the day, this did not stop Harry Madgwick, who finished the race in 3:22:24, in the elite men's starting category. As an English teacher, his ambition is to support dyslexic pupils to fulfil their limitless potential.

He was followed by Iain Wheatley and Matt Jewson, who were both awarded a place in the London Marathon ballot and decided to generously fundraise and run on behalf of the BDA.

This was Jenny Wheatley's second marathon – she completed the Brighton Marathon in 2017. One of Jenny's exceptionally creative fundraising ideas was to record and produce her own exercise DVD, which helped her smash her target. Running this year for the BDA, she believes passionately that dyslexics are not slow or silly or stupid, but that they simply have a different way of learning.

Ben Walker was already a skilled sportsman when he signed up to run the marathon for the

BDA; playing hockey and taking part in other activities including running and wakeboarding. Graduating from university with a 2:1, he was inspired to raise money so more people can access the same resources as he did and successfully get through education with the help they need.



Sarah Breslin crossed the finish line smiling and kept up the good vibes and amazing energy throughout with her colourful disco inspired running wear and tutu. Putting the fun in fundraising, she reached her target by holding an 80's inspired party earlier in March, which was well attended despite the snow.

John Martin joined team BDA with a few months to go, replacing another runner who had to drop out due to injury. Despite this, John was the first to reach his fundraising target. He was inspired to take part in this year's race as a gesture of support for his son who has recently been diagnosed with dyslexia.

## Beyond the Marathon

In the days following the race, Team BDA joined hundreds of runners across the country to run 3.7 miles and donate to charity in honour of Matt Campbell, who sadly died after collapsing during the marathon.

In addition to this, Jennifer Wheatley has entered a 10k cross country run for Pancreatic Cancer, while John Martin has registered for the Stroud Trails Half and will return for London Marathon 2019.

Inspired to join this incredible dyslexic-friendly community of runners? We are accepting applications for our remaining places in the Great North Run, taking place on 9th September 2018. Email [fundraising@bdadyslexia.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@bdadyslexia.org.uk) to secure your place now.

# Castle Gate Outreach Team

We work with children and young people (0-18) with a learning disabilities and their families. We complete short term 1:1 work and also run various groups.

## **SAIL (for young people)** **Skills for Adulthood and Independent Living**

This is a 12 week programme for older teenagers within a small group to support their transition to adulthood.

This includes work around:

- Confidence and Personal Goals
- Finance and Money Management
- Community Interests and Activities
- Independent Living Skills
- Work Experience

(referrals through DCT Social Worker)



## **SAIL Parent Coffee Morning**

A monthly support group for ANY parent with a young person aged 14+ who would like to learn more about transition. Each session has a theme with a guest speaker to share information and answer any questions. Guest speakers have included representatives from Social Care, health, education, housing and community groups.

## **Behaviour Support Programme**



An 11 week programme to support families experiences behaviours that challenge at home. Each session has a topic to explore, with strategies shared and opportunities for discussion and problem solving.



A 7 week programme supporting parents to gain confidence at cooking healthy and nutritious meals.

For further information please call the team on **01635 529 735**





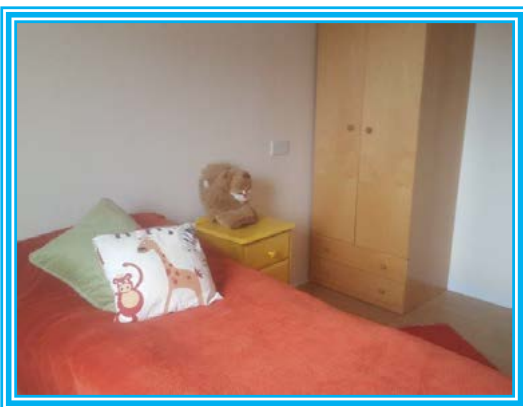
# CastleGate



We are a short breaks unit for children with learning disabilities referred through a DCT Social Worker.

We work closely with parents and school to ensure our young people are cared for and supported to work towards personal goals.

The children have opportunities to engage in a variety of activities whilst staying with us as well as building upon their independence.



We host a variety of family days across the year where possible!

We are currently relaunching our **SAIL (Skills for Adulthood and Independent Living)** programme with our young people aged 15+

This is a programme focusing on independence and life skills and mostly takes place in the community.



For further information please call Sara or Rachael on **01635 43778**



# Finally some swings for Swings & Smiles



Swings & Smiles are very excited to finally open an outdoor area to go with all of the facilities that are offered at the centre in Thatcham. We have fully accessible swings for all children to use, a mini golf course, in ground trampoline and a fantastic slide with a ramp to allow all children to get to use it. There are climbing frames, a picnic area, specialist trikes and lots of interactive outdoor sensory equipment. We have also had



funding for a large den for the exclusive use of the siblings that attend Swings & Smiles so that they can have some time to themselves too.

All of this fabulous equipment is installed so that families with special needs children can



play in a safe and secure environment. They also have access to all of our indoor facilities, including a personal care room, so that they can come and play happily in the knowledge that all of their needs can be met.

Sessions run after school and on the weekends with additional opening times in the holidays.

Families that are interested in coming to play at Swings & Smiles can call on 01635 285170 or visit our website [www.swingsandsmiles.co.uk](http://www.swingsandsmiles.co.uk) for more information.

### Friday 10th Aug – 10.15am to 1.15pm

We will be at The Five A Day Market, Englefield for a morning of outside activities, pond dipping, planting, willow craft.

### Wed 15th Aug – 10am to 4.30pm

Day trip to PGL Liddington, for abseiling, crate stacking and zip wiring.

### Mon 20th Aug – 11am to 1.30pm

Ifly session at Basingstoke for indoor sky diving.

### Thu 30th Aug – 10am to 4pm

Dinton Activity Centre for a day of pond dipping and climbing.

For more information on these activities, please contact Helen on 07887 871112 or [helen@palsweb.org.uk](mailto:helen@palsweb.org.uk)



## Bobi Cats

I have FA Level 1 and 2, Youth Modules 1 and 2 and FA Coaching Disabled Footballers accreditation, I'm a FA Licensed Coach which means I also have public liability insurance, an up to date Emergency First Aid certificate and most importantly CRC checked and cleared. I'm currently project planning for UEFA B and hope to start this late 2018 / early 2019.

I have twins, one of whom has mild Cerebral Palsy, and as the players have grown and their understanding of the game improved, purely due to his mild mobility restrictions, he was getting more and more frustrated that what he was trying to do in his head, he couldn't do with his feet. Sunday afternoons were becoming a repetitive scenario of him getting more and more frustrated and upset, "Why me Dad? Why not someone else? Why can't I do this? Ironically, we are fortunate to be able to ski regularly and he excels at this, better than his twin, but, it's not mainstream and in the playground it's all about football and the build-up of emotions was becoming more and more difficult to manage, both for him as an individual and me as his parent trying to manage his frustrations.

I also had another player in our group who sat on the autistic spectrum and this was slowing his development in comparison to his peers within the team, yet gave his all week in, week out. To me, this wasn't fair on either of them and I was sure that there must be many other children in the local community being excluded from sporting activities, which has since been proven

true, due to either basic learning challenges or the inability to have the patience to allow the children to express themselves as they wish to.

So with the full support of the Thatcham Tornadoes committee, we formed the BOBiCats squad as an opportunity to allow children (and parents) to enjoy playing football in a fun and non-pressurised environment with the option in time of entering into regular football festivals in the BOBi League, more details of which can be found on our website [www.bobileaguefootball.org.uk/](http://www.bobileaguefootball.org.uk/)

Since we started the BOBi squad, we have also become partners with the Reading FC Disability Dept. and have had the benefit of their coaches coming to join us for mentoring sessions, which have been of benefit to both the children and us as coaches.

The "official" term for the squad ability is pan-disability which means we're happy to cover a wide range of challenges that children may face. I hate the word disability because it's so negative, every child has ability, so I prefer to use the word challenges as it's easier to educate a child that a challenge can be overcome. Within the group, we are covering a wide range of physical and learning challenges, some minor, some that need more managing, but the goal is to ensure they leave each week happy with their achievements.

David Leno - [davidleno@hotmail.com](mailto:davidleno@hotmail.com)





# THATCHAM TORNADES FOOTBALL CLUB



# Inclusive Football

#purelyinclusive

## U12 BOBiCats for children aged 5-11

*Because all children should have the opportunity to enjoy playing football.*

Our BOBiCat squad gives children with a physical or learning disability the opportunity to enjoy playing football in a safe and friendly environment. The emphasis is very much on making these sessions FUN for everyone.

**We are currently training on Fridays on the astroturf at Henwick from 6.15pm - 7pm. From April, training will switch to Francis Baily Primary School, Thatcham.**

During the season, we will also have the opportunity to play against other Inclusive Football Teams in monthly BOBi festivals.

This squad will focus on Inclusive Football for children aged 5-11.

For more information about Inclusive Football at Thatcham Tornadoes, please email David Leno via [inclusive@thatchamtornadoes.com](mailto:inclusive@thatchamtornadoes.com)

[www.thatchamtornadoes.com](http://www.thatchamtornadoes.com)



ThatchamTornadoes



@Tornadoes1971



www.parentingspecialchildren.co.uk

# AUTUMN PROM

For young people with additional needs (15-19)  
who live in Berkshire

Friday 21st September 2018



7.30pm - 11.30pm

Trunkwell House, Beech Hill Road, Reading. RG7 2AT

Tickets £20 for young person - plus free carer includes:  
Mocktail on arrival / DJ & Dancing / Hot Buffet /  
Separate bar & buffet for carers

There are a limited number of tickets available,  
which will be allocated on a first come, first  
served basis. Don't miss out!

Please order online here: <https://bit.ly/2GqOHdz>



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& Wales no. 802052 and Scotland  
no. SC039557



**Happy Days**  
Bringing families together

**SPRING / SUMMER 2018**

Happy Days has reached its 6th year and I am immensely proud of this achievement. I am hoping you all enjoy it as much as I do. I try to keep it running as best as I am able through fundraising events to help keep the doors open for more years to come. It is a challenge there are so many groups and charities that are needing funds too, I am hoping the money raised this year will create more fun days out for all. If you have any ideas please let me know.

## Our Story

Happy Days is a voluntary club set up and run by just myself with the support of my family. I have Asperger's Syndrome which is on the Autistic Spectrum. I have a husband called Dan and two children Finn 13 years old with Asperger's and Tilly who is 11.

I set up the club in January 2012 as a voluntary club helping families like ours. I work for a secondary school and have run a successful youth club since 2001 for young deaf teenagers. They have helped me understand the world around them and they have given me the passion and the determination to help young people believe in themselves. The club is still voluntary run by myself and I am very proud of it and the young people that help too.

Happy Days was born in the hope to help others and to provide a space once a month for children and young people across West Berkshire. The club is for children and young people on the autistic spectrum, deafness, ADHD and their families (siblings and parents) we all understand the difficulties and can support each other. It means we can be ourselves in a space to call our own. We don't judge and we don't hide away from the fact that they we are all living with hidden disabilities.

### There are two groups:

- ♦ Happy Days—a club with toys, crafts and a movie for children with ASC, Deafness or and ADHD aged 5-10 years old on a Monday once a month 4.30-6.30pm
- ♦ HD Gamers Den—a club with computer consoles and board games for young people with ASC, Deafness or and ADHD aged 11-18 years old on a Tuesday once a month 6.30-8.30pm

**Helping bring families together in West Berkshire**

### SPRING / SUMMER

Our Story	1
Helping families across West Berkshire	1
Happy Days 5-10 yrs	2
HD Gamers Den 11-18 yrs	3
Contact details	4
Fundraiser & special events	4

### Where is it?

Mary Hare School  
Secondary School  
opposite Snelmore  
Common on the  
Wantage road.

Postcode: RG14 3BQ

### Whose there?

KiriLynn, Dan, Finn  
and Tilly.

### Contact?

KiriLynn Gardner  
Email preferable  
K.gardner@maryhare.  
org.uk

### Cost?

We are a voluntary club but rely on fundraising and donations all we ask is for a small fee of £3 per child, parents are free as are siblings under 3 yrs old.



# HAPPY DAYS 5-10 YRS OLD

**Happy Days runs once a month during term time and during some holidays for special events. It is for children aged 5–10 years old on the Autistic Spectrum, ADHD, or have deafness, along with their siblings and parents. Costs are per session per child and parents have to stay and are free on most sessions.**

## Monday 11th June = Crafts and Games

We will make a selection of crafts as well as play some fun games. A movie will be on in the chill room and for tea we will have chicken nuggets and chips, as well as fruit and veg snacks.  
*£3 per child and parents free.*

## Monday 9th July = Ice cream Sundaes

Today we will make our own ice cream sundaes!! A movie will be on in the chill room and for tea we will have hotdogs and chips, as well as fruit and veg snacks.  
*£3 per child and parents free.*

\*Summer Dates: Wednesdays— £5 child & £5 adult per session

Wednesday 1st August Swindon Train Museum

Wednesday 15th August Gullivers Kingdom

## Monday 10th September = Back to school activities



*Autumn / winter newsletter will be out on 1st September with all the details listed up until the new year,*



**KEEP  
CALM  
I'M A  
GAMER**

**6.30-8.30PM**

**£3 PER CHILD / PARENTS FREE**

12th JUNE = Crafts  
10th JULY = Ice cream

**\*SUMMER DATES: \***  
**WED 1st & 15th**

11th SEP = Movie

## **HD Gamers Den**

**Meets once a month on a Tuesday**

**6.30-8.30pm**

**First Gaming Club for young people with  
autism, deafness or additional needs.**

**Aged 11-18 yrs**

**RPG, strategy, puzzle, war, fantasy, traditional  
& computer games. Games to suit all gamers.**

**Parents are encouraged to stay for coffee and  
join in the games!**

**£3.00 per young person (parents free) includes  
2 hours of game play, food, snacks & drinks.  
Email [K.gardner@maryhare.org.uk](mailto:K.gardner@maryhare.org.uk) for details**

**Join in our games or bring your own.**





**Contact Details:**

Happy Days & Coles Diner  
KiriLynn Gardner  
Mary Hare School  
Arlington Manor  
Snelsmore Common  
RG14 3BQ

M. 07740100654  
E. K.gardner@maryhare.org.uk  
W. www.colesdiner.co.uk  
F. www.facebook.com/ColesDiner  
T. @ColesDiner

I hope you enjoy Happy Days it has really helped me and my family and I am grateful for all the support and families we have been so lucky to meet.

Happy Days is voluntary club and I run this entirely by myself with no grants or government funding so I rely solely on my own fundraising and donations. If you know of a company that could help in ways of sponsorship or donations of toys, games, craft items please pass on my details to them.

Every year I do a sponsored walk, summer fayre and other fundraisers to keep our doors open—if you are up for a challenge and fancy doing something for Happy Days please let me know!!

The fundraising money is used to help keep the costs low for the families at Happy Days helping buy new toys, and keeping the parents fueled up on cakes and coffee! It also helps fund a Summer days, A trip out and a Christmas outing with Santa visit. Kind regards KiriLynn

**Fundraisers & Special Events:**  
**2018**

**Save the following dates for your diary:**



To see the events in more detail follow: [www.facebook.com/ColesDiner](http://www.facebook.com/ColesDiner)

Or add yourself to the parents closed group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1051543651537347/>

Hope you enjoy what is on offer and if you have any ideas get in touch  
k.gardner@maryhare.org.uk

Kirilynn X



# ANIMAL RANGER DAYS AND SUMMER CLUB FOR CHILDREN RUNNING THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Your child's chance to get hands on with all our wonderful animals at the Farm and be an Animal Ranger for the day or join the Animal Summer Club and enjoy a discount on the days and your child will receive an animal rangers certificate at the end of the summer for all the fun work they have done with the animals. Great for younger children and older children as long as they like animals.

We are running through out the summer from 30th July to 31st August 2018.

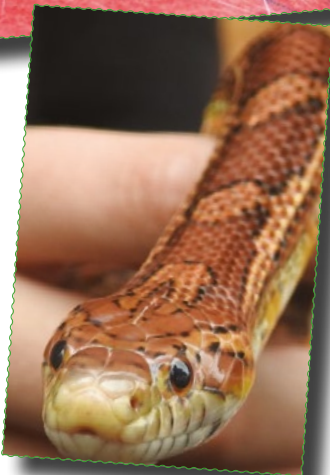
The day starts at 10.30 - 3.00 and the children will get chance to feed, groom, clean and pet the animals. We have hamsters, degus, chinchillas, guinea pigs, rabbits, gerbils, dumbo rats,

Goats, Pigs, Chickens, Shetland Ponies, Alpacas, Llamas, snakes, bearded dragons gekkos and spiders.

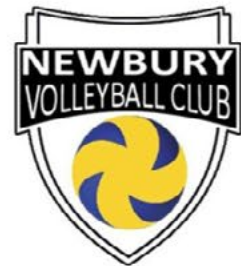
We work with small groups on children on a daily basis. Suitable for children ages 7 ish - 16 years

Cost is £28.00 per child per day for the animal ranger day or £350.00 for the summer club 30th July - 31st August (with exception of Bank Holiday Monday 27th August)

Contact Dawn Dingwall  
Email: [dawndingwall@btinternet.com](mailto:dawndingwall@btinternet.com)  
[www.animalrangers.co.uk](http://www.animalrangers.co.uk)



***A fun volleyball evening for all  
abilities and disabilities!***



# A.C.O Volleyball Club

**Activity, Community & Opportunity**

All welcome, Come along and join in the fun.

**NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY**

Fortnightly from May 24th at Trinity School Sports Hall,  
Newbury RG14 2DU. 7—8 pm

*For more Information contact*

Haddon Macdonald [haddonpeter@gmail.com](mailto:haddonpeter@gmail.com) or

Sue Sayers 07881677634





# Family Fun Day!

Tuesday **14 August** 12-3pm

**Location:** The Avenue Special School  
in Tilehurst, Reading.

Chance to Dance is teaming up with **T4ME Fitness** and **Chance Coaching**.

We are running a fundraising event for health, wellbeing and movement in the disabled community for children, adults and their families. **EVERYONE** is welcome!

**Our aim** is to bring **YOU** the community together through fitness, movement and acceptance to be different. Regardless of a disability or not. We are bringing the community together giving you all the chance

to relax and enjoy time with other families talking and learning from each others experiences. We would love you to join our celebration. So please **BOOK NOW!!** £15 for up to a family of 4. We are looking to support as many families members from both the local community and the disabled community. Closing the gap between both communities through fun, laughter and friendship.

**Please book ASAP.** Contact Victoria Andrews **07736343570** or **vickieandrews50@hotmail.co.uk**

## What to expect

- BBQ and Drinks
- Music
- Face Painting
- Bouncy Castles
- Dancing
- Table Top Activities
- Arts and Crafts
- Ice Cream Van
- Adult led Group Games
- T4ME Fitness and Dance Session
- Life Coaching with Chance Coaching
- Picnic Area, Chair and Sharing Snacks



£15 for a family of 4.  
Please book.



The Watermill Theatre is passionate about equality of opportunity and access for all. Throughout the week we have opportunities for all abilities to get involved both at our theatre in Newbury and across the county. From young to old, consummate professional to total beginner there will be something for you at The Watermill.

## Over the Summer Holidays

This summer marks the end of the first three years of funding that The Watermill received from Greenham Trust to establish a new programme of specialist and accessible groups and performances



'Scribbles from the Margins' is an all - age, all - ability and all - access holiday week running from **Monday 6 August to Friday 10 August**. The week will celebrate everything we've achieved over these last three years and will bring together participants of all ages and abilities to explore, rehearse and then perform a collection of scripts submitted by unheard voices.

**You can be one of those unheard voices!** If you have a story you would like to share, we welcome you to submit your script anytime before August. Please send the script to [lix@watermill.org.uk](mailto:lix@watermill.org.uk)

In the theatre itself we have a year-round programme of **accessible performances** to welcome and support people with **hearing, vision, mobility or sensory impairments**. We encourage new guests with additional needs to come ahead of time for a Familiarisation Visit to get your bearings if that would be helpful.

### Audio Described Performance with Touch Tour

*Jerusalem* Saturday 30 June at 2.30pm (Touch Tour at 1pm)

*Sweet Charity* Saturday 8 September at 2.30pm (Touch Tour at 1pm)

*Robin Hood* Saturday 24 November at 2.30pm (Touch Tour at 1pm)

### British Sign Language Integrated

*A Midsummer Night's Dream* Wednesday 13 June at 7.30pm and Saturday 16 June at 1.30pm

*Sweet Charity* Saturday 15 September at 1.30pm

*Robin Hood* Wednesday 5 December at 2.30pm and Saturday 8 June at 2.30pm (preceded by a BSL backstage tour)

### Relaxed Performance

*Robin Hood* Saturday 1 December at 2.30pm

Alongside our weekly Youth Theatre and Adult Courses we are very proud to offer **specialist bespoke programmes** for young people and adults with additional needs.

- Ad Lib is a weekly group for young people with **autism**, their siblings, their friends and their friends-to-be
- Fourth Wall is a project for adults with **Learning Disabilities** to explore a play before coming to see the Watermill production
- Duologue is a weekly drama group for young people and adults connected to **the Deaf community** or excited to make theatre with people who have a **hearing impairment**
- Interlude and Interval are weekly drama groups for young people who have complications in their lives, perhaps **sibling carers**
- Scene Change is a monthly workshop for adults who could use a change of scene and some me-time, perhaps **parent carers**

# Bubble Club

Bubble Club is a Parent and Toddler Group 0-5 years primarily for children with additional needs and their siblings.

We have a fully equipped soft play, sensory room and play ground as well as craft activities on offer.

Every Wednesday 10am until 12pm at  
The Mencap Centre,  
Enborne Gate, RG14 6AT  
£1.50 Per Child

Please contact the children's team on 01635 569875



## FUNKY THURSDAY

## YOUTH CLUB

Funky Thursday's

Runs every Thursday's evening  
6-8pm during term time

Activities chosen by you every session



In the past we have done Karaoke, Meals out,  
Yoga, and Games Nights

The Youth club is for 12-18 years old  
with moderate learning difficulty

## Spaces Available

If interested please contact

Megan Rawlings on 01635 569875 or  
email

[megan.rawlings@wbmencap.org](mailto:megan.rawlings@wbmencap.org)

for more information



## Playschemes

DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

WHEN

**Monday 6th August till Friday 17th August**

Sessions from 9:30-3:30pm

**Monday and Thursday older children 11-18 yrs**

**Tuesdays and Fridays younger children 3-11 yrs**

WHERE

**West Berkshire Mencap Centre**

Enborne Gate, Enborne Road, Newbury, RG14 6AT

For more information, please contact Megan Rawlings on

**01653 569875 or**

[megan.rawlings@wbmencap.org](mailto:megan.rawlings@wbmencap.org)

**WWW.WBMENCAP.ORG**



WELCOME TO SEN CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS

BOOKING REQUIRED

£ 35 PER SESSION BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH

EXPLORE The fantastic facilities at West Berkshire Mencap Centre we also do trips out

ACCESS TO LARGE SELECTION OF TOYS SENSORY ROOM SOFT PLAY ROOM LARGE HALL Large outdoor playground Hoists Available



## FAMILY STAY & PLAY

DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

When

Thursday 2nd August, Thursday 23rd August and Tuesday 28th August  
10am - 2pm

Where

**West Berkshire Mencap Centre**

Enborne Gate, Enborne Road, Newbury, RG14 6AT

For more information, please contact Megan Rawlings on

**01653 569875 or [megan.rawlings@wbmencap.org](mailto:megan.rawlings@wbmencap.org)**

[www.wbmencap.org](http://www.wbmencap.org)

Welcome to Sen children and Siblings from 0-18 Years old

No Need to Book

£ 5 per Family  
Bring your own lunch

Explore

The fantastic facilities at West Berkshire Mencap Centre own

Access to

Large Selection of Toys  
Sensory Room  
Soft Play Room  
Large Hall  
Large outdoor playground  
Hoists Available  
lunch

*West Berkshire Mencap's Friendship Skills Group  
raising awareness of learning disabilities, promoting  
and developing skills for social inclusion.*



Help the students to develop and build friendships within the group  
Developing learning goals  
Safety in the community and safe havens  
First Aid for beginners  
Developing Self Esteem  
Literacy skills and development  
Fun with Computers  
Students achievement files  
record of their achievements & success

Working with the students define group's rules & behaviours  
Working with strangers  
Planning and organising community activities  
Healthy eating & life style  
Developing money skills  
Wellbeing & Personal Care  
Relationships  
Drama  
Park Bench, communication skills & stranger awareness

**The course runs throughout the year**

The cost of Friendship group will be  
**£19.50** per session/week  
(invoiced monthly)

We meet every Wednesday from  
12 o'clock to 3pm at **The Slater  
Centre**

For more information contact:

**Cathy Black**  
cathy.black@wbmencap.org

**01635 778120**

The Slater Centre, Unit E, Hambridge Road Industrial Estate, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 5SS  
A West Berkshire Mencap Charity 1076658 Limited by Guarantee 3790942





# Sleep Course for parent/carers of children & young people

A two-week (2 hours per week) course for parent/carers of children (aged 0-18) with additional needs who are experiencing sleep difficulties with child A Parent to Parent Approach.

KEY THEMES:

- Children's sleep cycles & sleep needs
- The reasons behind night settling & night waking
- Strategies to feel less stressed when sleep training
- New parenting strategies for settling child to sleep & staying asleep

Delivered by trained Sleep Practitioners, who are also parents of children with specific learning needs

*"I've learnt so much and love these courses – they're such a help! I'm feeling much more confident about helping my daughter."*  
Sleep Course attendee, Melanie, Wargrave

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DATE

Various dates - see link below for details

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VENUE

Various locations across Berkshire

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COST

FREE course (£10 for the course handbook)

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CONTACT

Tel: 0118 986 3532

[sleep@parentingspecialchildren.co.uk](mailto:sleep@parentingspecialchildren.co.uk)

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WEBSITE

[www.parentingspecialchildren.co.uk/find-out-about/sleep/](http://www.parentingspecialchildren.co.uk/find-out-about/sleep/)

You can use this website to view further information and to book onto the courses

[www.parentingspecialchildren.co.uk](http://www.parentingspecialchildren.co.uk)

Parenting Special Children are a charity working with families of children and young people with special needs in Berkshire.



Get into

# Ready to Work Hospitality



**Are you aged 16 - 30? Looking for Employment in the Hospitality Industry?**

**Course Dates: Tuesday 17th – Thursday 19th July 2018**

Address: The Outlook, 76-78A King's Road, Reading, RG1 3BJ

This is a fantastic three day course designed to give you all the skills, training, qualifications and experience that you need to work in the Hospitality Industry. All travel expenses will be paid for, lunch provided and it won't affect your benefits

### **Day 1 - Employability Training**

Expert customer service, teamwork, interview, communication and leadership skills training specifically designed to give you an edge in your career

### **Day 2 - Level 2 Food Safety Certificate**

Gain a certified qualification in Food Safety which is a requirement to work in the Hospitality Industry so you will be fully prepared for every opportunity

### **Day 3 - Work Experience and Interview**

Hands on work experience with an employer in the Hospitality Sector so that you can demonstrate your skills. We will then set you up with guaranteed interviews with employers and continue to support you into employment

**To apply or find out more:**

**Google 'Prince's Trust'**

**Call for free on 0800 842 842**



Prince's Trust  
Inspiring young lives



Get Started

# Photography with



**Are you aged 16 - 25? Want to learn New Skills in Photography?**

**Taster Day: Tuesday 17th July 2018, 1pm – 4pm**

Address: Reading College, Kings Road, Reading, RG1 4HJ

**Course Dates: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

Address: Reading College, Kings Road, Reading, RG1 4HJ

- On this course you will learn the fundamentals of photography covering topics such as how to operate a DSLR camera, image composition processing and how to operate the camera's semi-automatic and manual functions to take stunning pictures
- Develop your artistic skills through development sessions, visiting a professional photographic exhibition in London and critiquing the work you see there, conducting research on an artist you find inspiring and producing your own photograph showcase
- Upon completion of the course you will gain a Bronze Arts Award and receive progression support from the Prince's Trust to help you find and apply for further training or internships in TV/Film running, photography and studio production. We will pay for your travel costs and lunch during the course and it won't affect your benefits.

**To apply or find out more:**  
**Google 'Prince's Trust'**  
**Call for free on 0800 842 842**







Get Started

Music with



**Are you aged 16 - 25? Want to learn New Skills in the Music Industry?**

**Taster Day: Wednesday 8th August 2018, 1pm – 4pm**

Address: Readipop, Milford Road, Reading, RG1 8LG

**Course Dates: Monday 13th – Friday 17th August 2018**

Address: Readipop, Milford Road, Reading, RG1 8LG

- On this course you will learn about recording, music composition and production through group tailored sessions delivered by industry professionals with expert music coaching to develop your performance skills including drumming, vocals and guitar
- Learn about sound-checking, lights and the technical process of recording your very own CD in a state of the art music studio. At the end of the course you will produce your own showcase gig with the chance to perform and work at the Readipop Festivals afterwards
- Upon completion of the course you will gain an Explore Arts Award and receive progression support from the Prince's Trust to help you find and apply for further training or internships in events, production and Music Studios. We will pay for your travel costs and lunch during the course and it won't affect your benefits.

**To apply or find out more:**  
**Google 'Prince's Trust'**  
**Call for free on 0800 842 842**



# Level 3 Certificate in Early Years Inclusive Practice



Child centred learning,  
Communication,  
Sensory needs &  
challenging behaviour,  
Wider systems

## The Course

- Online programme with trainer-facilitated group sessions and support.
- Practical activities and reflective journal.
- Online forum that continues after completion.

## Want to know more?

Contact Theresa: [theresa.bowers@dingley.org.uk](mailto:theresa.bowers@dingley.org.uk) or see our website: [www.dingley.org.uk/our-services/](http://www.dingley.org.uk/our-services/)

Though not a nationally recognised qualification, this course has been accredited by ncfе, demonstrating the quality and rigor.

Introductory offer:

£495 per trainee

Bursaries available

The course is managed by the Academy of Leadership and Management, and accredited by ncfе.

**ncfе.** ACADEMY OF  
LEADERSHIP &  
MANAGEMENT

## West Berkshire SEND Providers - What's on over the Summer?

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>The West Berkshire SEND Provider Forum have worked together to make sure that families have access to as many activities and sessions as possible throughout the school summer holidays. There are a mixture of short breaks, family play sessions and outings. If you want any further information on any of the activities shown on the timetable please speak to the provider of the service directly</p> <p>Most providers require you to book sessions in advance – please see details of how to do this below.</p> <p>The two Joint SEND events are drop-ins and do not require booking Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> July 10-2pm (at Swings &amp; Smiles) and Monday 20<sup>th</sup> August 10-2pm (at WB Mencap).</p> <p><b>Swings &amp; Smiles</b> – telephone 01635 285170 or email: <a href="mailto:office@swingsandsmiles.co.uk">office@swingsandsmiles.co.uk</a> or visit <a href="http://www.swingsandsmiles.co.uk">www.swingsandsmiles.co.uk</a> for more information</p> <p><b>Dingley's Promise</b> – telephone 01635 552458 or email: <a href="mailto:abi.preston-rees@dingley.org.uk">abi.preston-rees@dingley.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>PALS</b> – telephone 01189 3237999 or email: <a href="mailto:helen@palsweb.org.uk">helen@palsweb.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>WB Mencap</b> – telephone 01635 569875 or email <a href="mailto:megan.rawlings@wbmencap.org">megan.rawlings@wbmencap.org</a></p>						
21 <sup>st</sup> July Swings & Smiles - SIBS 10am-12pm - Over 5s, Free; Family Play 1-4pm - £5 per family	22 <sup>nd</sup> July Swings & Smiles 10am-12pm - £5 per family	23 <sup>rd</sup> July Swings & Smiles 10am-2pm - £5 per family	24 <sup>th</sup> July Available for Private Hire – contact the office for details	25 <sup>th</sup> July Swings & Smiles Short Breaks-10-12pm or 1-3pm- £5 per child	26 <sup>th</sup> July Joint SEND Event 10-2pm - £5 per family – to be held at Swings & Smiles	27 <sup>th</sup> July Swings & Smiles - SIBS 10am-12pm - Over 5s, Free; Family Play 3-7pm- £5 per family
28 <sup>th</sup> July Swings & Smiles 9.30am-12.30pm - £5 per family	29 <sup>th</sup> July Swings & Smiles 10am-12pm - £5 per family	30 <sup>th</sup> July Swings & Smiles 10am-2pm - £5 per family	31 <sup>st</sup> July			



## West Berkshire SEND Providers - What's on over the Summer?

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4 <sup>th</sup> August Swings & Smiles 9.30am-12.30pm - £5 per family	5 <sup>th</sup> August Swings & Smiles 10am-12pm - £5 per family	6 <sup>th</sup> August Swings & Smiles 10am-2pm - £5 per family Mencap Playscheme 11-18yrs	7 <sup>th</sup> August Mencap Playscheme 3-11yrs	8 <sup>th</sup> August Swings & Smiles Short Breaks-10-12pm or 1-3pm- £10 per child Dingley's Promise 9.30-2.30pm	9 <sup>th</sup> August Swings & Smiles 10am-12pm - £5 per family Mencap Playscheme 11-18yrs	10 <sup>th</sup> August Swings & Smiles - SIBS 10am-12pm - Over 5s, Free; Family Play 1-4pm - £5 per family PALS 10.15am to 1.15pm - Visit to Five a day market (Englefield) Mencap Playscheme 3-11yrs
11 <sup>th</sup> August Swings & Smiles 9.30am-12.30pm - £5 per family	12 <sup>th</sup> August Swings & Smiles 10am-12pm - £5 per family	13 <sup>th</sup> August Swings & Smiles 10am-2pm - £5 per family Mencap Playscheme 11-18yrs	14 <sup>th</sup> August Mencap Playscheme 3-11yrs	15 <sup>th</sup> August Swings & Smiles Short Breaks-10-12pm or 1-3pm- £10 per child PALS - 10am to 5pm - Day trip to PGL, Liddington for abseiling, crate stacking, zip wiring	16 <sup>th</sup> August Swings & Smiles 10am-2pm - £5 per child Dingley's Promise 9.30-2.30pm Mencap Playscheme 11-18yrs	17 <sup>th</sup> August Dingley's Promise 9.30-2.30pm Swings & Smiles - SIBS 10am-12pm - Over 5s, Free; Family Play 1-4pm - £5 per family Mencap Playscheme 3-11yrs
18 <sup>th</sup> August Swings & Smiles 9.30am-12.30pm - £5 per family	19 <sup>th</sup> August Swings & Smiles 10am-12pm - £5 per family	20 <sup>th</sup> August Joint SEND Event 10-2pm - £5 per family - held at WB Mencap PALS - 11am to 1.30pm - lily session at Basinstoke for indoor sky diving	21 <sup>st</sup> August	22 <sup>nd</sup> August Swings & Smiles Short Breaks-12-2pm- £10 per child	23 <sup>rd</sup> August Swings & Smiles 4-7pm - £5 per family Mencap Stay & Play 10-2pm	24 <sup>th</sup> August Swings & Smiles - SIBS 10am-12pm - Over 5s, Free; Family Play 1-4pm - £5 per family
25 <sup>th</sup> August	26 <sup>th</sup> August	27 <sup>th</sup> August BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY	28 <sup>th</sup> August Dingley's Promise 9.30-2.30pm Mencap Stay & Play 10-2pm	29 <sup>th</sup> August Dingley's Promise 9.30-2.30pm Swings & Smiles Short Breaks-10-12pm or 1-3pm- £10 per child	30 <sup>th</sup> August Swings & Smiles 12-4pm - £5 per family PALS 10am to 4pm - Dinton Pastures for pond dipping and climbing	31 <sup>st</sup> August Swings & Smiles - Family Play 1-4pm - £5 per family

Gates open at 11am  
Music 12 noon until 9pm

#differentworldfest



FESTIVAL  
Because *everybody* rocks

BURNT  
TOMORROW

Hercules  
Morse

Strange Folk

OTHER  
DREAMS

longdaylatenight

KILL  
COMMITTEE

RAZE\*REBUILD  
Shardlake

Adam  
the  
Gaslights



With food and drink stalls and daytime activities  
A fully inclusive music festival  
Saturday 4th August 2018  
Abbey Rugby Football club  
Rose Hill, Peppard Rd, Reading RG4 8XA

Carers tickets are free!

Tickets available at [www.thelittleboxoffice.com/adwf](http://www.thelittleboxoffice.com/adwf)  
[www.adifferentworldfestival.co.uk](http://www.adifferentworldfestival.co.uk)

