

The Castle School

A SPECIALIST COLLEGE FOR COMMUNICATION & INTERACTION



Activities and Information Guide

Inside this guide you will find details of local and national information sources which may be of interest to you, and details of activities that are available for children and young people locally. It includes details of group and activities designed specifically for children with special educational needs, and mainstream groups also.

We advise that before attending any group or activity, you contact the provider to check times and prices and other key details. Every effort has been made to check information is accurate and up to date but things are constantly changing and updating. In addition, there may be groups or activities that are missing: if you spot anything then please do get in touch and we can add it in to a future edition. Please contact Amy Bushell: abushell@castle.w-berks.sch.uk 07824 551 857.

A key service to be aware of is the West Berkshire Local Offer, which has up to date information about a wide range of support services. Please visit the website that follows, or search 'West Berkshire Local Offer'. <http://search3.openobjects.com/kb5/westberkshire/fsd/family.page?familychannel=4>. This guide should be used alongside the Local Offer website.

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Information Advice and Guidance

Advice and a slice: A group run on the 2nd Tuesday of every month from 1pm-2.45pm, designed to be a small, friendly support group for parents or carers with a child or infant with an additional need. Children do not need to have been diagnosed. Professionals come along to some meetings to speak and offer advice and support. Children under 3 can come along too, but must be supervised at all times. £1 voluntary contribution.

01488 683 977

Hungerford Centre for Children and Families, The Croft, Hungerford, RG17 0HY

Adviza – Independent Support: Adviza offers Independent Supporters to work directly with young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their families going through the conversion process whereby their Statement is changing to an Education, Health and Care Plan.

www.adviza.org.uk

independentsupport@adviza.org.uk

0118 402 7177

Autism Advisor for Families & Early Support Coordinator – Melissa Hutchings: Melissa supports families and carers who have recently gone through the diagnostic process, with a child receiving a diagnosis of ASC. Melissa listens to parents' concerns and questions and provides information, advice and guidance. Melissa also delivers training programmes (such as PAWS), to parents where a child in the family has recently received a diagnosis of ASC.

www.westberks.gov.uk

mhutchings@westberks.gov.uk

01635 503652

Learning Support Team, West Street House, West Street, Newbury, RG14 1BD

Berkshire Autism Alert Card – Berkshire Autistic Society: An alert card developed in partnership between BAS and the Berkshire Autism Alert Card Working Group, available to anyone with ASC free of charge. Cards should be carried at all times and shown if the individual finds themselves in a situation where they cannot easily explain their behaviour. The card has been launched in each Local Authority in Berkshire. Leaflets available from Castle School Family Liaison Worker, or via the BAS website.

<http://www.autismberkshire.org.uk/berkshire-autism-alert-card.aspx>

Helpline: 01189 594 594

Berkshire Autistic Society Helpline: Berkshire Autistic Society operate a telephone helpline through the week, and run training and support groups to provide support, information, advice and guidance to families with a child (or adult) with ASC. Visit the BAS website for full details of what is on offer.

<http://www.autismberkshire.org.uk/default.aspx>

Helpline: 01189 594 594 (available Monday to Friday, 10am-4pm)

Unit 7, Richfield Place, Richfield Avenue, Reading, RG1 8EQ

Berkshire Sensory Consortium: A 'specialist education support service for hearing impairment, visual impairment and multi-sensory impairment'. Visit the website for information, contact details, and information about parent training opportunities.

<http://berkshirescs.btck.co.uk/> 01628 796 786

CAMHS – West Berkshire: If you're concerned about the mental health of a child or young person, Berkshire CAMHS might be able to help. Visit their website (below) for answers to frequently asked questions and contact details. The CAMHS website also has links to several other websites that might be of use.

<http://www.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/camhs/default.asp>

Children's Centres in West Berkshire: check with individual Children's Centres regarding groups and programmes available for families with children under 5. It's always worth contacting Children Centres even if your children are outside of this age group, as they may be able to provide information or guidance. They have a generic email address for enquiries:

childrenscentres@westberks.gov.uk

Burghfield and Area Children's Centre: 01189 831 866 Mrs Bland's Infant & Nursery School, Jordan's Lane, Burghfield Common, Reading, Berkshire, RG7 3LP

Calcot, Theale and Area Children's Centre: 01189 456 157 Calcot Infant School and Nursery, Curtis Road, Calcot, Reading, Berkshire, RG31 4XG

Chieveley and Area Children's Centre: 01635 248866 Chieveley Primary School, School Lane, Chieveley, Newbury, West Berkshire, RG20 8TY

East Downlands Children's Centre: 0118 9845105 Pangbourne Primary School, Kennedy Drive, Pangbourne, Reading, Berkshire, RG8 7LB

Hungerford Children's Centre: 01488 682 628 The Croft, Hungerford, Berkshire, RG17 0HY

North Newbury Children's Centre: 01635 31143 Victoria Park, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 1EH

North Thatcham Children's Centre: 01635 865318 Park Lane, Thatcham, Berkshire, RG18 3PG

South Newbury Children's Centre: 01635 34695 The Nightingales (off of Pyle Hill), Greenham, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 7SJ

South Thatcham Children's Centre: 01635 877642 Lower Way, Thatcham, Berkshire, RG19 3RR

Family Voice West Berkshire: Family Voice West Berkshire is an independent and voluntary network of parents and carers or children aged between 0 and 25 years with special and additional needs in West Berkshire. Family Voice is an opportunity to share your experiences and benefit from the knowledge gained by other parents and carers. Family Voice West Berkshire also provides an opportunity for families to have their say on how services should be shaped and developed: they work with the Local Authority, NHS and other service providers to identify gaps in provision. Family Voice West Berkshire organise information and social events. Please see website for further details of upcoming events, or alternatively contact Family Voice directly on the telephone number given.

<http://www.familyvoicewestberks.org/>
info@familyvoicewesterks.org

07733 254 161 / 01635 41464

Family Voice West Berkshire, c/o West Berkshire Mencap, Enborne Gate, Enborne Road, Newbury, RG14 6AT

Get Berkshire Active 2014: Get Berkshire Active is the County Sports Partnership for the area. They oversee a number of sports clubs and activity providers who run sessions offering a number of different sports such as volleyball, hockey, canoeing and football. Sessions take place in a variety of locations across Berkshire, and you can search for them on the Get Berkshire Active website.

www.getberkshireactive.org

info@getberkshireactive.org

01628 472851

Help for Families: A new team within West Berkshire Council for children, young people and families who are facing difficulties and who would like to access some additional services for help. For example: families needing additional support to care for children, or children or young people who are having problems at home, at school or elsewhere. Families can enquire directly, or ask for a member of the Pastoral Team to support them with this.

<http://info.westberks.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=30030>

helpforfamilies@westberks.gov.uk

01635 503090

Home-Start: Home-Start offer support to families where there is at least one child under the age of 5. They provide non-judgemental practical and emotional support to help families develop in confidence and their ability to cope. Examples of support include: parenting support (1:1 and can be on a weekly basis), emotional support, direct support for children e.g. playing, establishing routines, encouraging development, practical help to get to appointments, outreach and family groups, support at meetings etc.



www.home-startwestberks.org.uk

office@home-startwb.org.uk

01635 760310

ICAN: I CAN Help is a range of information services that provide help and advice to parents and practitioners regarding communication issues. It offers a free call-back service with a speech and language therapist, a website and assessment services.

www.ican.org.uk

info@ican.org.uk

0845 2254073 / 020 7843 2552

I CAN, 8 Wakley Street, London, EC1V 7QE

The Local Offer: The Local Offer sets out provision which is available for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), aged 0 to 25, including education, health and social care services.

http://search3.openobjects.com/kb5/westberkshire/fsd/family_page?familychannel=4

fis@westberks.gov.uk

01635 503100

National Autistic Society Family Support Worker: Sue Granger is the Family Support Worker for the National Autistic Society West Berkshire branch. Sue can provide information, advice and guidance to families on a number of issues ranging from toileting and anxiety through to meal times and sleep routines.

<http://www.westberksnas.org.uk/Support/default.html>

sue.granger@nas.org.uk

07748 880 725

National Autistic Society West Berkshire Branch Befriending Service: please contact NAS WB for more details.

www.autism.org.uk

01635 869068

Parenting Special Children: Parenting Special Children offer a number of different services that support parents through different stages of having a child with special needs: from diagnosis through to training and developing your skills as a parent.

Diagnosis Support Service: A free service offering 1:1 peer support for parents/carers of children/young people recently diagnosed with an additional need. Within this service, an information service and information room are also provided.

Sleep Service: Workshops to help parents and carers understand the reasons behind night settling and waking, and new strategies to help their child to sleep. Parenting Special Children also run workshops for practitioners to help them to support families. Sleep clinics are also held for individual children by Sleep Practitioners who have had specialist training with the NHS Southampton Sleep Clinic.

Parenting Programmes: Parenting Special Children run specialist programmes in Berkshire to help parents to develop their skills in relation to their child's specific difficulties. Please see the Parenting Special Children website for details of upcoming parenting programmes.

<http://www.parentingspecialchildren.co.uk/>

info@parentingspecialchildren.co.uk

0118 986 3532



Pastoral Team, Castle School: The Pastoral Team at Castle School comprises of a team of Pupil Support and Emotional Literacy trained staff, a Child Home Development Worker, a Family Liaison Worker and the Pastoral Manager. The team can provide support on numerous issues such as managing behaviour, supporting your young person to manage their emotions, accessing services, completing forms or finding information. 1:1 appointments are on offer as well as coffee mornings and information sessions, training courses and many other opportunities.

croberts@castle.w-berks.sch.uk Cathy Roberts Pastoral Manager

abushell@castle.w-berks.sch.uk Amy Bushell Family Liaison Worker

01635 42976

Transition Information Network: The Transition Information Network is an alliance of organisations and individuals who have come together to try and improve the experiences of young people who are going through transition by providing higher quality information. Topics include higher education, work, health and housing for example.

www.transitioninfonet.org.uk

tin@ncb.org.uk

020 7843 6006

West Berkshire Information Advice and Support Service (formerly West Berkshire Parent Partnership Service): The West Berkshire Information Advice and Support Service offer parents and carers free, confidential and impartial information and advice about their child's special educational needs. The service is run by Portsmouth Disability Forum under a contract from West Berkshire Council, but is independent of the Local Authority. The service provides: a listening ear, impartial information, practical help, support for meetings where appropriate, help with form filling, information sessions and events.

<http://www.westberkspps.org.uk/>

info@westberksiass.org.uk

0845 519 8902

West Berkshire Mencap Family Advisory Service: This service works with people with a learning disability and their parents and carers to help them achieve the services and support that they are entitled to. This could include benefits, respite care, transport, social and leisure opportunities, transition, moving out of home and finding suitable employment.

www.westberkshiremencap.org

info@westberkshiremencap.org

01635 41464

West Berkshire Parent Voice: Run by parents for parents of children with an additional special need or disability. A chance to voice your opinion on what services you would like for your child.

www.westberksparentvoice.org.uk

info@westberksparentvoice.org.uk

07860 942280

West Berkshire Referral and Assessment Team: Contact the Referral and Assessment Team for information about direct payments, short break foster care, overnight breaks and care support packages.

www.westberks.gov.uk

01635 503090

West Berkshire Sunshine and Showers Group (Berkshire Autistic Society): A support group run by Berkshire Autistic Society and West Berkshire Council for parents and carers living in West Berkshire. Please see website for details of upcoming dates. Coffee and biscuits are available. £1 per session.

<http://www.autismberkshire.org.uk/west-berkshire-sunshine-and-showers-group.aspx>

R Slater: 0118 9831 866 / Melissa Hutchings: 01635 503 651

Runs at 2 different venues: Burghfield and Area Children's Centre (Jordan Lane, Burghfield Common RG7 3LP) and Tilehurst and Area Children's Centre (Downs Way Primary School, Warbeck Drive, Tilehurst RG31 6FE)

Pre-School

Children's Centres: please see details in 'Information, Advice and Guidance' section.

Dingley Family and Specialist Early Years Centres: Dingley provides a place where children (from birth to 5) with additional needs and disabilities can develop skills through play under the supervision of qualified staff. Parents and carers are also welcome. Contact Dingley directly for details of session times and costs.

<http://www.dingley.org.uk/>
admin.westberks@dingley.org.uk

01635 552458

Phoenix Resource Centre, Newtown Road, Newbury RG14 7EB

The Messy Club: The Messy Club is a special needs drop-in playgroup for 0-5s with messy play and painting, as well as activities, special guests and music. Sessions run on Tuesdays from 10.30am-12.30pm. £3 per child per session.

07809 709 363 (Luisa)

Jelly Studios, 42 Market Place, Reading RG1 2DE

Tilehurst Children's Centre Play Group: This is a drop in play group for parents and carers of children with additional needs aged 0-5. It runs on the 1st Tuesday of the month during term-time, from 10am-11am. Please contact Carole Cowen, who runs the group, beforehand to check the session is going ahead.

ccowen@westberks.gov.uk

0118 941 3680

Tilehurst and Area Children's Centre, Downsway Primary School, Warbeck Drive, Tilehurst, Reading RG31 6FE

West Berkshire Mencap Bubble Club: Weekly parent/carer and toddler group for children with learning difficulties and their parents. Meet on a Wednesday from 10am-2pm (term-time only). At Bubble Club children have access to the entire centre's facilities as well as special activities that are set up. Cost on enquiry.

www.westberkshiremencap.org

info@westberkshiremencap.org

01635 41464

After School/College

Brookfields School Blast Off After School Club: An after school club primarily for pupils aged 5-19 who attend Brookfields School, though Brookfields will also consider children with SEN attending link schools. The club runs from 3.30pm – 6pm and offers a light tea. The club has its own room with a variety of equipment and activities on offer. £9 per session.

<http://brookfieldsschool.org/school/extendedschools/Pages/BlastOffClub.aspx>

gcleaver@brookfields.w-berks.sch.uk

0118 942 1382

Brookfields School, Sage Road, Tilehurst, Reading RG31 6SW

Burghfield Sailing Club Sailability: On a Thursday from 6pm-8pm (April-September only) Burghfield Sailability run a sailing session for adults and children aged 8+ with a disability. The session is supported by Royal Yacht Association Instructors. £6 per session. Please contact before attending.

www.burghfieldsailability.org.uk

pat@burghfieldsailing.org

0118 930 3604

Burghfield Sailing Club, Hangar Road, Theale, Reading RG7 4AP

Crossroads: Music and Craft Group runs on a Thursday 4pm-6pm at Newbury Methodist Church. A group for young people aged up to 23 years with Autism, ADHD or a similar difficulty. Children and young people have access to musical instruments and crafting activities. Free, but please book.

www.oxfordshirecrossroads.org.uk

care@oxfordshirecrossroads.org.uk

Ainsley or Kate on 01865 260280

West Berkshire Mencap Active Zone: After school club for school aged (5-18 years) children with a learning disability. Active Zone runs every day apart from a Thursday and provides fun activities on site at Mencap. Cost on enquiry.

www.westberkshiremencap.org

info@westberkshiremencap.org

01635 41464



West Berkshire Mencap After College Club: An after college club running on a Monday and Tuesday from 3.30-5.30pm, for those aged 16-25. Starting in January 2015. £8 per session. Contact Eli Harris for more details.

www.westberkshiremencap.org

eli.harris@wbmencap.org

01635 778124

The Slater Centre, Unit E, Hambridge Road Industrial Estate, RG14 5SS

Youth Clubs

Adventure Dolphin: A wide range of outdoor activities offered for young people aged 8 + across West Berkshire. Cost on enquiry.

<http://www.adventuredolphin.co.uk/?view=default>

0118 984 3162

Bphab Youth Club: Berkshire Phab is an integrated club for children and young people aged 9-18 years. The club offers a friendly and relaxed atmosphere where members can choose from a variety of activities such as art and craft, sports and games, cooking or chilling out in the sensory room. Parents and carers are welcome to leave their children at the club, unless there is a personal care

need. Sessions run on alternate Saturdays 9.30am-1pm. There is also a drop in for those aged 16+ on Wednesdays 7.30pm-10pm. Please check website for details as sessions do not run all year round.

www.berkshirephab.org

info@berkshirephab.org

0118 916 8413

Berkshire Phab, The MAPP Centre, 22-24 Mount Pleasant, Reading RG1 2TD.

Brookfields School Youth Club: Thursdays from 7pm-9pm for students aged 14-19. Meet friends, take part in activities or chill out. Activities include bowling, off site trips, swimming, snooker and Wii. £45 per term.

<http://brookfieldsschool.org/school/extendedschools/Pages/BlastOffClub.aspx>

gcleaver@brookfields.w-berks.sch.uk

0118 942 1382

Brookfields School, Sage Road, Tilehurst, Reading RG31 6SW

Happy Days: Happy Days is a voluntary club running two monthly sessions at Mary Hare School: one for children aged 5-10, and one for children and young people aged 11-15. The clubs are for children and young people with Autism and their families. Parents must stay with their children throughout. Booking is essential, contact Kirilynn for more information and fees.

k.gardner@maryhare.org.uk

07740 100654

Mary Hare School, Wantage Road, Newbury RG14 3BQ

National Autistic Society West Berkshire Branch Cosmos Club: A club for young adults aged 17-25 years with a diagnosis of ASD. Members should be able to attend activities with minimum adult supervision. 7.30pm-9.30pm every other Tuesday throughout the year. A variety of activities are on offer. Cost on enquiry. A variety of locations

<http://www.westberksnas.org.uk>

National Autistic Society West Berkshire Branch Oasis Club: 8pm-9.30pm Thursday evenings term time only. For mainstream school children and young people aged 13-18. An opportunity to take part in a variety of activities. Cost on enquiry.

<http://www.westberksnas.org.uk/default.html#>

oasisclub@westberksnas.org.uk

07824 451 825

The Dragon Club, Speenhamland School, Newbury, RG14 1NU

National Autistic Society West Berkshire Branch Spectrum Club: 6.30pm-8pm Thursday evenings during term time. This is a youth club for children aged 10-13 years with an ASD diagnosis and attending a mainstream school. Variety of activities each week including Wii, pool, cooking, crafts, football etc. £2.00 per session.

<http://www.westberksnas.org.uk/default.html#>

Spectrumclub@westberksnas.org.uk

07795 333 817

The Dragon Club, Speenhamland School, Newbury, RG14 1NU

West Berkshire Mencap Funky Thursdays: Youth Club run every Thursday during term time for teenagers aged 12-18 years. The teenagers are involved in creating the programme of activities which have included discos, quiz nights, trips to Pizza Hut or chill out sessions. Cost on enquiry.

Holiday Activities

Animal Rangers: Animal Rangers offer sessions for 6-16 year olds on alternate Saturdays (12pm-3pm), and during school holidays (10.30am-3pm; check website for dates) for a range of animal handling opportunities and experiences. Parents can stay on site or leave their children with staff. Please see website for full details and information about what to bring: wellies are a must! Full day during holidays £20; Saturdays cost on enquiry.

www.animalrangers.co.uk
dawndingwall@btinternet.com
Holyport, Maidenhead

BeYond: A service for children and young people aged 8-18 in West Berkshire with an Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC). BeYond offer a range of services including holiday activity days, monthly social groups, and training for professionals. Please contact BeYond for a discussion about your child and how they may be able to support you. Holiday club £45 per day. Costs for other sessions on enquiry.

georgie4beyond@gmail.com
carly4beyond@gmail.com
Georgie: 07554 708 733
Carly: 07554 701 239

Brookfields School Blast Off Holiday Clubs: 2 week Easter and 4 week Summer holiday provision. Split into primary and secondary aged students. Varied programme including swimming, sports, cooking, arts and crafts and sensory activities. Runs 10am-4pm each day with a 'stay late' facility (4pm-6pm) for those who need it. £20.50 per day (plus an additional £5.50 for a 'stay late').

<http://brookfieldsschool.org/school/extendedschools/Pages/BlastOffClub.aspx>
gcleaver@brookfields.w-berks.sch.uk

0118 942 1382
Brookfields School, Sage Road, Tilehurst, Reading RG31 6SW

Disability Challengers: Disability Challengers run holiday activities for children and young people aged 13-18 with additional needs. Their nearest centre is in Reading, but activities are offered in Reading, Basingstoke and the surrounding area. Example activities include sports days, ice skating trips and cup cake decorating sessions. Cost on enquiry.

www.disabilitychallengers.org/readingyouthscheme
ReadingYouthscheme@disability-challengers.org
01483 230939

Guideposts Holiday Club: The Guideposts holiday scheme runs from 10am-3pm during the holidays on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The



scheme caters for children aged 8-18 years. Guideposts clubs create a natural opportunity for children and young people to socialize, develop their confidence and learn new skills. Independence and positive behaviour are promoted. Guideposts runs from: Castle School, Love Lane, Donnington, Newbury RG14 2JG. £17 per day.

www.guidepoststrust.org.uk
cyps@guidepoststrust.org.uk
01993 899980

Kids West Berkshire: Activity Weekends: Available for children and young people aged 11-18 years. Weekends which provide different opportunities for activities, and the chance to develop independence skills within a group of young people. One weekend only per young person. Places are offered on a first come, first served basis subject to suitability and risk assessments. Free. Sitting Service: This service provides short breaks for children and young people with severe and complex needs. The service is tailored to the individual. Cost on enquiry.

clare.turner@kids.org.uk
01344 747211 / 07748 909792

Leighton Park School: Leighton Park run an extensive holiday programme featuring an early bird club if an early drop off is needed, as well as a standard day. Numerous activities may be offered through the club, for example: street dancing, orienteering and jewellery making. There are also off-site activities on some days. Prices vary depending on activity, whether early bird facility is used and off site trips: approximately £30 per day.

www.leightonpark.com/Enterprises/HolidayActivities
activities@leightonpark.com
0118 987 9538

Leighton Park School, Shinfield Road, Reading RG2 7DE

Reading Football Club Soccer Schools: The Reading FC Community Trust soccer schools are suitable for mainstream children and those with additional needs. These sessions offer expert coaching, a fun exercise opportunity and a great opportunity to socialise. See website for further details including dates, pricing and details of what your child will need on the day. Cost on enquiry.

www.readingfc.co.uk
soccerschools@readingfc.co.uk
0118 968 1460

Thumbs Up Club: Thumbs Up Club is a holiday club that runs over Easter and the Summer Holidays for children and young people with a learning difficulty and/or disability aged 3-19 years. Days run from 9.30am - 4pm with a high staffing ratio supporting the children and young people with a variety of activities. £21 per day.

www.thumbsupclub.co.uk
bookings@thumbsupclub.co.uk
0118 947 1196

Addington School, (next to Bulmershe Leisure Centre, Woodley, RG5 3EU)

West Berkshire Mencap Playscheme: Mencap's playscheme is the biggest playscheme for children with learning disabilities in the area. It runs over the Easter and Summer holidays and provides

activities for children aged 3-18 years. Most activities are at the centre, though there are occasional trips out. Cost on enquiry.

www.westberkshiremencap.org

info@westberkshiremencap.org

01635 41464

Respite and Short Breaks

Castlegate: Castlegate promotes the relief of learning disability, for young people in particular, by the provision of facilities and services not normally provided by the local authority. Outreach involves visiting families, supporting children in leisure activities and an overnight stay service. Open to all with a learning disability in discussion with social worker only.

01635 43778

Castle Croft, Love Lane, Donnington, Newbury RG14 2JG

Crossroads: Crossroads offer support during the holidays and for weekends away, and support for a range of personal and social care needs. Please contact Crossroads for more information and for details regarding costings.

www.oxfordshirecrossroads.org.uk

care@oxfordshirecrossroads.org.uk

Ainsley or Kate on 01865 260280

Dimensions: Dimensions offer a range of support options, and have a dedicated Support Advisor (Marina Dobson) who can work with you to put together a support package that works best for you and your family. Contact Dimensions for more information and costing details.

www.dimensions-uk.org

0300 373 3730

9-10 Commerce Park, Theale, Reading RG7 4AB

Greenslade: A support agency based in Reading who a range of person-centred support solutions for people aged 0-65. Cost on enquiry.

www.radis.co.uk

greenslade@radis.co.uk

01189 861135

2 Windsor Square, Silver Street, Reading, RG1 2TH

West Berkshire Mencap Child Sitting Service: Experienced sitters come to look after your child for a few hours to give you the chance to have a break, spend time with your other children or pop out and do some shopping. Cost on enquiry.

www.westberkshiremencap.org

info@westberkshiremencap.org

01635 41464

West Berkshire Mencap Holidays: Each year Mencap provides an adventure holiday for up to 6 children. The holiday takes place at the Calvert Trust in Devon, and there are a wide range of activities available such as climbing, sailing and horse-riding. Age group: 12-18 years. Cost on enquiry.

www.westberkshiremencap.org
info@westberkshiremencap.org
01635 41464

Siblings

Brookfields School SIBS Group: termly group run on a Saturday (10-2 with lunch provided) for siblings of young people with SEN

<http://brookfieldsschool.org/school/extendedschools/Pages/BlastOffClub.aspx>
jjohntson@brookfields.w-berks.sch.uk

0118 942 1382

Brookfields School, Sage Road, Tilehurst, Reading RG31 6SW

Swings and Smiles: As well as play facilities, Swings and Smiles offer support for siblings. This includes an email mentoring service for siblings aged 12 and over, as well as offering a friendly pair of ears when children attend the service with their sibling who has special educational needs. Cost on enquiry.

<http://www.swingsandsmiles.co.uk/>
phoenix@swingsandsmiles.co.uk

01635 285170

Phoenix Resource Centre, Newtown Road, Newbury RG14 7EB

Post 16/Adult Services

Berkshire Autistic Society Level Up Club: A computer games club for young adults aged 18-25 diagnosed with ASD. Runs twice a month on the first and third Saturday from 2pm-4pm. £3 per session.

<http://www.autismberkshire.org.uk/default.aspx>
contact@autismberkshire.org.uk

Helpline: 01189 594 594

Katesgrove Children's Centre, Waterloo Meadows, Elgar Road, Reading RG2 0BN

Enrych: Enrych is a local charity which supports adults who have a physical disability to take part in social, leisure and learning opportunities. Enrych can provide 1:1 support from volunteers, for example to make it possible for someone to take part in a regular social activity. Enrych also offer information and advice. They run in West Berkshire and in Reading. All free.

www.berkshire.enrych.org.uk
chris.bounds@enrych.org.uk

0844 412 7501 / 07926 023908

Growing4all: A therapeutic gardening project whereby trainees are kept busy on a work skills programme. As well as learning skills that are transferable to the workplace, trainees take part in

sessions that are therapeutic in a number of ways: sensory, social, interactive, sense of self. Cost on enquiry.

reception@growing4all.org.uk

01635 297200

Interakt: Interakt provides opportunities for young people and adults with a learning disability to develop their skills and maintain their sense of identity through music, art and drama activities and workshops. Held at Morpheus Theatre (Phoenix Centre) and Ace Space. Costs on enquiry.

DJ VJ: Mondays 9.30am-3pm: learn and develop skills in visual effects and being a disc jockey. Held at Morpheus Theatre.

Interakt Community Theatre Co.: Mondays 7pm-8.30pm: explore using your voice, improvisation, acting in character, masks, props, costume design, performing, making friends and much more. Held at Morpheus Theatre.

Arts and Crafts at Ace Space: Tuesdays 9.30am-3pm: A range of art and craft activities including recycling outfits from existing clothing or recycling everyday objects. Jewellery making, painting, collages, a range of different activities each week and through the year. Held at Ace Space.

Film Club: Wednesdays 9.30am-3pm: learn basic filming techniques for personal/practical purposes. Held at Morpheus Theatre.

Music and Drama: Thursdays 9.30am-3pm. These sessions include a variety of activities including dance, drama and music. A variety of genres and instruments are explored. Held at Ace Space.

Ballroom dancing: Thursdays 6.30pm-8pm: learn to dance in a variety of styles with a partner. No need to take a partner along.

<http://www.interakt.org.uk/index.html>

enquiries@interakt.org.uk

07900 867 704

Link-Up Work Skills Project: Link-Up is a work skills project where by trainees work towards producing items for real customers. Link-Up provides opportunities for individuals to learn a host of new skills and to receive support and guidance along the way. As they develop in confidence, trainees can take on increased responsibilities. Cost on Enquiry.

jane@link-up-project.org.uk

01635 500850

National Autistic Society West Berkshire Branch Social Group: For people with Autism and Asperger Syndrome aged 18-30. Meets on the last Tuesday of the month, 7pm-9pm. Carers also welcome. Location varies depending on activity. The group is facilitated by a NAS volunteer.

<http://www.westberksnas.org.uk/default.html#>

Swings and Smiles Post 16 and Adults session: On the first Tuesday of the month, Swings and Smiles run a session specifically for those aged 16 and over. The session



runs from 4.30-7.30pm and incorporates cooking and eating a meal, use of the sensory room and soft play area. Parents and carers are asked to stay throughout the sessions. £5 per session.

<http://www.swingsandsmiles.co.uk/>

phoenix@swingsandsmiles.co.uk

01635 285170

Phoenix Resource Centre, Newtown Road, Newbury RG14 7EB

West Berkshire Mencap Adult Services: West Berkshire Mencap provides a range of services for adults with learning disabilities, ranging from different leisure activities, Gateway Award Clubs and services to support entry to employment. Contact West Berks Mencap for more detailed information.

www.westberkshiremencap.org

info@westberkshiremencap.org

01635 41464

The Upper Hill Farm Project: A social enterprise offering a therapeutic day service to those wishing to gain experience working and learning on a small farm and/or in horticulture. During the school holidays the farm runs days for young people with learning disabilities and/or difficulties, aged 16 plus. Full and half day sessions are available. Cost on enquiry.

info@upperlodgefarmingproject.org.uk

07794 468 841 (Matthew Randle); 07976 821 294 (Michelle Jenkins)

The Yume Project: The Yume Project gives people with autism or a learning disability an opportunity to access social, leisure and work based activities. An extensive range of services are offered in a way that suits the needs of the individual.

www.theyumeproject.org.uk

hello@theyumeproject.org.uk

Shelley: 07951 972420

Claudio: 07884 495428

Mainstream Services and Facilities

Air Cadets: Open to teenagers aged 13-17. There are 3 squadrons in West Berkshire, one in Newbury, Aldermaston and Burghfield. Activities include: flying, sports and adventure training. Cost on enquiry.

www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets

All Star Theatre Academy: <http://allstardance.co.uk/>

Army Cadets: Open to teenagers aged 12-18. There are 5 sections within West Berkshire. Activities include: military skills, physical activities and the opportunity to gain qualifications. Cost on enquiry.

www.armycadets.com

Berkshire Maestros (music): <http://www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk/new/>

Boys Brigade: Open to teenagers from 8-18 (different sections for different age groups). Boys Brigade provide a variety of games, activities and challenges for young people. Cost on enquiry.

www.boys-brigade.org.uk

01422 231 681

Children's Soccer Academy: Drop in football sessions. Saturdays: 10am-11am under 4 year olds, 11am-12noon 5-6 year olds (Acland Fields, Cold Ash). Fridays: 6pm-7pm 6-14 year olds (Trinity School, astro turf). Open access sessions, not limited to children with SEN, coaches integrate everyone together. Coaches have experience in working with children with a variety of learning disabilities inclusively. £5 per session (reduced if you join the club).

www.childrensocceracademy.co.uk

childrensocceracademy@gmail.com

01635 255 215 / 07736 404942

Entertainment: Look out for events and activities that may be of interest.

Arlington Arts www.arlingtonarts.co.uk

Autism Friendly Cinema Screenings www.dimensions-uk.org/support-services/autism-care/autism-friendly-screenings/#cinemalist

Corn Exchange Newbury www.cornexchangenew.com

Lakeside Superbowl www.lakeside-superbowl.co.uk

Vue Cinema www.myvue.co.uk/newbury 08712 240 240

Girl Guide Movement (Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and a Senior Section): Suitable for girls and young women aged 5-25 (split into Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Seniors depending on age). There are 21 Girl Guide groups across West Berkshire. Cost on enquiry.

www.girlguiding.org.uk

0207 834 6242

The Hungerford Theatre Company: <http://www.hungerfordtheatrecompany.co.uk/index.htm>

Leapfrog Ceramics Sunday Art Club: Monthly creative session for over 8's. This session runs one Sunday morning a month 10.30-12.30. Children learn interesting and useful techniques which can be used to create expert designs. A new technique is demonstrated each month. All materials are supplied and your child will keep the items they paint. Costs £14.50 per session (all inclusive), or £72 for a block booking of 6 sessions.

http://www.leapfrogceramics.co.uk/artclub_w.html

01635 869777

Leisure Centres in West Berkshire: Check websites for details of specific activity programmes and opportunities. Please visit <http://www.westberks.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=29056> for links to leisure centre websites.

Cotswold Sports Centre: 01189 414 690 Downs Way, Tilehurst, Reading, West Berkshire RG31 6SL

Downland Sports Centre: 01635 578866 Manor Crescent, Compton, Newbury, West Berkshire RG20 6NU

Hungerford Leisure Centre: 01488 683 303 John O'Gaunt Community Technology College, Priory Road, Hungerford, West Berkshire RG17 0AN

Kennet Leisure Centre: 01635 871 112 Stoney Lane, Thatcham, West Berkshire RG19 4LJ

Lambourn Centre: 01488 73690 Close End, Lambourn, West Berkshire RG17 8NJ

Northcroft Leisure Centre: 01635 31199 Northcroft Lane, Newbury, West Berkshire RG14 1RS

Theale Green Recreation Centre: 01189 323 725 Church Street, Theale, Reading, West Berkshire RG7 5DA

Willink Leisure Centre: 01189 834845 School Lane, Burghfield Common, Reading, West Berkshire RG7 3XP

Libraries in West Berkshire: Check for details of activities and programmes available for children. For opening times and events and activity details:

<http://info.westberks.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=30277>

Burghfield Common Library: 0118 9833632 Burghfield Common Library, School Lane, Burghfield Common, Reading, West Berkshire RG7 3JZ

Hungerford Library: 01488 682660 Hungerford Library, Church Street, Hungerford, West Berkshire RG17 0JG

Lambourn Library: 01488 71350 The Library, High Street, Lambourn, Hungerford, West Berkshire RG17 8XL

Mortimer Library: 0118 933 2882 Mortimer Library, 27 Victoria Road, Mortimer Common, Reading, West Berkshire, RG7 3SH

Newbury Library: 01635 519900 Newbury Central Library, The Wharf, Newbury, West Berkshire RG14 5AU.

Pangbourne Library: 0118 9844117 Pangbourne Library, Reading Road, Pangbourne, Reading, West Berkshire RG8 7LY

Thatcham Library: 01635 866049 Thatcham Library, Bath Road, Thatcham, West Berkshire RG18 3AG

Theale Library: 0118 9303207 Theale Library, Church Street, Theale, Reading, West Berkshire RG7 5BZ

Wash Common Library: 01635 35252 Wash Common Library, Glendale Avenue, Newbury, West Berkshire RG14 6TL

Newbury Nomads (drama): <http://www.nomadsmusicaltheatre.co.uk/Home.aspx>

Newbury Rugby Club: Newbury Rugby Club provide various sessions and activities for those aged 6-25.

www.newburyrfc.co.uk
info@newburyrfc.co.uk

01635 230023

Monks Lane, Newbury Berks RG14 7RW

Newbury Young Stars (Drama): <http://www.newburytheatre.co.uk/youth.htm>

RhythmZone (music): RhythmZone run weekly music sessions for children and young people of all abilities. The instructor works to ensure musical activities are fulfilling and accessible for all. Sessions run on Thursdays from 7pm-8pm, term-time only. Please contact Andy Fowler ahead of your first visit. £5 per session.

www.rhythmzone.co.uk
andy@rhythmzone.co.uk

07884 231 188

St Nicholas School, Link Road, Newbury

Sea Cadets: As a sea cadet you can go to sea, learn to sail and do adventure training plus learn lots of new skills, with a particular focus on water based activities. Sea Cadets is suitable for young people aged 10 to 18. Cost on enquiry.

www.sea-cadets.org/newbury

01635 42024

Craven Dene, London Road, Newbury, RG14 2AY

The Scout Association: There are 15 Scout groups in West Berkshire, suitable for young people aged 6-25. Children and young people are split into different groups by age. Scouts provides opportunities to have lots of fun and adventures, and gain badges and awards, making lots of new friends along the way. Cost on enquiry.

www.scouts.org.uk

0845 300 1818

St John's Ambulance: Suitable for children and young people aged 5-25 (split into groups depending on age). Groups teach first aid skills and offer other fun activities. There are groups in Newbury, Thatcham, Theale and Tilehurst. Cost on enquiry.

www.sja.org.uk



The Talent Stop (Drama): <http://www.thetalentstop.co.uk/>

Watermill Theatre Youth: https://www.watermill.org.uk/youth_theatre

West Berkshire Card: a combined leisure centre discount and library card for residents of West Berkshire. With your West Berkshire Card you can gain discounts on activities in sports and leisure centres. You can save 10% on DVD, video and CD hire in West Berkshire libraries, and will receive discount on the entrance fee to Shaw House. There is also a concessionary West Berkshire card available if you are over 60 years old, have a disability or are on a low income. This offers bigger discounts.

<http://info.westberks.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=27479>
recreation@westberks.gov.uk
01635 519551

Toy suppliers for children with special educational needs

Amber Pumpkin: teething toys and comforters for older children www.amberpumpkin.com

Charlotte's Tandems: loans tandems to people with disabilities or special needs who are unable to ride a bike safely on their own. www.charlottestandems.weebly.com

Explore Your Senses: innovative sensory resources and toys that will engage children of all ages in sensory learning and exploration. Suitable for children with a wide range of learning disabilities. www.exploreyoursenses.co.uk 01535 662812

Happy Hopperz – Inflatable Bouncers: bouncers that will support physical development in children with special educational needs. www.happyhopperz.co.uk

Orkid Ideas – the home of Tom Tag: a tool to help children pack their bag for school, and to make sure they come home with everything they need too. www.orkidideas.com

SenseToys: early years toys designed to help children develop language through play. These toys also encourage social interaction. www.sensetoys.com

Miscellaneous

Berkshire Autistic Society Lego Club: A club for children with ASC aged 7+. The West Berkshire Club will be held in Woolhampton starting in October 2014, on the third Saturday of each month. 9.30am-11am. £2.50 BAS members, £3.50 non-members.
<http://www.autismberkshire.org.uk/default.aspx>
contact@autismberkshire.org.uk
Helpline: 01189 594 594
Woolhampton Village Hall, Bath Road, Woolhampton, West Berkshire RG7 5RE

Berkshire Autistic Society Pokemon Club: For children aged up to 18. A club which is an official Pokemon League where children can 'battle' other 'trainers' to earn rewards and take part in knock out tournaments. Children and young people with ASD and their siblings are welcomed to play Pokemon and video games in an autism friendly environment. Takes place every other Saturday 2pm-4pm. £3 BAS members, £5 non-members.
<http://www.autismberkshire.org.uk/default.aspx>
contact@autismberkshire.org.uk
Helpline: 01189 594 594
Katesgrove Children's Centre, Waterloo Meadows, Elgar Road, Reading RG2 0BN

Berkshire Autistic Society Swimming Sessions: Free swimming sessions in Caversham (Reading) and Wokingham. No need to be a BAS member to benefit. Check BAS website for details.
<http://www.autismberkshire.org.uk/default.aspx>

contact@autismberkshire.org.uk

Helpline: 01189 594 594

BeYond: A service for children and young people aged 8-18 in West Berkshire with an Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC). BeYond offer a range of services including holiday activity days, monthly social groups, and training for professionals. Please contact BeYond for a discussion about your child and how they may be able to support you.

georgie4beyond@gmail.com

carly4beyond@gmail.com

Georgie: 07554 708 733

Carly: 07554 701 239

BOBi League: Berks & Bucks FA: Berkshire and Buckinghamshire wide football leagues, including disability and youth teams. Contact Jon Wood for further details about teams and clubs that might be suitable for your child. Cost on enquiry.

<http://www.berks-bucksfa.com/>

Jonathan.Wood@Berks-BucksFA.com

01367 246 823

Camp Mohawk: Camp Mohawk is a multifunctional centre in Wargrave for children with special needs which provides a range of activities, facilities and natural space to encourage children to play, socialise and learn in a secure and caring environment. Camp Mohawk is not a camp site: activities are provided during the day. Parents or carers must accompany their young person. £12 to register as a family for the year: you can then access as much as you choose.

www.campmohawk.org.uk

luke.jansen@campmohawk.org.uk

kate.kent@campmohawk.org.uk

0118 940 4045

Chance to Dance: Dance classes for children and young people with special educational needs, delivered by a well experienced dance instructor, who has worked for many years with children with disabilities. Sessions are split into 3 classes of different abilities, plus a separate tap dancing session as well. A variety of different styles of dancing are taught, and children have the opportunity to perform the routines they have learnt in a yearly showcase, if they choose to. Sessions run on Saturday mornings, alternating between the 2 sites. Prices range between £6.00 and £8.00 per class, though it is possible to sign up for the term.

<http://www.sendanceclub.co.uk/index.html>

vickieandrews50@hotmail.co.uk

07736 343 570

Youth Hall, Tilehurst Methodist Church, School Road, Tilehurst, Reading, RG31 5AR

OR

Dorothy Hayes Room, Martin's Heron and The Warren Community Centre, Whitton Road, Martin's Heron, Bracknell RG12 9TZ

Hungerford Leisure Centre: 1:1 swimming lessons for children with special educational needs and disabilities. £18.40 per session.

<http://www.leisurecentre.com/hungerford-leisure-centre>

01488 683303



Priory Road, Hungerford, RG17 0AN

Kennet Leisure Centre: 1:1 swimming lessons for children with special educational needs and disabilities. £18.40 per session.

<http://www.leisurecentre.com/kennet-leisure-centre>

01635 871112

Stoney Lane, Thatcham, Berks RG19 4LJ

Krazy Play Days: An indoor soft play area located in Reading. On the second Monday of each month they run a 'special needs night' from 5.15pm-7.30pm. £3 per session (reduced rate).

www.krazyplaydays.co.uk

fun@krazyplaydays.co.uk

0118 942 6171

Unit 7, Sterling Way, Reading, RG30 6HW

The Music Club: Term time sessions 6pm-7pm followed by refreshments (first Monday in the month). Holiday sessions either 10.30am-3.30pm or 11am-4pm. No need to book. Children, carers and siblings meet for a session that is led by the children and facilitated by a music specialist with experience in supporting people with disabilities. Sessions feature music and movement, with drumming, soundabout, choirs, sound beams, morris dancing, and sing along sessions.

The Music Club also run outings (e.g. to see a musical), and fun day events. Please see website for diary listings. Sessions are for children aged 0-19.

www.music4disabledchildren.org.uk

info@music4disabledchildren.org.uk

Sophia Nicholls 07768 298 297 or Julie Hinto 0118 972 2322

Crowmarsh Village Hall, Crowmarsh, Benson Lane, OX10 8ED

National Autistic Society West Berkshire Branch Saturday mornings at Mencap: coffee and chat play session run one Saturday per month at West Berkshire Mencap. Indoor toys, sensory room, outdoor play area. No need to book. ONLY OPEN TO WEST BERKS NAS MEMBERS. £2.50 per child per session.

<http://www.westberksnas.org.uk/Events/Mencap/default.html>

West Berkshire Mencap, Enborne Gate, Enborne Road, Newbury RG14 6AT.

National Autistic Society West Berkshire Branch Trampoline at Northcroft: For all ages with ASD. Siblings are also welcome. Sessions run on a Tuesday from 5pm at Northcroft Leisure Centre. A professional instructor works with the children, but a parent/carer must be present in a supervisory role at all times. £3.00 per child per session.

<http://www.westberksnas.org.uk/Events/Trampoline/default.html>

Northcroft Lane, Newbury, RG14 1RS

Northcroft Leisure Centre: Swimming session for people of age ages with special educational needs or disabilities. Tuesdays 7.30pm-8.30pm. Under 18s must be accompanied. £1.90 per session (carers free).

<http://www.leisurecentre.com/northcroft-leisure-centre>

01635 31199

Northcroft Lane, Newbury, RG14 1RS

Oak Tree Yoga: Oak Tree Yoga offer yoga sessions for children and young people with a variety of additional needs. The recognised benefits include improved motor control and planning skills, developing muscle tone and balance, improved respiratory strength, flexibility and posture. The yoga sessions aim to help children in self-regulating their emotions, and to improve their concentration. Children who have taken part in yoga have found improved quality and quantity of sleep, reduced fear and anxiety and less tension. Classes are suitable for children and young people with a variety of additional needs. Contact Sarah for more details including costings.

www.oaktreeyoga.co.uk/specialchildren
enquiries@oaktreeyoga.co.uk

07977 934 346

Various locations

PALS: PALS is a charity which aims to give children with disabilities the same opportunities as those had by able-bodied children. It aims to overcome isolation and encourage integration and independence. PALS run a variety of activities for those aged 5-25, primarily with a physical disability or sensory impairment. Those with learning disabilities are also considered. Various locations. Cost on enquiry.

<http://www.palsweb.org.uk/>
admin@palsweb.org.uk / coord1@palsweb.org.uk

0118 932 3799

Soft Play Directory: Visit the following website and search under 'Berkshire' for a full list of soft play facilities in the area. You can also look up what is available in other areas, for example if you're going away on holiday and would like to plan a soft play centre visit.

<http://www.softplayareas.co.uk/>

Swings and Smiles: Swings and Smiles aims to provide an environment where people with special needs and their carers, siblings or whole family can play together without the pressures often experienced in the wider community play settings. Swings and Smiles has a sensory room, soft play area, arts and crafts area, music room, and ICT room as well as many other facilities. The service is open at specific times of the week so it's best to visit the website or give them a call to find out the opening times that are best for you. Cost on enquiry.

<http://www.swingsandsmiles.co.uk/>
phoenix@swingsandsmiles.co.uk

01635 285170

Phoenix Resource Centre, Newtown Road, Newbury RG14 7EB

Thames Valley Kings Wheelchair Basketball Club: A competitive wheelchair basketball club based at Kennet Leisure Centre in Thatcham, for children and young people aged 8 upwards. All players play in a sports wheelchair, completing training sessions and friendly and competitive matches. Please contact Jaqueline Scoins-Cass for training timings. £4 per session.

<http://www.berkshirewheelchairbasketball.co.uk/index.php>
info@berkshirewheelchairbasketball.co.uk

07775 682 987

Kennet Leisure Centre, Stoney Lane, Thatcham RG19 4LJ

Thomley Activity Centre: a recreational and informal education facility for disabled children aged 0-19 years, their families, friends, schools and groups. All manner of facilities, games and activities are

available: something to suit everyone. There are also different themed days to meet the needs of the individual, whether it's a busy bustling day, or a quiet day they'd prefer. Opening hours are 10am-3.30pm, and advanced booking is recommended. Activity days are also held for disabled adults aged 16+. Cost on enquiry.

[http://thomleyactivitycentre.org/
enquiries@thomleyhall.org](http://thomleyactivitycentre.org/enquiries@thomleyhall.org)

01844 338380

Menmarsh Road, Worminghall, Buckinghamshire HP18 9JZ

If you would like any support looking at activities for your son or daughter, or need helping with considering funding options for activities in excess of any DLA received, please contact the Pastoral Team for a 1:1 appointment: abushell@castle.w-berks.sch.uk or 07824 551 857.