



WYCANN COMMUNICATION
August 2025

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INTRODUCTION

West Yorkshire Children’s Additional Needs Network shares information and helps to increase the reach of your services for children and young people in the region.

Regarding updates and information, if you have material or information that you would like forwarded to the members of the Network, or any updates, please ensure that you email it to Miriam on info@westyorkshirecann.org, before the end of the month.

Thanks to everyone who shared the information below for our latest update, which contains information and sessions for children and young people with additional needs and their parent carers.

You can find these Communications on the WYCANN Website at:

<https://westyorkshirecann.org/blog/>

WYCANN MEETING DATES

Wed 19th November 2025
 10am-12pm
 Phoenix Dance Theatre,
 St Cecilia Street, Quarry Hill, Leeds LS2 7PA

CHAIR COMMENTS

As August arrives, many of us welcome the slower rhythm that summer can bring—fewer meetings, quieter inboxes, and a chance to catch our breath. But for families and carers (which we know includes many of our colleagues), this season can also present a different kind of challenge. With schools closed and many regular services and activities on pause, the balancing act of work, care, and wellbeing can feel even more demanding. Across West Yorkshire, however, there are still opportunities to connect, recharge, and support one another. From local holiday clubs and community events to informal meet-ups and online resources, this month's newsletter highlights what's happening in the region and how we can continue to lift each other up through the summer stretch.

Looking ahead, we're excited to invite you to the next South Yorkshire CANN meeting on **Tuesday 9th September, 10–12pm**, where they will be exploring inclusive approaches to supporting women and young people through key life transitions. There will be a focus on how we can help young people with additional needs understand and manage menstruation in a positive, inclusive way whilst also exploring wellbeing during menopause, and share insights on educating staff, professionals, and wider communities to better support women, especially in inclusive and caring environments. It promises to be an important and thoughtful session—save the date!

Whether you're taking a well-earned break or balancing multiple roles, we hope this month's newsletter offers useful updates, inspiration, and a sense of connection.

Lucy, Carmel and Miriam

lucy@snapsyorkshire.org
carmel.gallagher@irwinmitchell.com
info@westyorkshirecann.org

NEW MEMBERS



Wakefield Museums and Castles

We are a museum service of five venues across the Wakefield district: Castleford Museum, Pontefract Castle, Pontefract Museum, Sandal Castle and Wakefield Museum. All our sites are free entry. Please check the website for individual venue opening times and access information,

<https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/museums-and-castles/wakefield-museum>

Discover the inspiring places and people of our district. Get hands-on at our range of creative

workshop. Find fun for all the family. Learn something new at our castle tours. Most of our events and activities are free or low-cost.

Our three museums have Pick & Mix stations full of tactile tools and resources to support your visit.

Each week we have dedicated relaxed openings at our three museum sites. These are usually quieter times to visit the museums:

Pontefract Museum: Tuesdays, 2pm to 4pm

Wakefield Museum: Thursdays, 4pm - 6.30pm

Castleford Museum: 9.30am - 12noon

During the school holidays we programme activities for families. With a mix of free drop-in and low cost bookable sessions we aim to have something to interest you. Search all museums and castles events at <https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/museums-and-castles/museums-and-castles-events>

All our upcoming bookable events and sessions are listed at bit.ly/EventsWMandC

<https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/museums-and-castles>

Go Kids Go



Go Kids Go have been running wheelchair skills training for young wheelchair users since 1990. The training is designed to enable independence and to help ensure that the young people are able to reach their full potential. We run workshops for manual and powered wheelchair users.

Some of the skills we teach on the workshop include back wheel balancing, road safety, manoeuvring skills and emergency evacuation as well as an introduction to wheelchair basketball. We bring extra wheelchairs so that parents, siblings and friends can join in with the activities. We also run disability/wheelchair awareness workshops in mainstream schools for pupils and staff. TV presenter Ade Adepitan MBE, learnt wheelchair skills with us as a young man and is now a patron of Go Kids Go.

<https://www.go-kids-go.org.uk>

If you know of any groups that may be interested, please get them in touch!

If you are not yet on the WYCANN website, you can be added by completing this form:

<https://www.westyorkshirecann.org/member-registration>

Please only use contact details that are for public use

RESEARCH

Children looked after: Support for Children in Care and Their Families

We're also inviting you to complete a short survey about the therapeutic support received by looked-after children and their families. If you care for a looked-after child or have experience in this area, we'd really value your insights. Your feedback will help inform how support services are shaped and delivered in Leeds.

👉 Take the survey here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScGSZHbtyynnkgKg2JW_fvj1-4WpkFhNUyl7hUusLa9Vnfh7Q/viewform

EVENTS AND INFORMATION - ONLINE/NATIONAL/REGIONAL

Invitation to Exhibit at the Afrikindness Parenting and Inclusion Conference APIC2025

We are happy so far with the response from organizations and looking forward to the event. We, however, are lacking exhibitors within the specific theme of SEND Education and Speech Therapy and were wondering if there are any organizations within your network within the fields that we can approach as exhibitors.

Also, for this conference, we are actively seeking speakers to cover specific themes crucial for our attendees:

- Speech and Language Therapy, with a preferred topic of 'Unlocking Communication: Understanding Speech, Language & Cognitive Development in Children'
- SEND Education (Pre-16 & Post 16), specifically 'Navigating SEND Education: Pathways, Provisions & Transitions for Every Stage'

Please contact Suzzie.Oyakhire@afrikindness.org if interested

Keep Connected: Understanding & living with an acquired brain injury (ABI) in children

This online support event is for parents and carers who suspect their child has an acquired brain injury (ABI) following meningitis.

Date: 16 September 2025

Time: 10.30 am - 12 pm

What topics will the course cover?

Does your child have long-term after-effects from meningitis, such as fatigue, memory problems, changes in behaviour, or sensory issues?

Do you think they have an acquired brain injury (ABI), but you are struggling to get this recognised? Do you need support to get a diagnosis?

What strategies can you give your child to help with their after-effects? And how can you get the support your child deserves in school?

We are delighted to have Dalia Chowdhury, Educational Service Manager at the Child Brain Injury Trust, join us for this online event, to talk us through the journey of getting an acquired brain injury (ABI) diagnosis and the issues your child might be experiencing.

Dalia will also discuss accessing support for your child in school and ways you can support them. Find out more about Dalia [here](#).

This online event, presented over Zoom, will be hosted by Community Support Officer, Paul Blackburn and a member of Meningitis Now staff as tech support.

Interested?

Please book [here](#) and we'll be in touch after registrations close on 1 September 2025 to confirm your place.

<https://www.meningitisnow.org/get-support/support-events/online-support-events/keep-connected-understanding-living-with-an-acquired-brain-injury-abi-in-children/>

Any questions?

Email Community Support Officer and event lead Paul Blackburn at paulb@meningitisnow.org

Forever Weekend – Northampton

Join us for our Forever Weekend, a bereavement event for adults aged 18+ who have lost a loved one to meningitis, at Sedgebrook Hall, Northampton.

Event information

Date: Friday 10 October 2025 - Saturday 11 October 2025

Location: Sedgebrook Hall, Pitsford Rd, Chapel Brampton, Northampton NN6 8BD

Key Information

Date: Friday 10 to Saturday 11 October 2025

Time: 10am on Friday to Saturday afternoon

Location: Sedgebrook Hall, Pitsford Rd, Chapel Brampton, Northampton NN6 8BD

We are pleased to announce that our next Forever Weekend will take place at [Sedgebrook Hall](#). Sedgebrook Hall is located in the picturesque village of Chapel Brampton, in the heart of the beautiful Northampton countryside. Set in idyllic country gardens, Sedgebrook Hall seamlessly mixes Victorian heritage with modern comforts. The hotel has a Gym and Pool which you can use and a beauty Spa which you can book.

Whether your loss happened recently or some time ago, by attending this event you will have the opportunity to:

- Have time away in safe and supportive surroundings
- Talk about your loved one
- Understand grief, bereavement and its impact
- Share experiences with others who understand
- Find comfort, hope and reassurance that you are not alone
- Access support from our Meningitis Now support team

Throughout the weekend you can join in the suggested programme of supportive discussion groups and creative activities – but also take time to relax and reflect with others who understand. Please join us for this warm and supportive weekend

What's included?

Attendance; including your accommodation, full board and attendance to all sessions.

If you would also like to stay at the hotel on Thursday 9 October please let us know and we will provide your room and breakfast on the Friday morning. Please arrange your own dinner for Thursday evening.

If you are unsure about attending or have any aspects you would like to talk over, please contact the event lead Esme Lee (Community Support Officer) on esmel@meningitisnow.org or call 07468476068.

Travel is not included but if the cost of travel is a barrier to you attending, please contact us.

To register, please follow the link below

Please find terms and conditions [here](#).

<https://www.meningitisnow.org/get-support/support-events/forever-events/forever-weekend-norhampton/>

[Contact our meningitis Helpline | Meningitis Now](#)

[Meningitis support in the community | Meningitis Now](#)



Non Violent Resistance (NVR) Level 1 Training for Professionals



Please click link below to book you place
<https://forms.gle/nGjffUaccdmQoWnW8>

01.

Aim

To introduce you to the principles, strategies and concepts of NVR. This is an evidenced based therapeutic parenting approach, that helps to deal with child to parent violence and abuse. Upon completion you will be an 'NVR informed' practitioner under NVR UK.



What will you get...

This course will offer you practical strategies to use with parents and carers who you are currently working with, helping them to;

- De escalate challenging behaviour (including CPVA)
- Raise their parental presence in their child's life
- Maintain/improve the parent-child relationship
- Build a robust network of support
- Resist and reduce challenging behaviour

02.

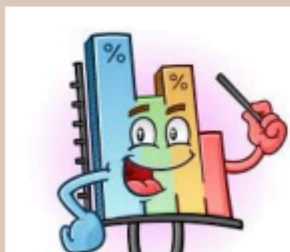
03.

Facilitators

All practitioners are trained and qualified in NVR . They also hold qualifications in a variety of therapeutic modalities or are trained Social Workers. Their experiences includes working with trauma, adoption and may also have lived experience of CPV.



04.



Finer Details

Cost: £450 per person

Timings: 9.30am - 4.30pm

Length: 4 days

Entry requirements: Professionals working in Health, Education, Social Care, Voluntary Sector working with families who experience CPVA

Health Conference - Principles for Delivering Clinical Tasks in Education Settings for Children and Young People with EHCPs.

A conference from the Newcastle upon Tyne Pilot and other regional variations in partnership with MiSS (Medicines in Specialist Schools), Regional NHS England, ICB's, DfE.



Health Conference
21st November 2025
Friends House, 173-177 Euston Road,
Central London, NW1 2BJ - 9:30am - 3:15pm

Principles for Delivering Clinical Tasks in Education Settings for Children and Young People with EHCPs.

A conference from the Newcastle upon Tyne Pilot and other regional variations in partnership with MiSS (Medicines in Specialist Schools), Regional NHS England, ICB's, DfE.

£149 +VAT

A new Health Support Assistant Role for Specialist settings to deliver medications and enteral feeds with full job protection, training and clinical supervision.

"We want to share our journey in bringing Health Governance into an educational setting."

Principles

- The importance of the principles of Health delegation to schools.
- The interpretation of the current Children & Families Act 2014.
- The importance of developing the foundations, creating new systems, including governance, data and partnership working.
- The awareness that skills already lie in the people that are in the service and understanding what a change in the system can offer in terms of opportunity.
- The importance of partnership work agreeing and sharing responsibilities.

This conference is an opportunity for colleagues in Education and Health to learn from the Newcastle Pilot and other regional groups' journeys to meeting the Health Care Needs of our Children and Young People with EHCP's.

- How do we audit the Health needs in our EHCP's?
- How do we commission Health Care from the ICBs?
- How do we ensure Local Authorities provide governance of Health in Education?
- How do we secure job protection in new Health roles in partnership with the unions?
- How do we ensure clinical supervision remains with Health?

These and more questions will hopefully be answered.



Health Conference Programme

9:00

Registration, coffee and networking
Welcome and Introduction

9:45 - 10:15

Benedict Coffin (DfE SEND Unit)
Identifying the areas specialist settings are experiencing.
Separation of 'Supporting Children with Medical Needs advice vs entitlement.

10:15 - 11:00

Principles - The Newcastle Pilot - Sharing one set of principles; one model.

11:00 - 11:20

Tea/Coffee and networking

11:20 - 11:40

Leeds

11:40 - 12:00

Bradford

12:00 - 12:20

Cumbria

12:20 - 13:10

Lunch and networking

13:10 - 13:50

MP for Newcastle upon Tyne North – Catherine McKinnell
Minister of State for School Standards

13:50 - 14:10

Greater Manchester

14:10 - 14:30

Pharmacy Team

14:30 - 14:45

Tea/Coffee and networking

14:45 - 15:15

MISS (Medicines in Specialist Schools)

15:15 - 16:00

Q&A and networking



For more information please contact admin@equalsoffice.co.uk

Equals national conferences are usually oversubscribed so early booking is recommended.
To book a place, please email admin@equalsoffice.co.uk or you can ring using 0191 272 1222.
There is also an online form on the equals website at www.equals.co.uk



Changing Faces Workshop for Children and Families - Supporting your child

Our Supporting Your Child online workshop is full of advice and top practical tips to support parents and carers of children and young people, who have a scar, mark or condition on their face or body that makes them look different.

Read on for more details about the workshop and to find out how to register.

Key details

- Date: Tuesday 21st October 2025
- Time: 7.15pm – 9:00pm
- Location: Zoom
- Who is it aimed at? Parents and carers

About the day

The workshop will include:

- How to handle staring and awkward social situations
- Building confidence for you and your child
- The opportunity to listen to guest speakers talking about their own experiences of living with a visible difference

To make sure everyone feels comfortable, we will be capping attendance at around 22 parents or carers. Partners and co-parents are also welcome to attend together.

Once a participant has registered for the workshop, a member of our Wellbeing Team will get in touch to arrange a short, informal pre-workshop call on Zoom to meet you.

Register Here:

<https://www.changingfaces.org.uk/services-support/workshops-for-children-families>

DOING IT SOLO

Supporting lone parents of disabled children, young people and adults

Making time to acknowledge our achievements
Share experiences and learn together
Connect with other parents in similar situations

Doing It Solo Summer Support Sessions

Mid Summer Drop in: Monday 4th August 2025 - 7.00pm to 8.30pm
Late Summer Drop in: Friday 29th August 2025 - 10.30am to 12.00noon
Transition to term-time: Monday 8th September 2025 - 7.00pm to 9.00pm

Funded by the Big Lottery 'Awards for All', our workshops and drop-in sessions aim to help lone parents think about and achieve their goals, learn what other support is available (especially in times of crisis), and to offer support for lone parents to self advocate.

We provide opportunities to learn practical life skills, focussing on emotional regulation and well-being. We want parents to connect and build confidence to help reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation.

for info and booking email: tony@bringingustogether.org.uk

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for info email: tony@bringingustogether.org.uk

Communication Matters International AAC Conference



7-9 September 2025 at the University of Leeds

Registration is now open for the UK's only in-person event that brings together AAC users, their families, carers, researchers, professionals, and suppliers for four days of learning, networking, socialising, and celebrating Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC). The conference is expected to welcome 500+ attendees from the UK and beyond.

Here's a glimpse of what you can expect:

Hear from keynote speaker Professor Bronwyn Hemsley, Head of Speech Pathology, University of Technology Sydney, speaking on "Identity and Connections: AAC, AI & Authorship"

80+ presentations and workshops covering research, clinical practice, and personal stories

Visit the exhibition featuring leading AAC and AT suppliers

Attend the biennial AAC Awards including dinner and dancing

Join the Research Study Day with parallel sessions on "The Future of AI in AAC" and "Becoming an Aided Communicator"

To learn more visit <https://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/conference/>



Guide Dogs My Time To Play Virtual Sessions 2025 for children with a vision impairment aged 0-4

We offer fun and supportive group sessions to help your child develop the practical skills and confidence to explore their world – all through the power of play. You will meet other parents and pick up skills from our expert staff that will help you support your child's early development with confidence.

Sessions run for seven consecutive weeks starting dates are:

Friday 31st January 10.00-11.00 a.m. - with Heather & Maria
Monday 3rd March 10.30-11.30 a.m. - with Imogen and Lauren
Friday 2nd May 10.30-11.30 a.m. - with Maria & Celina
Wednesday 2nd July 10.30-11.30 a.m. - with Sophie & Victoria
Friday 5th September 10.00-11.00 a.m. - with Sharon & Abbie
Friday 23rd October 10.30-11.30 a.m. - with Rebecca, Alice and Machala

Give them the best possible start in life and sign up for our My Time to Play virtual programme by calling 0800 781 1444 or by using the online enquiry form <https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/getting-support/getting-in-touch-form/>

Guide Dogs is a working name of The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, Registered Office: Hillfields, Burghfield Common, Reading, Berkshire RG7 3YG. A company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (291646) and a charity registered in England and Wales (209617), Scotland (SC038979) and Isle of Man (1334).



EVENTS AND INFORMATION - LEEDS

Leeds Museum Pop Up Sensory Room

Pop-up sensory room for families who might find a visit to the museum overwhelming.

This event is for families with SEND, neurodiversity, autism and/or anxiety. Pop into our sensory room with dark tents, light-up toys, squishy floor tiles, dens and a bubble tube.

You can come and go as you need to, and there'll be no need to queue. Please contact us if you'd like to find out more about the museum/event or if you'd like to discuss how we can best support your family on the day, city.museum@leeds.gov.uk.

This event is Give What You Can. We don't want price to be a barrier to a great experience. Simply pick the price you can give when booking your place, and enjoy your visit.

Booking required. Please book a ticket per child. Accompanying adults don't need a ticket. You can come and go from the room as you need to, and there'll be no need to queue.

<https://museumsandgalleries.leeds.gov.uk/whats-on/sensory-room-for-families-with-additional-needs-tszc>

Sensory Open Day at Interplay Theatre

We are hosting another Sensory Open Day on Saturday 2nd August with 2 sessions, 11am - 12.30pm or 2pm - 3.30pm. It's a time travel theme this time!!



INTERPLAY
NATIONAL SENSORY THEATRE

sensory open days!

For young people with learning disabilities, PMLD and/or autism, with their families and carers

Travel through time with us...

Saturday 2nd August

11am - 12.30pm
OR
2pm - 3.30pm

book now!



art



stories



play



**To book your session
contact us via**

Email:

takepart@interplaytheatre.org.uk

Call & Voicemail: 0113 263 8556

Text: 07444 229628



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Leeds
CITY COUNCIL

Sense Connect and Play

Hello!

Our Summer family events went live on our website last week, our Farm trip and Gootopia event have already sold out which is amazing to say our service is new to Leeds 😊

We still have places for our 70th celebrations that will be held at the Vinery Centre on Sat 23rd August, we would love for you to share the links below with your families where they can register with us and join us in celebrating everything Sense!

[Connect and Play: free play sessions for disabled children - Sense](#)

[Sense's 70th Anniversary Celebration Party - Leeds - Sense](#)

LPCF Coffee and ARFID Workshop



Coffee Morning and ARFID Workshop

Join us for a coffee, meet the LPCF team, chat with other parent carers and share your views!

Emma Smith, an Occupational Therapist, from the Juniper Tree will also be attending to give a workshop.

The aims of the workshop are to:

- support parent carers on their journey with food challenges and ARFID (Avoidant/Restrictive Food Intake Disorder);
- explain the reasons behind ARFID;
- share any good practice and hints and tips which could help children; and
- let parent carers know they are not alone.

Wednesday 24th September 2025
10am - 12pm.

The Vinery Centre, 20 Vinery Terrace, Leeds, LS9 9LU.

Refreshments will be provided.
Book your space on Eventbrite (no charge)



toothPASTE is now live!

autismtoothcare.com

toothPASTE is a free, online resource developed with parents and professionals to support autistic children's oral health. It includes small, practical steps to help with toothbrushing, reducing sugary foods and drinks, and attending dental appointments. The resources are autism-informed, non-judgemental, and easy to use.

Just to clarify, toothPASTE and autismtoothcare.com are the same project. We chose the website name based on likely search terms and input from our research team and PPIE group.

To find out more about the research behind toothPASTE [click here](#).

STARS training (parent and professionals)

These workshops aim to provide information for parents to support their autistic child at home. Training sessions will be delivered through Teams

For parents to book please email send@leeds.gov.uk with your name, email and training date you would like to be booked on.

Emotional wellbeing

Friday 5th September 2025, 9.45 till 11.15

This session will explore why autistic children and young people are at greater risk of poor mental health. We will discuss how we can work with children and young people to explore the causes of poor mental health, overcome barriers to wellbeing, and support the development of coping mechanisms.

Preparation for adulthood: person centred planning tools

Wednesday 1st October 2025, 9.45 till 11.15

This session is suitable for parents and professionals who are currently supporting children and young people to plan their pathway to adulthood using their strengths and interests as a starting point. This session will focus on planning from Early Years through to Year 13 (Key stage 5) and will explore a range of resources, strategies and approaches to aid understanding of needs and ongoing support.

Sensory support in the home

Wednesday 5th November 2025, 9.45 till 11.15

This session will give a brief introduction to sensory processing and regulation, exploring its importance in supporting the wellbeing of autistic children and young people. The session will also offer advice around sensory support strategies that can be implemented in the home.

Preparation for adulthood: friends, relationships and community
Wednesday 3rd December 2025, 9.45 till 11.15

This session is suitable for parents and professionals who are currently supporting children and young people to develop healthy friendships and relationships. We will be exploring the factors that can present challenges for autistic and ND children and young people and how to effectively promote positive social inclusion, consent and how to navigate the social world safely in the early years through to early adulthood.

We will be exploring and sharing key resources and approaches to promote healthy social opportunities for children and young people.

SEND and Inclusion Transformation update

Following an increase in demands on service and workforce challenges resulting in a drop in statutory performance, Leeds City Council accessed its EHC assessment, plan, and annual review processes to identify key opportunities for change. The review has identified areas for improvement in the Council's communications, processes, support provided, and consistency in approaches.

Our aim is to implement changes and improvements, to help the Council achieve its vision, that children and young people in Leeds with SEND, have the best possible start to life and equal opportunities to learn.

The Children and Families Directorate will keep you updated throughout the process, we have developed a webpage that will serve as an information hub about the changes.

<https://www.leedslocaloffer.org.uk/education/send-and-inclusion-transformation>

If you have any queries in relation to the programme, please get in touch with us at ehcpreview@leeds.gov.uk.

Annual Health Checks for Young People with a Learning Disability

Did you know that from age 14, young people on the Learning Disability Register are entitled to a free Annual Health Check? These checks can lead to earlier interventions, better health outcomes, and a more confident relationship with healthcare providers.

The Leeds Parent Carer Forum recently met with the Health Facilitation Team (HFT), part of the Leeds Learning Disability Service, where we were provided with lots of information about these health checks.

We've summarised some of our key takeaways from the meeting at our website, covering:

- What the Annual Health Check is and why it matters
- Who is eligible
- What to expect from the appointment
- Useful links and resources from the Health Facilitation Team in Leeds

Read more here:

<https://www.leedsparentcarerforum.co.uk/news/annual-health-checks-for-young-people-with-a-learning-disability>

SNAPS new site at Co-op Academy Brierley

SNAPS is launching a brand new site at Co-op Academy Brierley, Cross Green. This is in addition to SNAPS' existing services at Broomfield and Penny Field, and will allow the charity to support even more children and families across the region.

From Saturday 20th September, families will be able to access a range of services, including: private family sensory sessions, rebound therapy, dance and musical theatre sessions, archery (using safe inflatable equipment), a cinema club and a cookery club.

Click here for more information:

<https://www.snapsyorkshire.org/our-new-site-at-co-op-academy-brierley/>

South Asian Heritage Month Celebration Utsav

Book here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/south-asian-heritage-month-2025-tickets-1473104598509>



The Association of Blind Asians
invites you to

SOUTH ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

UTSAV

Egan Suites
Saville Drive, Chapeltown
Leeds LS7 3EJ

..... *AUGUST*

Wednesday 13th 2025

Time : 10:30am - 3:00pm



£5 per person

To book your place

A day full of enjoyment with
music, performances,
speeches & food



SCAN ME



For more info contact: Faridaa@abaleeds.org.uk
or 01132103347





- www.leedslocaloffer.org.uk
- @Leeds Local Offer
- LLO@leeds.gov.uk

SEND PARENT CARER INFORMATION DROP IN

Speak to services and receive information and advice:

- Leeds Local Offer
- SENDIASS
- Carers Leeds
- Child Health and Disability Team (CHAD)
- Leeds Parent Carer Forum
- Speech and Language Therapy Service

There will be a workshop available at each drop in

| Date | Time | Venue |
|-------------|------------------|--|
| Wed 17 Sept | 10.30 till 12.30 | Plus Net, 17 Marlborough Street, Leeds, LS1 4PE |
| Wed 15 Oct | 10.30 till 12.30 | Otley Social Club, Hollin Gate, Otley, LS21 2DP |
| Wed 19 Nov | 10.30 till 12.30 | The Welcome Centre, Belle Isle Rd, Belle Isle, Leeds, LS10 3DN |

Let us know if you will be attending the drop in

<https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/InfoDropIn/>





we are child friendly Leeds

This Summer hols, to parks across Leeds comes

Breeze™

In the Park Relaxed

Sessions for children with additional needs and their families.

Dates & Venues
 Times: 11am to 12pm (relaxed)
 12pm to 4pm (open session included in tickets)

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| THUR 24 JULY | Bramhope West Park RUFC, The Sycamores, LS16 9JR | SAT 26 JULY | East Ardsley East Ardsley Rec Ground, Maun St, WF3 2AP | MON 28 JULY | Armley Armley Park, Stanningley Rd, Leeds LS12 3LW | TUE 29 JULY | Harehills Harehills Park, LS9 6ND |
| WED 30 July | Beeston Cross Flatts park, Beeston, LS11 7BQ | TUE 5 AUG | Kirkstall Kirkstall Abbey, Kirkstall, LS5 3EH | WED 6 AUG | Morley Scatcherd Park, Morley, Leeds LS27 9JP | SAT 9 AUG | Scott Hall Potternewton Playing Fields, Scott Hall Road, LS7 2EE |
| WED 13 AUG | East End Park East End Park, East Park Parade, LS9 9NG | THU 14 AUG | Middleton Middleton Park, LS10 3SH | TUE 19 AUG | Cross Gates Manston Park, Cross Gates, LS15 8HA | THUR 21 AUG | Wortley Wortley Recreation Ground, LS12 4DS |

What to expect

- ✨ Additional Breeze staff available to help
- ✨ Inflatables, Arts and crafts, plus fun children’s entertainment
- ✨ A 64% reduced capacity and lower audio volume levels
- ✨ Fence lined with security and staff monitoring entrances and exits.

 **For more info & booking visit Breezeleeds.org**

Save Our School Transport

Following a change in Leeds City Council's policy, many young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities will no longer receive free transport to their place of learning after they turn 16 and move to Year 12, or post-16 education.

This will have a hugely detrimental effect on the families involved and will affect many of the families in our network in the years to come if the new policy remains in place.

Alongside other families who have young people with different needs, we have launched a campaign group - Save Our School Transport.

The campaign group has launched a petition to urge Leeds City Council to reverse its cuts to school transport for young people with SEND. [You can sign it here.](#)

Please share this petition with your friends and family.

So far, our campaign has been featured on Calendar news, BBC Radio Leeds and Look North - you can watch/listen to these interviews here:

[Calendar News, 22nd May](#)

[BBC Radio Leeds, 30th May](#)

[Look North, 30th May](#)

There is an Instagram account and a Facebook page to drive the campaign. You can follow them here:

[Instagram](#)

[Facebook](#)

We have also created a private Facebook group for parents and carers affected by the changes to Leeds City Council's Post-16 Transport policy. You can join it here

Little Hiccups Educational Courses

2025

Introduction to PDAers for Parents and Carers

[In Person: Sept 5th 10am - 1pm](#)

[Online: Sept 5th 10am -12pm](#)


[Online: Sept 17th 7pm - 9pm](#)

EVENTS AND INFORMATION - BRADFORD


SEND Short breaks - last few places are available for Buckden House activities in August

SEND Short Breaks and Specialist Inclusion are running day trips in August during the summer holidays for children and young people.

The day trips are fully funded, transport is an option, and young people will attend without parent/carers.

 4 Daily from Monday 11th to Friday 15th August, 9am-5pm (pick up and drop off from Asda Keighley)

 Buckden House, Buckden, Skipton BD23 5JA


 Activities onsite - Slip and Slide and Archery, Offsite activities – Caving

All young people attending would need to bring a packed lunch for each day (lunch not provided) and a change of clothes. Further information provided in booking form on the website link below.


[Bradford Local Offer | SEND Short Breaks – August Specialist Inclusion Day Trips](#)

Email ami.firth@bradford.gov.uk

Health education and wellbeing events for people with learning disabilities and/or are neurodivergent (aged 18+)...


 14 Wednesday 10th September, 10am-4pm (Talks from 10.30 am)


 Central Hall, Alice Street, Keighley, BD21 3JD


 14 Wednesday 17th September, 10am-4pm (Talks from 10.30 am)

 Bradford Bulls, Odsal Stadium, BD6 1BS

For adults aged 18+.

 Come and find out how to keep yourself healthy, carers welcome!

 Workshops and interactive activities. Learn about healthy eating, bowel, breast and cervical screening, stopping smoking, dental care, and how to get involved in mixed ability sports.

 These events are brought to you by the NHS, [People First Keighley and Craven](#) [Bradford People First IMAS](#)

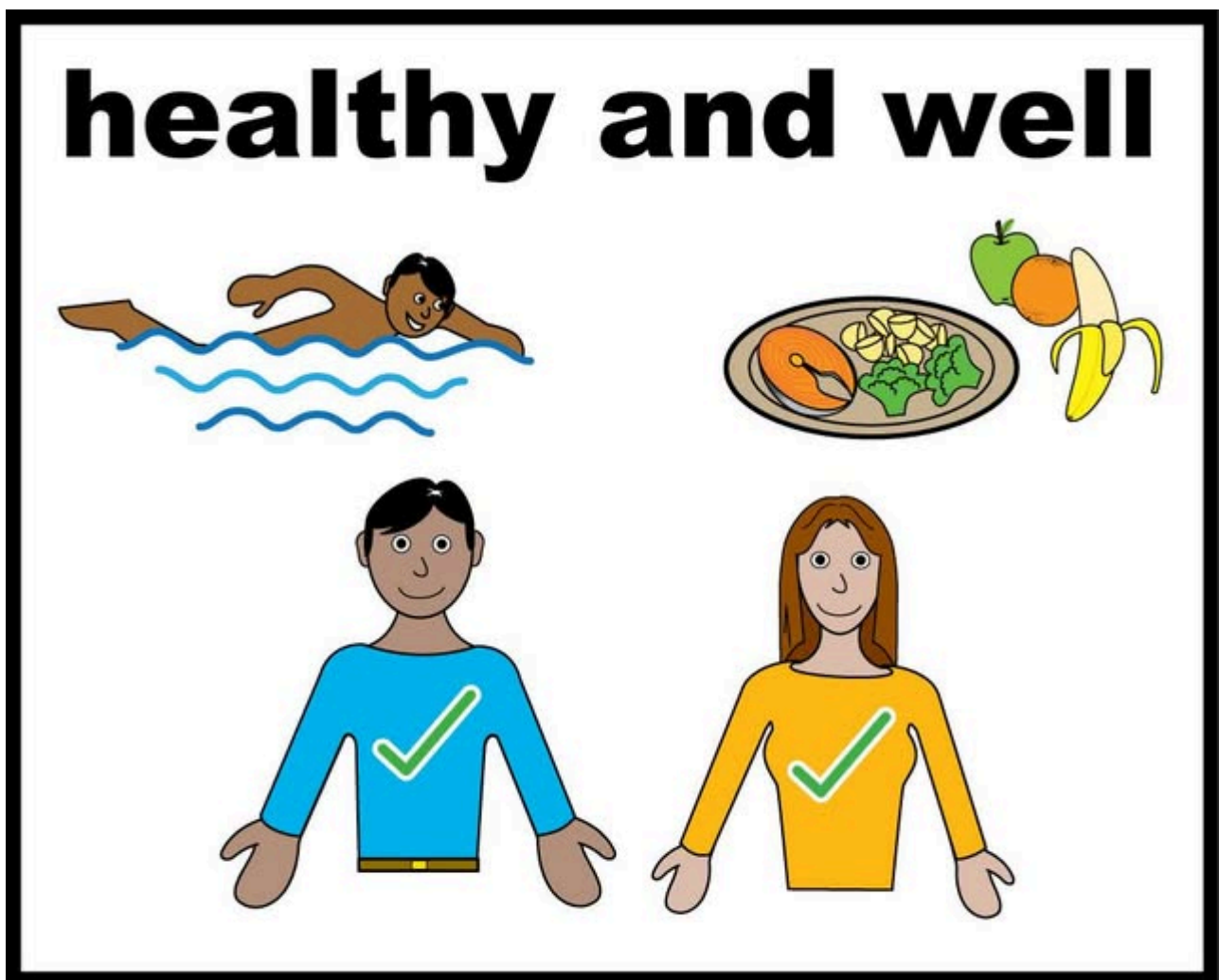
✔ Don't forget to book your places - lunch and refreshments included.

- Contact Justine Joy on 07583 100098 or email: justine.joy@bradford.nhs.uk for more information or book online with Eventbrite

To book Keighley

eventbrite.co.uk/e/health-wellbeing-event-for-learning-disabilities-and-neurodiversity-tickets-1410384731699?aff=oddtcreator&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=SocialSignIn&utm_source=Facebook

To book Bradford [Health & wellbeing event for Learning Disabilities and Neurodiversity. Tickets, Wed, Sep 17, 2025 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)




Views on the health visiting & school nursing service!

Scan the QR code below or visit the link below

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NPRNGLB>

Every opinion matters.



**City of
BRADFORD**
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



iHV Institute of
Health Visiting
Excellence in Practice



NHS
Bradford District Care
NHS Foundation Trust

Parents and Carers we need your views!

Are you a parent or carer with a baby, child or young person who is using or has used the health visiting or school nursing service in Bradford?

Have your voice heard by completing a short online survey to help us understand your experiences and views, to help develop the service in the future.

The survey will take you about 15 minutes and needs to be completed **by 31st July 2025**. If you would like help to complete the survey, please ask staff at your local family hub/children's centre.

We will not ask you for any personal information. Your answers will be confidential and will not affect the care you receive.

Please scan the QR code below to access the survey.



Thank you for completing our survey we are really looking forward to hearing about your experiences and views.

Health education and wellbeing events for people with learning disabilities and/or are neurodivergent (aged 18+)...

Wednesday 10th September, 10am-4pm (Talks from 10.30 am)
Central Hall, Alice Street, Keighley, BD21 3JD

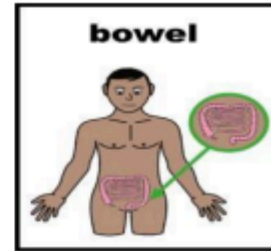
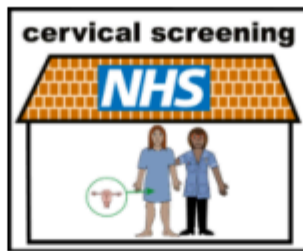
Wednesday 17th September, 10am-4pm (Talks from 10.30 am)
Bradford Bulls, Odsal Stadium, BD6 1BS

For adults aged 18+.

- > Come and find out how to keep yourself healthy, carers welcome!
- > Workshops and interactive activities. Learn about healthy eating, bowel, breast and cervical screening, stopping smoking, dental care, and how to get involved in mixed ability sports.
- > These events are brought to you by the NHS, [@PeopleFirstKC](#) [@bradfordpeoplefirst](#) and [@MixedAbilitySports](#)
- > Don't forget to book your places - lunch and refreshments included.
- > Contact Justine Joy on 07583 100098 or email: justine.joy@bradford.nhs.uk for more information or book online with Eventbrite.

Keighley event: [Health & Wellbeing event for Learning disabilities and Neurodiversity Tickets, Wed 10 Sep 2025 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Bradford event: [Health & wellbeing event for Learning Disabilities and Neurodiversity. Tickets, Wed, Sep 17, 2025 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)



Health education & Wellbeing event

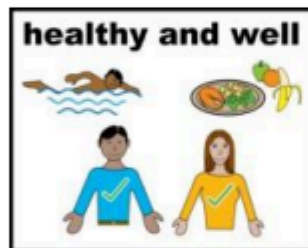
for people with learning disabilities and neurodiversity,



in association with Bradford People First

17th September 2025, 10am-4pm (Talks from 10.30 am)

At Bradford Bulls, Odsal Stadium, Bradford.



Come and find out how to keep yourself healthy - Learn about Healthy eating, Bowel, Breast and Cervical screening, Stop smoking, Dental, and getting involved in mixed ability sports!



contact

Contact Justine Joy on 07583 100098 or

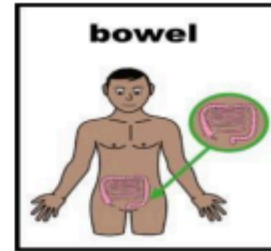
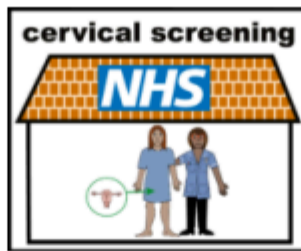
justine.joy@bradford.nhs.uk for more information or book on

via Eventbrite: [Health & wellbeing event for Learning Disabilities and Neurodiversity. Tickets, Wed, Sep 17, 2025 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

Everyone attending needs to book a space to get Free Lunch and drinks!

Thanks to easy on the for the use of their image bank © LYPFT
www.easyonthei.nhs.uk





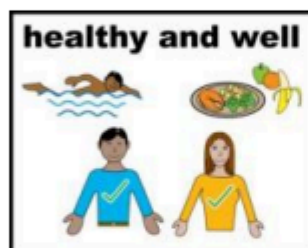
Health education & Wellbeing event

for people with learning disabilities and neurodiversity

in association with Keighley & Craven People First

10th September 2025, 10am-4pm (Talks from 10.30 am)

At Central Hall, Alice Street, Keighley, BD21 3JD



Come and find out how to keep yourself healthy - Learn about Healthy eating, Bowel, Breast and Cervical screening, Stop smoking, Dental, and getting involved in mixed ability sports!



Contact Justine Joy on 07583 100098 or
justine.joy@bradford.nhs.uk for more information
or book on via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/health-wellbeing-event-for-learning-disabilities-and-neurodiversity-tickets-1410384731699?aff=oddtcreator>

Everyone attending needs to book a space to get Free Lunch and drinks!

Thanks to easy on the for the use of their image bank © LYPFT
www.easynthei.nhs.uk



Nell Bank discovery days 2025

(10am to 3pm) on 31 July, 1, 7 and 8 August

These discovery days are for children both with and without SEND, and include use of Nell Bank's fantastic play areas as well as a brand new insect themed activity trail! The site at Nell Bank is very accessible for all. There is a cost for the discovery days and you can [book here](#).

SNOOPFest 2025 – SNOOP are Turning 25!

SNOOP in Bradford are celebrating 25 years of providing services and support for children and adults with SEND/learning disabilities/autism and complex health needs. Over the past 25 years we have welcomed through our door and in outreach support almost 10,000 families so it's definitely worth celebrating.

So the following events are taking place:

- Saturday 16th August we are holding SNOOPFest 2025, with a family fun day and live music from local bands as well as performances from our own SNOOP young people. There is a BBQ, 30 stalls selling crafts and goods, circus skills and a penalty football shoot out. Then in the evening we are holding a black tie/evening wear 'Summer Ball' with the live band 'The Silhouette Band' and a gourmet buffet and silent auction. Tickets for this are selling fast at £25 per person. Booking is required through myself at SNOOP.
- We are having a raffle with an amazing list of prizes and tickets are available from Jenny Turner at SNOOP at £1 per ticket or £5 for a book of five tickets.
- We are encouraging people to raise £250 for SNOOP 25 years celebration, by holding their own fundraising event or sponsored event. People have so far climbed Snowden and Peny Ghent, made crafts to sell, one of your children with SEND raised over £1,000 by walking a mile every day for a month ! People have been incredible and we are overwhelmed by the kindness of people and the courage they show and the love they have for our charity. A huge thankyou.

For more information please contact carol.beardmore@snoopcharity.org or by telephone on 01274 292126.



Celebrating 25 years of **S.N.O.O.P** *

Special Needs Objective Outreach Project

Registered Charity Number - 1115566



SATURDAY 16TH AUGUST 2025



10AM - 4PM



BRADFORD AND BINGLEY RUGBY CLUB

A day full of entertainment for families, live music and performances, over 30 stalls, BBQ and much much more!



Entry Prices

Adults over 16 - £6

Children 5-15 - £3

Children under 5 - Free

Entry payment to be made on the the day.

Cash or Card accepted .



Down Syndrome Bradford - Online Training

From September 2025 we will be offering our full range of training covering Introduction to Down syndrome, signing, teaching number skills, time and money, using visuals to teach communication skills, reading language intervention, behaviour across weekly via one hour online sessions. Each topic will be interspersed with a one hour online group consultation session. There are 22 sessions in total and these can be booked individually at £5 per session or as a bundle for £80.

The sessions will run Thursdays from September, 10am to 11am during term time.

WORKSHOPS

In addition we will continue to deliver our workshops on behaviour, toileting and sexuality relationships education—these will be 2 hour sessions over several weeks and places will be limited.

AIMING TO BETTER MEET SCHOOL STAFF AVAILABILITY

We hope that offering our training in this way will enable more schools to access the training needed to fully educate and include a child with Down syndrome. Acting on feedback it will remove the time for travel and enable schools to better plan cover.

INTERESTED?

For more information in the sessions please click here. To register your interest please contact the Office.

EVENTS AND INFORMATION - WAKEFIELD

Summer programming across the Wakefield Museums and Castles venues

<https://experiencewakefield.co.uk/guide/super-summer-with-wakefield-museums-and-castles/>

Creative Castleford

[Castleford Museum](#)

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays

10am to 3pm

Free – no booking required

Let your creativity fly free and get stuck in with family crafts. Be inspired by pottery, sculpture, photography and more, with a different theme each week:

- Making Music (4, 5, 7 and 8* Aug)
- Patterns and Pottery (11, 12, 14 and 15* Aug)
- Awesome Art (18, 19, 21 and 22* Aug)
- Showtime! (26, 28 and 29* Aug)

*Fridays are relaxed SEND sessions. These will have more open-ended activities and a relaxed atmosphere.

[Access at Castleford Museum](#)

Make and Take Tuesdays

[Wakefield Museum](#)

Every Tuesday in the summer holidays
10:30am – 12:30pm and 1pm – 3pm
Free, no booking required.

Spend quality family time together throughout the summer holidays. Be inspired by the lovely landscape paintings of Cynthia Kenny.

Try a different craft each Tuesday inspired by Cynthia's artwork. Get hands-on with lots of different materials, techniques and styles.

- Silhouettes (5 August)
- Cityscape Lanterns (12 August)
- Fantastic Frames (19 August)
- Made in Miniature (26 August)

[Access at Wakefield Museum](#)

Summer Shenanigans at Pontefract Castle

Pontefract Castle

Tuesdays to Fridays in August

11am – 3pm

Free

Get up to all sorts of medieval mischief at Pontefract Castle this summer! There's a different theme every week, fun crafts and challenges, and interactive roleplaying:

- Sports at the Castle (5 – 8 August, SEND session 6 August at 10am*)
- Knight School (12 – 15 August, SEND session 13 August at 10am*)
- Trebuchet Challenge (19 – 22 August, SEND session 20 August at 10am*)
- Jesters and Juggling (26 – 29 August, SEND session 27 August at 10am*)

[*SEND sessions are free but booking required](#) to keep numbers at a relaxed level.

[Access at Pontefract Castle](#)

Colour Chemistry from Nature's Rainbow

Pontefract Castle

Monday 11 and Monday 18 August

10am (SEND session) and 1pm

£2.50 per child, accompanying adults free.

Find out more and [book tickets](#).

Did you know that there are so many amazing colours that can be created from plants?

Join the team for a series of workshops investigating natural dyes, inks and stains.

Be inspired by the medieval garden and the plants that were grown there in the past. Try a new technique every session!

This STEM workshop is funded by the Royal Society of Chemistry.

[Access at Pontefract Castle](#)

Art Workshops for Teens at Wakefield Museum

[Wakefield Museum](#)

It's always difficult to keep teenagers entertained at the tail-end of the holidays!

Keep your crafty older kids busy with colourful art workshops at Wakefield Museum.

[Access at Wakefield Museum](#)

Gelli Plate Printing

Thursday 14 August

11am – 1pm and 1:30pm – 3:30pm

£2.50 per child

[Find out more and book tickets.](#)

Acrylic Pouring

Thursday 28 August

11am – 1pm and 1:30pm – 3:30pm

£2.50 per child

[Find out more and book tickets.](#)

Best wishes,

Louise

SEND Futures and 'Next Steps' Careers Event in Wakefield

Save the date! Wed 1st Oct

SAVE THE DATE - Wednesday 1 October 2025 - 10:00-18:00

SEND Futures and 'Next Steps' Careers Event

WX Wakefield Exchange, Union Street, WF1 3AD



Exhibitors Include

Colleges / Training Providers ✓

Supported Internships ✓

Employers ✓

Support Services ✓

Leisure ✓



Yorkshire Sport Inclusive Sports Festival

Inclusive Sports Festival 2025

Promoting Disability and Mixed-Ability Sports Across Wakefield District. Join us at Thornes Park Stadium for a vibrant celebration of inclusive sport and physical activity on Saturday 16 August, from 11am to 2pm.

This exciting event is part of a wider initiative to expand opportunities for disabled and mixed-ability individuals to get active, have fun, and feel part of their local sporting community. The Inclusive Sports Festival offers a fantastic chance to try out a wide range of sports through hands-on taster sessions, live demonstrations, and friendly advice from expert coaches and clubs. Whether you're a complete beginner or looking to reconnect with sport, there's something for everyone. Come along to: Discover new activities, meet local sports clubs and providers, ask questions, and get advice, find out how to get involved regularly.

We believe that sport should be for everyone - no matter your ability. That's why we're committed to removing barriers, building confidence, and creating a welcoming space where everyone feels included and supported.

As well as come and try sports and activities there will be a partner village, art and craft zone, exhibition from local artist Jason Wilsher-Mills and much more.

If you have any accessibility requirements or would like more information about the festival, please get in touch. We're here to help make your experience as smooth and enjoyable as possible. For more information, please contact Ed Montague, Yorkshire Sport Foundation at: ed.montague@yorkshiresport.org.
Let's break down barriers and build a more inclusive, active Wakefield together.

2025

INCLUSIVE SPORTS FESTIVAL

FREE SPORT TASTER EVENTS FOR ALL ABILITIES

**PLAY • LAUGH • TOGETHER • HOCKEY
CYCLE • SMILE • AWAKE • SHAKE • CONFIDENCE
MOVE • TENNIS • STRUT • DANCE • FOOTBALL
CARE • PICKLE • SHAKE • HYPE • RIDE • SPORT
LOVE • GOLF • CHAT • BASKETBALL • EXPERIENCE
PARKS • FITNESS • GYM • GROUP • RUGBY • WORKOUT
CRAFT • BOWLING • ENERGY • SELF ESTEEM • FRIENDS**

**SATURDAY 16TH AUGUST
THORNES PARK STADIUM
11AM TO 2PM**

WWW.WAKEFIELD.GOV.UK/DISABILITYSPORT



Kirklees
COUNCIL

Little Deer
Wood

WACKY

Wild. Activities. Challenging. Kirklees. Young People
at Little Deer Wood Activity Centre
Shepley Bridge Marina,
Mirfield, WF14 9HR

For young people
with Special
Educational Needs
& Disabilities

Week 1: Mon 21st July - Tue 22nd July
Week 2: Wed 30th July - Fri 1st August
Week 3: Tue 5th August - Fri 8th August
Week 4: Mon 11th August - Tue 12th August
Week 5: Mon 18th August - Fri 22nd August

10.30am - 3.30pm
£15 per person per session

SCAN THE
QR CODE TO
BOOK

ACTIVITIES:

- Cooking
- Gardening
- Arts & Crafts
- Bush craft
- Bouldering
- Sports
- Archery
- and more...

**REGISTER FOR
YOUR PLACE.**
FOR AGES 10-24

**FOR MORE
INFO:** Call: 01484 225952 or
Email: littledeerwood@kirklees.gov.uk

The Invite by Mind The Gap

Mind the Gap throws a surprise birthday party for a guest of honour who wants nothing more than to disappear.

The Invite is an immersive theatre experience set over one unforgettable night at the pub, where six friends gather to celebrate a birthday. Created especially for Bradford 2025, this funny, heartfelt and honest show blurs the lines between reality and fiction as it explores relationships, memories, fears – and what it truly means to be seen.

Blending music, movement and raw storytelling, *The Invite* is another unmissable show from Bradford's brilliant theatre pioneers.

About Mind the Gap

Mind the Gap is England's premier learning disability performance and arts company, breaking barriers and celebrating diversity. Based in Bradford, the company is committed to pushing boundaries, challenging perceptions and empowering individuals with learning disabilities and autism in the world of performing arts. For more than 30 years, Mind the Gap has been at the forefront of advocating for inclusion and diversity in the arts, and proud to have paved the way for individuals with learning disabilities and autism to access and excel in the performing arts sector.

Visit The Beacon in Lister Park

[The Beacon](#) is a custom-made touring venue for Bradford 2025.

From 28 August – 28 September, The Beacon will be at Lister Park.

Plan your visit below, or get in touch with us on ticketing@bradford2025.co.uk for more information.

Lister Park

North Park Road,
Bradford,
BD9 4NS

<https://bradford2025.co.uk/event/the-invite/>

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS AND CONTACT DETAILS

Website: www.westyorkshirecann.org
Email: info@westyorkshirecann.org

West Yorkshire CANN
www.westyorkshirecann.org
info@westyorkshirecann.org

X: <https://x.com/CannWest>
Bluesky: <https://bsky.app/wycann.bsky.social>
LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/west-yorkshire-cann>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/westyorkshirecann>

Chair: Lucy Owen lucy@snapsyorkshire.org
Vice Chair: Carmel Gallagher carmel.gallagher@irwinmitchell.com

Please share WY CANN links with your followers and encourage them to follow too.
Please add info@westyorkshirecann.org to your Contact list to stop it going into junk.