



NECANN COMMUNICATION

October 2025

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INTRODUCTION

Hello and welcome to the latest North East CANN Update.

North East 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 northeast@cann-network.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 CANN Network site at:
<https://www.cann-network.org/blog/>

NECANN MEETING DATE

Next Meeting

Christmas meeting
Irwin Mitchell Office Newcastle
5th floor Wellbar Central, Gallowgate
10-12pm
Light refreshments available

CO CHAIR COMMENTS

Thank you everyone who attended our most recent NECANN online network. We hope that you enjoyed attending the network and the wonderful information from our speakers.

Big thank you to Vicki Cavanagh and Kelly Moore from Grace House who shared some great information about their organisation, you can find their contact details below for any follow up questions or to book any visits, we do encourage you to go check it out as it is such a lovely space!

Kellie Moore km@gracehouse.co.uk Vicki Cavanagh vc@gracehouse.co.uk

We also want to say a big thank you to Claire Rowland who shared some information about the wonderful work the Shine do, plus a great webinar on what advocacy looks like and how we can all be advocates. Claire's details are below for any follow questions about Shine, along with the link to their YouTube which is full of great videos.

Claire Rowland: claire.rowlands@shinecharity.org.uk
<https://www.youtube.com/@shinecharity2052>

Nearing the end of the meeting, myself and Bev got the opportunity to introduce ourselves and discuss a little bit about what we would like to see in the future of the CANN for the Northeast. We had asked the group for feedback on the CANN meeting and how you, the attendees, like the set up. Some of the questions we asked are below, we would love it if you could send us some feedback if you have time to help us shape what future CANNs look like.

- How do you find the current networks?
- Do you prefer face to face, online, or hybrid?
- Would you like the idea of alternating from face to face and online?
- How would you feel if we took the CANN on the road? Checking out YOUR different spaces, and network where you work? – giving you a chance to show what you guys do in person?
- Lastly (i promise) how do you feel about a big event each year which makes the CANN fun and interesting? Ideas so far – a race across the Northeast event, Speed networking (little like speed dating), and conference type network?

We are open to any and all suggestions and looking forward to moving the CANN forward in the New Year.

Don't forget, the next NECANN meeting is December 4th and an in-person event

If you know anyone who wishes to join the network, please forward the email address northcann@cann-network.org onto them as we love seeing new faces!

Tracey

Best wishes
Bev, Tracey and Kerry
NECANN Co-Chair's

NEW MEMBERS



The Sensory Place

The Sensory Place is a parent-led charity offering a network of support to families of children with all disabilities aged 0-18 years.

We are all parents of a child or children with a disability and we felt that there were just not enough places to go or things to do when you have a child who has additional needs as mainstream activities are just not accessible for many different reasons. We also experienced judgement

and isolation as other people do not always understand the difficulties families like ours face. We knew we weren't alone in thinking this and so The Sensory Place was born in 2019 with a view to changing this for the better.

So whether your child is a sensory seeker, avoider, both or neither - welcome! We hope that you find the support within the group that you are looking for.

hello@thesensoryplace.net

<https://www.thesensoryplace.net/>

everyone ACTIVE



Everyone Active Charitable Trust

Our services have always been provided for the health and wellbeing of communities, and for the less advantaged groups within those communities. Together, we strive to support our communities to live healthy and happy lives.

Our strategy outlines how we will support the delivery of the Sport England objectives, United Nations Sustainable Development Goals,

NHS long term plan, Office of Health Improvement and Disparities and UK active's vision for a decade of change, to address inequalities in healthy life expectancy across our communities.

<http://www.slmcharitabletrust.com>



**FOUNDATION
OF LIGHT**

THE WORLD AT YOUR FEET

Foundation of Light

Foundation works with those aged 18 months to 80, offering something for everyone; with programmes impacting on health, behaviour, attitude, skills, education and much more. Established in 2001 by former Sunderland AFC chairman Sir Bob Murray CBE, our mission is simple: to use the power of

football to tackle the North East's biggest societal challenges, helping our communities to live happier and healthier lives.

North East CANN
www.northeastcann.org
info@northeastcann.org

Situated in the North East of England, we are based at the Beacon of Light in Sunderland and have outreach centres across the city, South Tyneside and County Durham.

info@foundationoflight.co.uk

<https://foundationoflight.co.uk>

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

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

<https://northeastcann.org/member-registration>

Please only use contact details that are for public use

RESEARCH

No research projects this month

INFO AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - NATIONAL / ONLINE

Incoming B&A Online events December 2nd and 3rd 2025

Registrations are live for our next online B&A events for 11–25-year-olds.

Open for any young person 11-25 years old who has been impacted by Meningitis. This event is open to the young person who has experienced the disease and their siblings

Our 11–17-year-olds will take part in a creative session with The Crafty Hen and our 18–25-year-olds will enjoy a practical session looking at their personal strengths and how to use them to move forward positively in their lives, with Morissa from Family Action

Please do share the links far and wide and let's make this our most successful online ever!

<https://www.meningitisnow.org/get-support/supporting-young-people/believe-achieve/events-we-ekends/>

Communication Matters Study Day - 21st November London

'Inspiring New Ways of Thinking About Access to Technology for People with Intellectual Disability'
Study Day - Registration Now Open

North East CANN
www.northeastcann.org
info@northeastcann.org

21st November 2025, 9.30-4pm, Irwin Mitchell Offices, Temple, London, EC4Y 0AY

Communication Matters are delighted to partner with a range of leading academic and clinical experts in cognitive disability to host this exciting event.

Following on from our previous Study Day in November 2019 ('Where Next for People with Cognitive Disabilities & Electronic Assistive Technology?'), we will offer delegates a range of plenaries and workshops to explore the state of play around existing technology for people with cognitive disability as well as the opportunity to (re)consider how to activate current and future technologies in creative and innovative ways. This is a standalone event and, although drawing on learning from the 2019 event, there is no need for delegates to have attended the previous Study Day to benefit from this one.

Attendance: £100 for non-members, £90 for members and £75 for AAC users/PAs/family members. Lunch and refreshments included.

Learning objectives, full programme and booking details can be found [here](#). Register your place now!

<https://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/what-we-do/study-days/>

Down Syndrome UK - PADS Professionals Webinar for October & November

We are delighted to advise that PADS offers free informal monthly lunchtime webinars, aimed at supporting and training all healthcare professionals around best practices to improve the maternity experience of parents of a baby with Down syndrome.

Created and delivered by parents, experts in the lived experience of pregnancy and life with a child with Down syndrome, the sessions will provide you with a chance to learn from our experiences, to seek advice and ask questions. At PADS we believe that every woman with a high chance or confirmed result of baby having Down syndrome has the right to enjoy a pregnancy free from discrimination and not be subjected to any prejudicial language or attitudes.

The Lived Experience of PADS Dads

Tuesday 21st October - Midday

In terms of maternity experiences the dads can often be overlooked especially if the mother and baby need a bit of extra care. We are very grateful to 3 proud PADS dads who are going to share with you a dad's perspective on having child with Down syndrome.

Click here and add details to register for this event:

<https://downsyndromeuk.my.site.com/community/s/maternitywebinars>

Cultural perspectives – how we support families across different cultures

Monday 17th November - Midday

North East CANN
www.northeastcann.org
info@northeastcann.org

In this webinar we are joined by parents of children with Down syndrome who share their Lived Experiences of their culture, their difficulties and triumphs as well as how PADS supports them in their parenting journey.

Click here and add details to register for this event:

<https://downsyndromeuk.my.site.com/community/s/maternitywebinars>

Royal Society for Blind Children - Connecting Families sessions

Tuesday 14th October 7-8pm

[Connecting Families Online: Personal Care for Young People with a vision impairment · Luma](#)

From washing and dressing to toileting, periods & shaving to home adaptations and life hacks. Join us for a session with Rosie, our Habilitation Specialist to discuss how small wins around the home can empower your children and boost their wellbeing and confidence. This is a relaxed, judgment-free space where you can ask questions – big or small! Our group understands the unique challenges you're facing.

Additionally, head over to our website to find out more about other activities for families, children and young people with VI <https://www.rsb.org.uk/whats-on/>

Kidz to Adultz North heads to Liverpool with a bigger focus on transition and brilliant prizes to be won

I'm Carmel from Disabled Living. We're a charity that's been supporting people of all ages with disabilities and additional needs across the UK since 1897. Alongside our services and helplines, we also run the Kidz to Adultz events, which I think could be really valuable for you, your colleagues, and the people you support, please do feel free to share.

Wednesday 3rd December 2025 | ACC Liverpool Port of Liverpool, Kings Dock Street, L3 4FP | 9.30am – 4.00pm

Free entry | Parking available | Fully accessible

One of the UK's largest free events dedicated to children and young people with disabilities and additional needs, supporting people across the whole of the North West is returning to the North this winter.

Kidz to Adultz North will take place at ACC Liverpool on Wednesday 3rd December 2025 – welcoming families, carers and professionals from across the region for a day of expert advice,

practical support and inclusive fun. Kidz to Adultz exhibitions offer a unique opportunity to connect with over 100 exhibitors – from mobility and seating to education, employment, funding, sensory products and more.

A bigger focus for 2025: Navigating transition

Alongside the usual paediatric elements of the event, this year's event will spotlight an important new area of support across all Kidz to Adultz exhibitions: helping young disabled people and their families navigate life's key transitions – whether that's preparing for adulthood, accessing further education, moving into employment or gaining greater independence. Parents, carers, and professionals will be able to explore dedicated information and services to help make these transitions smoother and more informed.

Expert-led seminars – CPD certified

Our CPD-certified seminars are a key highlight of the event. Covering all the hot topics, they're free to attend, expert-led, and packed with useful insights for parents, carers, and professionals. Just turn up on the day and scan at the end of the presentation to collect your CPD Certificate. The full timetable is available on our website.

Alongside the exhibition and seminars, there will also be:

A fun-filled soft play area to keep little ones entertained
A magical Santa's Grotto bringing festive cheer for all ages
Join in the Bubble Ology experience
And much more.....

Competition time

To mark the return of Kidz to Adultz North to Liverpool, all visitors attending the event will have the chance to enter an exclusive competition with exciting prizes kindly donated by Premium at M&S Bank Arena including:

Four accessible tickets to see ELF the Musical – a festive treat for the family
Two premium tickets to see James Arthur at the M&S Bank Arena, Liverpool
Two premium tickets to see Jimmy Carr at the M&S Bank Arena, Liverpool
Full competition details will be available at the event.

This event is ideal for parents, carers, healthcare professionals, SENCOs, therapists, and anyone supporting a child or young adult with a disability or additional needs. With a wide range of companies providing specialist equipment and organisations offering support and services, whether you're seeking practical solutions, expert advice, or the opportunity to connect with others, you'll find it all here.

Register for free now and find out more:

<https://www.kidzexhibitions.co.uk/kidz-to-adultz-north-1/>

Interested in being more involved? We would love to hear from you... do get in touch
kidzteam@disabledliving.co.uk

Kind regards

Carmel Hourigan

Email Address - carmel.hourigan@disabledliving.co.uk

Website - www.kidzexhibitions.co.uk

Cauldwell Children Impact Report

We Changed Lives In 2024!

Every child deserves the chance to thrive, thanks to our supporters that's exactly what we've made possible.

Our 2024 Impact Report is now live, and it's filled with powerful stories and heartfelt moments that show just how far your generosity has gone. From life-changing autism assessments to fun-filled inclusive events and vital service grants.

Download The Full Report - <https://www.caudwellchildren.com/this-is-us/impact-report>

H.I.E. Conference - Thursday 14th May 2026

Tickets are on sale for our first H.I.E. Conference, taking place on Thursday 14th May 2026 at The Lowry, Manchester.



H.I.E. CONFERENCE

14th May 2026
The Lowry, Salford Quays

Kindly supported by:



BoltBurdonKemp



The theme is **“Hear, Inform, Empower.”**

Our first announced speakers are Nicholas Hamilton & Paula Abramson.

North East CANN
www.northeastcann.org
info@northeastcann.org

"Nicolas is a disability ambassador and hugely inspiring speaker. Born with Cerebral Palsy, following an H.I.E. event at birth, Nicolas and his parents were told that he would never walk, or talk, but this did not stop him for achieving his dream of becoming a successful racing driver."

Paula Abramson will be joining us on the 14th May 2026, and we hope you will too. Paula is a psychotherapist and training facilitator, specialising in providing bereavement support to families and training for professionals, following the death of a baby or child.

Conference tickets here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hie-conference-tickets-1434277846649>

Direct Payment Support Group Some Dates for your diary 2025 - 2026

Liz Leach from Imagineer Development UK CIC & Support Brokerage Network and Katie Clarke from Accessible Calderdale are pleased to announce a new series of workshops.

Our workshops are for people who already receive a Direct Payment or Personal Budget, or those people who are interested in this option.

These sessions help people to develop a greater understanding about the assessment process, financial assessment, support planning and recruiting and training of Personal Assistants.

Workshops will help attendees know their rights as a Direct Payments recipient.

Our sessions are a safe place to come together with like-minded people, learn together and share what works, what doesn't work and what we can do to make employing our own team/s easier.

Thanks to Skills for Care we are running the following sessions:

- 16th September at the Kings Centre, Halifax 10am to 3pm Recruitment Top Tips
- 15th October online 6pm to 8pm Guidance and Legislation
- 12th November online 6pm to 8pm Not Another Assessment
- 3rd December online 6pm to 8pm Support Planning for Individual Employers
- 12th January online 6pm to 8pm Managing your own PA/s
- TBC February online Disability Related Expenses workshop
- 2nd March full day workshop 10am to 3pm What Does Good Support Look Like?

We will be running 3 outreach workshops for family and disabled led organisations so do get in touch if you want us to join one of your sessions.

We run a closed group for anyone receiving Social Care to share ideas, knowledge, and support.

For more information on the Direct Payment Support Group please contact katie@visitsunlimited.org.uk and follow us on social media @AccessibleCalderdale

For bookings contact lorraine.accessiblecalderdale@gmail.com

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](#)

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>

Guide Dogs My Time to Play Virtual Sessions for children with a visual impairment aged 0-4



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).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - REGIONAL

Northumberland Parent Carer Forum Wellbeing Events

These are wellbeing events for Northumberland Parent carers.

North East CANN
www.northeastcann.org
info@northeastcann.org

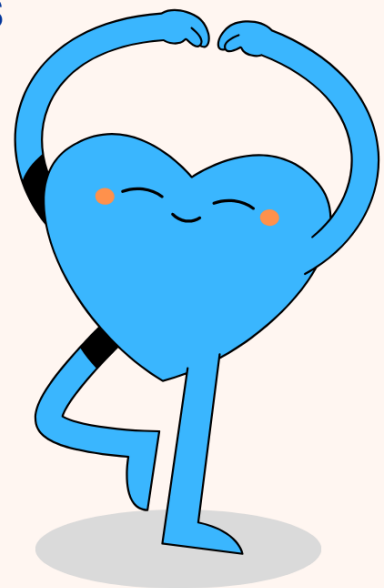
Connections~Sharing~Knowledge~Information~Support



Free all-abilities wellbeing yoga and relaxation workshop for parent carers

Join us at the Parish Centre in
Berwick upon Tweed, along with Jo
Ladd from Berwick Contemplative
Arts to take part in a wellbeing
yoga workshop.

Refreshments and time to chat and
make connections.



16th October 2025 | 12 noon - 2PM

Venue: The Parish Centre, Parade,
Berwick, TD15 1DF.
*Parking at The Parade car park or BM
stores. Free for 3 hours with a parking
disk*

Book your
place by using
the QR code
or link:
Wellbeing.
Yoga Link



Meet likeminded parent carers, share experiences and boost your mental
health and wellbeing.

CONNECTION~SHARING~KNOWLEDGE~INFORMATION~SUPPORT

Northumberland
Parent Carer Forum
A Voice For All

AUTUMN PARENT CARER WELLBEING SESSION

**TAKE SOME TIME FOR YOURSELF THIS AUTUMN
AND JOIN US FOR A COSY WELLBEING EVENING.**

**RELAX WITH CERAMIC PUMPKIN PAINTING AND
SEASONAL CRAFTS, WHILE ENJOYING A
SELECTION OF CHEESE & NIBBLES IN A
FRIENDLY, WELCOMING SPACE.**

WHEN? THURSDAY 30TH OCTOBER

**WHERE? NORTHBURN SPORTS & COMMUNITY
CENTRE, CROW HALL ROAD, CRAMLINGTON,
NE23 3YP**

TIME? 7-9PM





Friends of Hadrian School
Charity Number 1085068

"A fun evening for all the family!"

THE PIE & PEA SUPPER

Thursday 16th October 2025

17:30 - 19:30

Tickets on sale now

Adults £5.00, Children £2.50 which includes a pie and pea supper.
(mince pie or cheese pasty)

Hadrian School, Bertram Crescent, Newcastle, NE15 6PY

Tel: 0191 2734440



Friends of Hadrian School
Charity Number 1035068

FRIENDS OF HADRIAN SCHOOL

BONFIRE *night*



07
NOV
5.30PM

£3
ENTRY

FIREWORKS • FOOD • FUN

— ENJOY A SPECIAL NIGHT —

Get your tickets from Hadrian School Reception NOW!

HADRIAN SCHOOL, BERTRAM CRESCENT, NEWCASTLE, NE15 6PY.
HADRIAN.NEWCASTLE.SCH.UK 0191 273 4440
DANIEL.COFFEY@HADRIAN.NEWCASTLE.SCH.UK

Hadrian Education and Development Services

"Working in Partnership with Hadrian School"



Hadrian Education and Development Services (HEADS) is a registered company Limited by Guarantee that was established in 2007. HEADS work in partnership with Hadrian School, Newcastle upon Tyne to offer:

- Quality SEN Training
- Advice/Consultancy and Support
- Quality Publications
- An excellent range of Facilities and Resources including our new Rebound Therapy Training Centre

Hadrian School run a range of training courses for Parents, Carers throughout the school year 2025/6. All courses start at 9.30am unto 12.30pm. We are keen to hear from parents about ideas for training, so if you have any specific training requests please let us know by filling in the attached form.

Training for Parents/Carers

9th October 2025 – Bereavement Training – New Course – virtual training (10am – 1pm)

- Living with anticipatory grief
- The impact of sudden, traumatic, unexpected, or expected death
- The physiological and emotional impact of grief and its impact on communication
- Understanding why bereaved people may be vulnerable
- Understanding the impact of life-limiting illness and terminal illness on the individual and the carer
- Understanding grief and loss in children and families
- Supporting children with learning disabilities with their own grief
- Family communication: conversations about death and dying
- Signposting and offering support– how and where
- Resilience, self-care and seeking support, to include vicarious trauma and compassion fatigue
- An overview of the experience of bereavement, grief & loss, to include different types of grief and the impact of different types of death

24th October 2025 – Behaviour as a form of Communication

This practical course teaches delegates the core skills of how to empathise with, and meet the needs of the people they support.

Because empathy is such an important part of SEN care and education, this course is relevant for all professionals and family members who support a person with a learning disability, autism, or mental health problem, including teachers, teaching assistants and clinical staff and managers working in challenging circumstances with people with complex needs.

6th November 2025 – An Introduction to First Aid

This 3-hour workshop is designed for school staff, parents, and other community members to provide essential first aid knowledge until a qualified first aider arrives on the scene. A certificate of attendance will be provided upon completion.

What to do in an emergency
Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)
First aid for an unconscious casualty
Managing wounds and bleeding
How to assist a choking person

21st November 2025 – Sleep Training

Causes of sleep disturbance in children. Methods for addressing these issues, including using natural therapies. Ways to manage parent's feelings about sleep problems. Parents will be able to discuss issues together in a supportive environment, and learn from each other too. There is no single 'cure' or approach that will guarantee their children will sleep through, however the approaches we discuss can be applied in a person centred way to hopefully bring some help to every family.

5th December 2025 – Introduction to Autism

We will consider autism as a condition and how it impacts on the lives of individuals and how, in turn this can reflect on their learning. We will develop an understanding of how individuals with this condition may need to be supported in a school environment and the adaptations that can be made. Special reference will be made to sensory issues and the importance of working in a person centered way.

23rd January 2026 and Introduction to Sensory Loss

This course will help delegates to learn how our senses affect us on a daily basis. How it feels to have Sensory Loss. Finding out what can cause Sensory Loss. Ways to help and support people who have a Sensory Loss, alongside disabling conditions such as learning difficulties/physical disabilities. Knowing who the organisations are who provide support for individuals who have a Sensory Loss.

27th February 2026 – Complimentary Therapies

Consider how complementary therapies can be used in person centred and holistic ways to help manage stress, pain and sleep problems. Introduce a number of complementary therapies which can be used by everyone. Discuss how to give a hand and foot massage. Learn a number of relaxation techniques. How these approaches have been used to help individuals with a range of problems.

29th April 2026 – Mental Health Awareness Training

HEADS Training in partnership with Hadrian School and Traincon Learning are facilitating a Mental Health Awareness Training course very soon. We would like the course to take place physically at the HEADS Training Centre at Hadrian school where we have strict COVID practices in place, but depending on what delegates preferences are we can facilitate via zoom too, just let us know what is practicable for yourself if you would like to book..

In the current COVID climate Mental Health is at the forefront of many organisations agendas, and attending this training will give you opportunity to take back much needed knowledge and skills to your own working environment.

24th June 2026 - Introduction to Epilepsy

This course will help delegates to understand more about people with Epilepsy, understand what Epilepsy is. Some causes of Epilepsy. The effects on daily living of Epilepsy. Using a person centered approach to support individuals with Epilepsy. Learn how to deal with seizures. And understanding common treatments for Epilepsy.

If you would like to book a place on any of the training, could you please email:

david.palmer@hadrian.newcastle.sch.uk or daniel.coffey@hadrian.newcastle.sch.uk, or call school on 0191 273 4440.

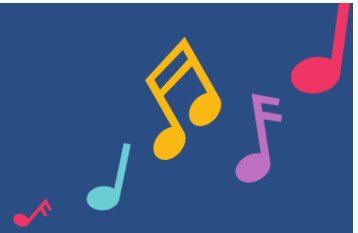
Meet, Chat, Learn

The Tiny Lives 'Meet, Chat, Learn' sessions are a great way to meet other neonatal families, learn new skills and spend some bonding time with your little one. Our groups and classes are organised and funded by Tiny Lives and facilitated by our approved delivery partners, so they are always free of charge to neonatal parents.

We are delighted to offer classes across Newcastle, Gateshead, South Shields and Sunderland locations. Our classes are open exclusively to families who have spent time on the neonatal unit and/or Transitional Care. 'Stay & Play' and 'Stay & Splash' sessions and Bubbles are only open to families that have spent time on a neonatal unit.

Until April 2026, Meet, Chat, Learn is funded by a grant from the National Lottery Community Fund.

<https://www.tinylives.org.uk/meet-chat-learn/>



MEET, CHAT, LEARN POST DISCHARGE PROGRAMME

Once home why not come along to one of our fully funded parent-baby classes or groups that are open to all families who have had a baby on a Neonatal Unit or Transitional Care

Meet other parents who have had babies on the neonatal unit,
Chat and support each other, Learn new things that can help
your baby's development.

BABY YOGA
BABY MASSAGE
SENSORY CLASSES
ART & MESSY PLAY

For more information please scan the QR code below or
contact
victoria@tinylives.org.uk OR meetchatlearn@tinylives.org.uk



TTHT at the Autism Hubs Multi-Agency Event – BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

Calling all South Tyneside families

Would you like the opportunity to have a chance to meet multiple different services 'in person' and in one place?

If so, then come along to The Toby Henderson Trust (TTHT) at the Autism Hub multi-agency drop in event:

When: Tuesday 21st October 2025

Where: Autism Hub, Gordon St, South Shields.

Time: 10am – 12pm

No booking required, just pop along.

Keep a look out on our Facebook page for a list of professionals/organisations that will be joining us on the day!

The Toby Henderson Trust

MULTI-AGENCY EVENT!



WHAT DOES MULTI-AGENCY EVENT MEAN?

It means families get the chance to meet multiple different services 'in person' in one place and are able to put a 'face to a name/organisation.' Feedback from families who attend our support groups, where we regularly have guests join us have shown the value in the opportunity to meet professionals/services in person and have a chat about individual support and needs available for your family. **If you are a family living in South Tyneside please come along, have a chat and learn more about what is on offer for families in your local area. No need to book just drop in!**

 **WHERE:** Autism Hub, Gordon st, South Shields

 **DATE:** Tuesday 21st October 2025

 **TIME:** 10am - 12pm



0191 816 0550



autismhub@ttht.co.uk



ttht.co.uk

2025



EVERYONE

NEEDS TO START LIVING WELL

INCLUSIVE SOFT PLAY SESSIONS

EVERY WEDNESDAY 5-6PM
SUNDERLAND AQUATIC CENTRE
STARTS OCTOBER 29TH

EVERYONE ACTIVE SOFT PLAY SAFETY POLICY APPLIES - PLEASE ASK AT MAIN
RECEPTION FOR MORE DETAILS

RECEP-

FOR [MORE INFORMATION](#) OR TO [BOOK](#) YOUR SLOTS PLEASE GIVE US A CALL ON 0191 5144300

SUNDERLAND AQUATIC CENTRE, STADIUM
PARK, SUNDERLAND SR51SU

EVERYONE
WANTS TO
BE ACTIVE



EVERYONE

NEEDS A LITTLE FUN IN THE POOL

FREE SENSORY SWIM SESSIONS OVER THE OCTOBER HOLIDAYS

Funded by Coalfields Area Committee

TUESDAY 28TH OCTOBER 11:30-12:30PM

FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER 12-1PM

Hot Food package included after session

**EVERYONE ACTIVE SWIMMING POOL SAFETY POLICY APPLIES - PLEASE ASK AT MAIN RECEPTION FOR
MORE DETAILS**

EACH PERSON ATTENDING WILL NEED TO BOOKED ON TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.

FOR [MORE INFORMATION](#) OR TO [BOOK](#) YOUR SLOTS PLEASE GIVE US A CALL ON
[0191 526 9980](tel:01915269980) OR CALL INTO OUR CENTRE TODAY AND ASK ONE OF OUR FRONT OF HOUSE TEAM.

**Sunderland
City Council**

Supported by
Coalfield Area Committee

HETTON **COMMUNITY POOL**
& WELLNESS CENTRE

EVERYONE
**WANTS TO
BE ACTIVE**

North East CANN
www.northeastcann.org
info@northeastcann.org



Do you have a child with a vision impairment aged 0-4?

Give them the best possible start in life and sign up for our My Time to Play programme today.

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.



Our next programme starts at:

Primrose Community Centre,
Lambton Terrace, Jarrow, NE32 5QY

Thursdays fortnightly from Sept 2025
10am to 12 noon

**Find out more at guidedogs.org.uk/mttp
or contact our local team**

mttpnewcastle@guidedogs.org.uk

0800 781 1444

The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity in England and Wales (209617), Scotland (SC038979) and Isle of Man (1334). A136 10/22



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Our next programme starts at:

Hemlington Lake & Recreation Centre
Cass House Road, Middlesbrough, TS8 9QW

Mondays (1000 - 1200) fortnightly
Starting in January 2026

**Find out more at guidedogs.org.uk/mttp
or contact our local team
MTTPNewcastle@guidedogs.org.uk**

0800 781 1444

The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity in England and Wales (209617), Scotland (SC038979) and Isle of Man (1334). A136 10/22

Irwin Mitchell Seminar, Newcastle

We are hosting a seminar in Newcastle on the 9th October, where guest speaker Beth Williamson from the Physio Hub will share her experiences as a clinician working with children with complex neurological needs. The session is aimed at therapists and healthcare professionals supporting children with these needs and will aim to provide insight into a brain- based approach that can reshape how therapy is delivered. The event is free to attend, but places are limited so early sign up is encouraged.

Would you be able to share this with our NECANN members please, and encourage them to share with their network of relevant contacts in this area? I'm conscious we have lots of charities who support children with complex needs, and they too will have contacts who may benefit from attending.

Please see below the link to sign up;

[Movement Analysis and Education Strategies - An alternative app](#)

Upcoming Events at Useful Vision

Flip book here with full details: <https://heyzine.com/flip-book/6605c49ce7.html>



usefulvision

October - November - December 2025

**Activities for visually impaired children
across the North East**



Welcome to Your New Activity Brochure

www.usefulvision.org.uk

Now part of

30 Healthworks
CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

Events at a glance...

October:

Saturday 11th October: Japan Golf

Saturday 18th October: Repeat Sensory

Wednesday 29th October: Halloween Spectacular

Thursday 30th October: Tweddle Farm

Friday 31st October: Humbles Wood Activity Farm

November:

Saturday 15th November: Let's Get Messy!

Saturday 22nd November: The Special Lioness

December:

Saturday 13th December: Cinderella Panto at Strawberry Lane

Sunday 28th December: Newcastle Eagles

www.usefulvision.org.uk

30 Healthworks
27/11/2024 15:34

How to book

Get in touch with our friendly team via one of the following options.

CALL: 0191 264 1959

EMAIL: usefulvision@hwn.org.uk

ONLINE: usefulvision.org.uk/events

Once you have booked you will receive a confirmation email.

www.usefulvision.org.uk

Now part of

30 Healthworks
CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

Join Our SEND Local Offer Consultation Group

Dear All,

I hope you had a great summer.

For those who don't already know me, I'm part of the SEND Systems and High Needs Review Team, a small change team working within SEND. One of my key areas of work is the review and redesign of our SEND Local Offer.

Our aim is to make sure the Local Offer provides easy-to-find, high-quality, and up-to-date information for young people aged 0–25 with additional needs. It should be a resource that young people, parents and carers, and professionals can all rely on to find what they need.

Over the coming months, we'll be moving all relevant information from our [current SEND Local Offer](#) into our [new site](#)—and we really need your help to get it right.

To give you an idea of what the new site could look like, please take a look at our [SEND Activities Page](#)

How You Can Get Involved

Please register your email address so we can share updates with you: [Join the Consultation Group](#)

We'll create a mailing list of everyone interested in giving feedback—young people, parents, and professionals. When we have something new to share, we'll send you:

- A link to the draft page
- A short survey for your feedback

For example:

We've created a new [calendar of events](#)—please let us know what you think by completing this short survey: [Give Feedback](#)

If you register, you will receive this information and could complete the survey, or if you had more detailed feedback you could email me or book a meeting with me. If you didn't want to respond, that would be fine too!

Please share this invitation with anyone who might be interested in helping us shape the new Local Offer.

Thank you so much for your support!

Laura Lewis
Senior ICT Solution Analyst
SEND Systems and High Needs Review
Children and Families Directorate
Phone: 0191 277 7057

North East CANN
www.northeastcann.org
info@northeastcann.org

Email: laura.lewis@newcastle.gov.uk

Email: LocalOffer@newcastle.gov.uk

Grace House Bespoke Workshops for Parent/Carers

- Positive Behaviour Workshop will run for 3 consecutive Mondays - 15th, 22nd and 29th September 10am-2pm

Required to attend all 3 Mondays to obtain the maximum benefits and to book, they need to contact:

Skills for People on 0191 2818737 and ask for the PBS Team. Alternatively, they can email information@skillsforpeople.org.uk

- Pilot Stay and Play will run for 2 consecutive weeks. Tuesday, 23rd and 30th September 9:30am-11am

[Upcoming events - Booking by Bookwhen](#)

- Dr Katherine Uher will be coming in to do a presentation/workshop for parent carers regarding 'Supporting Autistic and ADHD Families in Systems Not Built for Us'. This will be on Tuesday, 11th November 9:30-12:30pm

North Tyneside Autism Hub

north east
autism society

For parents / carers of children who are awaiting a referral to the neurodevelopmental diagnostic team, on the diagnostic pathway or post diagnosis of autism.

Children must be living in North Tyneside.

We have the following dates available:

Riverside Family Hub
NE29 6DQ

02/09
07/10
04/11
02/12

Howdon Family Hub
NE28 0AL

09/09
14/10
11/11
09/12

Shiremoor Family Hub
NE27 0TA

16/09
21/10
18/11



Supporting your autistic child workshop

The workshop will cover:

- worries and action planning
- common misconceptions
- differences in autistic children
- practical strategies to use in everyday life

These sessions will run 10-12 and must be pre-booked.

One to one appointments

These appointments are for families that have questions or would like to discuss any issues in confidence.

These appointments are available between 9-10 and 12.30-4 and must be pre-booked.



**To book please contact Rebecca Weatherstone on
0191 410 9974 or rebecca.weatherstone@ne-as.org.uk**

Registered Charity No. 1028260 | Company Limited by Guarantee No. 2859620

Newcastle Autism Hubs

north east
autism society

For parents / carers of children who are on the diagnostic pathway or post diagnosis of autism.

Children must be living in Newcastle



We have the following dates available:

Nunsmoor Centre, Studley Terrace, NE4 5AH	Galafield Centre Newbiggin Ln, NE5 1LZ	Byker Sands 19 Raby Cross, NE6 2FF	Fawdon Childrens Centre, Cairns Way, NE3 2SN
03/09	10/09	17/09	24/09
01/10	08/10	15/10	22/10
05/11	12/11	19/11	26/11
03/12	10/12		

Supporting your autistic child workshop

The workshop will cover:

- worries and action planning
- common misconceptions
- differences in autistic children
- practical strategies to use in everyday life

These sessions will run 10-12 and must be pre-booked.

One to one appointments

These appointments are for families that have questions or would like to discuss any issues in confidence.

These appointments are available between 9-4pm and must be pre-booked.



**To book please contact Rebecca Weatherstone on
0191 410 9974 or rebecca.weatherstone@ne-as.org.uk**

Registered Charity No. 1028260 | Company Limited by Guarantee No. 2859620

NHS

Durham Autism Hubs

north east
autism society

For parents / carers of children who are awaiting a referral to the neurodevelopmental diagnostic team, on the diagnostic pathway or post diagnosis of autism.

Children must be living in Durham.

We have the following dates available:

Stanley Family Hub
Clifford Road, DH9 0AB

07/08
04/09
02/10
06/11
04/12

Willington Family Hub
Chapel Street, DL15 0EQ

14/08
11/09
09/10
13/11
11/12



Supporting your autistic child workshop

The workshop will cover:

- worries and action planning
- common misconceptions
- differences in autistic children
- practical strategies to use in everyday life

These sessions will run 10-12 and must be pre-booked.

One to one appointments

These appointments are for families that have questions or would like to discuss any issues in confidence.

These appointments are available between 9-10am and 1-3pm and must be pre-booked.



**To book please contact Rebecca Weatherstone on
0191 410 9974 or rebecca.weatherstone@ne-as.org.uk**

Registered Charity No. 1028260 | Company Limited by Guarantee No. 2859620



ZOOM WEBINARS

SUPPORTING THE EMOTIONAL WELLBEING OF AUTISTIC CHILDREN

30th September
25th November
1.00 - 3.00pm

Please note this course is suitable for parents / carers of children 7 and over who are experiencing low level emotional wellbeing difficulties.

Places are limited and must be pre-booked.

✉ Rebecca.Weatherstone@ne-as.org.uk ☎ 0191 410 9974

Parents/carers only. You only need to attend one date for each course, they are repeat sessions.

f i t @NEAutismSociety
Registered Charity No. 1028260

north east
autism society

North East CANN
www.northeastcann.org
info@northeastcann.org



The Toby Henderson Trust

Toby's Festive Family Fun

Sunday 30th November 12pm-3.30pm

Come along with the family to enjoy some “getting ready for Christmas” festive family fun and food.

There will be a Christmas gift for all of our young people, special guests, games, a festive disco, fun, crafts and Jumpin’ Jay The Bubble Whisperer. All festive food will be informal and served buffet style. Adults will enjoy hot turkey, stuffing and cranberry baps with roast potatoes and gravy and children will enjoy a hot and cold buffet.

Join us in The Cheviot Suite of The Holiday Inn, Gosforth Park.

All tickets are priced at £15 per head.

Children aged 2 and under go free.

To book your tickets call 0300 3653055 or email vicki.armstrong@ttht.co.uk.



GATESHEAD RAINBOW GUIDE LAUNCH

Choice
WELLBEING SERVICE

WHEN?

MONDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER, 9:30AM TO 12 - BLAYDON WINLATON FAMILY HUB

THURSDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER, 9:30AM TO 12 - CHOWDENE FAMILY HUB

TUESDAY 7TH OCTOBER, 9:30AM TO 12 - FELLING FAMILY HUB

WEDNESDAY 15TH OCTOBER, 9:30AM TO 2PM - METROCENTRE COMMUNITY HUB

**COME ALONG TO PICK UP YOUR COPY OF THE
GATESHEAD RAINBOW GUIDE, MEET THE
CHOICE TEAM AND YOUR PARENT CARER
FORUM!**



North East Sight Matters Summer Update

I have attached our latest information about what NESM did over the summer holidays. Hopefully, this will give everyone a sense of what we do and why.

<https://online.flippingbook.com/view/455899106/>

SEND Local Offer Consultation Group

Dear all,

Just a quick email to share two posters we have made for this consultation group. You can display or share one or both of them with parents/carers/young people with SEND if you think they would be interested.

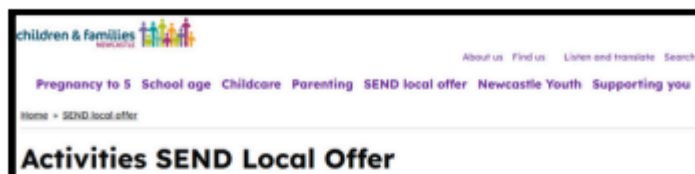
If you have any social media channels, you could also forward our Facebook post about the consultation group: [\(11\) We are creating a new SEND Local Offer... - Newcastle City Council | Facebook](#)

We have had many people signing up, so a big thank you for your support.

All the best,

Thomas Dowling
SEND Service Improvement Assistant

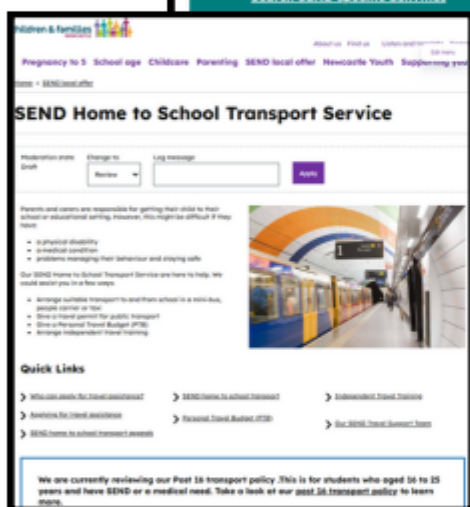
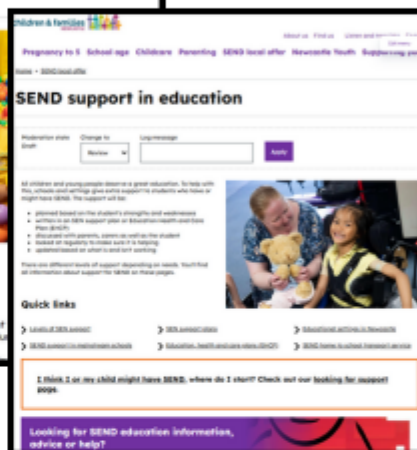
SEND Local Offer Consultation Group



SEND specific activities

Find activities that are for children and young people with Special Educational or Additional Needs (SEND) and their families.

Search SEND specific activities



but can take a bit more planning. From how to get your family adventures a little more stress-free, fu

Help us design a new Local Offer website that works for you.

Join our online consultation group!

<https://forms.office.com/e/qfFTzYvYJK>



SIGN UP



localoffer@newcastle.gov.uk

Newcastle
City Council

North East CANN
www.northeastcann.org
info@northeastcann.org

SEND Local Offer

Consultation Group



Newcastle City Council are making a new SEND Local Offer website. Help us make the best website possible!

Join our online consultation group. We welcome feedback from:

- parents and carers
- young people with SEND
- professionals



<https://forms.office.com/e/qfFTzYvYJK>

SIGN UP



The SEND Local Offer:

- helps children and young people (0 to 25) with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- has information about support and services that can help
- supports parents, carers, families and professionals



localoffer@newcastle.gov.uk



Social Media Links and Contact Details:

Website: www.northeastcann.org / www.cann-network.org
Email: info@northeastcann.org / northeast@cann-network.org
X: <https://x.com/CannNorth>
BlueSky: <https://bsky.app/necann.bsky.social>
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/north-east-cann/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/northeastcann>

Please share NE CANN links with your followers and encourage them to follow too.