



WYCANN COMMUNICATION
November 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://www.cann-network.org/blog/>

WYCANN MEETING DATES

Please let us know if you need any support accessing the meetings

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

CHAIR COMMENTS

Dear WYCANN Network,

As we move into the final stretch of the year, we're reminded that even as the days grow darker, our collective work continues to shine brightly. The energy across West Yorkshire is inspiring—from creative sibling sessions and inclusive sports festivals to new therapy hubs and festive family events.

We're excited to welcome you to our next in-person meeting on **Wednesday 19th November, 10am–12pm at Phoenix Dance Theatre, Leeds**. It's a chance to reconnect, share updates, and explore how we can continue to support children and young people with additional needs across the region.

This month's communication is packed with opportunities, events, and resources—please do share it widely. And just a quick note: **all WYCANN content will soon be hosted on www.cann-network.org**, and the old site will be redirected. Please update your bookmarks and links.

Thank you for being part of this vibrant and supportive network.

Lucy Owen and Carmel Gallagher
chair.westyorkshire@cann-network.org

NEW MEMBERS



Leeds Therapy Hub CIC – Accessible Mental Health & Wellbeing Support for Children and Adults

At Leeds Therapy Hub CIC, our mission is to make Mental health support accessible for everyone — helping children, young people, and adults across West Yorkshire to heal, grow, and thrive. We believe everyone deserves compassionate, affordable, and inclusive support that builds resilience, restores balance, and empowers individuals to live healthier, more fulfilled lives.

Leeds Therapy Hub CIC is a not-for-profit community organisation providing free, subsidised, and private therapy options for children and adults. Our team of qualified therapists, practitioners and coaches combines professional expertise and lived experience to offer both traditional and holistic therapies in a warm, non-judgmental environment. To reduce waiting times, Clients can self-refer directly — with no healthcare professional required.

Kastie Lee - leedstherapyhubcic@gmail.com



Bumpy Ltd

Bumpy Ltd is a registered charity based in West Yorkshire, dedicated to helping people of all ages and abilities experience the joy and freedom of motorcycling in a safe, supportive environment. Established over 35 years ago, Bumpy offers a wide range of motorcycle and off-road training programmes, from beginner lessons and full motorcycle licence training to children's off-road experiences and trials tuition.

A key part of Bumpy's inclusive mission is its SEND buggy sessions, designed specifically for individuals with disabilities or additional needs. These sessions provide passengers with the exciting opportunity to enjoy off-road rides in specially adapted buggies and quads, operated by trained staff in a controlled and accessible environment. The sessions focus on confidence building, sensory engagement, and fun, often delivered at a subsidised rate to make them as accessible as possible.

By combining professional instruction, safety, and a warm community spirit, Bumpy ensures that everyone — regardless of ability — can share in the thrill of two (or four) wheels.

<https://www.bumpy.org.uk/>

<https://www.bumpy.org.uk/our-services/additional-needs-sessions#send-buggy-brochure>

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.cann-network.org/member-registration-form/>

Please only use contact details that are for public use

RESEARCH

Preparing for adulthood (education, training and careers) - survey for parents and carers

Preparing for adulthood (education, training and careers) - share your feedback

The Leeds Parent Carer Forum and Voice, Influence and Change Team (LCC) work in partnership to raise the issues and challenges faced by parents and carers of children with SEND in Leeds across education, health and care.

Young people will start making decisions about their education and future from the ages of 13 to 14 years old (Year 9). At this point, your child has a right to independent careers advice. They should receive a career action plan including independent guidance and a written record of the conversation about further education or work.

If your child has an education, health and care needs plan (EHCP), preparing for adulthood will be part of their Year 9 Annual Review. The career action plan will support this review.

Families have told us that they feel there isn't enough information to prepare their children for their next steps in education, training and careers. Families feel that the training and careers pathways are not clear.

To help us further explore this please complete a short survey.

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

Preparing for adulthood (education, training and careers) - share your feedback

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



EVENTS AND INFORMATION - ONLINE/NATIONAL/REGIONAL

Online creative art sessions for siblings

Sibs is a charity supporting brothers and sisters of disabled children and adults.

They are running online creative arts sessions on Saturday 22 November for young people who care for a disabled, neurodiverse, or seriously ill sibling. Delivered in partnership with Artpod, each session will include support from a member of the Sibs team, ensuring a welcoming and inclusive space for sibling carers to connect and create.

Join via Zoom on Saturday, 22 November 2025:

● Ages 4 to 10 years (10am - 11.30am)

● Ages 11 years + (1pm - 2.30pm)

https://www.sibs.org.uk/sibs-workshops-and-training/art-sessions-for-young-siblings?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Yorkshire Sports Festival

WHEELPOWER SPORTS FESTIVAL YORKSHIRE

29 JANUARY 2026

ENGLISH INSTITUTE OF SPORT
SHEFFIELD



wheelpower.org.uk/yorkshire

charity number: 265498



WheelPower

British Wheelchair Sport

FREE Christmas Family Fun Day!

Join us for a magical festive celebration in partnership with **Irwin Mitchell** and **SYCANN**!



Sunday 14th December



11am – 2pm



Niagara Centre, Niagara Road, Sheffield S6 1LU

Expect a day full of joy and inclusive fun for families and children with additional needs, including:



Santa's Grotto



Face Painting



Sensory Activities



Boccia



Free Food & Refreshments



Plus, meet local charities offering support and resources!



Book your FREE place now:

<https://irwinmitchellandsycannfamilyfu.splashthat.com>

Let's make this Christmas one to remember! ✨

#ChristmasFunDay #SYCANN #IrwinMitchell #InclusiveEvents #FamilyFun #SheffieldEvents



CHRISTMAS FAMILY FUN DAY

In conjunction with Irwin Mitchell & SYCANN



You are invited to a free family fun day hosted by us at the Niagara centre in Hillsborough.

Come along and join us on the day, we will have lots of fun activities for you to enjoy, including Santa's grotto, face painting, sensory activities, Boccia and much more!

Food will be provided, and refreshments are available at the Niagara bar. We are delighted that a number of local charities who support families and children with additional needs will also be joining us on the day.

To confirm your place, sign up for free using the link below
<https://irwinmitchellandsycannfamilyfun.splashthat.com/>

**SUNDAY 14TH
DECEMBER
11AM - 2PM**

**NIAGARA CENTRE, NIAGARA
ROAD, SHEFFIELD, S6 1LU**

Residential Camp Applications for Over the Wall 2026 are OPEN!

Hello!

Applications for 2026 camps are open and you can [refer now!](#) 🎉
We also have some exciting updates to tell you.....

England Camps

2026 sees the opening of [Over the Wall Camp at Ockbrook](#) near Derby!

As part of this exciting new chapter, we have relocated our head office to Ockbrook and are currently renovating the site to transform it into our permanent camp home. From July 2026, all of our residential camps in England will take place here, giving us a wonderful new place to welcome children, young people, and families.

In our first year of operation at Ockbrook, we'll be running smaller camps across more weeks of the year as we gradually scale up our onsite accommodation. Each camp will welcome up to 50 campers, allowing us to deliver the same great experience while continuing to develop our site capacity for future seasons.

We're excited to return to our pre-COVID model of running separate Health Challenge and Siblings Camps. We appreciate the unique benefits this structure offers, allowing us to tailor programming more closely to each group's needs, and we're eager to bring this core element of our camp experience back in 2026.

Each camp session will also be split into age groups, so there will be dedicated weeks for:

- Children aged 8–12 years
- Young people aged 13–17 years

This way, we can make the best use of our space to deliver the best possible experience for our campers.

A new addition to the calendar is our Home Educated Camp, taking place during term time. This combined Health Challenge & Siblings Camp is designed specifically for campers aged 8–17 who are home educated and meet Over the Wall Camp's eligibility criteria. We know that home educated children often have unique learning journeys and social experiences, and we're excited to pilot this new programme.

Family Camps and Partnership Camps

Our Family Camps will be running on weekends throughout September and October, and applications have opened now for these too. We will be announcing in the New Year which will be partnership camps (run with other charities and organisations and usually illness group specific) and which will be our generic Over The wall Family Camps for all illness groups covered in our criteria.

You can find details on all camps and their dates here: [on our website](#)

Share the Magic of Camp!

Many families haven't heard of OTWC until someone like you shares it with them. Your referrals make all the difference — and they only take a few minutes!

If you know a young person or family who could benefit from the magic of camp, you can refer them easily using this short online form: [Refer a Family Now](#).

Once you've made the referral, we'll take it from there! Our team will reach out to the family, chat about camp, and help them apply if they'd like to join in the adventure.

Why should you refer? Here's what one of our wonderful referrers says:

"I have witnessed first-hand what a difference these camps make to our patients. The patients I support are often advised of what they can't do, rather than what they can. Over The Wall gives them the opportunity to take part in activities with other children with similar conditions whilst being cared for by experienced healthcare professionals and staff."

- Hayley, Family Support Worker

'Who can come to camp?' and other FAQs

You can find our eligibility guidance here: [Who can come to camp?](#).

Want to know more about things such as the food, accommodation, and activities? Our FAQs page covers these topics and more. You can find it here: [Camp FAQs](#).

Or, you can get in touch by phoning 01332 977589 or emailing us campers@otw.org.uk. We'd love to help!

Don't forget to refer a family now: [Short online referral form](#).

We hope to see some of the young people you support at camp soon!

Camper & Families Team
Email: campers@otw.org.uk
Tel: 01332 977589 Option 1

Navigating legal change: What charities need to know

Thursday 06 November, 12.00pm - 1.30pm - Virtual

As the legal landscape continues to evolve, charities must stay informed to protect their operations, assets, and legacy.

This webinar will provide a practical overview of key developments affecting the sector, including recent changes to UK data protection laws, updates in employment legislation, essential guidance on intellectual property management, and strategies for safeguarding legacy income amid rising inheritance disputes.

Join us to gain expert insights and actionable advice to help your charity stay compliant, resilient, and future-ready.

Throughout the session we'll explore:

Legacy income and inheritance disputes

Engaging donors to grow legacy income involves long-term stewardship. Disputes such as contested wills or unclear intentions can threaten these gifts. We'll help you to understand the types of dispute which might arise and how evidence of the donor journey can help in contentious probate disputes.

Intellectual property awareness

Many organisations lack a clear understanding of intellectual property (IP), especially regarding how to protect it. This can lead to complications when collaborating with third parties on content creation, as inadequate IP management may result in unexpected financial demands from those partners. We'll address the type of IP rights which can protect your organisation and its activities, how to protect those rights and common pitfalls and how to avoid them.

Employment law changes

The Employment Rights Bill will see employers grapple with the biggest set of legislative changes we've had for years. We'll explain what to expect and why, giving you some key action points for ensuring resilient to the changes ahead that are tailored to the charity sector. Expect day-one unfair dismissal rights, changes to the way in which you can use low level contracts, the need to take all reasonable steps to prevent third party harassment such as service users, donors, and volunteers.

UK data protection laws

2025 has seen the biggest changes to UK data protection laws since GDPR. The Data (Use and Access) Act 2025 is now on the statute books and will both introduce new requirements and change existing ones. We will look at some of the key reforms and what they mean for charities, what you should do and when.

Please RSVP to secure your place.

<https://events.irwinmitchell.com/charities>

We hope you are able to join us.

Kind regards

Irwin Mitchell

Meet Grandad Wheels

Brian Abram is 'Grandad Wheels'

I'm 68, retired and from Halifax. After a serious cycling accident in 2013, I was left paraplegic and a full-time wheelchair user. I started writing stories to amuse my Grandson Charles, but I was encouraged to share them with a wider audience. I have now self-published six books in the series '*The Adventures of Grandad Wheels!*' – exciting tales of the crazy things I get up to with my grandson Charles (Charlie in the stories). Each story gives the reader some appreciation of the challenges that face wheelchair users. But the main objective is to show that a Grandad in a wheelchair (or anyone in a wheelchair for that matter) can still have a whole lot of fun!

All the proceeds from my books are donated to charity, divided equally between the **Spinal Injuries Association** and **Back Up**. Both these charities work to improve the lives of people like me who have suffered a spinal injury. I've now raised **£90,000**.

As at September 2025, I've visited **200 schools** and met almost **40,000 children**. I raise awareness of the challenges disabled people face whilst entertaining the children and encouraging them to interact with me in a fun way.

Grandad Wheels is available to visit schools and charities in South and West Yorkshire, and can offer **online sessions** for groups further afield. If you're interested in booking a visit, please get in touch!

Brian Abram
brianabram@btinternet.com
07770 643562
www.grandadwheels.com

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-weekends/>

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*

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](https://www.communicationmatters.org.uk/what-we-do/study-days/). Register your place now!

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

Down Syndrome UK - PADS Professionals Webinar for 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.

Cultural perspectives – how we support families across different cultures

Monday 17th November - Midday

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>

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

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.

"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:

- 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

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



EVENTS AND INFORMATION - LEEDS

Interplay Sensory Open Day

Just letting you know that our next Sensory Open Day is this Saturday 1st November, with the fantastical theme “The Wonderful World of Oz”! Me and Kirsty are certainly very excited for it.

The drop-in session times are 11am - 12.30pm, or 2pm - 3.30pm.

Please see the attached flyer for more details, and let us know if you’d like to book, or if you have any more questions for us.





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

Sixes Social Cricket in Headingley

We hope you're having a great start to the new school year! We wanted to kindly ask if you'd be able to share the below local offer from Sixes Social Cricket in Headingley in your next newsletter or any communications to your students and/or their parents. It's a great way to help families discover an active, social, and fun half-term activity right here in the community, perfect for keeping young people active, social, and having fun this holiday.


From 28th October – 2nd November, we're running a special half-term offer just for our local community:

 20% off cricket net bookings (4pm–8pm)

 Kids eat FREE all afternoon (12pm–8pm) with any adult main meal ordered on-site, only valid for children 15 and under*

Sixes is all about bringing people together through cricket, no matter their skill level! It's a brilliant space for kids and teens to get active, enjoy some friendly competition, and share a meal together afterwards.

 Book your half-term session now: [BOOK HERE](#)

 Use code LOCALS20 at checkout to claim your cricket discount.

 BROWSE OUR [FOOD MENU](#)

We'd love to welcome your group to Sixes Headingley for some half-term fun, food, and friendly cricket action!

Find us here: [Sixes Social Cricket Headingley, 19 Ash Road, Headingley, Leeds, LS6 3JJ](#)

See you soon for a game (and a bite)!

Careers Fair at Leeds City Museum

As part of Discover Creative Careers week Leeds City Museum will be hosting a careers fair on Friday 21st November 10am till 2.30pm.

Students can meet professionals from creative industries, education settings and support services, all of which have a focus on resources for learners with additional needs. This will include, Leeds City Council Employment and Skills, Through the Maze, Pyramid, Careers for All and Mind the Gap to name but a few.

To make the event more accessible, groups will book onto 30-minute slots with a maximum capacity of 40 students. Students may also explore the museum (it's free) and attend a workshop or question and answer session to fill their day.

A visual story of the event and an info pack covering all the stalls will be sent out prior to the event to allow students to familiarise themselves with the building and exhibitors before they attend.

If you wish to book a group to attend, please email carl.newbould@leeds.gov.uk

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.

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 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/>



Little Hiccups Upcoming Events

Register interest:

[Trial for "Ready for Physio" Balance & Coordination Group](#)

[Relaxed Family Session at Bianco Lounge](#)

Sun 2nd Nov, 3pm

[Wellbeing for Parents Yoga Course](#)

Wed 5th Nov - 17th Dec

[Free Drop-In Legal Clinic with Stewarts](#)

Phone call: Wed Nov 12th - 30 min slots available between 9am and 4pm

[Lunch and Learn: EHCPs & Educational Rights – What Parents Need to Know](#)

Tues Nov 18th

[Carer's Chill Night - Harvester](#)

Wed 12th Nov, 6pm

[Trip to The Showcase Cinema – Night of the Zoopocalypse](#)

Sun Nov 16th, 9am

[ThoughtBubble Festival 2025](#)

Sun 16th Nov, all day

[Sundown Adventureland](#)

7th Dec 2025, All day

EVENTS AND INFORMATION - BRADFORD

Celebrate the grand finale of the SENDiVERSE Festival – *The Big Bang!*

We're thrilled to invite you to The Big Bang, the spectacular closing event of the week-long SENDiVERSE Festival!

Saturday 1st November, 11.00am – 4.00pm

The LIFE Centre, Wapping Road, BD3 0QE - FREE entry!

This is a day for children, young people and families with SEND needs to come together, explore, and celebrate with joy.

Expect a day bursting with fun, creativity, and discovery — including:



We'll be announcing the winner of the SENDiVERSE Sculpture Competition.



Dance, performance, circus and DJ skills workshops – move, groove and create!



Silent Disco & Makaton Sing-Along – everyone can join the rhythm in their own way.

🎵 Sensory story sessions

🎨 Mindful crafts and outdoor art – try graffiti or truck art and make nature-inspired creations

🦉 Animal encounters - meet reptiles, insects and birds

🌈 Relaxing sensory spaces and quiet areas for time out.

And when you need a break... delicious food will be available to buy (or bring your own)

There is ample free parking is available on site, so it's easy to come and stay all day.

If you would like to join us for some BSL (British Sign Language) signed activities, please see these timings:

11am - Impact Gamers – in the Fun Zone

12 noon - Bird Talk/Walk in the Wild – in the Welcome Zone

1.00pm - Reptile Talk/Walk in the Wild – in the Welcome Zone

2.30pm - Sensory Story Session with Bradford Libraries, in Life Play

3.15pm - Yoga, in the Zen Zone

Join us for this unforgettable finale to the SENDiVERSE Festival — a day filled with music, movement, creativity, and smiles. And don't forget to share this with your friends, family and social networks.

See you on Saturday 😊

The SENDiVERSE team.

Andrea Dean

She/Her

Administration and Events Assistant

My usual working hours are 9.00am to 5.00pm, Tuesday to Friday

the-leap.org.uk | @theleapbd

Lighthouse by Jez Colborne

We're excited to invite you to the premiere of Lighthouse, an exciting new work from Jez Colborne – musician, composer and long-time Mind the Gap artist and collaborator!

Part gig, part light show, part apocalyptic rave, Lighthouse is a euphoric new live performance commissioned by Unlimited, Bradford 2025 and Bradford Council for [BD is Lit festival](#). Blending original music with projection, film, sculpture and movement, Jez explores his own relationship with isolation and the comfort he has found in music and the distant sounds of a siren echoing across the sea.

Times:

Friday 7th Nov, 6pm & 8pm

Saturday 8th Nov, 5pm & 8pm

Location:

Darley Street Market Courtyard, Darley Street, Bradford, BD1 3HH

Duration:

50 minutes

Tickets:

<https://bradford2025.co.uk/event/lighthouse/>

Mind the Gap is delighted to be supporting Jez on this project, and we'd love to see you there!

Supporting dads with Bradford City Football Club's evening parenting sessions

*Register now - Starting 13 January 2026.

*Evening session (6pm - 8pm) with light tea.

*Taking place at Bradford City Football Club, Valley Parade.

The 'Time Out for Dads' programme in Bradford is a free parenting course for dads or male carers of children aged from birth to 19 years of age. It consists of weekly 2-hour sessions over five weeks, focusing on building confidence, developing positive relationships, and learning strategies for conflict and anger management in a supportive environment.

Topics include:

- Parenting goals, the impact of own fathers and aspirations of being a dad.
- Children's temperaments and needs along with building emotional security.
- The importance of time and family life.
- The power of words and recognising children's feelings.
- Discipline and setting boundaries.
- Different parenting styles and positive parenting.
- The importance for time for yourself, letting off steam and handling conflict.

For more information, email: samantha.gamble@bradfordcft.org.uk

Time Out for Dads is one of a number of parenting programmes, find out more and apply on Bradford Families and Young Person's website.

https://fyi.bradford.gov.uk/practitioners/a-z-of-parenting-programmes?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery#timeout

Help to shape SEND services in Bradford district

You are invited to attend an event on Friday 21 November (10am until 12pm) at The Sutton Centre, Bradford BD4 8NB.

There will be the opportunity to meet Dan Careless (Assistant Director of SEND and Inclusion) at Bradford Council. Listen to an update on SEND services in Bradford district, and get involved in discussions. To book, email: mahum@pfba.org.uk.

Bradford SEND One Minute Guides

Two new One Minute Guides have been added to the SEND Local Offer website – [communication anxiety](#) and [stammering](#).

[Bradford Local Offer | An Introduction - One Minute Guides](#)

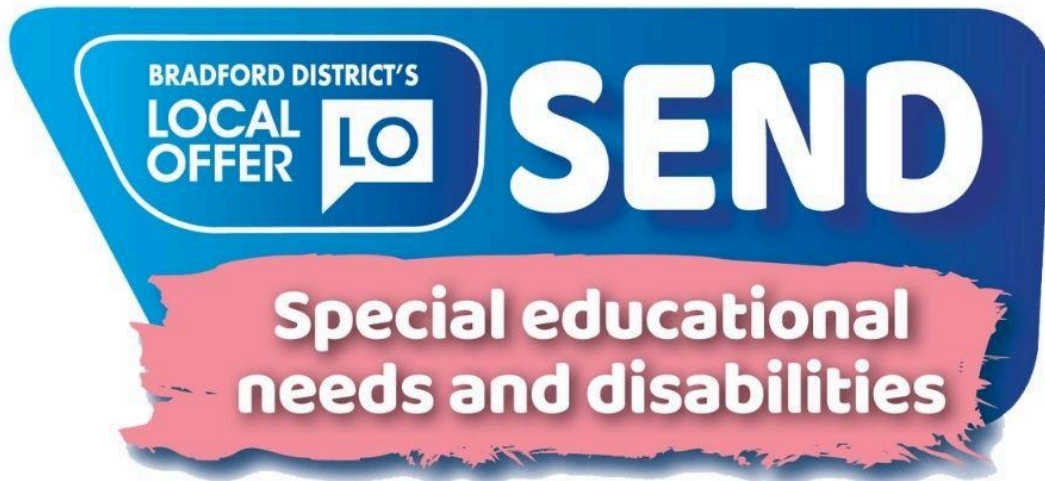
Bradford SEND Newsletter

- The latest SEND Newsletter has landed!

The SEND Local Offer team are here to help with lots of information and advice about SEND services and support.

[Bradford Local Offer | Local Offer Email Newsletters](#)

Sign up link: <https://bit.ly/BfdSENDNewsletter>



This month's SEND newsletter



- EBSA support
- Family Hubs timetables
- ADHD resources
- October half term activities

...and quick links to information,
advice and support...

www.localoffer.bradford.gov.uk

Down Syndrome Training and Support Services are celebrating their 25th Anniversary

Ladies Pop-up Shop & Fun Fashion Show!

Wednesday 19th November 2025



Celebrating our 25th anniversary
Down Syndrome Training & Support Services

Keighley Rugby Union Football Club, Skipton Rd, Keighley, BD20 6DT

Doors open 6.30pm, show starts 7pm

Tickets: £5 *includes a light buffet supper*

Bar available for tea, coffee and alcohol!

Raffle: FABULOUS prizes to be won at the show!

PAYMENT BY CASH & CARD (subject to a mobile signal)

Colours. [FUN]DRAISING
FASHION SHOWS



SHOP YOUR FAVOURITE HIGH STREET BRANDS AT UP TO 70% OFF!



Does your child struggle to go to school due to feelings of worry or stress?...

Have you heard of the Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA) support groups led by the friendly and supportive Educational Psychologist Team.

You'll find a safe space to:

- Share and listen to other parents and get ideas to help
- Learn more about what you can do to support your child, and what you can expect from school

Autumn Term 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd Oct, 10-11.30am, Shipley library

Autumn Term 12th, 19th, 26th Nov and 3rd Dec, 1-2.30pm, Online

You will need to be able to attend all 4 sessions

Book: by e-mailing EBSA@bradford.gov.uk

One Minute Guide to Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA) : [Bradford Local Offer | One Minute Guides - Emotionally based school avoidance EBSA](#)

Is your child struggling to go to school due to feelings of worry or stress?

Are you unsure about what to do?



Why not join a parent support session for Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA), delivered by our friendly and supportive Educational Psychologist Team.

You'll find a safe space to:

- Share and listen to other parents and get ideas to help
- Learn more about what you can do to support your child, and what you can expect from school

Location: Shipley Library, 2 Well Croft, Shipley, BD18 3QH

Dates: From Wednesday 1st October to Wednesday 22nd October at 10.00am to 11.30am

You will need to be able to attend all 4 sessions

Book: by e-mailing EBSA@bradford.gov.uk



City of
BRADFORD
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



Toilet training workshops from the special needs school nurses

The Bradford District Special Needs School Nursing Service is offering toilet training workshops for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Children with SEND may take longer to achieve toilet training and need more support. The workshops will be delivered at Bradford district family hubs. The workshops are limited to 20 parents. To book email your name, your child's name and school and the date you wish to book, email:

sendtoilettraining@bdct.nhs.uk

Courses run from (9.30am to 11.30am) apart from the 19 Aug which is (1.30pm - 3.30pm).

- 👍 11 September - Reevy Family Hub, BD6 3ST
- 👍 6 October - Gateway BD10 OJR
- 👍 15 October - Rainbow Family Hub BD22 6JB
- 👍 17 December - Rainbow Family Hub BD22 6JB

Coleman Training Development - open day!

Coleman's Training Development are inviting young people aged 16 to 24 years of age and their families to an open day on Thursday 13 November, 1pm to 3pm. Learn about their courses and supported internships. Coleman training are based in Bradford City Centre - Floor 2, 1 The Interchange, Nelson Street, Bradford BD1 5AX.

COLEMAN
TRAINING DEVELOPMENT

OPEN DAY

**Thursday
13th Nov.
1pm - 3pm**

Come along and see our Training Provision for neurodivergent young people aged **16 - 24 years** with a current **EHCP** and the desire to secure independent, paid, sustainable employment

EVENTS AND INFORMATION - WAKEFIELD

Christmas at the Museum (for SEND families)

[Wakefield Museum](#)

Saturday 13 December

10:30am – 3pm

Free

Booking required for Father Christmas visit. No booking required for drop-in crafts.

Relaxed family festive fun and a visit from Father Christmas!*

Join us this Christmas season for a relaxed day of free festive activities and crafts for SEND families.

Explore the sights, smells and texture of Christmas.

Craft some colourful Christmas decorations to decorate your home.

No booking is required for the drop-in crafts and activities.

All activities, including meeting Father Christmas, are free.

***You will need to book a timeslot in advance to Father Christmas in his cosy museum grotto.**

[Timeslots will be available to book at 8am on Wednesday 1 October](#). Slots are limited to maintain a relaxed atmosphere. This means you don't have to queue.

[Access at Wakefield Museum](#)

Sensory World Events



Sensory World
Old Westgate
Dewsbury
WF 13 1NB.

£90.00 per Person.

**Paediatric
First Aid Training.
28th september 25 and 8th
March 2026.**

Lunch and drinks
available from the on-
site cafe.

*To book your place
ring or Message Linda
07801065589.*

On successful continuous assessment delegates are awarded
a certificate valid for three years and is in line with EYFS and meets
the needs of Ofsted.
Suitable for Childminders.

New Sensory Club with Xmas Party

To book:

Linda Holmes

Tel: 01924 456152

www.SensoryWorldPlayCentre.co.uk

FB Page: [SensoryWorldDewsbury](#)

FB Group: [SensoryChat](#)



SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS AND CONTACT DETAILS

Website: www.cann-network.org
Email: westyorkshire@cann-network.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>

Co-Chairs: Lucy Owen and Carmel Gallagher: chair.westyorkshire@cann-network.org

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