



WEST MIDLANDS COMMUNICATION

July 2026

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INTRODUCTION

Hello and welcome to the latest West Midlands CANN Update.

West Midlands 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 westmidlands@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 Website at:
<https://www.cann-network.org/blog/>

MEETING DATES

WMCANN Meeting
15th September 2026
10:00am - 12:00pm

Venue Details
Sense Touchbase Pears
Selly Oak, Birmingham, B29 6NA

Please complete our form - 'West Midlands CANN: Shaping Our Meetings'
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftuZuOs9jx5duvhMukIRSab6Gn-TXusN6nmhteObw-_hcFPg/viewform?usp=sharing&oid=118290473335415316891

CHAIR COMMENTS

Hi everyone,

We've really enjoyed the flurry of new sign ups we've received over the past few weeks!

Thank you for joining us on this collaborative journey - we're really looking forward to our first face to face meeting on Tuesday 15th September! We have an exciting agenda planned, filled with networking, collaborations and hearing from WMCANN members. We are looking for one more presenter for a 20 minute talking slot. If you would like to share your offer please email admin@cann-network.org to put forward your interest.

For now, have a lovely summer break and we'll see you all in September!

Jen and Hoodo
West Midland Co-Chairs

Please complete our form - 'West Midlands CANN: Shaping Our Meetings'

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftuZuOs9jx5duvhMuklRSab6Gn-TXusN6nmhteObw-hcFPg/viewform?usp=sharing&oid=118290473335415316891>

NEW MEMBERS



Square Peg Activities

Square Peg Activities Limited was established in 2017 to support children and adults with disabilities and/or additional needs as well as their siblings, parents and carers. We deliver FREE for all Stay & Play sessions, offer reduced price tickets for daytrips, deliver after school clubs and more!

We also host monthly breakfast meet-ups, as well as other parent/carers events such as coffee mornings and signposting for

parent/carers.

We have our own base North Birmingham with a Sensory Garden, a Forest Garden, and lots of indoor play space as well as onsite parking. We are wheelchair accessible throughout our base, we have a changing bed with hoist, and have staff who are learning British Sign Language.

<https://www.squarepegactivities.org>

West Midlands CANN
www.cann-network.org
westmidlands@cann-network.org

Ways for Wellbeing UK CIC



Ways for Wellbeing UK CIC is a Birmingham-based Community Interest Company, incorporated in 2022, delivering health, wellbeing, and digital inclusion support across Birmingham and Solihull. The organisation operates as a non-profit, disability-led

social enterprise, providing PCI-qualified Health & Wellbeing Coaching, Supported Employment Coaching, and community-based digital skills support. Its work focuses on improving physical and mental health, reducing inequalities, and helping people build confidence, resilience, and sustainable self-management skills.

Ways for Wellbeing UK CIC is recognised for its highly personalised one-to-one coaching, delivered by Personalised Care Institute-qualified coaches, and for its holistic, trauma-informed approach to supporting people experiencing low mood, anxiety, stress, social isolation, financial pressures, or wider life challenges.

Alongside coaching, the organisation tackles digital exclusion by providing digital skills training and access to essential equipment such as SIM cards and devices, enabling people to stay connected and access vital services.

Ways for Wellbeing UK CIC also leads and contributes to wider community wellbeing initiatives, including volunteering programmes and the Birmingham Disability Festival, reinforcing its commitment to community benefit, inclusion, and long-term positive health outcomes.

<https://www.waysforwellbeing.com/>



Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice

WPCV is an independent, parent carer led organisation for everyone with a child or children with special educational needs and/or disabilities aged 0 -25.

We make sure that parent carer voices are heard and acted upon. By working with Education, Health and Social Care decision makers we make sure parent carers are involved when designing services for our children/young people and their families.

<https://warwickshireparentcarervoice.org/>



WellChild

WellChild is the national charity for children with complex medical needs and their families. Thousands of children and young people are living across the UK with complex medical needs. Many spend months, even years in hospital because there is no support enabling them to leave. WellChild exists to give these children the best chance to thrive: at home, with their families.

WellChild Nurses support children to leave hospital and receive care at home, while our Training Suites equip parents and carers with the skills and confidence to manage complex care safely. Garden Transformation Projects create safe, accessible outdoor spaces tailored to each child's needs.

Through the WellChild Family Tree, families can connect with others who understand their experiences through our online community, events and activities, providing invaluable peer-to-peer support and reducing isolation.

We also offer trusted information and practical support through our Information Hub, our interactive In Your Area tool, which helps families find accessible local services, and our Family Welfare Service, which provides assistance with benefits applications, grant funding and referrals to specialist support.

Together, these services provide practical, emotional and financial support, helping families live happier, healthier lives at home.

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

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

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

<https://www.cann-network.org/member-registration-form/>

Please only use contact details that are for public use

RESEARCH

INFORMATION & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Come to Sight Village!

Step into the UK's premier exhibition for blind and low-vision communities, bigger, bolder, and more inspiring than ever! Discover the latest technology, products, and services that make everyday life easier and more enjoyable. Get hands-on with brand-new innovations, explore emerging trends, and speak directly with leading experts from across the sector.

Our Technology Coordinator Sydney May will be attending Birmingham Sight Village 7th to 8th July. She will be running seminars at both events, or come along to get all your technology questions answered! To find out more and sign up, follow the link below.

["Sight Village: Where Inclusion Meets Innovation." - QAC Queen Alexandra College Birmingham - National college for people with disabilities.](#)

Neurodiversity in Community Sport

Understanding the barriers and challenges neurodivergent people face in physical activity and what a neuro-inclusive environment looks like including practical advice and adaptations for your sport environment. There will be opportunities to share lived experience, best practice, and real-life examples to influence the session and discussion. Looking at Autism, ADHD, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, Dyscalculia and Tourette's.



Date: Wednesday 8 July



Time: 6pm-9pm



Location: Friction Arts, The Edge, 79-81 Cheapside, Deritend, Birmingham B12 0QH



For more information and to sign up: [Click Here](#)



Neurodivergence Inclusion Training

Wednesday 8 July

6:00pm - 9:00pm

Location: All Saints Centre, 2 Vicarage Road, Kings Heath, B14 7RA

For community coaches volunteers and the wider workforce

This interactive training explores neurodivergent experiences in community sport and practical ways to create inclusive environments for your participants.

Sign up now to book your spot!

<https://bit.ly/BirminghamOpenTraining>



Supported by :



www.AccessSport.org.uk
Registered charity no. 1156819



SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS AND CONTACT DETAILS:

GENERAL

Website:	www.cann-network.org
Admin:	westmidlands@cann-network.org
Chairs:	chair.westmidlands@cann-network.org
Bluesky:	https://bsky.app/profile/wmcann.bsky.social
LinkedIn:	https://www.linkedin.com/company/west-midlands-cann
Facebook:	https://www.facebook.com/westmidlandscann