



SYCANN COMMUNICATION
September 2026

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INTRODUCTION

Hello and welcome to the latest South Yorkshire CANN Update.

South 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 southyorkshire@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 SYCANN Website at:

<https://www.cann-network.org/blog/>

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS AND CONTACT DETAILS:

Website:	www.cann-network.org
Admin:	southyorkshire@cann-network.org
Chairs:	chair.southyorkshire@cann-network.org
Bluesky:	https://bsky.app/profile/sycann.bsky.social
LinkedIn:	https://www.linkedin.com/company/south-yorkshire-cann
Facebook:	https://www.facebook.com/southyorkshirecann

SYCANN MEETING DATES

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

Upcoming Meeting:

24th November 2026

10am to 12pm

Irwin Mitchell's offices in Sheffield
Riverside East House, 2 Millsands, Sheffield S3 8DT

South Yorkshire CANN
www.cann-network.org
southyorkshire@cann-network.org

CHAIR COMMENTS

We hope you have all had a wonderful summer break and that the activities, events, and services delivered across South Yorkshire have been well attended and successful for the children, young people, and families we support.

As we step into September and a new academic year, we are excited to continue connecting, collaborating, and strengthening the SEND community across our region. A warm welcome also to our newest member, Go Beyond, who offer fantastic free residential breaks for children facing challenges and difficulties in their lives.

A quick reminder to please add our next SYCANN network meeting to your diaries:

- Date: Tuesday 24th November 2026
- Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Venue: Irwin Mitchell's offices in Sheffield (Riverside East House, 2 Millsands, Sheffield, S3 8DT)

These termly meetings provide such a valuable opportunity to come together face-to-face, share updates, build partnerships, and support one another in the work we do. We look forward to seeing you there!

Thank you to everyone who contributes their time, dedication, and expertise to making our network so supportive and active.

Nina Rose and Maxine Beckett
SYCANN Co-Chair's
South Yorkshire CANN
chair.southyorkshire@cann-network.org

NEW MEMBERS

Go Beyond



Go Beyond offers free residential breaks for children aged between 8 and 13 years who are facing challenges and difficulties in their lives. We give them the chance to build confidence, resilience, make lasting friendships and have fun in a supportive environment.

We have three centres (Derbyshire, Cornwall and Essex) and offer a four-night residential break which is packed full of exciting activities, good food and plenty of outside time. Every break is fully funded, fully staffed and fully catered for. The centres are designed to be 'home from home' and we find that even the most anxious of children settle well and respond positively to our nurturing

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and well-trained staff. Our breaks are carefully planned for the age group attending and professionals can refer individuals, small or large groups.

We take children from all over the country and operate all year round. We are ASDAN registered so that if a child attends in term time they are classed as being 'educated off site' and their school attendance is not affected.

Children are referred to us for many reasons, including bereavement, neglect, poverty, bullying, caring responsibilities, being in care, or having a parent in prison. Some are the 'invisible' child who need help to build confidence and self-belief. Some children have additional needs, and others have a sibling with additional needs. In short, we support any child who would benefit from a break away from home, school, or both. These breaks give children space to be themselves and put their worries aside.

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

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

If you are not yet on the CANN 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

No new research this month

INFORMATION & DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - REGIONAL

Barnsley CVS News

We're in a new office - and you can hire our new work spaces!

We recently moved. Our new address is:

Barnsley CVS
Unit 3 Churchfield Court
Barnsley
S70 2JT

South Yorkshire CANN
www.cann-network.org
southyorkshire@cann-network.org

Did you know we have a new community meeting room to hire from £25 per hour and hot desks to hire from £20 per hour? Email jamie.noble@barnsleycvs.org.uk for more details and to make a booking.

Full email here: <https://aidemail.co.uk/campaigns/barnsleycvs/s8AMzf8nqzbD3AkCIBJ2sgvRi>

Free suicide prevention training for Rotherham's VCSE sector

Do you work or volunteer for a voluntary, community or social enterprise organisation in Rotherham? You're often the first person someone turns to when things feel too much to carry alone. SPEAK gives you the skills and confidence to have that conversation, so you can support someone through it, together.

SPEAK is a 3.5 hour suicide prevention course from Papyrus, fully funded by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council. You'll leave with practical tools for recognising when someone might be struggling, opening up the conversation, and knowing what to say next. Dates run from Sept 2026 to March 2027 with a mix of online and in-person sessions.

See all upcoming sessions: [Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council collection page](#)

A Gathering of Remembrance with Papyrus

Organisers: Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, PAPYRUS, AMPARO, Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide (SOBS), and Samaritans

Date: Thursday 17th September 2026

Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm (Food served from 6:00pm – 6:45pm)

Location: The Barn, Broad Close Farm, Silkstone Common, S75 4LY

Audience: Open to all individuals and families

About the Event

A Gathering of Remembrance offers a gentle opportunity to come together and remember loved ones lost through suicide within the peaceful, rural setting of Broad Close Farm.

Set within the Barn, this gathering provides a calm, supportive space for quiet reflection, shared memories, and connection with others who understand. It is an open, welcoming environment where grief is acknowledged and lives can be remembered with warmth, dignity, and hope.

Families and supporters are very welcome to attend.

Event Schedule & Details

- 6:00pm – 6:45pm: Arrival and food available

- 6:45pm – 8:00pm: Moments of reflection, remembrance, and connection

Accessibility, Dietary & Travel Support

To ensure the gathering is accessible and comfortable for everyone attending, please notify the team in advance of any specific needs:

- Dietary Requirements: Please inform organisers of any food allergies or dietary requirements.
- Accessibility Needs: Step-free access and physical requirements can be accommodated.
- Travel Support: Assistance is available if you need help arranging transport to Broad Close Farm.

 **Contact Deadline:** Please email BSPublicHealth@barnsley.gov.uk by Thursday 3rd September 2026 with your details and requirements.



A gathering of REMEMBRANCE

Come together to remember loved ones lost through suicide
in the peaceful rural setting of Broad Close Farm.

Join us at the Barn for moments of reflection,
shared memories and gentle connection, in a calm and
welcoming space where grief can be acknowledged and
lives remembered with warmth and hope.

Families welcome.



LOCATION:

Broad Close Farm, Silkstone Common, S75 4LY



DATE:

Thursday 17th September 2026



TIME:

6:00pm–8:00pm



FOOD AVAILABLE

6:00pm–6:45pm

For dietary requirements, accessibility needs or
support with travel arrangements,
please contact by 3rd September 2026:
BSPublicHealth@barnsley.gov.uk



BARNSELY
Metropolitan Borough Council

www.cann-network.org
southyorkshire@cann-network.org

Autumn/Christmas Craft Workshop with CP Teens

Dates & Times

26 Oct 2026, 12:00 – 16:30

Chesterfield, Chesterfield, UK

About

A fun afternoon with autumn and Christmas crafts. Whether you're more autumn, you're Christmas mad, or you love both, cosy vibes are guaranteed!

Chesterfield - exact location only given to those registered for safeguarding reasons. Accessible, ample parking right outside, disabled toilet and located near to Chesterfield Railway Station.

Workshop is FREE, but a £25 deposit is required to secure your place. You will receive this back upon attending. No shows do not receive a refund on their deposit (unless extenuating circumstances).

Lunch is included! Lunch will be a light buffet. The format is as follows:

12:00-1:15pm - lunch and social

1:30-4:30pm - workshop

Contributions towards travel costs can also be claimed back depending upon where you are travelling from - more information can be found [here](#).

Minimum age: 14-years

Maximum age: 25-years

All under-18s, and those requiring support (e.g. toileting, feeding, medical care, moving & handling etc.) MUST attend with a parent/carers/PA - this is not a respite service.

<https://www.cpteensuk.org/events-1/autumn-christmas-craft-workshop>

Yorkshire Para Standing Tennis Club

Ability Tennis and Yorkshire Para Standing Tennis Club are running 4 taster sessions for adults and children.

These sessions are FREE of charge with all equipment provided.

These sessions are suitable for individuals with a physical disability who play sport standing.



YORKSHIRE
PARA STANDING
TENNIS

Yorkshire Para Standing Tennis Club

at Hallamshire Tennis and Squash Club,
Sheffield

Summer 2026 taster sessions:

Saturday 27th June 12-2pm

Saturday 4th July 12-2pm

Saturday 22nd August 12-2pm

Saturday 12th September 12-2pm

All free to attend with all equipment provided. Book on now:



Email: parastandingyorks@gmail.com
Mob: 07503156428

Hackccessible 2026

Hi,

Hackccessible is the UK's First Student-Led Assistive Technology Make-a-Thon, and has been run by University of Sheffield staff and students for more than 7 years. Our aim is to promote innovation for accessibility and bring together students, charities, and industry partners to co-design real world solutions for individuals with disabilities.

We'd love for you to collaborate with us by either providing a challenger or mentor, sponsoring our events, donating materials or connecting with our students through networking opportunities.

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southyorkshire@cann-network.org

Please read below for more details! Alongside our main Hackcessible programme, we are also interested in exploring opportunities to work with schools or organisations. We would like to introduce young people to assistive technology, engineering and inclusive design, and show them how engineering can be used to solve real-world problems and improve people's lives. We are currently exploring the possibility of running school visits or interactive activities and would be interested in speaking with schools or organisations that may be keen to collaborate with us. If this is something your school or organisation may be interested in, please get in touch and we would be happy to discuss what might be possible.

About Hackcessible

Inspired by the At-Hack event at MIT and the BBC program 'Big Life Fix', Hackcessible was founded in 2018 by University of Sheffield staff. What slowly started as a staff-led project soon became a student-led project with 12 teams and more than 100 participants, aiming to create as many solutions for accessibility as possible.

Hackcessible brings together students from a wide range of disciplines to design and develop innovative solutions that improve accessibility. Each year, teams of 6-8 students collaborate with mentors and industry partners to support a 'challenger', an individual from the community looking for a practical solution to a specific accessibility need.

The project runs for several months each year and is divided into two key phases:

1. Design Phase

Teams work closely with their challenger and mentor to conceptualise and develop a tailored solution. Weekly 2 hour workshops are given to teams to aid them through this process.

2. Manufacturing Phase

Over two days in the iForge, which is the UK's first student-led makerspace here at the University of Sheffield, teams build a working prototype, which is then presented during the final showcase. In addition to this, Hackcessible aims to make a global impact. In 2024, Hackcessible India was founded and this competition brought together 40 schools from across India to co-create designs that foster accessibility. More recently, students from the Aga Khan University and Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya, ran their own version of Hackcessible, with projects such as a custom phone experience that helps meet various communication needs and assists those with sensory overload.

Past Project Example:

Ruqaya's Challenge

At the time of the challenge, Ruqaya was a blind 5 year old girl who wanted some help learning how to read. Ruqaya's team built the LunarTouch, which helped Ruqaya to learn the alphabet using moon letters.

It works with the moon letters being protruded out of the tiles, and with a radio frequency identification tag (RFID) underneath the tiles. These are then read by the readers inside the block. As the readers detect the RFID and recognise the tile, they produce an audio feedback of the phonetic sound of the letter.

The device worked so well that Ruqaya was able to identify her friends during circle time at school. The team who developed it got the Summer Creator Grant from Emerge, which is an enterprising

community here at the University of Sheffield, which allowed them to continue working on the project, as they looked into using braille.

To see more examples of past projects, please see the following booklet: [Hackcessible 2026 - Join Us!](#)

Why Work With Us?

Impact: Your work creates genuine impact. From community initiatives to innovative solutions, you'll contribute to something bigger than yourself — and see the results of your efforts in the real world!

Visibility: As a sponsor, your logo will be prominently displayed on our online content, team apparel, and promotional materials. You'll gain exposure, not only within the university, but also among the wider scientific and engineering community around the world.

Student awareness: Our team members will be going into future graduate jobs, joining companies such as your own or others. By supporting us, you enable these future professionals to learn valuable skills and become advocates for your products or services in their future careers.

Valuable Connections: Engage with challenges, mentors, charities and like-minded organisations through mentoring, workshops, events and the final showcase. These connections can lead to future collaborations, recruitment opportunities and knowledge sharing.

How Can You Help?

Provide Challengers: A 'challenger' is an individual / carer / family member / friend of an individual with an unmet need that relates to a disability that they may have. Our students will address the challenge by designing and creating a customised prototype to meet the unmet needs.

If you are interested in being / providing a challenger, please complete the following google form: <https://forms.gle/UvNZh95seatRjtfJ6>

Provide Mentors: A mentor is an individual who will support and empower teams throughout the project. They will assist by providing feedback, encouraging effective teamwork and help teams stay realistic with their project scope and timeline.

If you are interested in being / providing a mentor, please complete the following google form: <https://forms.gle/4A23NzDsXQfzbEqs6>

Financial Sponsorship: Your financial support will directly fund our project as a whole, helping us cover essential expenses, as well as funding the individual teams' projects.

If you are interested in providing a financial sponsorship, please reply to this email and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

In-Kind Donations: If your company can provide materials, components, or expertise, we would greatly appreciate it. Whether it's hardware, design advice, or software support - every

contribution matters!

If you are interested in providing an in-kind donation, please reply to this email and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Networking Opportunities: We value partnerships beyond financial support. If you would like to engage with our participants, we can arrange workshops, guest talks, or site visits.

If you are interested in a networking opportunity, please reply to this email and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

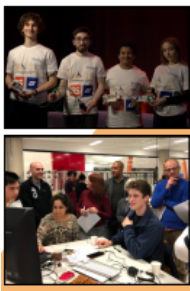
Please let us know if you have any questions and we look forward to hearing from you!

Kind regards,

Dhruti & Latisha

Hackcessible Lead & Secretary

hackcessible@sheffield.ac.uk



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About Hackcessible

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HACKCESSIBLE 2026

JOIN OUR JOURNEY

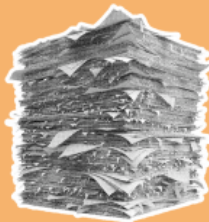
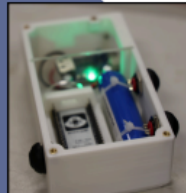


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HOW IT ALL BEGAN

**Our Story. Our Mission.
Our Drive.**

Inspired by the At-Hack event at MIT and the BBC program 'Big Life Fix', Hackcessible was founded in 2018 by University of Sheffield staff. What slowly started as a staff-led project soon became a student-led project with 12 teams and more than 90 participants, aiming to help as many challenges as possible.

Hackcessible brings together students from a wide range of disciplines to design and develop innovative solutions that improve accessibility. Each year, teams of 6-8 students collaborate with mentors and industry partners to support a 'challenger', an individual looking for a practical solution to a specific accessibility need.

01

HOW IT WORKS

**Flexible Work. Quick
Timeline. Fast Solutions.**

The project runs for several months each year and is divided into two key phases:

1. Design Phase

Teams work closely with their challenger and mentor to conceptualise and develop a tailored solution. Weekly 2 hour workshops are given to teams to aid them through this process.

2. Manufacturing Phase

Over two days in the iForge, which is the UK's first student-led makerspace here at the University of Sheffield, teams build a working prototype, which is then presented during the final showcase.

02





GLOBAL IMPACT

**Different Universities.
Different Countries.
Same Goal.**

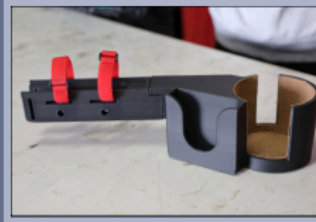
Hackcensible also aims to make a global impact. In 2024, Hackcensible India was founded and this competition brought together 40 schools from across India to co-create designs that foster accessibility.

More recently, students from the Aga Khan University and Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya, ran their own version of Hackcensible. Projects included a custom phone experience that helps meet various communication needs for the user and assists those with sensory overload.

03

2025 - DAVID'S CHALLENGE

David found it difficult to carry food, drinks and other items on his electric wheelchair. David's team designed and built a custom-fit, adaptable and easily detachable wheelchair attachment for David to carry personal items.



OUR PAST PROJECTS

Highlights & Impact from Previous Winning Projects

2024 - FRANK'S CHALLENGE

Frank, an avid cook, is completely blind. He found plating food in an aesthetically pleasing way, a challenge. Therefore, Frank's team created 3D printed template moulds lined with braille, customised to the plates Frank has at home, to assist him with this.

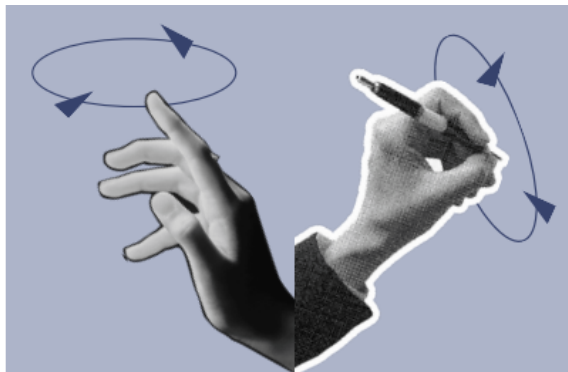


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WHY WORK WITH US?

Support Our Mission

We are an ambitious, student-led project team tackling real-world challenges and we need partners who believe in the next generation of problem-solvers.



WHY WORK WITH US?

Support Our Mission

It's not just time or a donation — it's a strategic investment in talent, visibility, and impact. Your help can make a difference and would be greatly appreciated.

IMPACT

Your work creates genuine impact, and enables students to develop practical solutions that directly improves lives. From community initiatives to innovative solutions, you'll contribute to something bigger than yourself — and see the results of your efforts in the real world!

VISIBILITY

As a sponsor, your logo will be prominently displayed on our online content, team apparel, and promotional materials. You'll gain exposure, not only within the university, but also among the wider scientific and engineering community around the world.

05

STUDENT AWARENESS

Our team members and participants will be going into future graduate jobs, joining companies such as your own or others. By supporting us, you enable these future professionals to learn valuable skills.

06

VALUABLE CONNECTIONS

Engage with challengers, students, mentors, charities and like-minded organisations through mentoring, workshops, events and the final showcase. These connections can lead to future collaborations, recruitment opportunities and knowledge sharing.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

PROVIDE CHALLENGERS

A 'challenger' is an individual / a carer / family member / friend of an individual with an unmet need that relates to a disability or health condition that they may have. Our students will create and design a customised prototype to meet the unmet needs.



PROVIDE MENTORS

A mentor is an individual who will support and empower teams throughout the project. They will assist by providing feedback, encouraging effective teamwork and help teams stay realistic with their project scope and timeline.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

FINANCIAL SPONSORSHIP

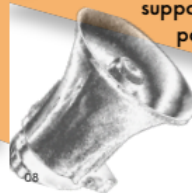
Your financial support will directly fund our project as a whole, helping us cover essential expenses, as well as funding the individual teams' projects.

IN-KIND DONATIONS

If your company can provide materials, components, or expertise, we would greatly appreciate it. Whether it's hardware, design advice, or software support - every contribution matters!

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

We value partnerships beyond financial support. If you would like to engage with our participants, we can arrange workshops, guest talks, or site visits.



07

08

JOIN US. BE PART OF SOMETHING AMAZING.



Ready to co-design, create and support? We would love for you to collaborate with us!

If you have any questions, please get in touch by emailing
hackcessible@sheffield.ac.uk