



**WYCANN COMMUNICATION**  
**September 2026**

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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 [westyorkshire@cann-network.org](mailto:westyorkshire@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/>

## SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS AND CONTACT DETAILS

|           |                                                                                                                         |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Website:  | <a href="http://www.cann-network.org">www.cann-network.org</a>                                                          |
| Admin:    | <a href="mailto:westyorkshire@cann-network.org">westyorkshire@cann-network.org</a>                                      |
| Chairs:   | <a href="mailto:chair.westyorkshire@cann-network.org">chair.westyorkshire@cann-network.org</a>                          |
| Bluesky:  | <a href="https://bsky.app/profile/wycann.bsky.social">https://bsky.app/profile/wycann.bsky.social</a>                   |
| LinkedIn  | <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/west-yorkshire-cann">https://www.linkedin.com/company/west-yorkshire-cann</a> |
| Facebook: | <a href="https://www.facebook.com/westyorkshirecann">https://www.facebook.com/westyorkshirecann</a>                     |

### WYCANN MEETING DATES

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

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2026  
10am - 12pm  
Interplay Theatre  
Armley Ridge Road, Leeds, LS12 3LE

## CHAIR COMMENTS

We hope you have all had a lovely summer and that the many fabulous activities and opportunities provided by WYCANN members for children, young people and their families have been successful and well attended.

As we look ahead to a new academic year, we are excited about continuing to work together to achieve even more for the families we support across West Yorkshire. A reminder that the next WYCANN meeting will take place on **Wednesday 2 December at InterPlay**. We know Christmas time gets busy, so please do put the date in your diary as it's always so valuable to make time to be together face-to-face, make connections and feel supported by people who know the challenges we are all facing. We look forward to seeing you there and sharing plans for the year ahead.

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

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## 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 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*

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## RESEARCH

### Take part in research related to microtia

Researchers at Aston University are looking for people to take part in a research study funded by Microtia UK. The study is about developing and evaluating online information resources designed for children and young people with microtia.

#### What's involved?

a 1-hour online interview (with a potential follow-up)  
an online survey

#### Who can take part?

any child or young person with microtia aged between 7 and 25  
parents or family members of a child or young person with microtia

To get involved or find out more, email Saira Hussain at [s.hussain14@aston.ac.uk](mailto:s.hussain14@aston.ac.uk).

*No new research this month*

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## EVENTS AND INFORMATION - REGIONAL

### The Lighthouse Bulb Moment Upcoming Events and Info



Contact us any time to find out more or book a place  
jenny.pash@thelightbulbmomentpda.com | 07447 636826  
leanne.jaques@thelightbulbmomentpda.com | 07779 090451

**THE lightbulb MOMENT**

ARE YOU STRUGGLING AT HOME WITH A HIGHLY

# DEMAND-AVOIDANT CHILD?



**Come and join us**  
**FREE, informal advice and support**  
**Monthly sessions throughout 2026**  
**Face-to-face / online / no commitment**

Delivered by PDA Advocates from  
**THE LIGHTBULB MOMENT** who are  
also parents with lived experience.

**Ossett** - The Fire Station, WF5 9TR  
**Halifax** - Maurice Jagger Centre, HX1 1UZ  
**Keighley** - Highfield Community Association, BD21 2QG

**Sessions will help with:**  
Understanding Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA)  
Common myths ("can't" not "won't")  
Avoiding every-day tasks  
Low-demand parenting  
School anxiety and your child's rights  
PDA responses to crisis  
Demand-avoidance of things they enjoy  
Preparing for transitions  
Overwhelm and shut-down  
Surviving the parental journey



**THE lightbulb MOMENT**

Jenny Pash, PDA Trainer,  
Advocate and parent



**COMMUNITY FUND**

[www.thelightbulbmomentpda.com](http://www.thelightbulbmomentpda.com)

Does your child have Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA) ?

Wondering if they might have a PDA profile?

Join us at the Lightbulb Moment PDA Support Group!

**THE lightbulb MOMENT**

**NEW VENUE !!!**



**THURSDAY  
17th  
SEPTEMBER  
7PM-8PM**

**The Lehar room, Guiseley Theatre, The Green, Guiseley, LS20 9BT**

**JOIN US FOR A MONTHLY MEET UP**

- Connect with families
- Meet Lindsay from the Lightbulb Moment PDA team
- Share experiences
- Receive support

To book or for more information please contact  
[Lindsay.clarkson@thelightbulbmomentpda.com](mailto:Lindsay.clarkson@thelightbulbmomentpda.com)

[www.thelightbulbmomentpda.com](http://www.thelightbulbmomentpda.com)

Does your child have Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA) ?

Wondering if they might have a PDA profile?

Join us at the Lightbulb Moment PDA Support Group!

**THE lightbulb MOMENT**



**MONDAY  
14th  
SEPTEMBER  
9.15-10.15**

**The Community Hub Hunslet Carr Primary School LEEDS LS10 2DN**

**FRIENDLY COFFEE MORNING**

- Connect with families
- Meet Lindsay from the Lightbulb Moment PDA team
- Share experiences
- Receive support

For more information please contact  
[Lindsay.clarkson@thelightbulbmomentpda.com](mailto:Lindsay.clarkson@thelightbulbmomentpda.com)



**THE lightbulb MOMENT**

*Providing SEND advocacy, PDA training and face-to-face support groups for you and your family.*



**SUPPORTING FAMILIES ACROSS LEEDS, BRADFORD AND FURTHER AFIELD**

”

**LIGHTING THE WAY TO SUPPORT**

”

*“NO FAMILY SHOULD FEEL ALONE WHEN NAVIGATING SEND AND PDA CHALLENGES. AT THE LIGHTBULB MOMENT, WE ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT CREATING A SUPPORTIVE, UNDERSTANDING COMMUNITY WHERE FAMILIES CAN CONNECT, SHARE EXPERIENCES, AND ACCESS THE GUIDANCE THEY NEED. THROUGH ADVOCACY, TRAINING, AND SUPPORT GROUPS, WE AIM TO REDUCE ISOLATION, BUILD CONFIDENCE, AND REMIND EVERY FAMILY THAT HELP, HOPE, AND UNDERSTANDING ARE ALWAYS WITHIN REACH”*

**FIND US**

 **Lightbulb SEND Advocacy - The Lightbulb Moment PDA CIC**

 **the\_lightbulb\_moment\_pda**

 **Website:**  
[thelightbulbmomentpda.com](http://thelightbulbmomentpda.com)

**CONTACT US**

 [leanne.jaques@thelightbulbmomentpda.com](mailto:leanne.jaques@thelightbulbmomentpda.com)  
[jenny.pash@thelightbulbmomentpda.com](mailto:jenny.pash@thelightbulbmomentpda.com)  
[lindsay.clarkson@thelightbulbmomentpda.com](mailto:lindsay.clarkson@thelightbulbmomentpda.com)

 **07779090451**



**LIGHTING THE WAY TO SUPPORT**  
for you and your young person

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## Infantile Spasms

Monday 14th September | 12.00 pm

Amy Dowding is a Trustee of the UK Infantile Spasms Trust (UKIST), where she leads a number of national projects aimed at improving outcomes for children with infantile spasms.

Following her own family's experience of delayed diagnosis, Amy has helped develop UKIST's CPD accredited medical education programme, working alongside clinicians and educational specialists to improve awareness and early recognition of this neurological emergency.

Amy has a particular interest in improving awareness of infantile spasms in children with Down Syndrome, who are at significantly increased risk of developing the condition. She has represented UKIST in national policy work, including contributing to the UK Government's Down Syndrome Act call for evidence.

During the session she will be presenting the medical education package and discussing how it can support healthcare professionals in recognising infantile spasms sooner, and help prevent neurological harm.

Amy Dowding,  
UK Infantile Spasms Trust  
[Register for the September Webinar here](#)

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## Hackccessible 2026

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. Please read below for more details! Alongside our main Hackccessible 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](mailto:hackcessible@sheffield.ac.uk)



## **HACKCESSIBLE** **2026**

JOIN OUR JOURNEY

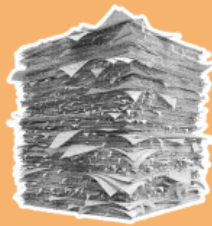


01 - 03  
**About Hackcessible**

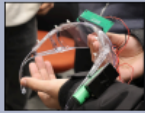
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## HOW IT ALL BEGAN

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

Inspired by the At-Hack event at MIT and the BBC program 'Big Life Fix', Hackaccessible 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.

Hackaccessible 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.**

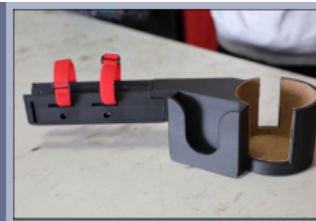
Hackaccessible also aims to make a global impact. In 2024, Hackaccessible India was founded and this competition brought together 40 schools from across India to co-create designs that foster accessibility.

More recently, students from the Aga Khan University and Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya, ran their own version of Hackaccessible. 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.



04



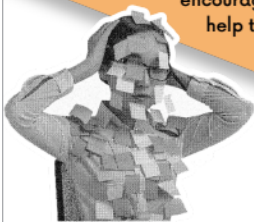
## **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

### **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**

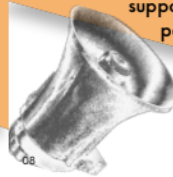
Your financial support will directly fund our project as a whole, helping us cover essential expenses, as well as funding the individual teams' projects.

### **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.



# **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](mailto:hackcessible@sheffield.ac.uk)

# Upcoming Events

## NWY ASBAH

Events are FREE for NWY ASBAH Members. Booking is Essential



### **Adults Social**

**Thursday**  
**July**  
**02**

Join us at Shipley Library for World Cup themed crafting. Session runs from 1:30pm till 3:30pm. Parents/carers welcome.

### **Community Social**

**Saturday**  
**July**  
**11**

A trip to York Railway Museum and Wonderlab. Explore the exhibits at your own pace with time to chill and chat. Arrival time: 11am

### **Adults Social**

**Thursday**  
**July**  
**23**

Always popular, 10 Pin Bowling at Hollywood Bowl, Bradford. Session runs 1pm till 3pm

### **Community Social**

**Thursday**  
**Aug**  
**06**

Coffee, cake and conversation at the Boating Pavillion and Cafe, Lister Park, Bradford. Session runs from 11am till 1pm

### **Family + Teens Social**

**Sunday**  
**Sept**  
**20**

A chance to re-connect after the summer break and enjoy a bit of friendly family rivalry at 10 Pin Bowling, Hollywood Bowl, Bradford. Session runs 1pm till 3pm

### **Adults Social**

**Thursday**  
**Sept**  
**24**

An autumnal canal boat trip and craft session with Safe Anchor Trust. Session runs from 1pm till 3:30pm

**and much more...**

[www.nwyasbah.org/upcomingevents](http://www.nwyasbah.org/upcomingevents)

## Exhibition & African Business Roadshow

 Wednesday, 28 October 2026

 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

 Bridge Community Conference Centre, Rider Street, Leeds LS9 7BQ

Bringing together organisations, businesses, charities, and community groups that support children, young people, families, education, health, and wellbeing.

Benefit: Discover services, access opportunities, build partnerships, and connect with organisations making a difference in our communities. Parents, young people, professionals, and organisations are encouraged to attend. Please register via the conference website.

 Find out more here:- <https://afrikindnessconference.org/>

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## Parenting Conference: PARENTS & YOUNG PEOPLE (LEEDS, BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE)

 Saturday, 24 October 2026

 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

 Bridge Community Conference Centre, Rider Street, Leeds LS9 7BQ

Join parents, professionals, educators, and community leaders for a day of practical learning and meaningful conversations on parenting, neurodiversity, safeguarding, mental health, youth voice, and culturally responsive practice.

 Find out more here:- <https://afrikindnessconference.org/>

## EXHIBITING ORGANISATIONS

If you are an organisation, business, service provider, charity, or community group and would like to exhibit at the Exhibition & African Business Roadshow, please complete our expression of interest form below.

 Find out more here:- [Exhibition Registration](#) for Organisations

## LOCAL BUSINESS ROADSHOW

If you are a local business owner in Leeds or Bradford, showcase your work directly to parents, young people, professionals, educators, and community leaders at the Afrikindness Parenting & Inclusion Conference (APIC 2026).

 Find out more here:- [Business Showcase](#) for local businesses

*Save the Dates*

**SAT. 24TH  
OCTOBER**

— MAIN PARENT CONFERENCE —

Afrikindness Parenting  
& Inclusion Conference

**apic LIVE!**  
**2026**

ONLINE NEURODIVERSITY  
PARENT SUMMIT

YOUTH EMPLOYABILITY  
SKILLS WORKSHOP

EXHIBITION | AFRICAN BUSINESS  
ROADSHOW | DROP-IN SESSION

Theme:  
**BEYOND  
ASSUMPTIONS**  
**20** Reimagining Parenting,  
Youth Voice &  
Professional Practice

Register: [afrikindnessconference.org](https://afrikindnessconference.org)

## EVENTS AND INFORMATION - LEEDS

### URGENT APPEAL: DRIVERS NEEDED TO KEEP LEEDS PHAB CLUB RUNNING!

Can you spare a few hours on a Friday evening to change lives in Leeds? 🚌❤️

For **56 years**, PHAB Club Leeds has provided fun, outings, and lifelong friendships for disabled members aged 9 to 90 at the Prince Philip Centre (LS7 2HJ).

Right now, we bring members in from all across Leeds using our three minibuses. **However, come September, our members face being left at home unless we find new volunteer drivers.**

Our current incredible driving team are in their late 70s and retiring after a fantastic 20+ years of dedicated service. We are endlessly grateful for everything they've done, but now we urgently need the next generation of volunteers to step up!

📋 What we are looking for:

- **Responsible drivers** aged 25–75
- **A clean driving licence**

👐 What we provide:

- Full training (including Basic First Aid and Safeguarding)
- Help with securing a DBS check if you do not already have a current certificate

If you can help—or if you know someone who might—please don't let our members miss out on their Friday nights!

📞 **Contact Ann Hart:** 01937 573722

✉️ **Email:** [ann.hartphab@btinternet.com](mailto:ann.hartphab@btinternet.com)

🌐 **Website:** [www.leedsphabclub.org.uk](http://www.leedsphabclub.org.uk)

**Please LIKE, COMMENT, and SHARE this post to help us spread the word across Leeds!** 🙏

#Leeds #VolunteerLeeds #LeedsCommunity #PHAB #Accessibility #SupportLocal

## Leeds Baby Bank Coffee Morning

Do you have questions or concerns about your child's development? ☕💛

Join Leeds Baby Bank for a relaxed, friendly coffee morning created especially for families with children aged 0–5. It is a welcoming space to connect, chat, and get helpful guidance from local organisations, with calm, inclusive play and activities set up for little ones.

### Event Details

Date: Tuesday 15th September

Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Location: Leeds Baby Bank Community Hub, European House, Wellington Road, Leeds, LS12 1DZ

### Partners Attending

Leeds Parent Carer Forum (LEEDS PCF)  
Sense  
Leeds SENDIASS  
Leeds SEND Local Offer  
Little Hiccups  
Linking Leeds

### Support Available With

- Understanding your child's needs
- Finding local community support & services
- Benefits advice
- Education settings & EHCP support

Spaces are limited to keep the environment calm and supportive for everyone attending.

👉 How to Book: Please book your space via the booking link in the comments or email [carla@leedsbabybank.org](mailto:carla@leedsbabybank.org) directly. Once booked, you will receive full details, directions, and what to expect on the day!



# Do you have questions or concerns about your child's development?

Join us for a relaxed and friendly  
**COFFEE MORNING**  
For families with children aged 0-5



**Meet local professionals**  
Get advice, ask questions and find the right support for your family.

**We're here:**

- ✓ To listen
- ✓ To support
- ✓ To connect



**Children are welcome!**  
We will have calm, inclusive play and activities for your children.













**TUESDAY  
15 SEPTEMBER  
10AM – 12PM**



**LEEDS BABY BANK  
COMMUNITY HUB**  
European House,  
Wellington Road,  
Leeds, LS12 1DZ



**WE CAN HELP YOU WITH:**

- ✓ Understanding your child's needs
- ✓ Finding local support
- ✓ Benefits advice
- ✓ Education settings & EHCP support

**BOOK  
HERE!**

**Spaces are limited – please book via [this link](#) to attend**  
Or email: [carla@leedsbabybank.org](mailto:carla@leedsbabybank.org)

## Leeds SEND Parent Carer Information Drop-In Sessions

Two upcoming drop-in sessions are happening across Leeds this September for parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

Drop in to chat face-to-face with local organisations about education support, EHCPs, benefits/DLA advice, speech and language support, inclusive family activities, and emotional wellbeing.

 Session 1: Wetherby (Daytime)

When: Wednesday 9th September 2026 | 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Where: Wetherby Sports Association, The Club House, LS22 5FN

Parking: Large free car park on site



Session 2: East Leeds (Evening)

When: Thursday 24th September 2026 | 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Where: The Vinery Centre, 20 Vinery Terrace, Leeds, LS9 9LU

Parking: Rear car park and on-street parking available



Organisations in Attendance:

Leeds Local Offer • SENDIASS • Carers Leeds • Leeds Parent Carer Forum • Little Hiccups • Speech and Language Therapy Service • Family Hub SEND Coordinators • Time for young people



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



More info: [LLO@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:LLO@leeds.gov.uk)



[www.leedslocaloffer.org.uk](http://www.leedslocaloffer.org.uk)  
@Leeds Local Offer  
LLO@leeds.gov.uk  
<https://tinyurl.com/LLOWhatsApp>

## SEND PARENT CARER INFORMATION DROP IN

| Date          | Time             | Venue                                                 |
|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Wed 9 Sept    | 10.30 till 12.30 | Wetherby Sports Association, The Club House, LS22 5FN |
| Thurs 24 Sept | 18.30 till 20.30 | The Vinery Centre, LS9 9LU                            |

### Services in attendance:

- Leeds Local Offer
- SENDIASS
- Carers Leeds
- Leeds Parent Carer Forum
- Little Hiccups
- Speech and Language Therapy Service
- Family Hub SEND Coordinators
- Time for young people

Let us know if you will be attending the drop in

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



If you would like more information about the drop in sessions email [LLO@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:LLO@leeds.gov.uk)



## What you might want to speak to each service about



- How to find out about SEND services in Leeds
- The Leeds Local Offer website and events
- Signposting to SEND services



- SEND support in mainstream schools
- Preparing for SEND meetings
- Education, Health and Care (EHC) needs assessments and plans
- Mediation and SEND tribunal appeals
- Specialist schools, settings and provisions
- Preparing for adulthood
- Preparing for educational transitions
- SEND funding
- School transport



- How to have your voice heard in Leeds.
- How we represent the voices of parents and carers.
- Events and sessions for families.



- Benefits advice and support (DLA and PIP)
- Emotional support around parent caring role



- Parent-Led Support: A welcoming community for families of children with disabilities to connect and share experiences.
- Inclusive Activities: Sensory-friendly sessions, inclusive play, and family events that build confidence and social inclusion.
- Advocacy & Resources: Help with equipment, peer support, and working with healthcare providers to improve local services and accessibility.



Our family hubs provide a welcoming space where families with children and young people (0 to 19 years, or up to 25 years for young people with special educational needs and disabilities) can access support, advice, and services in one convenient location.



- Support with communication
- Support with eating, drinking and swallowing



- Low-level emotional wellbeing support for children and young people
- No appointments needed—drop in to any of our Leeds Hubs
- Safe, welcoming, creative spaces where children, young people and families feel heard, understood, and accepted
- Support with anxiety, emotional regulation, low mood, identity, education and much more

## Wetherby Sports Association

The Club House, Lodge Lane, Wetherby, LS22 5FN



### Travelling by bus

The 98 and 99 bus services stop at Wetherby bus station, which is about a five-minute walk to the clubhouse.



### Travelling by car

Use the venue post code in your navigation system (LS22 5FN).

The venue has a large free car park available for visitors.

## The Vinery Centre

20 Vinery Terrace, Leeds, LS9 9LU



### Travelling by bus

Bus stops near Vinery Terrace in Leeds

- Raincliffe Road, 2 min walk
- Torre Road, 5 min walk
- East End Park Parade
- Lupton Ave Torre Lane
- East Park Rd Glensdale Grove



### Travelling by car

Sat Nav – please use postcode LS9 9LU

There is a car park at the rear of the building, and also on street parking.

## Free suicide Prevention training

- Free for professionals in Leeds working with children and young people (limited spaces available until Sept 2026).
- Training available either online or in-person.
- Funded by Leeds City Council Public Health.
- Delivered by experienced workers from Leeds Survivor-Led Crisis Service with lived experience of mental health.
- Based on person centred and trauma informed approaches to mental health support.

This specialist training is designed for professionals in Leeds across education, health, social care, youth work and community services who want to:

- Gain insight and understanding of suicide thoughts and feelings include suicidal intent.
- Recognise warning signs and risk factors for suicide in children and young people.
- Learn practical techniques for early intervention and support.
- Build confidence in having safe and compassionate conversations around suicide.
- Strengthen your own internal procedures and policies and find out about referral pathways and signposting options.

The training supports schools to approach suicide prevention responsibly, and in alignment with recent national guidance. It builds on the mental wellbeing curriculum by strengthening staff confidence in recognising suicidal signs and behaviours alongside developing the skills to engage in meaningful conversations about suicide. This course provides practical tools you can apply immediately in your professional role.

This program is delivered in one 5 hour training session held at Tech North in Chapel Allerton:

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September – 10am – 3pm

Please note there are only 10 face to face spaces so once all sessions are full there will be a waiting list.

To book by email [natalie.kirby@slcs.org.uk](mailto:natalie.kirby@slcs.org.uk)

Please note - the training content is the same so please only book on either online or in-person.

## Interplay Theatre - Upcoming Events



**INTERPLAY**  
NATIONAL SENSORY THEATRE

**LS12 Creative  
Sensory Open Days**

**Interplay Theatre**  
Creating sensory theatre which places the audience at the centre of the experience.

**LS12 Creative**  
Home to all of Interplay Theatre's participation work that happens in our building, in our area and beyond.

We are opening our doors to welcome young people with learning disabilities, PMLD and/or autism, with their families and carers.

[interplaytheatre.org.uk](http://interplaytheatre.org.uk) Armley Ridge Road, LS12 3LE

**2026**

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May  
Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July  
Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August  
Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September  
Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November  
Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December

11am - 12.30pm or 2pm - 3.30pm **Free!**

**What happens on a Sensory Open Day?**

These monthly free-form open days are themed differently each time and introduce ideas, celebrate messy spaces, and promotes play, whatever that means for you. Our Sensory Youth Theatre group will share music, creative play and art, and our artists are led by the participants with very few rules or expectations.

Come and explore, create, and express yourselves in a relaxed and supportive environment. Booking a place means we can plan and tailor our activities to the young people and we can ensure that the sessions don't get too busy.

**Find us on the 15, 16, 72 and 508 bus routes.**

**To book, contact the team on:**  
**Email:** [takepart@interplaytheatre.org.uk](mailto:takepart@interplaytheatre.org.uk)  
**Call:** 0113 263 8556  
**Text:** 07444 229628

**INTERPLAY**  
NATIONAL SENSORY THEATRE

**Sensory Youth Theatre**

Explore Create Share

**Arts Council England**

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

**Leeds CITY COUNCIL**

[interplaytheatre.org.uk](http://interplaytheatre.org.uk) Armley Ridge Road, LS12 3LE

## A Supportive, Practical Course for Parents Using Music With Their Children

If you'd like to feel more confident using music to connect with your child — especially if they have additional or complex needs — our two-day course Making Music with Special Children may be a wonderful fit.

You don't need to be musical. You don't need to sing in tune. You just need curiosity and a willingness to explore.

What you'll learn

- Simple ways to use music to support communication and bonding
- How rhythm and pulse can help with focus and regulation
- Creative ideas for using music, even with limited time or resources
- Using iPads to make music
- Approaches that work for children with a wide range of needs

“Certainly one of the very best courses I have ever attended - truly transformative! Heartfelt thanks to the tutors- and to the participants. I had a very rewarding time with my little granddaughter on Sunday, whose dancing back and forth along the sofa I accompanied with up and down arpeggios causing squeals of delight.” Christopher, grandparent

#### Course details

London – 29–30 September 2026 York – 9–10 November 2026 Cost: £95 for both days, including lunch and refreshments.

Book your place:

<https://jessiesfund.org.uk/our-work/training/making-music-with-special-children/>

We’d love to welcome you to two uplifting, supportive days of learning and shared experience.

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#### Little Hiccups Upcoming Events

Speaking Up at School: Communication with Education Staff

[In person: 16th Sept, 10am >](#)

[Online \(daytime\): 18th Sept, 10am >](#)

[Online \(evening\): 23rd Sept, 7pm >](#)

Sept 26th - [Watersports at Hollingworth Lake](#)

(bookings open July 25th)

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#### Moving and Handling of People Training

We wanted to take this opportunity to remind you of the Moving and Handling of People training we currently offer.

Please feel free to share this information with your colleagues and wider contacts who may benefit from the training.

Train the Trainer

Our Train the Trainer: Moving and Handling course, is designed to equip staff with the knowledge, confidence and practical skills to safely deliver moving and handling training within their own organisation.

This course provides a comprehensive understanding of risk assessment and safe handling techniques, alongside guidance on how to effectively teach and assess others.

Spaces still available on our June and October courses.

<https://wmdlc.org/services/moving-handling-training/train-the-trainer/>

### Annual Update

Our Moving and Handling of People – Annual Update course is designed to refresh and reinforce essential knowledge and practical skills in safe moving and handling.

This session provides an opportunity to revisit key principles, update your understanding of current legislation and best practice, and ensure continued confidence in carrying out safe techniques. It also supports staff in maintaining compliance and reducing the risk of injury for both themselves and the people they support.

The National Back Exchange recommends that everyone who has attended a moving and handling training course, then attends an annual update.

Are you up to date?

Spaces still available on our July, October and December courses.

<https://wmdlc.org/services/moving-handling-training/train-the-trainer-annual-update/>

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### Relaxed Open Days at Leeds City College

We're pleased to invite you and your learners to our upcoming Quieter Open Events at Leeds City College. We understand that a busy event can feel overwhelming, so we're happy to provide an alternative experience so that everyone can take part.

Our Quieter Open Events provide all the information and opportunity you would expect from a Leeds City College open event, but in a quieter environment. We limit visitor numbers for these events to reduce potential overstimulation and best support those with SEND needs. These events are ideal for those wanting to explore Leeds City College at a gentle, calm pace.

Our Quieter Open Events will take place from September 2026 in preparation for starting college September 2027.

Quieter open events will take place at our main campuses on the dates in the attached leaflet. We are also looking for anyone organisation wishes to have a stand at our open event to promote SEND services across West Yorkshire. Please email [EventsMarketing@luminare.ac.uk](mailto:EventsMarketing@luminare.ac.uk) to book your stand.

Leeds City College also offers more specialist SEND/ EHCP provision at its Jospeh Priestley and The Vine campuses. I have attached information about the offer at both campuses.

To book your place at any of these events please register your interest here: [Thank you for registering your interest in Leeds City College Quieter open events](#)

Places are limited, so we encourage early booking.

If you are considering booking, but have questions, our Events team is ready to help you with any queries you may have about the open event. Email: [EventsMarketing@luminare.ac.uk](mailto:EventsMarketing@luminare.ac.uk) for information on parking spaces for Blue Badge holders, Sign Language interpretation, additional support requirements and any further information you may require to visit the right campus.

Please share with learners and their families with SEND/EHCPs.

Additionally if you would like any support with transition including college visits, attendance at careers fairs or any further support please do get in touch.

We look forward to welcoming you,

## Quieter Open Events

### Shape your future in a quieter environment

Designed to provide a supportive space to ask the important questions about your future, our quieter open events allow you to explore your future college **without all the hustle and bustle.**

Talk to us about your course options, meet your tutors and explore any support you might need when you study with us.

Visit the campus where your course will take place and get familiar with the facilities where you will study.

Tuesday 29 September | 4.30 - 6.30pm

#### Printworks Campus

- Animal Care & Land Management (some classroom delivery at Printworks Campus and practical learning at Temple Newsam)
- Business
- Catering & Hospitality
- Digital & IT
- Engineering & Manufacturing
- Hair, Beauty & Media Makeup
- Sustainable Technologies
- Motor Vehicle
- Travel & Tourism

Tuesday 29 September | 4.30 - 6.30pm

#### Quarry Hill Campus

- Creative Arts
- Education & Early Years
- Health Science & Social Care
- Public Services

Tuesday 29 September | 4.30 - 6.30pm

#### Somerville House

- Enterprise & Employability
- RE: (workshop delivery at Mabgate Campus)

Tuesday 20 October | 4.30 - 6.30pm

#### Park Lane Campus

- Science
- Sport
- Leeds Sports Connect
- Future Pathways
- Step Up to A Levels (SUTA)
- A Levels (Leeds Sixth Form College)

Limited visitor numbers ensure a quieter environment in which to start shaping your future. Book your place online by scanning the QR code or emailing [eventsmarketing@luminare.ac.uk](mailto:eventsmarketing@luminare.ac.uk)



A member of Luminare Education Group

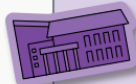
## Foundation Studies Preparing for Adult Life

A specialist provision for those learners with Education, Health and Care plans and/or SEND.

Our Foundation Studies provision at Joseph Priestley Centre provides personalised learning programmes to meet the needs of learners with severe and complex learning difficulties.

Learning programmes are created around the individual learners EHCP outcomes alongside the development of life skills, communication and independence.

We support each learner to reach their potential and encourage them to be as independent as possible through a preparation for adulthood framework of delivery.



#### For more information contact:

[eventsmarketing@luminare.ac.uk](mailto:eventsmarketing@luminare.ac.uk)  
0113 284 6680

#### Specialist Support

We understand that all learners' skills and needs vary and recognise that it is likely that learners will need a higher level of support throughout their lives. Foundation Studies benefits from a specialist 'Care Team' who support learners with varying levels of personal and medical care.

Students will also be allocated smaller class sizes and a personal tutor who will provide them with pastoral support, information advice and guidance and help them to progress through their learning journey.

#### Highlights of our Ofsted report include:

- Learners with special educational needs and/or disabilities are well supported by qualified staff.
- Learners with high needs benefit from inclusive and personalised learning pathways which enable them to develop their knowledge and skills alongside their resilience and their independence. Consequently, they are prepared well for further study or employment, including supported internships.
- Learners with profound multiple learning disabilities receive well-coordinated specialist support, including speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and occupational therapy, that meets their needs and enables them to engage fully in their learning.

#### What will the course offer?

Our curriculum is split into strands of support with a bite size curriculum offer. The key strands are:

- **Independent Living and Community Inclusion**  
A skill-based curriculum that allows you to develop a sense of who you are, whilst experiencing the wider community. Develop your basic cooking skills, learn household tasks, take part in enrichment events, manage a personal budget, and develop your communication skills for personal and social development.
- **Work/Employment**  
Take part in real-life work experiences, both individually and in small groups. These courses include aspects of independent living, community living and working with others with a focus of progressing into voluntary or paid work.
- **Vocational Stepping Stones**  
A destination led curriculum exploring vocational skills and knowledge, equipping you with the entry requirements to progress into wider college vocational courses.
- **Exploring and Securing Future Opportunities**  
A skills-based curriculum where you explore the opportunities available post-college. You will visit communities and organisations, and take part in activities and/or work experience that will allow a smooth transition into your chosen destination.

#### For more information contact:

[eventsmarketing@luminare.ac.uk](mailto:eventsmarketing@luminare.ac.uk)  
0113 284 6680

A member of Luminare Education Group

## The Vine PMLD Provision

A specialist PMLD provision for those learners with education, health and care plans and/or SEND.

The Vine provides personalised learning programmes to meet the needs of learners with severe and complex learning difficulties. Specialist support staff lead on behaviour and intervention, personal and medical care, mental health and wellbeing, physiotherapy & hydrotherapy.

Students will also be allocated smaller class sizes and a personal tutor who will provide them with pastoral support, information advice and guidance and help them to progress through their learning journey.



**For more information contact:**

 [eventsmarketing@luminare.ac.uk](mailto:eventsmarketing@luminare.ac.uk)  
 0113 284 6680

**Highlights of our  
Ofsted report include:**

- Learners with special educational needs and/or disabilities are well supported by qualified staff.
- Learners with high needs benefit from inclusive and personalised learning pathways which enable them to develop their knowledge and skills alongside their resilience and their independence. Consequently, they are prepared well for further study or employment, including supported internships.
- Learners with profound multiple learning disabilities receive well-coordinated specialist support, including speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and occupational therapy, that meets their needs and enables them to engage fully in their learning.

**For more information contact:**

 [eventsmarketing@luminare.ac.uk](mailto:eventsmarketing@luminare.ac.uk)  
 0113 284 6680



A member of Luminare Education Group

**What will the course offer?**

Our bespoke curriculum offer supports with sensory stimulation and is split into the below strands:

- **Social Emotional Development**  
For young people with SLD, PMLD and CLDD who experience a range of social emotional difficulties, which impact how they learn and interact with others. This curriculum develops; personal wellbeing, communicating needs and wants, making choices and expressing thoughts and feelings.
- **Communication (Speech & Language)**  
Our communication curriculum is devised to encourage the development of; responding to social events and activities, interacting with others and intensive interaction.
- **Sensory & Cognition**  
Helps learners explore their senses for learning and sensory stimulation that encourage the development of; motor/ gross motor skills, physical sensory skills, tactile awareness, position tolerance, sensory integrations and visual & auditory skills.
- **Physical Interaction**  
Designed to allow learners who are physically impaired, or who are still learning to move, to engage in physical interaction in order to develop; body awareness, positional changes, mobility, grasping/ releasing and standing/walking.

As many of our learners have special educational needs or profound and multiple learning difficulties the offer of education is around appropriate learning to support life outcomes. This personalised approach is driven by the EHCP outcomes and their chosen pathway for learning. In addition to their chosen pathway students will also benefit from English and maths sessions that will allow them to develop communication and number skills appropriate to them.

## Careers In Leeds

This year marks the launch of a new, city-wide careers, jobs, and training fair entitled Careers In Leeds. The event will offer a refreshed approach to bringing opportunities and talent together across Leeds and the wider region.

For the first time, [Employment and Skills Leeds](#) are combining three major events into one ambitious, inclusive offer:

- Leeds Digital Careers Fair
- Leeds Creative Skills Festival
- SEND Next Choices Event

Careers in Leeds 2026 takes place on Tuesday 3 November 2026 and runs from 12pm to 6pm, with the first hour (12pm–1pm) reserved as a quiet hour exclusively for visitors with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

You'll have the chance to talk to major employers from a wide range of sectors, including accounting, business and administration, catering and hospitality, construction, creative design, care services, digital, education, engineering, finance, hair and beauty, health, law, protective services and many more.

With over 100 exhibitors expected, the event will offer information, advice, guidance and access to live vacancies. You'll have the opportunity to find out about jobs, training and opportunities in Leeds. The event is free to attend and open to everyone.

Tickets for the quiet hour (12pm–1pm) are limited and only available to visitors with special educational needs and/or disabilities. General admission tickets are for entry between 1pm and 6pm.

Find out more and book your free ticket here: [Careers in Leeds | Inclusive Growth Leeds](#)



**Careers in Leeds**

Jobs, training and opportunities in the city

Tuesday 3 November 2026  
First Direct Bank Arena, Leeds  
12-6pm

A brand-new flagship careers, jobs and skills event

Careers in Leeds is open to anyone considering their next move — whether you're looking for a job, training, an apprenticeship, or simply exploring career ideas.



**EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS LEEDS**

Tuesday 3 November 2026  
First Direct Bank Arena, Leeds, 12-6pm

**first direct bank arena**

**Visitors will be able to**

- Meet employers and training providers from across Leeds
- Explore a wide range of sectors and career pathways
- Get practical support such as CV advice, interview tips and employability guidance
- Learn about local jobs, courses and progression routes

**Inclusivity focused**

The event has been designed to be inclusive and welcoming. A dedicated support area will offer tailored guidance, including support for people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Scan the QR code to find out more and get your tickets





## Leeds Therapy Hub CIC -New Wellbeing Groups Starting This September

Leeds Therapy Hub CIC, a community-focused organisation providing accessible mental health and wellbeing support for children, young people, adults, families, and carers across West Yorkshire. Our mission is to make emotional wellbeing support more accessible by working collaboratively with families, parents, carers, schools, Early Help services, Family Hubs, and community organisations. We aim to provide safe, supportive spaces where individuals can explore their emotions, build resilience, develop coping strategies, and improve their overall wellbeing.

We understand that many children, young people, and adults face barriers when accessing traditional mental health support. Our approach uses creative, therapeutic, and wellbeing-based interventions to provide accessible support that meets people where they are.

Our current specialist services include:

### **1. Play & Creative Arts Therapy (Ages 5–16)**

Play & Creative Arts Therapy is an evidence-based approach designed to support children and teenagers who may find it difficult to express their emotions through words alone.

Using creative approaches including art, drama, music, role play, sand tray therapy, and other therapeutic activities, young people are able to explore their feelings, experiences, and challenges in a safe and supportive environment.

This approach can support children and young people experiencing:

- Anxiety and stress
- Low mood and depression
- Trauma and difficult life experiences
- Grief and loss
- Family changes
- Bullying
- School-related pressures
- ADHD and autism-related challenges
- Emotional regulation difficulties
- Low confidence and self-esteem

Therapy can help young people develop emotional awareness, confidence, coping strategies, resilience, social skills, and healthier ways of managing difficult emotions.

"Sometimes the most powerful conversations happen without saying a word."

### **2. Creative Calm – Mindfulness Art Sessions (Adults)**

Creative Calm is a supportive 6-week community wellbeing group using mindful creative practices to help reduce stress, support emotional regulation, and encourage relaxation.

No artistic experience is required. The focus is not on creating artwork, but on using creativity as a tool to slow down, reconnect with yourself, and support wellbeing.

Start date: 14th September 2026

Duration: 6 weeks

Time: Mondays, 12:00pm–1:00pm

### **3. Six-Week Wellness Re-Set Programme (Adults)**

A holistic wellbeing programme supporting adults experiencing chronic illness, anxiety, low mood, stress, burnout, grief, or trauma.

The programme combines:

- Breathwork
- Mindfulness
- Body awareness
- Energy healing approaches
- CBT-informed wellbeing tools

The aim is to support nervous system regulation, resilience, emotional wellbeing, and reconnecting with yourself.

Start date: 21st September 2026

Duration: 6 weeks

Time: Mondays, 7:00pm–9:00pm

#### **4. Calm Within – An 8-Week Journey for Parents and Carers**

A dedicated support programme for parents and carers who often carry the emotional needs of others while having little time to focus on themselves.

Over eight weeks, participants will explore practical tools to:

- Develop emotional resilience
- Reduce stress and overwhelm
- Build healthier boundaries
- Improve self-care
- Reconnect with themselves

Start date: 24th September 2026

Duration: 8 weeks

Time: Thursdays, 7:00pm–9:00pm

We would love the opportunity to connect with local services and explore how Leeds Therapy Hub CIC could complement the fantastic work already being carried out in our community.

I have attached further information about each service for you to share with colleagues, families, and professionals who may benefit. These will have location and prices attached. If you feel you could host one of our courses for people in your area, please do let us know. We would be delighted to discuss how we can work together to support your community.

If you would like to discuss our services, referral pathways, partnership opportunities, or how we can support your local community, please do get in touch.

Contact details:

Email: [Leedstherapyhubcic@gmail.com](mailto:Leedstherapyhubcic@gmail.com)

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#### **🎵 OPEN - Inclusive Music Ensemble with Made with Music! 🎵**

Looking for a supportive space to make music together? OPEN is an inclusive ensemble in Leeds designed for anyone who might need extra support to make music alongside family and friends.

Bring your own instruments or use the ones provided on the day!

#### **🌟 Details:**

- **When:** Saturdays, 26th September to 28th November 2026 (8 sessions total) | 2:15pm – 4:15pm (includes breaks)
- **Where:** Leeds Conservatoire, 3 Quarry Hill, Leeds, LS2 7PD
- **Who it's for:** Advised age 8+ (family and friends welcome!)

- **Cost/Places:** Places are limited, so booking is essential.

 **For more information & to book:** [www.madewithmusic.co.uk/open](http://www.madewithmusic.co.uk/open)

 **Email:** [hello@madewithmusic.co.uk](mailto:hello@madewithmusic.co.uk)



**OPEN**

**An inclusive ensemble in Leeds for anyone who might need extra support to make music with family and friends.**

Starting Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September to the 28<sup>th</sup> November (8 Sessions).  
2.15-4.15pm (including breaks)  
Venue: Leeds Conservatoire, 3 Quarry Hill, Leeds, LS2 7PD

For more information visit [www.madewithmusic.co.uk/open](http://www.madewithmusic.co.uk/open) or email [hello@madewithmusic.co.uk](mailto:hello@madewithmusic.co.uk)  
Places are limited.

You can bring your own instruments or we can provide them. Advised age is 8+.

**YOUTH  
MUSIC**

**LEEDS  
CONSERVATOIRE**

### **Modular Seating and Wheelchairs Workshop with Irwin Mitchell**

Interested in learning more about postural support, custom seating, and wheelchair solutions for complex care needs? Irwin Mitchell is hosting an informative workshop focused on Modular Seating and Wheelchairs designed for healthcare professionals, clients, and family carers.

This session covers key insights into seating assessments, funding options, and how appropriate modular equipment can vastly improve independence and quality of life.

✨ Details & Booking:

Wednesday 2 September 2026

5:00pm - 8:00pm

 Find out more & reserve your place:

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

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### **SNAPS - Cannon Hall Farm Adventure!**

Monday, 26 October 2026, 10:00

Cannon Hall Farm, Cawthorne, Barnsley, S75 4AT [View Map](#)

Come and say hello to the animals, enjoy outdoor adventures, and discover plenty of farmyard fun at Cannon Hall Farm. With lots to see, do, and explore, it's a great place for children to enjoy new experiences in a relaxed and family-friendly setting.

Date: Monday 26th October

Time: Cannon Hall Farm is open from 10am to 6pm. A member of the SNAPS team will be at the entrance from 10am to 12pm, please let us know if you are going to arrive after 12pm.

Location: Cannon Hall Farm, Cawthorne, Barnsley, S75 4AT.

Book your place and come along for a wonderful day!

For more information, please [info@snapsyorkshire.org](mailto:info@snapsyorkshire.org)

<https://register.enthuse.com/ps/event/SNAPSCannonHallFarmAdventure>

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### ☀️ **What's On at the Young Futures Hub | Barca-Leeds Manor House, Bramley** ☀️

Looking for a safe, welcoming space to connect, learn new skills, get advice, or just relax and be yourself?

The **Young Futures Hub** (in partnership with Leeds Youth Alliance) offers a wide range of free activities and drop-in support for young people aged 10–18 (and up to 25 for those with SEND).

Here is what's happening throughout the week at **Barca-Leeds Manor House, Bramley**:



#### **WEEKLY TIMETABLE**

## Monday

- **Level Up** (*Ages 15+ / Time TBC*): Practical life and work skills—coding, cooking, first aid, CV writing, interview prep, plus hands-on business and pop-up projects.

## Tuesday

- **Careers Advice with Pathways** (*1:00 pm – 3:00 pm / Ages 16+*): Guidance for anyone not in education, employment, or training.
- **The Lounge** (*2:30 pm – 4:00 pm*): Pop in for a brew, practical advice, or a safe space to offload.
- **LGBTQ+ This Is Me** (*6:00 pm – 7:00 pm / Ages 13+*): A safe, supportive space to meet friends, build confidence, and take part in fun activities.

## Wednesday

- **DWP Drop-In** (*12:00 pm – 4:00 pm / Ages 16+ / Every other Weds*): Explore your options and next steps.
- **Hub Access** (*4:00 pm – 5:30 pm / Ages 11+*): Open space, resources, and youth worker support.
- **The Well Girl Collective** (*4:00 pm – 6:00 pm / Ages 11–16*): Activities, socials, and space to reset for girls.

## Thursday

- **Hub Access** (*4:00 pm – 5:30 pm / Ages 11+*): Drop in to use the space, get homework or art project support, read, relax, or chat with a youth worker.

## Friday

- **Digital Café** (*10:00 am – 12:00 pm / Ages 16+*): Help and access for all things digital.
- **Hub Connect** (*3:45 pm – 5:15 pm / Ages 11+*): Fun sessions and informal advice on wellbeing, housing, and health.
- **House of Fun** (*3:45 pm – 5:15 pm / Ages 13+*): Have your say and help shape the design of the Hub.
- **VIP (Voice and Influence Group)** (*5:45 pm – 7:15 pm / Ages 12+*): Build leadership skills, plan events, and get involved in volunteering.

## Saturday

- **Young Leaders Academy** (*11:00 am – 1:00 pm / Ages 14+ / 1st Saturday of the month*): Confidence building, mentoring, volunteering, and public speaking.

## Flexible 1-to-1 Support

- Informal one-to-one guidance with youth workers is also available. Speak to a team member during Hub sessions or contact Ella on 07707 081696.



**Location:** Barca-Leeds Manor House, Bramley, West Leeds

Email: [cypreferrals@barca-leeds.org](mailto:cypreferrals@barca-leeds.org)

Call / Text / WhatsApp: 0113 255 9582 / 07938 002989

### What's on at

## Barca-Leeds Manor House, Bramley - West Leeds

**Monday**

#### Level Up

Learn practical life and work skills, including coding, cooking, first aid, CV writing and interview prep. Turn your ideas into action through business projects, market stalls and pop-up cafés.

**Time TBC Ages 15+**

**Tuesday**

#### Careers advice with Pathways

Not in education, employment or training? Pathways can help you explore your options and plan your next steps.

**1pm - 3pm, Ages 16+**

#### The Lounge

Pop in for a brew and/or practical help, advice or a safe space to offload.

**2:30pm - 4pm**

#### LGBTQ+ This Is Me

Welcoming and inclusive space where LGBTQ+ young people can meet friends, build confidence, share experiences, and take part in fun activities in a safe and supportive environment.

**6pm - 7pm 13+**

**Wednesday**

#### DWP Drop-In (every other Weds)

Drop in, talk about your options and plan your next steps.

**12pm - 4pm, Ages 16+**

#### Hub Access

**4pm - 5:30 pm, Ages 11+**

#### The Well Girl Collective

Activities, socials, space to chill and reset for girls

**4pm - 6pm, Ages 11 - 16**

**Thursday**

#### Hub Access

Youth workers are available and young people are welcome to drop in and make use of the space, equipment, and resources. Whether you need support with homework, a place to work on an art project, somewhere quiet to read and relax, or simply want to chat with a youth worker for advice or support.

**4pm - 5:30pm, Ages 11+**

**Friday**

#### Digital Cafe

Call in for help/access with all things digital.

**10am - 12pm, Ages 16+**

#### Hub Connect

Join fun weekly sessions, try new activities and get advice from trusted professionals on topics like wellbeing, housing and health - all in a relaxed, informal setting.

**3:45pm - 5:15pm, Ages 11+**

#### House of Fun

Have your say and help shape the design of the Young Futures Hub.

**3:45pm - 5:15pm, Ages 13+**

#### VIP (Voice and Influence Group)

Build leadership skills, volunteer, plan events and help shape activities at the youth hub.

**5:45pm - 7:15pm, 12+**

**Saturday**

#### Young Leaders Academy

Build confidence and leadership through mentoring, volunteering, public speaking and community action.

**Monthly (1st Sat of the month), 11am - 1pm, Ages 14+**

For more information about the Young Futures Hub and our activities, please email [cypreferrals@barca-leeds.org](mailto:cypreferrals@barca-leeds.org) or call 0113 255 9582 Text/WhatsApp 07938 002989.

Leeds Department for Culture, Media & Sport Barca V Gateway healthforall 104 Trust IS 104 NEW WORKER re-establish LET LIME'S CARES JIHU-XIYUEN

## EVENTS AND INFORMATION - BRADFORD

**Training for all professionals working with a young person with Down syndrome from September:**

Down Syndrome Development, Education and Inclusion (CPD Accredited) as well as An Introduction to Down Syndrome (also suitable for parents). Details can be found here: Training | Down Syndrome Training and Support Service Ltd and bookings are now being taken.  
<https://www.downsyndromebradford.com/training>

Please see our monthly newsletter for details of upcoming events, training, fundraising and opportunities: <https://www.downsyndromebradford.com/our-newsletters-1>

Thanks, Jenn

West Yorkshire CANN  
[www.cann.network.org](http://www.cann.network.org)  
[westyorkshire@cann-network.org](mailto:westyorkshire@cann-network.org)

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## Mind the Gap: Stories Through Art – Summer Short Breaks (Bradford)

# SHORT BREAKS AT MIND THE GAP

## STORIES THROUGH ART

**Are you aged 8 to 18? Do you have a learning disability and/or autism?**

Join us for a Short Break at Mind the Gap. You'll spend the morning trying out Theatre, Dance, Music and Art in our beautiful studios. With a trip to a local gallery.

No experience needed – just come along and have fun. You'll meet new people, try something different, and get a certificate at the end.

**Each day will have a different focus:**

**Monday** – Music

**Tuesday** – Cartwright Hall Trip

**Wednesday** – Theatre

**Thursday** – Dance

**Friday** – Visual Arts



### **Age 8-12 years**

Week commencing Monday 17th August  
10am – 12pm

### **Age 13-18 years**

Week commencing Monday 24th August  
10am – 12pm

Please feel free to stay for lunch each day until 12:45pm.

**The deadline to sign up is Wednesday 5th August. Get in touch to find out more:**

Email [melissajackson@mind-the-gap.org.uk](mailto:melissajackson@mind-the-gap.org.uk)  
Phone 01274 487390



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## Emotional Based School Avoidance support

Is your child struggling to go to school due to feelings of worry or stress? Are you unsure what to do? Then come along to a friendly and supportive parent support group run by the Educational Psychology team.

You'll find a safe space to share and listen to other parents, get ideas to help, and learn about what you can do to support your child, and what you can expect from school. You will need to be able to attend all four sessions. To book, email: [EBSA@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:EBSA@bradford.gov.uk)

- Wednesdays - 30 Sept, 7, 14, 21 Oct (Online)
- Wednesdays - 11, 18, 25 Nov, 2 Dec (Cafe West, Allerton)
- 

If your child is struggling to attend school, please contact your school initially and ask for support and visit our [One Minute Guide](#) on Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA).

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## 'SEND One Plan' diary dates

The SEND Partnership is working together across education, health, and care to improve services for children and young people in Bradford District.

There is a clear and joined-up plan called the [SEND One Plan](#), and regular events are taking place, chaired by the Parents' Forum for Bradford and Airedale ([PFBA](#)) to give parents and carers the opportunity to ask questions and get answers from services.

Upcoming diary dates:

- Thursday 10, September and Thursday 19, November (10am to 12 noon). Venue to be confirmed.

The Bradford Local Area SEND Partnership continues to work with the Department for Education and local families to finalise the Local Area Reform Plan for the implementation of the [SEND Reforms](#) in Bradford District.



## Family Engagement Project



**Support for  
parents and carers  
of children  
aged 0-10 with  
Special Educational  
Needs and Disabilities  
or emerging needs in  
Bradford**

Welcoming  
Coffee  
mornings

Information  
and  
signposting

1-1 Support  
from Family  
Connectors  
with lived  
experience

No diagnosis  
or pathway  
necessary

Friendly  
community

**Scan the QR code to register.  
For further information, email us at:  
FEPBradford@mencap.org.uk**

Family Engagement Project in  
Bradford



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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <p><b>Family<br/>Engagement<br/>Project</b></p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p><b>Family<br/>Engagement<br/>Project</b></p> |
| <p><b>SEND Parent and Carer<br/>Coffee Morning</b></p> <p>Join our community of parents and carers of children aged 0-10 with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities or emerging needs for informal advice and support.</p> <div data-bbox="178 526 762 705"> <p>Helpful advice and support</p> <p>Free refreshments</p> <p>Meet other SEND parents</p> <p>Children welcome</p> <p>Signposting to services</p> </div> <p><b>Come and join us!</b></p> <p><b>Wednesday 2nd September</b><br/><b>10.00am – 11.30am</b></p> <p><b>Mayfield Centre</b><br/><b>35 Broadway Avenue, BD5 9NP</b></p> <div data-bbox="167 907 295 1019">  </div> <p>To register with the project, scan the QR code or visit our Facebook page – Mencap Family Engagement Project Bradford and follow the link. For further information email us at: <a href="mailto:BradfordFEP@mencap.org.uk">BradfordFEP@mencap.org.uk</a></p> |                                                 | <p><b>SEND Parent and Carer<br/>Coffee Morning</b></p> <p>Join our community of parents and carers of children aged 0-10 with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities or emerging needs for informal advice and support.</p> <div data-bbox="807 526 1391 705"> <p>Helpful advice and support</p> <p>Free refreshments</p> <p>Meet other SEND parents</p> <p>Children welcome</p> <p>Signposting to services</p> </div> <p><b>Come and join us!</b></p> <p><b>Wednesday 16th September</b><br/><b>10.00am – 11.30am</b></p> <p><b>Kirkgate Community Centre</b><br/><b>39A Kirkgate, Shipley, BD18 3EH</b></p> <div data-bbox="798 907 925 1019">  </div> <p>To register with the project, scan the QR code or visit our Facebook page – Mencap Family Engagement Project Bradford and follow the link. For further information email us at: <a href="mailto:BradfordFEP@mencap.org.uk">BradfordFEP@mencap.org.uk</a></p> |                                                 |

## Bradford SEND Local Offer News - September 2026

- A new free app is available to support unpaid carers in West Yorkshire- [Share2Care](#)
- Mon, 28 Sept (9.30am - 12 noon), SENDIASS is running a workshop on 'getting the right support in place for young people aged 16 - 25.' To book, call: 01274 513300
- Free NHS Health Check at [Bradford West Wellbeing Hub](#), Weds, 16 September (1pm - 4pm). Pop along to [Manningham Mills Community Centre](#) (BD9 5BD)
- Find a list of Bradford District SEND parent/carers support groups [here](#).
- If your child is starting school in September, there's information 'small steps to starting school' on the Bradford Families and Young persons (FYI) [website](#).
- Saltaire festival (12 - 20 September 2026) a range of activities, including performances from 'Disability Rocks' musicians and singers. [Read more](#).

## SEND 'Life Admin' session (parent-volunteer led)

A friendly drop-in for families with a child with special education needs and/or disabilities. Run with support from a parent-volunteer with lived experience, the session will focus on checking through paperwork, forms and admin - with a cuppa and a chat.

- 10 September (10am - 12 noon) - at Bradford South Family Hub ([TFD](#)).

### **SEND Marketplace drop-in events**

Taking place monthly at different venues across the district, come along and speak to specialist

### **SEND services who can provide advice, support and signposting.**

- 28 September, 2pm to 4.30pm at Bradford South Family Hub ([Reevy](#))

### **SEND parent/carer's coffee mornings**

Open to families to come along and meet together.

- 10, September (9.15am to 10.15am) Fagley Primary, BD2 3PU
- 14, September (10.30am to 12 noon) Bradford East Family Hub ([Barkerend](#))

For further Information about all groups, visit the Family Hub's [timetables](#) (SEND activities highlighted in Orange).

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## **EVENTS AND INFORMATION - WAKEFIELD**

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## **EVENTS AND INFORMATION - KIRKLEES**