



NECANN COMMUNICATION

October 2026

INTRODUCTION	2
SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS & CONTACT DETAILS	2
NECANN MEETING DATE	2
CO CHAIR COMMENTS	3
NEW MEMBERS	4
Teeside Deaf Children's Group	4
My Max Card	4
1Voice - Communicating Together	5
RESEARCH	6
Help Shape Future Support for Neurodivergent Young People	6
INFO AND EVENTS - REGIONAL	7
BFI Film Academy Course - Opportunity	7
Personal Care Challenges for Autistic Young People	8
TTHT at the Autism Hubs Multi-Agency Event – BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!	9
We have a New FREE service - Toby Henderson Trust - POST Diagnosis Support	9
The Toby Henderson Book Club	12
Introduction to Makaton workshop for families	13
The SEND Club United Launch	14
SEND Exclusive Hire: Santa Express Train with The Sensory Place!	16
Useful Vision Lending Library at The Lemington Centre	17
Free Cancer Awareness Support from Healthworks	18
Hadrian Education and Development Services - Upcoming Events	19
Grace House Parent Carer Events	21
Grace House Half Term Activities	22
Guide Dogs Time To Play	23

INTRODUCTION

Hello and welcome to the latest North East CANN Update.

North East Children's Additional Needs Network shares information and helps to increase the reach of your services for children and young people in the region.

Regarding updates and information, if you have material or information that you would like forwarded to the members of the Network, or any updates, please ensure that you email it to Miriam on northeast@cann-network.org, before the end of the month.

Thanks to everyone who shared the information below for our latest update, which contains information and sessions for children and young people with additional needs and their parent carers.

You can find these Communications on the CANN Network site at:

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

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS & CONTACT DETAILS

Website:	www.cann-network.org
Admin:	northeast@cann-network.org
Chairs:	chair.northeast@cann-network.org
BlueSky:	https://bsky.app/profile/necann.bsky.social
LinkedIn:	https://www.linkedin.com/company/north-east-cann/
Facebook:	https://www.facebook.com/northeastcann

NECANN MEETING DATE

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

Next Meeting

TBC

CO CHAIR COMMENTS

As we welcome October, we'd like to take a moment to reflect on what a fantastic few months it has been for our NECANN community and to thank all of our members for the continued passion, commitment and support you bring to the network.

One of the highlights of September was our recent NECANN meeting at Choice Wellbeing CIC. It was truly wonderful to see so many familiar faces and to welcome new members into the room. There was a real sense of positivity, collaboration and shared purpose, with members coming together to exchange ideas, celebrate achievements and discuss how we can continue to improve outcomes for children, young people and families across the North East. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the team at Choice Wellbeing CIC for their warm hospitality and for providing such a welcoming space for us all to connect.

As NECANN continues to grow, we are delighted to welcome our newest members to the network. Every organisation, service and community group brings valuable knowledge, skills and experiences, helping to strengthen the support available across our region. Welcome to Teeside Deaf Children's Group, My Max Card and 1-Voice who have joined us this month. We look forward to collaborating with you!

As we move into the autumn months, we encourage members to continue sharing news, upcoming events, resources and success stories. One of the things we value most about NECANN is the willingness of our members to support one another and work together for the benefit of families. By promoting opportunities and sharing good practice, we can continue to build a stronger and more connected SEND community.

From all of us, Tracey, Bev and Kerry, thank you for your ongoing support, enthusiasm and commitment to the network. NECANN is what it is because of the incredible people and organisations involved, and we are grateful for every contribution, big or small.

We look forward to continuing to work alongside you over the coming months and to seeing many of you at future meetings and events.

With best wishes,

Bev, Tracey, & Kerry
NECANN Co-Chairs

NEW MEMBERS



Teesside Deaf Children's Group

Teesside Deaf Children's Group is a local community group bringing together deaf children and their families across Teesside.

The aim is to help families feel less isolated and more connected, particularly because deaf children can sometimes be the only deaf child in their school or local community.

The group is about connection, belonging and having fun - while also creating opportunities to raise awareness of deafness and improve connections between families, professionals and local organisations.

teesside.dcg@gmail.com

My Max Card



MAX Card is the UK's leading discount card scheme supporting families of children and young people with SEND, looked-after and fostered children, and young Carers.

Cardholders can access free or discounted admission and exclusive offers at participating attractions and venues across the UK, including family attractions, zoos, museums, leisure activities, soft play, bowling and many more.

MAX Card is designed to make days out more affordable and accessible, giving children, young people and their families more opportunities to enjoy experiences together and create positive memories.

The card is issued to the eligible child or young person and can be used at participating venues when they are present. Offers vary between venues, so members can search the MAX Card website to discover participating attractions and check the latest offer before visiting.

MAX Card benefits include:

- *Access to discounts and offers at participating venues across the UK
- *Savings on family days out and activities
- *Offers from both local and national attractions
- *An easy-to-use online venue search

*Access to additional partner offers and benefits

MAX Cards are available through participating local authorities, charities and other approved distributor organisations.

<https://mymaxcard.co.uk/>



1Voice - Communicating Together

Meet AAC role models and connect with an AAC community

1Voice is a small UK charity providing social connection and networking for AAC users, their families and those who support them.

We welcome people at any stage of their communication journey.

At our events, we learn from and inspire each other, develop communication confidence and have fun. Come along to meet AAC role models and others navigating life with AAC.

We are always looking for volunteers to help run events.

Our members' communication needs arise from a range of conditions, including cerebral palsy, brain injury or autism. Many also use wheelchairs or other mobility aids.

<https://www.1voice.info/>

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/>

RESEARCH

Help Shape Future Support for Neurodivergent Young People

Children NE are currently gathering feedback from young people who are waiting for a neurodivergence assessment, as well as parents and carers supporting them.

The survey aims to better understand people's experiences while waiting for assessment and to identify the types of support families would like to see available in the future. The feedback received will help inform future services and opportunities for support. Please share the survey link with anyone who you think may be interested in taking part!

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=QdbNuFvsBU2v421lqn9TvoE8JTm-uYdCnN4eeIF1D5tUOUtZQkRIVIJGRzQ2OUtUR1ZNMJJCSjFFWC4u&origin=QRCode>

INFO AND EVENTS - REGIONAL

BFI Film Academy Course - Opportunity

[Beacon Films](#), based in Newcastle upon Tyne are an award-winning film production company composed of disabled and/or neurodivergent filmmakers. Their BFI Film Academy North East course is NOW open for applications and starts in October. The course is free and suitable for young people aged 16-19, and adults aged 20-25 who are disabled and/or neurodivergent and passionate about film. No experience is necessary to take part! And they also offer bursaries to support participants' access and travel needs. The deadline to apply is 10th October. Here is [a link to their Film Academy webpage](#) with details about the opportunity and how to apply. We have also attached their flyer to this email.



BFI Film Academy North East

- 9 days of film making
- Weekends only!
- 12 FREE places available

To be eligible to apply you MUST:

- live in North East England
- be aged, 16 - 19 or 20 - 25 with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)
- NOT be enrolled at University at the start of the course

INTERESTED?

To apply, please BOOK onto one of our Taster & Application sessions on: **Saturday 10th October**

You can do this online at:
www.beaconfilms.org.uk/filmacademy

ACCESS & TRAVEL?

If awarded a place on the BFI Film Academy, you can apply for a bursary to cover access needs and travel costs. Conditions apply.

QUESTIONS?

please email: filmacademy@beaconfilms.org.uk
or telephone: 0191 580 7000

BFI Film Academy North East is delivered by:

BEACON FILMS

in partnership with Tyneside Cinema supported by the UK Government and National Lottery funding.

Funded by UK Government

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

Personal Care Challenges for Autistic Young People

The Toby Henderson Trust is hosting an informative online session designed for parents and carers who find daily personal care routines challenging with their child.

Presented by Specialist Occupational Therapist and Sensory Integration Practitioner **Sophie Pearson**, this session will cover common difficulties experienced by autistic children and offer practical advice to help your child feel more confident and supported in managing their care routines.

✨ Details:

- **When:** Thursday 1st October 2026 | 10:00am – 11:30am
- **Where:** Online via Zoom
- **Who it's for:** Parents and carers of autistic children and young people

📖 How to book:

- **Website:** www.ttht.co.uk
- **Email:** admin@ttht.co.uk
- **Phone:** 0300 365 3055

The Toby Henderson Trust

Personal Care Challenges for Autistic Young People

Thursday 1st October 2026
10am-11.30am

This session will be presented by Specialist Occupational Therapist and Sensory Integration Practitioner, Sophie Pearson via Zoom. The session is aimed at parents/carers who find personal care routines a challenge with their child. We will cover common difficulties experienced by autistic children and offer helpful and practical advice that you as a parent/carer can use to support your child to feel more confident and supported in completing their own personal care routines.

Book your place

To register for this event please book via our website: www.ttht.co.uk. Alternatively, you can register your interest with our team by emailing admin@ttht.co.uk or by calling 0300 365 3055.

Scan here to view this event on our website

QR code

BODY WASH

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

Calling all South Tyneside families, professionals & residence

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

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

When: Tuesday 20th October 2026

Where: Autism Hub, Gordon St, South Shields.

Time: 10am – 12pm

No booking required, just pop along.



We have a New FREE service - Toby Henderson Trust - POST Diagnosis Support

For all families with a Northumberland post code whose child or young person (up to the age of 18 years) is currently on the neuro developmental pathway for assessment, we have been offering our POST Diagnostic Specialist Support together with monthly peer support groups called "Time to Talk" at Toby House – [Northumberland Post Diagnostic Support - Time to Talk - The Toby Henderson Trust](#)

We now have new free PRE Diagnostic Specialist Support Service and also run a new monthly peer support group called “Toby’s Take A Break” at Toby House. Check out the new webpage – [Northumberland Autism Pre Diagnostic Support - The Toby Henderson Trust](#)

Pre, During & Post Autism Diagnosis Parent Support Group

The Toby Henderson Trust is hosting monthly support group sessions for all parents and carers, regardless of where you live. It’s a welcoming space to connect with other families, share experiences, and receive practical advice around key topics.

 **Location:** Gosforth Civic Theatre, Regent Farm Road, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 3HD



Upcoming Sessions (1:30pm – 3:00pm):

- **Tuesday 1st September:** *Self Care and crafts before the return to school* (open to parents, children, and young people)
- **Tuesday 6th October:** *Sleep Issues* (parents only)
- **Tuesday 3rd November:** *Toileting Issues* (parents only)
- **Tuesday 8th December:** *Preparing for Christmas* (parents only)



Booking Info: Places must be booked in advance to attend.

- **Email:** admin@ttht.co.uk
- **Phone:** 0300 365 3055

The Toby Henderson Trust

Pre, During & Post Autism Diagnosis Parent Support Group

Open to all parents and carers, regardless of where you live, this monthly group will offer the chance to connect with other families. Each session will focus on a key theme, providing information, and practical advice.

Our upcoming groups in 2026...

Tuesday 1st September at 1.30pm -3pm
Self Care and crafts before the return to school for parents,
children and young people

Tuesday 6th October at 1.30pm -3pm
Sleep Issues - parents only

Tuesday 3rd November at 1.30pm -3pm
Toileting Issues - parents only

Tuesday 8th December at 1.30pm -3pm
Preparing for Christmas - parents only

Groups are held at Gosforth Civic Theatre, Regent Farm Road,
Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 3HD.

Places need to be booked to attend. We would love to see you!
If you'd like to join us, please email us at: admin@ttht.co.uk or
call us on 0300 365 3055.





The Toby Henderson Trust
BOOK CLUB

Join us once a month at Toby House for a Book Club for parents of Autistic children.

Each month, we'll explore a theme related to Autism, with a selection of books to browse and discuss. Unlike traditional book clubs, there's no need to read a specific book beforehand, just come along, share thoughts, and discover new reads. Parents are welcome to bring books related to the theme to share.

Location: Toby House, Earth Balance Bedlington, Northumberland, NE22 7AD.
Scan here to view all events and to book your place.
Alternatively, email support@ttht.co.uk or call on 0300 365 3055.



Dates for our Book Club!

- ~~Managing Meltdowns: Thursday 3rd March 1pm-2pm~~
- ~~PDA Parenting: Thursday 2nd April 1pm-2pm~~
- ~~AutDHD: Thursday 7th May 1pm-2pm~~
- ~~Parenting when you're Autistic: Thursday 4th June 1pm-2pm~~
- ~~Explaining Autism to Children: Thursday 4th June 1pm-2pm~~
- ~~Emotional Regulation: Thursday 3rd September 1pm-2pm~~
- ~~Diagnosed Autistic later in life: Thursday 1st October 1pm-2pm~~
- ~~Stimming: Thursday 5th November 1pm-2pm~~
- ~~An Autistic Christmas: Thursday 3rd December 1pm-2pm~~

Introduction to Makaton workshop for families

TTHT are offering a free 'Introduction to Makaton' Family Workshop on Tuesday 6th October, 10.00am-12.30pm at the Autism Hub, delivered by Makaton Tutor Anna Melling from Talk to the Hand Makaton Training (limited places available).

Please see event poster for full details.

*Please note, this is the same Introductory session that was delivered last year, but due to the high volume of interest we have decided to run it again.

To book a place, families will need to email autismhub@ttht.co.uk places are limited, they will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

The SEND Club United Launch

Dear Professionals and Organisations,

We're delighted to announce in Collaboration with The SEND Club CIC : the launch of The SEND Club United and invite you to be part of something special.

 Saturday 7th November 2026

 12:30pm – 4:30pm

 Newcastle United Foundation

More than a club, uniting the heart of the SEND community.

This exciting event will bring together families, young people, professionals, community organisations and local partners to celebrate inclusion, build connections and shape a stronger future for the SEND community.

Whether you're a parent, carer, professional, volunteer, organisation or someone passionate about inclusion, we'd love to hear from you.

Register Your Interest

Please complete our short Interest Form to:

- Receive event updates
- Be first to know when tickets are released
- Tell us how you'd like to be involved
- Share any accessibility requirements
- Express interest in volunteering, exhibiting or partnering

 Complete the Interest Form here:

[The SEND Club - Professional/Volunteer Vendors – Fill out form](#)

A day of inclusion, connection and community for the whole SEND family.

 Newcastle United Foundation

 Saturday 7th November 2026

 12:30pm – 4:30pm

 Tickets are completely FREE.

We're a not-for-profit CIC, so if you're able to make a small donation when booking, every penny goes straight back into The SEND Club and our SEND community. ❤️

 REGISTER NOW:

Get your FREE tickets here 

https://www.abler.io/shop/newcastleunitedfoundation/disability/product/Q2x1YINlcnZpY2U6NjUwNzg=?fbclid=IwY2xjawUMtKNwZG9mAWV4dG4DYWVtAjEwAGJyaWQRMDVSckVhMWFQckc2Znl uQ2xzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjIwMzIxMjAwODkyAAEv2I-9AxYhxGPvP1hRn8jMA_M4VGA-NoF WPQD8HmO5JdRjdiRqrdHZ9hMf4c_aem_vzQd-bqgX4dLSqdgtIGGdw



MORE THAN A CLUB,
UNITING THE HEART OF THE SEND COMMUNITY



SATURDAY 7TH
NOVEMBER 2026
12:30-4:30PM

TICKETS ONLINE NOW
BOOKING LINK BELOW

Bringing together SEND children with their families,
siblings and carers for a welcoming afternoon of fun!

- Inclusive activities and sport
- Wellbeing and movement
- Arts and creative activities
- Sensory activities
- Quiet/sensory spaces
- SEND organisations, services and professionals
- Guest speakers
- Meet & greets
- Refreshments
- Raffles/prizes
- Lots of other surprises that we can reveal as we get closer!



Sponsored by



SEND Exclusive Hire: Santa Express Train with The Sensory Place!

Looking for a festive experience tailored for families with additional needs? The Sensory Place has organised an exclusive SEND hire of the magical Santa Express Train at Stephenson Steam Railway in North Shields.

Quieter carriages are also available to help ensure a calm, comfortable, and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Date: Saturday 19th December 2026

Time: 9:30am

Location: Stephenson Steam Railway, North Shields

Cost: £12.50 per person

Spaces are limited, so early booking is recommended.

Book online via The Sensory Place website:

<https://thesensoryplace.net/book-online>



Useful Vision Lending Library at The Lemington Centre

Healthworks and Useful Vision offer a fantastic, free toy and resource lending service for families who have a child with a visual impairment.

The library has a wide selection of sensory toys, musical instruments, and interactive resources designed to support development and play. It is a great way to try out different items at home.

Supported by NAPI and Children & Families Newcastle.

Location: The Lemington Centre

How to borrow: To borrow an item or find out more about the resources available, please email usefulvision@hwn.org.uk.



LENDING LIBRARY

At The Lemington Centre

Resource Library

A free toy and resource lending service for families who have a child with a visual impairment.



Contact usefulvision@hwn.org.uk to borrow an item



Free Cancer Awareness Support from Healthworks

Healthworks, the community health charity, offers a wide range of free cancer awareness services for companies, community groups, and organisations.

Services include:

- 45-minute cancer awareness talks
- Cancer awareness stalls
- Online cancer awareness training
- Cancer Champions training courses (free across Newcastle and Gateshead; a small charge may apply outside these areas)

Whether you want to arrange a talk for your team, host an information stall, or upskill staff through champion training, Healthworks can help support your community or workplace.

Contact the team to find out more: Phone: 0191 264 1959 Email: cancerawareness@hwn.org.uk
Website: <https://www.healthworksne.org.uk> (You can also scan the QR code on the flyer for full details)



The flyer features the Healthworks logo at the top, followed by the text 'the community health charity'. Below this, the words 'CANCER AWARENESS' are written in large, bold, blue capital letters. Underneath, an orange banner contains the text 'WHAT WE OFFER'. To the left of a photo, text states: 'Healthworks offers a wide range of free cancer awareness services for companies, community groups, and organisations, including:'. To the right is a photo of two women at a stall. Below the photo, a list of services is provided. At the bottom, a dark blue section contains contact information: a phone icon with '0191 264 1959', an email icon with 'cancerawareness@hwn.org.uk', a globe icon with 'www.healthworksne.org.uk', and a QR code with the text 'SCAN ME'. A small footnote at the bottom reads: '*There may be a small charge if you are outside of Newcastle or Gateshead'.

Healthworks
the community health charity

CANCER AWARENESS

WHAT WE OFFER

Healthworks offers a wide range of free cancer awareness services for companies, community groups, and organisations, including:

- 45 minute cancer awareness talks
- Cancer awareness stalls
- Online cancer awareness training
- Cancer Champions training courses*

Contact the team for more info

0191 264 1959

cancerawareness@hwn.org.uk

www.healthworksne.org.uk

SCAN ME

*There may be a small charge if you are outside of Newcastle or Gateshead

Hadrian Education and Development Services - Upcoming Events

Hadrian Education and Development Services



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

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

Training for Parents/Carers

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

21st October 2026 - Behaviour as a form of Communication

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

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

24th November 2026 - Sleep Training

Causes of sleep disturbance in children. Methods for addressing these issues, including using natural therapies. Ways to manage parent's feelings about sleep problems. Parents will be able to discuss issues together in a supportive environment, and learn from each other too.

There is no single 'cure' or approach that will guarantee their children will sleep through, however the approaches we discuss can be applied in a person centred way to hopefully bring some help to every family.

26th January 2027 – Complimentary Therapies

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

24th Feb - Sensory Loss

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

22nd March 2027 – Mental Health Awareness Training

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

23rd April 2027 - Introduction to Autism

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

26th May 2027 - ADHD Training

An introduction to what ADHD is and how people with ADHD may experience the world. Some common issues people with ADHD may have and ideas on how to support them. A celebration of neurodiversity and how being different can be positive for individuals and others.

30th June 2027 - Introduction to Epilepsy

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

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

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



Enriching the lives of disabled children, young people and their families.

Parent Carer Schedule Autumn/Winter 2026

Based in Southwick, Sunderland, Grace House provides dedicated support for children with disabilities, including those who are neurodiverse, and their families.

The activities featured in this flyer are designed to give parent carers a well-deserved break: a chance to unwind, enjoy some time for themselves, and connect with other parent carers in a friendly and relaxed environment.

To take part in any of these activities, simply register with us first. We'd love to hear from you, call us on 0191 435 2088.

If you're already registered, you can book on our website: www.gracehouse.co.uk

Monday

11am - 12noon Iyengar Yoga with Jane

Reduce stress and improve your wellbeing. £2

10am - 11am Book Club

First Monday of every month. A chance to read, explore and laugh. FREE

1.30pm - 2.30pm Mindful Movement

Based on the practice of Chi gung, a chance to relax and unwind. £2

4pm - 5.30pm Teatime Coffee Break

An opportunity to meet other parent carers and chat over a relaxed cuppa. FREE

Tuesday

10am - 11.30am Sound Relaxation (Gongbaths) Regular sessions. A gentle sound-based session to support relaxation, wellbeing, and calm. £7.50

10am - 12noon Sewing Group

Creative sewing project sessions (3 weeks per project) which are fun and relaxing. £3

4pm - 5.30pm Teatime Coffee Break

An opportunity to meet other parent carers and chat over a relaxed cuppa. FREE

www.gracehouse.co.uk

Charity No 100682

Grace House Half Term Activities

October Half term 2026 Activity Schedule

Monday 26th October from 10am – 11.30am

Get ready for some spooky, sensory fun! Join us for a Halloween-themed messy play session designed especially for disabled children aged 2-6 years and one of their parents or carers, where little ones can explore, play, and make magical memories in a safe and welcoming environment.

£5 per child.

Tuesday 27th October from 10am – 11.30am

Get ready for some spine-tingling science! Our Spooky Science Session for disabled children aged 7-11 years is packed with bubbling potions, creepy creations, and exciting experiments that make learning fun.

£5 per child

Wednesday 28th October from 10am – 11.30am

Squish, scoop, explore, and play! Join us for a Halloween Pumpkin Play session specially designed for disabled children up to 7 years old and one of their parent carers. Sensory fun, creative activities, and spooky smiles guaranteed!

£6 per child

Wednesday 28th October from 1pm – 3pm

Get into the Halloween spirit with our Pumpkin Picking & Carving Session! Designed for disabled children aged 8-16 years and one of their parent or carers, this hands-on activity offers the chance to pick from the Grace House pumpkin patch, decorate, and carve your own pumpkin while enjoying plenty of seasonal fun.

£6 per child

Thursday 29th October from 4pm – 6pm

Put on your spookiest outfit and join us for a Halloween party full of laughter, dancing, games, and ghoulishly good fun! Designed for disabled children and their siblings aged 4-10 years, this is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate Halloween and make magical memories with friends.

£5 per child

Parent carers are expected to stay at Grace House for the duration of the party.



To book activities: gracehouse.co.uk

Guide Dogs Time To Play

Do you have a child aged 0–4 with a vision impairment in the North East?

Guide Dogs is running their supportive My Time to Play programmes across the region, helping little ones build essential early movement, sensory skills, and confidence through play. It is also a welcoming space for parents and carers to connect and gain practical advice from early years specialists.

Upcoming programmes:

Hebburn (South Tyneside): Starts: October (runs fortnightly) When: Wednesdays, 1:30pm – 3:30pm Where: Hebburn Family Hub, Campbell Park Road, Hebburn, NE31 1QY

Chester-le-Street (County Durham): Starts: January When: Wednesdays, 10:00am – 11:30am Where: Chester-le-Street Family Hub, Grey Avenue, Chester-le-Street, DH2 2EL

More programmes are currently in development across the North East!

For specific start dates, session schedules, or to sign up, get in touch with the local team: Email: MTTPNewcastle@guidedogs.org.uk Call: 0800 781 1444 Learn more about the programme: <https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/mttp>



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

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

We offer fun and supportive group sessions to help your child develop the practical skills and confidence to explore their world – all through the power of play. You will meet other parents and pick up skills from our expert staff that will help you support your child's early development with confidence.

A programme will be held in January at:

Chester-Le-Street Family Hub, Grey Ave,
Chester-le-Street DH2 2EL

Time: Wednesday 10:00 - 11:30 am

More programmes are in development throughout the NorthEast.

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

or call 0800 781 1444 to sign up.

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





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

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

We offer fun and supportive group sessions to help your child develop the practical skills and confidence to explore their world – all through the power of play. You will meet other parents and pick up skills from our expert staff that will help you support your child's early development with confidence.

Our next programme will be held in October,

fortnightly at:

Hebburn Family Hub Campbell Park Rd,
Hebburn NE31 1QY,

Time: Wednesday 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Find out more at:

guidedogs.org.uk/mttp

or contact our local team at

MTTPNewcastle@guidedogs.org.uk

or call 0800 781 1444 to sign up.



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