



Short Breaks Service



For Children with Disabilities

Newsletter w/c 4th December 2023

This newsletter contains events and updates from various services around Halton, as well as other general information which you may find useful. You can find out more information on the [Halton Local Offer page online](#) or contact the [Short Breaks Service for Children with Disabilities](#) team too.

Halton SEND Parent Carer's Forum – December events and activities



Halton SEND Parent Carer's Forum have activities and events planned during December including their next school parent drop-in session at **Brookfields Primary this Wednesday 6th December 9.30am-11.30am**, and their Brunch Club for parents and carers on **Thursday 14th December between 11.30am and 1.30pm at Space Runcorn, Regent Street, Runcorn** with a free Christmas brunch!

Plus the next session of the SYNC club for young people aged 11-18 will be on **Saturday 16th December from 12pm-5pm** at Moon Meadow Scout Hut, Farnworth Street, Widnes – email infosync22@gmail.com to book your places.

They also have their latest online Zoom parent information workshop:

- **Thursday 7th December 7.30pm** with Sam Edwards from the Halton Borough Council Parenting team discussing what's on offer to support parents in our area
 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85637292121?pwd=RFFuNUhEZURIUGJQVFZsWS9NdVZ6dz09>
 - Meeting ID: 856 3729 2121 Passcode: 109954

If you are not a member of the Forum and want to join their zoom workshops, just email Jen on info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk for a membership form.

You can find out more about the Forum on [their Facebook page here](#) too.



What's on in December 2023



Date	Event	Time	Venue	Information
6/12/23	School Parent Drop in Session	9.30am-11.30am	Brookfields Primary School, Moorfield Road, Widnes, WA8 3JA	A chance to register with the forum, gain support, advice, and signposting in your child's own school. Meet other parents in your child's school experiencing the same issues. Have discussions with school SENCO's and staff.
7/12/2023	Sam Edwards -	7.30pm – 8.30pm	Zoom	Sam is part of the Team around the Family Division, Early Help, and Intervention. She oversees the Parenting Offer - so the evidence-based parenting programmes that we offer across the Borough including The Solihull Approach, The Nurturing Programme, Talking Teens Programme, Triple P (group, Teen and Stepping Stones), The Gateway Programme. She will be joining us to talk about these and what they offer to parents as well as a general overview of the team and what they do. Zoom Link https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85637292121?pwd=RFFuNUhEZURIUGJQVFZsWS9NdVZ6dz09 Meeting ID: 856 3729 2121 Passcode: 109954
14/12/2023	Brunch Club for Parents & Carers	11.30am – 1.30pm	Space Runcorn, Regent Street, Runcorn, WA7 1LJ	Come and join the HSPCF team, register with us and meet other parents on a similar journey. Learn from each other and each other's experiences. Gain knowledge to empower you on your journey. FREE Christmas brunch for Parent Carers.
16/12/2023	HSPCF SYNC Club Ages 11-18	12-5pm	Moonmeadow Scout Hut, Farnworth, WA8 9LH	This is a FREE SEND event – It must be booked via email and a place confirmed. Infosync22@gmail.com
21/12/2023	Forum Closes for Christmas break.			The forum will re-open 4/1/2023



Halton SEND Parent Carer's Forum

The Brunch Club

Thursday 14th December 11.30am – 1.30pm



Space Runcorn

50 Regent St, Runcorn WA7 1LJ

Come and join members and volunteers of Halton SEND Parent Carers Forum for **FREE** Christmas Brunch, with a chance to join the forum, meet other parent carers on a similar journey to yourself and support each other.

Our final meet up of 2024!

(We know how daunting attending for the first time, please contact Jen if you need any support to attend this session)

Email Jen – info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk for more information.



Halton Send Parent Carers Forum

Contact: 07889721234

WWW.Haltonsendcarersforum.org.uk

Email: info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk

contact

For families with disabled children

Vibe Outdoors Club – December activities



**Bouldering
(indoor climbing)**

Junior Club
vibe
outdoors

**Saturday 16th
December 2023**

**9:30am -
12:30pm**

**Transport
Provided**

**Age
8-11**

FREE

LIMITED SPACES!

Collection Points:

Runcorn: Old Police Station,
Mersey Road, WA7 1DF

Widnes: McDonalds Car Park,
Moor Lane, WA8 7AP

Halton Council funded, monthly Outdoor
Activity focused Junior Youth Club (8-11) for
SEND young people in Halton

Register now by clicking the
link or scanning the QR code:

**BOOK
HERE**



 **vibeuk.org**

   

This month the Vibe Outdoors Juniors and Seniors Club will be Bouldering (indoor climbing) as requested by the young people who attend the club! This will be on **Saturday 16th December** with the Juniors session running 9.30am to 12.30pm with the Seniors in the afternoon 1.30pm to 4.30pm (*not 9.30am as stated in the poster*).

As always, the pick-up points will be at the Old Police station in Mersey Road Runcorn, and at McDonalds Moor Lane Widnes.

To register scan the QR codes in the posters or [click here for the Juniors session](#) and [click here for the Seniors](#).

Bouldering (indoor climbing)

Senior Club
vibes
outdoors

**Saturday 16th
December 2023**

**9:30am -
12:30pm**

**Age
12-17**

**Transport
Provided**

FREE

LIMITED SPACES!

Collection Points:

Runcorn: Old Police Station,
Mersey Road, WA7 1DF

Widnes: McDonalds Car Park,
Moor Lane, WA8 7AP

Halton Council funded, monthly Outdoor
Activity focused Senior Youth Club (12-17) for
SEND young people in Halton

Register now by clicking the
link or scanning the QR code:

**BOOK
HERE**



**disability
confident**
COMMITTED

vibeuk.org

HALTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

HALTON
HIGH
SCHOOL

vibes

AALA

Activities at Halton Libraries

Keep warm this Christmas at your local library. We've got lots to keep you entertained!

MONDAY:

Rhymetime at HALTON LEA from 11-11:45

A Good Yarn at RUNCORN from 2-3:30pm

Bring along your latest craft project and chat and craft together.

Lego Club at DITTON from 3-5pm

TUESDAY:

Dungeons and Dragons Club at HALTON LEA
from 4-5:30 (over 13year olds)

Rhymetime at RUNCORN and DITTON at 11am

Lego Club at WIDNES and HALTON LEA from 3:00—5pm

WEDNESDAY:

You can do I.T! - drop in and get some help on all things IT!

HALTON LEA from 10:30 -12:00

And NEW at WIDNES too from 10:30

Family History Help Group at HALTON LEA 1-4pm

As always, there's lots going on at Halton Libraries this week, including Lego Clubs in Ditton, Halton Lea, and Widnes Libraries, and the Dungeons and Dragons club for young people aged 13+ at Halton Lea every Tuesday from 4pm-5.30pm.

Plus, there's one for the adults too with the 'You can do I.T.' drop-in sessions at either Halton Lea or Widnes Libraries on Wednesdays from 10.30am-12pm.

Check out [their website here](#) or visit [their Facebook page](#) for more information.

WearShare at Palcaefields Community Centre

**Palace Fields Community Centre
Runcorn WA7 2UA**

WearShare

**Every Friday
9.30am-11am**

**Pre-loved clothes all free -
just bring a bag**

**Nice selection of children's
wear, school uniform, ladies
wear, shoes - some items
still with tags**

Cadent



Riverside

Another community initiative brought to you by Four Estates, Charity No 1090795

Four Estates have set up their WearShare sessions **every Friday 9.30am-11am at Palacefields Community Centre**, Runcorn. There are pre-loved clothes which are all free!

If you have clothes to donate you can drop any donations off at either community centres Palace fields or Halton Brook community centres or contact the Four Estates team through [their Facebook page here](#) to arrange collection.

Cheshire Autism Practical Support - ChAPs



Cheshire Autism Practical Support (ChAPS) is a registered charity who offer practical advice, support and services across Cheshire for families of young people with Autism Spectrum Condition or Asperger's Syndrome whether diagnosed or not.

They run monthly parents meetings, positive parenting courses helping with behaviour, anxiety etc., activities for children, young people and adults on the spectrum, and lots more.

You can read their regular newsletters which include details and information on all their activities. A copy of the December newsletter is attached to this email.

For more information on ChAPS you can **check out their website here**, or call **0344 850 8607**, or drop them an email at **info@cheshireautism.org.uk** .

You can also request to **join their Facebook page** where you'll find support, advice and signposting – please note this a private group and only parents will be given access once you are a ChAPS member; no professionals will be admitted.

The Autism Wellbeing Project for young people aged 16+



The Autism Wellbeing Project is a new non-profit organisation dedicated to supporting autistic adults in Halton and the surrounding areas. They support anyone aged 16+, whether diagnosed or not, and are based in Runcorn, although their online support can be accessed from anywhere.

A copy of their December newsletter is attached, and you can find out more by visiting **their website here** or check out **their Facebook page here**.

Halton Carers Centre – Parent Carer groups

Halton Carers Centre are running their drop-in group for parents and carers of young people up to 25 years with SEND at **Halton Lea Library on Friday December 8th**, from 1.15pm and concluding by 2.30pm. Swing by for valuable information, friendly advice, and, of course, a good old chat. Plus, they might just sneak in a mince pie or two!

The Centre also have their Parent Carer Support Groups. The next gathering in CHI Community Café in Phoenix Park Runcorn is set for **Friday January 26th from 12-2pm**, and they have a special guest, Lorna from the YES trust, who will be sharing insights about the new School in Widnes opening in September 2024 for students aged 11-16 with SEMH needs.

For those unable to attend in person, Lorna will also be hosting via Zoom on Thursday, January 11th at 6:30pm. Please email tracey.strain@haltoncarers.co.uk to receive the joining code closer to the date.



Parent Carer Drop In

Are you caring for a child/young person under 25yrs who have special education needs and/or disabilities (SEND) Each month we hold a drop in session to give parent carers the opportunity to come and chat about any difficulties you or your child/young person are facing in a quieter setting.

You can access this session alongside our monthly Parent Carer Coffee group which is hel at Chi Community Cafe, Runcorn. Contact us for more details on this group.



***This session is held the
2nd Friday of the month
1.15pm - 2.30pm
Floor 2 at Halton Lea
Library, Runcorn***

For more information call us on 01928 580182

Halton Carers Centre is registered in England & Wales as a Registered Charity Number: 1124493
Company limited by Guarantee No: 06574889



And don't forget they have two **fantastic workshops for parent carers coming up in February and March 2024** including a Tourettes/Tic workshop for parent carers being hosted by Tourettes Action, and a Sensory Workshop hosted by Shine Therapy (this workshop will be a full day event for parents to attend, the date is to be confirmed but will be a Saturday) – find out more on [their Facebook page here](#).

Christmas holiday activities across Halton



There are lots of **FREE activities** during the Christmas holiday period for school aged children, from **Reception to Year 11**, who receive benefits-related to free school meals.

There are also a number of places available to other vulnerable groups of children and young people, such as SEND, Young Carers, and young people not in education, employment or training (NEET). Most of the activities include a **FREE Lunch each day**.

Activities are available in both Runcorn and Widnes and include lots of different activities. Here's a selection below of some of the activities on offer, and we'll continue to update these through our newsletter as we approach Christmas.

You can also [click on this link](#) for a full up-to-date list of the activities and a google map showing the areas in Halton where activities will be taking place long with the providers contact details and information on accessibility for children and young people with SEND (the table with the list of SEND keys is below).

You can also find out more information on the [Halton Local Offer page online](#) or contact the [Short Breaks Service for Children with Disabilities](#) team too.

Halton Local Offer

SEND Keys – Youth Provision

Want to find out if the provision offers activities for children and young people with SEND?

Check out the table below for the SEND Keys guide

Activities can offer SEND specific and SEND accessible activities for children and young people across the youth programme

SS – SEND Specific:	Solely for children and young people with SEND and their families
S – SEND Friendly:	Venue or event where providers have general SEND awareness and small adjustments can be made
SA - SEND Accessible:	Physically accessible venue or event
F – Family Friendly:	Accessible for all families

The Jinnie Tong School of Dance are hosting free activities for Halton children age 4-16yrs old, at CRMZ in Widnes, over the holiday period. Find out more on [their Facebook page here](#) and contact Jinnie on **07774 184818** or email Jinnietongschoolofdance@yahoo.com to book your places!



CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CLUB

22ND DECEMBER
27TH DECEMBER
28TH DECEMBER
29TH DECEMBER

9AM
TILL
1PM



FOR AGES
4-16
YEARS

SEND KEY-
SA,S,F

LOCATION

THE CRMZ, KINGSWAY, WIDNES

CONTACT:

JINNIE - 07774184818
JINIETONGSCHOOLFDANCE@YAHOO.COM



CHI COMMUNITY CAFE

CHRISTMAS HAF

JOIN US FOR A JOLLY
GOOD TIME!

22ND | 23RD | 29TH | 30TH DECEMBER

ACTIVITIES FOR 4 - 16 YEAR OLDS:

22nd December - Christmas Film

23rd December - Christmas Activity & Food Pack (collect between 10am-12pm to take home)

29th December - Christmas Party

30th December - Animal Teach

Session Times 11am-12.30pm Send Specific | 1pm-3pm Family Friendly (accessible for all)

BOOKING DETAILS:

Email us at hafatchi@hotmail.com
or speak to a member of the cafe team

HO-HO-HOPE TO SEE
YOU THERE!



CHI COMMUNITY CAFE
PHOENIX PARK, RUNCORN

The team at CHI Community Café in Phoenix Park, Runcorn are hosting a variety of activities for young people aged from 4-16 over the Christmas holidays. Check out [their Facebook page here](#) for more information, or you can email hafatchi@hotmail.com or simply drop into the café to find out more!



HEALTH AND WELLBEING WINTER ACTIVITY CAMPS

At Ormiston Chadwick Academy, Liverpool Road, Widnes

FUNDED AND NON
FUNDED PACES
AVAILABLE

ALL SEND
CHILDREN
WELCOME

Activities Included:

Multi sports - Football, Basketball, Yoga,
Boxing, Archery, Dodgeball, Dance,
Gymnastics

Learning - Nutrition, Sleep, Mental Health
and Resilience workshops

Creativity - Lego, Art, Crafts, Jig Saw
challenges, Board Games, Chill Zones

22ND / 27TH /
28TH DEC

2ND JAN

9AM START
3PM FINISH



FOR BOOKING AND FURTHER INFO VISIT -

<https://seanbaileywellness.com/community-camps-widnes/>



The team at Sean Bailey Wellness are running their popular health and wellbeing activity camps on several dates over the Christmas holidays at Ormiston Chadwick Academy, Widnes. For more information and to book your places [check out their website here.](https://seanbaileywellness.com/community-camps-widnes/)

Prince's Trust personal development course for 16-25 year olds



Prince's Trust

The Prince's Trust team are recruiting for their next 12-week Personal Development Programme which is delivered by Cheshire Fire and Rescue from Runcorn Fire station.

This programme is FREE for young people aged 16-25 years who are not in education, employment or training and aims to develop confidence, self-esteem, teamwork and employability skills putting young people in a better position to progress into future employment, education or training.

The next team programme is starting on **Monday 29th January 2024**, [visit the website here](#) for more information or email keith.barker@cheshirefire.gov.uk / Liz.Ardolino@cheshirefire.gov.uk to find out more.

Accessing Short Breaks information on the Halton Local Offer

Halton Local Offer



Don't forget you can access our Short Breaks page on the Local Offer by scanning this QR code here or [click this link](#).



Here you'll find lots of useful information and resources, while [the Leisure page here](#) has details of activities and events across Widnes and Runcorn

And your feedback and suggestions help us to keep improving the Halton Local Offer for families across our borough – [click here to share your feedback!](#)

MAX cards

Don't forget that Max Cards are available for our families in Halton all year round.

The card is designed to help families save money on great days out at castles, zoos, bowling alleys and more.



You can visit the [MAX Card website](#) for further details or check out [the Local Offer](#). Cards cost £2.50 and can be collected from Warrington Road Children's Centre in Widnes, or Glendale Family Centre in Runcorn (available Monday to Friday 9am to 4.30pm – please note, it is cash payments only).

You can email AimingHigh.forDisabledChildren@halton.gov.uk or call 0151 511 6560 for more details.

This newsletter provides general information and resources for parents and carers of young people with SEND, and for professionals who support them. Please note, while we take every care to ensure the information we share is accurate the information provided is not a direct recommendation from the Short Breaks Service and we recommend that you complete your own research about the information and events we signpost.

We recognise that not all the information in this newsletter will be relevant to everyone included on the mailing list. If there is some specific information you would like to see more of, or information from a certain service that you'd like to share please let the Short Breaks Service know and we will try to include it next time. If you do not wish to continue receiving this newsletter, please let us know by contacting us at the email address or phone number below.

Halton Borough Council

Short Breaks Service for Children with Disabilities

Email: AimingHigh.forDisabledChildren@halton.gov.uk

Tel: **0151 511 6560**