



Short Breaks Service



For Children with Disabilities

Newsletter w/c 16th October 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 – October events and activities



Halton SEND Parent Carer's Forum have lots of events planned throughout October including their latest **parent drop in sessions on Wednesday 18th October 9.30am-11.30am** at Cavendish High School, and on **Wednesday 25th October 9.30am-11.30am** at St. Mary's School, Runcorn.

They also have their Calm and Connected coffee morning for parents and carers on **Thursday 19th October 9.30am-11.30am** at The Community Shop, Priory House, Runcorn

The Forum also has their next online Zoom parent information workshop:

- **Wednesday 25th October 7.30pm Public Health England with Leigh Hammad.** A discussion on the unmet needs and current gaps in services across Halton.
 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86199768868?pwd=WEtLUy9EWmRiNkQ3T0NFZVN0UE90dz09>
 - Meeting ID: 861 9976 8868 Passcode: 019751

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.

Check out their full list of events and sessions in the calendar below.

Date	Event	Time	Venue	Information
18/10/2023	School Parent Drop in Session	9.30am-11.30am	Cavendish High School, Lincoln Close, WA7 4YX	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.
18/10/2023	Family cooking session	5pm – 7pm	Zoom	Fully Booked – email info@haltontsendpcf.org.uk to book onto available sessions.
19/10/2023	Coffee Cake and Chat event	9.30am-11.30am	The community Shop. Priory House, Northway, Palacefields, WA7 2FS	Come and join the HSPCF team, register with us and meet other parents on their journey. Learn from each other and each other's experiences. Gain knowledge to empower you on your journey.
20/10/2023	Hummingbird SEND Art session, Family with Pizza.	5pm -7pm	Hummingbird Art Studio The Village Hall, 12 Main St, Halton, Runcorn WA7 2AN	Bookable event – Fully booked.
25/10/2023	School Parent Drop in Session	9.30am-11.30am	St Marys School, Castlefields Avenue South, WA7 2NR	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 senos and staff.
25/10/2023	Public Health England Zoom	7.30pm – 8.30pm	Zoom	Leigh Hammad is a Commissioning Manager from Public Health, and she will be coming on to discuss a response to the unmet needs, service gaps & opportunities form that was filled completed by a HSPCF representative highlighting the unmet needs and current gaps in services across Halton. Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86199768868?pwd=WETLUy9EWmRiNkQ3TONFZVN0UE90dz09 Meeting ID: 861 9976 8868 Passcode: 019751
26/10/2023	Brunch Club for Parents & Carers	11.00am – 1.00pm	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 – Calm & Connected Coffee Morning

Thursday 19th October 2023 9.30am – 11.30am



****NEW VENUE****

The Community Shop

Priory House, Northway, Palace fields, Runcorn WA7 2FS.

Come and join us for some much-needed coffee, cake, chat and support. Meet some of our team for mindfulness, positivity, wellbeing information. You will also meet other local parents in a warm, welcoming, and supportive environment, you are not alone.

(We know how daunting attending for the first time, please contact Jen at HSPCF 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

SEND R US Dungeons and Dragons Club



SEND R US CIC



Dungeons & Dragons



For individuals age 13 and over with SEND

Embark on a fantastical quest with us in the world of Dungeons and Dragons. Join our enchanted guild for an adventure of a lifetime at our complimentary club.

Places are limited so message us to book your spot



SEND R US CIC



sendrus@mail.com



Tuesday 24th October
6.30pm-8pm
Upton Community Centre



SEND R US are hosting a Dungeons and Dragons Club for young people aged 13+ on **Tuesday 24th October 6.30pm-8pm** at Upton Community Centre Widnes.

Places are limited so please message the team through [their Facebook page here](#) or you can email sendrus@mail.com.

Pixel Art and Badge Making with Mako Create



HALTON SHORT BREAKS

PIXEL ART + *Pin Badge Making*

**FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN HALTON (AGED 8-17)
WITH A DISABILITY/ ADDITIONAL NEEDS**

HALTON AIMING HIGH
FOR DISABLED CHILDREN

Mako CREATE

HALTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Join Mako Create for their free Pixel Art and badge-making session for young people aged 8-17 on **Saturday 11th November 10am-12noon** at The Studio Widnes.

Young people will learn how to create artwork using pixels; small, coloured squares that combine to create a larger image and then transfer their designs onto wearable pin badges, which they will be free to take away at the end of the session.

[Click here to find out more and book your places!](#)

Halloween Disco at Warrington Play and Sensory Centre

Halloween Disco!



Play area
open!

£10 per ticket!
Includes sausage &
chips & drink

Come in your
fancy dress!



Preschool
Tuesday 31st
October
9:30am –
12:00pm



Members
Tuesday 31st
October
1.00pm-
3.30pm



Adults 13+
Tuesday 31st
October
4.00pm –
6.30pm

**Please book your places through the centre.
Places are limited, first come first served.**

Please be aware that there will be flashing / low level lighting and low level music at this event | Parent / carer supervision is required at all times, thank you.

Warrington Play and Sensory Centre are holding a Halloween Disco on **Tuesday 31st October**. Places are limited so contact the Centre on 01925 817347 or email sensorycentre@warrington.gov.uk to book your places. Find out more on [their website here](#) or check out [their Facebook page here](#).

Half-term Kids Eat Free offers



PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING THE OCTOBER HALF TERM 2023

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free



MORRISONS

Spend £4.49 and get one free kids meal all day, every day.

M&S CAFES

Spend £5 & get one free kid's meal Mon - Fri during the Oct Half term (various dates)

SAINSBURYS CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 All Day, Every Day at Asda cafes, with no adult spend required.

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

TRAVELODGE & PREMIER INN

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase any adult meal (Via App)

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

YO! SUSHI

From Monday 16th October - Friday 27th 2023 kids eat free with every £10 adult spend

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants

BILLS

2 kids eat FREE Monday - Friday from Monday 23rd October - Friday 3rd November 2023

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Mon to Thurs.

WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.

There are lots of Kids Eat Free or for £1 offers over October half-term – find out more on the [Money Saving Central website here](https://www.moneysavingcentral.co.uk) or check out [their Facebook page here](#).

NHS England launch Autism Central online support



A new website has been launched by NHS England in a bid to ensure autistic people, their families and carers can easily access support when they need it.

Autism Central is a new, free education programme which aims to build knowledge and understanding of autism, and empower families to advocate for autistic people to ensure they get the right care and support.

The website has information on topics such as diagnosis, employment and mental health, and signposts users to resources from partners (such as the National Autistic Society) and other trusted sources.

[Click here to access the website and find out more.](#)

Join in Halton's 'Big Conversation'



The Big Conversation is about all of us being a part of shaping what the future of Halton looks like.

It's about starting to talk about how, together, we can make Halton an even better place for people to live, work, visit and grow. It includes discussing what Halton Borough Council could do with the money that it has available, what we can do together as a community and what each of us may be able to do in our day to day lives, to make a difference.

Council Leader Cllr Mike Wharton says: "Let your voice be heard by taking part in our survey. Input from local people is crucial to help shape future policies and decisions. Your involvement will help us improve, and build brighter futures for our community."

Get involved today – complete the survey **before Thursday 30th November** to be in with a chance of winning a £100 gift voucher for The Brindley.

You can click here to find out more about The Big Conversation here, and you can complete the survey by clicking this link here or scan the QR code.



If you would like some help in completing the survey, please pop into any Halton Direct Link office, or one of Halton's libraries, where staff will be happy to provide assistance.

And Halton Borough Council also want to know **what children and young people** think of the place where they live too. Please help them to complete a **shorter version of the survey available by clicking this link here.**

Don't forget to share your lived experience of SEND in Halton

Halton Local Offer



Halton SEND and Inclusion Service are running 3 surveys during September and October relating to SEND Support Services across the Local Authority. The surveys will help the team to better understand the lived experience of SEND in Halton, allowing them to shape and improve future services.

They want to hear as many voices as possible, and the closing date is **Friday 20th October 2023.**

Who are the surveys for?

- Parents and Carers of any child with SEND in Halton;
- Children and young people with SEND in Halton;
- Colleagues in Schools and Educational Settings in Halton.

What are the benefits for completing the surveys?

In December 2023, the service will be submitting an application for a grant to improve the SEND system in Halton. By participating in this survey you will help to provide the SEND and Inclusion Service with a clear picture of your thoughts about the effectiveness of the SEND support children and young people receive in Halton.

Your information will tell them what is currently working and what areas may need improvement. The more feedback they receive – good or bad – the greater our prospects of improving services in the future.

This is your opportunity to help shape future SEND provision in Halton and the SEND and Inclusion Service would be very grateful for your assistance in completing the surveys. Thank you for your support!

Survey links:

- [Parent and Carers survey](#)
- [Children and Young People survey](#)
- [Schools and Educational settings survey](#)

[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](#)



With October half-term on the horizon 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 me know and I will try to include next time. If you do not wish to continue receiving this newsletter, please let me know.

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