

NEWS FROM THE CAN NETWORK



Welcome to the June/July issue of the CAN Newsletter and I hope this finds you well and enjoying the good weather. A warm welcome to all the new parents who have joined the CAN network. **Saturday 22 September** is the date for our annual Family Fun Day – renamed Local Offer Live Day. Venue is St Crispins Leisure Centre and there will be the usual free activities for children and young people and information stands from the local providers and a chance to come and talk to us. It is very important that we get feedback from parents about our Local Offer. This is the [link](#) to a new survey which we would really appreciate your participation to ensure we are meeting your needs and to improve our service. **Closing date is Friday July 6**. Please do take a few minutes to take part. I have also another request, this time from a parent looking for a tutor who has experience in working with ASD. If anyone has successfully used a tutor please could you email me. For details of all the activities and events go to the [Local Offer](#) Page or the [What's on guide](#), where you can find details of what is happening in our Borough for children and young people with Additional Needs.

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please email CAN.network@wokingham.gov.uk with the heading **unsubscribe** and I will remove your email address from your record. Here is the link to our [privacy statement](#). If you have any queries or comments or compliments please [email](#) or phone. Kind regards, Maria Walker. Tel: 01189746818

SEN Update. Find out what has been happening by reading the Special educational needs and disabilities updates Summer term 2018.

Sendiass are looking for volunteers. If you are interested please contact them to arrange an informal chat about what is involved. Tel: 0118 9088233 or email sendiass@wokingham.gov.uk

SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUBS

Thumbs up Holiday Club is now fully booked.

Standout for Autism runs a small holiday club in Maidenhead which is Autism Friendly. Telephone 07411260153 for more details.

Challengers Youthschemes Reading. Book online at the [Challengers Booking Website](#).

Call the Challengers Booking Line on **01483 230 939**, Telephone 01483 579 390 or Email information@disability-challengers.org.

[Holiday Clubs link](#)

ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

Bracknell Show ,Saturday 21 July 2018 12-5pm at Wildridings Playing Fields

Mini Beast Safari Saturday 7 July 1pm to 3pm, Dinton Pastures. Take a journey through the meadows and woodlands of Dinton Pastures with the rangers and discover the park's smallest inhabitants in their natural habitats. Ages 4+

Animal Ranger Days Monday 6 August - Friday 31 August, 10.30am - 3.00pm. Suitable for children age 7 years - 16 years. Cost £28.00 per child. A chance for your child to become an Animal Ranger for a day, looking after all our lovely animals at the Farm. Lots of different animals, including, pigs/Goats/Alpacos/Llama/Shetland Ponies/Ducks/Chickens/ Rabbits/Guinea , stick insects. They will get involved hands on with all the animals, cleaning, feeding, exercising and lots of petting and handling. A great fun educational day for children suitable for ages 7 - 16 years. For bookings contact : dawndingwall@btinternet.com

VIP Session (Formerly Chill Out Session). Tuesday 17 July, 5.30pm to 7pm, The Red Kite Children's Centre, Chestnut Avenue, Shinfield, RG2 9EJ. A session for parents and carers and their children who are on the pathway or diagnosed with Autism. Drop in for informal support and advice or just meet other parents and children. A light tea is provided. Parents are responsible for their children during the session

Dingley's Promise . Stay and Play, Friday 13 July from 1pm-2:30pm, All welcome. £2 (Voluntary donation) . Contact : Zora Morgan :zora.morgan@dingley.org.uk. All Saints School, Norrey's Avenue, Wokingham, RG40 1UX

Building for the Future, 3 July, 9:30am to 11:30am, Charles House, Toutley Rd, Wokingham RG41 1QN. A small, friendly and inclusive weekly playgroup for babies and children with any additional need or disability. No diagnosis necessary. A range of play activities and experiences provided, as well as the opportunity for parents to relax and meet other parents. Preschool age siblings very welcome. Telephone: 0118 978 8124. During school holidays we offer Stay & Play drop in sessions, enabling the whole family to relax at the Centre and enjoy our facilities, socialise and play.

Building for the Future Saturday Club, 11am to 1pm for children with a Physical disability and Down Syndrome. Children with Autism and similar additional needs at 3pm to 5pm. We hold Saturday clubs at Our House every third Saturday in the month. Children of all ages are welcome with activities, toys and games for all abilities. Teen chill-out, gaming, sensory room, accessible PC's, soft-play, free play, drinks and snacks provided. Siblings very welcome. Parent/carer must stay. Refreshments are provided. Contact admin@bfff.org.uk to book.

Smiles for Sibs Mondays, 4:15pm – 6:00pm (Term Time only), Woodley Airfield Community Centre, Hurricane Way, Woodley RG5 4UX . A group for siblings of children with a learning disability/ASC, aged 8 -13, to have fun and let off steam. Debora runs this group and can be contacted on 07584 582776 or contact the office on 0300 777 8539. £1 per session

Wiggly Worms at Brambles Children's Centre, Every Thursday, 9:30am to 11:30am, Budes Gardens, Wokingham. Relaxed and friendly play session for parents and their children who have been diagnosed as being on the autistic spectrum, or have been referred to the paediatrician for a diagnosis. Family Worker Kate will be there to support, along with other families who have had similar experiences to you. For more info call Kate on 07900071017

Reading Games Club Saturday, June 23, July 14, July 28, 2pm to 4pm, Emmer Green Youth & Community Centre, Grove Rd, Reading. This club is for children aged eight to 15 with an autism spectrum condition diagnosis, or on the CAMHS waiting list for an ASC assessment, and their siblings. It meets on the second and fourth Saturday of each month to play games and enjoy a range of other activities. There is a charge of £5 per child. For more information about the club and to book (essential) call 01189 594 594 or email contact@autismberkshire.org.uk

Peapods Saturday Club, Saturday 14 July 10.30am to 12 Noon, Twyford Scout Headquarters, Loddon Hall Road, Twyford, RG10 9JA Berkshire, RG41 1QN. Come along and relax, have a chat to other Peapods parents whilst the kids play. All the family is welcome (including extended family and carers). Peapods is a parent-led charity providing support to families with physically disabled children across Berkshire. For more details contact: angie@peapods.org.uk or phone Angie on 07765 896040.

ASD Family Help Family FUN Drop In Session, 2nd Wednesday of each month from 4.30pm to 6.30pm (Term Time Only) A fun free session for all children with Autism, ADHD, or other related conditions. A fun session to give the whole family the opportunity of an after school activity at Building for the Future, [Our House](#) . No booking is required for this activity, please drop in during the opening times. Contact: rachael@asdfamilyhelp.org

AUTISM FRIENDLY SCREENINGS

Bracknell Odeon's film is Solo: A Star Wars Story (12A) on Sunday 24th June, at 10:15am.

Vue's film is The Little Vampire on Sunday 24 June at 10:15am.

Showcase's screening is Patrick (PG) on Sunday 8th June at 10am

SPORTING ACTIVITIES

My Ability Football , Mondays, 5pm to 6pm , Bulmershe Leisure Centre, suitable for ages 5-16. Turn up and Play. £35 for ten week course. Contact Craig Peters on 01189072159 or email Daniel Rook: dbrook@readingfc.co.uk. Details of other groups on the website.

Bulmershe Gymnastics Club. Saturdays, 2.15pm to 3pm. Classes for children from 5+ with physical or learning disabilities or additional needs. (Term Times only)

Trampolining for children with additional needs, Mondays 5:30-7:30pm, Bohunt School, Aborfield , Ages 5 to 11, 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Ages 12 to 25 (Term Time only) Contact: sport@wokingham.gov.uk

Taijitsu Weekly Sessions for children (aged 5 to 18) with ASD or any other learning difficulty and their siblings . £2.50 per child. Sessions held in two venues: Friday evening 6:50pm to 8:00pm at Finchampstead Baptist Church and Monday 6:00pm to 7:00pm at Windmill Primary School, Fernlea Drive, Wokingham. Booking essential. Waiting list for Monday sessions. Contact Rachael@asdfamilyhelp.org

Kanga Calm, Wednesdays 1-2pm and Sundays 6pm-7pm. Relaxed trampolining session for those whom the noise of a standard bounce may be too much. Perfect for anyone with anxiety, autism or other access requirements. Open to all ages. Sundays 6-7pm (term Time only) Red Kangaroo trampoline park, 8 Bridgewater Close, Reading, RG30 1JT. For further information or to book a session, go to www.redkangaroo.co.uk

Autism Friendly Multi-Sports Sessions Mondays, 6.30pm -8pm. Maidenhead United Football Ground, York Rd, Maidenhead, SL6 1SF

ACTIVITIES FOR TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS

Youth Club @ Addington Wednesdays 7:00pm to 9:00pm. The Youth Club @ Addington School runs every Wednesday during term-time. Young people with learning disabilities between the ages of 13 (year 9) and 19 are welcome to come along for a fun filled evening.. Each week a variety of different activities are planned, including board games, sports, movie nights, pizza making, and more, plus a tuck shop. For more information, telephone the office on 0300 777 8539.

@ The Acorn, Bongos, Tuesday 26 June 2018, 19.00 to 21.00, Acorn Community Centre, Woosehill, Wokingham. A social group for people 16 years old and over, which includes those with complex and profound needs. They meet at 7 pm to 9 pm Tuesday evening, all year round. People have the opportunity to take part in activities such as wheelchair hockey, Frisbee, Zumba, music or just chill out and talk to friends. There is a small charge of £3 to cover refreshments. For further details please contact us on 0300 777 8539.

bPhap Saturday Youth Club, Saturdays, 9.30am to 1pm. MAPP Centre 22 Mount Pleasant, Reading. The purpose-built Berkshire Phab centre is open to children every Saturday. For children with and without disabilities. Activities include computers, arts, music, sensory room and outdoor play. £3 per session. There is also a week day club Monday to Thursday, 10am to 4pm. Aged 18 and over. £17 per day (part-day available), lunch £3.50

Challengers Youth Scheme Reading, Reading Youth schemes run every Saturday for ages 13 -18. 10am to 4:00pm . £21 per day. There are spaces at every Youth scheme for young people who need 1:1 support. If you are a new parent, you will first need to register with Challengers. To do that, visit our [Challengers Booking Website](#) or call the Booking Line on **01483 230 939**. You will then be asked to complete a 'First Visit' at Reading Youthscheme – this is so that you can meet the team and see the scheme in action. Once you have attended a First Visit, you will be able to book sessions for all Challengers Youthschemes, including Reading.

Paul's Karaoke, Wednesdays, 7.30pm to 9:00pm, Rose Room, Bradbury Centre, Wokingham RG40 1XS. This group is for adults aged 16+ with a learning disability and meets twice a month from 7.30 pm to 9 pm, at the Rose Room, Rose Street Methodist Church, Wokingham and they do what it says – sing! costs. Soft Drink and Snacks provided. For further details contact 0300 777 8539 or admin@wokinghamencap.org

Three Frogs Club Social group for adults (18 plus) with Aspergers or Autism & their partners, friends or carers. 7pm to 10.30pm usually on the 3rd Thursday of the month. At Three Frogs Pub in Wokingham. contact@asdfamilyhelp.org

197 Club . Saturday, June 23: First summer walk, Reading to Burghfield. Meet at Starbucks in The Oracle Centre at 11am. This is a social group for over 18s, who have a diagnosis of an autism spectrum condition and their carers. For more details, contact the office on 01189 594 594 or email 197club@autismberkshire.org.uk

Level Up club , Saturday 7 July, 21 July 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm, Emmer Green Youth & Community Centre , Grove Road, Reading, RG4 8LN The club is open to young people aged 16 to 25 with autism spectrum conditions who live in Berkshire. It meets on the first and third Saturdays of each month to play video and board games, including Pokemon TCG. There is a charge of £5 per person, per meeting. For more information about the group or to request an application form, call 01189 594 594 or email contact@autismberkshire.org.uk

The Friday Alternative, Wokingham. Meal and drinks. Twice a month social group for adults aged 16+ with Asperger Syndrome or high functioning Autism. The group meets every second Wednesday evening in a community setting and the last Friday of each month at Ye Olde Leathern Bottel, Barkham Road, Wokingham. The group usually meets between 7 pm and 9 pm but times vary depending on activity. Participants enjoy various activities such as pub meals, visits to museums, bowling, cinema trips and outings. The group members choose the activities. Please note that there is an annual charge of £60 to attend Friday Alternative. This can be paid in 2 instalments. This fee helps to cover the cost of staffing the group. For further details please contact our office on 0300 777 8539 or Ruth Hatch on 07929 1141

A Different World Festival. Saturday 4 August, Abbey Rugby Football Club, Rosehill, Emmer Green, Reading, RG4 8XA. This is a music festival for everyone with Additional Needs .

ASD Family Help - Teen Club, 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month from 4.30pm to 6.30pm.(Term Time only). A teen club for children with Aspergers, high-functioning autism or associated learning difficulties (dyslexia, anxiety, OCD, ADHD etc) and siblings of children with additional needs who are in Secondary school. Children must be able to access this activity on an adult to child ratio of 1:8. We are unable to book new children onto this activity without them first attending an assessment meeting. We do this at the Family Fun Sessions which are held once a month. This allows the child to meet some staff, see the venue and assess whether we are able to meet your child's needs. The aim of the club is to encourage socialising and making friends, plus getting out of the house for a few hours. £2.50 per session. Booking and assessment essential . Contact: Rachael@asdfamilyhelp.org

DROP IN SESSIONS AND WORKSHOPS FOR PARENT/CARERS

ASD Family Help. ASD Family Help Parent/Carers Monday Support Group , 10:30am to 12:30pm. The Monday Support Group is based at Woodley Youth and Community Centre , Hurricane Way, Woodley, RG5 4UX. Pop along for a FREE coffee or tea and a biscuit. Younger children welcome. Our events are open to all affected by ASD or associated conditions (eg. Dyslexia, dyspraxia, OCD, Anxiety, PDA, ADHD) No booking needed.

ASSIST Drop in Sessions. Monday 2 July 7:00pm to 9:00pm at Woodley Airfield, Hurricane Way, Tuesday 17 July 9:30am to 12:00 noon at Bridges Resource Centre, 109 Colemansmoor Rd, Woodley. Come and join the ASSIST team alongside parents and carers of children with ASD, to chat, share ideas and problem solve. Stay for the whole session or just 10 minutes. No Booking required.

Autism workshop on sexual development and puberty - level 2, Tuesday 3 July. Registration 9.30am .Start time 9.45am until 1.15pm, Woodley Air Field Youth Centre, Hurricane Way, Woodley. This level 2 workshp offers an opportunity to discuss and understand the physical and emotional changes at puberty, and how to prepare and support young people with autism to manage these changes. Exploration of the concept 'public, private and personal safety'. **Participants must understand that there will be discussion and visuals about issues of a sexual nature. Booking essential.** Please note that this workshop is for participants who have a basic knowledge and understanding of Autism either through personal experience or through attending an autism awareness course.. Booking essential . Email: ASSISTworkshops@wokingham.gov.uk. **For details of all the different autism workshops, click [here](#).**

Autism Berkshire. Reading drop-in Autism Advice session. Tuesday 26 June, Members of our team are available to meet parents and carers to discuss autism-related matters without an appointment at the Autism Berkshire office between 10.30am and 1.30pm every Tuesday during school terms. Please report to the reception desk in the entrance lobby at 40 Caversham Road when you arrive. For more information, call us on 01189 594 594 or email contact@autismberkshire.org.uk

General Carers group . Group held every 2nd Wednesday of the month 10-12pm.'The Berkshire' 126 Barkham Rd, Wokingham, RG41 2RP. If you require any further information on our groups or other services we provide telephone 0118 324 7333 or Email ask@berkshirecarershub.org

SENDIASS Drop In Sessions Thursday 12 July 10:00am to 12 Noon, Wokingham Youth & Community Centre,35 Reading Road, Wokingham, RG41 1EG. The Special Educational Needs and Disability Information Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) are offering drop-in sessions for any Special Educational Needs related queries for young people, parents, carers, educators and practitioners. We are also looking for volunteers. sendiass@wokingham.gov.uk

Resources

[Autism Eye](#)

[Wokingham Local Offer](#)

[ASD Family Help](#)

[ASSIST](#)

[AUTISM EYE](#)

[BAS](#)

[Berkshire Phab](#)

[Building for the Future](#)

[Changing Places](#)

[Contact a Family](#)

[Dingley's Promise](#)

[Disability Information Service Reading \(Disc\)](#)

[Me2 Club](#)

[National Autistic Society](#)

[Oakwood Youth Challenge](#)

[Parenting Special Children](#)

[Peapods](#)

[REACH Wokingham](#)

[RDCS](#)

[Scope](#)

[SENDIASS](#)

[The National Autistic Society](#)

[Wokingham GO!](#)

[Wokingham, Bracknell & Districts MENCAP](#)

[Wokingham Learning Disability Partnership Board](#)