



## Short Breaks Service



### For Children with Disabilities

#### Newsletter w/c 6<sup>th</sup> November 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 – November events and activities



Halton SEND Parent Carer's Forum has lots of events and activities planned throughout November including their **school parent drop in sessions on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November** at Bridgewater Park Primary, Runcorn, and **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November** at St. Berteline's Primary, Runcorn. Both sessions are from 9.30am-11.30am

And don't forget the Information and Support Surgery on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November, 12pm-3pm at Moon Meadow scout hut, Widnes. Parents and carers can come and speak to all the SEND Local Authority and Woodview departments for advice. There will be crafts, bubbles, raffles, and Hot Dogs for all the kids - it really will be a family day out!

They also have their latest online Zoom parent information workshops:

- **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm Vulnerable Beneficiary – Wills & Inheritance Parent Training Webinar.**
  - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81298593408?pwd=SmwrakFjYnk2amhvOWk1b1BPeEo2UT09>
  - Meeting ID: 812 9859 3408 Passcode: 741224
  
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  - Meeting ID: 812 9859 3408 Passcode: 741224

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



# What's on in November 2023



Date	Event	Time	Venue	Information
15/11/23	School Parent Drop in Session	9.30am-11.30am	Bridgewater Park Primary School, Plantation Close, Castlefields, WA7 2LW	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.
15/11/2023	Family cooking session	5.30pm – 7pm	Zoom	<b>Fully Booked</b> – email <a href="mailto:info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk">info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk</a> to book onto available sessions.
16/11/23	Vulnerable Beneficiary – Wills & Inheritance Parent Training Webinar	7.30pm-8.30pm	ONLINE (Zoom)	The Webinar covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The importance of having the right Will</li> <li>• How to protect wealth to maximise inheritance</li> <li>• How to avoid disinheritance threats</li> <li>• How to protect your loved ones in the long term</li> <li>• How to avoid loss of means tested benefits</li> <li>• Common pitfalls: what you should NOT do.</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81298593408?pwd=SmwrakFjYnk2amhvOWk1b1BPeEo2UT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81298593408?pwd=SmwrakFjYnk2amhvOWk1b1BPeEo2UT09</a> Meeting ID: 812 9859 3408 Passcode: 741224</p>
18/11/23	Information and Support Surgery	12 Noon – 3.00pm	Moon Meadow Scout Hut, Farnworth Street, Widnes, WA8 9LH	This is a main Information and Advice Surgery where parents and carers can come and speak to all SEND LA and Woodview departments for advice. There will be crafts, bubbles, raffles, and Hot Dogs for all the kids it really will be a family day out.
22/11/23	School Parent Drop in Session	9.30am-11.30am	St Bertelines C of E Primary School, Norton Lane, Runcorn, WA7 6QN	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.
23/11/23	Halton Short Breaks Service for children with disabilities	7.30pm – 8.30pm	Zoom	Claire Gurney the SEND commissioner for Halton will be discussing their service and how to access it in Halton. Claire will be discussing what works well, what doesn't and what you as parent carers would like to see. <b>This is your chance to give your input.</b> <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82577196545?pwd=UGxWZEl1alZGeXp1U0Y5cW9iaE9rZz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82577196545?pwd=UGxWZEl1alZGeXp1U0Y5cW9iaE9rZz09</a> Meeting ID: 825 7719 6545 Passcode: 885955



# What's on in November 2023



Date	Event	Time	Venue	Information
25/11/2023	HSPCF SYNC youth club, 10-18 years.	12.00pm - 5.00pm	Moonmeadow, Scout Hut, Farnworth, WA8 9LH	This is a FREE SEND event – and must be booked via email and a place confirmed. <a href="mailto:Infosync22@gmail.com">Infosync22@gmail.com</a>
30/11/2023	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.
30/11/2023	Dennis Dewar – Zoom – awaiting information	7.30pm – 8.30pm	Zoom	Dennis's role involves working with volunteers within the Trust and engaging with local community groups. Currently the engagement work is focusing on our community mental health services which are about to go through a transformation process. He would be interested in discussing with our parent carers how Mersey Care can better engage and involve local communities in this work.  <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82973613116?pwd=NzUwVmZXN01UZDF2ZDBQUGFJRDNmUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82973613116?pwd=NzUwVmZXN01UZDF2ZDBQUGFJRDNmUT09</a> Meeting ID: 829 7361 3116  Passcode: 330426



# Halton SEND Parent Carer's Forum



Halton SEND PARENT  
Carer's Forum  
Your voice counts

## WILLS AND TRUSTS

### VULNERABLE BENEFICIARY WEBINAR

**In attendance will be Alyson from Estate Planning Solutions.**

Estate Planning Solutions, an independent estate planning company specialising in Wills and Will Trusts, and we take great pride in being able to help our clients protect their loved ones for the future.

Vulnerable beneficiary protection is something close to our hearts at Estate Planning Solutions. We have spent many years working with organisations and parents' groups across the UK, dedicated to the protection of vulnerable beneficiaries. We consider ourselves experts in our field when it comes to putting the right planning in place, to look after the long-term interests of your loved ones, when you are no longer around to protect them.

The Webinar covers: • The importance of having the right Will • How to protect wealth to maximise inheritance • How to avoid disinheritance threats • How to protect your loved ones in the long term • How to avoid loss of means tested benefits • Common pitfalls: what you should NOT do.

## Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm



Not to be missed this is a very informative and informal way to ask your questions to the professional in this field.

If you are not a member and want to join this zoom, just email Jen on [info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk](mailto:info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk) for a membership form.

### To Join Our Members Only Virtual Group:

All you need is a smart phone or laptop/computer with speakers, microphone and ideally a camera.

Join us direct on zoom on the link below.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81298593408?pwd=SmwrakFjYnk2amhvOWk1b1BPeEo2UT09>

Meeting ID: 812 9859 3408

Passcode: 741224



Halton Send parent Carers Forum

[WWW.Haltonsendcarersforum.org.uk](http://WWW.Haltonsendcarersforum.org.uk)



Member of the National Pensioners' Forum

contact

Telephone Contact: 07784240161

Email : [info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk](mailto:info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk)

## Mako Create's 'Code A Drone' sessions

# WIDNES: MAKO CODING CLUB

Learn to code...

# DRONES

USING  
TYNKER



Science and  
Technology  
Facilities Council



Mako  
CREATE

# RUNCORN: MAKO CODING CLUB

Learn to code...

# DRONES

USING  
TYNKER



Science and  
Technology  
Facilities Council



Mako  
CREATE

Mako Create's free monthly Coding Club is a fun and supportive place for young people from Halton to get together to enjoy learning coding skills, completing challenges, and meeting new people.

- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 4pm-6pm – Widnes Library. [Click here to book.](#)
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 4.30pm-6.30pm at Grangeway Community Centre. [Click here to book.](#)

**Christmas Craft Afternoon and Santa's Grotto at  
Deafness Resource Centre**



**Deafness  
Resource Centre**  
Registered Charity in England No. 1120148  
Company Reg. in England No. 0907282

**Christmas Craft  
Afternoon  
& Santa's Grotto**

**SATURDAY**  
**2ND DECEMBER 2023**  
**1PM - 3PM**

**£3.00 ENTRY**  
**BOOKING REQUIRED**

- LETTERS FOR SANTA • CAKE DECORATING • COLOURING IN •
- HOT CHOCOLATE • CANDY FLOSS • TOMBOLA •

**PLEASE EMAIL: [ICAN@DEAFNESSRESOURCECENTRE.ORG](mailto:ICAN@DEAFNESSRESOURCECENTRE.ORG)**  
**OR PHONE/TEXT: 01744 23887**

**32 - 40 DENTONS GREEN LANE | ST HELENS | WA10 2QB**

The Deafness Resource Centre are holding a Christmas Craft Afternoon and Santa's Grotto on **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December** – come along and enjoy a fun Christmas afternoon!

**[Click here to book your places](#)** and find out more on **[their Facebook page here](#)**.



## SEN Disco at The Hive Winsford



U18's



*Siblings welcome!*

# BUSY BEEES SEN DISCO

**£2 ENTRY**

**Wed 29th Nov**

**4.15pm - 6.15pm**

**Food and Drink  
from £2.50**

**Sensory  
Lights**

**Arts & Crafts  
Quieter Space**

**Sensory Screen**

The Hive Winsford are hosting their Busy Bees SEN disco on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 4.15pm-6.15pm** - under 18's and siblings welcome for only £2 entry.

There's lots of fun things to do to keep the busy bees busy including sensory disco lights, art and crafts in a quieter area, music, sensory screen. Food and drinks are available from £2.50, and they also offer free juice.

Find out more on [their Facebook page here](#) and [click here to book your tickets](#).

## **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 November 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.

## **Creative Hangout for young people aged 16-25 in Widnes and Runcorn – starts this week!**

**Creative Hangout is designed specifically for young adults aged 16 to 25 from Halton who have disabilities and/or autism.** It offers a welcoming and supportive environment where attendees can develop their creative skills and socialise with friends old and new. They will be hosting seven weekly sessions in both Widnes and Runcorn throughout November and December; these sessions will be held at Ashley School and Cavendish High Academy, but young adults do not need to be students at these schools to participate.

### **Creative Hangout Widnes:**

Date: Monday 6th November - 18th December 2023 (seven, 2-hour sessions, held weekly on Monday afternoons)

Time: 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Age: 16 - 25 years old

Location: Ashley School, Cawfield Avenue, Widnes, WA8 7HG

**Click here for more information and book your places.**



# CREATIVE HANGOUT



**A PROJECT FOR YOUNG ADULTS FROM  
HALTON WITH DISABILITIES OR  
AUTISM TO MEET NEW FRIENDS AND  
TRY CREATIVE ACTIVITIES**

Age: **16 - 25**

Location: **Ashley High**

**School, Widnes, WA8 7HG**

Date: **Mondays**

**6.11.23 - 18.12.23**

Time: **3.30 PM - 5.30 PM**



# BOOK NOW

Call: **0151 433 2223**

Email: **[info@digitalartsbox.org](mailto:info@digitalartsbox.org)**

or scan the QR code



## **Creative Hangout Runcorn:**

Date: Tuesday 7th November - 19th December 2023 (seven, 2-hour sessions, held weekly on Tuesday afternoons)

Time: 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Age: 16 - 25 years old

Location: The Cavendish High Academy Lincoln CI, Runcorn WA7 4YX

**[Click here for more information and book your places.](#)**

# CREATIVE HANGOUT



**A PROJECT FOR YOUNG ADULTS FROM  
HALTON WITH DISABILITIES OR  
AUTISM TO MEET NEW FRIENDS AND  
TRY CREATIVE ACTIVITIES**

Age: **16 - 25**

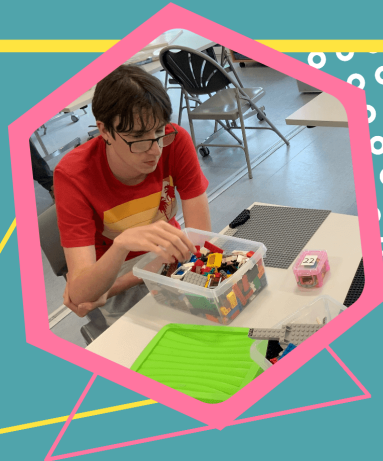
Location: **Cavendish High**

**Academy, Runcorn, WA7 4YX**

Date: **Tuesdays**

**7.11.23 - 19.12.23**

Time: **3.30 PM - 5.30 PM**



# BOOK NOW

Call: **0151 433 2223**

Email: **info@digitalartsbox.org**

or scan the QR code



## 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 November newsletter is attached, and you can find out more by visiting [their website here](#) or check out [their Facebook page here](#).

## Don't forget to 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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.**

## **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 me know and I will try to include next time. If you do not wish to continue receiving this newsletter, please let me know.

**[Julie.Pennington@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Julie.Pennington@halton.gov.uk)**

Short Breaks Service for Children with Disabilities Halton Borough Council

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