

For Children with Disabilities

Newsletter w/c 23rd September 2024

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.

iCAN Warning: Safety Alert to warn of the risks of water beads

The Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) has issued a Product Safety Alert to warn of the risks of water beads.



What are water beads?

Water beads are the common name for superabsorbent polymers (SAPs). When exposed to liquid, including water or gastric fluids, they can expand significantly greater than their original size. Dehydrated beads can typically be as small as a few millimeters in diameter but can expand to over 400 times that size on contact with liquid.

The beads are small and are often sold in large quantities in their dehydrated form and marketed for crafting, in floristry, as toys, sensory kits, art kits, hydro guns, stress balls, home decor or vase fillers.

See next page for information

Why are they dangerous?

Water beads have been linked to child fatalities overseas and to serious harm to children in the UK.

The main harms occur when dehydrated beads are swallowed and then expand in the gastrointestinal tract, causing a blockage that requires surgical removal. Ingested water beads can be very difficult to detect and do not show up on x-ray, making clinical diagnosis challenging.

Harm can also occur when a bead is accidentally inhaled into the airways, which can lead to coughing and choking.

Key safety messages

- Water beads should be kept away from young children, under 5 years of age.
- They should only be used by older children under close supervision of an adult.
- If you possess water beads, always store them out of sight and reach of children.
- If it is suspected that a water bead has been swallowed, medical help should be sought immediately.

Other names for water beads

Water beads is a generic term. However, other common names for these products include, but are not limited to jelly balls, jelly water gems, aqua gel, water balls, biodegradable balls, gel beads, silicone orbs, water absorbing beads, floating pearls, sensory beads and water crystals.

If you need advice on anything else please contact the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline or [0808 223 1133](tel:08082231133)

Find out about how iCAN uses your personal data by clicking [iCAN](#)



**You can tell us about any other scams
by replying to this email.**

**For general consumer advice please ring
the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline
on Freephone 0808 223 1133**

iCAN is provided by Halton Trading Standards

Free music sessions with Amplify – The Studio



Amplify
@ the studio

**FREE GUIDED MUSIC SESSIONS
FOR AGES 11-16**

EVERY TUESDAY: 5-8.30PM

**NEW MEMBERS MUST SIGN UP THROUGH
OUR ONLINE FORM BEFORE ATTENDING
SO WE CAN ASSIGN THEM TO A GROUP.**



AMPLIFYTHESTUDIO@GMAIL.COM

WWW.THESTUDIOWIDNES.ORG.UK



**THE STUDIO, LACEY ST, WIDNES,
WA8 7SQ**

**HALTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**the studio
LOOSE**
COMPANY LTD-056827 REG. CHARITY 112046

FREE Guided music sessions for ages **11-16** every **Tuesday** at **5-8:30pm**.

For more info, contact below:

Email: amplifythestudio@gmail.com

Website: www.thestudiowidnes.org.uk

See next page for more events

Free music sessions with Amplify – The Studio

A yellow poster for 'Amplify the studio' featuring a stylized illustration of a person in a wheelchair using a laptop with a waveform on the screen. To the right is a black electric guitar. At the bottom right is a microphone with a waveform. The text is in bold black and white.

**Amplify
@ the studio**

**FREE PRACTICE ROOMS AND
RECORDING SESSIONS
FOR AGES 17-25
EVERY THURSDAY: 5.30-8.30PM**

**PLEASE EMAIL
AMPLIFYTHESTUDIO@GMAIL.COM
TO BOOK A SLOT.**

 **AMPLIFYTHESTUDIO@GMAIL.COM**

WWW.THESTUDIOWIDNES.ORG.UK 

 **THE STUDIO, LACEY ST, WIDNES,
WA8 7SQ**

 **the studio
LOOSE**
COMPANY REG: 050823 REG. CHARITY 1153001

FREE Guided music sessions for ages **11-16** every **Thursday**
at **5-8:30pm.**

For more info, contact below:

Email: amplifythestudio@gmail.com

Website: www.thestudiowidnes.org.uk

Vibe Youth Club



**EVERY
FRIDAY**
AGES 11 - 19
4:30PM-6:30PM
ST BERTS CHURCH

PS4
Arts and Crafts
Sports
Relationship Building
Team Games
And Much More

 WWW.VIBEUK.ORG



Bia Local



St Berteline and St Christopher's Church
The Parish of Norton



Vibe Youth Club for **ages 11-19** every Friday at **4:30-6:30pm**

Website: www.vibeuk.org/

See next page for more events



Every
Tuesday

4:00-
6:00pm

vibe

WINDMILL HILL DETACHED

YOU SHAPE THE OFFER SO COME ALONG AND GET INVOLVED! ALL ACTIVITIES ARE SAFE, FUN AND PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO DEVELOP ESSENTIAL LIFE SKILLS.

- ✓ ART ACTIVITIES & DANCING
- ✓ GAMES & SPORTS
- ✓ RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

Corner of
westwood -
southwood

SEND KEY F SA
AGES 11-19



VIBEUK.ORG

Vibe Windmill Hill Detached for **ages 11-19** every
Tuesday at **4-6pm**

Website: www.vibeuk.org/

Fresh-Beginnings Cookery – St Pauls Transform Church

FRESH-BEGINNINGS COOKERY



At

St Pauls Transform church - Widnes

**From Monday 9th September-
and every Monday until 14th October
10.00am - 1200pm**

**Calling all Mums and/or Dads
with SEND children.**

**Come and join us and have fun, learn new recipes
and connect with other parents while your
children are at school - TIME FOR YOU!**

**All food, equipment and aprons are provided
Interested?**

**Contact Barbara
mobile: 07921579213**

Book now, limited places available



Join fresh beginnings cookery for parents with SEND children,
contact Barbara at [07921579213](tel:07921579213) to book now.
See next page for more locations and dates

Fresh-Beginnings Cookery – Murdishaw
Community Centre

FRESH-BEGINNINGS COOKERY



At

Murdishaw community centre
From Tuesday 10th September-
and every Tuesday until 15th October
10.00am - 1200pm

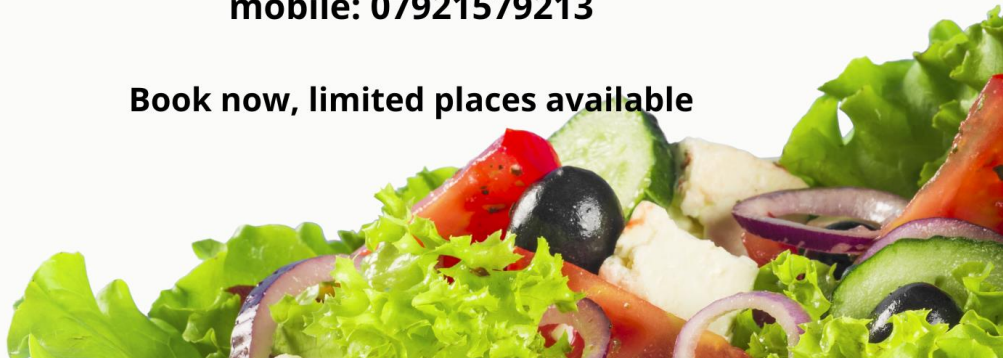
Calling all Mums and/or Dads
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Come and join us and have fun, learn new recipes
and connect with other parents while your
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Mako Creators Club – Retro Video game design

Mako CREATORS CLUB

FREE

RETRO

VIDEO GAME DESIGN

DATE & TIME Tuesdays 10/09 - 08/10 4 pm - 6 pm	LOCATION Grangeway Community Centre, WA7 5HA	AGE 10-16 years old from Halton
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SIGN UP NOW

hello@makocreate.co.uk

0151 345 1419

SCAN QR CODE



Mako CREATE

HALTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Booking are now being taken for **FREE!** places at the Halton Youth Clubs taking place from September at the Grange Community Centre. Booking details and further information in the posters and the link below.

Link - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/retro-video-game-design-club-mako-creators-club-registration-924318129407?aff=Council>

Email – hello@makocreate.co.uk

See next page for more events

Mako Creators Club – Animation

Mako CREATORS CLUB

FREE ANIMATION

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	AGE
Thursdays 12/09 - 10/10	4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Widnes Library WA8 7QT	10-16 years old from Halton



SIGN UP NOW

hello@makocreate.co.uk

0151 345 1419

SCAN QR CODE





Booking are now being taken for **FREE! places** at the Halton Youth Clubs taking place from September at Widnes Library. Booking details and further information in the posters and links below.

Link - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/animation-club-mako-creators-club-registration-924296725387?aff=Council>

Email – hello@makocreate.co.uk

See next page for more events

Mako Creators Club – Halloween Paper Lanterns

HALTON SHORT BREAKS

HALLOWEEN PAPER LANTERNS



Mako
CREATE

HALTON

HALTON
HIGH

Join us for our spooky two-hour Halloween Paper Lantern workshop, as part of our Halton Short Breaks sessions on Saturday 12th October.

During the session, participants will make their own paper lanterns, then learn how to add an LED, button, battery, and copper tape to create a glowing masterpiece. Finally, they'll get to decorate their creations in a spooky style. It's a hands-on, fun-filled journey into the world of Halloween crafting!

This session is part of our Halton Short Breaks project. These sessions are funded specifically for young people in Halton with disabilities and/or additional needs.

FREE Creative Hangout – Ashley High School



The poster features a green banner at the top left with the word 'FREE' in white. Below it, the title 'creative hangout' is written in a large, bold, red font. A blue horizontal band contains the text 'A club for young adults from Halton with learning disabilities and/or autism to meet new people and try creative activities'. The center of the poster is a collage of ten hexagonal photos showing young adults engaged in various activities like playing cards, using a laptop, and talking. Below the photos, three columns of text provide details: 'date: Wednesdays 11th September - 16th October', 'time: 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm', and 'age: For young adults aged 16 - 25 from Halton'. A blue band at the bottom of the poster contains a location pin icon and the text 'Ashley High School, Widnes (You do not need to attend Ashley to attend this club)'. Below this is the text 'sign up now:' in green, followed by contact information: 'info@digitalartsbox.org', '0151 433 2223', and 'www.digitalartsbox.org'. A QR code is positioned to the right of the contact info. At the very bottom, there are logos for 'Digital Arts Box' and 'HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL'.

FREE
creative hangout

A club for young adults from Halton with learning disabilities and/or autism to meet new people and try creative activities

date:
Wednesdays
11th September -
16th October

time:
3:30 pm
- 5:30 pm

age:
For young adults
aged 16 - 25 from
Halton

Ashley High School, Widnes (You do not need to attend Ashley to attend this club)

sign up now:
info@digitalartsbox.org
0151 433 2223 www.digitalartsbox.org

Digital Arts Box HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Creative Hangout is a fantastic FREE club tailored specifically for young adults with SEND in Halton! It aims to provide a relaxed a supportive environment where you can try new creative activities, meet new people and have fun. From animation, coding, and graphic design to crafting, the options are limitless!

Sign up now, by scanning the QR code in the poster above, or by getting in touch below:

Email: info@digitalartsbox.org

Phone: **0151 433 2223**

Website: www.digitalartsbox.org

Halton SEND Parent Carer's Forum events

WHATS ON

SEPTEMBER 2024



Click & Like

Peer to peer support
and advice

Informing  Empowering  Engaging



PARENT SUPPORT CHECK-IN

- Zoom- Communicate 3rd October 7.30-8.30pm



SCHOOL SUPPORT

- Our Lady's of Perpetual Succour
26th September - 9.30-11 am



EVENTS

- Hummingbird 27th September- 5-7pm

E-MAIL JEN FOR INFO
Info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk

contact
For families
with disabled children

Multiple events going on throughout **September and into October.**

Email for more info: Info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk

See next page for more details

Halton SEND Parent Carer's Forum – Family Craft & Pizza Night



Click & Like



Halton SEND PARENT
Carer's Forum
Your voice counts
Halton Send Parent
Carers Forum



Venue
HUMMINGBIRD
WA7 2AN



HUMMINGBIRD
FAMILY CRAFT & PIZZA NIGHT
Informing ♥ Empowering ♥ Engaging

FRIDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER- 5-7 PM

Free Family Craft & Pizza Night.
All members are welcome but you need to
book your place via E-mail.

E-MAIL CLARE- FOR INFO
clare.collins@haltonsendpcf.org.uk



contact
For families
with disabled children

Family Craft & Pizza night at Hummingbird, book place via
Email

Email for more info: clare.collins@haltonsendpcf.org.uk

See next page for more events

**Halton SEND Parent Carer's Forum –
Communicate Update Zoom**


Click & Like

**Halton SEND PARENT
Carer's Forum**
Your voice counts

Halton Send Parent
Carers Forum

**COMMUNICATE UPDATE
ZOOM**

Informing Empowering Engaging

THURSDAY 3RD OCTOBER- 19.30-20.30 PM

Join us on zoom for a service
update from communicate


zoom link

Meeting ID: 891 1240 5957
Passcode: 051532

ZOOM

contact
For families
with disabled children

E-MAIL JEN- FOR INFO
Info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk

Join zoom for service update from communicate, zoom link on the right hand side of the poster above

Email for more info: info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk

See next page for more events

Halton SEND Parent Carer's Forum – Support & Advice Day

SUPPORT & ADVICE DAY

23RD NOVEMBER 2024

12-3pm



Informing ♥ *Empowering* ♥ *Engaging*

SAVE THE DATE



Halton SEND Parent Carers Forum believe that informed parents are empowered parents and our aim is to make sure services in Halton meet the needs of disabled children and their families.

Our successful information surgery will run again- 23rd November, 12-3pm

This event provides an opportunity for parents to meet local providers and get advice to support their Children, young people and families.

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Please e-mail by the 18th October if you wish to attend the event

Info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk

**MOON MEADOW SCOUT HUT,
WIDNES, WA8 9LH**

Info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk



National Network of Parent Carer Forums
"Our Strength is our Shared Experience"

Support & Advice day for SEND parent Carers, please email by **18th October** if you wish to attend

Email: info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk

Halton Youth Cabinet meetings



JOIN US!

**BE A PART OF
OUR STORY**

Cabinet meetings:
2nd & 4th Thursday
of each month

- ✉ rebecca.seeley@vibeuk.org
- 📷 @HaltonYC
- ☎ Rebecca - 07551 417 310



If you're aged 11-25, based in Halton and want to take the lead in crafting a better future, Halton Youth Cabinet needs YOU!

HYC prefer to be the driving force, working hand in hand with community champions and political powerhouses, sparking passions, raising voices in critical conversations, and spreading their message far and wide!



Email: Rebecca.seeley@vibeuk.org

Phone: **07551 417 310**

See next page for more info

About Halton Youth Cabinet –

Halton Youth Cabinet is a safe space for young people to gather to raise concerns and share ideas on how they can improve things in their local area and beyond! They take the lead on designing campaigns, working with changemakers and advocating for young people in Halton.

Vibe have been funded and are supported by Halton Borough Council to run the youth cabinet.

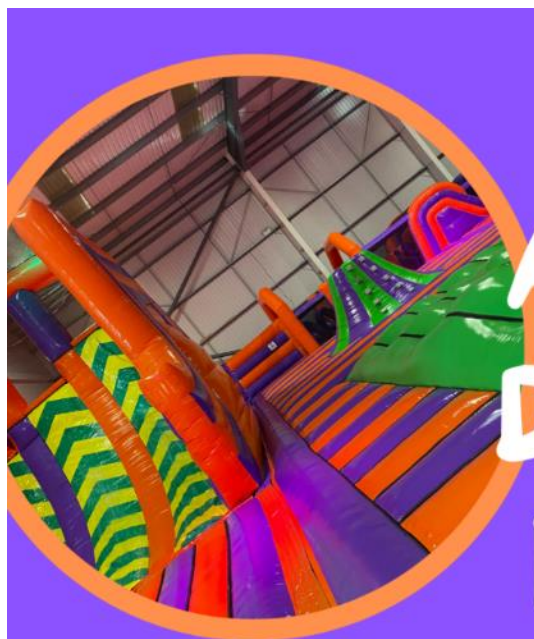
We are open to young people aged 11-18 (up to 25 with SEND).

We meet twice a month on a Thursday 5:00 – 7:00pm at alternating Widnes and Runcorn venues.

Benefits include –

- Potential to run to be the next Member of Youth Parliament and attend special events such as the Big Debate in the House of Commons
- Personal development for young people including leadership skills, public speaking, teamwork, communication and event planning
- Networking and building relationships with likeminded young people from across the UK
- Opportunities to take part in regional and national events
- Influence local leaders and decision makers
- The chance to be featured in the media or win award

Velocity Autism & Disability Friendly Sessions



Autism & Disability Friendly Sessions

**£10 PP WITH
CARERS FREE!**

9:30AM -10:30AM

6th January
3rd February
2nd March
6th April
4th May
1st June

6th July
3rd August
7th September
5th October
2nd November
7th December

0151 424 8613

www.velocitygb.com/park/widnes
Unit 1, Shell Grn, Bennett's Lane, Widnes, WA8 0GW

It is £10 per person, with carers going on for free and running from 9:30am-10:30am the first Saturday of each month.

Website: www.velocitygb.com/park/widnes

Halton funded Short Breaks events 2023-24



Halton funded Short Breaks 2023-24

Halton Short Breaks sessions are for young people in Halton (aged 7-17) with a disability/additional needs

Date	Timings	Activity	Pick up	Pick up	Drop off	Drop off	Places available	Cost
			Brindley Theatre	Halton Stadium	Halton Stadium	Brindley Theatre		
Monday 28 th October	10am-1pm	Imagine That , Liverpool L13 1EH	9.15am	9.25am	1.25pm	1.35pm	10	£3
			Brindley Theatre	Ashley High School	Ashley High School	Brindley Theatre		
			Brindley Theatre	Halton Stadium	Halton Stadium	Brindley Theatre		
Tuesday 29 th October	9.30am – 12pm	Goodison Park Tour (Everton Stadium) & E-Steam workshop L4 4EL	8.15am	8.25am	12.30pm	12.40pm	10	£3
			Brindley Theatre	Halton Stadium	Halton Stadium	Brindley Theatre		
Wednesday 30 th October	10am-1.30pm	Awesome Walls Climbing Centre, & Velocity Inflatable Centre, Widnes	9am	9.10am	1.40pm	1.50pm	12	£3

Halton funded Short Breaks events happening in October for ages 7-17 with a disability/additional needs

See next page for more info and how to book



October 2024 Activity Timetable

- For ages 7 - 17
- First come first served basis for bookings
- To **BOOK ON** call us on **07975784613** or email- mark.dolan@evertonfc.com
- We will need to take some details of the participant and parent / guardian for consent
- **Monday 28th October** at Imagine that – there is no lunch provided by us but there are cafes on site so should anyone want to **bring** money we can help people if they want to buy something
- **Wednesday 30th October** activities will be going from climbing straight to Velocity for the same participants that are booked on - You **cannot** book onto just one of the activities on that day as it comes as a package !
- Please inform us of any dietary requirements if booking onto **Velocity Party Package** as pizza, chicken nuggets and chips are included after 1 hour on the inflatable park
- **If for any reason you cannot make one of the activities you have booked on to – PLEASE try to inform us with enough notice where possible in order for us to arrange for someone else to attend and save the place going to waste – Thanks!**

Email to book: mark.dolan@evertonfc.com

Or call: **07975784613**

Dynamic Sports – October Half Term Soccer Camp



DYNAMIC SPORTS 2024

OCTOBER HALF TERM SOCCER CAMP

**MON 28TH - THUR 31ST
OCTOBER 2024
9AM - 3PM**

**BROOKVALE
RECREATION CENTRE
RUNCORN WA7 6EP**

**30 FREE PLACES AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN AGE 10-16
PACKED LUNCH NOT PROVIDED • SEND FRIENDLY**

**TO SECURE A PLACE PLEASE EMAIL OR TEXT
FULL NAME, POST CODE, DOB, SCHOOL ATTENDED
PLUS ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (SEN DIAGNOSIS)**

**DYNAMIC
SPORTS
COACHING
EST 2022**



FA AFFILIATED
COACHES



**HALTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

To book your place contact David Todd
07712 637360
dynamic-sportscoaching@outlook.com

Please provide full name, age, post code and any additional information when booking.
Please ensure children bring relevant clothing, footwear, and a drink with name clearly written on it.

Soccer camp taking place during October half term for ages
10-16 – SEND friendly

Email to book: dynamic-sportscoaching@outlook.com

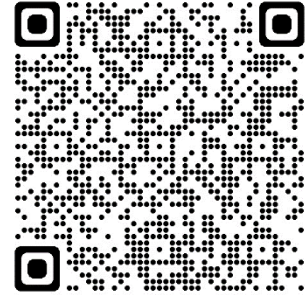
Or call: **07712 637360**

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 £3.50 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**