

SEND

Welcome to the Autumn issue of the SEND Newsletter, 2023

We hope you all had a lovely summer and were able to enjoy the sunshine with your families! Lots of children will be feeling excited about starting a new school or catching up with their friends after the holidays. Others, though, may be feeling anxious and worried about returning – for some, they may have been affected by bullying. Anti-Bullying week takes place in November – find out more on page 7.

Are you a member of a parent or family support group? We would love to help you promote your group to other parents and carers who would benefit from joining. Please contact us to find out how we could help. We are also keen to include more stories from parents and carers in the newsletter. Reading about another parent's experience can be so reassuring to those who are new to the world of SEND. If you or a member of your family would like to write an article for a future issue of SEND, please contact us at:

FIND@lancashire.gov.uk

Thank you for your continued support

Sarah Deady

Policy, Commissioning and Children's Health

 www.facebook.com/LancashireLocalOffer



Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving.

Albert Einstein



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Sunday InClub Sessions

Every Sunday 2:30
til 5:30pm

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL BETHANY.HENRY@INSPIREYOUTHZONE.ORG

Places are limited and on a first come first serve basis, which are bookable online

**£3 FOR BREAKTIME MEMBERS
£6 FOR NON BREAKTIME MEMBERS**

Activities range from...

- Rock climbing
- Dance
- Games
- Baking
- Arts & Crafts
- Music
- Football
- and more...

JOIN IN THE FUN!

Inspire Youth Zone, Chapel Street, Chorley, PR7 1BS
Registered Charity No. 1167309



COMMISSIONED BY
LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL






sportworks

- play games
- make friends
- inclusive
- have fun

LANCASHIRE BREAK TIME

LOCATIONS ACROSS BURNLEY, CHORLEY, FYLDE, LANCASTER, PRESTON & WEST LANCASHIRE

slimeforfuninfo@gmail.com



Inclusive Multi Sport & Activity Short Breaks programme, available for children and young people registered with Lancashire Break times.

For more information, or to book your child's place, contact:
connor.howlett@sportworksltd.co.uk



IT'S SLIME FOR FUN
SEN SESSIONS

Children & Young People with SEN Age 4-18

- Feel good fun
- Crafts, cooking, outdoor play, games
- Acquiring life skills
- Boosting self esteem
- Sense of belonging
- Building relationships

Experienced Team - Fellow SEN parents

WHO US

SING, PLAY, DANCE, SHINE

Saturdays and School Holidays 9am-12noon 12noon-3pm

Whitewell Bottom Community Centre Burnley Road East Whitewell Bottom Rossendale BB4 9LB

Call Klair on 07841744020 or email slimeforfuninfo@gmail.com

TIME VENUE BOOK

Break Time and Break Time Plus Provider







LANCASHIRE Break Time

HOLIDAY CAMPS

ENGAGE, INSPIRE, MOTIVATE, and EMPOWER children to get ACTIVE, learn and have FUN during the school holidays. Physical activity, developing new skills, meeting new friends, trying new games, sports, and taking part in age-appropriate enrichment. Not forgetting about our AMAZING bouncy castles, assault courses and big, GIANT inflatables!

FUNDA LAND

FUNDA LAND is the ULTIMATE soft play experience for both children & parents. With Bespoke Birthday packages, Bumper Carz, UV Lazer Tag Zone, Childcare Crèche, Cafe, Events, Gym & Weekly Inclusive Timetable, there is something for everyone.

CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE!

Learn More

To learn more about the Lancashire Break Time Hours please visit the Lancashire Government website or search: ["Lancashire Break Time Hours"](#)




[LEARN MORE](#) [LEARN MORE](#)

[FUNDAactive.com/Breaktime](https://www.fundaactive.com/Breaktime)



Lancashire Short Breaks Service

Break Time

Break Time provides fun group activities to children and young people aged 4-18, living in Lancashire, who have a special educational need and/or disability (SEND). Activities take place after school, at weekends and during school holidays and give parents and carers a short break from their caring role.

Registrations

Registrations for 2024/25, for both existing and new members, will open in October 2023. All Break Time members must re-register annually in order to continue their membership. Look out for announcements on the Local Offer website and facebook page; schools will also be asked to share the information with parents and carers. If your child is 3 or 4 and due to start school next year, you should register this October to secure their Break Time hours from September 2024.

Break Time Service Changes

From September 2023, Break Time will be part of the Children and Family Wellbeing (CFW) service at Lancashire County Council. Previously it was managed by the Children with Disabilities (CwD) Service.

Will this change Break Time for families?

No, the Break Time offer will not change. The service will remain exactly the same; you might notice that your queries are handled by someone different, or that information is sent out from a different person. The Children and Family Wellbeing SEND Team will be able to support parent carers with information about Break Time membership and how to access and engage with Break Time activities. They can support you to find a meaningful Break Time activity that provides the extra support for your child.

The Children and Family Wellbeing SEND Team will also manage the Break Time registrations and respond to your queries.



What are the benefits for families?

We have created a new email address to make it easier for parent carers to contact us. The new email address is: breaktime@lancashire.gov.uk A member of the Children and Family Wellbeing SEND Team may contact you by telephone to ask you if you have used any of your Break Time hours, they may also ask if you need any assistance or help to understand the Break Time offer. We will be able to tackle the issue of non-attendance (no shows) at booked sessions, to maximise the number of hours available for children and young people. We will continue to focus on providing a wider range of Break Time activities and leisure opportunities, to deliver better outcomes for children and their families.

My child is a Break Time member, what do I need to do?

Parent carers do not need to do anything. There is nothing to worry about, these changes have been made to ensure that the Break Time service can be an even better offer for children and families in Lancashire.

Contact Details

For any queries, please contact us using the new email address breaktime@lancashire.gov.uk If you prefer to use the telephone, you can call **0300 123 6720** and ask to talk to someone from the Children and Family Wellbeing SEND Team. Full information on Break Time, including how to register your child, can be found on the Local Offer at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/things-to-do/break-time If you feel your child needs more support than Break Time provides, you can request a Child & Family assessment, so we can fully understand and identify the best way to meet their needs. Call **0300 123 6720** to request an assessment.

Break Time Plus

Break Time Plus enables children and young people who receive a social care package of support following an assessment, or who are in the care of Lancashire County Council or another local authority, to access group activities as part of their package of care.

You do not need to register for Break Time Plus – speak to your child's social worker or allocated worker, or visit the Local Offer page: www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/things-to-do/break-time-plus



Break Time & Break Time Plus Autumn Term In Preston, Fylde & Wyre

ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 4-18 WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES LIVING IN LANCASHIRE WHO HAVE BEEN AWARDED 78 HOURS BY LCC OR ARE ELIGIBLE FOR BREAK TIME PLUS

- Weekly Youth Clubs
- Sensory Play Sessions at The Space Centre
- Sessions at the Cinema, Bowling, Trampolining, Swimming plus more.
- Holiday Clubs in Preston & Wyre during October Half Term & the Christmas Holidays

For more information contact the office on 01253 899883 or email cm@playinclusionproject.org.uk




STARS CAMP

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 11AM - 3PM

This holiday camp is for disabled young people aged 7 to 18.

To find out if you are eligible please get in touch.

The camp offers a variety of activities from sports, arts and crafts, games, and more.

LCC Break Time hours can be used here. Concessions available.

 Education & Community Centre
Bloomfield Road, FY1 6JJ

For more information:

-  Email info@bfct.co.uk
-  Call 01253 348691
-  Visit www.bfct.co.uk









AFTERSCHOOL CLUB

3 Breaktime spaces available per month available

For children aged 5- 18 with a disability or additional need.

Monday - Friday 3PM-6PM

We collect from:
The Loyne Specialist School
Morecambe Road School
Or your child can be dropped off with us!

If you are interested or would like some more information please contact Beth, our Kidz Club Manager.
01524 831132
kidzclub@uniquekidzandco.org.uk
Reg. Charity Number: 1131652 Ofsted Reg. Number: EY486367




KIDZ CLUB WEEKEND SESSIONS

Get in touch for the monthly session dates.
Drop off at 10am - Collect at 4pm

Baking | Fun Games | Crafts Sensory Play | Music & Dance Outdoor Play and a Lot More...

If you are interested or would like some more information please contact Beth our Kidz Club Manager - 01524 831132
kidzclub@uniquekidzandco.org.uk
Unique Kidz & Co, Woodhill Lane, Morecambe, LA4 4NW
Reg. Charity Number 1131652 - Ofsted Reg. Number EY486367



Working Together to improve the lives of children and young people with SEND



I started in post as the Manager of the SEND Partnership in February 2023 and one of the first projects was to co-produce the updated Working Together Strategy. The initial strategy was written 2019-21 and prior to my arrival the update had been drafted but not yet finalised.

We liaised with SENDIAS to invite parent carers and the Lancashire Parent Carer Forum (LPCF) to co-produce the finalised updated strategy. We held virtual events with parent carers for their voice to be heard and also with the chair of the LPCF.

The Lancashire SEND Partnership Working Together Strategy 2023-2025 is currently out for consultation and the SEND Partnership would welcome your feedback. The Working Together Strategy outlines how the Lancashire SEND Partnership will communicate, engage, encourage participation and partnership working with children, young people, their parent carers and practitioners in order to improve outcomes for families.

'Working Together' is statutory guidance published by the Department for Education in 2018, that describes how partner agencies must work together to support all children, young people and their families.

'Working Together' shows how we can improve outcomes for children and young people in Lancashire by working together with partners. When we work with children, young people and their families, we will take time to listen and ensure everyone has a chance to put their views across in a way that works for them.

Find out more about the Lancashire SEND Partnership at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/lancashire-send-partnership

The SEND Partnership has developed Working Together Events which were hosted by the LPCF in July. Parent carers and practitioners were invited to join the SEND Partnership to hear an update on the five priorities, which had been identified in the co-produced SEND Plan and how the SEND Partnership had made progress. Attendees were asked to choose which priority group break out room they would like to join to share what was working well, what needed to improve and what one thing they could choose what would it be?

A follow up event will be hosted in the autumn with parent carers and practitioners invited to attend to co-produce changes for future services. The findings will also be added to the Local Offer for feedback. The SEND Partnership are also holding face to face drop in Engagement Events **SEND Partnership information events** and we have also recently compiled an SEN survey for children, young people and their parent carers to have their say. The surveys can be found here:



<https://forms.office.com/e/9axwZAAKzc>



<https://forms.office.com/e/PnJja1RSNY>

Many thanks for all your support
Jenny Ashton
Manager of the SEND Partnership

POWAR HOSTS A YOUNG PEOPLE'S TAKEOVER OF THE SEND PARTNERSHIP BOARD



On August 1st, POWAR hosted the Young People's Takeover of the SEND Partnership Board. The Takeover Day, the first event of its kind, gave passionate and perceptive young people with SEND experience a chance to express themselves and be heard collectively.

The day's purpose was to engage in honest, open dialogue with the SEND Partnership Board. More importantly, it was an opportunity to discuss the realm of possibilities and limitations, ensuring that decision-makers genuinely value and seriously consider the views of the young people.

The Takeover Day event at UCLAN was more than just a simple boardroom meeting. It was a workshop wholly designed and facilitated by young people attending POWAR.

Through creative activity and conversations, young people and professionals explored what the five priorities meant to professionals on the SEND Partnership Board. The results were then compared to a broader consultation that young people from POWAR had designed, the results of which were shared on Takeover Day and included the voice of young people from across Lancashire.

Professionals committed to the three priorities that the SEND Partnership Board should work on, and young people committed to three priorities they would work on for the next 12 months.

A special note of appreciation to Oliver Moores and Evie Ball for being great presenters on the Takeover Day and showcasing their advocacy skills and passion for improving the lives of young people with SEND.

Kidz to Adulz.

North

1st November 2023

Manchester Central,
Manchester

9:30am - 4pm

- ✓ Free entry
- ✓ 120+ exhibitors
- ✓ Fun zone
- ✓ CPD seminars
- ✓ Accessible parking



For children and young people with disabilities and additional needs, and the people who support them.

Listening Books,

a charity which provides audiobooks to people who find that an illness, disability, learning difficulty or mental health condition makes it difficult for them to read or hold a book, are currently offering FREE memberships to individuals who would find our regular fees a barrier to joining.

We have a collection of over 10,000 audiobooks with a range of genres – everything from classics to thrillers, school texts to non-fiction and members of our service can listen to the books either online via an app, on our website, or via a postal CD service.

We don't ask for any proof of benefits; we take everyone on trust.

You can join our service at <https://www.listening-books.org.uk/> or by calling **020 7407 9417** to speak to our lovely team!

"I've really struggled with my mental health since losing a lot of my vision and not being able to read actual books. Thanks to you at Listening Books I have been able to access a huge library and am gradually getting back my love for books, albeit in a different format. I'm so grateful, thank you"

Zoë, Listening Books Member

SINCE  1959

LISTENING BOOKS

Hello, I'm Jacqui, Executive Director of Education and Children's Services. I joined the council back in October of last year and have thoroughly enjoyed getting acquainted with our brilliant teams and learning about how we support children, young people and families in Lancashire.

My role covers Education and Children's Services, including Children and Family Wellbeing, Children's Social Care, Education, Culture and Skills and Policy, Commissioning and Children's Health. I am lucky to be supported by a brilliant senior team, some of whom have been with LCC for many years as well as some new faces.

As I have only been with the organisation a relatively short time, here's a bit about me.

I am originally from Durham in the North East, and my previous role was Director for Adult and Children's Services at North Tyneside Council.

I have recently relocated to Lancashire (as it's quite a commute from the north east!) and I am a proud mum of three.

SEND in Lancashire is a priority area for me, and we are building on our work to ensure children and young

people with SEND have equal opportunities and have all they need to thrive in our county.

I was really proud when North Tyneside received praise from Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission for its united approach to improving the lives of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

This is a rewarding role and a real privilege. From supporting care leavers to go out into the world independently and matching children with loving foster families to building great relationships with schools and creating a new Family Hubs network to give our communities the help they need, we really are impacting lives, and it's a wonderful thing to be a part of.



Jacqui Old (CBE)
Executive Director
Education and
Children's Services



The Anti-Bullying Alliance are official organisers of Anti-Bullying Week and in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Anti-Bullying Week 2023 will take place from Monday 13th - Friday 17th November.



This year's theme is Make A Noise About Bullying. Too often, we are silent when we see bullying take place, silent about the hurt bullying causes, and silent when we hear bullying dismissed as 'just banter'. It doesn't have to be this way.

This Anti-Bullying Week let's come together to have discussions about what bullying means to us, how banter can turn into something more hurtful, and what we can do to stop bullying. Together, we can make a difference and take a stand against bullying.

From the playground to Parliament, and from our phones to our homes, let's make a noise about bullying.

For more information on Anti-Bullying and how to support your child, download the Parent and Carer Pack at: www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk

Odd Socks Day

All you need to do is wear odd socks! It's a great way to celebrate what makes us all unique in Anti-Bullying Week! Odd Socks Day 2023 will take place on Monday 13th November. Odd Socks Day is delivered in partnership with CBeebies and CBBC star Andy Day and his band, Andy and the Odd Socks.





The CEA Card is a national card scheme developed for UK cinemas by the UK Cinema Association (UKCA).

The Card enables a disabled cinema guest to receive a complimentary ticket for someone to go with them when they visit a participating cinema.

To apply, the person requiring assistance must be 5 years of age or older and be in receipt of one of the following:

- Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
- Attendance Allowance (AA)
- Personal Independence Payment (PIP)
- Armed Forces Independence Payment (AFIP)

Or hold:

- Severely Sight Impaired Registration (formerly Registered Blind)
- Sight Impaired Registration (formerly Partially Sighted)

There is a one-off fee of £6.00 when you apply, and the card is valid for one year.

Around 90% of cinemas in the UK accept the CEA Card including chains such as Vue, Odeon and Cineworld, as well as some independent cinemas.

The Card is developed by UKCA's Disability Working Group, whose members include film exhibitors and distributors, and national disability charities such as RNID, RNIB, Dimensions and Whizz Kidz.

Find out more and apply at www.ceacard.co.uk



Did you know there are a number of different types of screening in UK cinemas, helping to ensure everyone enjoys the big screen experience?

Accessible Screenings UK is a listing site to help you find information on accessible screenings in UK Cinemas.

These include Audio Described, Autism Friendly and Subtitled/Open Captioned screenings.

Many of these adjustments are available across a broad range of cinemas including independents, local and national circuits. Some venues cannot provide these extra services, so check first to see what is available at your local cinema.

For more information, visit

www.accessiblescreeningsuk.co.uk



Lune Park Neighbourhood Centre,
Ryelands Park, Owen Road,
Lancaster, LA1 2LN

Wednesday 1pm - 2.30pm



Do you have a child
with additional needs/disabilities?

Struggle to find activities/groups that are
inclusive of their needs?



Need to boost your child's learning and
development?



Feel that you would benefit from meeting
others with shared experience?

Then this is the group for your child and you.

For more information contact us on
01524 581280



COLOURFUL FOOTSTEPS

Children and Family
Wellbeing
Service

We provide sessions for children with physical, learning, behavioural and emotional difficulties. This is where Parents & Carers can meet and make new friends and share experiences with those going through similar joys and challenges. In partnership with Peartree School.

Friday 1:00-14:30

Children & Family Wellbeing Service

Chapel Walks

Kirkham

PR4 2TA

01253 741117



Lancashire
County
Council

The Incredible Years!

A Group for Parents/Carers of Children with Behaviour Difficulties



Do you have a child aged 2-10 years?

Do you sometimes find being a parent/carer tough and stressful?

Do you find it difficult to manage your child's behaviour?

Would you like to learn more about how to manage your child's behaviour, have a better relationship with your child, and meet other parents/carers in the same situation?

If YES, then you are not alone - lots of families have similar worries and experience these kind of difficulties.

What is The Incredible Years?

The Incredible Years was created to help parents/carers manage their child's difficult behaviour including conditions such as ADHD. Often, these behaviours impact on the whole family, leaving everyone, including the child, feeling negatively about themselves. This course will improve your relationship with your child and increase yours, and your child's, confidence.

The Incredible Years is a 15 week (term time only) group programme and will run at Heysham Health Centre on Thursday (or possibly Tuesday) every week 9.30am -12.00, beginning in the Autumn term 2023 (dates tbc).

If you are interested in finding out more about the Incredible Years please speak to a health professional or contact your school Learning Mentor, or SENCO, who can refer you or contact: The Ross Centre. Tel: 01524 550 650 and ask for Debra Lawless, Parenting Practitioner.

'Hope Story' – Parent Testimonial, 2023

Life before IY was one of chaos, upset and resentment. My son was 3.5 years old and had been challenging since the age of 2.

When I started the course, I was welcomed by my coach who was sympathetic and understanding. She made me feel at ease and that she wanted to help me and my son.

At the initial meeting, my coach gave an outline to the course. This would start with 'child led play'. At the time I thought 'How is that going to help' and 'I need help on his challenging behaviour.'

The child led play along with the coaching techniques were pure gold! After a couple of weeks I started to notice positive changes in my son's behaviour. As the course progressed, I embraced the techniques given (praise is an incredibly strong and useful method) and found the bond between us was growing stronger. I felt like I understood him and this improved his behaviour.

The hardest part of the course was changing my mindset and parenting techniques, I did not get it right all the time and no one expects us to!

(My son) now gives more eye contact, engages more and will share and interact briefly with his peers. I have learned that whilst my son does have his difficulties and complexities, he is a loving and bright little boy with a lot of positives and potential. He is learning to interact with his peers and improve his social communication skills. This is not an overnight fix, but an investment in his future.

I now have the techniques and resources to support me through his development. I was provided with my own copy of the IY book and it is now my go to for everything.

I now know that I am not the 'failure' or 'worst mum' I thought I was. Having completed the IY course, I have seen the positive changes and this has given me the strength to carry on and do the best for my son.

I now feel more positive and optimistic about the future. I have recommended IY to every parent I have met and would strongly encourage anyone to do the course. It is worth it!

Inclusive performing arts for Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde.

MINI CHILDREN'S THEATRE

INCLUSIVE THEATRE WORKSHOPS

AGE 4-7 YEARS

ONLY £50 PER TERM



CHILDREN'S THEATRE

INCLUSIVE THEATRE WORKSHOPS

AGE 8-12 YEARS

ONLY £50 PER TERM



YOUTH THEATRE

INCLUSIVE THEATRE WORKSHOPS

**AGE 13-16 YEARS ONLY
£50 PER TERM**



YOUNG ADULT COMPANY

INCLUSIVE THEATRE WORKSHOPS

AGE 17-24 YEARS

ONLY £50 PER TERM



VOLUNTEER AT TRAMSHED



**TO APPLY
07852 498427
TRAMSHEDTHEATRE@HOTMAIL.CO.UK
TRAMSHED.ORG.UK**





A STARS
Stay & Play
Blackpool

EVERY THURSDAY
4.30-5.30PM

£3 PER A STAR
£2 PER SIBLING

EXCLUSIVE AUTISM GROUP.
SENSORY PLAY.
INDOOR & OUTDOOR AREA.
SAFE, NON JUDGEMENTAL ENVIRONMENT.
FREE REFRESHMENTS.

North familyhub, Dingle Avenue,
Blackpool, FY3 7NX.

Booking is essential via
Facebook - A Stars Autism Stay & Play Blackpool.
Email - autism.fylde@yahoo.com




BEE UNIQUE
AUTISM

Our Purpose

To relieve the needs of those diagnosed with Autism and those who are currently engaged in the medical diagnosis of Autism and their immediate families and carers in England in particular, but not exclusively, by the provision of support and recreational activities.

Be your own kind of ...
Beautiful



www.beeuniquecharity.co.uk
@BEEUNIQUECHARITY
@BEEUNIQUEDIPS
For events & sessions visit
<https://bookwhen.com/beeunique>
Registered Charity in England and Wales (reg 1193559)

Toy Library for children with disabilities and additional needs aged 0-18 years

Unique TOYZ

Covering Morecambe, Lancaster and surrounding areas.

We deliver toys or can arrange click and collect from our unit on White Lund Industrial Estate.

Contact us now for more information or to request a membership form and join for free!

Find us on Facebook Unique Toyz
07889 597654
uniquetoysz01@gmail.com

Funded By
BBC Children in Need



DISABILITY SESSIONS

JUNIOR PAN-ABILITY

Free football sessions for young people living with a disability.

STANLEY PARK
WEST PARK DRIVE , FY3 9HQ

EVERY WEDNESDAY* 4:30PM - 5:30PM
AGE 8 - 12 **FREE**

EVERY THURSDAY* 4:30PM - 5:30PM
AGE 13 - 16

FRIDAY NIGHT CLUB

Free indoor sessions for young people age 8 - 16 living with a disability. Activities include football, dodgeball, basketball, arts and crafts and access to our games room (Playstations, Nintendos & table football), plus more!

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY CENTRE
BLOOMFIELD ROAD, FY1 6JJ

EVERY FRIDAY* 5PM - 7PM **FREE**

*Term Time only
For more information email plkicks@bfcct.co.uk or visit www.bfcct.co.uk





Welcome To Holland



By Emily Perl Kingsley

I am often asked to describe the experience of raising a child with a disability - to try to help people who have not shared that unique experience to understand it, to imagine how it would feel. It's like this.....

When you're going to have a baby, it's like planning a fabulous vacation trip - to Italy. You buy a bunch of guide books and make your wonderful plans. The Coliseum. The Michelangelo David. The gondolas in Venice. You may learn some handy phrases in Italian. It's all very exciting.

After months of eager anticipation, the day finally arrives. You pack your bags and off you go. Several hours later, the plane lands. The flight attendant comes in and says, "Welcome to Holland."

"Holland?!?" you say. "What do you mean Holland?? I signed up for Italy! I'm supposed to be in Italy. All my life I've dreamed of going to Italy."

But there's been a change in the flight plan. They've landed in Holland and there you must stay.

The important thing is that they haven't taken you to a horrible, disgusting, filthy place, full of pestilence, famine and disease. It's just a different place.

So you must go out and buy new guide books. And you must learn a whole new language. And you will meet a whole new group of people you would never have met.

It's just a different place. It's slower-paced than Italy, less flashy than Italy. But after you've been there for a while and you catch your breath, you look around.... and you begin to notice that Holland has windmills....and Holland has tulips. Holland even has Rembrandts.

But everyone you know is busy coming and going from Italy... and they're all bragging about what a wonderful time they had there. And for the rest of your life, you will say "Yes, that's where I was supposed to go. That's what I had planned."

And the pain of that will never, ever, ever, ever go away... because the loss of that dream is a very very significant loss.

But... if you spend your life mourning the fact that you didn't get to Italy, you may never be free to enjoy the very special, the very lovely things ... about Holland.

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KIDS SENSORY GYM

SENSORY GYM FOR
CHILDREN AGED
0 - 14

OPEN PLAY SESSIONS,
PRIVATE HIRE &
PARTIES

Activities

- ✓ Climbing Frame
- ✓ Trampolines
- ✓ Sensory Swings
- ✓ Scooter Boards
- ✓ Roller Slide
- ✓ Sensory Room
- ✓ Designed for children with SEN

Sessions

- ✓ 1 hr 15 mins play sessions
- ✓ Book online
- ✓ £10 per session
- ✓ Available for private hire - individuals, groups, schools or professionals
- ✓ Birthday Parties



www.sensationgym.co.uk

43a Market Street, Church, Accrington, BB5 0DP

Jake Berry MP's SEN & Autism Support Fair



Saturday 14th October
10am – 1pm

COME TO

The Whitaker, Haslingden
Road, Rawtenstall,
BB4 6RE

FOR MORE INFORMATION

t: 01706 215 547
w: www.jakeberry.org
e: jake.berry.mp@parliament.uk

SUPPORTED BY

■ Spectrum of Light
Rossendale

*Lots of help, support and
guidance available from local
groups and organisations*

FREE
ADMISSION

Jake Berry MP *A Strong Voice for Rossendale & Darwen*

Funded from allowances made available to Jake Berry MP



DanceSyndrome
Dancer Led, Disability Inspired
Registered Charity No:1152664

DS Youth

An inclusive dance collective for young people

Mondays, 6pm - 7:30pm
Bangor Street Community Centre, Blackburn

An inclusive dance collective for young people who are interested in developing their dance skills and moving on towards performing.

Join us!

www.dancesyndrome.co.uk

Tel: 07597 942494

@DanceSyndromeUK



DANCE

DS Youth - inclusive dance collective:

Mondays, 6pm - 7:30pm
at Bangor Street Community Centre, Norwich St,
Blackburn, BB1 6NZ
Price per session: £8

If you'd like to join us, email:
CYP@dancesyndrome.co.uk

Further information:

- Ages 14-25 years old
- All abilities welcome. Inclusive dance is about people with and without disabilities dancing together
- No previous dance experience needed
- We will explore dance techniques and movement patterns
- Learn about the skills needed to perform
- Work towards performance opportunities throughout the year
- Wear comfortable clothes and shoes for moving
- Bring a drink of water

Join us!

DanceSyndrome is grateful to be supported by:



DANCE



COLOURFUL FOOTSTEPS

Children and Family
Wellbeing
Service

10:00am - 11:30am

Last Saturday of every month

To book a place, email cftpndlerfs@lancashire.gov.uk

29th July, 26th August,
30th September, 28th October, 25th November

Colne Neighbourhood Centre, Walton Street, BB8 0EL

A fun session for children aged 0-11, with physical, learning, behavioural and emotional difficulties (including those undergoing assessment).

Colourful Footsteps takes place in an inclusive environment, with opportunities for learning, development and support. This is also where parent carers and siblings have the opportunity to meet and make new friends, and share experiences with those going through similar joys and challenges.



Lancashire
County Council



Home
START
Support and friendship
for families

Busy Bees

A support group for parent/carers, with pre-school children who have additional and/or behavioural needs. Busy bees can offer the concerned parent a relaxed non-judgmental atmosphere, one to one support and a stimulating, fun and positive play experience for the child

The group can offer

- Building positive friendships
- One to one support for parents from our volunteers
- Fun positive play experience

Groups will be taking place at The Thrive Centre, Clitheroe (on the market car park)

info@homestartpendle.plus.com

or call 01282 690536/01200 443827 or text 07702555078

Wednesdays 12.30pm - 2.30pm





UNIQUORNS

Burnley's SEND Group for young people aged 12 to 25

Every Monday Evening
6:45pm till 9pm

At Burnley Youth Zone on Whittam Street

All young people with additional needs and disabilities are welcome.

For more information email:
cfwburnleyyouthwork@lancashire.gov.uk



APPOINTMENT ONLY

YOUR FUTURE!

Do you need support with your future?

AGED 12 TO 15

Want to gain part time work? Want to plan what happens after school? Don't see the point in school?

Come along on Thursday between 2pm and 6pm.

AGED 16 TO 19 (UPTO 25 WITH SEND)

Want to get back into education training or employment? Want a change but not sure how to do it?

Come along on Thursday between 2pm and 6pm or Friday between 2pm and 5pm

To make an appointment with one of our youth workers please email:
cfwburnleyyouthwork@lancashire.gov.uk



Premier League Kicks

LIMITLESS CLARETS

Don't dis my ability

Activities include: Football, Cricket, Multi-Sport, Climbing, Dance, Baseball, Girls Only Sessions and SEND Specific Sessions

FREE SESSIONS



Fun for everyone!

For more info please contact us via email at kicks@burnleyfc.com



BURNLEY FC
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THE CAREERS &
ENTERPRISE
COMPANY

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Lancashire
Enterprise Partnership



EMPOWER – THRIVE – ACHIEVE

Wider Lancashire Inclusion Summit 2023

Advocating for every young person's right to progress

Lancashire Careers Hub is a collaboration of all 154 secondary schools and colleges, including SEND schools and Alternative Providers (AP) across wider Lancashire who work together to deliver the very best careers provision. Collaborating with business partners, education and voluntary sectors, we strive to improve careers outcomes for all young people, ensuring every child can take their best next step.

The Careers Hub leads an Inclusion Community of Practice and this year's Inclusion Summit, which took place on 11th May at Barton Manor Hotel, attracted over 130 participants. There was representation from schools (SEND/AP/Mainstream), colleges, employers, local authorities and providers.

The overall purpose of the event was to bring people together who had a vested interest in offering opportunities for young people with SEND and sharing best practice to consider future developments in careers education and guidance. The day provided a chance for all attendees to network and discuss future collaborations for work experience opportunities, with a focus on employer encounters and workplace experiences.

The event was an opportunity for employers to look at their current opportunities for attracting a diverse workforce, and for Career Leaders to discuss any difficulties they are currently experiencing in engaging with employers, and how this could be improved. It was a safe space to open up and consider how we move forward from the relationships made within the room.

We had representation on the day from BASE (British Association for Supported Employment); Talentino! (delivering better careers guidance through specialist SEND Careers programmes); DWP (raising awareness around Access to Work and the Disability Confident Scheme); Positive Footprints (preparing children and young people to live purposeful, positive lives); Ability Consultancy (an equality and diversity education and training company specialising in disability awareness); and DFN Project Search (a transition to work programme committed to transforming the lives of young adults with a learning disability and/or autism).

Career Leaders and headteachers from several SEND and AP institutions also had the opportunity to discuss best practice within their institutions alongside current students and alumni, highlighting the positive impact of raising aspirations, which produced comments such as *"The inspirational stories have empowered me to feel like I can go to my setting and make a difference"* and *"great to learn about all the links in the chain regarding schools, colleges, services and employers"*.

Furthermore, an employer panel discussion including Victrex, Booths, The Regenda Group, Enveco NW and DFN Project Search explored the importance of building strong working relationships between schools and employers, to provide quality workplace experiences.

"A wonderful day packed full of inspirational speakers, stories, ideas, soundbites, and great resources. So good to meet and chat with so many people passionate about inclusion and empowering young people to achieve their ambitions."

We kickstarted the event with a mass warm up provided by the wonderful Becky and Anna from Dance Syndrome, and their energy and enthusiasm set the tone for the remainder of the day! The energy and buzz from conversations happening within the room was electric!

"What a wonderful and inspiring day at Lancashire Careers Hub Inclusion Summit. They set out to inspire and they definitely achieved it!"

Our aim is to bring together like-minded individuals, who have a common goal in mind - to improve the lives of our young people across wider Lancashire. By joining together, we can continue to raise aspirations and inspire. Let's continue the conversation to provide more opportunities for our fantastic young people.

Everyone deserves to feel EMPOWERED.

Everyone deserves the right to THRIVE, and everyone deserves the opportunity to get up in the morning to fulfil their ambitions.

Everyone deserves to ACHIEVE.

A huge thank you to all those who contributed to the event. Here's to the next Wider Lancashire Inclusion Summit in 2024!

If you would like any further information about the Lancashire Careers Hub, please visit:

www.lancashirecareershubs.co.uk

Or contact us directly at the Careers Hub for further support enterprisecoordinators@inspira.org.uk

Useful resources for parents/carers and students

- START - Helping you to explore future pathways: www.pathways.startprofile.com
- 2022/23 Careers Information Advice and Guidance Resources by Travel to Work Area: www.lancshireskillshub.co.uk/our-people/evidence-base
- Sorted - Lancashire Work Based Learning Guide: www.lancsforum.co.uk/sorted

Splatter Dance

www.splatterdance.co.uk

'Tell me & I forget. Teach me & I remember. Involve me & I learn'

Fun inclusive opportunities for everyone, especially those with additional needs. Allowing opportunities to access high quality dance experiences to explore dance as a creative & expressive art form.

With 15 years' experience working with schools & community groups we carefully design activities to develop participant's transferable skills. These skills include creative, physical, social, language & communication skills, as well as boosting resilience, mental health & emotional wellbeing.

DANCE

Dance classes are perfect for those who love to move & express themselves. We play to each person's strengths & allow them to progress on their own terms, in a way that is meaningful for them. By focusing on the building blocks of dance we foster each person's love of dance.

MAKATON

MAKATON classes develop essential communication & language skills. These skills support understanding & enable people to interact in everyday situations. Learning Makaton also reduces frustration & helps an individual's needs & wants to be understood.



All community venues have free onsite parking & are located in Ormskirk & the surrounding areas

The first & currently only Makaton Friendly organisation in West Lancashire, led by a fully qualified & licensed Makaton Tutor

Contact Emma to book: emma@splatterdance.co.uk 07973 636019



A multi-sensory play space



1-3 King Street, Leyland, PR25 2LE
(Underneath Kip McGrath)

Next to Sumner street car park. 1hour FREE!

Open Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays

Sessions 1hr 15mins

Limited numbers. Please pre book at allthrive.co.uk

COMPLIMENTARY TEA, COFFEE, WATER OR JUICE FOR PARENTS, CARERS AND USERS ☺

- Sensory Gym- Climbing wall, Trampoline, Roller slide, Nest Swing
- Playroom - Ball pit, Soft play, Role play, Cause and effect tools
- Sensory room - Visual stimulation, Interactive light resources, Massage mat, UV, Dark den, Cloud light flooring, Light curtain
- Zen Den - Hammock swing, Tent, Calming aids, Bubble light wall
- 2 Disabled toilets
- Exclusive SEN sessions, Single and Group private hire



13-18 YEAR OLDS

TEENAGER DROP IN

1 hour Sensory Session in our Space 2 room for teenagers with additional needs and their parents/ carers

First Saturday of each Month

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

£5 per teenager £1 Per adult

Please note, service users must be supervised by carers at all times. Younger siblings are not able to attend this session

www.creativespacecentre.org

LEYLAND WARRIORS RUGBY CLUB



SEN rugby group

What?
Fun rugby skills session run by UKCC L2 qualified coaches (one with SEN teacher status)

When?
Saturdays
11.30 - 12.30

Where?
Moss Side Playing Fields
Malt Kiln Fold
Moss Side Way, Leyland
PR26 7XU

Why?
Rugby skills session in a safe, friendly environment. Parents can enjoy a brew and a chat while the children enjoy the session. We believe that the social side for parents is just as important as the fun activity for the children.

For more details contact:
Stuart Almond (coach)
stuart_almond@hotmail.com
07757 735888




Shooting Stars

CHEERLEADING AND DANCE CLASSES FOR CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

CHEERLEADING, HIP-HOP, POM DANCE AND LYRICAL CLASSES
AGES 8+

LEARN NEW SKILLS, MAKE FRIENDS AND HAVE FUN!
TRAVEL TO COMPETITIONS ALL AROUND THE COUNTRY (OPTIONAL)!

FRENCHWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL, PR1 4LE



✉ SIAN@INFINITYCHEER.CO.UK 📘 INFINITY CHEER AND DANCE



CAROUSEL MUSIC & MOVEMENT

MINDFUL MUSIC SESSIONS FOR KIDS AND TEENS WITH SEND

Registration

Contact Claudette for a registration form or fill one out on the evening of the session

Contact Us

Info@carouselmusic.org
Claudette-07516514623

Address

At Emmanuel Methodist
URC 38 Derby St
Ormskirk L39 2DE

Activities

- Mindful movement exercises
- Mindful breathing and visualisation
- Sing-alongs/vocalising sounds
- makaton
- Sensory and percussion play
- Rhythm and drum exercises
- Dance and movement games

Each child must be accompanied by an adult.

Siblings are welcome to join

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
5:30-6:30pm Group One
6:30-7:30pm Group Two
Contact Claudette for more details.

£5 PER CHILD/TEEN WITH SEND.
ADULTS AND SIBLINGS GO FREE. DONATIONS ALWAYS WELCOME




CAROUSEL MUSIC & MOVEMENT

WE AIM TO BRIGHTEN LIVES THROUGH THE MAGIC OF MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

Mindful movement exercises
Mindful breathing and visualisation
Sing-alongs/vocalising sounds
makaton
Sensory and percussion play
Rhythm and drum exercises
Dance and movement games

Build confidence
Improve communication skills
Vocalising and language development
Enhance self-awareness and awareness of others
Improve concentration and attention skills
Learn self expression
Use music as a healthy emotional outlet

COME JOIN THE FUN



SPEND TIME WITH YOUR LOVED ONES

MEET NEW FRIENDS

£5 PER CHILD/TEEN WITH SEND

ADULTS AND SIBLINGS GO FREE. DONATIONS ALWAYS WELCOME



Contact Claudette: 07516514622/ Info@carouselmusic.org

Compass BLOOM

We offer a free and confidential service supporting children and young people, aged 5-18, with mild to moderate emotional health and wellbeing needs. We work in 64 schools and colleges throughout Chorley, South Ribble, Preston and West Lancs.

We can help with managing:

- Low mood: sadness, low motivation
- Mild to moderate anxiety: worries, irrational fears and concerns
- Difficulty in adjusting to change and transition
- Difficulty in managing emotions: angry outbursts, frustration and distress

How we do it:

- We deliver evidence based interventions through 1:1 meetings and group work
- We support the Senior Mental Health Lead to develop a whole school approach to mental health and wellbeing
- We provide advice and guidance to school and college staff
- We provide strategies to parents/carers to support with their child's anxiety

You can check if your school / college is on our list on our website by scanning the QR code. Referral is done through the child's school.



@COMPASSBLOOM 01772 280123



COMPASSBLOOM@COMPASS-UK.ORG



DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING FOOTBALL SESSIONS



Football sessions in a fun, safe and inclusive environment for Children and Young People aged from 4 to 16 years.

Older members also have opportunities to enrol on FA Coaching Courses and become future role models.

Coaches are FA Enhanced DBS Cleared and have qualifications in First Aid and Safeguarding, with additional qualifications in Deaf Awareness and BSL.

Training is 6~7 pm on Fridays at
Lostock Hall Community Primary School,
PR 5 5 AS

In association with



Ashton Community
Science College



To Enrol or for further information, please contact:
Darryl: darrylcartwright@btinternet.com



FREE

INCREDIBLE YEARS PARENTING COURSE

FOR PARENTS AND CARERS OF CHILDREN AGES
3-9 YEARS

STARTS

Thursday 7th September 2023 - 9.30am-12noon
(Last session Thursday 14th Dec-Allows for half term break)
AT

Moor Nook Youth Community Centre, Preston.

THE 14 WEEK COURSE IS DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN PARENTING SKILLS BY ENCOURAGING CO-OPERATION BETWEEN PARENTS AND CHILDREN - PARENTS WILL GAIN IDEAS AND SKILLS FOR DEALING WITH DIFFICULT BEHAVIOUR. (No crèche available)
REFERRALS MAY COME FROM PARENTS OR PROFESSIONALS.

TO BOOK A PLACE or FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE

Call or email:

The Parenting Team HCRG Care Group

Tel: 0300 247 0040

vcl.019.theparentingteam@nhs.net

BEING A DAD

didn't come with instructions



Being a Parent

A peer delivered course for dads and other male caregivers of children age 2-11, for anyone wanting to understand their child's behaviour

Thursdays 6pm - 8pm
From 14th September 2023
for 9 weeks

Cost: **FREE** // Max group size: 8

@ The Recovery College
Deepdale // Preston

Booking is essential

For more information and to book a place, please email:
rob@dadsnet.com



EMPOWERING
PARENTS
EMPOWERING
COMMUNITIES



Paradise Gems

**The First Ever Independent Charity
Providing Islamic Care & Education
For SEN/D Children and Young
People in Preston**

Paradise Gems is the first Madrasah (Islamic care & education) for children and young people with Special Education Needs/Disabilities (SEN/D) in Preston. The registered charity (1203487) was founded in August 2022 by pioneering couple Luckman Ismail and Sajedah Maka-Ismail. Our doors opened to students in November 2022. We currently operate at Frenchwood Community Primary School, Preston, Tuesday to Thursday in the evening.

The madrasah was initiated due to the shortfall of accommodation for special people in mainstream madrasahs. The lack of time, space, and resources has led to an outcry of parents seeking some form of inclusive education for their children who require special attention. Additionally, our mission is thus to create awareness of by promoting social inclusion, providing one to one learning at the pace of the child, and fulfilling their needs.

Our vision is for this facility to not only provide Islamic Education, but also respite a Family Hub for families and carers from all cultures, religions and backgrounds. This will allow social inclusion and diversity amongst all.

We believe it is imperative that individuals who are SEND/SEN receive the right education and inclusion within the community. Physical disabilities also restrict individuals to seek education due to the restricted building envelope and cannot learn in a "mainstream" provision. Preston's Paradise Gems wants to provide that equality and empowerment to everyone. We believe they are the key to our Paradise in Heaven.

Caring for disabled or elderly family members is on the increase and it is important that the carers receive respite.

Our objectives are:-

- To help advance Islamic education provision to members of the Muslim Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) community in safe and suitable environment.
- To enable them to observe Islamic principles and practices, which they have learnt very little of or none in some cases.
- Improve the quality and consistency for those children and young people that fall require SEN/SEND support and those with Education Health and Care Plans
- Allow individuals to feel inclusive, provide them with equality and empower them with knowledge that will help them in the understanding of their faith and everyday life.
- Endeavour for individuals to become responsible, respectful Muslims, to be socially and emotionally ready to deal with the wider world.
- Incorporate British values, cultures and apply Islamic beliefs, so that there is a true understanding of why actions are taken in a certain way.
- Apply varied teaching methods and strategies which will be used effectively and appropriately to accommodate differing learning styles.
- Creating an effective and well managed learning environment in which individual needs of each pupil can be met.
- Islamic values include the conviction that all pupils are of equal worth regardless of gender, ethnicity, ability and circumstances or special needs.
- The charity intends to allow carers to get respite for a short period of time and allow them to enjoy time for themselves, whilst the one they care for are in a safe and secure environment learning and make the most of their time.



Contact us for more information:-

Tel +44 (0) 1772 759345 | +44 (0) 7816529040

Email info@ppgems.org



Meet the Team...

Kev - Liaison Officer



My relevant history: My working life started with an engineering apprenticeship. I then join the Royal Air Force (RAF) where I served for 25 years. 1 year before leaving the RAF, I started my teacher training. After leaving the RAF, I completed my teacher training with the

University of Huddersfield – after learning some big words. I then taught in Further Education (FE) for 4 years. In 2007 I moved to the Parent Partnership Service (now SENDIAS), initially as a School Choice Adviser and now as a SEND Information, Advice and Support (IAS) Liaison Officer.

What people like about me and what I like about myself: I believe people see me as a person with a good sense of humour, but also a person with a serious professional side.

What is important to me: My family and friends, Hill Walking, DIY. Being grateful for all the wonderful people I have in my life.

What I enjoy about my job: One of my core values is helping others. SENDIAS gives me a fantastic opportunity, every day, to do just that.

Aspirations: What I would like to do in the future: Be a good husband, father, and grandfather. Organise my Man Cave. Climb as many mountains as I can before I am too old to do so.

What changes would I make: Professionally, I would like to be more efficient in my working practice – something I strive towards every day. Personally, I want for nothing. I am thankful for the wonderful people I have in my life who provide a positive influence on my continuous evolution.

Jill - Liaison Officer



My relevant history: I was born and bred in Blackpool when it was still part of Lancashire. I have worked for Lancashire County Council for over 40 years starting in the Library Service at age 16 and then joining the Parent Partnership Team – now SEND IAS – in 2008.

What people like about me and what I like about myself: People say that I am a good listener and that I am empathetic. People say that I am lovely. I like that I am kind and caring. I like that I am easy to talk to. I like that I will try to help people in any way that I can.

What is important to me: My family and friends and my daughter's dog Jaskier. My home in France. Being kind, caring and helpful. Going for walks to stay healthy and pottering about in my garden.

What I enjoy about my job: I love helping people and like them to feel listened to. I like to feel that I have made a difference. Our team – we are all positive, upbeat people who really care about what we do.

Aspirations: What I would like to do in the future: I love my job, but I am working towards retirement and hopefully moving to live in France. I would like to have a dog. Preferably a Border Collie to go on long walks and play ball.

What changes would I make: I am a people pleaser and should maybe say no sometimes but that is so hard to do. Other than that, I am extremely happy with everything in my life, and I feel very blessed.

Sarah - Liaison Officer



My relevant history: I have worked in a primary school setting for about 15 years in various roles, 1-1, class TA, HLTA, Wellbeing, Nurture & Safeguarding before joining the SENDIAS team. I have two children who still keep me busy even though they are 19 & 23 years old. We enjoy meeting up for lunch or going to the cinema – if we can agree on the film!

What people like about me and what I like about myself: I am told I am caring, considerate and a good listener. I like that I am optimistic and try to find the good in most situations, even if they are tricky. I try to find a positive way through a challenge.

What is important to me: Family, friends, my two rescue cats, Spot and Millie and doing the best I can in my work.

What I enjoy about my job: I enjoy being able to talk to parents and young people about their experiences and how they can reach their future goals. You never know who the next Prime Minister will be, teaching your grandchildren or caring for you in the future.

Aspirations: What I would like to do in the future: At the moment my future plans are to carry on enjoying what I am doing, possibly move house and certainly to keep a happy and optimistic outlook.

What changes would I make: There are no changes I would make at this time, although you never know what tomorrow brings!

Gayle - North Officer



My relevant history: I started my working life in the Hospitality industry and lived & worked in Worcester & London before returning to Preston where I grew up. I trained to be a Mediator before joining the then Parent Partnership Service (now SENDIAS) in 2007.

What people like about me and what I like about myself: I can be calm, understanding and don't judge, I will always try to put people at ease, I have a good sense of humour

What is important to me: My friends & family, and my little dog Otto. Yoga, long walks & outdoor swims. My football team, Preston North End – they all help my wellbeing (football aside!)

What I enjoy about my job: Being part of a good team of people who genuinely care about the job they do. Seeing families achieve a positive difference to their child / YPs lives is very satisfying.

Aspirations: What I would like to do in the future: When I retire ... I would like to meander around Europe in a camper van for part of the year & keep an allotment to grow my own veg

What changes would I make: I am very easily distracted, so need to work on getting better at doing one thing at once! Other than seeing PNEFC in the Premiership for at least one season, there's not a lot I would change in my life, which makes me very lucky.

Salim - East Officer



My relevant history: I am the SENDIAS Officer for East Lancashire which includes (Ribble Valley, Burnley, Pendle, Hyndburn, Rossendale) and Preston. I come from a background of working in education over the last 20 years.

What people like about me and what I like about myself: People like the way I am professional, smart and have a friendly personality, that I can speak three languages and am understanding and supportive. I believe I am honest and will say if I do not know the answer to a situation or question, but I will try my best to find the answer.

What is important to me: It is important to me that I do my job to the best of my ability.

What I enjoy about my job: I enjoy advising and supporting parents, children and young people and making a difference in their journey through education.

Aspirations: What I would like to do in the future: I want to be PM

What changes would I make: I would make sure we live in a free and fair society.

Jess - South Officer



My relevant history: I am originally from London and moved to Lancashire in 2018. I joined the SEND IAS team in Nov 2021. Before this, I worked in special schools in various roles for 12 years. I have worked within settings which have met the needs of children and young people with various needs

such as: visual impairment, profound and multiple disabilities, general learning difficulties, moderate learning difficulties, autistic spectrum condition, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, and social emotional mental health difficulties.

What people like about me and what I like about myself: I like that I am friendly and approachable. I like that I am able to make people see the best in a situation. I like that I can help people. People think I am trustworthy and helpful.

What is important to me: My friends and family. My two doggies Finn and Poppy. Being organised. Getting outside and exploring. Getting my daily steps in. Manners and being kind.

What I enjoy about my job: I love helping people. I enjoy seeing children do well and reach their potential. I like feeling like I've influenced or supported a positive change. I love working with children and young people to listen to their voice and find out what they want. I work with a really nice team of people who all want to make a difference to children & young people and their families.

Aspirations: What I would like to do in the future: In the future I would like to have more dogs. I would like to go traveling and see more countries. I would like to live near the beach (so my dogs can go every day)

What changes would I make: None, I'm really happy with my life and experiences! (Maybe I would have moved to Lancashire earlier – it's a fab place to live, and work!)

Laura - Team Manager



My relevant history: I started my working life as a nanny working at a riding school, after going back to college I worked at a museum and art gallery as a visitor services manager one of my tasks was to ensure collections were accessible to those with disabilities. I joined the parent partnership team (now SENDIAS) in 2005.

What people like about me and what I like about myself: People say that I am calm and good at listening. I always try to see positives in a situation. I will always try to put people at ease and don't judge.

What is important to me: My friends & family, my job, my horse Meg and my dogs Dobbie, Pippa, and Ethel.

What I enjoy about my job: I love managing such a committed hardworking team who always want to help and make things better for families. Hearing how the support we give have made a difference is very satisfying.

Aspirations: What I would like to do in the future: I would like to carry on spending time with my horse, spending time with my grandchildren.

What changes would I make: I am not very good at saying no although I am getting better at delegating!

Lancashire SEND information advice and support team
Helpline Number **0300 123 6706** – 9 to 5, Monday to Friday.
You can leave a message outside of these times and we will call you back.

Email – information.lineteam@lancashire.gov.uk

Web site – www.lancssendias.org.uk

[www.facebook.com/
LancashireSENDinformationAdviceandSupportTeam](https://www.facebook.com/LancashireSENDinformationAdviceandSupportTeam)



DanceSyndrome Founder Awarded BEM in the first King's Birthday Honours



The inspirational founder of a local charity has been recognised with a British Empire Medal (BEM) for services to Disabled People in the first King's birthday honours.

Jen Blackwell is 41 and lives in Chorley. Her greatest passion in life is dance. Jen also has Down's syndrome but has never let her disability stop her from living life to the full. After she left school, Jen and her mum, Sue, spent 10 years searching for the right dance training opportunities that would allow her to follow her dream to be a Dance Leader and performer. After all those years of searching, they couldn't find anything that was accessible for Jen because of her learning disability, so in 2009 they took matters into their own hands and set up their own organisation, Lancashire-based charity DanceSyndrome.

DanceSyndrome's ethos is that disability should never be a barrier to following your dreams. All DanceSyndrome activities are disability led, with people with learning disabilities taking visible leadership roles to inspire people to see what can be achieved when we all become more inclusive. The charity offers weekly inclusive dance workshops, their own accredited leadership training, and high quality and exceptional performances at a variety of events including performing at the prestigious Edinburgh Fringe Festival this August.

After 14 years of striving to inspire people in all areas of life to become more inclusive, Jen has been recognised in the 2023 King's birthday honours. As announced on the 17th June in an exclusive supplement in The Gazette, Jen has been awarded The British Empire Medal (BEM). The BEM recognises an achievement or contribution of a very "hands-on" service to the community in a local geographical area. This often takes the form of sustained commitment in support of very local charitable and/or voluntary activity; or innovative work that has delivered real impact.

Presentations of BEMs are made locally by The Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire and Jen will be invited to celebrate her achievement later in the year at a garden party at Buckingham Palace.

This is not the first time that Jen and the DanceSyndrome team have been recognised for their work. The charity has been the recipient of many local and national awards over the last 10 years, most notably receiving the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the MBE equivalent for volunteer groups in 2019. This prestigious honour recognises the exceptional contributions made to local communities by groups voluntarily devoting their time for the benefit of others. Jen was thrilled to be invited to Buckingham Palace to celebrate achieving this award.

Jen said "I'm amazed to receive this honour for what I love doing. I'm proud of who I am and the achievements of DanceSyndrome. It's an honour to inspire others to dance and live a life of their choosing. I believe that everybody can dance and do things they love no matter how other people define us."

DanceSyndrome Managing Director Julie Nicholson said *"Everyone at DanceSyndrome is so proud of Jen and we are thrilled to see her recognised in the King's birthday honours. This is so well deserved after many years of hard work on the part of Jen, her family, and the team of dancers. Jen has always wanted to change the world through her dance and when she is given accolades like this it demonstrates the huge difference that one person can make if they are determined and dedicated. It's great to see success on this level and really shows what can be achieved when people with learning disabilities are properly included and supported to follow their dreams."*

If you would like more information about how to support DanceSyndrome's work or join a dance session, then you can find out more at www.dancesyndrome.co.uk





Everybody Dance Blackburn

Inclusive dance sessions at:
Wesley Hall Methodist Church,
Feilden Street,
Blackburn,
BB2 1LQ

**Mondays
1pm - 2pm
£5**

For more information, please visit:
www.dancesyndrome.co.uk/sessions
Or call: 07597 942494

Inclusive dance can help you to boost your mood, improve your health & wellbeing and have fun!

DanceSyndrome is grateful to be supported by the following funders:





BURNLEY DANCE CLASS AND CLUB NIGHT EXPERIENCE

THURSDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 7PM-10PM
THEN CONTINUING ON THE 2ND THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Learn new dance moves and dance the night away with friends

£8 per person
Carers Free

Venue: Hidden
1 Cow Lane, Burnley BB11 1NN
Book your tickets at:
www.meet-n-match.co.uk/events

For more details contact Vikki Boyd, Volunteer & Events Coordinator on 01254 457026
vikki@spring-projects.co.uk
Please note, this venue is NOT wheelchair accessible



MOTIV8-LANCS

A DAYCARE PROVIDER FOR ADULTS WHO HAVE AUTISM, ASPERGERS SYNDROME AND LEARNING DISABILITIES

**OPENING MONDAYS
9:45AM TILL 2:45PM**

OUR SESSIONS INCLUDE.....

- DANCING AND SINGING
- DRAMA/ROLEPLAY
- MAKATON
- GAMES (INCLUDES POOL TABLE, DARTS AND AIR HOCKEY)
- LOCAL WALKS/TRIPS
- OUTDOOR SPORT ACTIVITIES
- GARDENING
- BAKING
- COOKING
- ARTS AND CRAFTS
- WOODWORK
- FILMS/DOCUMENTARIES
- PHOTOGRAPHY
- EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

CALL 07980292330 TO ENQUIRE

 MOTIV8-LANCS DAYTIME ACTIVITIES

Based in Clayton-le-Moors, Accrington – email:
Motiv8-lancscic@outlook.com for more details



NAS Day Opportunities

The **Opportunities Centre** runs every weekday, provides autistic adults with a supportive space to develop new skills, and work towards self-determined goals.

It also provides a venue for social interaction, as we offer a selection of group activities both in the Centre itself and out in the wider community.

Some of the activities we offer include:

- Arts and Crafts
- Cookery
- Baking
- Communication
- Social Eyes
- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Photography
- Swimming
- Money Management
- Trampolining
- Music
- Travel Training
- Road Safety
- Food Hygiene
- Sensory Sessions
- IT Skills
- Internet Safety

Café Autisan

A local landmark, **Café Autisan** is a popular venue immediately at the entrance of Whalley Abbey.

Here, we provide autistic adults with training and work experience, both retail and culinary—preparing them to eventually move into employment independently.

At Café Autisan, you can learn about food hygiene, and food preparation. You can learn to take food and drink orders, use a till and interact with customers – and all with the support of our team of autism specialists.

Questions?
Email Rachel.Black@nas.org.uk
- or -
Search for "NAS Centre Lancashire" online

Want to come see us?
Café Autisan, Whalley Abbey, The Sands, Whalley, Clitheroe, BB7 9SS



more than words

Blossom Programme

Working in partnership with schools and colleges to support your transition into adulthood.

Gain nationally recognised qualifications

Develop life skills and become more independent

Achieve your aspirations and plan for your future

The Blossom Programme links with schools and colleges to provide day-release workshops for young people with additional needs aged 16-25.

There are opportunities for students to gain nationally-recognised Open Awards and Arts Awards, and take part in a range of fun and interactive activities. There are three distinct parts:



Personal Skills

Dealing with challenges around transition
Building confidence
Developing social skills
Meeting new people, making new friends
Understanding finances
Positive wellbeing



Employability

Work placement opportunities
Interview skills and techniques
Communication skills
Working as part of a team
IT skills and staying safe online
Organisational skills



Qualifications

Arts Award:
Discover and Explore
Open Award Skills Passport:
Entry level awards in e-safety, employability and professional development, financial awareness, physical health and mental wellbeing, performing arts.

Students can start the Blossom Programme at any point in the Academic Year. For more information, email stacey.mtw@gmail.com or phone 01942 735426



Live Your Best Life!



Flourish and Achieve is a new service in Parbold and Hilldale for young people and adults with disabilities and autism. We offer a range of healthy lifestyle and creative activities, including:

- Nature walks
- Dog walks
- Allotments
- Cooking/baking
- Painting
- Arts and crafts
- Floristry
- And much more!

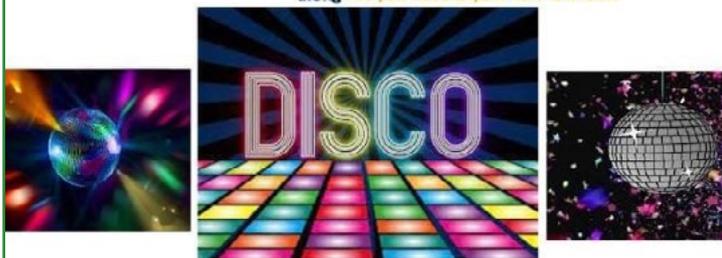
There's lots of opportunities to get involved in the local community and develop new friendships.



For more information, or to arrange a FREE taster day, contact Louise on 07976 955968 or email flourishandachieve@hotmail.com

the Learning Rooms

Presents a fully inclusive disco for adults with additional needs open to everyone. **Just come along. All you need is your two left feet!**



Settle Inn Botanic Gardens Southport

7pm-9.30pm

- Thursday 4th May 2023
- Thursday 1st June 2023
- Thursday 6th July 2023
- Thursday 3rd August 2023
- Thursday 7th September 2023
- Thursday 5th October 2023



Free Entry

Enjoy yourself

For further details please contact

The Hub- 0170620502

or follow us on  facebook

The Hub & Four Seasons by The Learning Rooms



GET INTO BUSINESS SERVICES WITH BAE SYSTEMS

EXPLORE A CAREER IN BUSINESS SERVICES

Are you aged 18-30? Our free course gives you the chance to explore a career in Business Services.

In this programme you will:

- Take part in an onsite work experience placement.
- Develop new skills, improve your CV and boost your interview technique.
- Learn about job opportunities and apprenticeships with BAE Systems.
- Receive 6 months progression support.

BAE Systems values diversity and everyone has the opportunity to be themselves, no matter what their background.

Get in touch and Start Something today!

INFORMATION

Taster Day: 20th September 2023
Course Dates: 2nd - 20th October 2023
Location: BAE Systems, Samlesbury
Email: mark.whittaker@princes-trust.org.uk
Phone: 07870 876175

Supported by:





everyone
matters.

Everyone Matters is a group for parents and carers of children and young adults with disabilities or SEN needs. You are welcome to join us every first Tuesday of the month at 1-3pm.

Everyone Matters provides a friendly, safe and supportive environment for you to come and meet others.

Brave Church, Watson St,
Oswaldtwistle BB5 3HH

Phone: 01254 372771

Email: hello@bravechurch.co.uk
Website: www.bravechurch.co.uk




Find us on Facebook

'you are not alone'

Spectrum of Light Rossendale is a parent carer support group of children whom have extra needs

**MONDAY EVENINGS
7.00PM - 9.00PM**

Come along to our safe space with people who are in similar positions. Make friends, give and take away advice. £2 donation, refreshments are provided.

For more information contact **Julie** on
07968 057954
info@spectrumoflightrossendale.co.uk

Lancashire
County Council



Children and Family
Wellbeing
Service

Wednesdays 1-2:30pm

Support group for parents, grandparents & carers of children with additional needs

Come for a cuppa and a chat about joys & challenges
Share ideas with other parents & carers
Guest Speakers

Park Neighbourhood Centre
Barnes Road, Skelmersdale, WN8 8HN

TimeOut

Are you a parent or carer of a child with SEN or other Additional Needs? Do you need a safe space to chat or seek help/advice from others who are going through the same?

Meet up with us on
Wednesdays from 9.15-11.30 at Highfield Neighbourhood Centre (Wright Street, PR6 0SL. 01257 516466)

For more information, contact Kat at kat.timeout@outlook.com or search **TimeOut (Chorley) Support Group** on Facebook.



100% FUNDING AVAILABLE

for Powered Wheelchairs & Specialist Sports Equipment



Apply online today:
www.caudwellchildren.com/apply
 Limited time only. Terms & Conditions Apply.

**Does your child have ADHD?
 or are they under assessment
 for ADHD?**

**Are you a professional that knows
 a family that could benefit from
 our help?**

What we offer

Outreach Support

Parent & family support
 by our qualified family
 practitioners

**Parent Empowerment &
 Skills Training Programme**

Gain the knowledge, tools
 and confidence on how to
 parent a child with ADHD



Telephone Support

**Assist with
 services/agency meetings**

We can attend TAF, Children
 in Need meetings or of
 anything similar

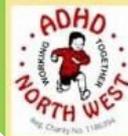
Where we are based

East Lancs

**Blackpool,
 Fylde & Wyre**

West Lancs

Blackburn with Darwen



Tel: 01254 886 886

email: reception@adhdnorthwest.org.uk

www.adhdnorthwest.org.uk

Facebook: ADHD North West

**DO YOU KNOW IF GENETIC
 CONDITIONS OR ILLNESSES
 RUN IN YOUR FAMILY?**

Do you have children with health problems in your
 immediate or extended family?

Do you worry about having more children
 who may be affected?

**Information and
 support is available!**

Talk to the East Lancashire Community Team
 Tel: 01282 690536

What we can do for you?

- Support you to access appropriate services
- Help you to understand information about your child's condition
- Provide support to your wider family
- Provide language support
- Visit you at Home

Anne Edington
 Tel: 07715 651504 or

Misbah Rukhsar
 Tel: 07832 161173

Jade Barker
 Tel: 07832 164295

Visit our website: advice@communitygenetics.org.uk



**Ambitious
 youth network**



**Are you 16-25?
 Are you autistic?**

**Join our Ambitious
 Youth Network
 online platform!**

Meet new people in our peer
 support sessions and access
 paid opportunities to make things
 better for autistic people.

ambitious-youth-network.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk



Ambitious about Autism is a registered charity in England
 and Wales: 1063184 and a registered company: 03375255.

Lancashire County Council – contact details

www.lancashire.gov.uk/council/get-involved/contact Email: enquiries@lancashire.gov.uk

	Service	Number
Corporate Services	Signposting / General enquiries	0300 123 6701
	Libraries	0300 123 6703
	Library Service Automated Renewal Line	0300 123 6704
	Registration and Certification Service	0300 123 6705
	School Admissions	0300 123 6707
	School Appeals	0300 123 6708
	Lancashire Adult College	0300 123 6709
Care Connect	Social Care	0300 123 6720
	Safeguarding Adults	0300 123 6721
	Emergency Duty Team	0300 123 6722
Travel and Transport	Blue Badges	0300 123 6736
	NoW Card	0300 123 6737
	Schools Transport	0300 123 6738
Local Inclusion Offices	South (Preston, Chorley, South Ribble, West Lancashire)	01772 531 597
	East (Hyndburn, Ribble Valley, Pendle, Burnley, Rossendale)	01254 220 553
	North (Lancaster, Fylde, Wyre)	01524 581 200
Other Useful Numbers	Family Information Service	0300 123 6712
	Carers Lancashire	0345 688 7113
	SEND Information, Advice and Support Team	0300 123 6706
	Children & Family Wellbeing Service	0800 511 111

Newsletter Editorial Group Calling parents and carers – we need your help!

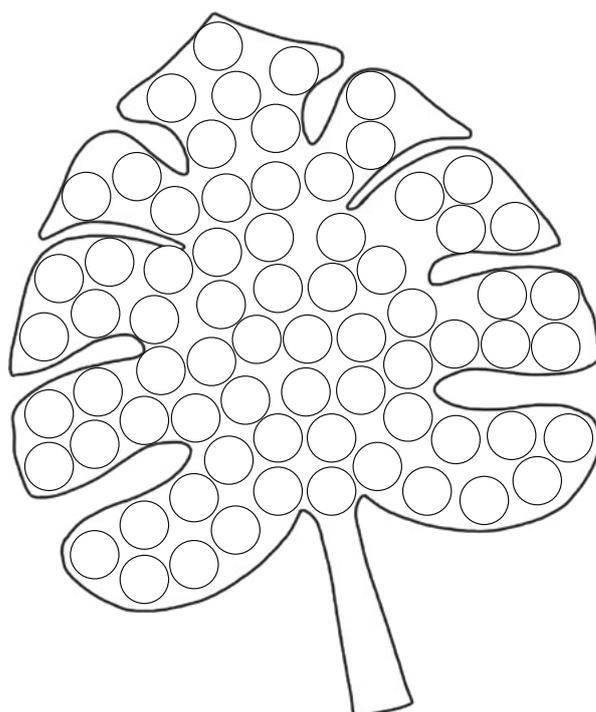
The SEND newsletter is produced by Lancashire County Council with the support of our Editorial Group, made up of parents and carers alongside representatives from LCC, Health and voluntary organisations.

The group meet four times a year to decide the content of each issue, to make sure it remains relevant and informative to the families that receive it. The meetings are friendly and informal and take place online, via Microsoft Teams.

We are currently looking for more parents and carers to join the group. If you are interested, please email us at:

FIND@lancashire.gov.uk

Autumn Leaf Do a Dot Activity



Your Help Is Essential

We would welcome contributions from Children, Young People, Parent Carers, Voluntary and Statutory Agencies:

- Are you involved with a project or group you would like to promote
- Details of forthcoming diary dates
- Opportunities for Children and Young People with SEND
- Any ideas, views, letters, poems, etc, you would like to share
- Useful websites that you would recommend to other families

Contributions for future issues – please contact us.

Email: FIND@lancashire.gov.uk

Tel: 01772 538077



Do you have anything to share in the SEND Newsletter? We would love to hear from you!

Editorial Group

Lancashire County Council

Sarah.deady@lancashire.gov.uk

Anna.burkinshaw@lancashire.gov.uk

Parent Representatives*

Nannette Holliday – Chorley

Lucy Ellis – Lancaster

Trish Dobson – West Lancashire

*Parent carers from other areas interested in joining the group, please contact us (details above).

Voluntary Organisation

Tom Harrison – Community East Lancashire

Sam Jones – Chair, Lancashire Parent Carer Forum

Health

Clair Martin – Designated Clinical Officer, North Locality

Winter issue – deadline for articles 29th September, published December 2023

Spring issue – deadline for articles 5th January, published March 2024

Summer issue – deadline for articles 29th March, published June 2024

If undelivered, please return to:
Room CH1:42, County Hall, Preston,
Lancashire PR1 8RJ

If you would prefer to receive SEND in a different format, or if you no longer require a copy, please call **01772 538077** or email FIND@lancashire.gov.uk



We also have a facebook page.

For regular updates, please 'like' our page at: www.facebook.com/LancashireLocalOffer

Get this free newsletter sent to your door

If families would like to have a free copy of the SEND Newsletter delivered to their home 4 times a year, please register online at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/getting-help/family-information-network-directory

To Professionals – please email FIND@lancashire.gov.uk

You are welcome to photocopy, display and distribute this newsletter

The SEND Newsletter is produced by Lancashire County Council. The views expressed in signed articles do not necessarily represent those of Lancashire County Council. The newsletter cannot accept any responsibility for products and services advertised within it.

