

# West Berkshire SEND Local Offer Newsletter Autumn 2022



WestBerkshire  
C O U N C I L

# A message from the Family Information and Local Offer team:

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Thank you for taking the time to read our SEND Autumn 2022 Newsletter. I hope you will find information on local services, events and groups that will be beneficial to you.

My name is Ruth Nmadu-Cole and I will be working on secondment alongside Jessica Monteith-Chachuat as Specialist Information Officer Early Years/Local Offer as Jessica is currently working on the launch of the **50 things to do before you're 5** app. The app launch will be taking place on the 2nd November at 11am at Educafe in the Newbury Library.

The **50 things to do before you're 5** app promotes indoor and outdoor play, family engagement, and community development. Our app will highlight all the remarkable and wonderful activities available in West Berkshire for you to enjoy with children in your care!

You can see what the app is all about by viewing the Oxfordshire page here:  
<https://oxfordshire.50thingstodo.org/app/os...>

We are always happy to receive new content for the Newsletter so, if you have any regularly running weekly or bi-weekly groups or activities,

we'd encourage you to complete a record for the Directory and this can be added to our rolling calendar.

You can register to add a record via the Directory homepage:

<https://directory.westberks.gov.uk/kb5/westberkshire/directory/home.page>

We've been working hard to try and improve our What's on page on the Directory; you can check it out here:

[https://directory.westberks.gov.uk/kb5/westberkshire/directory/whats\\_on.page](https://directory.westberks.gov.uk/kb5/westberkshire/directory/whats_on.page)

And our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/people/West-Berkshire-Family-Information-and-Local-Offer-Service/100064875722277/>

If you have any one-off events or activities that you think would be relevant to either (or both!) our [What's On page](#) or [Facebook page](#), please let us know! You can email the details to: [Fis@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:Fis@westberks.gov.uk)

Thank you and happy reading!

## Mary Hare School

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### Mary Hare School opens brand-new Primary School and is now opening entries for Reception Year.

The new Primary School opened in September 2022, with start-of-the-art acoustics and facilities to support the education of deaf young people. The school is now delighted to announce that they are offering assessments for Reception Year for September 2023. You can find out more about the new facilities, along with the online form to book in your child's assessment, on the Mary





Hare website: [www.maryhare.org.uk](http://www.maryhare.org.uk)  
Or the admissions team would be delighted to answer your questions and can be contacted by email at [enquiries@maryhare.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@maryhare.org.uk) or call 01635 244 200



## Kings in Triple-Header of fixtures this past weekend ( Kings III VS Hereward Heat)

It was the first Thames Valley Kings triple-header of fixtures in the British Wheelchair Basketball national league this past Saturday

In the first match of the day, it was the Kings III who faced Hereward Heat in Division three south, Kings started strong and continue to build on a good lead going into half-time, 24-14. Kings were in a comfortable position to rotate their bench in the second half giving lesser experienced players the opportunity for court time. The team continued to play well and held on to pick up their first win of the season - 44-36.

The second game of the day saw Kings II take on Plymouth Fusion II in Division 2. It was Plymouth who took an early lead in the first quarter but with a change of tactics Kings rallied back in the 2nd quarter and finished the half with a 1-point lead, 16-15. The second half was end-to-end action with the teams going basket to basket with one another and with just 8 seconds left in the match, it was all tied at 34-34 but it was Plymouth who won the game in the last second and broke Kings hearts to pick up the win 36-34.

In the final game of the day, Kings first team went up against a very strong Plymouth fusion

team and it was Plymouth who took an early lead with their speed but kings defence tightened up in the 2nd quarter and they started to hit their shots and finished the half narrowly behind them, 28-24. The 2nd half was as fast-paced as the first but it was Plymouth who managed to build on their lead and eventually take the win after pushing away in the final quarter, 67-52.

Although it wasn't the results Kings wanted from the games, it was a great day of wheelchair basketball and looks as though it could be a great season all around for all three teams.



# Parenting Special Children - Autumn Events 2022

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## November 2022

### **Lets Get Creative! Adopted Children: Age 5-12 (inc Adopters Support Group)**

**Saturday 5 November 2022**

**@ 10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

**Lower Earley Baptist Church, Maiden Place,  
Reading, Berkshire RG6 3HE United Kingdom**

A monthly group for adopted children (age 5 -12), building social skills through different forms of art. Includes the Adoptive Parents Support Group.

[Find out more »](#)

### **Social Interaction Group for Children and Young People: School Years 4 to 8**

**Monday 7 November 2022**

**@ 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm**

**Tilenurst Community Centre, 23 The Triangle,  
Tilehurst, Reading, RG30 4RN United Kingdom**

A 6 week course to support young people who are awaiting an assessment for Autism or ADHD or have already received a diagnosis. School years 4-8, though Year 9 may be considered. You must be registered with a Berkshire West NHS GP surgery.

[Find out more »](#)

### **Interoception Workshop – Zoom**

**Monday 7 November 2022**

**@ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

**Zoom PSC Online, United Kingdom**

A single workshop for parent/carers of children and young people who have difficulties with the lesser-known sense of Interoception (an aspect of sensory processing).

[Find out more »](#)

### **Pre and Post Assessment Workshops: Autism (3 workshops): Berkshire East – Zoom**

**Wednesday 9 November 2022**

**@ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

**Zoom PSC Online, United Kingdom**

A series of three linked Autism workshops for families registered with a Berkshire East NHS GP surgery (Ascot, Bracknell Forest, Slough, and Windsor & Maidenhead).

[Find out more »](#)

### **Pre and Post Assessment Workshops: ADHD (3 workshops): Berkshire West – Zoom**

**Thursday 10 November 2022**

**@ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

**Zoom PSC Online, United Kingdom**

A series of three linked ADHD workshops for families registered with a Berkshire West NHS area GP surgery (Reading, Wokingham, and West Berkshire).

[Find out more »](#)

### **Community Parent/Carer Support Group: Whitley and Reading**

**Friday 11 November 2022**

**@ 9:30 am - 11:30 am**

**South Reading Community Hub, 252,  
Northumberland Avenue, Reading, Berkshire  
RG2 7QA United Kingdom**

A support group for family members who have children/young people with additional needs living within the community of Whitley and Reading.

[Find out more »](#)

### **Pre and Post Assessment Workshops: ADHD (3 workshops): Berkshire East – Zoom**

**Tuesday 15 November 2022**

**@ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

**Zoom PSC Online, United Kingdom**

Topic based workshops for parent/carers supporting children and young people with ADHD.

[Find out more »](#)

## **Community Parent/Carer Support Group: Bracknell**

Thursday 17 November 2022  
@ 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Great Hollands Community Centre, The Square,  
Great Hollands, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 8UX

A support group for family members who have children/young people with additional needs living within the community of Bracknell.

[Find out more »](#)

## **Supporting Children with Trauma/ Insecure Attachment at School: Professionals – Zoom**

Thursday 24 November 2022  
@ 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm  
Zoom PSC Online, United Kingdom  
£30.00

Two linked workshops for Professionals Supporting Children with Trauma and Insecure Attachments at School.

[Find out more »](#)

## **Sensory Processing Workshop – Zoom**

Monday 28 November 2022  
@ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm  
Zoom PSC Online, United Kingdom

For parent/carers of children and young people with Sensory Processing difficulties.

[Find out more »](#)

## **DECEMBER 2022**

### **PSC Annual General Meeting 2022**

Thursday 1 December 2022  
@ 9:30 am - 11:00 am  
Oracle, 510 Oracle Parkway, Thames Valley Park, Reading, RG6 1RA United Kingdom

Parenting Special Children's Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 1st December 2022 from 9.30-11am.

[Find out more »](#)

## **Let's Get Creative! Adopted Children: Age 5-12 (inc Adopters Support Group)**

Saturday 3 December 2022  
@ 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Lower Earley Baptist Church, Maiden Place,  
Reading, Berkshire RG6 3HE United Kingdom

A monthly group for adopted children (age 5 -12), building social skills through different forms of art. Includes the Adoptive Parents Support Group.

[Find out more »](#)

## **Community Parent/Carer Support Group: Whitley and Reading**

Friday 9 December 2022  
@ 9:30 am - 11:30 am  
South Reading Community Hub, 252  
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A support group for family members who have children/young people with additional needs living within the community of Whitley and Reading.

[Find out more »](#)

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Thursday 15 December 2022  
@ 12:30 pm - 2:30 pm  
Great Hollands Community Centre, The Square,  
Great Hollands, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 8UX

A support group for family members who have children/young people with additional needs living within the community of Bracknell.

[Find out more »](#)



# Physical Development in Early Years Workshop

**When: Monday 7th November 2022**

**Where: The Globe, Portman Road, Reading**

**When: 9.30- 12.30**

Get Berkshire Active are hosting a free workshop for all practitioners who work with families and children in the Early Years sector to gain practical skills for activities to support physical development, network and share experiences and learning with peers and find out how

GBA can support in the future. This is also an opportunity to find out and apply for funding through the "Early Years and Family Project Fund" to enhance service to children and families you work with.

Refreshments and pastries available.

Limited spaces - Booking required. Please email [info@getberkshireactive.org](mailto:info@getberkshireactive.org) for details of how to book.



The poster features a background image of a child in a blue football kit. At the top left is the 'TheFA Charter Standard Community Club' logo. At the top center is the Berks County FC crest, which includes a tree and the text 'BERKS COUNTY FC', 'EST. 2009', and 'FROM SAINTS TO SWORDS'. The main title 'BERKS COUNTY FC INCLUSIVE SESSIONS' is prominently displayed in the center. Below this, a blue text box contains the following information: 'Berks County FC Disability Football Club is a new initiative designed to inspire boys and girls aged 12-18 with any disability or unable to attend mainstream football, to get involved in the beautiful game.'; 'Berks County will provide a high quality and enjoyable introduction to football as a first step into what we hope will be a lifelong passion for the sport.'; 'If your child is aged 12-18 and interested in getting involved then please email [wayne@berkscountyfc.com](mailto:wayne@berkscountyfc.com) for registration details'; 'We will be hosting the sessions on a state of art 3G training ground at **Cantley Park, Wokingham, Starting Sunday 25th September**'; 'We'll provide the opportunity for young children to play regular, fun and engaging football in a safe and friendly environment using FA qualified coaches who volunteer to help coach children.'; and 'If you are interested in joining in, know someone who can benefit, or would like to help, then please email [wayne@berkscountyfc.com](mailto:wayne@berkscountyfc.com).' The bottom of the poster features a row of logos for sponsors: Lennox Children's Cancer Fund, Berkeley (Designed for life), NOT JUST TRAVEL YOUR HOLIDAY, NINE PARTNER CLUB, Diversified (IMAGINATION ENGINEERS), ARK & HAMMER, MRS Digital, and epc.

**TheFA**  
**Charter**  
**Standard**  
**Community**  
**Club.**

**BERKS COUNTY FC**  
**INCLUSIVE SESSIONS**

Berks County FC Disability Football Club is a new initiative designed to inspire boys and girls aged 12-18 with any disability or unable to attend mainstream football, to get involved in the beautiful game.

Berks County will provide a high quality and enjoyable introduction to football as a first step into what we hope will be a lifelong passion for the sport.

If your child is aged 12-18 and interested in getting involved then please email [wayne@berkscountyfc.com](mailto:wayne@berkscountyfc.com) for registration details

We will be hosting the sessions on a state of art 3G training ground at **Cantley Park, Wokingham, Starting Sunday 25th September**

We'll provide the opportunity for young children to play regular, fun and engaging football in a safe and friendly environment using FA qualified coaches who volunteer to help coach children.

If you are interested in joining in, know someone who can benefit, or would like to help, then please email [wayne@berkscountyfc.com](mailto:wayne@berkscountyfc.com).

**Lennox**  
Children's  
Cancer Fund

**Berkeley**  
Designed for life

**NOT JUST**  
**TRAVEL**  
YOUR HOLIDAY

**NINE PARTNER CLUB**

**Diversified.**  
IMAGINATION ENGINEERS

**ARK & HAMMER**  
THE PARTNERSHIP OF ARTS

**MRS**  
Digital

**epc**  
ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY

# How can West Berkshire SENDIASS help?

West Berkshire SENDIASS aims to empower children and young people, from 0–25 years old, with special educational needs/disabilities and their parents/carers to make informed decisions about education, health, and social care. We can support with providing information on SEND law, local policies and guidelines, accessing SEND support in education settings, and with processes such as applying for an EHCP, appeals to the SEND Tribunal, and exclusions. We have a wonderful team of IPSEA trained staff as well as a fantastic website with lots of resources available to support families and professionals. Children, young people, and parent/carers can self-refer to West Berkshire SENDIASS and professionals are welcome to refer to us with consent.

Many questions we receive at this time of year are around choosing a school for a child with SEND. Our website has a fantastic webinar on this topic as well as a factsheet with suggested questions to ask when visiting a school and a table to collate answers. These can be found at:

[Choosing a nursery/school/college for your child with SEN](#)

[Choosing a Primary School Factsheet](#)

This is just one example of the resources we have available so make sure to check out our website at: [West Berkshire SENDIASS – Special Educational Needs & Disability Information Advice & Support Service \(westberkssendiass.info\)](#)



## West Berkshire SEND Information Advice & Support

WHO ARE WE?

**We are the West Berkshire Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS).**

We provide free, confidential, impartial information, advice and support relating to special educational needs and disability (SEND), independently from education, health and care providers

Our information, advice and support is delivered by independently trained Information, Advice and Support Service (IASS) staff.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

[www.westberkssendiass.info](http://www.westberkssendiass.info)  0300 303 2644



# West Berkshire Mencap Children's Outreach



The outreach service provides a bespoke package of care to support children with *additional needs*, this support can be offered in the home, out in the community or at our centre in Enborne gate in Newbury.

We design the package of care to suit the needs of the child and to work towards goals or targets they wish to achieve.

**IN THE COMMUNITY;** we can support the child to access activities such as swimming, attending other social activities or learning a skill such as travel training.

**IN THE HOME;** may include helping with homework, bathing & getting the person ready for bed or helping them learn to cook.

**AT OUR CENTRE;** a large hall, sensory room, soft playroom & large outdoor playground. Are accessible with hoists available in the soft playroom, sensory room & changing room. The playground includes swings, slides, a zip wire & a wheelchair accessible swing. As well as a large range of toys & craft activities.

We have a team of trained staff who are able to offer the service, after school, weekends or school holidays, we aim to be as flexible as possible with days & times to suit the young person & their family.

Want to know more?

**01635 41464**

**[info@wbmencap.org](mailto:info@wbmencap.org)**

