



## Short Breaks Service



### For Children with Disabilities

#### Newsletter w/c 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022

This newsletter contains events and updates from various services around Halton, as well as other general information which you may find useful. You can find out more information on the [Halton Local Offer page online](#) or contact the [Short Breaks Service for Children with Disabilities](#) team too.

### Christmas Holiday activities

With Christmas fast approaching there are lots of activities planned for the holidays across the borough for school aged children from Reception to Year 11, who receive benefits related to free school meals. There are also a **number of places available to other vulnerable groups of children and young people, such as SEND, Young Carers, and NEET.** [Click here to view the locations](#) and you can [click here to view the full list](#).

### Health and Wellbeing Activity camp at OCA Widnes



Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

#### Funded Spaces

Funded spaces are for children in receipt of benefit related free school meals children who are looked after, children who are refugees, children with SEN requirements and children with an EHCP in place.

Spaces are still available for the Health and Wellbeing activity camp at Ormiston Chadwick Academy Widnes **from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December.** [Click here to find out more and to book your space.](#)

**Vibe Christmas activities at Victoria Park**  
**Widnes – 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> December**



The poster features a dark blue header with the 'vibe' logo in multi-colored lowercase letters. Below the logo, the text 'HAF Christmas Programme' is written in white. The background is a collage of images: a person in a red inflatable bubble suit on a grassy field, and a close-up of a child's face being painted with colorful designs. White snowflake icons are scattered across the design. The text is organized into sections with icons: a location pin for 'Victoria Park Widnes', a calendar for '22nd & 23rd December 2022', a clock for '1-5pm', a hand pointing for a list of activities, and a fork for food information.

**vibe**

**HAF Christmas Programme**

Victoria Park Widnes

22nd & 23rd December 2022

1-5pm

Bubble Football  
Facepainting  
Festive arts and crafts  
Marshmallow s'mores on campfire

Festive food, dessert and hot chocolate provided

For young people age 8-16 who are eligible for Free School Meals and other vulnerable groups of young people.

**SEND Key**  
**S F**

Department for Education

**REGISTER HERE**



**HALTON**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Join the team at Vibe on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December between 1pm and 5pm** at Victoria Park Widnes for an afternoon of bubble football, face painting, festive arts and crafts, and even marshmallow s'mores on the campfire! [Click here to register.](#)

Don't forget there are other Vibe activities running over the Christmas holidays – [click here for more details.](#)

## Special relaxed panto performance at The Brindley

thebrindley  
theatre  
Runcorn

New Pantomime Productions Ltd Presents  
The Brindley's GIANT of a Pantomime

Eurovision's  
NICKI  
FRENCH

X Factor's  
DAVID  
HEATH

Britain's Got Talent's  
PAUL  
TATE

Liverpool TV & Radio  
JOHN  
COOPER

REBECCA  
LAKE

ANDREW  
CURPHEY

CHARLOTTE  
DACIA

**JACK  
AND THE  
BEANSTALK**

BOX OFFICE 0151 907 8360    [www.thebrindley.org.uk](http://www.thebrindley.org.uk)

**Wed 7 DEC 2022- Sun 8 JAN 2023**

This year's Christmas panto at The Brindley is Jack and the Beanstalk and they are offering a **relaxed performance on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm** which aims to give those who otherwise might feel excluded the chance to experience live theatre. It creates a welcoming, less formal atmosphere to help reduce anxiety levels. Some of the loud, bright elements will be reduced and strobe lighting and pyrotechnics will be removed. Music levels will be minimised and there will be no sections of complete darkness. Audience members will be able to come and go as they please throughout the show.

Please **contact the box office on 0151 907 8360** for further information or [click here for more info.](#)

## Lots on at Halton Libraries this Christmas



**It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas  
and we have lots for the kids!**

### Lego Club:

Mon—Ditton; Tues—Halton Lea and  
Widnes; Thur—Runcorn 3 til 5pm

### Rhymetime:

Tues—Ditton and Runcorn;  
Thurs—Halton Lea;  
Friday—Widnes 11 til 11:45am

### Saturday Stories:

Sat—Widnes and Halton Lea 11 til 11:45am

### Brilliant Builds:

Thur—Halton Lea 3 til 5pm

### NEW! Saturday Squad:

Sat—Halton Lea & Widnes 12-12:45

[Check out their website](#) for more information and details on the upcoming activities, or [follow them on Facebook](#).

**Down Syndrome Cheshire – 2023 events  
calendar now published**



The image shows the cover of a calendar for Down Syndrome Cheshire for the period of January to June 2023. The cover features a colorful logo at the top left consisting of seven teardrop shapes in red, yellow, green, blue, purple, and orange. Below the logo, the text 'DOWN SYNDROME CHESHIRE' is written in a simple, black, sans-serif font. To the right of the logo is a circular photograph of a young child with Down Syndrome, wearing a blue and white striped shirt. Below the logo and photo, a large yellow teardrop shape contains the text 'Family events and training courses' in white. To the right of this shape are three logos: the 'COMMUNITY FUND' logo with a hand icon, the 'Steve Morgan FOUNDATION' logo in a cursive font, and 'The Henry Smith Charity' logo in a purple box. Below the yellow shape, a red teardrop shape contains the text 'Registered Charity Number 1192916'. At the bottom right, a blue teardrop shape contains the text 'January to June 2023'.

DOWN SYNDROME  
CHESHIRE

Family events  
and training courses

COMMUNITY  
FUND

Steve Morgan  
FOUNDATION

The Henry Smith  
Charity  
founded in 1986

Registered Charity Number 1192916

January to June 2023

Down Syndrome Cheshire have published their new calendar of events for 2023 – [click here for your digital copy.](#)

## **Halton SEND Parent Carers Forum – upcoming Zoom meetings with professionals**



As a reminder the team at Halton SEND Parent Carer's Forum have organised several Zoom meetings and **the final session on Autism and eating difficulties is tomorrow, Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm.**

The session is an informative and informal way to ask questions and seek support from the professionals.

If you are not a member of the forum you can contact the Forum by emailing [admin@HaltonSendPCF.org.uk](mailto:admin@HaltonSendPCF.org.uk) or visit [their Facebook page](#) or website: [haltonsendcarersforum.org.uk](http://haltonsendcarersforum.org.uk) to access the Zoom information.

### **Be aware of Group A Strep**



UK Health Security Agency | [#GroupAStrep](#)

# Group A Strep (GAS)

Parents should trust their judgement when their child is poorly. Speak to your GP or call 111 if your child is poorly and getting worse.

**Always call 999 or go to A&E if your child:**

- ▶ Is having difficulty breathing - such as grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- ▶ there are pauses when your child breathes
- ▶ child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- ▶ is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake.

**The UK Health Security Agency** has issued advice for parents concerned about the spread of Group A Strep among children – trust your judgement when your child is poorly and speak to your GP or call 111 if they are getting worse.

This newsletter provides general information and resources, though not all of it will be relevant to everyone included in the mailing list. If there is some specific information you would like to see more of, or information from a certain service please let me know and I will try to include next time. If you do not wish to continue receiving this newsletter, please let me know.

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