



## Short Breaks Service



### For Children with Disabilities

Newsletter w/c 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023

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

### Cheshire Ice Cream Farm – SEN sessions



Join the team at Cheshire Ice Cream Farm on **Sunday 19th February from 9am-11am for their SEN session**. With reduced numbers, music and dryers turned off, ear defenders available on request, indoor play, all attractions open from 9am and the option to stay all day this is a great opportunity to have a treat! Check out more information on [their website](#) or on their social media channels [including Facebook here](#).

# After school Activity Hub with Positive Future – launches today



The poster features a light blue background with various images of activities. On the left, there are photos of food, craft projects, board games, and gaming consoles. The text is arranged in a clear, readable layout with bold headings and bullet points. The logo for Positive Future is at the top center, and the website URL is at the top right. The launch date is prominently displayed at the bottom left, and contact information is at the bottom right.

**Open to ages 11-17**  
Come and join us in a safe and all-inclusive Activity Hub on ...  
The Hub will be open weekdays Monday to Friday 3.30 pm – 6.30 pm each day.

**RFC**  
Positive Future Consultancy  
<https://www.positivefutureltd.co.uk/>

## Activity Hub

The activity hub is aimed at giving children a safe and caring environment, whilst developing and learning new skills, socialising, and relaxing after a challenging day at education. Parents will have the reassurance of knowing their children are enjoying their activities in a safe and positive environment.

Speak to your family support worker about funding.

**Zone 1** – will be a social space to relax, talk to friends, YP will be able to bring their own electronics i.e., switch, iPad, phones etc. This space will also have timetabled Movie, pool, table football time etc.

**Zone 2** – Craft room, YP will be able to use the craft room for a multitude of crafts ranging from Jewellery making, painting, drawing, paper quilling, papermaking, soap, and candle making etc.

**Zone 3** – many board games will be available throughout the session.

**Zone 4** – Kitchen will be available for bookable slots for cooking skills.

**Zone 5** – Gaming room 1 hr booking slots, Wii, PS available.

Refreshments will be available throughout.

The hourly rate £10 per hour [We can supply 1-1 support at additional cost]

You will need to pay 4 weeks in advance to secure your child/ dependents place.

All dates subject to availability and number of clients

**Launch Date: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February!**

Hallmark House  
Waterloo Road  
Widnes  
WAB 0QR  
0151 4220111  
[gail@positivefutureltd.co.uk](mailto:gail@positivefutureltd.co.uk)  
Call or email to book your place

S- SEND Friendly  
SA- SEND Accessible



Positive Future are pleased to confirm the launch their new **after-school Activity Hub each weekday from 3.30pm to 6.30pm at their base in Waterloo Road Widnes from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February**. Call the team for more information on **0151 422 0111** or drop them an email at [gail@positivefutureltd.co.uk](mailto:gail@positivefutureltd.co.uk)

## Halton SEND Parent Carer Forum – SYNC Youth Club



**SYNC**  
SEND YOUTH NEEDS CLUB

**FREE**

**SATURDAY 11th  
FEBRUARY 2023**

**12.30PM -  
4.30PM**

**AGE  
12-19**

**YOUTH CLUB DROP IN SESSION**  
FOR THOSE WITH SEND LIVING IN HALTON

**INCLUDING BOARD GAMES, ARTS AND CRAFTS AND SOFT BALL  
MULTI SPORTS OR COME ALONG AND CHILL**

**(Food and drink supplied)**

**AT MOON MEADOW SCOUT HUT, FARNWORTH STREET, WIDNES, WA8 9LH**

Spaces are limited so please email: [infosync22@gmail.com](mailto:infosync22@gmail.com) to register for a place

email: [infosync22@gmail.com](mailto:infosync22@gmail.com)

 Syncuk22

 SYNC

 INCLUSIVITYE CIC

 HALTON  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Join the Halton SEND parent carer forum for the SYNC Youth Club for young people aged 12-17 – the next session is on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February from 12.30pm-4.30pm at Moon Meadow Scout Hut, Farnworth, Widnes. Find out more on [their Facebook page](#) or drop the team an email at [info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk](mailto:info@haltonsendpcf.org.uk)



And as a reminder the Zoom meetings with various professionals continue throughout February. These are 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.

- Tourette's Action – **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 7:30pm**
- Health Improvement Team with Steve Purcell – **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023 7:30pm**

And on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February** there is the next **Coffee Chat and Check-in** at Hope Corner Community Church, 70 Clifton Road, Runcorn, WA7 4TD. Pop along and meet some of the team and other local parents in a warm, welcoming, and supportive environment.



## **Contact's campaign for school meal vouchers**

contact

# Many disabled children are **missing out** on their free school meals.

Contact is proudly supporting a parent-led campaign to provide food vouchers for disabled children who can't access their meals.

Join us at [contact.org.uk/fsm](http://contact.org.uk/fsm)

An illustration of a red lunchbox with a blue lid and handle, with a yellow banana resting on top. Next to it is a pink bowl filled with a pink liquid, possibly soup or a drink.

Contact is supporting a parent-led campaign to provide food vouchers for disabled children who can't access their meals.

Find out more about the **#FreeSchoolMeals** campaign on the [Contact website here](#), and you can [join their campaign on Facebook by clicking here](#).

**Disability ice skating sessions at Deeside  
Leisure Centre**

# Disability Ice Skating

5th March

Running on the 1st Sunday  
of every month  
12.30 - 1.15 pm

Contact Jo Gillmore  
deesideiceskatingclub1974  
@gmail.com

Only  
£5 each  
(1 Carer free)

Suitable for all impairments  
Deeside Leisure Centre  
Skating aids & qualified coach available  
siblings and family welcome



[www.aura.cymru](http://www.aura.cymru)



The sessions at Deeside Leisure Centre are £5 each with 1 carer free, and they have skating aids and a qualified coach available. The next available session is on **Sunday 5th March** 12.30pm-1.15pm. Contact Jo Gillmore by emailing [deesideiceskatingclub1974@gmail.com](mailto:deesideiceskatingclub1974@gmail.com) to book a space.

**Half-term activities at Beechwood Community Centre**



**Beechwood**  
Community Centre

**HALF TERM**  
**February 2023**

**MON**  
**20**

**MOVIE MONDAY**  
Only £1 a ticket - 12 noon

**TUE**  
**21**

**BUILD YOUR OWN PANCAKE BAR**  
Only £2 a ticket - 5pm

**THUR**  
**23**

**TEEN LOUNGE**  
Only £5 a ticket - 7pm

**FRI**  
**24**

**FRIDAY FUN DAY "GAMES"**  
Only £1 a ticket - 12 noon

TICKETS FOR ALL EVENTS AVAILABLE BY  
CALLING INTO THE OFFICE. OPEN  
MONDAY - FRIDAY 9AM - 5PM

There are several activities this half-term at Beechwood Community Centre, call into the centre office Monday – Friday 9am-5pm to collect your tickets.



# Gateway Community's Saturday Youth Activity Hub

Hallmark House  
Waterloo Road  
Widnes  
WA8 0QR  
0151 4220111  
[gatewayc2017@outlook.com](mailto:gatewayc2017@outlook.com)

Call or email to book your place



<https://www.gatewaycommunity.co.uk/>

## Youth Provision Activity Hub

Calling all 11 – 25-year-olds!

Come and join us in a safe and all inclusive Activity Hub on ...

**Saturday**

28<sup>th</sup> Jan

25<sup>th</sup> Feb

25<sup>th</sup> Mar

10am – 3pm

29<sup>th</sup> Apr

27<sup>th</sup> May

24<sup>th</sup> Jun

10am-2pm

Lunch and refreshments will be supplied.

**Zone 1** – will be a social space to relax, talk to friends, YP will be able to bring their own electronics i.e., switch, iPad, phones etc. This space will also have timetabled Movie, pool, table football time etc.

**Zone 2** – Craft room, YP will be able to use the craft room for a multitude of crafts ranging from Jewellery making, painting, drawing, paper quilling, papermaking, soap, and candle making etc.

**Zone 3** – many board games will be available throughout the evening session; we will also have available table tennis and safe darts tournaments.

**Zone 4** – Kitchen will be available for bookable slots for cooking skills

**Zone 5** – Gaming room 1 hr booking slots, Wii, PS available and much more.....



S- SEND Friendly  
SA- SEND Accessible



Gateway Community are running their monthly Saturday Activity Hub from their base in Waterloo Road Widnes. The next session is on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February 10am-3pm with lunch and refreshments provided!

Call 0151 422 0111 or email [gatewayc2017@outlook.com](mailto:gatewayc2017@outlook.com) to book your place.

## SEND R US Drum-A-Long session

A poster for a Drum-A-Long session. The background is dark with colorful bokeh lights. At the top left is the SEND R US CIC logo with the tagline 'Bringing Families Together in Halton'. The main title 'Drum-A-Long' is in large white font. Below it, the date and time 'Saturday 11th February 11am-12.30pm' are in yellow. A teal box contains the text 'Come and have a Drum'. Below that, white text describes the activity as physical and mental exercise that increases BPM. Three colored boxes (teal, yellow, and purple) provide booking and eligibility information. A red oval at the bottom right contains the venue address. The 'ALL OF US VERSUS ARTHRITIS' logo is in the bottom left corner.

**Drum-A-Long**

**Saturday 11th February**  
**11am-12.30pm**

**Come and have a Drum**

Drum-A-Long is a form of physical and mental exercise which increases your BPM. It is great for mental wellbeing, it's enjoyable and brings people together

For people of any age living in Halton with SEND, long-term or chronic illnesses

Message us via Facebook at SEND R US CIC to book your place as spaces are limited

All children must be accompanied by a parent or carer

Ashley High School  
Cawfield Avenue  
Widnes  
WA8 7HG

**ALL OF US  
VERSUS  
ARTHRITIS**

Join the SEND R US team for their popular Drum-A-Long session on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February 11am-12.30pm** at Ashley High School Widnes.

Spaces are limited so [message the team through Facebook to book your space!](#)

And don't forget there is an **additional one-off cooking class on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 5pm-7.30pm** at Castlefields Community Centre –[message through Facebook](#) or email [sendrus@mail.com](mailto:sendrus@mail.com) to book a space!



## The Sensory Gym at the Sensory Hive in Whiston

COME AND VISIT

# The Sensory Gym



The Sensory Hive is not-for-profit community organisation offering services in occupational therapy, sensory integration and education for individuals living with sensory processing difficulties.

It was founded in 2017 by Sharon and Hayley, professionals in the fields of health and education but more importantly, parents of children with additional needs themselves. They have first-hand experience of how sensory processing conditions can profoundly affect a loved one and their families.

Their Sensory Gym is a multi-sensory space with equipment to suit a range of abilities and offers a one-hour session for £10.

[Click here to find out more on their website](#), or check out their social media pages [including Facebook](#).

## Half term activities at Halton Libraries



There's lots on at all the Halton libraries this February half-term, including hedgehog book folding, make and take animal masks, craft crocodiles and terrific turtles, and much more!

You can keep the children entertained this school holiday without spending a fortune so take a look at the fantastic activities they have planned and get booking your free tickets.

[Click here to view the activities calendar and book your places!](#)

New Basil Tots playgroup

Monday's starting 06.02.23

# BASIL TOTS PLAYGROUP

MONDAY  
AFTERNOONS  
1.30PM - 3.00PM

WEDNESDAY  
MORNINGS  
9AM - 10.30AM

**EVERYBODY WELCOME**

£1 ENTRY - REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED



The new Basil Tots playgroup starts this week at St. Basil's Primary School this week. There are two sessions each week on Monday mornings and Wednesday afternoons. Entry is just £1 with refreshments provided – everybody welcome! Call the school on 0151 424 7887 for more information.

**Share your opinions with Halton Sensory  
Services**

**Do You Have a  
Vision Impairment  
or Hearing Loss?**



**Come and share your opinions  
on local services at our free  
Sensory Stakeholder Event  
hosted by Halton Sensory Services**

**Join Us For Coffee, Biscuits and a Chat  
on the 1st March 2023 1.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.**

**Halton & St Helens Voluntary & Community  
Action, St Maries, Lugsdale Road,  
Widnes WA8 6DB**

**Contact us on 01244 381515 or  
email [information@visionsupport.org.uk](mailto:information@visionsupport.org.uk)  
for more information.**



Pop along on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 1pm-4pm to share your opinion on local services.  
Call the team on 01244 381515 or email [information@visionsupport.org.uk](mailto:information@visionsupport.org.uk) for  
more information.



## Hollie Guard app launched in Cheshire



You may have seen on the news lately about the launch of the Hollie Guard app.

The Hollie Gazzard Trust was created following the murder of 20-year-old Hollie Gazzard in 2014 by an ex-partner. Set up by parents Nick and Mandy, along with sister Chloe, the charity helps reduce domestic violence through creating and delivering programmes on domestic abuse and promoting healthy relationships to schools and colleges.

They have launched the Hollie Guard app, supported by Cheshire Police to offer additional protection whether you're working alone, travelling to an unknown area or simply commuting around town.

The 24/7 monitoring service provides direct access to a dedicated emergency response team who are fully equipped to assess your situation and are trained in the appropriate escalation process.

Find out more on [the website here](#) and learn more about the app and its features by [clicking here](#).

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.

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

Short Breaks Service for Children with Disabilities Halton Borough Council

Tel: 0151 511 6560

Email: [AimingHigh.forDisabledChildren@halton.gov.uk](mailto:AimingHigh.forDisabledChildren@halton.gov.uk)