

SEND Local Offer Guide

**Autumn 2024
3rd Edition**

**Find services, organisations,
advice & support for children and
young people with Special
Educational Needs & Disabilities**

- **Activities**
- **Help**
- **Support Services**
- **Council & Health Services**
- **Advice**

Web: www.sendvoiceswokingham.org.uk
Email: info@sendvoiceswokingham.org.uk
Facebook [SendVoicesWokingham](#)

SEND Voices Wokingham: Registered Charity Number: 1201621

Dear Parent Carer

Welcome to the 3rd edition of the **SEND Voices Wokingham SEND Local Offer Guide**.

We produced the first edition during covid, and families continue to tell us that having local information together in this guide is really helpful, so we have updated it for 2024. Although not exhaustive, it gives you information about some of the organisations and services locally that can provide activities, help, information and support to you and your child aged 0-25 years with any Special Educational Need or Disability (SEND).

A big thank you to all the local groups and services who have provided information to go in this guide. The information provided is correct of November 2024. Please ensure you check individual groups websites for the most up-to-date information.

Thank you for your continued support and telling us what is working well and where services can be improved in the Borough. We hope that we will see you at one of our events, either in person or online, very soon.

The SEND Voices Wokingham Team

Sarah, Terri, Debbie and Jacky





The independent voice of **SEND** families,
representing their experiences to
improve lives

What do we do?

We give a voice to families who have a child or young person aged 0-25 years with any **Special Educational Need or Disability (SEND)**. We work in partnership with education, health, social care, and other service providers to make sure the services they commission meet the needs of children and young people with SEND in Wokingham.

We represent parent carers experiences, views, and priorities.

How do we do this?

By listening to our members and as many parent carer voices as we can, from across the Wokingham Borough. We do this through:

- **Events**
- **Training courses**
- **Consultations & surveys**
- **Information sharing**

Join us, become a member – It's FREE

To become a member of SEND Voices Wokingham email your contact details to info@sendvoiceswokingham.org.uk

More details can be found on our website
www.sendvoiceswokingham.org.uk and on
Facebook [SendVoicesWokingham](https://www.facebook.com/SendVoicesWokingham)

We are currently able to offer all our members a **FREE Max Card**. The Max Card is a discount card for families of children with additional needs aged 0-25 years. Families can use their Max Card at selected venues across the UK to get free or discounted admission.



www.wokingham.gov.uk/lo

The SEND Local Offer webpages tell you about local support for children and young people aged 0 to 25, with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their families.



Find out about:

- Support in nursery, school and college
- Local health and social care services
- Activities, groups and short breaks
- Preparing young people for adulthood

Keep up to date

Sign up to the SEND Local Offer newsletter for regular updates about what's on for families.



Contact us

If you need help to find information, or to give feedback about the Local Offer:

localoffer@wokingham.gov.uk



Wokingham Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
Information, Advice and Support Service

Does your child have special educational needs and/or disabilities?

Are you worried about their progress at school?

We provide free, confidential and impartial information, advice and support relating to all aspects of SEN and Disabilities, including Health, Social Care, and Personal Budgets.

We can support you in many different ways:

- By phone ● Email ● Face to face ● Attending meetings
- Providing training sessions for parents

We can support you from when you first have concerns that your child may have SEND through to requesting and maintaining an Education, Health and Care Plan

HELPLINE: 0118 908 8233

**Wokingham SENDIASS
Wokingham Youth Centre
35 Reading Road
Wokingham
RG41 1EG**

**E-mail: Sendiass@wokingham.gov.uk
Website: www.sendiasswokingham.org.uk**



ASD Family Help

CHARITY NUMBER: 1135718

AUTISM AND NEURODIVERSITY EMBRACING DIFFERENCES



**We believe everyone deserves to feel supported and empowered.
Let us walk with you on your journey.**

**Are you feeling lost or lonely on your autistic or neurodiverse journey?
You are not alone. We are here for you.
We're a group of individuals and families, just like you. We come
together to build a supportive community in Berkshire.**

OUR SERVICES



CONNECTING

Parent/Carer Support Group
Adult Support Group
Fun Club Drop In (for adults or families)
Adult Social Clubs & Teen Clubs



SUPPORTING

One to one appointments
(for adults or parents/carers)
Help reviewing forms (PIP/DLA)
Signposting, advice, information



BEING ACTIVE







Multi-Sports Club
Football Club
Group led activities



LEARNING

Workshops for parents/carers
Teen Life Skills
Workshops for professionals

GET IN TOUCH

 jayne@asdfamilyhelp.org  07733 601755  rachael@asdfamilyhelp.org
 ASDFamily  www.asdfamilyhelp.org  [asdfamilyhelp](https://www.instagram.com/asdfamilyhelp)

A 'User Led' charity created by parents/carers in 2005.

We offer support, advice and activities for autistic or neurodiverse individuals and/or those with other learning disabilities or difficulties. (Plus parents/carers, siblings or professionals within Berkshire).

Our charity is open to all —no diagnosis required.

**Reach out.
Find Support.**

Support from Autism Berkshire for Parents and Carers in Wokingham

Autism Berkshire provides a wide range of advice and support services for parents and carers and their families in the Wokingham Borough Council area.

Help for families of children and young people who have a diagnosis of autism and/or ADHD - or are on CAMHS waiting lists for assessment - is provided through the Berkshire West Autism & ADHD Support Service, which is a partnership between Autism Berkshire and Parenting Special Children.

Help for families of autistic people aged 18+ who have a diagnosis or are waiting for assessment is provided through the Berkshire Adult Autism Support Service.

Both services are free of charge, thanks to funding from the NHS through the integrated care boards that commission health services in Berkshire.

Support available includes:

- Helpline
- Advice appointments
- Autism advice workshops for parents & carers and for autistic adults
- The Thames Valley Autism Alert Card
- Family Fun Days
- Trampolining for autistic children and young people
- Social groups for autistic adults
- Monthly newsletters

For more information about all our services:

Call us: 01189 594 594 | Email: contact@autismberkshire.org.uk

Berkshire West

Autism & ADHD Support Service

Autism
Berkshire

Parenting
Special
Children


Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire
and Berkshire West
Integrated Care Board

Berkshire

Adult Autism Support Service

Autism
Berkshire




Frimley Health and Care
Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire
and Berkshire West
Integrated Care Board



e-mail | berkswr@gmail.com
website | bansheeswr.club
facebook | [Berkshire Banshees Wheelchair Rugby CIC](#)

Ever wanted to try **WHEELCHAIR RUGBY?**

Do you have a disability but still want to be involved in an exciting sport?

Come and find out what it's all about.
Contact us for more information.

You don't need to be a wheelchair user to take part.

Training, every Saturday, 1.30pm–4.30pm
Blue Coat School, Sonning, Reading, RG4 6SU



Join
the

Super 1s



@BerksCricket



Free cricket sessions!



All disabilities welcome | Ages 12-25

Monday: 5PM - 6PM - Wokingham HUB

Wokingham Leisure Centre, Wellington Road, Wokingham, RG40 2AF

Tuesday: 6PM - 7PM - Holyport HUB

St Piran's School, Gringer Hill, Maidenhead, SL6 7LZ

Wednesday: 5PM - 6PM - East Reading HUB

Bulmershe Leisure Centre, Woodlands Avenue, Reading, RG5 3EU

All our activity uses soft balls so no equipment needed. Regular competition and matches available throughout the year.

For more information contact:

Chris Baker

Chris.baker@berkshirericketsfoundation.org

07883787499 or visit www.lordstaverners.org registered Charity No. 306054 | OSCR No. SC046238



LORD'S TAVERNERS

Giving young people a sporting chance.



Berkshire Deaf Children's Society are a registered charity run by parents of deaf children and our main aim is to give help and support to deaf and hearing-impaired infants, children, and their families.

Membership is free and anyone can be part of the group, regardless of the level or type of their child's hearing loss and methods of communication.

We have a full diary of great outings and events and meet throughout the year. The aim of the events is to help families meet up with each other in an informal setting and to provide support and advice. It is also an opportunity for deaf children to meet other deaf children and for them to meet deaf role models.

We also fundraise so we can organise regular social activities throughout the year.

We are affiliated to the NDCS (National Deaf Children's Society) which allows us to make use of their resources, information, and experience.

For more information please visit our website

www.berkshiredcs.org or email enquiries@berkshiredcs.org



Berkshire Vision

Supporting The Visually Impaired



Children, Young People and Families – benefit from the support we provide, getting involved in activities adapted to meet each young person's needs and having the opportunities to develop friendships with other visually impaired young people. Our activities are run throughout the year, but particularly in the school holidays to offer families the opportunities for quality time together, for respite or to meet up and enjoy some time with others in similar situations. Previous activities have included visiting Windsor Castle, science days, football skills, cooking, craft, tennis, footgolf, ice-skating, a theatre trip, going to a local pantomime, visiting a museum, an indoor climbing centre lesson, horse-riding and outdoor swimming.

18-35's Social Group - meet on a regular basis to spend quality time together and take part in activities of their choosing. The aim of this group is to bring together visually impaired young adults, to encourage their independence and build confidence, to support their transition into adulthood. Previous activities have included a visit to the Escape Room, tenpin bowling, pub lunches, pottery sessions, a barbeque and chocolate making.

Membership of Berkshire Vision is FREE!

To find out more information contact

Carol Barnfather,
Children, Young People and Families Worker
Berkshire Vision
5 Midleton House
Erleigh Road
Reading
RG1 5LR

www.berkshirevision.org.uk

Email: children@berkshirevision.org.uk

Tel: 0118 987 2803

<https://www.facebook.com/BerkshireVision/>

<https://twitter.com/berkshirevision>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/berkshirevision>

<https://www.instagram.com/berkshirevision/>



Established in 1910, Berkshire Vision is the working name of Berkshire County Blind Society which is a registered charity limited by guarantee no. 07977903, registered in England and Wales. Registered charity no. 1146413



Building for the Future runs a specialist play centre for children and young people with disabilities and their families which is completely accessible. There are many fun areas to enjoy including a sensory room, soft play, a computer area, play areas and more. 'Our House', based just outside Wokingham, also runs Saturday Clubs, a Youth Club, Stay and Play sessions during the school holidays, a playgroup for under 5s and more. We also offer the space for private parties. Please contact Nicki on nicki@bftf.org.uk for more information. Tel: 07925 692277



Building for the Future Plus is a new service run by longstanding charity, Building for the Future. 'Plus' works to source life-fulfilling opportunities for young people with disabilities who have left school or college. These opportunities may relate to socialising, work experience, expressive arts and sport. If you would like to find out more, please contact Jane on jane@bftf.org.uk. Tel: 07967 105842

[www. bftf.org.uk](http://www.bftf.org.uk)



Camp Mohawk

The Woodland Centre Trust

For children and young people with special needs

Camp Mohawk is a day centre for children with special needs and their families, set in 5 acres of beautiful countryside, just outside Wargrave, Berkshire. Throughout the year the centre provides a range of activities, facilities and natural space to encourage children with a variety of special needs to play, socialise and learn in a secure and caring environment. Our facilities include adventure playgrounds, swings, sensory garden, play village, soft play and sensory rooms, art / craft room, music room, play lounge and, in the summer months, an outdoor, heated play pool. All this is set in approximately 5 acres of natural woodland.

What we offer:

- **Family Days** in school holidays and on Saturdays in term time – children / young people need to be accompanied by a parent / carer but we have a team of staff and volunteers on hand to provide support and assistance
- **Short Breaks** activities for children / young people aged 8 to 25 who have High Functioning Autism / Asperger's Syndrome
- **Special events** including sensory sensitive fireworks displays and Christmas parties
- **Group sessions** / days for SEND support groups, schools and groups of families



Registration is mandatory for all services and advance booking is necessary for all sessions. Fees / charges for families are all voluntary but contributions from our service users are an important source of income so we do have suggested contribution levels. Please visit our website or get in touch for more information:

Web: www.campmohawk.org.uk

Email: info@campmohawk.org.uk

Tel: 0118 940 4045

Wokingham Carers Partnership

New service for unpaid carers in Wokingham

- Get support to help you in your caring role
- Emotional Support
- Form filling support
- Support Groups
- Carers Card
- Phone support Monday -Friday 9-4pm
- Find Local Services of help
- Look after your health and wellbeing
- Connect with other carers
- Understand your rights

Information and advice support service for unpaid carers in Wokingham

Age UK Berkshire (Lead contact for all carers over 18)

Website: www.ageukberkshire.org.uk

Contact number : 0118 959 4242

Email: carers@AgeUKBerkshire.org.uk or
info@AgeUKBerkshire.org.uk



Promise Inclusion (Carers of children and adults with a learning disability and/or autism)

Website: www.promiseinclusion.org

Contact Number: 0300 7778539



Berkshire Youth (For carers age 6 - 18)

Website: www.berkshireyouth.co.uk

Contact number : 0118 909 0927

Email: admin@berkshireyouth.co.uk





A Charity Supporting Adults with Learning Disabilities to Speak Up

Our aim: CLASP is a self advocacy charity for people with learning disabilities. Self advocacy is when you speak up about the things that are important to you. CLASP helps people with learning disabilities to do this and to have the same opportunities and choice as everyone else.

Who we work with: We support adults with learning disabilities (age 18+) living in the Wokingham borough.

What do we do:

- We run a range of projects that encourage people with learning disabilities to get actively involved in their local community, including a weekly coffee shop and an inclusive choir.
- We run groups that aim to make a real difference in our local community, including our campaigning group 'Take Notice' and our award-winning training group 'Listen To Us'.
- We provide one to one support, information, advice and signposting.
- We run the Wokingham Learning Disability Partnership Board – a network for the learning disability community that aims to break down barriers and enable positive outcomes for people with learning disabilities and their families.



Plus lots more!

For more information, please visit our website:

www.claspwokingham.org



CLASP
Wokingham

Contact us by:

Tel: 0118 228 1801

Mobile: 07780 749 453

Email: admin@claspwokingham.org



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service
Awarded to the Listen To Us Volunteers

**Registered Charity Number: 1122254 Registered in England and Wales
as a Company Limited by Guarantee number: 6034599**

involve

MAKING A DIFFERENCE LOCALLY



COMMUNITY NAVIGATION



A free confidential telephone and online support service for Wokingham Borough residents, helping you find social support & activities in your community to improve your health & wellbeing...



" Thank you for all of your help. I wouldn't have found these activities without you! "

It's easy to contact our friendly team:



community.navigation@involve.community



01344 304 404



@CNinvolve



involve.community/community-navigation

Dingley's Promise Wokingham

From our specialist early years centre in Wokingham, we deliver life changing support to children under 5 with SEND, and their families. We aim to develop greater inclusion, enable more children to access mainstream settings and ensure every child transitions into the best educational setting for them.



Our Wokingham Centre offers:

- Learning Through Play: stimulating and structured sessions tailored on the individual learning and development needs of each child. Term time only.
- Inclusive Holiday Play-schemes sessions for children with SEND, and their siblings, outside of term time.
- An environment that is accessible to all.
- A friendly team of experienced staff and volunteers.

Sessions are subject to availability and must be pre-booked.

Contact Wokingham Centre

Phone: 01189771234

Email: admin.wokingham@dingley.org.uk

Our Wokingham Family Support Offer includes:

- 1:1 support and advice to families.
- Online and in person information sessions.
- Stay and Play activity sessions for children and parents/carers.
- Access to home learning resources and advice via our website and youtube channel.
- Family connect sessions
- A Parent Support Group community on Facebook.

Contact our Wokingham Family Support Team

Phone: 01189771234 Email: fsw.wokingham@dingley.org.uk



Wokingham Borough Council Explorers Extreme

The club meets each Thursday night from 7.30pm – 9.30pm. Alongside the Thursday nights we also offer 2 trips away each year. The first is in October half term where we take the group somewhere in this country for 3 days and 2 nights. In the past we have visited places such as, the Eden Project, York, Alton Towers, London etc. Our next offsite trip is in February half term where we take the group somewhere further afield for 4 days, 3 nights. So far we have visited places such as, Belgium, Holland, Germany and France. (Due to COVID we will be staying with in the UK for the foreseeable future).

When away we have sole occupancy of hotels, and a regular coach company and driver.

All staff both paid and volunteers undertake all mandatory training such as Safeguarding, Data protection, health and safety etc. All staff and volunteers are DBS checked and references taken.

The disabilities we will accept in the club are vast as at this time we have from Autism (from high functioning to more dependent on staff), downs syndrome, global delay, cerebral palsy, right through to two young ladies that are both mentally and physically disabled in wheelchairs.

We do not say no to any disability our main criteria is looking at how much staff involvement is needed i.e. 1-1 or if they just need supervising and assisting in a group. If they need 1-1 support then we may have to put them on a waiting list due to staff ratios. We also have to look at the safety of our group and staff so those young people with a tendency for violence would not necessarily be acceptable.

The cost for this group is set each year (cost to be confirmed), this includes all trips, all Thursdays, etc the only money young people need on top of this amount is spending money when we are away. We are heavily subsidised at this time should this funding ever stop then the group would have to be re-looked at for what it could offer and the cost of activities etc. The ages are 14 – 25 however our prime enrolment age is 14 – 16 years.



For more information contact Kay Nicker
Kay.nicker@wokingham.gov.uk



JUST AROUND THE CORNER (JAC) Ltd

ENCOURAGING POSITIVE CHOICES

JAC (Just Around The Corner), is a Christian charity based near Wokingham in Berkshire, set in 15 acres of stunning English countryside. Founded in 1998, we are a unique centre providing personal learning, mentoring, and development therapies for children and young people aged 5-24 years old who are struggling with mental health difficulties, emotional, social and/or learning difficulties, disabilities, or who are having problems thriving in the school environment.



We offer a variety of different activities within our mentoring programmes depending on a young person's needs and interests. Each young person meets with their mentor, who are all DBS checked, on a weekly basis, and depending on which mentoring stream they have chosen they will undertake activities together involving:



- Horses
- Small animals
- Pottery
- Arts & crafts
- Horticulture
- Carpentry
- Cookery
- Mechanics



For further information please don't hesitate to contact us:

Telephone: 0118 9441444

Email: office@jacoutreach.org

Website: www.jacoutreach.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/JAC-Just-Around-the-Corner

Registered office: 'Rehoboth', Forest Road, Wokingham, RG40 5QY

Registered Charity No: 1127691 Company Registration No: 6777752

We are proud to have been awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Services – this is the highest award and is the MBE for volunteer groups.



KIMEL

COMMUNITY CAFE

We currently have PWD job vacancies for neurodivergent young people over the age of 18 on our stepping stone to employment project at the Kimel Cafe

Contact us on admin@kimelcafe.com for more details

WWW.KIMELCAFE.COM



me2

Club
Opportunities for All

Who do we support?

Me2 Club support children and young people aged 5 to 25 years old, living in the Wokingham and Reading Boroughs to take part in mainstream leisure activities.

The children we support have a range of additional needs including:

- ADHD
- Anxiety
- Autism
- Challenging behaviour
- Speech & Language

No formal diagnosis is required to receive our service, if they need a bit of extra support, we can help!



What do we offer?

We offer children up to age 19 with additional needs a matched 1-2-1 volunteer buddy who goes along with them once a week to a mainstream after-school activity of their choice.

These activities could include; swimming lessons, gymnastics, uniform groups, sports clubs or drama. The cost of the activity is covered by parents/carers but support from a volunteer is free of charge to families. An activity must be set up before you can register with us.

We also run 3 participation groups for local young people up to age 25 with additional needs or disabilities, these monthly or termly groups help to build confidence, learn life skills, and make new friends. Our Wokingham SEND Youth Forum Say YES lets young people have their voices heard on local SEND services. Our mental health champions at Include Me2 are helping to raise awareness on how mental health impacts us, and the teens at our teen group TeenW&Rd get to choose, plan, and fundraise for exciting activities to do together.

To complete our registration form and for more information visit our website
To book onto one of our participation groups email ramona@me2club.org.uk

www.me2club.org.uk

info@me2club.org.uk / 0118 969 6369

Me2 Club, Unit 9, Indigo House, Fishponds Rd,
Wokingham, Reading, RG41 2GY
Me2 Club is a registered Charitable Company limited by guarantee
Charity No: 1140812 Company No: 7557636



Supported Employment Service

Specialist support to find employment, work experience, education and voluntary opportunities.

We know the journey into employment or training can be challenging. Our team can help you progress towards your employment goals. Ranked number one in the country we work closely with employers, training providers and voluntary sector organisations.

Supported Employment is a flexible and continuous process, designed to help you to obtain or maintain your employment, we will:

- support you to identify your strengths, areas to develop and build your confidence
- support you to understand and advocate for reasonable adjustments in the workplace
- support you to complete job applications, tailor your CV and prepare for interviews

Would you like to become an independent traveller?

Our Ability Travel is a bespoke service which aims to improve the travelling capability of young people with Special Educational Needs and anyone who wants to become an independent traveller. (from age 13 upwards)

Do you have an EHCP and attend College?

Try our Activate Learning Ace@ Optalis course, designed to support learners with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). The course develops workplace skills, increases your confidence and supports the transition from college into sustained paid employment.

☎ 0118 977 8600  www.optalis.org/services/ses

 employmentservice@optalis.org

Parenting Special Children

Empowering families to live well with special educational needs and neurodivergence

At Parenting Special Children we bring our lived experience and specialist knowledge to offer resources, effective strategies, and a compassionate listening ear. The majority of our services are free or low cost.

Support we offer in Berkshire & surrounding areas:

- Autism & ADHD Services
- Parent/Carer Courses, Workshops & Support Groups
- Sleep Workshops
- Training for Practitioners
- Diagnosis Support & Helpline
- Trauma & Attachment Service
- Family Events
- Children & Young People Groups
- Online Resources

‘You are not alone. We’re here to help.’

 0118 986 3532

 helpline@parentingspecialchildren.co.uk

 www.parentingspecialchildren.co.uk

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

 [@parenting_special_children](https://www.instagram.com/parenting_special_children)



Delivering on the
promise that all
people matter



Promise Inclusion or Pinc is a user led and local, independent registered charity supporting children and adults with learning disabilities and/or autism, their parents, carers and families.

Our vision is to ensure that for those living with a learning or associated disability, every opportunity is maximised, providing support, fun and care for individuals, their families, and dependants.

Our Family Liaison Team can offer practical and emotional support to carers on a one-to-one basis via phone, email, Zoom or home visit. We also offer respite activities for carers and information workshops. We are also part of the Wokingham Carers Partnership.

Tracey: 07423 686965 (Wokingham transition and adults)

Michele: 07827340409 (Wokingham children and adults)

Maxine: 07827340409 (Wokingham Carers Partnership)

Our Social Groups and Activities for young people and adults with learning disabilities and autism, and for their siblings enable them to make friends, learn social skills, grow in confidence and most importantly have fun with their peers!

**Smiles for Sibs
Youth Club@ Addington
@ The Acorn
Paul's Karaoke
Gateway**

Contact us

Tel: 0300 777 8539

E: admin@promiseinclusion.org

W: www.promiseinclusion.org

<https://www.facebook.com/promiseinclusion>



CAVVA STORIES 400



READING ROCKETS



JUNIOR WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL SESSIONS

**NEW FOR JANUARY 2025!
FOR AGES 11-18**

@READING UNIVERSITY

MONDAY EVENINGS

TIME: TBC

**TO EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST PLEASE EMAIL
steph.johnson@readingrockets.co.uk**



**Volunteer 'MakeAbility' engineers
design & build free equipment & gadgets
for people with a disability or special need**



Jake takes a step up

Meet Jake. He's just turned six and has a very rare condition known as RERE Syndrome, a difficult-to-diagnose genetic condition currently identified as affecting less than 30 people around the world.

Jake's low muscle tone means he can crawl but not yet walk. Now that he's a big lad - in age 10 clothes and weighing in at 30kg. - mum and dad were finding it a real problem to help him in and out of the bath. But things have just got a little easier for Jake and his parents as a volunteer 'MakeAbility' engineer from the charity Remap has designed and made him a bespoke set of specially-padded bathroom steps.

Said mum Rachel Green: "Jake cannot get in or out of the bath himself, but he is too mobile to qualify for a hoist. It was fine when he was smaller, but as he grew it became so difficult for us to lift him over the bath-side. Now that he has the steps he is able to get himself both in and out of the bath. They have made a real difference".



Jake's unique steps were built by Remap Berkshire's Phil Cartwright, who lives in **Wokingham**. He is a retired technical sales person who inherited an enthusiasm for practical projects from his father.

Phil joined the Remap Berkshire panel in 2019, alongside 25 like-minded volunteers who enjoy using their skills to create custom-made equipment and gadgets for people in the county who have disabilities or special needs and who cannot find anything suitable to buy. **This 'MakeAbility' service is entirely free.** Panel members have a wide variety of expertise between them, ranging from IT and electronics, to metalwork, carpentry and 3D-printing - the list is endless.

Working alongside professionals

Remap Berkshire volunteers engineers often work alongside health professionals like occupational therapists, physiotherapists, doctors or Special Educational Needs staff to make sure that the equipment provided safely meets individual situations.

Remap Berkshire has assisted people in all age groups with a wide variety of issues. Some 'MakeAbility' projects are simple, others extremely challenging - all can make a real difference to the recipient's quality of life. Each piece of equipment is tailor-made to suit specific needs. There is no charge.



MakeAbility

**A free service from
the charity Remap,
founded in 1965.**

**PLEASE ASK FOR A COPY
OF OUR INFO LEAFLET**

Further information: Remap Berkshire can be contacted in complete confidence:

T: 07790 127123 E: berks.caseofficer@remapgroups.org.uk

**If you would like a Remap Berkshire speaker to make a Zoom or in-person presentation
To your Club, Group or healthcare team, please get in touch. There is no charge.**

www.berkshire.remap.org.uk



A user-led community offering mutual support for local carers of children with additional needs

SEND Carers United is a local group covering the Wokingham borough and the surrounding area. We know that having a child who needs your support more than most can make you feel lonely; it's hard to know where to go and who can offer you support.

SEND Carers United offer mutual support to local parents/carers of children with additional needs regardless of whether they have a diagnosis. This is through:

- An online Facebook community: our online community offers a support network, freeing members from the isolation they may experience
- Social gatherings
- Signposting you in the right direction for further support from many amazing local organisations

To find out more about SEND Carers United and to become a member:

Email: admin@sendcarersunited.co.uk

Facebook: SEND Carers United

Website: www.sendcarersunited.co.uk



Sport Together Berkshire



We are a collaboration of local sports clubs who run sport/activity sessions for young people and adults with additional needs in the Berkshire area.

We run festivals throughout the year that bring together a huge variety of sports and activities for participants to try.

Our festivals have included:

Boccia, Cricket, Football, Hockey,
Multi sports activity Zone,
Wheelchair American Football,
Wheelchair Basketball, and Wheelchair Rugby

And so much more!

To learn more about what we do, when our festivals are and who is involved in the Sport Together team please visit our website

www.sporttogetherberks.co.uk



Dedicated to providing specialist support for disabled children and their families

Swings & Smiles is committed to improving the quality of life for disabled children and their families. We support the whole family through respite, clubs and play sessions at our centre, a sibling support service and a comprehensive outreach service. Get in touch if you'd like to find out more!

www.swingsandsmiles.co.uk

01635 285170 - office@swingsandsmiles.co.uk

Registered charity number 1120598

Social and Therapeutic Gardening Sessions at Thrive Reading



Get in touch for more details/cost

Our General Therapeutic Gardening Sessions are designed for adults living with disabilities or ill-health. Using gardening and nature-based activities, we offer a structured therapeutic programme to support personal goals and improve health and wellbeing.

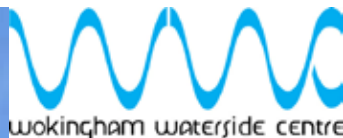
- Improve confidence and independence
- Learn new skills
- Socialise with others
- Improve physical health, dexterity, balance and co-ordination
- Increase sense of achievement
- Have fun and enjoy nature



Thrive, Beech Hill Road,
Beech Hill, RG7 2AT

0118 988 4844
trunkwell@thrive.org.uk
www.thrive.org.uk/reading

Additional Needs Katakanuing



We offer additional needs sessions on Saturdays once every two weeks, to spend a peaceful hour on the water, exploring the River Thames.

The sessions cost £8 per participant, and £2 per carer attending with them. Sessions are bookable through our website. We also offer bespoke sessions for groups, as well as 1-1 sessions at a time to suit you, call or email us for more details.



wokinghamwatersidecentre.com

office@wokinghamwatersidecentre.com | 0118 926 8280

Wokingham Borough Council's SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Service

We support children and young people with SEND aged 0 to 25 to have positive experiences and outcomes. We do this by delivering services and providing access to information and advice.

Our SEND Service includes:

- Our SEND Team, who work with children and young people going through an education, health and care (EHC) needs assessment or who have an education, health and care plan (EHCP)
- An Area SENCO Team, to advise schools across Wokingham Borough
- A Local Offer Co-ordinator, to help families access our SEND Local Offer and develop it in response to feedback
- A Preparing for Adulthood Strategic Lead, to promote independence and pathways to support best outcomes in adult life
- A Practice and Quality Lead, to help our service develop its practice
- A Customer Relations Manager, to support families with reaching resolutions and to help us learn from feedback

SEND Team

Our SEND Team is a key part of our SEND Service and is responsible for:

- The 20 week EHC needs assessment process
- EHCP annual reviews
- Arranging EHCP provision and placements
- Supporting joined up working between families, education, social care and health services

Further details can be found on the SEND Local Offer webpages:

www.wokingham.gov.uk/send-local-offer/help-learning

SEND Team Contact Details

Email: sen@wokingham.gov.uk

Telephone: 0118 974 6000 (Option 5)

Opening hours: Monday - Friday 09:00 - 17:00



WBC Preparing for Adulthood Team (Adult Social Care)

The Preparing for Adulthood Team (PfA) support young people from 14 years up to 25 years on Education Health and Care Plans and their parents or carers to get the information, advice and support they need if moving from children's social care services to adult social care services.

Transition planning for social care will commence with a PfA Worker attending the annual Education Health and Care Plan Review when the young person is 14 years old. They will work alongside the allocated Children's Social Care Social Worker focusing on Transition Planning. Their role at this stage will be to provide advice and information on an annual basis.

They can also offer information on where to find support to young people who may have received services as a child but may no longer be eligible for social care services once they are 18 years old.

Duty Email: PfAduty@wokingham.gov.uk

Tel: "First Contact" 0118 974 6832 - ask for PfA duty

**The Preparing for Adulthood Team,
Long Term Service,
Adult Social Care,
Civic Offices,
Shute End,
Wokingham
RG40 1BN**

If you have any safeguarding concerns for children please email triage@wokingham.gov.uk or phone 0118 908 8002, for adults please email adultsafeguardinghub@wokingham.gov.uk or call ASH Tel 0118 974 6371. or and email the Social Worker and Manager, or Tel 01344 351 999, or (0800) 212 111, or email edt@bracknell-forest.gov.uk if out of hours emergency.

For further information

<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/children-families-and-young-people/send-local-offer/preparing-adulthood>



WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

The **Children with Disabilities** (CWD) service recognises that children and families will require different levels of support at different times. It aims to provide the right support at the right time. Full details of all the services can be found in the Children with Disabilities Continuum of Need Document:

<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/sites/wokingham/files/2024-09/Children%20with%20disabilities%20continuum%20of%20need%202023.pdf>

1. Services for everyone (Universal Offer)

The Children with Additional Needs Network (CAN Network)

Offering information and support for children with additional needs, including signposting, regular newsletters and a CAN Card (for children with a formal diagnosis)

Tel: 0118 974 6897

Email: can.network@wokingham.gov.uk

<https://directory.wokingham.gov.uk/kb5/wokingham/directory/service.page?id=yMqtWsyMkuE>

2. Additional Help (Targeted Services)

FIRST (Family Intervention, Resources and Support Team)

FIRST provide information, workshops, training and support around sleep, anxiety and behaviour for children with disabilities in the Wokingham Borough:

- Workshops - anyone who is supporting a child with a disability and has an interest in sleep hygiene or behaviour management
- Formal sleep and behaviour programmes - Parents of children with a disability, (or on the pathway for an autism assessment), aged 3-18
- 1:1 support – Offered to families who require additional support following a FIRST formal sleep or behaviour programme

Tel: 0118 974 6000

Email: familybased@wokingham.gov.uk

Details of the range of courses offered by FIRST can be found here:

<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/children-families-and-young-people/send-local-offer/social-care-children-send/send-social-care-support-services/family-intervention-resources-and-support-team>

To attend a FIRST workshop or course:

Tel: 0118 974 6000

Email: First@wokingham.gov.uk

2. Additional Help (Targeted Services) cont.

Short Breaks & Early Help

This team will help with all aspects of Short Breaks & Respite care including information, assessments, early help & short breaks plans.

These services are available to:

- Children aged 0-18 years with a substantial and long-term disability, as identified by assessment and require help to prevent escalation to Social Work
- Children who live in the Wokingham Borough.
- Children that require short breaks assessment and/or review.

To find out if your child can access Short Break Services, to make a self-referral and to find more information about Short Breaks, including the Short Breaks Statement, please visit:

https://directory.wokingham.gov.uk/kb5/wokingham/directory/service.page?id=hoGa8A_fk30

Completed Self-Referral forms for Short Breaks should be sent to

Email: triage@wokingham.gov.uk. Or if unable to complete a Self-Referral, refer by phone, by contacting the Children's Services first point of contact on 0118 908 8002

To contact the Short Breaks team:

Tel: 0118 974 6881 or 0118 974 6890

Email: ShortBreaksCo-ordinator@wokingham.gov.uk

Saturday Club

This provides children with disabilities who require a higher level of support, the opportunity to attend a club that might not otherwise be available to them in the mainstream once per month (except August). The focus is on building friendships and undertaking a range of fun activities and experiences, whilst promoting independence, community safety skills and learning.

Tel: 0118 974 6000

Email: saturdayclub@wokingham.gov.uk

2. Additional Help (Targeted Services) cont.

Family Based Short Breaks Scheme

The Family Based Short Breaks Scheme provides regular short breaks for children with disabilities with approved Carers in the Carer's family home - including day care and overnight stays and may also include activities with the child within the local community.

Referrals to Saturday Club and Family Based Short Breaks are made by Short Break Co-ordinators or Social Workers following the need being identified in an assessment

ASSIST (Autism Spectrum Service for Information Support and Training)

The ASSIST service work in a proactive, supportive, and preventative way with families and providers so that autistic children and young people living in the Wokingham Borough can be the best they can be.

The approach to intervention is holistic and directed by the needs of the individual and those around them. ASSIST provides:

- Information & support
- Training, supporting families pre- and post-diagnosis (National Autistic Society EarlyBird, EarlyBird Plus and Teen Life parent programmes).
- Autism specific workshops plus groups and other opportunities to meet up and network.
- Parent programmes and drop-in sessions available to those both pre and post diagnosis – no referral required!
- Focused support for families where there are particular difficulties for a child/young person who has an autism diagnosis is under 18 and live in the Wokingham Borough. Please contact us by email for further discussion about our criteria and referral process.

Email: assist@wokingham.gov.uk

More information here:

<https://directory.wokingham.gov.uk/kb5/wokingham/directory/service.page?id=GjGnkwmhel>

3. Intensive & Specialist Services

Children with Disabilities Team (CWD Team) Social Work

The team provide statutory Social Work services to children from birth to 18 years who live in the and have a severe or profound disability that is having a substantial and long-term negative effect on daily functioning. Social Workers undertake a Child and Family Assessment (CAFA) and use this to identify the needs of the child and develop a Child's Plan which may include Short Break Support. Social workers will support the child and their family to address the issues identified in the plan.

<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/children-families-and-young-people/send-local-offer/social-care-children-send/send-social-care-support-services/children-disabilities-team>

Occupational Therapy (OT)

The OT team provide services to children 0-18 years with a disability living in the Borough to meet the child's ongoing needs, maintain their independence and assist their carers provide safe and effective care in the family home. This may include assistive equipment, adaptations to the home, (which could include supporting rehousing applications), and advice on the use of different care techniques.

Referrals to the CWD Team for Social Work or OT support can be made by parents directly to the Children's Services first point of contact

Tel: 0118 908 8002 **Email:** triage@wokingham.gov.uk

<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/children-families-and-young-people/send-local-offer/social-care-children-send/send-social-care-support-services/children-disabilities-team>

Bridges Resource Centre

Bridges is an Ofsted registered resource centre, providing short break care for children who have complex needs, or a learning and/or physical disability. The children who access Bridges require personal care, medication, behavioural support and support with learning and achievements. Up to five children aged 8-18 years can stay overnight.

Referrals to Bridges Resource Centre are made by Short Break Co-ordinators or Social Workers following the need being identified in an assessment.

Tel: 0118 969 5977 **Email:** csbridgesresource@wokingham.gov.uk

<https://directory.wokingham.gov.uk/kb5/wokingham/directory/service.page?id=eqE9mU9Rt0Q>



Identifying a child's needs & finding help

The information below aims to support early identification of needs and provide advice and signposting re next steps for parents and professionals.

You may find it helpful to think about the areas below if a child is:

- struggling to cope in their pre-school, nursery, or school
- there are concerns about their social and emotional well-being
- there are concerns about any areas of their development that are impacting on their access to education or day to day living

The links below will take you to information on the Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust (BHFT) website about what to expect at different ages and stages, common issues, advice and strategies and information and can be accessed without a referral. It is recommended that this advice and guidance is followed to begin with. If there are still concerns after this has been tried more help may be needed. The website has links to support and information as well as how to get more help or make a referral if that is needed.

Mental and Emotional Health e.g., anxiety, eating disorder, self-harm and trauma

<https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/mental-and-emotional-health/>

Emerging mental health issues If your child is developing difficulties with their mental health, the first level of help and support should be through their Schools Mental Health Support Teams (MHST), if they have one:

<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing-services/health-services-and-advice/health-and-wellbeing-children-and-young-people/mental-health-support-team-mhst-children-and-young-people>



Identifying a child's needs & finding help

If they are not in an MHST school the first level of help and support should be through the Wokingham Emotional Wellbeing Hub:

<https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing-services/health-services-and-advice/health-and-wellbeing-children-and-young-people/emotional-wellbeing-hub>

For **URGENT** help for young people with suicidal thoughts or extreme mental health difficulties, and need to talk to someone now, call the mental health access team on **0300 365 1234**, 8am-8pm Monday-Friday (calls charged at local rate).

Outside of these hours call freephone 0800 129 9999

CAMHS Referral Criteria

<https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/media/109514087/camhs-referral-criteria-may-2022.pdf>

CAMHS Learning Disability team. For 5-17 year olds with a learning disability and significant emotional mental health need or behaviours that challenge associated with a mental health need

<https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/our-services/children-and-adolescent-mental-health-services-camhs/camhs-learning-disability-team-berkshire/>

Communication & Hearing e.g., speech development, listening/attention, hearing problems, stammering, expressive language.

<https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/health-and-development/communication-and-hearing/>

Developing Independence e.g., organisation, planning, paying attention and dressing skills.

<https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/health-and-development/independence-and-school-readiness/>



Identifying a child's needs & finding help

Gross Motor Skills e.g., standing, stepping, balance, coordination, planning movement.

<https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/health-and-development/gross-motor-skills/>

Fine Motor Skills e.g., hand skills, manipulation, writing skills, visual perception

<https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/health-and-development/fine-motor-skills/>

Eating, allergies and healthy lifestyle. Support and advice can be accessed via the GP, Health Visitor or School Nurse and

<https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/health-and-development/eating-allergies-and-healthy-lifestyle/>

Toilet training and bedwetting. Support and advice can be accessed via the GP, Health Visitor or School Nurse and

<https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/health-and-development/toilet-training-and-bedwetting/>

Sensory Processing e.g., body awareness, body position, hearing touch and sight.

<https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/health-and-development/sensory-processing/>

Neurodiversity Service (Autism and ADHD)

<https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/adhd-and-autism-neurodiversity/>

(More information on these services later in this booklet)

Physical Health & Illness e.g., asthma, allergies, epilepsy, hearing, vision, healthy weight, general concerns about development or possible illness. Support and advice can be accessed via the GP, Health Visitor, School Nurse.



Identifying a child's needs & finding help

How to make a referral

There are two main local health providers

For Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Children Young People & Families Service (CYPF)

Website: <https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/>

Information about referrals and forms are available here:

<https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/referrals/>

or seek advice from the GP, school nurse or health visitor.

For Royal Berkshire Foundation Trust (RBFT)

Website: <https://www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk>

Parents/carers should see their child's GP if the child has an unmet physical health need or medical condition. If required, the GP may then refer to a hospital paediatrician for further assessment or treatment.

RBFT Physiotherapy

Referrals accepted for preschool children from a GP, hospital consultants, or other NHS therapists. We cannot accept self-referrals. Children can also be referred with orthopaedic or respiratory conditions until the age of 16.

Referral criteria can be found on the website:

<https://www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/services-and-departments/physiotherapy/childrens-physiotherapy>

RBFT Occupational Therapy

Referrals accepted from RBH consultants GPs and external consultants, and other therapists for children aged 0-18 in Wokingham Borough who **do not** have an EHCP (Education, Health, Care Plan). We cannot accept self-referrals or referrals directly from schools. Referral criteria can be found on the website:

<https://www.royalberkshire.nhs.uk/services-and-departments/occupational-therapy/childrens-occupational-therapy>



Autism Assessment Team

What do we do?

We provide an assessment service for children and young people aged 2 ½ to 17 ½ (at the point of referral) with possible autism.

What will an autism assessment usually involve?

The assessment involves gathering information from parents/carers, school (if attending) and through spending time with the child or young person. The appointments may be in person or online.

Whether or not an autism diagnosis is made, a report will be provided including information about further sources of support and recommendations for the child or young person.

What support is available now?

Find out about all the support available now, without a diagnosis:
cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/autism-help-now

Autism Assessment Team

Erleigh House (Building 54) University of Reading,
Earley Gate, Whiteknights Road
Reading, RG6 6BZ
Tel: 0118 904 6425



Find out more about how to get help:
cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/autism-adhd-help



Berkshire Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

ADHD Team

What do we do?

We provide an assessment and treatment service for children and young people aged 6-18 (at the point of referral) with possible ADHD.

What will an ADHD assessment usually involve?

The assessment involves gathering information from parents/carers, school (if attending) and through spending time with the child or young person. We also offer a Qb test (computer-based tool) if appropriate. The appointments may be in person or online.

Whether or not a diagnosis is made, a report will be provided including information about further sources of support and recommendations for the child or young person.

What support is available now?

Find out about all the support available now, without a diagnosis:
cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/ADHD-help-now

ADHD Team

Erleigh House (Building 54) University of Reading,
Earley Gate, Whiteknights Road
Reading, RG6 6BZ
Tel: 0118 904 6401



Find out more about how to get help:
[cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/
autism-adhd-help](https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/autism-adhd-help)



The independent voice of families, representing their experiences to improve lives

- Events
- Training Courses
- Max Cards

- Consultations & Surveys
- Information

Tell us what is going well and what could be improved with SEND services in Wokingham Borough

Web: www.sendvoiceswokingham.org.uk

Email: info@sendvoiceswokingham.org.uk

Facebook: [SendVoicesWokingham](https://www.facebook.com/SendVoicesWokingham)

Information in this publication is correct at November 2024.

Please check individual groups websites for updates.

SEND Voices Wokingham is a Registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Registered Charity Number: 1201621