

What's going on?

Newsletter from the County Durham Parent Partnership Service
Spring Term 2014 - Issue 12



Telephone 0191 5873541
www.durhamparentpartnership.info
www.mctdurham.co.uk



New Autistic Spectrum Disorder Support Group

Are you a parent or carer of a child with Autism or Aspergers Syndrome?

Would you like to meet other parents or carers who are in similar situations for informal discussions in a supportive environment?

Come along to our new group being held at Seaham Outreach Centre at Seaview Primary, The Avenue, Deneside, Seaham SR7 8DP

Between 12.30-2.30pm on either

Friday 10th January, Friday 14th February and Friday 14th March 2014

The group is ran by parents and is supported by ONE POINT

For more information please email: gillianmthompson@hotmail.co.uk



Special iApps iPad Workshop



Making Changes Together

Friday 14th February

10am – 2pm

Council Chambers, County Hall, Durham DH1 5UL

Special iApps is a non-profit social enterprise creating educational apps to support child development, learning at home, in school or in therapy sessions. This day is for parents and carers interested in finding out more about iPads or are already using iPads with their children. It's an interactive session, if you have an iPad please bring it along. You will find out more about the iPad, Special iApps, and how to find good apps to support your child.

If you have an iPad bring it with you on the day.

It will be an information day with refreshments, a light buffet lunch with networking opportunities to talk and share information with other parents and carers in Durham.

To book a place contact: Ann Connor

Tel: 0191 5873541 or Email: ann.connor@durham.gov.uk

ASD Surgery Sessions

Do you live in the Durham or Darlington area and would like an opportunity to come along and chat with a trained and experienced professional on issues around an autism spectrum disorder

About the Surgery Sessions

Each surgery session appointment will last up to 1hr 30 minutes and will be a 1:1 session offering you the opportunity to discuss any topics you choose around an autism spectrum disorder e.g. diagnosis and what next, education, support and services available, transition planning, managing behaviour

Where will these be held?

- Monday 3rd February Newton Aycliffe One Point Hub
- Monday 3 March Darlington Dolphin Centre

Appointments are offered for 9.30, 11.00am, 1.00pm and 2.30pm on these dates

To book a place please contact

Deborah Garland 0788 4117741 or email deborah.garland@nas.org.uk

Help for Parents

Contact a Family's latest guide, Developmental Delay, is aimed at parents worried about their child's development or who have been told that their child has developmental delay.

The free, practical and short booklet also includes a useful pull-out poster to help parents recognise the key skills developed by most children between birth and five years of age. The guide can be downloaded from the website or a hard copy can be requested by telephone or email.

Contact:

Email: northeast.office@cafamily.org.uk

www.cafamily.org.uk

Telephone: 0191 213 6300.



NORTH DURHAM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

This project is a joint venture between Durham Community Action and North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). It aims to complement existing groups across North Durham, including Healthwatch and Patient Reference groups. The starting point is to join the free Membership Scheme which has two types of membership:

- 1) **Inform:** members receive regular information about health services, issues and decisions in their geographical area.
- 2) **Involve:** members also have the opportunity to shape and influence what services are needed and brought into their area for the public, patients and carers by attending focus groups and meetings.

For more information please contact:

Louise Harlanderson, (01207) 529621

Chris Affleck, (01207) 529621

Anne-Marie Parkin, (01207) 529621

New Multi-Sensory Room at Spennymoor Leisure Centre

A brand new Multi-Sensory Room at Spennymoor Leisure will open on **Monday 27 January 2014** for individual visits, group bookings and private bookings. The Multi-Sensory room provides stimulating opportunities that will enhance the participant(s) awareness of their environment through the senses of touch, sound, vision and smell, while helping stimulate their motor movements. The result is a special room in which the participant(s) can completely relax, or interact with and control all of the elements.

The Multi-Sensory Room experience is effective in helping to block out distractions, remain focused, achieve calmness, increase spatial awareness, concentration, relaxation and alertness. Prices range for the Sensory Room include:

- Pre-school children's structured 1 hour session (0-2 year old and 2-4 year old sessions available) £4.50
- Open session - Children with special educational needs and disabilities (0-18 years of age) £4.00
- Open session - Adults with special educational needs and disabilities (18+) £5.50
Room hire £30.00 (price includes 6 users; an additional 4 users can attend at a cost of £3.50 per user)
- Induction 1 hour session £10 (the induction is compulsory for all carers/parents/guardians that have sole responsibility for a user within the facility) We can take up to 3 people for an induction at one time for a total cost of £10.

If you would like to book a tour of the facility or require any further information please do not hesitate to contact Spennymoor Leisure Centre on:

Telephone: 03000 261 161

Email: leisure-spennymoor@durham.gov.uk

Or Contact: Mark Lee on 07974249464 or e-mail mark.lee@durham.gov.uk



Free Wheelchair Skills Workshop

This Go Kids Go workshop is running on **Saturday 8 March 2014** from 9.30am-3.00pm at St Leonard's Catholic School, North End, Durham DH1 4NG (Please bring a packed lunch)

The workshop is a great chance to meet other young wheelchair-users and to learn skills to help children and young people become more independent. Extra wheelchairs are provided for mums, dads, brothers and sisters to join in with the games.

For more information or to reserve a place, please call 01482 887163

Or email roy@go-kids-go.org.uk.

More information about Go Kids Go can be found at www.go-kids-go.org



25th International Research Conference



This conference is aimed at researchers and professionals in the field of autism spectrum disorders (but is open to all). The conference will look at the advances in autism understanding, research and practice on an international level.

The conference is being held on **Tuesday 15 & Wednesday 16 April 2014** at Collingwood College, Durham University

Booking options for day and residential delegates are still available.

Full details including information about the range of speakers presenting at the conference can be found at www.durhamconference2014.weebly.com



**For further information please contact Charlie Gallagher
Senior Practitioner, National Autistic Society on 0782 519
7244 or at charlie.gallagher@nas.org.uk**

Our Outreach Support Service provides one to one support to an individual of any age, enabling access to activities, clubs, groups, facilities, other elements within their local community, can operate as a form of respite, and can work on independence, life, employability and social skills whilst widening community links.

This service can be accessed for a few hours one evening, at weekends, through the day; whatever works best for the individual/family and is very outcome focused. The service is at a cost from £16.20 per hour which most families/individuals fund through their Individual Budget, DLA payments and/or privately.



Barnardo's Disability and Inclusion Support Service are running holiday clubs in County Durham for disabled young people aged 13 and over during the February half term. Activities could include cookery, arts and crafts, indoor curling, boccia and possibly archery or rock climbing. The club is about building confidence, learning new skills, making friends and having fun. Barnardo's will also be running taster/consultation sessions in advance of half term for parents and young people to come and meet them.

Dates and venues for the taster/consultation sessions are:

Bishop Auckland Area

Bishop Barrington School,
Thursday 30th January - 5pm -8pm

Newton Aycliffe

Neville Parade Community Centre
Saturday 1st February - 10am-1pm

Consett Academy,

Saturday 1st February - 2pm-5pm.

For more information
or to book a place
contact:

Sarah Swanston
Barnardo's Disability
and Inclusion Support
Service

Tel: 0191 4784667

**The holiday Clubs are
10am-3pm at**

Consett Academy,
February 18th 2014

Newton Aycliffe
February 19th 2014

Bishop Auckland
February 20th 2014