

Company

NewsLetter

October 2024



Hello & Welcome

We start this newsletter with the most up to date Training offers available from partner organisations

We have the delight in letting you know that the Autism Reality Bus WILL be at the Old Market in Hereford on Friday 1st November . So if you would like to experience how you can have an overload of senses that can cause a meltdown in Autistic Young People then do pop along .

We have information on courses from Contact , The Cart Shed , Sendiass

Dates for your Diaries

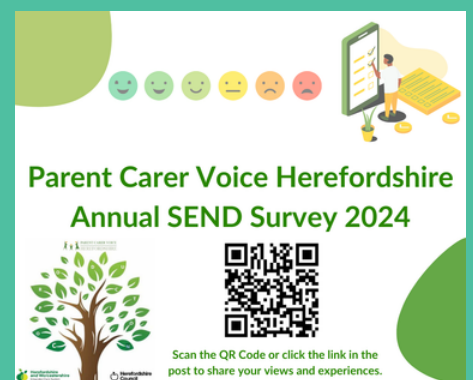
Please do make a note of the upcoming dates for Coffee & Chat .

And our 6 weekly renamed session coffee & Chat with Colleagues

PINS Update

Send & Ap Update

Send Team Update



Parent Carer Voice Herefordshire

Annual Survey of SEND Services - Autumn 2024

Hello Parents & Carers,

We have collaborated with Herefordshire Council and the Integrated Care System (ICS) to create a survey aimed at understanding the experiences of families with children (aged 0-25) who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Herefordshire.

- The survey includes questions on health, social care, education, and community.
- Feedback will help improve services and understand family priorities.
- The survey has been shortened to about 10 minutes based on your previous feedback.
- Please fill it out for each child with SEND in your household; responses are confidential and anonymous.
- Your input will inform the SEND Partnership and the PCV committee, and results will be shared in our 'You Said, We Did' report.
- Optionally, providing contact details enters you into a prize draw.

Thank you for your time and insights.



Parent Carer Voice Herefordshire

Annual SEND Survey 2024



Scan the QR Code or click the link in the post to share your views and experiences.

<https://forms.office.com/e/zmMXJ2Dj7A>



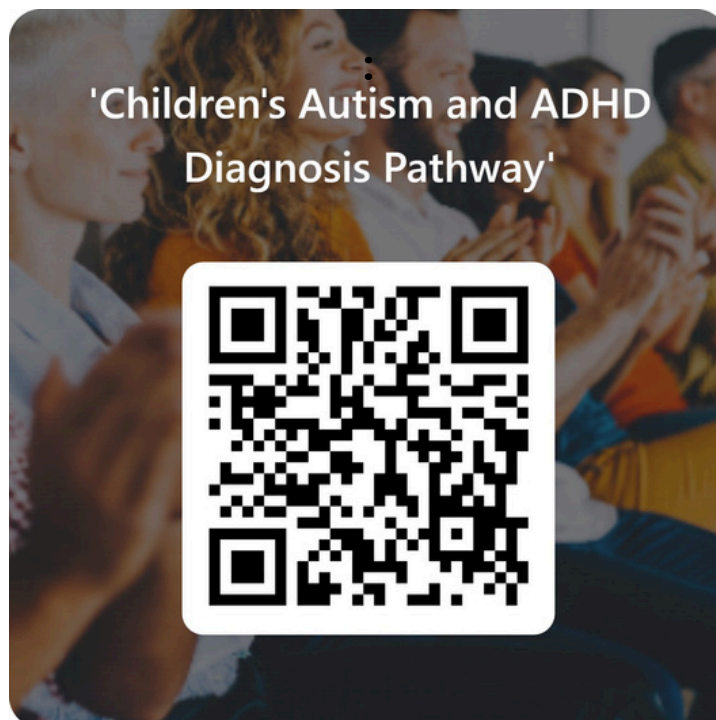
'Children's Autism and ADHD Diagnosis Pathway'

Parent carer members of Parent Carer Voice are inviting you to review and feedback on the new 'Children's Autism and ADHD Diagnosis Pathway' currently being developed for #Herefordshire.

Anna Swift, Lead for Neurodivergent Children & Young People from NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire will be online to explain the current challenges, the consultation undertaken to date and to walk parent carers through the proposed joint diagnosis pathway.

**PCVH Members are invited to sign up to the Teams meeting as the event is being held online on November 7th
7 pm till 8.30**

To book a slot please fill in the form below and the link will be sent to you



Changes in SEN Team ways of working

We have been making changes over the summer to the way the SEN Team is structured which we hope will mean that we are able to respond more quickly to queries.

The team are now split into:

- **The Assessment Team (Senior – Jenni Hicks, Officers – Saffron Murray, Lisa Beavan, Olivia Adjei-Grant)**

Will complete all activity 'pre-EHC Plan' including Top Up Funding. Requests for assessment, and finalising the initial EHCP will be completed by this team. They will also manage 'movers-in'

- **The Review Team (Senior – Sarah Parker, Officers – Tom Donaldson, Nikki Honeyman, Jan Williams, Sarah Rosser, Tiffany McLeod)**

Will deal with queries relating to children and young people with an existing EHCP, will consider all annual review paperwork and deal with phase transfers and ceasing plans

- **The EHCP Assistant Team (Emma Cairns, Jess Jones, Rhiannon Staunton, Shannon Egerton)** will monitor and track processes to ensure all information is logged accurately. They can assist families with queries about EHCP processes. They will send out requests for information and process funding changes.

Contact details are:

The Assessment team: SENAssess@herefordshire.gov.uk 01432 383679

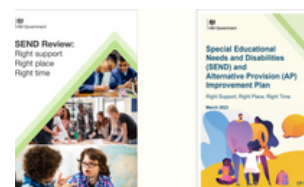
The Review Team: SENReview@herefordshire.gov.uk 01432 383331

EHCP Assistant Enquiries: senteamenquiries@herefordshire.gov.uk 01432 383196

Finance queries: SENfinance@herefordshire.gov.uk

Each team will have someone on duty each day to respond to emails and answer the phone.

Please don't worry if you email the wrong team, they will still be working closely with one another and will ensure your query is picked up and dealt with.



Herefordshire has been selected to take part in the SEND and AP Change Programme as part of the West Midlands Region. The SEND and Alternative Provision (SENDAP) Change Programme is a national programme designed to test a number of policy changes to systems and processes for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and those accessing Alternative Provision (AP).

Telford and Wrekin have been selected as the lead local authority for the West Midlands Region, working alongside Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Shropshire. Together, the West Midlands Region will work with the Department for Education (DfE) to pilot the SEND and AP Change Programme, sharing practice and learning from the other 8 regional areas nationally.

The Change Programme is advancing plans to enhance SEND and Alternative Provision in Herefordshire. Please follow this link for updates relating to the testing that has been happening recently in our local area <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/local-offer/about-send/8>

New EHCP template



EHCP template for testing in Change Programme Areas

FRONTPIECE

This section is for operational information to support data sharing and case management. For the purposes of the Change Programme it does not form part of the legal EHCP (sections A-K).

CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON'S PERSONAL DETAILS			
Name:	[INSERT, using format Forename, middle names (Optional), SURNAME]	Preferred name:	INSERT
Date of Birth:	CCYY-MM-DD		
Sex:	SELECT FROM DROP DOWN MENU	Ethnicity: Ethnicity – drop down: validated against DfE codeset (CS500)	SELECT FROM DROP DOWN MENU
Child or young person first language:	SELECT FROM DROP DOWN	Parent or carer first language:	SELECT FROM DROP DOWN MENU
MAIN CONTACT DETAILS:			
Main contact: Parent or carer 1 (or young person if they are applying independently)	[INSERT, using format Forename, middle names (Optional), SURNAME]	Relationship:	[SELECT FROM DROP DOWN MENU]
Email:		Telephone number:	
Home Address:	[LINE ONE / LINE TWO / TOWN / CITY / COUNTY / POST CODE]		



The EHCP New Template Workshop 9th September 2024

Clare Hobbs – Parent Carer

A review of the Governments Green Paper prompted the change in the layout of the current EHCP format to make it easier for all to read.

This is so that it is a more user friendly and intuitive document.

I attended this workshop with other parent carers to have my say as a parent on what I thought of the new layout, what information I felt needed to be included and to ask my questions of the SEN Team. I also found out about the new structure of the SEN Team and who I should contact if I have any queries about my sons EHCP.

I liked that my voice was heard. I also liked the fact that although the information contained in the EHCP is very wordy and can be very hard to find what information you need at a given time, the new EHCP has taken this into account and now has the outcome, what is needed to achieve this and then the expected result of these action in every section of the EHCP.

I felt as though this format will be easier for all to find what information we need at a glance rather than having to go through reams of pages of writing and getting word blind.

I asked at the meeting for a few things that I had not fully understood to be explained and this was done without making me feel like I was asking a dumb question.

I also felt that if the child/young persons voice was to be an appendice it had the potential of being lost and this is very important to the whole process as it stops my child just being a statistic and being seen as someone to listen too.

For more information and how to get involved please see our website



Parent Carer Voice Coffee & Chat with Colleagues

Wednesday 23rd October
@ The Orange Tree , King Street Hereford
9.30 til 11.30

**We have representatives from the
Learning Disability and Autism – Admission Avoidance
Team around the Dynamic Support Register.**

- Lisa and Caroline

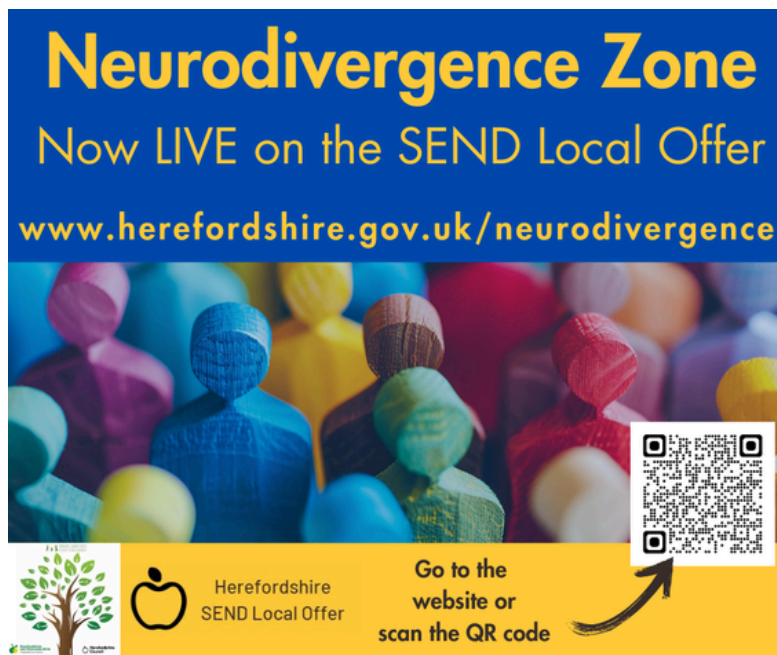
Send Team - Cathy Cann

Sendiass - Sammy Powell

PFA - Alexia , Richard Clarke ,

Housing - James & Linda

plus a few others



We are delighted to announce that the new Herefordshire Neurodivergence Zone is now live on Herefordshire Council's Local Offer website. This zone has been co-produced from the start with parent carers, health professionals, members of the SEN Team, Hoople web team colleagues, school colleagues and local providers.

We will be publicising the new Neurodivergence Zone via our SEND Newsletter, SEND Facebook page and other HCC publications but would be very grateful if you could also support us in getting the word out to as many people as possible through your communication channels. I have attached an image for use on social media and a blurb below:

NEW: Herefordshire Neurodivergence Zone

We are delighted to launch our new Neurodivergence Zone on the Herefordshire SEND Local Offer website. The content has been co-produced with parents and carers, health colleagues and local providers to ensure that we provide you with helpful information about neurodivergence and the support and advice available in Herefordshire.

Within the new zone, you will find information about:

Autism (including the diagnostic pathway in Herefordshire)

ADHD (including the diagnostic pathway in Herefordshire)

Other neurodivergent conditions including dyslexia, dyscalculia, dyspraxia, Tourette's syndrome and more

Ways to support your neurodivergent child / young person

Local and national support available

Information for family members

We would welcome your feedback on the new zone - please email localoffer@herefordshire.gov.uk and let us know what you think.



PARTNERSHIP FOR INCLUSION OF NEURODIVERSITY IN SCHOOL (PINS)



**39 PRIMARY
SCHOOLS IN
HEREFORDSHIRE
WILL BE
PART OF THE
PINS
PROJECT.**



PINS has now
kicked off.

So far as part of the project:

- Parents have completed a parents survey (or are currently) where they reflect on how they and their children are finding the school
- Schools have identified areas where they feel they would like extra support, areas such as communication with parents, training in different areas.
- Parent participation groups are being set up, with meetings starting in November.

(PINS) will bring health and education specialists and expert parent carers into mainstream primary settings to:

- help shape whole school SEND provision
- provide early interventions at a school level
- upskill school staff
- support strengthening of partnerships between schools and parent carers

Each school will receive 5 days worth of support around the areas they have identified they would like support

Partnership for Inclusion for
Neurodiversity in schools project (PINS)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are currently looking for parent carers with children at the following schools who would like to be involved in shaping what schools offer to support neurodiverse children in mainstream settings.

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| • Bosbury | • Kings Capse | • Our Lady's Primary |
| • Broadlands | • Kington Primary School | • Pencombe CofE Primary |
| • Brockhampton | • Llangrove Primary | • Riverside Primary |
| • Brookfield | • Ledbury | • Shobdon Primary School |
| • Clehonger | • Leintwardine Primary School | • St Joseph's Primary |
| • Clifford | • Leominster Primary School | • St Martin's Primary |
| • Ewyas Harold | • Lord Scudamore Academy | • St Paul's Church of England Primary School |
| • St. Mary's C of E Primary, Fownhope | • Lugwardine Primary Academy | • St Weonards Academy |
| • Garway Primary School | • Luston Primary School | • Steiner Academy Hereford |
| • Goodrich CE (VC) Primary School | • Marden Primary School | • Sutton Primary Academy |
| • Hampton Dene | • Marlbrook Primary School | • Trinity Primary School |
| • Holmer C of E Academy | • Mordiford CofE Primary School | • Walford Nursery & Primary School |
| • Ivington C of E Primary School | | • Wellington Primary School |
| • Kingsland CE Primary School | | |

What we need volunteers to do:

- Help organise meetings in their school with other parents and the SENDCO
- Share ideas of what will help children with SEND in a mainstream setting

Please fill in the form on PCV's website to register your interest www.pcvh.co.uk under the PINS heading

JOIN US!



National
Autistic
Society

Herefordshire
Branch

AUTISM REALITY BUS

***FRIDAY
1ST NOV***

Old Market
HEREFORD



"The actual reality / experience part is a huge eye opener into what it's like to be Autistic. I came away thinking that my little boy is a pretty amazing little dude. It really gives an insight into what he deals with on a daily basis, how hard it is for him to do tasks, follow instructions and how communication is key."

*Different,
not less*

supporting your autistic family member

Are you the parent of an
autistic child or adult?
Would you like to gain
additional understanding
of their needs and support
for your own?

www.thecartshed.co.uk



October 17 2024, for six weeks.

Four-hour session from 10-2 each Thursday.

Various topics will be covered across the course, which may help you to understand the needs of autistic people in your life. Each session will be rooted in neurodiversity affirming practices and run by individuals with lived experience. The course will also allow you to meet other parents with caring responsibilities alongside developing skills to manage your own well-being.

The sessions will take place in a quiet woodland environment at The Cart Shed, with an opportunity to gain experience of woodland craft skills, such as willow and rush weaving and whittling. Both parents are eligible to attend. This course is open to parents responsible for a person with an autism diagnosis, or self-identifying. These sessions are fully funded (which means you do not have to pay anything).

Fill in the registration form on our website, and mention the word 'PARENT'

HEREFORDSHIRE

SEND TRAINING WORKSHOPS

AUTISM & ME

Wednesday 23 October 10.30am-12.30pm

Wednesday 20 November 10.30am-12.30pm

What Does a Good EHCP Look Like?

Wednesday 2 October 10.30am-12.30pm

Wednesday 4 December 10.30am-12.30pm

FREE

www.hwsendiass.co.uk

Blueschool House
HR1 2LX

Herefordshire.gov.uk

These workshops are aimed at
Herefordshire parent carers of children
who have or may have SEND



Information, Advice
and Support Service
Herefordshire &
Worcestershire

Are you a #Herefordshire parent carer of a child or young person with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND)?
Take a look at the FREE training workshops that Herefordshire and Worcestershire SENDIASS are offering this term at Blueschool House, HR1 2LX.

AUTISM & ME

This workshop has been developed with autistic young people. Come along to hear from them about their experiences and challenges and what you can do to support your autistic young person.

Find out more and book your place here:

<https://tinyurl.com/23fc9ve9>

WHAT DOES A GOOD EHCP LOOK LIKE?

This workshop is aimed at parent carers of children with SEND in Herefordshire whose child has an Education Health & Care Plan (EHCP) or is currently going through the EHC assessment process. Come along to find out what should be in each section of the plan.

Find out more and book your place here:

<https://tinyurl.com/mc4zje6n>



Are you the parent/carer of an Autistic child/ young person? Join Herefordshire and Worcestershire for their FREE workshop 'Autism and Me' and hear from autistic young people about their experiences and challenges and what you can do to support them. Wednesday 23 October 10.30am-12.30pm
Wednesday 20 November 10.30am-12.30pm at Blueschool House, HR1 2LX. Find out more and book your place here:

<https://tinyurl.com/23fc9ve9>

Does your child have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or are they going through the EHC assessment process?

Herefordshire and Worcestershire SENDIASS offer a FREE workshop to help parent carers understand what should be in each section of their child's plan.

What does a good EHCP look like? 534007
Wednesday 2 October 10.30am-12.30pm
Wednesday 4 December 10.30am-12.30pm

at Blueschool House, HR1 2LX.

Find out more and book your place here:

<https://tinyurl.com/mc4zje6n>



FREE WORKSHOP: Introduction to Speech and Language Challenges (ages 0-5)

If your child has additional needs, it is not easy learning to understand and manage their speech and language challenges. Getting the right information and support can be hard work.

We have created two workshops just for parents. These sessions will help you to think about how you can best understand and support your child and how you can share this knowledge with others who are involved with your child.

Please note this particular workshop is England only.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introduction-to-speech-and-language-challenges-age-0-5england-tickets>



Recommended by

NICE National Institute for
Health and Care Excellence

Help your child
build confidence
and self manage
their worries.

For instant access visit:

luminova.app/handw

Powered by



BfB
LABS

In partnership with

NHS

Herefordshire
and Worcestershire



We're excited to share that Lumi Nova is available to families in Herefordshire & Worcestershire in partnership with Herefordshire and Worcestershire ICB. Lumi Nova supports children and young people to build confidence and learn lifelong skills to manage their worries through an intergalactic adventure game!

The offer is instantly accessible to families in Herefordshire by visiting:
https://orlo.uk/LumiNova_ynRBw

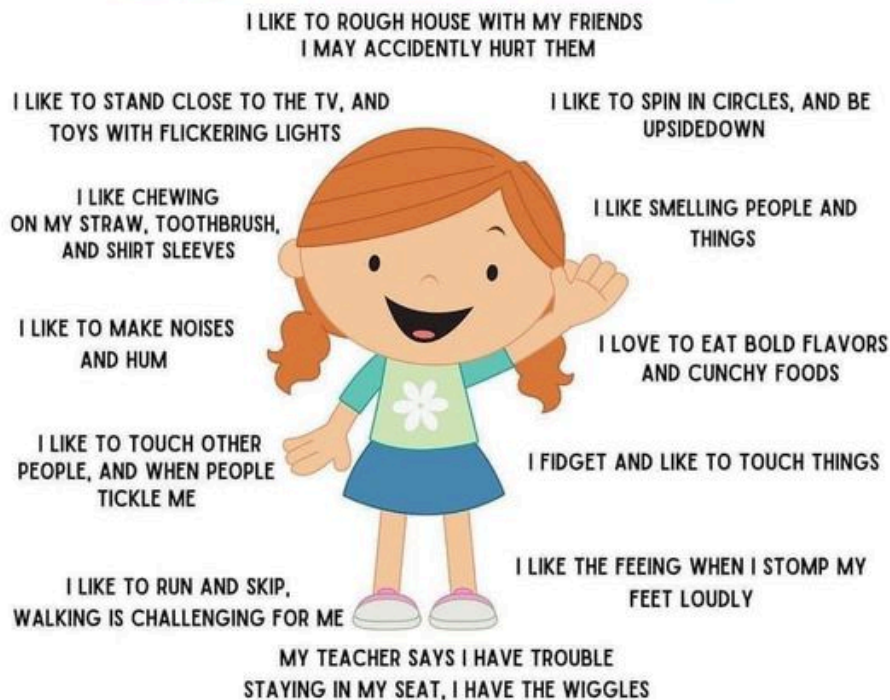
Powered by science, backed by the NHS: Lumi Nova combines Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) with responsible, age appropriate mobile gaming to provide early intervention, therapeutic support for childhood anxiety. Lumi Nova is:

- Designed for children aged 7-12 years
- Suitable for mild to moderate anxiety
- Provides Exposure Therapy & Psychoeducation (CBT)
- Safe & Secure
- Recommended by the National Institute of Health and Care Excellence (NICE)

Watch this short animated video to learn more:
https://orlo.uk/VideoLumiNova_298X2

October is Sensory Processing Awareness Month.

HI, I'M A SENSORY SEEKER!

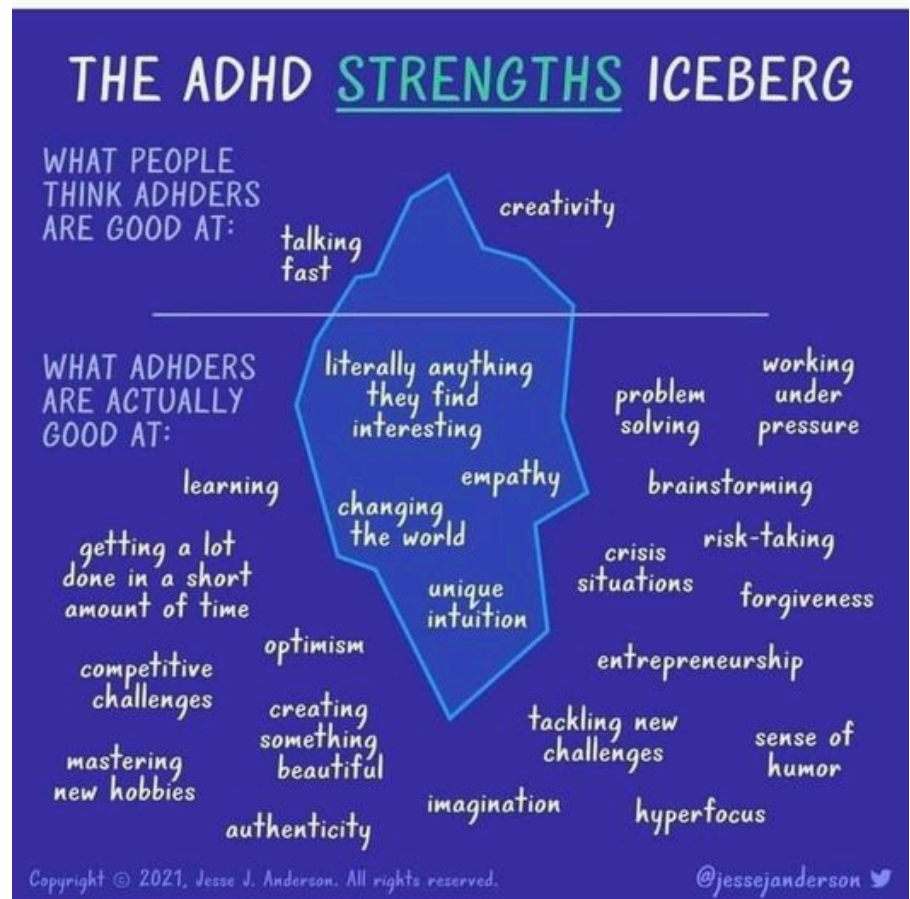


@ot_mama_of_twins



So often, #ADHD, #Autism & other neurodivergencies are presented through a strictly deficits-based lens. This "ADHD Strengths Iceberg" highlights some of the different strengths that ADHDers might possess. Not all of these traits will apply to everyone - which ones resonate with you or someone you love?

Image credit: Jesse J Anderson (@jessejanderson Instagram & Twitter)





“It’s Not About Social Cues. It’s About Social Learning.”

Social learning challenges are common in teens with ADHD, who struggle with perspective taking and situational awareness. Talk therapy and social skills groups rarely help.

What Contributes to Social Learning Challenges

Social skills in children with ADHD are frequently misinterpreted. For instance, I often hear parents and professionals say, “He misses social cues.” However, this statement isn’t accurate for most children with ADHD who face social learning challenges; these kids have not absorbed social information intuitively from an early age to the same degree as their peers.

The root of these social learning issues lies in insufficient perspective-taking skills. Children with ADHD find it challenging to consider others' thoughts and to understand how they are perceived by others. This difficulty stems from their underdeveloped self-directed talk, or what I refer to as their “brain coach.”

In primary school, these lagging perspective-taking abilities can manifest as:

- A desire to control play situations
- Being overly bossy
- Struggling with reciprocal play

As children reach around the age of 10 or 11, social learning challenges become more pronounced because forming same-gender peer groups gains importance and social expectations rise. This is typically when parents begin to seek my guidance, realizing that these issues have not improved with age.



Expressions of Social Learning Challenges

Children with ADHD who face social difficulties due to lagging perspective-taking skills often struggle to understand why their peers may respond negatively to them. Consequently, they might perceive their peers as being unkind or bullying them. In reality, their words or actions often trigger these negative reactions. I refer to this phenomenon as “cringe-y thoughts.”

Another factor contributing to the social struggles of children with ADHD is their lack of situational awareness or ability to read the environment. For instance, if your son has ever wandered into the street without checking for cars, it’s likely due to a deficit in situational awareness. I’ve noticed that children tend to perform well in structured social settings, but they often struggle to interpret cues in unstructured or semi-structured environments.

Addressing Social Learning Challenges

It's important to recognize that social learning challenges are related to learning, not mental health. Traditional counseling or talk therapy may not effectively tackle these issues. While a professional might suggest a social skills group, research indicates that such groups are generally not beneficial for children with ADHD.



October

Hereford



Hereford Hub Coffee Morning for Deaf and Deafblind people

Monday 28th October

10:30am - 12:30pm

Action Deafness, 36 Widemarsh St, Hereford HR4 9EP

**REMINDER - The
clocks will go back
one hour at 2am on
Sunday October 27**



GOV.UK

**Children with special educational needs and disabilities
(SEND)**

Special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) - support your child can get at school and how to apply for an education, health and care (EHC) plan

Extra help
An education, health and care (EHC) plan is for children and young people aged up to 25 who need more support than is available through special educational needs support. EHC plans identify educational, health and social needs and set out the additional support to meet those needs.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Hereford District Scout Post

We are sad to announce that Hereford District Scout Post service will not be available this year (2024).

Everyone will appreciate that it is a service run by volunteers for the benefit of the public and the young people of the Scout Groups that take part.

Over the years that the service has been running (since 1982) well over a million cards have been handled.

To successfully manage this activity it takes a lot of man hours by an army of volunteers. Unfortunately, this year we are unable to guarantee a reliable service because of a reduction in volunteers.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported Scout Post over the years it really was appreciated.

From all at Scout Post

It's Down syndrome awareness month this October

Every single person with Down syndrome should have the same chances as everyone else, in every area of life such as; education, as well as health care, work and a social Life. There's lots of useful information, so if you are interested in looking more into how to support your health, here are easy read guides by the Down's Syndrome Association

[Easy read information - Downs Syndrome Association \(downs-syndrome.org.uk\)](https://downs-syndrome.org.uk)

[PowerPoint Presentation \(downs-syndrome.org.uk\)](https://downs-syndrome.org.uk)

**DOWN'S
SYNDROME
ASSOCIATION**

Benefits Series



Benefits from age 16

Easy read

[DSA_Benefits_Awareness.qxd \(downs-syndrome.org.uk\)](#)

FREE Animal Care Workshops

Are you aged between 13-19 or up to 25 with SEND?

Do you want to learn more about animal care?



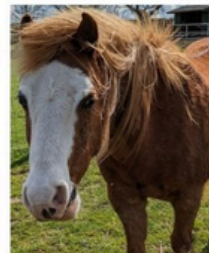
Hereford Community Farm is offering free animal care workshops at our Breinton site. We are inclusive and welcome those with additional needs.

For those who want to, there is also the opportunity to gain an **ASDAN qualification** during the workshops. Lunch is included and we may be able to support travel costs.

Large Animal Workshop

Saturday October 12th, 10am - 1pm

Working with our sheep, goats and horses, attendees will take on a variety of practical tasks and learn about each animal's health and needs.



Small Animal Workshop

Saturday October 26th, 10am - 1pm

Working with our rabbits, Guinea pigs, mice and gerbils, attendees will take on a variety of practical tasks and learn about each animal's health and needs.



Practical Workshop

Saturday November 9th, 10am- 1pm

Working with our large and small animals, the workshop will focus on health checks with attendees performing many of the tasks needed to do them.



- Workshop content may change in adverse weather conditions

Spaces are limited so to find out more or to book:



07990 312466



info@herefordcommunityfarm.co.uk



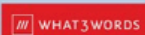
Complete our online booking form:
www.tinyurl.com/HCFBooking

These workshops are funded by the Safer Communities Fund



How to find us:

Hereford Community Farm
Breinton Site
Warham Court, Breinton, HR4 7PF



reinstatement.outlooks.informer



Fancy a new challenge or extra income?

We are looking for experienced Support Workers to work 1:1 with Children and Young People with SEND.

Requirements:

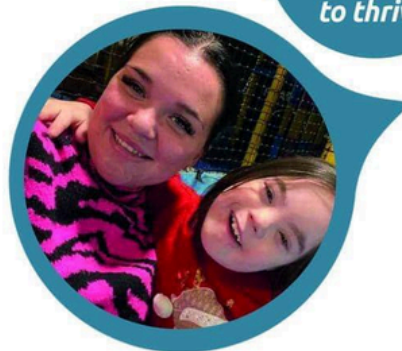
- driver with access to vehicle
- DBS on update service
- Based in Herefordshire area
- evenings & weekends availability

Message me or email Lucy.woodward@endorphins.uk for more information



*Passionate
about helping
young people
to thrive*

Join the Enrich Support team!



**We are looking for Experienced Support
Workers (SEND Children) throughout
Herefordshire- £14.00 p/h**

We need you...

As an Enrich Support Worker, you will be supporting our clients to develop a range of essential life skills within community settings. You will be working with vulnerable children and young people with learning disabilities and additional needs, who require one-to-one support, whilst giving parents and carers a short break from their caring responsibilities.

We are looking for exceptional individuals to join our strong team, who are caring, supportive and passionate about providing a high level of support and care to vulnerable people, maintaining dignity and respect at all times. Please note: **Candidates will require their own vehicle and valid drivers license, mileage is paid at 45p per mile. We offer part-time, permanent hours. Schedule is : day shift, weekends and school holidays.**

For more information contact our team at:

E: enrich@endorphins.uk

Visit Enrich online at: endorphins.uk

Or on Indeed - Endorphins Group



Help a child in their learning journey by giving them the best start. Discover our diverse training formats tailored for every need, from live virtual sessions to bespoke in-person training: <https://bit.ly/3sHTEco>
#DAW24 #DyslexiaAwarenessWeek #YourStory
#Dyslexia #TrainingCourse SpLDs

Dyslexia
Awareness
Week 2024

#DAW24

Help a child start
their learning
journey positively.

BDA training can help
you discover more about
dyslexia whatever your level.



On Tuesday the 4th September we visited Flipout as a group session and what a lovely time the children had
Please see below some of the comments we recieved afterwards

Great family friendly run activity was nice for the boys to have free reign without worry and prejudice

My girls thoughrly enjoyed themselves. It was a lovely atmosphere where there was no judgement as all families live similar lives

That idea was an absolute fantastic idea. The timing was brilliant as we were exhausted on those last few days of the holiday. My son got to meet with some children that he knew previously. My child and his sister were able to play in a safe environment with people that understood him. I am not always able to attend the coffee mornings and it was lovely to be able to talk to all the parents. It was fantastic to have the session paid for as it is expensive for two children to attend for two hours. This is not something that we would normally do. Thank you very much.

SEND-Friendly Session

Easy to book. Everyone at the venue helpful and very friendly. Thank you.

It was really lovely to be at a supported session. General sen sessions are challenging due to my sons behaviour

It was wonderful for the children, they had a wonderful time. Also great as a parent to feel that you are surrounded by people that understood, feeling relaxed with no judgement.



Available Sundays from 9.30am - 10.30am and the first Thursday of the month from 6-7pm