

Newsletter

Autumn 2023

Welcome to our Autumn newsletter of 2023. We are keen to keep you informed with information relevant to SEND and Walsall. Regular updates can also be found on our Facebook page so please do give us a [like](#).



Parent / Carer Workshops

At Walsall SENDIAS we will be running parent carer workshops every month where you can learn more about how children and young people with special educational needs/disabilities (SEND) can be supported. Please join us and improve your knowledge of the law around SEND so you feel more confident in discussions and understanding decisions.

Our upcoming sessions are:

Phase Transfers – Moving to a New Phase of Education.

Thursday 19th October, 11am– 1pm

Manor Farm Community Centre

For more details and to book your place please email us at:

walsallsendias@family-action.org.uk

Drop-in Surgeries with SENDIAS

We are hosting monthly drop-in surgeries for parents, carers and young people across the Locality Family Hubs in Walsall.

Please come along if you require free and impartial information or advice. Autumn dates are:

Tuesday 26th September 2023, 10am -12pm
at Manor Farm Community Association, King
George Crescent, WS4 1EU.

Friday 27th October 2023, 10am -12pm at
West Locality Hub, Ilmington House, Crescent
Road, Wednesbury, WS10 8AE.

Wednesday 22nd November 2023, 12.30pm –
2.30pm at North Locality Hub, 275 Blakenall
Heath, Blakenall, Walsall WS3 1HJ.

Phone Number for SENDIAS

Our office number is **01922 612008** – there is a 24 hour messaging service as we may be out of the office. We aim to respond to all initial enquiries within **2 working days**. Please don't forget to leave your contact number with any message and the team will get back to you.

SENDIAS SEND Fair

Date for your diary! Walsall SENDIAS will be hosting a SEND Fair on **Thursday 18th January 2024, 11am - 1pm at Manor Farm Community Centre**. Lots of services have will be there to offer information and advice.



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What is ADHD?



The Witherslack Group are running this workshop on: **Tuesday 3rd October, 10am-11am (Including Q&A)** It aims to share an understanding what ADHD is and correct some of the myths around the condition and provide a toolkit of support.

Book your free place [here](#)

Message from Local Authority - Short Breaks Summer Holiday Offer 2023

Walsall Local Authority Children's Services commissioned a wide range of Short break Holiday Activities over the Summer.

The Summer Short Break Holiday activities ran at My Place, Resources for Autism and Urban at Aldridge Airport. There was a high volume of Expressions of Interest (EOI) submitted when the links closed. We managed to offer everyone who submitted an EOI in the given timescale a place over the Summer.

We also ran a Preparing for Adulthood Transition Scheme over the Summer at Goscote and 16 young adults attended and benefitted from a bespoke Summer Holiday Offer as part of this Scheme.

We also piloted a Short Break Holiday Scheme at Castle School this Summer. We are currently collating all of the feedback from this pilot scheme and hoping to build on this pilot over the coming months.

Finally, we also commissioned and supported Sassy Sensory Services to deliver a number of sensory sessions and events and the feedback from parents has been very positive.

We are always looking to develop the range and type of short break services that we deliver over the holidays and we welcome parent feedback on our Short break offer. Please email any feedback that you may wish to give us to:

shortbreaks@walsall.gov.uk

Return to School – Online Course for Parents



In Walsall, we believe in supporting children's emotional health development, and that's why we've invested in online courses in understanding your child for parents.

By understanding how your child's brain develops and responds emotionally, you can better support their needs as they navigate the big milestones in school.



- Learn to better read and understand behaviour
- Help them to communicate how they feel
- Gain psychologist-informed ideas to support your child



GO TO INOURPLACE.CO.UK
AND ENTER THE CODE H1PPO
FOR FREE ACCESS TO THE ONLINE COURSES

Mencap Cost of Living Webinar



If you are the parent, family member, carer or person with a Learning Disability and are looking for extra help and support around the cost of living, this Webinar gives you an overview of what specialist Cost of Living Advisors on the Mencap Helpline can advise and support you with:

Running every Wednesday from 1pm – 2pm you can book your free place [here](#)



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[Holiday Activity and Food \(HAF\) SEND Coffee Morning](#)

Share your thoughts on ways to make HAF provision more inclusive and offer feedback to help improve HAF.

Coffee and biscuits will be provided also, transport can be provided if needed. Please contact WR4C@gmail.gov.uk to arrange transport if required.

The meeting will start at **9.30am** however, please feel free to come along after 9.00am for a coffee.

Date: 27/09/2023, Time: 9.30am -11.30am, Venue: Manor Farm Community Centre, King George Crescent, Walsall, WS4 1EU.



You can access **FREE** and **impartial** advice from us on any aspect of SEN/disability in relation to education, health and social care for children and young people 0-25 years – just contact us with your questions.

[Toy Appeal & SENDIAS Christmas Celebration](#)

Since 2009 Family Action has run an annual Christmas Toy Appeal, where through the generosity of companies and community groups across the country, we're able to deliver gifts to the children and young people who use our services.

This year is no exception and we are delighted to share that **Walsall SENDIAS** will be distributing **free** Christmas gifts to children and young people.

Join us at Manor Farm Community Centre on **Tuesday 19th December, 5pm-7pm** for our celebration event.



More details coming soon!

[PDA Society](#)

You can now pre-register to get the recording of these upcoming Q&A Lives by clicking [here](#)

FREE! **PDA Society Q&A Recordings**

Pre-registration now open for Q&A Live recordings

Limited number of complimentary places available

- Available from Thursday 12th October 2023
Effective Provision for PDA Learners
- Available from 9th November 2023
Education Other Than At School (EOTAS)
- Available from 14th December 2023
Understanding Emotionally Based School Avoidance

These Q&A Recordings are available free of charge thanks to a generous grant from the Openwork Partnership



You can secure your ticket by pre-registering now

www.pdasociety.org.uk

Events & Training

[British Dyslexia Association](#)

Visit the **#DAW23** page [here](#) for lots of useful resources and tips.



SEN and Disability
Information, Advice
and Support

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Contact us:

Website:

www.walsall-sendias.org.uk

Email:

walsallsendias@family-action.org.uk

Phone:

01922 612008 – 24 hour messaging service

Find us on Facebook [here](#)