



December 2014 Newsletter For Children & Young People with Additional Needs (0-25yrs)

FIZ offers a Free Impartial Information & Signposting Service for Children and Young People (up to 25 years) with Learning Difficulties or Disabilities and their Families.

- Provide families with information on activities, events, news and issues that are relevant to their needs.
- Issue regular newsletters.
- Support parents to find appropriate childcare or day care services.
- Support parents to access alternative funding to meet family needs.

Contact: Telephone 01983 821999, Email:familyinfozone@iow.gov.uk,

Or drop in at 11 Orchard Street, Newport PO30 1JZ (by the bus station & Lord Louis library) 9.30am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays). No appointment necessary.



Short Break Activities

The Short Breaks service on the Isle of Wight provides a range of fun and exciting activities and opportunities for children and young people with disabilities and/or additional needs. These activities range from after-school, evening, weekend and during the school holiday for children and young people (0-19th birthday). These activities provide a 'short break' for the family or carer whilst their child or young person is participating in a safe and fun activity which meets their needs.

In order to participate in any of the short breaks activities you must meet the eligibility criteria. Your child or young person is eligible to access the Short Breaks programme if they;

- Have a disability and/or additional needs and may require support to participate in leisure and recreational activities.
- Are aged between 0-18 years (up to the 19th birthday).
- Live on the Isle of Wight and/or attend a school on the Isle of Wight.

If you have any questions or are unsure what support your child may be entitled to, then contact the Family Information Zone (FIZ).

How to Register for Short Breaks

You will need to register for a gateway card to use any activities funded by our short break programme. You will also need to show activity providers your child's gateway card when booking/attending.

Each gateway card contains a unique reference number which will be specific to each child or young person.

Gateway card benefits

- Gives your child or young person access to a range of short breaks activities
- Enables your child or young person and family to book our Short Breaks facilities (caravan, beach hut and lodge)
- The gateway card identifies to activity providers that your child or young person has a disability and/or additional needs and may require support to participate within the activity

- The information you provide helps us plan short breaks so that there is a fair distribution across the Isle of Wight

Parents/carers and siblings do not require a gateway card to support their child or young person in accessing the Short Breaks programme.

For more information and to apply for a gateway card go to www.iwight.com/shortbreaks or contact: Family Information Zone (FIZ) 11 Orchard Street, Newport Isle of Wight PO30 1JZ. Tel: 01983 821999.

Short Breaks Taster Sessions

Short Breaks child supporters offer one-to-one support along with a wheelchair accessible car to support children and young people participating in an activity of their choice for up to four sessions. To receive Short Breaks taster sessions a representative from a public, commercial or voluntary organisation must refer the child or young person to the Short Breaks team. This includes; activity leaders, CAF lead professionals, Family Information Zone, teachers, teaching assistants, Short Breaks providers and many more

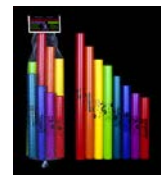
Listed below are the current Short Break Activities www.iwight.com/shortbreaks

Boomwhacker Orchestra at the Isle of Wight College **Ages: 11 - 18**

Come and be part of a Boomwhacker orchestra!! Each session will be practicing using Boomwhackers to create music. These plastic tubes are colour coded to particular notes making them easy to play. They are versatile and it is simple to play popular tunes as well as composing original tunes as a mini group. The group will also be working towards a mini performance as a Boomwhacker orchestra which may involve other simple instruments such as drums, shakers, kazzoo's etc.

Autumn Term Dates: Tuesdays during December – 2nd, 9th & 16th
4.30pm – 6.30pm Cost: £3

Contact: Julie Bell or Jane France Tel 01983 550811 Email: Julie.bell@iwcollege.ac.uk or jane.france@iwcollege.ac.uk



Cookery Fun at the Isle of Wight College **Ages 11 – 18 years**



Cookery fun at our cookery school. Come along and take part in a fun cookery session. In the Autumn term making cookery items in preparation for the festive period and in the Spring term preparing a range of items chosen by the young people.

4.30pm – 6.30pm Cost: £4

Autumn Term Dates: Tuesdays during December – 2nd, 9th & 16th

Contact: Julie Bell or Jane France Tel 01983 550811
Email: Julie.bell@iwcollege.ac.uk or jane.france@iwcollege.ac.uk

Inspirational Arts **Ages 0 – 18 years**

Free flow arts and crafts activities, sensory play items. Term Time only Mondays at Medina House School from 3pm – 5pm. Cost £5 Siblings welcome. Parents welcome but not expected to stay.



Contact: Lindsey - 01983 629453, Mobile: 07545 036234, email: inspirational.arts@live.co.uk

Fun Swimming Sessions at Medina Leisure Centre All Ages

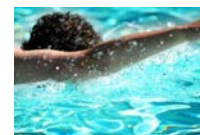
1st & 3rd Friday's each month 6pm – 7pm Cost £2.60 per child. Siblings Welcome. No Booking required

First Parent/carer per child free. Additional parents/carers £3.40

One to One Swimming Lessons - Available first and third Friday 6pm or 6.30pm

Booking Required. Ten 30 minute lessons with 1:1 tuition. Cost £100.00

Contact: 01983 523767 Medina Leisure Centre, Fairlee Rd, Newport PO30 2DX



St Catherine's Girls' Night Ages 12 – 18

Girls' Night is an opportunity for 12-18 year olds with additional needs to meet new friends and learn new skills including Arts & Crafts and Hair & Beauty in a fun, friendly and relaxed environment. Every Thursday 6pm to 8pm during term time. Cost: £4



Address: The Work Station, Ventnor Industrial Estate, PO38 1TT

Booking is essential, to reserve a place or for more information please contact Becky Laidler 01983 852722 Email: becky@stcatherines.org.uk

Premier School Sport Coaching Ages 5 - 15

A carefully selected and exciting sports programme every other Saturday at Sandown Bay Academy .



All sessions are at Sandown Bay Academy

Half day: £10 (10.30am to 12.30pm or 1pm to 3pm) Full day: £20 (9am to 3pm – includes a supervised lunchtime. Pack lunch required)

Cycling and dance: 10 January, 7 February and 7 March

Archery and trampolining 13 December, 24 January, 21 February, 21 March

Holiday Sports programme

We can provide additional support for children with disabilities to integrate them in our school holiday programme. Activities include climbing, trampolining, archery, dance, laser combat and bush craft. Please contact us for further details

Siblings welcome Booking essential. Contact: Donna Day Tel: 07810693182

Email: premierschoolsportcoaching@hotmail.co.uk www.premierschoolsportcoaching.com

Horse Riding Taster Sessions At Sally's Riding School Ages 6 - 18

Short Breaks and Sally's riding school are glad to offer Horse Riding sessions. Riding from Nodes Point Holiday Park or Forelands Field Road, Bembridge.



Weekly Horse riding sessions on Saturday's. 11:00-11:30 and 11:30-12:00 Cost £10 per child

Enjoy a relaxing ride through some of the Island countryside or along its sandy beaches. Booking Essential

Contact: 07974 861674 or 01983 872260 www.sallysridingschool.com

Island Youth Water Activities Centre Ages 8 - 18



IYWAC is offering one-one watersports instruction in dinghy sailing and/or kayaking. No specialist equipment required, fully trained staff to guide you through learning a new sport. Cost £30 for a 3 hour session

On the western bank of the River Medina in Cowes we have easy access to safe sheltered waters in the river and the harbour mouth and the more exposed waters of the Solent. When conditions and /or experience permits our activities take place on the Solent, otherwise activities take place on the River Medina to the south of the Centre. Whitegates, Arctic Road, Cowes, PO31 7PG

Contact: Helen Gilpin Tel. 01983 293073 or Email: info@iywac.org.uk Web site: www.iywac.org.uk

Vectis Blue Disability Football Club (Ages 4 – 18) Term-Time Only

Football Club for children and Young Adults with both physical and learning difficulties. Siblings welcome. Transport available at a small charge



Venue: Rew Valley Sports Centre. Cost: £2.00 per child

Dates: Thursday's in term time. Times: Age 4-12yrs 5pm to 6pm Age 12-18yrs 6pm to 7pm

Contact Janet Mackay - Tel. No: 01983 865377 E-mail Address: janetmackay1940@hotmail.co.uk

Wight BlueSky Arts Fun Club Ages 5 – 13yrs



Blue Sky Fun Club is a play centre specifically designed for children with disabilities. It is a safe and supported environment where parents can feel comfortable leaving their children under the supervision of our experienced team. Group drama activities to enhance self-esteem and confidence and a variety of stimulating play options, to achieve positive participation and lots of fun

Fun Club runs every Saturday, 50 weeks per year with additional days on Mondays in all school holidays. 10am to 2pm at The Old School, New Road, Wootton PO33 4HX

Cost: £10 per child. Break time drinks and fresh fruit included. £2.50 meal deal available. On-site café, delicious meals and snacks.

Booking essential. Please advise on booking if 1:1 support required.

Contact: Tel: 01983 882820 Email: info@blueskyarts.co.uk Website: www.blueskyarts.co.uk

Soft Play at JR Zone All Ages



JR Zone Indoor play specialists are based at 55 Manners View, Newport, PO30 5FA

Dedicated soft play sessions from 5pm – 8pm. (Open to the general public until 6pm) Price is £3.00 per child Siblings welcome.

1st and 3rd Monday each month. Dates for December - 1st & 15th

Our Christmas Party will be on 22nd December between 5pm – 8pm. Maximum 2 adults accompanying a child. Price is £4.55 per child. Santa Claus will be there in his grotto!

Contact: Tel 01983 559272 Email: info@jrzone.co.uk Web: www.jrzone.co.uk

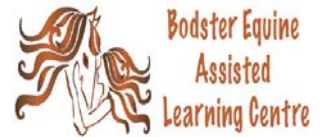
Lego Club Ages 4 – 8

Does your child with autism or Asperger syndrome enjoy playing with Lego? Would they benefit from some support in developing their social skills? The sessions use Lego to encourage play and social interaction between children on the autistic spectrum.

Every fortnight on Saturday mornings 10am to 12pm at the Riverside Centre, Newport.
2014 dates: 13 December. Cost £5 per child

Contact: Gillian Elsom - Tel: 07795517049 email: legoclub.iw@hotmail.co.uk

Bodster – Equine Assisted Learning CIC Ages 5 - 18



Our courses involve a series of fun activities where learners interact with the ponies/horse on the ground. There is no riding involved during sessions. The learners who come help to devise the activities they take part in. For example they may spend some time simply observing the horses in the field and noting what they hear, see and smell. They may make an obstacle course which they then work as a team to take the horse/ pony around. They may work with other learners to put a headcollar on a horse or they may carry out an experiment with various food types to see what the horses like.

The learners look at how to safely lead a pony and how to communicate with it calmly and gently. We often devise as a group with learners leading games where we work as a team. Some learners may work with a horse in the 'round pen', working on how through their behaviour they can encourage a horse to choose to be with them loose without a headcollar on. The learners who carry out this type of exercise can then relate this to their everyday lives and look at how they can through their behaviour affect how people behave around them.



Courses run every Saturday from 4 October to 20 December 2014, and 10 January to 28th March 2015 (Please note dates may be subject to change, please contact us to confirm).

Half-day sessions (10am to 12.30pm or 12.30 to 3pm): £7.50 per learner.

Whole day session (10am to 3pm): £15 per learner.

Half-hour one-to-one sessions are available for £7.50 per learner; please contact us to find out more.

Pony fun days available during school holidays, please contact us to find out more.

If coming for the morning session on a Saturday feel free to bring a drink and snack for tea break. If coming for a Saturday afternoon or all day session please bring a pack lunch.

Contact: Jo & Giles Boddington 07790 305108 (Jo) 07887 876138 (Giles) joandgi@googlemail.com

Website: www.eaqbodster.co.uk

Landeez Wheelchairs All Ages

The Landeez is an all-terrain wheelchair that rides easily over sand, snow and gravel. Great for the beach, its marine grade stainless steel frame will not rust or corrode, even in saltwater. The Landeez can be adjusted to fit a small child or large adult and the ballistic nylon seating is removable and washable. Highly transportable and easy to store, the landeez can be disassembled in seconds.



Available on loan from Dinosaur Isle, Sandown 01983 404344 or from Waterside Pool, Ryde 01983 563656. Wheelchairs can be hired up to one day per family per week.

Short Breaks Caravan Lower Hyde Shanklin 0-18years

The Short Breaks caravan is targeted, in particular for children and young people with disabilities and/or additional needs. The caravan is designed to offer families a short break with the opportunity of having lots of fun at a fantastic holiday park. The caravan is large and wheelchair accessible, it can sleep up to six people, with two bedrooms and extra sleeping for two in the lounge area.

The caravan consists of a large lounge containing a 4 seater table and chairs, open planned kitchen, large bathroom with a shower and two bedrooms. The caravan sleeps a maximum of six people. Two single beds in the smaller room with a double bed in the master room and a pull out bed in the lounge.

You will need to bring:

Towels and all cleaning equipment (washing up liquid/cloths/tea towels/toilet rolls, bin bags)
Bed linen will be included

The caravan contains:

Kitchen equipment, Safety equipment, TV with Freeview and DVD Player, Door Alarm Sensors, Washing Machine / Dryer, Large Decking Area and outside table and chairs
Play equipment (stored in the shed/metal container outside the caravan)
And an electric hoist (if you wish to use the hoist, please contact the short Breaks unit, prior to your arrival)

Facilities: Heated outdoor fun Pool, children's paddling pool, indoor spa pool, all weather multi sports court, adventure playground, amusements, pool table and darts, little sparks under 5's club, Hoppers 5-7's club, Jumpers 8-11's club, Xcite 12-17's, evening entertainment and so much more. You can use all the facilities at Lower Hyde Holiday Park plus Landguard Holiday Park, which is a 10 minute walk from Lower Hyde.

Please note: pets are not allowed in the caravan (only working dogs) and the caravan is strictly non smoking.

Arrival is after 16.00 pm and the departure time is 10.00 am

For further information and costs please visit iwight.com/shortbreaks or contact the short breaks unit on 01983 823168

Short Breaks Lodge Nodes Point St Helens 0-18years

The Short Breaks lodge is targeted, in particular for children and young people with disabilities and/or additional needs. The Short Breaks lodge is designed to offer families a short break with the opportunity of having lots of fun at a fantastic holiday park.

The lodge consists of a large lounge containing a 4 seater table and chairs, open planned kitchen, large bathroom with a bath, a roll in shower and two bedrooms. The caravan sleeps a maximum of six people. Two single beds in the second room with a double bed in the master room and a pull out bed in the lounge.

The lodge contains:

Kitchen equipment, Dishwasher (please bring washing tablets), Safety equipment, TV with Freeview in the front room and bedrooms. DVD Player, Washer dryer (please bring washing tablets), Outside decking area containing table and 6 chairs, Landeez wheelchair (if you wish to use the landeez, please contact prior to your arrival), And an electric hoist (if you wish to use the hoist, please contact me prior to your arrival)

Facilities:

Indoor fun pool with waterslides, direct beach access, adventure playground, amusements, evening entertainment and so much more.

Please note: Pets are not allowed in the lodge (only working dogs) and the lodge is strictly non smoking

For further information, including costs, or to make a booking please contact Short Breaks Unit on 01983 823168
Email: short.breaks@iow.gov.uk. Availability calendar can be viewed at www.iwight.com/shortbreaks

Groups & Activities for Children, Young People & Adults with Additional Needs.

These groups are not Short Break Activities and do not require a Gateway card.

Newport FC (IW) Inclusive Football Club

We are an inclusive football club, and are pleased to be working alongside Newport FC football club and Hampshire football association. We can offer recognised FA level one courses (age dependent) and the opportunity to play in mainland tournaments and access football association training pathways. We run at St George's Newport FC football ground and Downside community centre hall.

Cost is £2 a session, term time only, any age, any disability, siblings and friends very welcome. Term Time Only

Contact: jamesloosemore@aol.com Tel: 01983 864921



Can Do Play 0-5years

Stay and Play for Children with Additional Needs 0-5years

These group play sessions offer parents and children an opportunity to meet with other families and specialist services.

Every Wednesday 9.30am to 11.30am.

The Bungalow, Ryde Academy, Pell Lane For more information or to book please telephone 01983 617617 or drop into Ryde Children's Centre, George Street, Ryde, PO33 2JF.



Kaleidoscope 0-5years

Stay and Play For Children with Additional Needs 0-5years

These group play sessions offer parents and children an opportunity to meet with other families whilst having fun!

Alternate Wednesday of every month 9:30am to 12:00noon

The Sandown Centre, The Fairway, Lake For more information or to book please Telephone 01983 408718 or 01983 867310

First Act 2011 - Theatre Group for people with learning disabilities (Age 18+)

Learning theatre skills with a production of 2 shows a year. First Act operates from Shanklin Theatre on Monday's and Tuesday's 10.00am – 3.00pm. Cost £25 per day. Open all year apart from Bank Holidays and during August.

Contact: Carol Laidler Tel: 01983 408184 or 07769646086 Email: alan.laidler@btinternet.com

The Action Station 18-25 years

Ventnor – based St Catherine's is offering a new life skills and leisure programme for

young adults at home and in the wider community, which is registered with the Care Quality Commission. The programme is for young adults living on the Isle of Wight aged 18 – 25 who have speech, language and communication needs and associated conditions such as autism and Asperger Syndrome.



Life Skills Post-18
Provision at
St Catherine's

St Catherine's can provide one-to-one and small group support at a cost of £15 per young adult per hour – a rate which is in line with current provision of a broadly comparable nature. In addition, mileage incurred by support staff is charged at 40 pence per mile.

Additional group activities – with other young adults aged 18 and over – can be arranged as appropriate offering opportunities for wider social interaction such as evenings out – e.g. bowling, cinema, meals. The cost for this activity would be £20 per young adult per 3 hour session plus the cost of the activity.

For more information or an informal discussion please contact: Gloria Grant, Head of Care on 01983 852722

West Wight Coffee Morning in partnership with Parents Voice

Join our coffee and cake monthly support meeting from 9.30am to 11.30am at Freshwater Methodist Church, Brookside Road, Brookside, Freshwater. It is for parents & carers of a child or young person with special educational needs or a disability. Subsequent meetings will be on the first Monday of each month. The next meeting is on Monday 5th January 2015. Contact: Sally Duckworth - 07827 289164



Face2Face Isle of Wight

The Children's Society is happy to announce partnership working with Scope to deliver the Face 2 Face Befriending service on the Isle of Wight.

Face 2 Face is a parent(s) befriending service offering emotional support to parents whose children have been recognised as having a disability or special need. The monthly Drop-Ins will now be held on the 2nd Monday of the month (term-time only)

at: West Newport Children's Centre, Wellington Road, Newport PO30 5QT. 9.30am-12.00pm

There is plenty of on-street parking opposite the centre between 9.30am and 2.30pm

Volunteer Befrienders Training

Starts January 6th 2015

Face 2 Face are ready to recruit new volunteer parent befrienders and you could be just who they are looking for:

- Do you have a child with a disability or support needs aged 18 or under?
- Is it at least two years since you found out that your child had a disability or support needs?
- Can you remember how you felt when you first found out about your child's disability or support needs?
- Are you a good listener?
- Can you empathise with other people?
- Can you offer to support someone for an hour a week?

If you have answered yes to all of the above questions then you could be an ideal parent befriender.

The training is 8 weeks long and takes place at East Cowes Children's Centre, Beatrice Avenue, East Cowes

For more details please contact Deborah Cobb, The Children's Society, Suite C, The Loft, 42 Quay Street, Newport, PO30 5BA Tel/fax: 01983 529312. Email:deborah.cobb@childrenssociety.org.uk

Wight Blue Sky Arts

Wight Blue Sky Arts is proud to provide the best of arts based activities for adults and teenagers with learning difficulties. Runs for 50 weeks a year offering a mix of art, dance, drama, film making and music, Monday to Friday (Different activities on different days contact provider to confirm). Am & Pm sessions available.



School Holiday programmes... Now running from The Old School, New Rd, Wootton, PO33 4HX

Why not book a FREE taster session today? Outreach Service also available.

For more details contact 01983 882820: Email:info@blueskyarts www.blueskyarts.co.uk

West Wight Sports Centre - Dedicated swimming sessions

Weekly swimming session for disabled children, with their family, siblings and friends. Both pools are available exclusively for fun-packed sessions. Additional lifeguards and support provided for the dedicated session. Do come along to appreciate the caring, supportive, fun atmosphere!



Fridays: 5.30pm – 6.30pm (Closed on public holidays). Cost: £2.65 per child.
Free of charge to anyone accompanying a child with a disability.

Contact: 01983 752168 Web: www.westwight.co.uk



The Rainbow club
Supporting children with
special needs.
Run by parents of children
with disabilities.

Support Group

Meets at Haylands Primary School, Playstreet Lane, Ryde on the 4th Saturday of each month 2pm – 4pm.

Fun activities for children with disabilities and their siblings.
Tea and chat for all the family. Cost: £2 per child

No meeting in December.

Sports Club

AFC Bournemouth *Community Sports Trust* and the Rainbow Club Down's Syndrome & Special Needs Support Club would like to invite you to a Disabilities Sports Club



Accessible to children of all ages with a disability, their families and siblings.

Come and have a go at: Football; Basketball; Wheelchair Football; Dance (Street dance; Hip-Hop; Acro; Jazz; tap ;) Boccia and more. All activities run by professional Coaches. *Only £2 admission fee per child.* Tea and coffee facilities, eating area, chill out zone all provided.

Next date: 13th December and then the 2nd Saturday of the month @ Downside Learning and Community Centre, Furlongs, Newport, PO30 2AX. 1pm – 3pm

For more information please call Clare 01983 568601 or 07773570505 or email clareanne21@btinternet.com

Positive Difference Products

For all your sensory needs and communication needs. Autism Awareness - sensory & fiddle toys – positive disability symbols – communication aids – chewigems – schedule & reward charts – kids edz ear defenders

For more information: www.positivedifferenceproducts.co.uk Email: positivedifferenceproducts@yahoo.com or tel: 07766142460

Isle of Wight Branch National Autistic Society

Coffee mornings, support groups, cinema screenings and other events and activities.
Please check the web site for current information <http://www.nasiow.btck.co.uk/>



Our Support Groups

We offer support groups for families and individuals affected by Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC/ASD).
These are located in the following areas:

Cowes Support Group - 1st Tuesday of the month - 10am - 12pm

St Faith's Church Hall, Newport Road, Cowes - Contact Jess Higgins 07969297666 or cowesasd@gmail.com

Ryde Support Group - 2nd Tuesday of the month - 9.30am - 11.30am

Park Community Centre, High Park Road, Ryde - Contact Jess Higgins on 07969297666

South Wight Support Group – 3rd Thursday of the month – 6.30pm - 8.30pm
St John's Hall, St John's Road, Wroxall
Contact Caroline Martin on 07815 131659 or at carolinemartin4@aol.com or Jess Higgins 07969297666

Our Clubs:

We currently offer 4 clubs for individuals affected by ASD which meet regularly. You can find out more information by emailing iownasevents@hotmail.com or by contacting the individual groups below:

Saturday Lego Club Please contact Gill Elsom on 07795 517049 or email: legoclub.iw@hotmail.co.uk

Trampoline Club (6 - 12 yrs) Please contact Katie Bond at iownasevents@hotmail.com

Gamezone (13 +) at The IOW College North Block Room L49 (above the library) **(Term Time Only)**

Computer gaming for young people with Aspergers and High Functioning Autism from age 13 +. Playstation, Wii, Xbox and loads of games including Minecraft. A chance to meet and game with others. Parents/Carers welcome. Also the college café where you can relax and enjoy a coffee whilst the kids are having fun. Wednesday evenings from 4.30pm -6.30pm. Cost £2 per session. Please call first to check availability. Please contact Cathy Gibbs at: cathygibbsx@gmail.com or call 07950 032623

Duke of Edinburgh Award Ages 14 – 25 years

Ryde Youth Centre – Tel: 562416 – Monday's 5pm – 7pm
Cowes UKSA – Tel: 294941 – Wednesday's 7pm – 9pm
Newport Youth Centre – Tel: 559028 – Thursday's 6.30pm -8.30pm



Contact: DofE Facilitator Carol Taverner: 01983 559028 Email: carol.taverner@iow.gov.uk

Isle of Wight Association for Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus

An independent charity which provides help and support for those with Spina Bifida and / or Hydrocephalus who live on the Isle of Wight, and their families, helping them gain independence and integration in the community.

For more information contact: Sharon Armstrong via email to iwasbah_chairman@aol.com

AIM Autism Inclusion Matters 18+years

What is AIM?

AIM is a group on the Isle of Wight for adults (over 18) who have Autism or Aspergers, also known as an Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC). It is not a group for parents or carers, or professionals. AIM is a user lead group. This means that with support, people who have ASD will decide what happens in the group and help to run the groups.

How can I be involved?

We now have funding for a social group. This used to be called 'The ATeam' This social group is aimed at helping people who have ASD who may feel lonely, or find it difficult to meet people and make friends. The group will choose where to meet together and what activities to do. We will support members to find people who have shared interests, and build friendships. We hope to have a range of activities that are chosen by members. We hope that this group will become run by its members and we encourage anyone who wants to help in any way to run the group to let us know.

We also have an advocacy group, to listen to what adults with ASD have to say about life on the Isle of Wight, and to make changes. We are creating new ways of doing this to involve more people, to listen to more people and to make sure that services and businesses listen to what you have to say and act on it.

AIM is supported by a partnership between Way Forward, Positive Difference and People Matter IW. These organisations work together to support the group.

If you would like to be involved, or have more information about any of our groups or activities please contact: the AIM co-ordinator on 01983 523000 or Email: aimisleofwight@gmail.com



Sensory Experiences at West Wight Nursery

Opportunities to enjoy our light sensory room, ball pool, soft play, garden and a range of sensory craft activities. This is also a social opportunity for parents / carers. Children must be supervised by a parent/carer. Siblings welcome



Please book in advance, call Janet or Joss on 01983 752175 EXT.31. West Wight Nursery, Summers Lane, Totland Bay, PO39 0HQ

IOW Tourettes Support Group

Tourettes Action has a growing network of support groups in England, Wales and Northern Ireland coordinated by volunteers with Tourette Syndrome (TS) or who have a family member with TS.

Meeting others for support, information sharing and friendship has helped many people with TS, a condition that can be isolating. Talking with others who understand can help with self-esteem, confidence and general wellbeing.

There is now a support group on the Isle of Wight. A support group that offers a warm welcome to children and adults with Tourettes Syndrome, their families, friends and carers. Meeting at Rookley Village Hall, Highwood Lane, Rookley PO38 3NN

For further information contact emma@tourettes-action.org.uk . Find us on Twitter @TicForTourettes or IOW Tourettes support group on Facebook

Cowes Sailability Club

Cowes Sailability Club was formed to promote and facilitate water sports for Island people with disabilities. We are hosted at Cowes by the Cowes Corinthian Yacht Club and operate on Monday afternoons and evenings throughout the season and on other days as advertised in our programme. We have Club nights, for talks and lectures, and Day Cruises around the Solent.

For further information please contact: cowessailability@btinternet.com c/o Cowes Corinthian Yacht Club, 39 Birmingham Road, Cowes, PO31 7BH Tel 07850090244 (Hon Sec) www.cowessailability.btck.co.uk

OCD Support IW 14+years

The principal aim of the group is to provide help, information, resources, support and encouragement for young people, their families and adults affected by OCD.

Membership of the group is open to anyone affected by Obsessive Compulsive Disorder over the age of 14 years primarily living within the Isle of Wight. Young people must be accompanied by an appropriate adult. Meetings

are at Age UK (IW) offices at St Thomas Chambers, 147 High Street, Newport. The next meeting is Monday 8th December.

For more information contact: Brian Taylor - Tel: 07870 171990 Email: briantaylor1938@talktalk.net

Isle of Wight Table Tennis Centre Inclusive Table Tennis Sessions Ages 7+

Each session will cost £2.50. Please wear non-marking shoes. Equipment supplied. Coaching sessions can be arranged.

Monday, Wednesday & Friday evenings from 6.30pm to 9.00pm at Ashe Road, Ryde, PO33 4BH

Contact Martin Dove on 01983 299308 or e-mail martin.dove@blueyonder.co.uk for more details

Isle of Wight Deaf Children's Association

A charity formed in 1965 to offer help and support to parents of children diagnosed with hearing impairment. We are affiliated to the National Deaf Children's Society (www.ncds.org.uk)

Chair: Sarah Teague sarah.iwdca@gmail.com

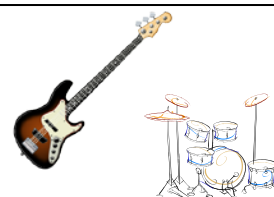
Saturday Club for Deaf Children

This group holds monthly meetings where all activities are tailored to improve language and communication, providing a social setting for deaf children.

Visit the web site for contact information www.saturdayclub.org.uk

Luke Steen Music & Tuition

I offer tuition to others to develop their potential in music. I am a graduate musician experienced in many different musical genres, instruments, styles, situations and scenarios.



Personal tuition could be on drums, acoustic guitar or bass guitar and I can take you from beginner to proficient performer, focusing on the style of music you particularly enjoy. Or perhaps just learning your favourite pieces of music?

If you are interested in the tuition I can offer, please don't hesitate to contact me via www.lukesteen.co.uk or Tel: 07812064407 or (01983) 521247

Matt Russell Ice Skating Instructor

I am a level 2 N.I.S.A. instructor with first aid and a CRB check. I have been skating for over 17 years and have experience of teaching children and young people with additional needs. I can offer 1:1 lessons.



For more information please contact me on 07890 546619 or email: matt_russell2212@hotmail.co.uk

Haylands Farm (Age 18+)

Haylands Farm is a work based training centre, run by Isle of Wight Mencap for people with learning disabilities on the Isle of Wight. The project aims to give its student group transferrable skills through Agriculture, Horticulture, Woodwork, Can Recycling, Life Skills and Social Activities.



For more information about this project, visit its website: www.haylandsfarm.co.uk Or Contact: Haylands Farm, Salters Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight PO33 3HU Telephone: 01983 566038 Email: info@haylandsfarm.co.uk

Way Forward Programme

The Way Forward Programme is able to offer a whole range of activities to help support people with a learning or physical disability within our community. We offer a seven day a week support service that will focus on supporting adults and young people to build the skills and confidence needed to live as independently as possible. The care and support is provided using personal budgets, our staff team are experienced and committed to delivering a quality service providing daily activities within our activity centre based at Downside Community Learning Centre.



We also offer a personalised support service where an individual can have 1:1 or 2:1 support to undertake activities within the centre or within the community. We provide a wide range of activities within the community for people to get involved in as well as having our own community kitchen for life skills development. If you are over 18 we offer respite care for overnight stays, weekends away or holidays, you choose the destination and we organise and provide the care, you will be picked up from your door supported during the duration of your time away and brought back to your door. If you are aged 12 – 18 then we are able to provide respite care during the day or evenings, weekends or during the school holidays. We will work closely with families and carers to ascertain the best time support will be needed and focus on individual needs; unfortunately we are not able to carry out personal care at this time.

Contact Lee White Tel.01983 523000 E-Mail: lee.white@osel-iow.co.uk web: www.wayforwardprogramme.co.uk

John's Club Isle of Wight

Friday Club 18+ years. 6.30pm – 8.30pm. £3 for the club and £2 for transport (if required). Party night £5 plus transport.

Venues: 19 December - Newport Football Club

12 December – Blue Sky Arts, Old School, New Road, Wootton

Saturday Club 14 – 25 year olds. 11.30am – 3.30pm £3 plus £2.50 for lunch

Venue: Blue Sky Arts, Old School, New Road, Wootton



Saturday Fun Club 8 – 14 year olds. 11.30am – 3.30pm £8 plus £2 for transport (if required) Venue: Blue Sky Arts, Old School, New Road, Wootton

Sunday Club 18+ years. 6.30pm – 8.30pm £2 plus £2 transport (if required) Venue: The Waverley, Carisbrooke

People First 18+ year olds at Haylands Farm, Salters Road, Ryde

For further information please contact 01983 865865 or check out our website www.johnsclubiow.org

Disclaimer FIZ is not responsible for the information contained within this newsletter as this is provided by the individual providers/services. If you have any questions relating to the activity please contact the provider direct. All information is correct at the time of going to print. For information on keeping your child safe when attending activities <http://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/advice-and-info/out-alone-guide-keeping-child-safe.pdf>

SEND Reforms: the biggest change in SEN law for 30 years

What is happening?

The Children and Families Act will change the way in which children and young people with Special Educational Needs and disabilities are supported at school and in the community. The Act will be implemented in stages starting in September 2014.

When is this going to happen?

The law will start to change the arrangements in September 2014. It will take some time for local areas to make all of the changes that are required, so changes will take place over a number of years.

What is in the Act?

The Act responds to concerns parents carers have raised about the SEND system over the last few years. It includes some key principles to improve parent carers experiences. These include:

- **More Participation:** it includes new responsibilities on local authorities and others to make sure parent carers and young people are much more involved in decisions that affect their lives. It also makes clear that local authorities and health partners should work with parent carers and young people to improve services across their local area for example through the parent carer forums.
- **Better Outcomes:** the Act requires education, health and social care services to look at how they support children and young people in a way that improves progress and supports the outcomes they want and need in their lives.
- **Better joint working:** the Act requires services that families use, in particular education, health and social care to work more closely together and commission services together. This should improve the experiences of children, young people and their parent carers.

What does this mean in real life?

Education, Health and Care Plans will replace Statements of Special Educational Needs and Learning Disability Assessments (LDAs). From September 2014, no new statements or LDAs will be available. In stages, over the next few years, children with an existing statement will have their statement transferred to an Education, Health and Care Plan. There will be agreed procedures for the changeover and parent carers and young people will have a say in these. Existing rights, for example rights of appeal, will continue during the transfer.

Education, Health and Care Plans can continue to support young people up to **the age of 25** if the Local Authority considers that the young person needs more time to complete their education or training.

SEN support will replace School Action and School Action Plus. Schools will still be required to identify children who need additional support, involve parent carers and children and young people in planning how to meet these needs and call on specialists from outside the school when they need to.

Local offer from September 2014 - every local authority will be required to have a "local offer" which informs parent carers and young people with SEN or disabilities what is provided in their local area, including what to expect from local early years providers, schools, colleges, health and social care. In addition it will include information on how decisions are made about how services are allocated, how to request a personal budget, how to access more specialist support and how to complain or appeal. Local authorities must involve parent carers, children and young people in developing their local offer.

The Local Offer for the Isle of Wight can be found at: www.iwight.com/localoffer

Information and advice - Local authorities already have to make information and advice available to parent carers about SEN, through parent partnership services. From September, local authorities must make information and advice available that also covers disability, health and social care and is also available directly to young people as well as parent carers - building on the services (like parent partnership services) they already have in place. Families with children or young people going through a statutory assessment leading to an education, health and care plan may also be able to get help from an Independent Supporter - someone who doesn't work for the local authority who can help parents and carers, and young people, through the process.

The Independent Support Programme on the Isle of Wight is based at the Isle help Centre, High Street, Newport PO30 1UD. Their contact details are:

Telephone: 01983 823898 (Monday – Friday 9.30am – 2.30pm) Email: independantsupport@peoplematteriw.org

Alternatively you can contact the **Parent Partnership Service**: Tel: 01983 825548

Email: parentpartnership@iow.gov.uk

Other changes - there are lots of other changes, but these are some of the main ones. There are also things that are not changing, for example the disability discrimination duties in the Equality Act are the same as they were before the SEND reforms started.

How can I find out what early years providers, schools, colleges, social care and health should do?

A new SEND Code of Practice has been published which sets out how decisions should be made for children and young people with Special Educational Needs or disabilities. This is statutory guidance and early years providers, all schools, colleges, local authorities and health partners must have regard to it when they decide what to do.

A copy of this is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25> or <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-parents-and-carers>

For more information have a look at Contact A Family: <http://www.cafamily.org.uk/advice-and-support/sen-national-advice-service/the-sen-process/>

How can I get involved?

Parent and carers can get involved in their local area by:

- Joining your local parent carer forum **Parents Voice IW** and make a real difference by sharing ideas and thoughts. www.parentsvoice-iw.co.uk
- Talk to the SENCO at your child's school or the person responsible for SEND support at your college and find out what they are doing to prepare for these changes.

Bust the myths around the SEND reforms.

There is a range of myth busters that have been produced by the Council of Disabled Children to help clarify concerns parent carers may have, or have been told might result from the changes. You can find them at

<http://www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/media/529425/top-children-families-bill-myths-1.pdf>

<http://www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk/media/529424/top-cf-bill-myths-ehc-plans.pdf>

If you have any questions please contact FIZ on 01983 821999

www.WightChYPS.org.uk



FREE INFORMATION!



POP IN! WE'RE HERE TO HELP

FIz, 11 Orchard Street,
Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 1JZ
Telephone (01983) 821999
familyinfozone@iow.gov.uk
www.wightchyps.org.uk

Free information about
services and activities for
children, young people and families



www.Wightchyps.org.uk

The online directory for children and young people on the Isle of Wight

What's on? Looking for activities to do? Information or support? Need help?

WightChYPS is the local authority's Family Service Directory (FSD). A service directory is a comprehensive online information bank of all types of children's and young people's services available in a local area. It includes a broad range of services from providers in voluntary, private and statutory agencies.

WightChYPS has been created as a complete directory of services for children and young people across the Isle of Wight. The directory contains hundreds of entries with contact information and details of activities, services and events in all areas, including those listed below.



LEARNING

HEALTHY LIVING

LEISURE ACTIVITIES

EDUCATION

SPORTS

LOCAL AND NATIONAL SUPPORT GROUPS

www.Wightchyps.org.uk



The information contained on the WightChYPS website is managed by FIz.

The directory is available online at www.Wightchyps.org.uk