

Hello!

This afternoon we are visiting Datchet Family Hub for our Parents' Share drop in coffee morning. Please do pop along and say hello.

Please find below a round up of informaton we thought may be of interest.

**With very best wishes,
Jean, Donna Kate and Millie**

Parents' Share Programme



ias Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND)
Information, Advice and Support Service for children, young people and parents

Parents' Share Coffee Afternoon

Come to our friendly parent support group - share your concerns, experiences and your successes.

Come and find out more about the impartial Information, Advice and support for children & young people with SEND & their parents and carers.

Wednesday 15th May 1230-1430
@ Datchet Family Hub, Datchet St Mary's CE of Primary School, The Green, Datchet, Berkshire, SL3 9EJ.



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Thursday 13th June
9.30 -11.30am
@ Windsor Family Hub, 65 Alma Road, Windsor SL4 3HD



Meet Kate Barnes - New IAS adviser.

Please welcome Kate Barnes to the IAS Team. Kate joins us as out part time adviser. Kate will be at our Parent Share events and on hand to answer questions and office support and advice alongside our full time adviser, Donna Hembury.

News, Webinars, Events & Information



GEMS

Autism & ADHD Support Service
East Berkshire

Virtual Coffee Morning - Sensory needs (AUDHD)

Friday 10th May 10 - 11:15am

Join our online informal discussion to
cover the following areas:

**25 spaces
available!**

- What works for your family?
- What are the sensory difficulties that are being experienced?
- How do you identify and support your child's sensory needs?

Please note this is not a workshop but support group for parent/carers and any medical advice should be sought from your medical practitioner.



Sign Up Today!

Available for families who reside in or have a registered GP in East Berkshire with a child who is Autistic/ADHD (suspected/pathway/diagnosed)

To book your place contact GEMS:



Gems.4Health@nhs.net



0800 999 1342



Coffee Morning *NEW* SEND Resources Created by Families for Families

SEND Voices RBWM is a group of parents and carers who have a child or young person with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND). We are an independent group working together with the local authority, health and social care, to ensure that parents and carers are represented and have a voice in decisions relating to SEND services, and that parent carers are part of the solution. We are creating new Resources for Families by Families in partnership with Achieving for Children (AfC)* and would like to hear your thoughts and ideas about the resources that would best support you and your family. We have an opportunity to create audio or audio-visual resources and would like to your input on the format of these resources as well as discuss how you may wish to get further involved. Your voice matters and can help shape better services for you and all our SEND families.

* Not-for-profit organisation that runs Children's and Educational Services for the Royal Borough.

Please join us on :

Tuesday 21st May

9.30am soft start for 10am - 11.30am

Refreshments will be provided

Poppies Children's Centre

Kenneally
(Broom Farm Estate)

Windsor
SL4 4XP

Free parking available outside

To learn more about us, please contact info@svrbwm.org.uk

Preparing for Adulthood Information and next steps

EVENT DETAILS

Friday 28 June

10.30am to 1pm

**Desborough Bowling Club, 10 Green Lane,
Maidenhead SL6 1XZ**

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Parents and carers of young people with special educational needs (SEND) who are considering their next steps following school (Year 10 onwards)

WHAT THE EVENT WILL INCLUDE

- The key information and dates for a young person transitioning to college or employment
- An explanation of what supported employment options are available
- An opportunity to share your concerns and anxieties, and ask questions
- Information from key supporting agencies

How to attend

If you are interested in attending please book via the QR code or Eventbrite <https://tinyurl.com/7hrj39ps>.



TO BOOK

Created by RBWM as part of 'Internships Work', funded by the Department for Education.

www.rbwm.gov.uk



In collaboration with:



The event will be a space for parents to find out about/ ask questions about PfA next steps, including ways to get into work (such as Supported Internships)

The event itself will have:

- Key information and dates for a young person transitioning to college or employment
- An explanation of what supported employment options are available
- An opportunity to share your concerns and anxieties, and ask questions
- Information from key supporting agencies

Mental Health Awareness week

It is Mental Health Awareness week. When you are living with a mental health problem or supporting someone who is, access to right information is vital. Mind

No mind left behind

Over 2 million people are waiting for support.
No one should have to struggle alone.
Join us in the fight for mental health.

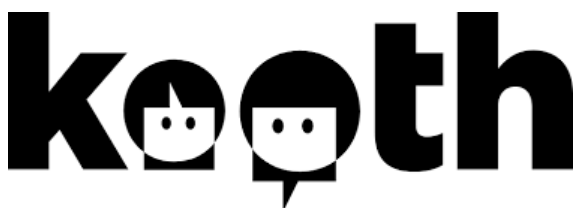


and Young mind have some great resources, information and support. Find out more via the websites below.

[Mind Website](#)

[Young Mind Website](#)

Support from Kooth



With nearly 50% of Kooth users reporting stress & anxiety, 22% reporting suicidal ideation, and just shy of 20% reporting self-harm in East Berkshire it's so important that we work together to raise awareness of the mental health support available to your students.

With many young people preparing for their upcoming exams this term, please let them know that Kooth is here to help with any stress or anxiety they may be feeling. We also have a [support guide](#) for you to share with your students on coping with exam stress, an [exam stress recorded webinar](#), and articles on Kooth such as "[The ultimate exam stress toolkit](#)" that can help.

Helpful resources

Mental health awareness week: to help you explore this year's theme: "Movement: Moving more for mental health", we've put together a wealth of free resources you can explore with your students, including: [activity sheets](#), [supportive articles](#), [digital posters](#), and [form time big questions!](#) And keep an eye on our socials as we'll be sharing supportive content throughout the week.

· Support for Muslim parents: our new information booklet for Muslim parents "[Young Muslims and mental health](#)".

· New Kooth podcast: check out our latest Kooth podcast "Scared of the dark: a guided meditation" - available on [Spotify](#) and [Apple Podcasts](#). Also, look out for our upcoming podcast where we chat to a sleep expert who gives her tips on getting a good night's sleep before an exam.

A digital parent skills training programme for parents of children with learning disabilities



The aim of this project is to prepare for a trial of a parent support programme for parents of children with learning disabilities. To help Warwick University prepare for this trial, they want to understand what parenting/family support local authorities currently provide for parents of children with learning disabilities.

Taking part will involve completing an online survey which will take around 10-20 minutes to complete. The survey involves a mixture of free-text and multiple-choice items related to parenting/family support your local authority offers to parents of children with learning disabilities.

Take Survey

MY PERSPECTIVE - AN INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE DOWN'S SYNDROME.



FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS:

You can enter up to three photographs.

Photographs must be taken by a person who has Down's syndrome.

Photographs must be the photographer's own work.

Photographs can be black and white or colour.

Photographs can be taken on a camera, phone or tablet.

[More information and entry details here](#)



Plans to reform the disability benefits system, in particular the personal independence payment (PIP) process.

The Government have recently announced plans to reform the disability benefits system, in particular the personal independence payment (PIP) process. The Government say they want to make changes to the eligibility criteria for PIP so it is fairer and better targeted.

They will be looking at:

- the assessment criteria and how a condition affects a person's life and to see whether the current entitlement threshold can be changed, particularly those people who have the need for aids and appliances.
- changing the qualifying period for PIP and also how it is assessed. This will be to bring it in line with the work capability assessment (WCA) reform within Universal credit which was an earlier consultation that we responded to last year.

The first stage of this is a consultation on these plans, which will take place over 12 weeks from 29 April to 23 July.

[More information here](#)



Sign up is now open for Making Participation Work's Shared Support coffee morning!

Shared Support is happening on Wednesday 5th June, and you are invited to join us. This session will focus on the barriers to participation that a care-experienced child or young person might experience and how we can address these.

The session's guest speaker will be Emma Hosking, Participation Manager, Voices Improving Care Team, at Coram Voice.

Here are the meeting details:

- Wednesday 5th June 2024, 10.30-11.30.
- Those who register will be sent a Zoom link on Tuesday 4th June to join the session. Please do not share this link with anybody. Attendees must register through Eventbrite.

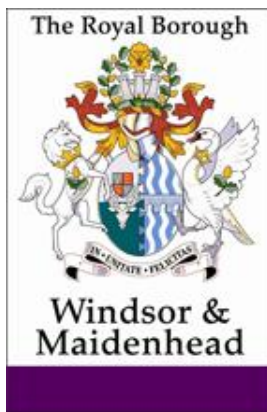
To find out more and register for the session please click [here](#).

Research Opportunity: Exploring the experiences of siblings who have a brother/sister with Down's Syndrome from underrepresented ethnicities

This research aims to explore what are the experiences of siblings who have a brother or sister with Down's Syndrome from underrepresented ethnic groups in the UK.

This information will be used to explore an individual's unique lived experience whilst also drawing upon similarities and differences with other sibling participants. This research will use the voice of the siblings of individual's with Down syndrome from underrepresented ethnic groups for which there is currently a need for more research in this area.

[Find out more here](#)



Financial help

Household Support Fund has reopened for applications. If you know of anyone who is in need of financial support they may be able to apply for a one-off £145 payment via one of our community partners.

More info can be found here: **[Household Support Fund | RBWM Together](#)**

Additional cost of living support can be found here: **[Here to Help | RBWM Together](#)**

Carers Uk - Resources for carers

Carers Uk are here for unpaid carers with expert information, advice and support, and also campaign to make life better for carers. You can find our more at the website.

[Carers Uk website](#)

Speech & Language Checker



[Speech and Language UK](#) have announced the launch of their all-new and improved [child's progress checker](#) to help parents, carers and educators support children's skills. The progress checker will give them insight into their child's development and provide them with resources to support the child.

1.9 million children in the UK struggle with talking and understanding words. This new progress checker provides FREE how-to videos, resources and guidance developed by their team of Speech and Language Advisors. Simply choose your child's age and answer a few short questions. We will then give you free resources and guidance based on your answers to help your support your child's

skills.



If we have worked with you this academic year, or in the summer term this year we really need your feedback - it takes no more than a few minutes but really helps us improve our service. The survey is anonymous but helps us get a better understanding of how our service is impacting families. You can find the form here: <https://rbwmttogether.rbwm.gov.uk/ias-evaluation>