

# Spreading the word



## Welcome...

I am pleased to introduce the Summer 2019 edition of the Local offer newsletter 'Spreading the Word'. I have now been in post at Leicestershire since March this year and, while acknowledging the dedication and hard work of our staff, I also recognise there is always more we can do to improve the experience of families.

As you may be aware, from recent media coverage, the county council is investing more than £30m to create around 700 extra places for children and young people with special educational needs (SEND) which should also ensure that specialist teaching support is easier to access.

To support this significant investment by the county council, we are committed to ensuring that we provide the most up-to-date information around what to do if a child or young person has SEND and to ensure the support received is achieving the best outcomes for the individual.

## The Local Offer

Our 'local offer' brings together details about local health, education and social care services in one place for children and young people aged 0-25.

The 'one-stop-shop' is a useful online resource for children, young people, parents, professionals and people who provide services.

You can also use the site to tell us about your experiences of services and facilities, register a service or suggest one to be added.

The 'local offer' was launched following national reform, ours can be found at

[www.leicestershire.gov.uk/local-offer](http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/local-offer)

This 'Local Offer' information is developed with our colleagues on the Parent & Carer Forum and includes advice on raising concerns about a child or young person with either a class teacher or a worker in Early Years.

The information also outlines that each school will have a SEND co-ordinator who will also be able to offer support and advice.

If there are concerns around an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), or an annual review, parents and carers are encouraged to contact the county council's SENA team, and contact details are available at the end of the newsletter

We're very aware of the pressure and demand on SEND services and I want to assure parents and carers that we are working hard on developing best practice guidance for professionals which will help to deliver a significant package of support to our schools.

These schools work incredibly hard to ensure children, where appropriate, can access their education, with the right support, in mainstream settings.

We also have plans to make the Outreach Service for Autism available to schools free of charge and we are currently working with special school heads to develop the offer and details will be available shortly on the [Local Offer website](#).

In summary, the overall aim is to build on what we have learned so far and make further strides in the fantastic work already underway to harness and strengthen our service and deliver a dynamic and creative Local Offer for our Leicestershire children, young people and their families.

Paula

Paula Sumner, Assistant Director, Education and Early Help.



Look out for the links to resources, email addresses and useful websites that feature throughout this newsletter.



Join our Leicestershire Local Offer on Facebook, visit our page and like us to receive regular updates.

Visit the Local Offer at

[www.leicestershire.gov.uk/local-offer](http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/local-offer)

[leicestershirelocaloffer@leics.gov.uk](mailto:leicestershirelocaloffer@leics.gov.uk)

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Starting school can be an exciting prospect for many children but it can also be a time of mixed emotions and raised anxieties for both children and parents. These feelings can be even more heightened in individuals on the Autism Spectrum. Even if your child has attended a Nursery or Pre-School the reality of moving to a new environment with its different routines and people can be a daunting prospect, this may be especially true of children with ASD.

# Transition to school

The new school will have gathered some information about your child, especially if they have an EHCP, prior to them starting. They may have been able to visit your child in their pre-school environment, spoken to familiar members of staff and invited your child to spend time in their new classroom. If your child is receiving support from the Early Years Autism Outreach team, they may have worked on an 'All About Me' booklet with you to share with the school. Whilst each child is a unique individual the following ideas might help you to support your child with their transition to school:



## Work in partnership with your child's new school

- Good relationships between parents and the school staff can help children to feel happy, safe and secure
- Talk to your child's new teacher about any worries or concerns you might have
- Don't be afraid to share information, it's often the little details that are invaluable, for instance 'Bob the Builder is his favourite toy' or 'she doesn't like getting her hands messy'
- Accept any opportunities offered to visit the school, if possible ask if you can initially visit with your child after school when it is quieter.
- Ask for photos of key people and areas, such as the school entrance, the classroom, their coat peg, the toilet, lunch hall and playground, not forgetting the class teacher and support staff. These can be easily stuck into a simple personalised book for you to share with your child or made into a Social Story

## Getting ready for school

- Consider clothing
  - do you need to cut out the labels?
  - If so don't forget to name the items!
- Wash before your child wears so they smell familiar
- Think about fastenings –
- Velcro rather than laces on shoes
- Coats with easy zips rather than difficult buttons
- Attach a visual system to the PE kit bag to help with changing for PE
- Consider having your child's favourite character on their lunchbox, flask or backpack
- Mark off the days on a calendar a week or two prior to school starting
- Introduce and practise simple routines, use visual aids to help your child understand the order, for example getting dressed
- Practise travelling to school, take photos of the route. Make into a slideshow or photo book for your child to look at in the home environment
- Reduce sensory overload where possible – some children respond to wearing ear defenders or sun glasses to help with noise or light sensitivities

## At the end of the day

- Prepare a visual of your house, or other significant locations so they understand where they are going at the end of the school day
- Use photos to explain who is collecting them after school
- Give your child any time and space they might need, don't expect them to willingly tell you all about their day!

## Organising yourself

- Keep a folder with important information, useful phone numbers and contact details
- Use a calendar or diary to keep track of key dates and times
- Make a 'to do' list – for instance, buying uniform, PE kits, lunch money etc
- Remember your feelings: children can be affected by the feelings of others around them. How you handle change can influence how your child might adjust to change. Try to look confident it can be best to keep 'goodbyes' short when dropping them off for visits or for school. Try to stay calm and trust your child's teachers will understand and care for your child, even if it takes a little while for everyone to settle.



## Finally

- Small steps are OK
- Remember you will not be able to do everything
- Reward your child and yourself for your achievements



# Athletes shine at inaugural School Games SEND Championships



Over 300 of Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland's most talented young disabled athletes competed at the inaugural Leicester-Shire & Rutland School Games SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Championships on Friday 22nd March at Loughborough University.



The Leicester-Shire & Rutland Sport School Games SEND Championships is a new addition to the LRS Schools' County Finals 2019 Calendar. It's a multi-sport inclusive event, tailored specifically to be appropriate to Moderate Learning Disabilities (MLD) and Severe Learning Disabilities (SLD) students from special and mainstream schools across the network.

As a culmination of local qualifying competitions, the schools represented the 10 School Sport & Physical Activity Networks (SSPANs). The event ensured that disability sport provision is formalised and accessible across all of our ten SSPANs through the great work of our School Games Organisers.

The Championships provided an exciting and inspiring atmosphere for the young disabled athletes and allowed them to enjoy and excel within sport, as the athletes competed in:

- Boccia
- New Age Kurling
- Sitting Volleyball & Wheelchair Basketball
- Motor Activity Training Programme

The athletes gathered for the Opening Ceremony, compered by Gaynor Nash and with special guests Wheelchair Racers Hannah Cockcroft MBE, 5x Paralympic Champion, 10x World Champion & T34 World record holder and Nathan Maguire, European Gold Medallist and 3 time Bronze Medallist and Hollie Arnold MBE, F46 Javelin Thrower, Paralympic Champion, Gold Medallist, Triple World Champion and Record Holder. Ashmount

School performed a very moving dance display, from a recent performance at the Curve Theatre in Leicester.

After the Opening Ceremony, teams headed off for 3 hours of competitive action, in their respective sport and competition. After the action was complete, an Awards Ceremony took place at each of the competitions sites, as the full results were read out and the Winners, 2nd place, 3rd place and Spirit of the Games' winners were announced and presented with their medals and trophies! The Spirit of the Games Award was given to the team who best represented the School Games values of Determination, Honesty, Passion, Respect, Self-Belief and Teamwork.

The Leicester-Shire & Rutland School Games, now in its eighth year, is part of the national 'School Games Programme'. It aims to keep competitive sport at the heart of schools and provide more young people with the opportunity to compete and achieve their personal best.

Sports Development Officer, Matty Crackell from Leicester-Shire & Rutland Sport, said:

**The Leicester-Shire & Rutland Sport Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Championships was designed to provide a positive, memorable sporting experience for young people with disabilities in Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland and inspire our schools to continue developing their internal disability sport/physical activity offers.**

## PVI practitioners training at Derby University

This year the local authority has supported 21 Early Years settings to be better qualified to provide more inclusive practice for SEND in the early years. On completion of the course, the practitioners were also awarded the Early Years SENCo qualification, some of the first in the country to receive this award.

On reflection, the practitioners have reported the impact it has had on their own practice, other practitioners practice in the setting, most importantly the children and families they support.

With their increased knowledge and confidence, positive partnerships have developed with parents who have children with additional needs. Practitioners tell us that they can better support children meeting their individual needs and give families a much wider and broader level of assistance.

We are proud of the Practitioners achievements and dedication to the children of Leicestershire, and we're pleased to tell you that many are now continuing their studies – we wish them well.

## Inclusive Play Sessions Easter 2019

During the Easter holiday the Early Years SEND Inclusion Team provided four play sessions for families who are currently being supported by the team and the Leicestershire Portage Service. The play sessions were held in Melton Mowbray, Coalville, Loughborough and Lutterworth and were all at child friendly venues.

Activities at the play sessions covered all areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum and activities were provided for older siblings who also attended. It was lovely to see the families who came along having fun together. The sessions were two hours long and the families were happy, relaxed and able to talk to other families about themselves and the help they are receiving.

All the children enjoyed the freedom to play whilst in a safe and friendly environment. Music was playing throughout the session: there was messy play for the children to explore and experiment with new textures; sensory toys; books; puzzles; small world play; construction and each session ended with song time.

This enabled all the families to come together for a group activity to finish.

If any family would like to attend an Inclusive Play Session, there will be sessions run through the summer holidays. Details of times and venues will be available soon. There is no charge for these sessions and it would be lovely to see you all there.

*Dawn Edge and Ruth Melluish*

Early Years SEND Inclusion Team







# Leicester Children's Hospital launches the 'All About Me' patient passport

## Why launch a patient passport?

The patient passport was made to help healthcare staff better understand the needs of the children and young people they provide care for. It should stop patients, families and carers answering the same questions numerous times.

## Who made the patient passport?

The All About Me Patient Passport is part of the All About Autism – All About Me project (or 'The Autism Project'). Matrons and healthcare staff from different roles across the Children's Hospital got together with parents of children and young people with autism and the charity Autism East Midlands to talk about how we can provide better care. Everybody felt that a patient passport would be a good start. The group produced the patient passport together, deciding on important questions that would help our aim to provide better care for children and young people with autism.

Although it is part of the Autism Project, there will be benefits for all patients using the passport, especially those with additional needs.

## Where can I see it?

A copy of the passport and guidance for patients, families and carers filling it in is attached to this email. It might be helpful for you to read the guidance so you know how families will be using it.



## What do the colours mean?

Put simply, red means urgent information, orange means important information, and green means 'things to make your visit more comfortable'.

## What else is happening in the All About Autism – 'All About Me' project?

A lot is happening at the moment to reach the aim of providing the best care possible for children and young people with autism. Staff from different roles and backgrounds across the hospital are working together to make important changes that are already getting positive feedback from patients and families. Some of the work streams include:

- Launching the All About Me patient passport
- 60 staff members have been trained in basic autism awareness and Autism Champions have been trained to get the best care for autistic children and young people, and share their knowledge and skills with their team in the Children's Hospital
- Setting up a webpage to help children and young people with autism and their families and carers to know what to expect when they come in to see us and find out more about autism

The project benefits from the diverse roles and staff members that are collaborating on it. If you would like to meet and talk about the project, please contact Sophie Wilson. Additionally, if you are caring for any patients with autism who you think would be interested in the project, or their families and carers, please let them know what we're doing and see whether they'd like Sophie to get in touch.

## How can I find out more?

- Email or phone Sophie Wilson on [Sophie.EJ.Wilson@uhl-tr.nhs.uk](mailto:Sophie.EJ.Wilson@uhl-tr.nhs.uk) / 07908 454 867 or drop in to see her in the Children's Management Office (ground floor, Windsor Building, LRI)
- Find out who your nearest Autism Champion is and ask them about the All About Me patient passport
- Keep updated during the All About Me patient passport month where we'll be sharing information across the Children's Hospital, holding information stands, posting news on Twitter and Facebook and more.

## Where else can patients get a copy?

There is a copy of the All About Me patient passport on the Leicester Children's Hospital webpage: [www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk/aboutus/our-hospitals/childrens-hospital/](http://www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk/aboutus/our-hospitals/childrens-hospital/)

We are exploring ways for the passports to be shared in the community, for example by a community nurse or GP, as well as seeing if Special Educational Needs schools can share copies with their pupils.

## What do I do with it?

Find it on the Children's Hospital Global or Nursing Standards shared drives, then the All About Autism folder and then open the 'Patient passport' folder for copies of the passport, guidance and helpful information.

You can also find it online by searching 'Leicester Children's Hospital Passport' or through this link: [www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk/aboutus/our-hospitals/childrens-hospital/hospital-passport/](http://www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk/aboutus/our-hospitals/childrens-hospital/hospital-passport/)

You might want to give it out to patients when you think they and their families and carers would benefit from it or you might want to give it out to every patient. There are no strict criteria for who you give it to and when; whatever you think would be best for the children and young people you're caring for.

The idea is that patients will have their own copy and keep it updated themselves but should tell staff at the hospital when they do update it. Staff are encouraged to keep a copy in patients' bedside folders as well as medical records so that preparations can be made in advance of an appointment or admission when needed.



# Make your mark!

## Tangled SEND Group - Hinckley Homelessness Awareness Project

Members of the Hinckley SEND group, Tangled, voted on the Make your Mark campaign issue: Tackling Homelessness – Every person should have a place to live and the opportunity to live comfortably. Let's make it happen and put a stop to homelessness.

Each week the group discussed or took part in a practical activity to find out more about local homelessness. They began by discussing what they already knew about homelessness, this was then challenged by youth workers and myths were dispelled with factual information.

The group discussed a great deal about invisible homelessness and how they might see this within the local area.

To help understand the local picture, the Police came into the group to talk about local homelessness and the impact this has on young people and the community. There was added excitement on this evening as the Police officer came in a Police van, where the group could spend some time having a look inside, setting the blue light going and trying on the Police equipment.

Some of the group made playdough to fundraise for the foodbank, this was sold at the half term activity day for all SLF families.

The following week the group visited the foodbank, where they volunteered putting shopping bags together for people using the foodbank later that day.

The final visit was to a family hostel, where the group saw first-hand what it would be like for families to live in a hostel if they became homeless.

Throughout this project the group have been able to have their views heard in a safe environment while being supported by the youth workers they trust. Whilst putting the display together they have been able to reflect on what they have learnt and achieved.

## Loughborough Homelessness Awareness Project

14 young people engaged in the project for homelessness learning and or outcome/s of the project.

- Young people learnt how their lives are different to others living on the street.
- Aiden our volunteer went away and researched statistics about homeless people. Aiden then was able to make it into a quiz and to facilitate this to the rest of the group.
- The young people in the group did a group exercise where they took cardboard boxes outside the building at the youth centre which was a very cold night and sat in them for 10 minutes to get a feeling of what it would be like to sleep outside in the cold, dark, damp atmosphere.
- On another session our young people of the group did a group exercise of writing down on large pieces of paper feelings and emotions of living on the streets. This exercise taught the young people how difficult it can be living on the streets to access everyday items like water, heating certain foods and sanitary wear.
- The young people learnt that everyone and every living thing needs a warm safe place to live through making bird boxes for our wild friends.
- The young people and their families donated items of food that people living on the streets can access also second hand warm clothing. Some of the young people said they didn't realise how lucky they are living at home with caring families and everything they need.
- The young people invited into the group Paul from The Bridge housing. They presented the 10 rucksacks which the young people packed full of food items, drinks and toiletries thinking about what the homeless people can and cannot not use. Five hand bags was donated to us from a lovely lady who runs the local cat sanctuary they were made up of sanitary wear for females.

**"I have really enjoyed doing this project to help people."**

I had comments from some of the parents that attended the presentation to say how proud they were of their young people thanking me too.

We have since had a email from The Bridge to thank us for the donations and they have also sent us a thankyou card. They have also asked if they can send a picture to the newspapers which we are in the process of looking into.

## North West Leicestershire Curriculum for life

When the members of the Freestyle group made their Make Your Mark ballot votes there was a lot of discussion in the group about the curriculum for life project, so it seemed only natural to engage them in a project that they were passionate about. We had previously delivered a life skills project where the group learnt different things that they needed to know about to live independently such as cooking, ironing, cleaning etc.

As workers we wanted the group to engage in a project that supported the development of other important life skills including social skills. We opted to present the group with the task of planning their own outing as they rarely had the opportunity to spend time together away from the centre and they would be able to develop a range of skills by engaging in this task.

**"It was great seeing what everyone had done, I'd really like to do something like this again."**

Over the weeks the group took part in the task together supported by Youth Workers they had discussions about where they would like to go, made lists and developed decision making skills by collectively choosing an outing taking into account everyone's needs, likes and dislikes.

The group chose to go bowling, some of them made phone calls to find out prices and book lanes, some called taxi companies to get travel quotes and some looked at bus timetables to plan routes and find out the cost to get to the bowling alley. Food orders needed to be placed a week before the outing this information was gathered by the young people and telephoned through.

The group went bowling and had a fantastic time. One young person said "it's been really good, and I feel that it has brought us all together as a group"

After the trip the group worked together to produce a display of their project and presented it to other groups at an event at County Hall.

## South Charnwood Transport

### 7 young people engaged in the project about transport

Learning or outcomes of the project

- Young people were asked what form of transport they use to get them to and from school and when they go out in the community.
- Young people were asked about how they feel when they travel on transport – Young person's voice "Doesn't like to travel on trains in rush hour as too crowded and being jostled by strangers"
- Parents were also given a questionnaire and asked what impact the government cuts has had on their families regarding the change to transport – Family voice "We relied on the school transport so I was able to work being a single family, when the cuts to funding came in I had to change the hours I work so I could take/pick up on school runs"
- Young people also made models out of Lego to show how there's looked like them.



## Melton Mowbray Knife crime





# A letter from the chair



**Anna Bromley**  
Chair of Leicestershire  
Parent Carer Forum

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write this I'm looking forward to the summer holidays and hoping the weather holds. I find I am always more resilient and optimistic when the sun is shining and I am sure you will agree that a positive outlook really helps us manage life caring for our unique young people.

Since the last newsletter the Parent Carer forum has had their annual AGM, which was a fantastic night enjoying a pie supper at Beaumanor Hall and celebrating our achievements with all in attendance and sharing the premier of our Parent-Carer information video – this can be viewed on our website. A new steering group was elected and over the next few issues we will share some details about the elected officers and our representatives, so you are more familiar with the volunteers working with service providers on your behalf.

The Forum has been incredibly busy over the last year and we have started working with service providers regarding transport, EHCPs, a Neurodiversity identification and assessment pathway, overnight short breaks, sustainability, the local offer website and inclusion in schools.

We were asked to investigate the experiences of parent-carers with regard to schools meeting SEND needs and the pressure to de-register children. We had an unexpected response level in the short time the survey ran and it certainly highlighted issues that needed further, more robust investigation. Based on the success of this survey the Forum are planning more in the future so please look out for them and participate.

In September, the Forum will be presenting at an Inclusion Conference to school leaders and SENCo's which is being organised by our Local Authority, with a view to celebrating and sharing the good practice happening in some of our

I am a mum of two girls who both have ADHD. Having also been diagnosed with ADHD I have a new found respect for what my husband has to contend with when attempting to get all three of us out of the house on time.

My oldest daughter also has a rare genetic mutation (KCNQ1) which causes nocturnal epilepsy and learning difficulties and she attends a special school. My youngest is happy and thriving in a mainstream primary school.

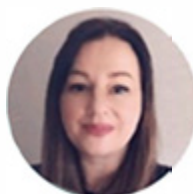
I am passionate about Inclusion and believe that a parents instincts are never wrong. Being a SEND governor I have an insight into a schools point of view and feel many of the problems parent carers face is lack of communication.



**Helen Cuttle**  
Treasurer,  
Strategic Lead  
and Education Lead.

local schools. We are intending to give a parent-carer perspective on Inclusion and would like you to share your experiences of inclusion, both good and bad. We would like your thoughts on "What is Inclusion?". Please email [info@leicestershirepcf.org.uk](mailto:info@leicestershirepcf.org.uk) with the subject line "Inclusion Conference" if you would like to share your experience.

disabilities, living or receiving services in Leicestershire, can become members of the forum, free of charge. Members will receive a monthly update of forum work and reminders of our hub meeting dates, where you are always welcome to come, share a cup of tea and talk to a friendly face and listening ear and meet other likeminded parent-carers. Professionals



**Mandy Duggan-Bell**  
Officer and representative

I have two children who both have ASD on different ends of the spectrum. I have many years experience of working in a mainstream school and use that and my own experiences with my children to work as part as the forum. I run the Hincley and Bosworth hub alongside Lucy Bodycote and I am part of the short breaks, respite, EHCP and transport groups.

If you would like to know more about the work we are doing with the local authority and other service providers and make sure we are representing your voice, please sign up to become a member by visiting us on our website. All parents and carers of young people aged 0-25, with special educational needs or

and other interested parties can also join as associate members and receive our monthly updates.

To become a member of the forum, find out more, find your nearest hub meeting or get involved in representing the forum please visit our website: [www.leicestershirepcf.org.uk](http://www.leicestershirepcf.org.uk).

I will finish by wishing you all a sunny enjoyable summer creating some happy memories with your friends and loved ones.

*Anna*



**Karen O'Reardon**  
Representative  
and Early Years Lead

I am a mum of two, a son of nearly 27 and a daughter of nearly 17. My working background includes working as a qualified SEN Nanny, then after qualifying as a teaching assistant, where I experienced working within the home environment, schools and a youth offending educational unit. I currently work for a major retailer but my passion is education and after seeing the struggles my daughter had at school I am keen to go back into education where I feel I can make a difference. I'm currently taking a course with the University of Reading on depression and low mood in teenagers and young people. When not working or studying, I like to get my walking boots on and get out and about. At weekends I support my son's comedy nights so Free comedy. A win win for me.



Leicestershire County Council's vision is that young people with SEND in Leicestershire are prepared for a successful adulthood and their voice is heard.

# Preparing for Adulthood

From our previous engagement with families and carers, we know we need to improve the information and advice around preparing for adulthood. We call the move from Children's services to Adult Social Care 'Transitions'. This work is part of our action plan under the preparing for adulthood programme.

We want young people and their families to tell us their experiences around information and advice for example:

- what you need to know and when
- what was useful and helpful
- what isn't helpful or didn't work
- what worked well for you on your journey to adulthood.

From what you tell us, we can identify gaps in our information and advice offer and share what may be available already. We'll need your support to tell us what improvements or changes are needed for example:

- making the information easier to understand or
- creating new information using different formats e.g. videos.

We have prepared a short questionnaire to help us start our conversation with you. You can complete the [online questionnaire](#) or you can ask us for a paper copy that you can print out or an easy read version. Just tell us what's best for you by calling 0116 305 0232 or emailing us at [ASCengage@leics.gov.uk](mailto:ASCengage@leics.gov.uk). Please share this email with other people who you think may be interested in this work. If you are a young person and want to complete the questionnaire but need some support to do it, ask someone you know to help you.

We'd like you to complete and return the questionnaire to us by Monday 30 September but if you can't, just send it back to us as soon as you can.



## What happens next?

A workshop will be held on Thursday 3 October at County Hall when we will talk about the responses we have received and share ideas. We can only accommodate around 30 people so if you'd like to attend the workshop, please call 0116 305 0232 or email us at [ASCengage@leics.gov.uk](mailto:ASCengage@leics.gov.uk) to book a place. Travel expenses will be reimbursed. Please note that this workshop is only open to young people and their families who have been or are preparing for adulthood or, those who will be preparing for adulthood in the future. If you are a young person and need help you to get your voice heard, you can bring someone with you to help you.

After the workshop, we will form a small working group to develop the information and advice you think is needed. We'll expect the working group to share the work with the people or groups they already meet with or are connected to.

You can still be involved in this work even if you can't attend the workshop or don't want to complete the questionnaire, just let us know on 0116 305 0232 or email us at [ASCengage@leics.gov.uk](mailto:ASCengage@leics.gov.uk)

Remember, this is *your* newsletter...

If you would like to submit an article, or you have a suggestion for an article, please email [leicestershirelocaloffer@leics.gov.uk](mailto:leicestershirelocaloffer@leics.gov.uk)

# Local people with learning disability given support to get active and boost confidence

People with a learning disability across Leicestershire are being given the opportunity to take part in a fun and active challenge, through Mencap's project, Round The World Challenge.

Round The World Challenge funded through Sport England and the National Lottery, is about turning hours of fun sports and physical activities into a round the world adventure. People receive a 'passport' and record the time spent on any type of exercise each week and this is converted into miles. This can be either 20, 40, or 100 hours depending on which route someone wants to take United Kingdom, Europe or the World. People receive a postcard when they reach a landmark destination.

Charnwood is the first year's focus and the sessions take place every Wednesday, 4pm – 5pm at Loughborough Leisure Centre, Browns Lane, Loughborough, LE11 3HE. People can take part in a variety of activities including table tennis, boccia, target and team games, delivered by Leicester City Football Club Community Trust in partnership with the Charnwood Borough Council and Fusion Lifestyle.

Later this year, Round The World Challenge is expanding across Leicestershire and Mencap are looking for people who are interested in delivering the sessions.

Joe Ballantyne, who has a learning disability is completing the Round The World Challenge and he also volunteers at the sessions.



Joe said: Being a volunteer has built my confidence, as I am quite shy and I have learnt new skills. My goal is to be a paid coach, so this has helped.

I enjoy being a volunteer. I like to help people, seeing other people happy makes me happy. It is a social thing for me, as I get to meet people and make new friends. I don't think there are enough people out there to help people with a learning disability, doing this gives people with a learning disability an opportunity to go out.

I have enjoyed taking part in the Round The World Challenge. So far, I have completed 68 hours, doing football, football tennis, tennis, badminton, volleyball and boccia. I would like to do more running as I really enjoy it. I feel healthier from taking part, and it has been a good experience, meeting new people and playing new games. My proudest moment is reaching the milestones of UK and Europe.

For more information contact

✉ [jon.stonebridge@mencap.org.uk](mailto:jon.stonebridge@mencap.org.uk) or visit

🌐 [www.mencap.org.uk/round-world-challenge](http://www.mencap.org.uk/round-world-challenge)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2019

### Family Fun Days

**11am – 3pm 7 August 2019**

Birchwood School, Melton Mowbray

**Find out more and book at Eventbrite**

**11am – 3pm 7 August 2019**

Dorothy Goodman School, Hinckley

**Find out more and book at Eventbrite**

### Local Offer Roadshows

**20 November 2019**

Marlene Reid Centre, Coalville

**28 October 2019**

Congregational Church Hall,  
Market Harborough

**29 January 2020**

Loughborough Town Hall

More information about our roadshow events and future activities on our facebook page

WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU. Which services do you use? How do you feel about the support? What would you like to see in future newsletters?  
Contact 📧 [leicestershirelocaloffer@leics.gov.uk](mailto:leicestershirelocaloffer@leics.gov.uk)





# Useful contacts

## Local Offer

Email: [leicestershirelocaloffer@leics.gov.uk](mailto:leicestershirelocaloffer@leics.gov.uk)

Web: [leicestershire.gov.uk/local-offer](http://leicestershire.gov.uk/local-offer)

## Leicestershire First Response

### Children's Duty Team

Phone: 0116 305 0005

(24 hour phone line)

Email: [childrensduty@leics.gov.uk](mailto:childrensduty@leics.gov.uk)

## SENDIASS

Phone: 0116 305 5614

(Monday to Thursday 9am to 4.30pm,

Friday 9am to 4pm)

Email: [sendiass@leics.gov.uk](mailto:sendiass@leics.gov.uk)

## SEN Assessment Service (SENA)

(SENA oversee Education Health and Care Plans)

Phone: 0116 305 6600

Email: [senaservice@leics.gov.uk](mailto:senaservice@leics.gov.uk)

## Specialist Teaching Service

Phone: 0116 305 9400

Email: [STS@leics.gov.uk](mailto:STS@leics.gov.uk)

## Children and Families Wellbeing Service

Phone: 0116 305 8727

Email: [CFSWellbeingService@leics.gov.uk](mailto:CFSWellbeingService@leics.gov.uk)

## Leicestershire County Council

County Hall, Glenfield

Leicestershire LE3 8RA

Phone: 0116 232 3232 (reception and switchboard)

Monday - Thursday: 8am - 5pm

Friday: 8am - 4.30pm

## Leicestershire District and Borough Councils

### Blaby District Council

[www.blaby.gov.uk](http://www.blaby.gov.uk)

Phone: 0116 275 0555

### Charnwood Borough Council

[www.charnwood.gov.uk](http://www.charnwood.gov.uk)

Phone: 01509 263151

### Harborough District Council

[www.harborough.gov.uk](http://www.harborough.gov.uk)

Phone: 01858 828282

### Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

[www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk](http://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk)

Phone: 01455 238141

### Melton Borough Council

[www.melton.gov.uk](http://www.melton.gov.uk)

Phone: 01664 502502

### North West Leicestershire

[www.nwleics.gov.uk](http://www.nwleics.gov.uk)

Phone: 01530 454545

### Oadby & Wigston Borough Council

[www.oadby-wigston.gov.uk](http://www.oadby-wigston.gov.uk)

Phone: 0116 288 8961

## Remember to sign up!

To receive future editions of this newsletter straight to your inbox, please email [leicestershirelocaloffer@leics.gov.uk](mailto:leicestershirelocaloffer@leics.gov.uk)

'Spreading the Word' is now produced each term to view online and is emailed to those who have signed up. You can read it online at [Leicestershire Local Offer](#) and on our [Facebook page](#)

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As a parent/carer you should ensure that any activity group or service is not only safe but right for your child.