



IAS Newsletter - July 2025

Good afternoon,

We hope you are well and keeping cool in the super sunny weather. A busy few weeks ahead before the end of the academic year here at IAS HQ. We'll be out and about at the Parallel Festival of Inclusivity on 6th July and interviewing for our new part time adviser soon after that, as well as answering your queries and questions. Millie is putting together our coffee morning schedules for the next academic year - if there's something you want covered either as an online or in person session please do let us know. We want to provide you with informative useful sessions, drop us a line with your suggestions at ias@rbwm.gov.uk

Best wishes,

Donna, Jean, Kate & Millie

Parallel Festival of Inclusivity

If you are heading to Parallel Festival of Inclusivity on Sunday 6th July - do come and say hello to the IAS team - Millie, Donna and Kate will be there representing the service and answering any questions you may have.

You can find out more about the event by clicking on this video, or via [Parallel Windsor Website](#).





WINDSOR GREAT PARK 11AM TO 5PM

PARALLEL WINDSOR 6TH JULY 2025

FESTIVAL OF INCLUSIVITY

- ANIMAL KINGDOM • ARTS & CRAFTS
- COOKERY • DANCE • INCLUSIVE SPORT
- MUSIC • PICNIC • SENSORY ZONE
- STREET FOOD • STORYTELLING
- QUIET SPACE • YOGA & WELLBEING

CHALLENGE EVENTS

10K • 5K • 1K • 100M • SUPERSSENSORY MEDAL • T-SHIRT • GOODY BAG

START TOGETHER. FINISH WHENEVER.

THE GREATEST DANCER CHALLENGE

MASS PARTICIPATION DANCE FOR EVERYONE TO SHOW OFF THEIR BEST MOVES

WWW.PARALLELLIFESTYLE.COM

supported by THE CROWN ESTATE

@ParallelGlobal X @ f

THE FESTIVAL OF INCLUSIVITY WITH CHALLENGE EVENTS FOR EVERYONE

Parallel Windsor is a celebration of disability lifestyle, welcoming everybody of all ages, health conditions & abilities.

FESTIVAL OF INCLUSIVITY

Our award-winning & fully accessible festival is a day of inclusive entertainment for the whole family; featuring an outdoor stage, storytelling, inclusive sport, active lifestyle, cookery, arts & crafts, yoga & wellbeing, dance, family picnic area & food. Accessible facilities include a quiet space, sensory space, accessible toilets (including RevoLoo), medical provision & on-site parking.

CHALLENGE EVENTS

Regardless of age, health condition or ability there is a challenge event for everyone. Our distances include 100m, 1k, 5k, 10k & our ever popular SuperSensory. Our spirit of *'Start Together; Finish Whenever'* means there are no cut off times, with everybody who takes part receiving a medal, t-shirt & goody bag.

#NOLIMITSLIVING





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

Tuesday 11th November
Online Session 1230-1345

ONLINE SESSION: EDUCATION HEALTH CARE (EHC) NEEDS ASSESSMENTS EXPLAINED



An explanation of the process of applying for an Education Health Care Needs Assessment (EHCNA) and what happens if the Local Authority agree to issue an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)

Book a free place via QR code





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

Wednesday 24th September
Benefits Explained
Coffee from 9.30am, info session 10-11am
Windsor Family Hub 65 Alma Rd, Windsor SL4 3HD



Join the IAS team and RBWM Benefits Adviser Shameem Hejazi to talk about what Benefits may be available to you and your child/Young person with SEND, top tips on how to apply and an opportunity to ask questions to Shameem & IAS advisers.

Book your free place here:





GEMS

Home Visit

An online or in person, 1.5 hour visit offering one to one tailored support regarding Autism.

Perfect for parents and carers who do not have access to IT, English as a second language, hearing or vision impairment, parent/carers who are Autistic themselves or have additional needs or difficulties with group settings.



One on One Support Session

An online or phone, 60 minute session offering support and advice regarding Autism.

Suitable for parent and carers requiring strategies for a new presenting issue.







Email us to find out if we can offer you either a Home Visit or Support session.

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

To find out more contact GEMS:

 Gems.4Health@nhs.net

 0800 999 1342

Mencap chill out club

Maidenhead Mencap hosts a youth club called 'Chill Out Club' for young people with a learning disability aged 15 to 24. The sessions offer a place to have fun, play games and make friends. There were 14 attendees at the last meeting. The club is free for those who join Mencap, and it runs every Thursday between 7pm to 9pm during term time. It is located at Highview, 6 North Road, Maidenhead, SL6 1PL.

If your young person is interested in joining, please call Linda Francis on 07783 626357 or email: lindamencap23@gmail.com.



Thames Valley Adventure playground will be running sessions over the schools holidays you can find out more, including booking information via <https://www.tvap.co.uk/>

Norden Farm Beach is back!

One of Norden Farm's most popular attractions is back! Free for children and families to play on in the daytime and for adults to relax on in the evening.

Daytime events include family films, summer activity camps, beach craft workshops and a free chill out sensory space in the Gallery. Evening events include live music, comedy gigs and arts workshops. Open all day | Free entry - find out more <https://norden.farm/events/the-maidenhead-beach-at-norden-farm-88>



Short break and respite feedback

If you are receiving a short break or respite, AfC would love to hear your feedback. Your input is crucial in ensuring they are meeting the needs of children and young adults with disabilities across the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts and help them to improve the support they provide.

[Short break and respite survey.](#)

Please send any questions or further comments please email:
cypds@achievingforchildren.org.uk

****Take part in research****

Is your child between the ages of 11-21 and has experienced a brain injury? Please consider taking part in this study. More information:

https://cccusocialsciences.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9NR5M6xd7z9AIEy

PARTICIPANTS NEEDED!!

EXPLORING FAMILY EXPERIENCES OF CHILD BRAIN INJURY

WHAT IS THIS STUDY?

This study aims to explore how families cope and adapt, whilst exploring what support was offered to the family after a child's brain injury.

FAMILIES CAN TAKE PART IF

- ✓ A child in the family experienced a brain injury
- ✓ The child who experienced the brain injury is aged between 11-21
- ✓ It has been 18 months or more since the brain injury happened

WHAT'S INVOLVED?

- A 30-60 Minute Parent Interview
- A 30-60 Minute Family Interview

FURTHER INFORMATION

Scan the QR code below, fill out the link or email the lead researcher

Please contact the lead researcher, Ryan Gunn at: rg521@canterbury.ac.uk

https://ccusocialsciences.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9NR5M6xd7z9AIEv

As a token of appreciation, each family member will receive £10 for their participation.



****Take part in research****

Researchers at University College London are looking into autistic teenagers' experiences of GCSE exams and support available in school.

They are asking autistic Year 11 students, with or without a formal diagnosis, who are aged 16 or over and have been taking GCSE exams this year to complete an online survey, which takes about 20 minutes.

- Click the link or scan the QR code for more details <https://tinyurl.com/yj3vabhs>

If you have any questions about the study, email Aaron Giuliano at qtnzadm@ucl.ac.uk

Autistic GCSE Experiences:
What are exams really like for autistic young people?

Some autistic students enjoy their GCSE exams, but some autistic students find sitting GCSE exams challenging.

However, not enough people have asked autistic students about their GCSE experiences! We do not know enough about what helps and what doesn't.

We want to know more about how autistic young people feel about GCSE exams. We want to know what YOU think!

We want to understand how well schools are supporting their autistic students during their GCSE exams!

We want to find out if there are ways exam papers and exam support can be improved!

We need students that are:

- autistic
- in Year 11
- aged 16

If you want to tell us how YOU feel, scan our QR code to read more about our study and to complete the survey.




Local Offer

The Local offer has a whole host of information and event listings on it including activities for children and young people. Follow the link below for more information.

Football classes from September

Maidenhead United FC, with the support of the local charity **Stand Out For Autism**, provides an autism-friendly Sunday morning football club for children aged 5 to 14.

The club is open to autistic children and any siblings and friends who would like to join in.

Sessions, which take place from 9am to 10am at Dedworth Middle School, in Windsor, are designed to ensure children can enjoy playing football and develop their skills, with support from qualified coaches.

Places cost £5 per session.

The club also runs pan-disability football sessions in Maidenhead on Monday evenings from 7pm to 8pm for young people and adults, with places costing £7 per session

- Click the link for more details

<https://www.maidenheadunitedfc.org/football-for-all/>

Please note that the sessions will pause for a break during the school holiday period.



Maidenhead Forest Fun is Looking for volunteers

Our forest fun sessions are held twice a month at Braywick Nature Centre on Saturday mornings 08.00-12.00.

These sessions are great fun and bring lots of benefits to our children and young people being in the great outdoors.

We would like our volunteers to:

- Love and feel connected
- Adventurous
- Understand the benefits of children and young people being outside
- Comfortable with risky play

Training provided/DBS required/chance to be trained to deliver Forest Fun sessions.

If you feel you have what it takes, please email

be-pct.socialprescribing@nhs.net



Try email marketing for free today!