



## What's New? 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 23

Update from 'Our Voice Presents: Get to Know the JSDC – resources available	P1
Save the Date for 'Our Voice Presents: Get to Know SEN Services 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan 24	P1
Rising to Reception events for children starting primary 5 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	P2
Developing a community space – consultation event Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	P2
Preparing for Adulthood: Support Planning workshop 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov & drop in 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	P3
Supported Internship Programme open evening 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	P4
EASA Time to Play session for Autistic children 18m -3 ½ - on 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	P4
Workshops on eating difficulties and language and communication	P5
Play and Leisure coming up – SEN Soft Play Christmas party in Cheshunt, relaxed cinema Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> and relaxed session at the Natural History Museum Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup>	P6
Summary of events coming up	P7

## Update from Our Voice presents: Get to know the Joint Service for Disabled Children

We were delighted to hold the first of our 'Our Voice Presents' events on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November.

We were joined by more than 20 parents alongside Miri Dhamo, Head of the Joint Service for Disabled Children (JSDC) and Clare, Matt and Lucy from the Cheviots team. We had a busy agenda including an overview of the JSDC and social care, a Q&A session, an overview and Q& on short breaks, a workshop on Positive Behaviour Support, and individual 1:1 meetings for parents with members of the Cheviots team.



You can see the presentation and other resources from the event on our website [here](#). Additional information including a Q&A will be added shortly.

## Save the Date for Our Voice presents: Get to know SEN Services 31<sup>st</sup> January 24



We are busy working on our next event in the series which will be 'Our Voice Presents: Get to Know SEN Services' on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024 (10 am to 12 noon), at the Park Avenue Disability Centre. We are currently discussing the details of the agenda with the SEN services team, but expect it to include a Q&A session, workshops on key topics like EHCPs and Annual Reviews, and opportunities for parents to book 1:1 appointments.

More details to follow soon.

# Rising to Reception: 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> December

'Rising to Reception' is a programme aimed at the families of children with communication difficulties who are due to start primary school in September 2024 (i.e. born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020).



The Enfield Communication Advisory Support Service (ECASS) and partners will be running the series of **Rising to Reception** sessions throughout the year to help prepare your child for starting school.

Children with communication difficulties can find transitions to new settings challenging, so ECASS have teamed up with colleagues and volunteers across Enfield to put together an exciting series of online information sessions to prepare you for the big day next September.

You can see the whole programme of events and the link to register your interest, in the booklet [here](#).

The next sessions on 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> December will be with the SENDIASS team who will tell you about the support they offer.

If you have any further queries, please contact the ECASS team at: [RisingtoReception@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:RisingtoReception@enfield.gov.uk)

## Community Consultation event Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec

Next Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December there will be an opportunity to find out more, and have your say on, an exciting new project from [Learning for Life](#) charity developing a community space in Edmonton for young people with SEN. Scan the QR code below or visit the website [here](#) for more information about the project.

### COMMUNITY CONSULTATION EVENT

**FIND OUT ABOUT A NEW PROJECT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE COMMUNITY BEING DEVELOPED AT THE CHARITY SCHOOL, CHURCH STREET, EDMONTON**

**1PM TO 4PM  
SAT 2ND DECEMBER**

**GREEN TOWERS COMMUNITY CENTRE  
(CONFERENCE ROOM)  
7 PLEVNA ROAD, EDMONTON N9 0BU**

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

**SAVING AN OLD SCHOOL TO HELP A NEW GENERATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN ENFIELD FLOURISH**

**COME TO FIND OUT MORE AND TELL US WHAT YOU THINK:**

- look at the initial designs for the building
- share your ideas about the food you enjoy
- explore what the heritage means to you
- tell us about the space you want to use and hire

**THE PROJECT:**

- turning the historic building into a centre for learning, training, and work experience for young people with special educational needs
- creating a new community cafe and garden
- providing new activities, events, and a hall for hire
- saving the historic building for people to enjoy

**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR PROJECT AND EVENTS**

Visit: [londonhistoricbuildings.org.uk](http://londonhistoricbuildings.org.uk)  
or scan the QR code



This project is being delivered in partnership by:

And is funded by:

Made possible with:

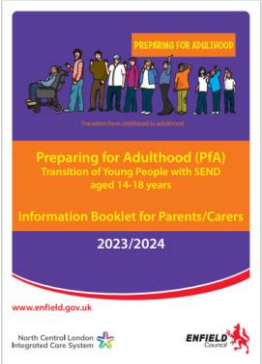
This project is being delivered in partnership by:

And is funded by:

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# Preparing for Adulthood: events Thu & Fri



Preparing for Adulthood or 'PfA' (previously known in Enfield as 'Moving On') is the process of moving from childhood to adulthood (including from child to adult services) and the resources and events to support you and your young person through that process.

The new booklet outlining the process (for 2023 – 2024) has now been published and can be found on the Local Offer [here](#) and on the Our Voice website PfA page [here](#).

We recommend that you start to attend Preparing for Adulthood Events when your young person reaches year 9 (although you can start earlier if you wish). These events provide opportunities to talk to professionals and other parents who can give you advice and information to help you and your young person make the right decisions about their future.


## Enfield Preparing for Adulthood Events

There is a programme of events outlining different aspects of the transition. You can see the list of programme events set out on the Local Offer [here](#) including links to join each event. The booklet explains what each event is about.

If you are unable to make it along to any of the events, you can see the presentations [here](#) (scroll down to the bottom of the page).

The next event will be **Support Planning** on **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 10.30 am to 12.30 pm** at the Integrated Learning Disability Service.

30 Nov 2023	10:30 – 12:30	<b>Support Planning</b> This event provides you with the opportunity to gain a good understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How co-production works in practice</li><li>• The importance of "whole life planning"</li><li>• How to develop meaningful outcomes</li><li>• Addressing areas of risk</li><li>• Making best use of contingency planning</li><li>• Personal budgets and how to use them.</li></ul>	<b>Integrated Learning Disability Service</b> <b>Carnegie Building</b> 258a Hertford Road Enfield EN3 5BN
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### Preparing for Adulthood - Transition Drop ins


Enfield Integrated Learning Disability Service are committed to helping all parents and carers of young people with Learning Disabilities to have a smooth 'Transition' to adulthood

Our [Preparing for Adulthood website](#) has lots of information, and details of face to face and on online sessions throughout the year. We are also offering a monthly 'Drop in' where carers of young people 16 and over can come and ask about transition.


You will be able to talk to -



Jane Richards from Families in Transition to Adulthood (FTA)




Charlene Thomas – Head of Service and Transition Lead, Assessment and Care Management, Integrated Learning Disabilities Service or a member of the ILDS management team.



Sessions will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month from 10am – 12pm at The Enfield Integrated Learning Disability Service, Enfield Highway Carnegie Building, 258A Hertford Road, Enfield, EN3 5BN

If you would like to book a place, please call Jane Richards, Families in Transition to Adulthood (FTA) on 07816070098

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

You can also attend one of the regular monthly drop-in sessions to discuss any individual questions you may have. The next one takes place on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December. Please book your place by noon on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November. You are welcome to bring your young person with you if you wish.



# Supported Internship open evening: Thu 14<sup>th</sup> Dec



## Information for Young People, Parents and Carers

### WHAT IS A SUPPORTED INTERNSHIP?

Our Supported Internship is a one year full time study programme for 16-24 year olds who have a Statement for Special Educational Needs or an Education and Health Care Plan. It includes an extended work placement with a local employer and provides access to a job for young people who want to work, but need a little extra support to do so.



### HOW DO SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS WORK?

In class Interns focus on developing their work and life skills as well as their English and Maths. We match the Interns skills, interests and aspirations to specific roles. Interns then go into an extended work placement with a view to paid employment at the end of the programme. Students remain in class for one day per week and continue to work on their areas for development that have been identified in the workplace.

### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

- Develops greater independence
- Gets Interns onto a pathway to sustainable employment
- Develops workplace skills within the relevant sector
- Improves wellbeing and mental health
- Increases social integration



The Supported Internship Programme will be hosting their second Open Evening for people to come and find out more about the **Pre-Internship & Supported Internship Programme** starting in September 2024. This will be the last one before the Christmas Break.

**When:** Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December

**Time:** 5 pm – 6 pm

**Where:** West Lea, Haselbury Campus, Haselbury Road, N9 9TU.

This is an opportunity for young people and their families to meet some of the team and learn more about the programme, how it works and whether it's right for you. You can choose to express an interest following the presentation and the team will invite you in for a more detailed discussion and to get to you know better before offering a place.

If you haven't already had a look at the SIP website then please do so when you get the chance.

[www.westleasip.co.uk](http://www.westleasip.co.uk)

Here you can view some of the SIP [Success Stories](#). You can also register your expression of interest [here](#).

**80% of Interns on the programme get jobs!**

# 'Time to play' session for Autistic Children aged 18 months – 3 years 6 months: Thu 9<sup>th</sup> December

**Time to play**  
for families with autistic children  
between the age of 18 months and 3 years 6 months

'If you have a young autistic child or they are on the autistic pathway (i.e. waiting for a diagnosis assessment) then these sessions are suitable for you'

Play-based sessions to focus on the key developmental differences in autism

- Social understanding and communication
- Flexible thinking, information processing and understanding
- Sensory processing and integration

1st Thursday of the month:  
5th October  
9th November  
7th December

09:30am - 11:00am  
Russet House School  
Autumn Close  
Enfield  
EN1 4JA

Book online at [www.enfieldasa.org.uk](http://www.enfieldasa.org.uk)

admin@enfieldasa.org.uk  
0208 353 4186

The Enfield Advisory Service for Autism (EASA) will be running its next 'Time to Play' session on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December.

These sessions are for families with autistic children (whether they are diagnosed or awaiting a diagnosis) between the ages of 18 months and 3 years 6 months.

More information and booking [here](#).

# Childhood Neurodiversity PST Workshops

Please see the flyer below and the website page [here](#) about a programme of free virtual Parent Carer workshops which will explore nurturing the unique talents of neurodivergent children and young people and advise on supporting them with the challenges they face. These are open to any parent or carer regardless of where they live or whether or not their child has a diagnosis. The workshops last 75 minutes and resource packs will be sent after the event to everyone who has registered.

Book for 7<sup>th</sup> Dec [here](#)

Book for 9<sup>th</sup> Jan [here](#)

Find out more [here](#) or scan the QR code.



## Childhood Neurodiversity PST Workshop Programme Parent/Carer Workshops 2023 – 2024

Neurodiversity means that across the population there is variation in people's brains. Having people in society who see the world differently and have unique skills is an important part of life to be celebrated. The term "neurodivergent" refers to people whose brains work differently to the typical cultural standards. Neurodivergence includes conditions that people are born with including autism, ADHD, learning disability and learning disorders.

This programme of free virtual workshops for parents and carers will explore nurturing the unique strengths of neurodivergent children and young people and provide advice on how to support them with the challenges they face. Any parent or carer is welcome to join regardless of whether their child has a diagnosis. The workshops are live on Zoom and are 75 minutes long. Recordings of the workshops and resource packs will be sent after the live event to everyone who has registered.

### Childhood Neurodiversity: Understanding and Supporting Eating Difficulties

This workshop is for parents/carers concerned about their neurodivergent child's limited diet (i.e. avoiding or restricting certain foods). We will explore why children may struggle to eat, anxiety around eating and how parents/carers can support children with these eating struggles. This workshop is not aimed at parents of children whose eating difficulties relate to body image concerns.

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December – 13:00** [Book Here](#)

### Childhood Neurodiversity: Supporting Language and Communication

This workshop will discuss language and social communication, including how parents/carers can support their children to communicate. This workshop will be co-delivered with the Integrated Community Paediatric Services Speech and Language Therapy Team.

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – 13:00** [Book Here](#)

### Future workshops dates TBC:

Childhood neurodiversity: Supporting children with planning, organising and remembering

Childhood neurodiversity: Understanding and supporting sleep difficulties

Childhood neurodiversity: Supporting social relationships

Childhood neurodiversity: The benefits and problems with using technology

To find out more and book a place on a workshop scan the QR code or visit:

[www.nsft.uk/workshops](http://www.nsft.uk/workshops)



Working together for better mental health

# Play and Leisure coming up

See our What's on Guide [here](#) for information on SEN-specific and inclusive days out and play and leisure activities in and around the Enfield area. Events coming up include:



## Fun Junction Soft Play SEN Christmas party



### FUN JUNCTION'S CHRISTMAS DISCO'S 2023

THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER

**£18 For 1 Adult & 1 Child Additional Children £13**  
Extra adult £5. Max 2 adults per child (more than 2 adult are charged at £13 each)

#### INCLUDES.

**A Hot Meal For Each Child, Make Your Own Reindeer Food  
With The Elves, Unlimited Soft Play, Disco With Santa &  
Olaf, Sweet Treat On Departure For Each Child.**

### 3 PARTY TIMES

10am-12pm

12.45pm-2.45pm &

**SEN CHRISTMAS PARTY 3.30pm-5.30pm**

**(This session is for children with SEN and their friends and family)**

You Can Book Your Preferred Time Online 24 Hours A Day 7 Days A  
Week [funjunction.co.uk](https://funjunction.co.uk) Under BOOK SOFTPLAY And Click On The 21<sup>st</sup>  
December To Book Your Space.

Not quite in Enfield but not far off! Fun Junction Soft Play in Cheshunt has an SEN Christmas party (for children with SEN and their friends and family) on 21<sup>st</sup> December from 3.30 to 5.30 pm.

You can book now at <https://funjunction.co.uk/book-softplay/>

## Cineworld relaxed showing

Next Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December there will be a relaxed (and audio-described) showing of 'Wish' at Cineworld Enfield, at 11 am. Don't forget you can use your CEA card when visiting the cinema with a disabled child, to get a free ticket for an accompanying adult – see [here](#) for information

Bookings [here](#)



## Dawnosaurs at the Natural History Museum



The Natural History Museum will have the next of their 'Dawnosaurs' relaxed sessions this Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Details and booking link at [Dawnosaurs: Relaxed Morning Visit | Natural History Museum \(nhm.ac.uk\)](https://www.nhm.ac.uk/dawnosaurs)

During these sessions the museum opens early so visitors can enjoy the museum in a quieter environment, before the general public is admitted. The events are supported by experienced Autism-aware facilitators and are aimed at children aged 5-15 (siblings welcome)



# Events coming up

See our 'What's On' guide to ongoing inclusive and SEND-specific play and leisure activities and days out (last updated 23<sup>rd</sup> November) [here](#).

See our round-up of coffee mornings, social activities and coffee mornings for parents [here](#)

For the parents and carers of children/young people who are:	Event	Date and time	Venue	More information
Autistic	Understanding Your Child's Behaviour - online workshop from the London Autism Hub	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Online	See <a href="#">here</a> .
Autistic	Understanding and Supporting an Anxious Child - online workshop from the London Autism Hub	Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Online	See <a href="#">here</a> .
Autistic	Understanding Autism – for the whole family - online workshop from the London Autism Hub	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Online	See <a href="#">here</a> .
Aged 14 and over	Preparing for adulthood – Support Planning	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov 10.30 am – 12.30 pm	Integrated Learning Disability Service, Hertford Road	Page 3 and <a href="#">here</a>
Age 14 and over	Transition drop-in session	Friday 1st December 10 am to 12 pm	Integrated Learning Disability Service, Hertford Road	Page 3
All	Community Consultation event	Saturday 2nd December 1- 4 pm	Green Towers Community Centre, Edmonton	Page 2
All  This event is now fully booked but you can join the waiting list <a href="#">here</a> .	Our Voice Christmas party (now fully booked)	Sunday 3rd December 2 - 4.30 pm	Russet House School	Information and sign up for the waiting list <a href="#">here</a>
Children with communication difficulties starting school next September	Rising to Reception – workshop with SENDIASS	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Online	Page 2 and <a href="#">here</a>
Neurodiverse, with eating difficulties	Childhood Neurodiversity understanding and supporting eating difficulties	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 1 <a href="#">pm</a>	Online	Page 5 and <a href="#">here</a>
Children with communication difficulties starting school next September	Rising to Reception – workshop with SENDIASS	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Online	Page 2 and <a href="#">here</a>
Aged 16 – 24, with an EHCP and looking for employment	Supported Internship Programme open evening	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 5-6 pm	West Lea School, Haselbury Campus	Page 4
All	Our Voice presents: Get to Know SEN Services	Wednesday 31st January	Park Avenue Disability Centre	Page 1 More information coming soon

We hope that you have found our newsletter useful. If you have any feedback, or anything that you think we could be telling our families about, please let us know. Our contact details are:

Telephone [07516 662315](tel:07516662315) Email: [info@ourvoiceenfield.org.uk](mailto:info@ourvoiceenfield.org.uk)

Website: [www.ourvoiceenfield.org.uk](http://www.ourvoiceenfield.org.uk)

You can also follow us on our Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/ourvoiceenfield/> on [Twitter@EnfieldOurVoice](https://twitter.com/EnfieldOurVoice) and on

Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/ourvoiceenfield/>



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