

Family Support Signposting – Autumn 2021

Schools may use this information to share with parents and families.

Click on subject title, hold Ctrl and click to jump to each section

Contents

Introduction.....	2
Support in Salford	3
Local Support for Parents.....	3
Suggestions for UK Facebook links for Autism Parent Support Groups.....	3
Support for all the family	4
Free Webinars for parents, carers, and young people.....	4
Online and virtual activities for children and young people	5
The Horsfall 42 nd Street Projects	5
Online support for young people age 13-25.....	5
Facebook links for groups and support for ALL young people in Salford.....	6
On-line groups for ALL young people to get involved in.....	6
Support in Greater Manchester	6
Nationwide support	6
Links for parents and families.....	7
Explaining Autism to young people	7
Explaining autism to siblings.....	7
Raising awareness of online safety for young people with SEN	7
Explaining what to expect at CAMHS	7
Other Useful Websites.....	7
Preparing for Adulthood.....	8

Introduction

The Autism, Social Communication Team are part of the Learning Support Service. We are a team of teachers who assist school staff with embedding whole school good autism practice. We believe that this is the best way to ensure that the needs of all pupils are fully supported. Individual pupils may also need individual advice which is tailored to the child's individual strengths and needs.

We also recognise that sometimes families and young people need support in addition to school advice, and it is the hope that this leaflet will provide some of that initial signposting. Parents and carers can use this information to make informed decisions about the variety of services that are there to support families of autistic children. ***None of the services signposted in this information leaflet are affiliated with the Learning Support Service in Salford.***

It is important that parents discuss family concerns with a GP or other professional services involved with your family regarding mental health issues or if you have feelings of being unable to cope so that the correct support can be provided.

**Please always call an organisation before attending a group and particularly at the current time, as organisations will be making changes to delivery dates and times, etc. as they work within the developing Coronavirus (Covid 19) guidelines.*

Upcoming events/ideas

Halloween & Bonfire night

This web link has a variety of autism friendly games and activities for the whole family to help celebrate Halloween: <https://www.axcis.co.uk/blog/articles/2021/10/06/halloween-activities-for-children-with-autism-guest-post/>

This web link has information on places where pumpkin picking is taking place this autumn. Scroll down the page to the Greater Manchester section for more details. <https://theladybirdsadventures.co.uk/pumpkin-picking-north-west/>

This web link has information on an event being held at Lego Land Discovery Centre. <https://aboutmanchester.co.uk/legoland-discovery-centre-manchester-to-hold-event-specially-designed-for-children-with-autism-this-halloween/>

The link below has tips for both Bonfire night and Halloween including a social story to help prepare your child for these events. <https://www.hindertton.cheshire.sch.uk/additional-services/karen-s-family-support-blog/preparingforhalloweenandbonfirenight>

Christmas

This link has details of an event which is an autism friendly winter wonderland and how to book tickets.: <https://www.winterfunland.com/largest-indoor-winter-wonderland-autism-friendly-session/>

This web link has details on an Autism Friendly Santa's Grotto and how to book tickets. <https://www.chillfactore.com/christmas/>

Support in Salford

- **Salford Local Offer** - <https://www.salford.gov.uk/children-and-families/local-offer-for-children-and-young-people-with-sen-or-disabilities/>
- **Salford Early Help** - <https://www.salford.gov.uk/children-and-families/early-help-for-families/>
- **Salford CAMHS**- (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service) <https://mft.nhs.uk/rmch/salford-camhs/>
- **School information, advice and support** [Special educational needs • Salford City Council](#)
- **Salford Parent voice** is a group of parents/carers of children/young people with a disability and/or additional needs aged 0 – 25years. We represent your voice as parents/carers and work alongside you, local authority, schools, health services and other providers to make sure the services they plan and deliver meet the needs of your children and families. We are an information and networking hub providing support to families. [Salford Parent Voice | mycity Directory](#)

Local Support for Parents

Salford Autism - support and social inclusion for everyone who lives or works in Salford and is, cares for or is affected by someone with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) inc. Asperger Syndrome (AS) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

[Salford Autism Home Page](#)

Contact/Emergency/Support Line (open 24/7 inc. all holidays)

Call 0771 390 3224

Text 'CHAT' for a FREE call back

Text 'SMS' for response by SMS

Email: www.salfordautism.org.uk

Salford Action for Autism (SAFA) currently holds coffee mornings once a month which provide opportunities for parents and carers to meet, share ideas and support each other. The coffee mornings are very friendly and informal.

<http://www.salford-action-for-autism.com/>

Phone Rod, Kay and Louise on 07415 885452 / 07858 495266 / 07963 024759

Suggestions for UK Facebook links for Autism Parent Support Groups

[UK Autism Spectrum Parents Support Group | Facebook](#) This is a group for anyone in the UK who is parenting an autistic child, supporting an autistic person, or is autistic themselves. We aim to provide a safe and friendly environment to share positive, autistic-led, and autism positive information.

[Autism Parents Support & Discussion Group | Facebook](#) A place for EVERYONE touched by autism to find support. We welcome you to ask Autism-related questions, have discussions,

get answers and feedback, share stories of challenges and achievements, and create and foster new friendships with others who have been walking a similar path on this Autism journey.

[Autism and Sensory Processing Support Uk | Facebook](#)

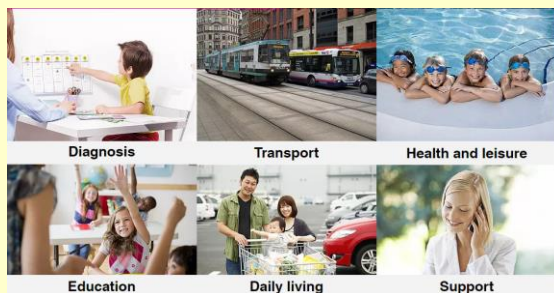
Group established in 2018. Support group for Supporting parents and adults.

This group is set up by two parents both having neuro diverse children and supporting the needs of sensory processing disorder. We also have extensive knowledge by working with a well-recognised Autism charity as an adviser. Both have training with supporting mental health in schools and have also been on courses on handling anger and anxiety.

Support for all the family

Greater Manchester Autism Consortium - Providing information and advice to autistic people, family members and carers and professionals. This page has these links.

<https://www.autismgm.org.uk/salford-children-families-menu>



Managing Anger, Sensory Needs and Understanding Autism Parent Seminars

[Parent Workshop Resources | gmac \(autismgm.org.uk\)](#) – These training videos have been recorded are split into sections. There are booklets available to download and space to write notes.

To find out more about this organisation, please contact: Tel: 0161 998 4667 Email: abigail.gibson@nas.org.uk

[Events | gmac \(autismgm.org.uk\)](#) – Click on this link for details of a free Sensory Needs online seminar for families of Autistic children.

Free Webinars for parents, carers, and young people

Book in for upcoming Webinars and view recordings of past Webinars – extensive topics to carer for many needs and requirements.

[Autism Webinars | Autism Research Institute](#)

At Witherslack Group we pride ourselves on our unwavering commitment to parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs, as well as professionals working within the SEN sector, our webinars will allow you to stay connected, inspired and informed wherever you are in the world!

[Free SEN Webinars - Autism, ADHD, SEMH - For Parents & Professionals - Witherslack Group](#)

Free Webinar Replay: A Parents' Guide to Social Skills Strategies for Children with ADHD or Autism (or Both)

[Social Skills Strategies for Children with ADHD or Autism \(additudemag.com\)](https://additudemag.com)

The Autism Hub delivers and hosts a range of webinars to share evidence-based practice and research to support students with autism. Recordings of past webinars are added as they become available.

[Webinars \(education.qld.gov.au\)](https://education.qld.gov.au)

Online and virtual activities for children and young people

There is a lot to do for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities. This includes play schemes, after school activities, sports clubs, and youth groups. [Things to Do | mycity Directory \(salford.gov.uk\)](#)

The Horsfall 42nd Street Projects

Lockdown Open Up: A 6 week workshop to explore how young people can support themselves during lockdown using creative activities and the five ways to wellbeing. Tuesdays 4-6pm - Starts 19th January

Creative Agents: The Horsfall's creative group for 13-18 year olds for arts based projects, challenges, and discussion, proving the opportunity to connect with others and collaborate with our artist in residence Bronte Palmer on a new project exploring portraits and identity. Thursdays 4-5.30pm - Microsoft Teams

Movement Project: A space to get together and explore different ways of expression through movement, the aim of the group is to support each other, have fun, and improve mental health and wellbeing through movement and dance. Tuesdays 5-6pm - 42nd Street online platform

Click & Connect: a weekly online session to connect with others and have fun. A friendly informal space to chat, doodle, and play. Just sign up and drop in via 42nd Street's online platform, go to the Groups tab and click What's On. Fridays 1-2pm - 42nd Street online platform

For more information and to register go to 42nd Street:

<https://onlinesupport.42ndstreet.org.uk/what-is-on-workshops>

Online support for young people age 13-25

42nd Street supports young people aged 11-25 across Greater Manchester with emotional well-being and mental health. Our online support is a free and friendly service for young people aged 13-25.

WHAT DO WE DO?

Provide a safe online space to help you talk about difficult things that you might be facing in your life. We'll allocate you a trained practitioner who will listen and support you, without judgement.

Rather than talking about your problems face to face, you can type them out, or use artwork or videos or other resources to talk about how you're feeling.

Instead of using video like skype, we offer online counselling via private, confidential messages which are sent between you and your worker.

https://onlinesupport.42ndstreet.org.uk/what-is-counselling#4_section

Frequently asked questions <https://onlinesupport.42ndstreet.org.uk/faqs>

Facebook links for groups and support for ALL young people in Salford

[\(2\) Salford Youth Council | Facebook](#)

This group is currently addressing mental health and wellbeing with 'something new challenges' which have included: Making/playing/listening/reading something new; go somewhere different, try only turning left, or spending time to look at plants or buildings near you and 6 challenges for your wellbeing. Young people can join the 'Nerd club' on Teams to share your passion, tv, gaming, comics, art, in fact anything that you're passionate about. Check out the Facebook link above and you can email Martyn.shaw@salford.gov.uk for details.

[Salfordyouthservice - Home | Facebook](#) - This is a site for all young people in Salford, it's got activities, news, polls and loads more.

On-line groups for ALL young people to get involved in

[Youth zone • Salford City Council](#) Youth zone is for all young people who live in Salford.

There are loads of things to do across the whole of Salford with various Youth centres or mobile units to provide a space to hang out with friends or get involved in projects like dj'ing or dance. The page contains the following links:

Youth service	Youth projects
Things to do	Emotional health and wellbeing
Salford Open Learning	In care and informed
Youth Day	Youth Centres
Youth Voice	Duke of Edinburgh (D of E)

Support in Greater Manchester

- www.asgma.org.uk Tel: 0161 866 8483 E-mail: admin@asgma.org.uk
- Greater Manchester Autism Consortium <https://www.autismgm.org.uk/>

Nationwide support

- Autism Hour <https://www.autism.org.uk/get-involved/campaign/autism-hour/map.aspx>
- www.autismlinks.co.uk Providing a range of services to help and support families across the UK, working with organisations and professionals so that children get the best start in life.
- [Helping families | Barnardo's](#) We provide a range of services to help and support families across the UK, working with organisations and professionals so that children get the best start in life.
- [Parenting and Family Support - Family Lives \(Parentline Plus\)](#) Support in all aspects of family life. Helpline number 0808 800 2222
- [FamilyLine - Family Action \(family-action.org.uk\)](#) Family pressures can sometimes be difficult to manage without emotional support and guidance to help. Many people feel confused by what information is available or struggle to access services close to home.

Family Line is a free service to support adult family members via phone, text, webchat, or email- 0808 802 6666 or text 07537 404282 or email

- [Covid-19 Response - Gingerbread](#) Support for single parents - The helpline number is 0808 802 0925

Further information

Audio books including: How to raise a happy autistic child; Ten things every child with Autism wishes you to know; Autism and girls; How to teach life skills; An introduction to Facebook rules.

[Listen to autism Audiobooks | Audible.co.uk](#)

Links for parents and families

Explaining Autism to young people

Online shop



Autism: talking about a diagnosis
A GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS OF CHILDREN WITH AN AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER
Author: Rachel Pike
£7.00

[ADD TO BASKET](#)

Format: Paperback
Availability: In Stock

- <http://www.autism.org.uk/about/diagnosis/children.aspx>
- <https://youngminds.org.uk/getting-help-with-autism/guide-to-autism/>
- <http://www.autism.org.uk/about/diagnosis/criteria-changes.aspx>
- <http://www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk/resources/diagnosis%20dvd/films%20by%20young%20people.aspx>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7JdCY-cdgkl>
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/ambitiousaboutautism>

Explaining autism to siblings

<https://www.autism.org.uk/about/family-life/siblings.aspx>

Raising awareness of online safety for young people with SEN

Online safety awareness- <https://www.childnet.com/resources/star-toolkit/>

Explaining what to expect at CAMHS

<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/your-guide-to-support/guide-to-camhs/>

Other Useful Websites

www.autismeducationtrust.org

www.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk

www.autism.org.uk

Preparing for Adulthood

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2009/15/contents> (Autism Act)

<https://www.preparingforadulthood.org.uk/>