

SEND Weekly Newsletter 12 June 2019



Issue 41

Summer's here - this way for free family fun day

It's that time of year again!

The Short Breaks Family Fun Day 2019 for families with children and young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities takes place on Saturday 6 July.

The free event, which is at Brookside Academy in Street, will be packed with all sorts of activities, from fun sports and crafts to a bouncy castle and soft play area.

There will be pop-up shops selling wares from special schools across the county - and new for this year are mini drop-in workshops for families which include pampering, yoga and movement.

There will be food and refreshments, or bring a picnic - parking and the activities are free.

There's absolutely no need to book, families can simply turn up on the day.

There will be lots of family support groups attending - so it's perfect for families planning breaks over the summer holidays.

There's the opportunity to meet activity providers, book up activities as well as have a go at some fun activities and find take lots of information away.

Come along - the event runs from 11am to 3pm. Post code: BA16 0PR.

Short Breaks

FREE FAMILY FUN DAY

ACTIVITIES CONFIRMED SO FAR....

- INFORMATION STANDS
- ACTIVITY TASTERS: MUSIC, BIG ART, FUN SPORTS, WOODLAND CRAFTS.
- ALL ABILITY BIKES
- BOUNCY CASTLE & SOFT PLAY
- ICE-CREAM VAN
- "POP UP SHOPS" BROUGHT TO YOU BY SOME OF THE SPECIAL SCHOOLS
- PARENT SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS

For families who have a child or young person with a disability or additional need

Saturday 6th July 2019 11am - 3pm
Brookside Academy, Brooks Road, Street, BA16 0PR

FREE parking
FREE activities

NEW FOR 2019
MINI DROP IN WORKSHOPS FOR FAMILIES - PAMPERING, YOGA AND MOVEMENT, PLUS OTHERS BEING PLANNED

FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE TO BUY ON SITE, OR BRING A PICNIC

NO NEED TO BOOK, JUST TURN UP ON THE DAY

SOMERSET
County Council

If you need any further information, please contact the Short Breaks Team 01823 358117

SEND funding call for evidence

A call for evidence has been launched by the Government on the current funding arrangements for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and/or disabilities, and those needing alternative provision. The survey, which runs until 31 July is intended to help the Government understand how current funding is distributed, and what improvements could be made in future. It says it is aware of the wider concerns about the overall amount of funding and the pressures on budgets locally and is looking separately at this ahead of the next government Spending Review. [To take part in the survey visit here:](#)



Gaming skills can mean work skills

Are you a young person into gaming?

Did you know your skills could be transferable to the workplace?

There's a Gaming Day at Taunton Jobcentre on 17 July.

This aims to be a fun and interactive event where you are invited to learn about all



the transferable skills that gamers have and can offer.

The event will highlight the benefits of employing people who love gaming.

Please contact if you would like to attend:

Taunton.Lmrteam@dwp.gov.uk

See and learn reading

Looking for resources to teach children with Down Syndrome to read? See and Learn vocabulary provides activities and step-by-step guidance to help parents and educators teach young children to understand and say 60 common first words. There's a session at Elmwood Learning Support Centre on 2 July from 4-5pm for parent carers and professionals. It's £5 including refreshments. Contact Jeanette Humphries to book: jhumphriess@educ.somerset.gov.uk or call 01278 411211.

Integrated therapy service - your handy guide

The Integrated Therapy Service for children and young people in Somerset provides Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy up to the age of 19.

Teams are based in Wells, Yeovil, Taunton and Bridgwater and at any one time there are about 5,000 children and young people receiving support. The service works in partnership with those who know the child or young person best in order to effectively meet the child's needs.

Children with complex needs may come in and out of the service over time, whereas other children may only need a short-term intervention for a particular need.



The service works closely with colleagues in the SEND service across Somerset.

The team contributes to Education, Health and Care Plans. They also give some training to parents and staff from educational settings.

Parents and professionals can contact the service via the telephone advice line to discuss a child not currently open to the

service [and there's a Website](#) which gives further information on how to make a referral. Early Years and School-Age Fact Files are available, offering advice and guidance on common conditions. The Service is represented on several multi-agency subgroups focusing on improving services for children, young people and families and will be involved in meetings with inspectors when a joint Ofsted / CQC inspection takes place in Somerset.

*The advice line runs from 9am to 12pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday on 0303 033 3002.

[The website can be reached here.](#)

