Different But Equal Event

Young people from Rotherham’s Different But Equal group have been planning an exciting event to celebrate and reflect on what it’s like to be a young person in Rotherham today.

Local organisations have been invited to showcase what they do, and how they can support young people in the community, through a range of workshops and a marketplace. Young people attending will take part in activities and small group discussions. Their thoughts and ideas will contribute towards Rotherham’s bid to become a “Child-Friendly Borough.”

150 young people aged 14 to 25 years old are expected to attend, invited from many different groups from traditionally under-represented sectors of society. These young people have come together as a united force to discuss the issues that matter to them and to make sure their voices are heard.

The event takes place on 27 July at Rotherham’s Carlton Park Hotel. It is open to invitees only, but keep your eyes peeled for future events and activities led by the Different But Equal group on the Voluntary Action Rotherham’s website at www.varotherham.org.uk

High hopes for local rider after qualifying for national competitions

14 year old Sebastian, who has autism and ADHD, has qualified for dressage and country challenge national championships which will be held in Gloucestershire. Due to his conditions, Sebastian has found it difficult to socialise, despite being friendly with lots of love to give but has been a lifelong animal lover. After owning numerous pets, Sebastian’s mum decided to let him try horse riding and he fell in love with it, riding once a fortnight at High Hopes in Thorpe Hesley, where he has fantastic support and where he’s encouraged to help groom and muck out the animals as well.

Sebastian participated in the RDA Regionals where he did so well in dressage and country challenge that he got through and is able to go to the nationals in Gloucestershire.

To receive this newsletter for free register online at: www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org/s4s/WhereILive/Council?pageId=980
Rotherham Parent Forum Limited

Fun filled family day out to Lightwater Valley
Thursday 3 August

We are organising a coach to leave from a central location, the coach will have space for up to six wheelchairs. Tickets need to be purchased in advance.

You are welcome to invite extended family and friends but at least one person in the party will need to be a forum member with a child/young person with additional needs and/or disability.

Tickets will be on a first-come-first-served basis.

If you need any more information or to purchase a ticket call 01709 296262 or email info@rpcf.co.uk

Active Ability Programme

Providing a range of opportunities for children, young people and adults with a physical, learning or sensory disability aged 14+.

Young people can take part in Athletics, Swimming, Cricket and Basketball.

Telephone: Michala on 01709 363355
Email: michala.wild@rotherham.gov.uk

ODEON Cinema Sheffield – Autism friendly showings

ODEON is aware that going to a standard performance of a film can be a challenge for guests on the autism spectrum or with sensory or learning disabilities.

As part of our corporate social responsibility and to promote greater social inclusion, ODEON is delighted to host specially adapted autism friendly screenings of new releases.

Up and coming screenings include:

Captain Underpants – Monday 7 August
The Nut Job 2: Nutty by Nature – Monday 14 August
Despicable Me 3 – Monday 21 August

To book online visit: www.odeon.co.uk
Or call 0333 014 4501. You can find out more about autism friendly showings online at www.dimensions-uk.org

Elephant’s In-Step Club

The Elephant’s In-Step Club offer quality social provision for young people aged 13 to 25 with disabilities on a monthly basis.

The sessions are fully staffed by qualified youth workers and support staff. Activities include; dance and karaoke, arts and crafts, massage therapy and themed games. Prizes for best dressed. Refreshments included.

Sessions take place at Dalton Youth Centre, Magna Lane, Dalton, Rotherham, S60 4HH
Telephone: 01709 851755

Rotherham Parent Forum Limited

Rotherham Parent Forum Limited will be running a number of regular activities throughout the summer holidays for children and young people with special educational needs/disabilities. These include family swimming, soft play, and jump stars.

You can find more information on Rotherham Parent Forum Limited activities on Facebook.

Rotherham Parents Forum Limited or on their website at www.rpcf.co.uk or by calling 01709 296262
**The Black Minority Ethnic Disabled Young People and Carers Project** is a unique provision that accommodates for the needs of disabled young people and their carers. These sessions offer a variety of activities and a place to meet socially also acting as a self-help group. It is based at the Unity Centre and meets once a month (last Monday of each month) with additional outings during the holiday periods. At the core, the project is aimed at empowering young disabled people of any age, as well as supporting and enabling their carers and siblings through various activities.

**For more information please contact Showkat Ali on 07977 774032 or email showkat.ali@outlook.com**

Alternatively, contact Izbeth Khan on 07539 259198

**Dexx** is the ultimate family activity centre! We’re an indoor scooter, trampoline and parkour park located in the Dearne Valley with an aim to provide a safe, fun and positive environment for young people to play, learn and grow in. We take pleasure in providing a clean, family focussed, all-inclusive facility where you will receive the friendliest of welcomes. We have something for everyone, so come down and see what we’re all about.

**For more information telephone 01709 877825**

**High Hopes Riding for the Disabled Group**

We provide riding sessions for any age group, providing horse care and knowledge to people who lack confidence to ride straight away. We have riders from as young as 4 to 48 years old, who all have a physical or learning disability and in some cases both. We can accommodate school groups, which can be organised through week days.

**For more information, contact Margery Sheppard on 07900534512 or email: highhopes@hotmail.com**

Alternatively, you can visit our website at [www.highhopesrda.org.uk](http://www.highhopesrda.org.uk)

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**Disability Snowsports**

Snozone Disability Snowsports at Castleford is for anyone who has a sensory, cognitive or physical impairment.

Snozone’s aim is to make snow sports accessible and inclusive for everyone!

**Adaptive Skiing & Snowboarding**

Our highly experienced and qualified coaches provide bespoke adaptive (disabled) tuition, guiding and coaching for all types of skiers and snowboarders.

We have a range of equipment including sit-skis and stand up riggers which are used to aid guests with poor body coordination and mobility.

**For more information, contact Adam at Castleford on snowteamcas@snozoneuk.com**

Or visit the website at [www.snozoneuk.com](http://www.snozoneuk.com)

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**TRAVERSEING OUT OF AREA? WHY NOT TRY...?**

Our free youth club, for young wheelchair users 8 to 25, meets at Spring Leisure Centre once a month. We run a wide range of activities from music, drama and art, to sport, cooking, campaigning and trips.

The club dates for 2017 are:

- **Sunday 14 September**
- **Saturday 14 October**
- **Sunday 12 November**
- **Sunday 10 December**

**Register with Whizz-Kidz 4 weeks before the next club to attend.**

**Contact:** 07833505959 or email c.drake@whizz-kidz.org.uk for more information.

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Or visit the website at [www.snozoneuk.com](http://www.snozoneuk.com)
The Max Card is a discount card for families of children with additional needs. Families simply show their Max Card upon entry to a venue in order to obtain free or discounted admission. A card can be purchased for £3 from Rotherham Parent Forum. Call 01709 296262 for more information. The list of discounted venues can be found at: http://www.mymaxcard.co.uk

Rotherham SENDIASS have welcomed a new member of staff to their team. Sally Thomas has worked in education for almost 20 years. She is now Young Person’s Information Officer for 16 to 25 year olds. She says “I’m here to listen to young people’s views and wishes and help them get problems sorted. That could be about getting the support they need in class, finding out about different college courses, or helping you express your feelings in meetings… really, anything at all!” Sally adds “It’s an exciting time to be part of SENDIASS. I am often helping young people through the EHC Plan process. It’s very rewarding when I see young people solve their problems and feel happier.” Rotherham SENDIASS offers impartial, confidential advice to children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities, and their families. You can call them to ask for help on 01789 823627

Disability Access Fund
Three and four year old children who are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance and are receiving their free 3 and 4 year early education place are eligible for the Disability Access Fund (DAF).

DAF is paid to the child’s early education provider as a fixed annual rate of £615 per eligible child and can be used to provide specialist training or resources to benefit an individual child or all children attending the setting. If you think your child may be eligible for this funding, speak to your early education provider to encourage them to apply.

Contact Rotherham Early Years and Childcare Service for more information or for guidance on how to use the grant. 01709 822549 or 0800 0730230

For up to date information on activities and events for disabled children or to go to: www.rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org or contact Andy Lound tel: 01709 336423 email: andrew.lound@rotherham.gov.uk

Disclaimer: Every effort is made to ensure that the information in this newsletter is correct. Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council can accept no liability for errors or omissions. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council.