

The Link

SEND Newsletter

Winter Edition 2018

Welcome to The Link – our termly newsletter to keep parents up to date on all things SEND.

The weather is changing, and nights are drawing in. As you prepare for Winter, why not warm yourself up by taking a look at What's On over the next few months?

We shine the spotlight on Trafford Leisure and take a look at Lostock College SSC provision. Find out more from Trafford PYPPS and Trafford Parents Forum about their work.

Read about the benefits for families who have accessed the Council's short breaks plus our SEND Parent Champion shares her views.

Find out about Talkshop, Transitions Project, Manchester Deaf Centre and Healthwatch in our services section.

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www.trafford.gov.uk/thelink

Spotlight On: Trafford Leisure

It seems that everywhere you look nowadays **the benefits to becoming more active and maintaining a healthier weight** are being highlighted – from children and young people concentrating better in school, to being able to improve your mental health through to reducing risks of major diseases or life-limiting illness.

There are certainly many good reasons for you and your family to get involved in more active leisure time. Not just for health and wellbeing reasons... it can also be a lot of fun too!

In this article you can find out more about Trafford Leisure, including what activities are available for families in your local area, help for people to access leisure facilities as well as future plans.

About Trafford Leisure

Trafford Leisure is a community interest company (C.I.C) who manages local leisure facilities in Trafford. This means that any profits made are put back into improving facilities and the types of opportunities they can offer to the communities of Trafford.

They employ over 400 friendly, fully qualified staff to help people achieve their leisure and activity goals. They aim to offer something for everyone, from toddlers to seniors so that the following is achieved:

“More People, More Active, More Often”

See the local offer for Trafford Leisure on Trafford Directory:

- [Altrincham Golf Course](#)
- [Altrincham Leisure Centre](#)
- [George H Carnall Centre](#)
- [Partington Sports Village](#)
- **Stretford Sports Village:**
 - [Chester Centre](#)
 - [Talbot Centre](#)
 - [Old Trafford Sports Barn](#)
- [Sale Leisure Centre](#)
- [The Grammar](#)
- [Urmston Leisure Centre](#)

Inclusive or specialist activities available in your area:

Through the links above you should be to find out what each site can offer in terms of activities and accessibility.

Trafford Leisure aims to accommodate everyone at their sessions, and are happy to discuss individual needs and suitability for each activity. However a lot of centres also offer sessions specifically for children, young people and adults with additional needs.

Trafford Leisure is split into four overall areas in Trafford: North, West, Central and South areas. Each area has an Active Living Manager who works to improve access to leisure activities for their communities.

Spotlight On: Trafford Leisure

North Area:

Stretford Sports Village Chester Centre

- **Alpha Swimming Lessons** - for children aged 4 to 15 years with additional needs
- **Pulmonary rehabilitation class** - course run by NHS to support people living with breathlessness due to a chronic lung condition

West Area:

Partington Sports Village

- **Family disability swimming** - families with a child who has additional needs can swim in a quieter environment with equipment / floats
- **Alpha swimming lessons** - for children aged 4 to 15 years with additional needs
- **Deaf friendly swimming** - for children and young people who are hearing impaired
- **Sportsworks Swimming and Activity Sessions** - for children and young people from 4 to 25 years with moderate and complex needs

George H Carnall Leisure Centre

- **Pulmonary Rehabilitation** - course run by NHS to support people living with breathlessness due to a chronic lung condition
- **Walking Football** - for older players and people with underlying health conditions

Urmston Leisure Centre

- **Alpha Swimming lessons** - for children aged 4 to 15 years with additional needs

Central Area:

Sale Leisure Centre

- **Sailfin swimming** - provide support and stimulating advice, in a safe water environment to those who have physical, sensory or learning difficulties.
- **Walking Football** - for older players and people with underlying health conditions

South Area:

Altrincham Leisure Centre

- **Rebound Therapy Trampolining** – our popular trampolining sessions for those with additional needs are due to restart in January

For further details on accessibility at The Grammar and Altrincham Golf Course, please contact them directly.

Help to get active!

So you've taken a look at all the information across all the Leisure Centres above. Maybe you have found some activities that have tickled your fancy?

Spotlight On: Trafford Leisure

But what if you are struggling to afford the time or money to attend? Here is what Trafford Leisure offer in order to support people to access leisure activities:

Active Trafford Leisure Pass

Reduced prices for activities with annual passes for both Juniors (4-16 years old) and Adults (16+).

With an annual pass you can access the following activities at a reduced rate:

- Swimming (£1 Juniors, £2 Adults)
- Gym (£2 Juniors)
- Gym and classes (£3 Adults)
- Racket Sports (£3 Juniors, £4 Adults)

Physical Activity Referral Programme

This is for anyone over the age of 13 years who would benefit from increased levels of activity. A referral is required to access this programme.

If eligible you will be supported with a tailored plan and can get 8 weeks use of Trafford Leisure facilities for only £20.

How Trafford Leisure is changing

Stretford and Altrincham Leisure Centres:

It's exciting times in Trafford for Leisure as a report goes to the council executive at the end of the month seeking investment for two new Leisure centres – Stretford and Altrincham

The investment forms part of a Trafford wide strategy to increase levels of physical activity, helping to secure improved health and wellbeing results for our local Trafford people and families.

If the investment is approved, plans will be developed further to enable planning applications to be submitted for both centres during 2019.

Urmston Leisure Centre:

The public consultation for this centre finished last month and plans are already in place. The existing site will be extended and extensively refurbished. Updates will follow at the end of November and will be available for you to view:

<https://yournewurmston.co.uk/>

Article by Eli Edwards with thanks to Trafford Leisure's Chief Operating Officer and Active Living Managers as well as the Trafford Vision 2031 portfolio team

SEND News

Lostock College Small Specialist Class

Back in 2017 there was a review of small specialist classes (SSC). These are targeted, small classes that sit within mainstream schools that offer more specialist education to children that attend who have SEND needs.

At this point SSCs were only found in certain primary schools in Trafford. It was felt that some funding and good practice learning could be shared from primary schools to develop an SSC at secondary school level.

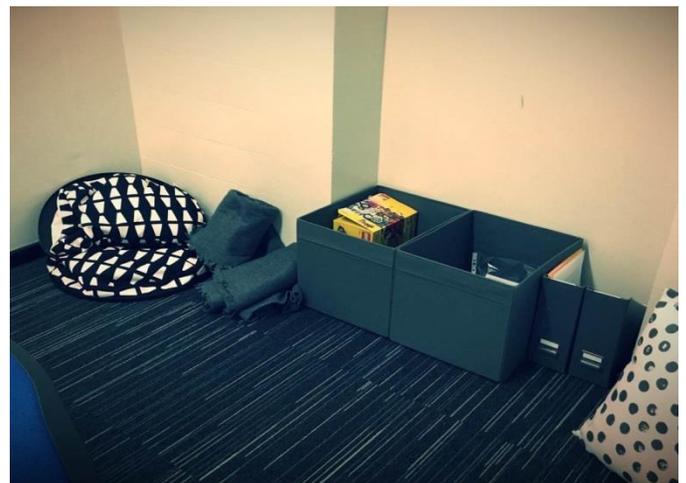
It was also felt that there was a gap for young people who have social communication needs and for whom a mainstream school environment is a barrier that causes anxiety, but they do not have other significant cognitive needs that require a place at a special school.

Lostock College, including the Head and Governors, agreed that the new secondary SSC could be developed at their school. It was important that this provision was developed within the Trafford borough, so that the young people who attend did not have to travel out of area and could stay more local to their family and friends.

So what is Lostock's SSC and who is it for?

The SSC features lots facilities which were developed using a SEND Capital Funding grant and are designed specifically for their pupils. This includes a large classroom, separate small group room, a kitchen area,

safe outdoor space and a Sensory area. The pupils also have their own entrance.



Lostock College SENCO and other staff all work closely together to ensure pupils have their needs met at the SSC. Trafford professionals are involved to help with assessment, support, advice and training. Most importantly the SSC works closely with the young people themselves and their parent carers.

There are 10 places in total for secondary aged pupils with Autistic Spectrum conditions or social communication difficulties. This figure includes pupils who have already started this year at Key Stage 3 and who will continue to move through the stages as they get older.

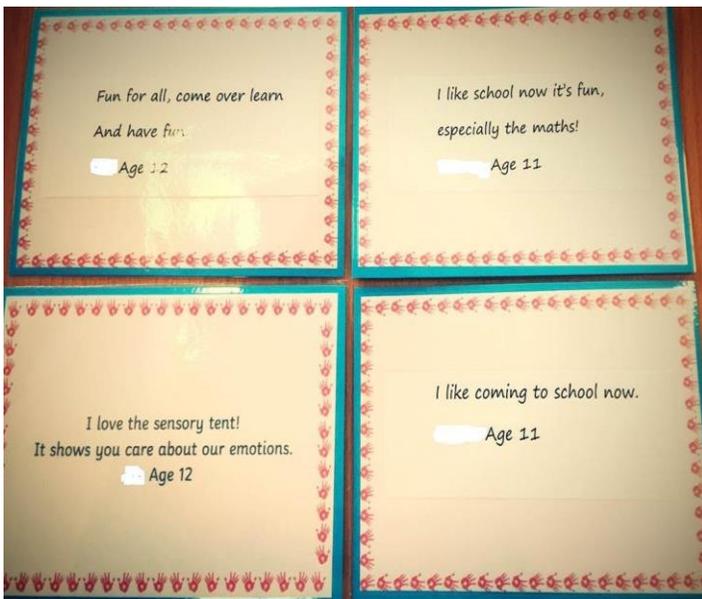
Pupils already attending have made brilliant progress, and attendance to school has increased which was identified as a particular difficulty for some. It is hoped that in continuing

SEND News

to attend the SSC at Lostock College, pupils can gain in confidence and will be able to enter into some mainstream classes alongside their peers in the school.

What do the pupils think?

Pupils attending have flourished with the facilities and teaching support within Lostock SSC. See for yourself what pupils have to say!



Sharing best practice

Whilst the numbers of pupils who can attend the SSC at Lostock College is small, it is hoped that the experiences of the staff and all involved in developing this new SSC can be used to help other Secondary schools in Trafford.

Lostock College are willing to share their experience and best practice with other schools and this development has sparked consideration of how ALL pupils with Social Communication needs in mainstream settings can have their needs met.

“Here U Belong” (The HUB, Lostock) A poem by one of the pupils

I went to Lostock College without expecting what would happen

I was nervous and anxious but when I entered the room things turned around I looked down

Then I looked up, smile on my face

I looked around and then realized today is my day

I went through the sensory room and saw the great big tent

I jumped up down and thought this is so much fun

Lostock College, Lostock College
This is fun now, my work here is almost done in Lostock Colllllleege!

Article by Eli Edwards - with thanks to Emma Benfield, Lostock College SENCO and the HUB team.

Advice and Guidance

Trafford Parent and Young People's Partnership Service (PYPPS) – New Information, Advice and Support Programme (IASP) project.

We at Trafford PYPPs are happy to say that a bid that we submitted has been successful and we have been awarded monies as part of a new IASP project for information, advice and support services in England.

In the first phase we will use these funds to carry out a detailed self review of the service as it currently stands and make detailed plans for the future of the service going forward.

The Trafford LA had already started this process by completing a review of Trafford PYPPS in January 2018. Their main recommendations were:

- To keep the service in house,
- Re-establish the Steering Group
- To review the staffing and management structure.

This report will significantly add to the self review plan required for the project.

The role of the PYPPS continues to ensure that parents, young people and children have access to confidential and impartial information, advice and support on Education, Health and Social Care issues, so that you can make informed decisions for you and your family.

This is achieved by working in partnership with parents, young people and children and working with relevant agencies to ensure your views influence local policy and practice.

There are Quality Standards for the service from a national quality framework that supports the provision of free, accurate and impartial information, advice and support services. Our service continues to strive to meet these standards and the format of the IASP report is based on these standards.

The Quality Standards are being reviewed and there will be a new minimum standard for the service to work to at the end of this year.

We are anticipating a lot of changes to the service in the next 12 months. We will keep you updated in future editions, but please contact us if you have any questions or want to know more:

Parent and Young People Partnership Service (PYPPS):

Telephone: 0161 912 3150
(9am to 12pm, Monday to Friday)
Email: pypps@trafford.gov.uk
Facebook: Trafford Pypps
Twitter: @Traffordpypps
www.traffordpypps.co.uk

Article by Geraldine English – Parent and Young People Partnership Service Manager

SEND Local Offer

A Parent Champion's view...

Sophie is a Parent Champion who works with Trafford Family Information Service (FIS) and who is a mum to a 5 year old with autism.

What is a Parent Champion?

Parent Champions are parent volunteers who give a few hours a week to talk to other local parents about the services on offer to families. Being parents themselves, they are able to share their own positive experiences of your services in a relatable, trusted and informal way.

[Interested in becoming a Parent Champion and helping other families?](#)

Sophie says!

Alongside another parent of a child with SEND, here Sophie shares her own personal experience of some of the activities that form part of our SEND local offer:

Jump Space – trampolining, soft play and state of the art sensory room in Stockport providing fun for disabled children and young people across the North West, as well as support for their families.

Sophie says: "has a lovely relaxed feel, is easy to get to and park. Felt that it was good value for money."

Inflata Nation – Saturday sessions specifically aimed at people on the autistic spectrum, and their families, at the UK's first indoor inflatable park! Numbers are kept low, music is turned down, and parent carers can go free.

Sophie says: "Also has a nice relaxed feel. It only allows small numbers of children."

Simply Cycling at Longford Park and **at Wythenshawe Park** – Simply Cycling have a "can-do" approach and aim to provide a bike for everyone, whatever their ability! Offering support to those that require it, they can also help getting to and from the sessions.

Sophie says: "though not SEND specific, there are bikes for all abilities and it only costs £2. We were made to feel very welcome."

Eureka! Access All Areas at The National Children's Museum – whilst a bit further afield, Eureka! have regular clubs for disabled children and their siblings that are fun, creative and completely free!

Sophie says: "You can request an 'extra pair of hands' two weeks in advance which aims to make your experience much less stressful"

The above reflects one family's unique experiences at a small selection of activities. These activities are not endorsed by Trafford FIS over other activities on Trafford's SEND local offer.

Article by Eli Edwards - with thanks to Sophie and Sharon Keogh, FIS Outreach Officer.

SEND Local Offer

Trafford's SEND Local Offer Videos

We are so happy to announce that the final cut of Trafford's SEND Local Offer introduction videos have been uploaded onto our SEND Youtube channel!!

- [General video](#)
- [Parent carer video](#)
- [Young Person's video](#)

For many years people have been asking for more video content and it was also identified that people still aren't too aware of what a "Local Offer" is, or how it could help them.

We have been super lucky to have built up a working relationship with a talented media company, Aside Productions, who have worked on many major campaigns for companies such as JD Sports and Footlocker and other filming projects including the Snooker Championships. Through working in partnership with them, we were also involving Trafford parents of SEND young people.

Aside Productions filmed across many locations during June - involving a wide range of services, activities and schools that form part of our local offer here in Trafford. Everyone really engaged with the videos, and Aside Productions thoroughly enjoyed working on this project.

We feel that this really comes out in the finished product!

All the children, young people and their families are enjoying themselves and finding support through places that are on offer right here in Trafford!

www.trafforddirectory.co.uk/sendlocaloffer

We wanted to say thank you to all involved; to the schools, activities, groups and services, and of course all the families and individuals who agreed to be captured on film. See if you can spot yourselves!

We also want to give a massive thank you to everyone who worked with us on this at Aside Productions. Thank you! We look forward to working with you again in the future.

Promotion of the videos

Keep an eye out on our social media, and for the videos to appear on screens across Trafford venues. Local schools are already starting to add the videos on their websites, helping parent carers find out more about Trafford's SEND local offer.

The videos are also being shown this week at the Local Area SEND Board, which is a strategic level group involving various organisations and Trafford parents.

If you have a suggestion on where these videos can be shown or uploaded to reach out to as many families and young people as possible, please [contact us at the FIS](#).

Article by Eli Edwards

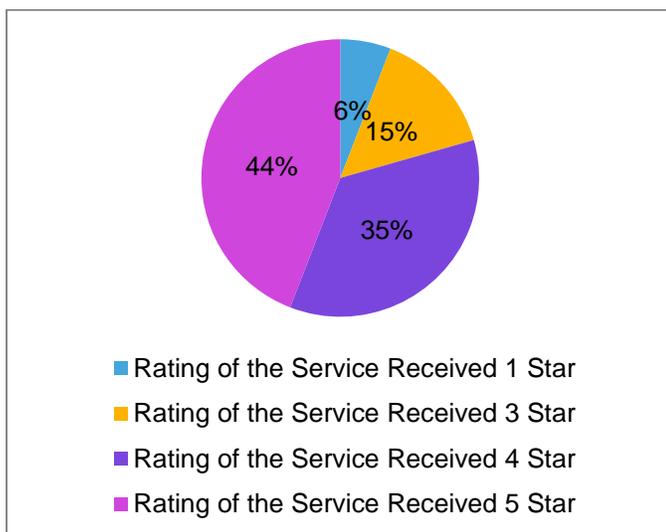
SEND Local Offer

Local Offer Advisor

Rhiannon has continued to be busy in her role as [SEND Local Offer advisor](#). As the main point of access for families wanting to access short breaks, she has also been in contact with families to find out what they think of the Short Breaks offer and the process of applying for the activities.

Service Rating:

The majority of families scored the Short Breaks service (including application, administration and the individual activities) 4 stars (35%) or 5 stars (44%) out of 5.



Benefits to Child:

85% of families said that Short Breaks have been of benefit to the child attending.

Many families said that their child has fun and enjoys themselves doing the activities, helping reduce boredom and increasing stimulation for those who clearly benefit from that.

The social benefits of accessing Short Breaks were the most mentioned by families. Having social opportunities with others, being around like-minds and particularly “fitting in” were all cited as a positive for their social development.

Also reported was an increase in happiness, confidence, independence and freedom.

Benefits to Family:

88% of families said that Short Breaks have been of benefit to themselves too. The majority of comments from families highlighted the time to spend on other things whilst their child/ren is accessing the Short Breaks activity – such as being able to spend that time with other family members, or just getting daily tasks such as cleaning, shopping etc. completed.

Article by Eli Edwards – with thanks to Rhiannon D’Ambra, Local Offer advisor

Become a parent rep!

We work closely with Trafford Parents Forum and are committed to working in collaboration with families and valuing their views. We would love to welcome additional parent/carer representatives to join our SEND Communication and Engagement group.

Trafford Parents Forum



Trafford Parents Forum

It's been a fantastic start to the new school year!

The summer saw lots going on for parent carers, children and young people. [Trafford Conservation Volunteers](#) held some sessions for our families at Sale Water Park and those attending made some lovely creepy crawlies. We really enjoyed our time at the TASK picnic and have had some fantastic feedback from the [Everyone Can gaming sessions](#).

Our weekly drop in session at the Life Centre in Sale is proving more and more popular - we've had so many new faces come along, as well as familiar ones. You are welcome to come along with a friend or family member and there's lots to keep little children entertained. We get the drinks in, you just turn up. We meet every Tuesday between 10:00am and 12:00pm at The Life Centre, 235 Washway Road, Sale, M33 4BP.

October saw the Launch of the Max Card, here at Trafford Parents Forum. They've proven so popular we have to order even more to keep up with demand! The Max Card offers discounts on days out and things to do, more information can be found at www.mymaxcard.co.uk.



The cards are available at all of our drop in sessions and events and cost three pounds each, to cover two adults and two children.

We've had training sessions with Trafford PYPPS this term, regarding exclusion and parent carers found these sessions really helpful. We also have the monthly drop in with Trafford PYPPS at the Life Centre.

Trafford Parents Forum have welcomed some new steering group members this term and we've lots of training and fun things planned moving forwards, thank you to everyone who has put themselves forwards for this.

Thank you also to our parent carers who came along for 'Craft and Lunch' on Thursday 11 October 2018. We were a full house for the Christmas card making session, led by parent carer, Linda from Linda's Paper Craft. We are planning on holding more of these events going forwards as feedback from the session was fantastic. Everyone attending fed back how much pleasure they'd had learning a new skill and taking a break from everyday life.

All our events are available to view on our [Facebook page](#), or give us a call and we can let you know about what is going on: 0161 872 0183. If you wish to become a member of the Forum you can find an [online membership form on our webpage](#). We hope to see you soon!

Article by Rebecca Blinkhorn – Engagement and Development Coordinator, Trafford Parents Forum.

Leisure Activities and What's On

Events and Activities

ASGMA 16+ Activity: Coast to Coast

Saturday 20 October 2018, 12pm to 3pm
Intu Trafford Centre, M17 8AA

Fun activity day for young people aged 16+

SMDSSG - Let Loose

Monday 22 October 2018, 5.30pm to 7.30pm
Let Loose, Stockport, SK7 5DP

Come join SMDSSG for some Autumn fun at Let Loose soft play centre, booked for our exclusive use.

Everyone Can technology and gaming centre – Half Term Gaming Sessions

Tuesday 23 and Wednesday 24 October 2018, 1pm to 4pm

Everyone Can, Sale, M33 7XX

Join us for one of our much loved gaming sessions over the half term holidays

CADS Multisport Holiday Programme

Tuesday 23 and Wednesday 24 October 2018, 10am to 3pm.

Seashell Trust, Cheadle, SK8 6RQ

Holiday events open to children and young people from 5 to 25 years.

Nature fun with the Transitions project

Wednesday 24 October 2018, 1pm to 3pm
Sale Water Park, Sale, M33 2LX

Join the newly relaunched Transitions project for an outdoor nature based activity. For young people aged 13 to 19 years.

ASGMA Aspirations Holiday Activity – Cinema and Lunch

Friday 26 October, 10am to 3pm
Resource Centre, Stretford, M32 0HL
Fun activity day for 10 to 18 years

Light Fantastic – Family Art Sessions

Wednesday 24 October to Saturday 27 October 2018, 1pm to 3pm

Manchester Art Gallery, M3 3JL

All activities explore themes of colour, shape and light.

Henshaws – Rock over Climbing

Tuesday 23 and 30 October 2018, 10am
Rock Over Climbing, Manchester, M3 1LN

Come and have a go at the climbing walls with qualified instructors. There's also a soft play area for younger family members.

ASGMA Holiday Activity – Spooky World

Friday 26 October, 10am to 3pm
Resource Centre, Stretford, M32 0HL

Fun activity day for 10 to 18 years

Henshaws - How to Hide a Lion

Friday 26 October 2018, 10.30am
The Lowry, Salford Quays, M50 3AX

Fun activity at the Lowry Theatre for Henshaws' kids (children with sight loss).

Songlines – creative project for young people with ASD

Monthly from October 27 2018 to April 2019
Limelight, Old Trafford, M16 9NW

Monthly creative workshops alongside Manchester Camerata's musicians and artists, leading to a performance next year.

Leisure Activities and What's On

Henshaws - Roller Disco in Rochdale

Saturday 27 October 2018, 4pm to 6pm
Rollercity, Rochdale, OL11 2LS
Lesson followed by music and lights in the roller rink for Henshaws' kids and siblings.

ASGMA 10-18 Walking Group

Saturday 27 October, 10am to 3pm
Resource Centre, Stretford, M32 0HL
A fantastic way to escape, meet new friends, get fit and see unbelievable views of our beautiful countryside. This month's walk will be in Saddleworth.

Sport games with the Transitions project

Tuesday 30 October 2018, 5pm to 6pm
Sale Leisure Centre, Sale, M33 2AL
Join the newly relaunched Transitions project for an sporting fun. For young people aged 13 to 19 years.

Everyone Can technology and gaming centre - Halloween Special

Wednesday 31 October 2018, 4pm to 8pm
Everyone Can, Sale, M33 7XX
Hotel Transylvania screening, spooky gaming, fancy dress competition, pizza and popcorn!

ASGMA Girls Group Activity – Paradise Golf and Tea

Thursday 8 November 2018, 5pm to 8pm
Orient Food, Trafford Centre, M17 8AA
Join up with the Girls Group at ASGMA and join in with their fun monthly activities!

ASGMA 10-18 Saturday Activity – Total Ninja and Lunch

Saturday 10 November 2018, 10am to 3pm
Resource Centre, Stretford, M32 0HL
Join up with the 10-18 Youth Group at ASGMA and join in with their fun monthly activities!

SMDSSG – Artful Playground's Quiet Quentin's Quest

Saturday 10 November 2018, 2pm to 4pm
Emmanuel Community Church, SK4 3LH
Interactive musical storytelling - help Quentin find his voice...

Sport games with the Transitions project

Tuesday 13 November 2018, 5pm to 6pm
Sale Leisure Centre, Sale, M33 2AL
Join the newly relaunched Transitions project for an sporting fun. For young people aged 13 to 19 years.

ASGMA 16+ Activity: Coast to Coast

Saturday 17 November 2018, 12pm to 3pm
Intu Trafford Centre, M17 8AA
Fun activity day for young people aged 16+

ASGMA 10-18 Walking Group

Saturday 24 November, 10am to 3pm
Resource Centre, Stretford, M32 0HL
A fantastic way to escape, meet new friends, get fit and see unbelievable views of our beautiful countryside. This month's walk will be in Etherow Country Park.

Leisure Activities and What's On

Stockdales Christmas Fair

Sunday 25 November 2018, 12.30pm to 3pm
Stockdales, Sale, M33 5AH

Get in the festive spirit with stalls, Santa's Grotto, Christmas disco, music, mulled wine and mince pies (or other homemade cakes!)

SMDSSG – Come Bowling!

Sunday 25 November 2018, 10.45am
Dog Bowl, Manchester, M1 5WW

SMDSSG invites you for some bowling fun!

Henshaws - Carols by Candlelight at Manchester Cathedral

Thursday 6 December 2018, 7.30 to 10pm
Manchester Cathedral, M3 1SX

A fine, festive evening - sing along to all your fave carols and listen to local choirs, blind opera singer Denise Leigh and world renowned accordionist / pianist Stefan Andrusyshyn.

Raymond Briggs: Father Christmas - BSL interpreted performance

Saturday 8 December 2018, 6pm
Waterside Arts, Sale, M33 7ZF

With plenty of live music, songs and playful puppetry this is a delightful festive treat for children to enjoy.

Raymond Briggs: Father Christmas - BSL interpreted performance

Friday 21 December 2018, 11am
Waterside Arts, Sale, M33 7ZF

With plenty of live music, songs and playful puppetry this is a delightful festive treat for children to enjoy.

CADS Christmas Toy Sale

Saturday 22 December 2018, 10am to 3pm
Seashell Trust, Cheadle, SK8 6RQ

Our annual Toy Sale is back for 2018!

CADS Multisport Holiday Programme

Saturday 22 December 2018, 10am to 3pm
Seashell Trust, Cheadle, SK8 6RQ

Holiday events open to children and young people from 5 to 25 years.

Delamere Stay and Play

First Wednesday every month, 1.30pm
Delamere School, Urmston, M41 6AP

New stay and play for children 6 months to 3 years with complex needs.

Arts and crafts with Transitions project

Fortnightly on a Tuesday, 4.30pm

Oakland House, Old Trafford, M16 0PQ

Starting Tuesday 23 October - new activity from the relaunched Transitions project. For young people 13 to 19 years.

The Saturday Challenge Gorse Hill Studios

Every Saturday, 10.30am to 12.30pm

Gorse Hill Studios, Stretford, M32 0PS

Ever popular and loved sessions for young people to have fun creatively and build up their confidence and self-belief.

SEN Sessions – The Hideaway

First Monday every month, 9.30am

Third Thursday every month, 4.30pm

The Hideaway, Partington, M31 4EL

For families of children with ASD and other similar needs, from baby to young adult.

Leisure Activities and What's On

Training, Workshops and Conferences

Kidz to Adultz Up North

Thursday 8 November 2018, 9.30am to 4.30pm

Event City, Trafford Park, M17 8AS

150+ exhibitors and full programme of CPD and topical seminars for anyone who cares for or works with a child or young adult with SEND

SMDSSG Training: Sexuality and Relationship Education

Friday 23 November, 9.15am to 4.15pm

Sale FC Rugby Club, Sale, M33 3WB

Whilst a subject some find uncomfortable to approach, this course helps overcome any fears through activities across many areas.

SMDSSG Training: Toilet Training

Saturday 24 November, 9.30am to 12pm

Sale FC Rugby Club, Sale, M33 3WB

Whether you have a young child just starting, or older child who needs to develop skills in independent toileting, you are welcome.

SMDSSG Training: Accessing Curriculum

Tuesday 4 December 2018, 9.15am to 12.30pm

Sale FC Rugby Club, Sale, M33 3WB

How to support learning and development for those with Down's syndrome, with emphasis on individual differences.

SMDSSG Training: Developing Numeracy and Math Skills

Wednesday 5 December 2018, 9am to 12.30pm

Sale FC Rugby Club, Sale, M33 3WB

How to support learning and development for those with Down's syndrome, with emphasis on individual differences.

Available 24/7 to view
on Trafford's SEND Local Offer
[SEND Events and Training](#)

If you know of any events, activities or services that are running that you would like to have promoted in the next edition of the LINK Newsletter – due Spring 2019 – please contact us at the FIS:

Trafford Family Information Service (FIS)

Telephone: 0161 912 1053

Email: FIS@trafford.gov.uk

2nd Floor, Sale Waterside, Sale, M33 7ZF

Facebook: [Trafford Family Information Service](#)

Twitter: [@TraffordFIS](#)

Youtube: [Trafford FIS SEND Channel](#)

Services

Trafford Centre for Independent Living update: some services continuing!

Since our last edition we heard the news that Trafford Centre for Independent Living (Trafford CIL) was closing at the end of July 2018. Trafford CIL was a disabled user led organization that offered up a wide range of services. We are happy to say a couple of their key services are not stopping but are actually being relaunched and can still be accessed.



TRANSITIONS, the youth project for teenagers with disabilities in Trafford has relaunched. The scheme, which aims to encourage 13-19 year olds to get involved in a range of activities, is now based at Trafford Parents Forum (TPF).

As well as having a new base, Transitions will now be working alongside the Forum to give teens with disabilities a say in how successful bodies like the local authority have been in meeting their needs.

The young people will be given the chance to share their views by attending a range of open

discussion events and their opinions will be shared with key stakeholders.

Michelle, Transitions project manager said: “Justine, at TPF, does a lot of Forum work with parents to find out their experiences and she’s going to work with parents to find out about their experiences of accessing services and I’ll be working with their child to find out how things have been for them.”

“Justine will get the parent’s perspective and I’ll get the child’s perspective.”

Transitions, which used to be based at Trafford Centre for Independent Living (CIL) will continue in encouraging disabled young people to experience the health and social benefits getting active can bring them.

Michelle said she’s “excited” by its relaunch and added services like Transitions do fill a gap in the market.

“When it comes to children who have additional support needs it can be difficult to find free activities for them to access. It’s important to provide activities and the opportunity for them to come together, socialise, build friendships and self-confidence.”

- [Arts and Craft sessions](#)
- [Sport Games](#)
- [Nature Activity](#)

Transitions Arts and Crafts session will begin at Fiona Gardens in Sale on 23 October from

Services

4.30pm to 6.30pm. They will take place fortnightly every Tuesday.

Teens with disabilities can take part in fun sports based games at Sale Leisure Centre on 30 October and 13 November. Sessions run from 5pm to 6pm.

Sale Water Park is the venue for an outdoor nature based activity on 24 October 24 from 1pm to 3pm.

Anyone interested in booking for an event or finding out more about Transitions should call Michelle on 0161 872 0183 or email transitionsproject@traffordparentsforum.org.

You can also write to Transitions at Trafford Parents Forum, Oakland House, Talbot Road, Old Trafford, Manchester, M16 0PQ.

Article by Michelle Symonds, Transition Project Manager

Manchester Deaf Centre Trafford

Trafford CIL was funded by the Council to provide a deaf broker for people 18+. Now the Manchester Deaf Centre is delighted to expand our services and focus more on the Trafford area, and its local Deaf residents.

We will work to ensure that Deaf people in Trafford have equal access to broader mainstream services and information within their home area. By accessing our new service we intend to empower the local Deaf community and enhance their confidence, wellbeing and independence.

Furthermore, the MDC Trafford service will promote community cohesion, peer interaction and strive to bring communities together. This will be a three-day a week service.

Article by Richard Jones, MDC Executive Director

Healthwatch Trafford Advisory Board

The Advisory Board aims to inform, guide and help determine the direction of Healthwatch Trafford's work.

[Healthwatch Trafford](#)

The idea brings together the public and providers to look at collective health and social care topics affecting Trafford residents. The advisory group is an opportunity to get involved in projects that interest you. Anyone can attend the meetings, including:

- those who use health and social care services;
- family members/carers;
- professionals working in local health and social care services as well as providers and commissioners of services.

Dates of future meetings:

- November 29th 2018, 5.30pm
- January 31st 2019, 5.30pm
- March 28th 2019, 5.30pm

Article by Jayne Tumbelty, Business Change Officer

Services

Talkshop

Talkshop - an advice, support and information centre for young people aged 11 to 19 years (25 with additional needs or care leavers) and the 'front door' to the 11-19 Early Help Hub.



We are a non-judgmental, confidential, youth worker-led service. We provide an afternoon Drop-in service Monday to Thursday where young people can access support, attend appointments and outreach throughout the week. Youth workers build trusting relationships with young people and offer group work and one-to-one support that is tailored to their needs.

“The staffs are always so friendly and welcoming. The advice and services provided have been very useful for the past 6 years.”

“Staff at Talkshop are friendly, respectful, non-judgmental and always have the young person’s best interest: Talkshop also means a lot to young people from all around the Trafford area and even out of the Trafford borough”

We work with any young person who needs advice and support, and have particular expertise in working with young people on sexual health, missing from home, child sexual exploitation, and teenage pregnancy and being a young parent.

We work closely with and signpost to other local agencies that support young people, for example on drug and alcohol use and mental health. We host services and support delivered by a number of partner agencies including:

- [Rainbow Reflections LGBT Group](#)
- [The Youth Cabinet](#)
- [CSE Mental Health practitioner](#)
- [Sexual health clinic and counselling](#)

Talkshop is a child friendly and young adults service that support with all different services with a different variety of stuff to do and support.”

Young people can drop-in during opening hours with no appointment. You are welcome to email, ring or message any other time.

Article written by Shaneece at the Talkshop.