

The Link

SEND Newsletter

Summer Edition 2019

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

In this edition we find out more about the work of the Education, Health and Care team, and there's also a feature on Trafford's Short Breaks team.

We say goodbye to someone very special who's worked hard to support Trafford's families, and celebrate with Trafford Parents Forum's 5th birthday awards.

As we head for the school holidays, many of you will be planning a family break. Jet off to p20-21 for a travel update from Manchester Airport! Plus there's all the usual activities, events and summer fun.

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www.trafford.gov.uk/thelink

Spotlight On: Education, Health and Social Care (EHC) Team

Who are the EHC team?

Trafford's EHC team consists of 17 staff. We are from all over the North West, some are local to Trafford and others come from further afield.

We come from a variety of professional backgrounds, with a wealth of experience. This includes PYPPS, SENCOs, teachers from early years through to post 16 colleges, sensory support, Connexions, social care and an Ofsted inspector.

As a team we have access to a variety of training, both in-house and external. We believe that there is still so much to learn about the world of SEND and are always looking to improve the service to make it as transparent and more streamlined for our young people and families.

See more on Trafford's local offer:

[I am a Parent Carer](#)

Goes through all you need to know about first steps, the graduated approach, the EHCP process and more.

[EHC Needs Assessment Process](#)

Info on applying for an EHCP and what happens when, including useful guides.

See more on Trafford's local offer:

[Education, Health and Care Plan](#)

Info for those being issued an EHCP.

Includes helpful guides on what to expect and when, how decisions are made, the format of an EHCP, when you can apply for a Personal Budget and what you can do if problems occur.

What support do the EHC team provide for young people and their families?

We fully understand that the EHC process can be an emotional journey for our young people and their families. We respect this and try to offer as much support as possible.

As a team we work to ensure that we always reflect the views, wishes and feelings of the young person and their families in all our practices and to involve them in discussions whenever possible.

We believe that their views are extremely important during the process of carrying out an EHC needs assessment and drawing up or reviewing an EHC plan.

Spotlight On: Education, Health and Social Care (EHC) Team

How we listen to families

We offer meetings to discuss the assessment process with young people and their families during the assessment process.

We also offer a meeting to discuss any concerns and answer any questions about the draft EHCP.

Our coordinators also attend annual reviews when possible.

Sometimes these meetings can be challenging but it is in everybody's best interest for a positive dialogue between young people and their families, to work through points of difference and establish what action is to be taken.

EHCP quick feedback

Your views are important and help us improve our services. We have developed simple feedback surveys for both young people with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan and their parent carers.

This will help us understand how you feel during the EHCP process, and also what you think of your Annual Reviews.

Free postage postcards are sent out by the team with a draft EHCP to get your views about how we are doing.

Schools also have the Annual Review postcards that can be completed with you at the review meeting and returned by either you or them.

Have your say:

[Online EHCP feedback](#)

Give us your thoughts online, or just keep an eye out for our postcards!

Other ways we work with you

We are currently providing drop in sessions for young people and their families, where questions can be answered face to face. We are working closely with Trafford Parents Forum.

All feedback from the drop in sessions and liaison with the parent forum is taken very seriously, whether it is good or bad.

We endeavour to support our young people and families as much as possible.

Thanks to Tracey Doyle, Senior EHC Coordinator and Teresa Ruzza, Manager EHC

SEND News



Trafford's SEND Short Breaks Team

Not new, but definitely improved!

Over the years we have been helping families access short breaks.

However we realise that sometimes families are not sure exactly what a short break actually is, or how and what they can access here in Trafford.

So recently we pulled together a group of skilled workers to form a "virtual" Short Breaks team.

Whilst the team and workers are not "new", we do hope this new way of working is much improved for you.

Meet the team!

The SEND Short Breaks team provide a service to help your child find, and be able to access, leisure and short break opportunities.

The team is made up of the SEND Local Offer Advisor and three Social Care Reviewing Officers.

All staff have a great understanding of things going on in your local area and have years' of experience in Trafford.

How do I get in touch with the team?

Contact our Multi-Agency Referral and Assessment Team (MARAT).

MARAT

Telephone: 0161 912 5125

Email: marat@trafford.gov.uk

What will MARAT do?

MARAT will refer you to the Short Breaks team for an assessment.

This assessment helps us identify activities that your child enjoys as well as what their needs are.

Your short breaks worker can help if your child just needs some extra support to access an activity, or they can also recommend more targeted or specialist activities if your child is unable to access mainstream activities.

If you need ongoing support your worker will write a short break support plan that will be reviewed every 6 months.

So what is a short break?

A Short Break is an activity for a child or young person with SEND that also provides a break for the parent carers and the family.

Put simply, this could be any activity that your child is interested in and that they are able to access.

On the Trafford Directory:

[Find mainstream activities for children and families to go along to](#)

[Activities for young people who do not need any specific support](#)

[What is on offer locally for children and young people with SEND](#)

SEND News

Commissioned Short Breaks

The Council currently fund two services to deliver weekend and holiday club short breaks. They also fund an inclusive youth group.

These are called Commissioned Services. What that means is these activities are bought in by Trafford specifically to provide short breaks to eligible families.

The providers have undergone checks and meet a required level of quality. Checks relate to things like insurance cover, finance, safeguarding procedures and staff training.

They are also monitored closely by Trafford's Commissioning team to make sure they are making a difference for your child and your family.

See more on the local offer:

[Sport Works weekend / holiday clubs - school years 1 to end of year 6](#)

[Together Trust weekend / holiday clubs - school years 7 to end of year 13](#)

[Inclusive youth group \(age 11 – 18 years or 25 with SEND\) run by Sport Works and Gorse Hill Studios](#)

How can I access the commissioned short breaks?

If you want to access the weekend and holiday clubs, you don't need to contact us at the Short Breaks team.

[Register your interest in Sport Works or Together Trust here](#)

This is a short form to be completed on the Council website, and the providers will contact you to see if the activity is suitable for your child.

To access the Inclusive Youth Club run by Sport Works and Gorse Hill Studios, just contact Sport Works directly!

See more on Trafford's local offer:

[Sport Works](#)

What's next...?

Trafford Council is currently working with Trafford Parents Forum to recommission short breaks for families with children and young people under 18 with SEND. This will not affect the current groups run by Together Trust in Ordsall and Sport Works at Lostock.

We are also working with Trafford CCG and Stockport, Rochdale and Tameside Councils to deliver a framework across a wider area of Greater Manchester, hopefully attracting more providers.

SEND News

We will be commissioning five different services for children and young people with disabilities and/or health conditions:

- Group activities
- Support for individuals in the community
- Overnight respite away from home
- Homecare
- Intensive support

Organisations that are successful will be able to bid for contracts to support individuals or groups of children.

It is planned that the new contracts will be in place for September 2019. It is likely that unsuccessful organisations, and those who have not previously applied, will be able to apply to join the framework at a future date.

More information about this will be available in the next issue of the Link!

More information

More detailed information about short breaks can be found in our [Short Breaks Duty Statement](#) which is published every year. We reviewed the eligibility criteria alongside parent carers and health colleagues.

Other help

Find out about other services that can help at [Independent Advice and Support](#)

Blue Badges Review

Those with less visible disabilities will benefit from the biggest change in the Blue Badge scheme in 50 years.

- Blue Badge scheme to be extended to people who have less visible disabilities, making journeys more accessible
- This change to the scheme is the biggest in nearly 50 years with the extended criteria coming into force on 30 August 2019
- Review also launched into Blue Badge fraud and ways of reducing misuse

See more at the [Gov.UK news story](#)

Trafford Carers, Family and Friends Strategy 2019-2022

This has now been launched. You can see more at:

[Trafford Carers Centre listing on the SEND local offer.](#)

Consultation Corner

[Changing Places toilets](#)

The Government is consulting on Changing Places toilets. Feedback by Sunday 21 July 2019.

Advice and Guidance

Goodbye to Geraldine English - Parent and Young Persons Partnership Service (PYPPS) Manager

Geraldine is retiring at the end of August 2019. She has been the manager of PYPPS for 20 years.

Many of you may already know Geraldine - families regularly tell us how helpful and knowledgeable she is.

A real winner!

Geraldine was delighted to receive a long service award from the Trafford Parents Forum award event in March this year which shows how well thought of she really is.

Geraldine plans to spend more time with her music activities when she retires and is looking forward to going on holidays during term time! We wish her well!

Who are PYPPS?

We provide free, impartial, confidential and accessible advice and support on matters relating to special educational needs (SEN) and disabilities, including health and social care. Our service is for:



- parents or carers of children aged from 0-25 years with SEN or who are disabled
- young people aged 16-25 with SEN or who are disabled

PYPPS will have three caseworkers that you can still contact after Geraldine has left. The helpline will still operate from 9am and 12noon each week day. Please email PYPPS if you need information, support or advice and one of the caseworkers will contact you.

[Trafford Parent and Young People Partnership Service \(PYPPS\)](mailto:PYPPS@trafford.gov.uk)

Telephone: 0161 912 3150 (9am to 12pm)

Email: PYPPS@trafford.gov.uk

SEND Local Offer

Meet the new SEND Local Offer Advisor, Sarah Blakey!

Hello! I started my role as the SEND Local Offer Advisor in May 2019. However, I have been working for Trafford Council for 14 years, starting my career in May 2005 as a Residential Childcare Officer, working in all of Trafford's residential settings with young people aged 11-17.

I then worked as an EHC (Educational Health Care) coordinator for Trafford, working directly with children, young people, parents and professionals.

Since starting my new role I have had the chance to visit activities taking place in the local area. This has given me a great insight and chance to familiarise myself with what they offer, how accessible they are, the size of provision and the environment.

The first activity I had the pleasure to attend was Simply Cycling: Trafford Wheelers at Longford Park run by Helen and Sue who are fully qualified cycle coaches.

See more about on the local offer:

[Simply Cycling: Trafford Wheelers](#)

[Simply Cycling: Wythenshawe Wheelers](#)

Simply Cycling's local offer by Sarah...

Simply Cycling is a friendly all age and ability cycling sessions in a social environment. They run the sessions at 3 places: Longford Park, Wythenshawe Park and Boggart Hole Clough.

Each session is £2 each with a time limit of 2 hours. There is no need to book, you can just turn up and they will find a suitable cycle to meet everyone's needs. The oldest cyclist they have is a lady in her 90's!!

The main aim of the clubs is to offer cycling to disabled people as well as the whole family, making it a fully inclusive family activity.

All the children at the session were able to try as many different bikes as they want. They have well over 180 adapted bikes, including trikes, bikes with stabilizers, ones you steer with your body, arm powered bikes, bikes that can hold wheel chairs and buggies plus many more.

They are confident that anyone can ride a bike regardless of their ability. Helen believes that consistency is important, making sure that the sessions run every week no matter the weather.

SEND Local Offer

When I first arrived at Longford Park, I was greeted with a very warm welcome by Geoff, who volunteers every week. Geoff has been volunteering for 6 years, and knew the names of every person there.

They also have 2 bike mechanics, who attend each session to mend and fix any bikes as and when needed. They complete safety checks on all the bikes to make sure they are road safety.

I attended on a Friday morning. During the session 3 different schools from the local area attended, bringing around 9 pupils each, as part of their P.E. lesson.

One of the teachers I spoke to said:

“One of the young people we have brought along has a diagnosis of cerebral palsy and requires a lot of support at school. But on the bikes he has so much focus and just keeps going around and around the track with very little help”.

I spoke to one young person who said that they like the rides out as it's fun!

He also told me that he had already done 21 laps around the track and was going to do 60 laps that day. Every time he completed a lap, he would shout out to me what lap he was up to!

Simply Cycling also offer special ride

outs on Thursdays, where they go on a route in the community away from the athletic track. As well as this they organise cycling short break holidays, past holidays have included a trip to Vienna and Amsterdam.

They have great facilities, which are easily accessible for wheelchair users, plenty of free parking, with disabled spaces, disabled toilets and vending machines for refreshments with a tuck shop operating on the weekend sessions. There are also picnic benches to sit and have a snack at. They have access to a mini bus and organise pick-ups and drop offs for anyone struggling to access the activity.

It was clear to see that everyone was having a great time.

With many thanks to Sarah Blakey, SEND Local Offer Advisor for the article.

To find out more about the role of the SEND Local Offer Advisor and what help Sarah can provide to your family, including Early Help assessments:

[SEND Local Offer Advisor](#)

SEND Local Offer

Family Information Service (FIS) Outreach Update

In this article Carla Godwin, Outreach Officer, visits a Songlines session hosted in Limelight, Old Trafford.

Songlines is an exciting creative project for young people on the Autistic Spectrum, aged 8 to 13 years. Together with musicians from Manchester Camerata, young people can come together to create music and pieces of artwork to tell their story.

See more on Trafford's Local Offer

[Songlines](#) with Manchester Camerata



“As I arrived at the session I was welcomed into a bright room at Limelight, Old Trafford and met by Jacqui from Manchester Camerata. I was introduced to the rest of the team which included musicians, Eve and Sarah and artist, David.

On arriving, the room it simply had a huge piece of white paper on the floor with lots of colourful crayons.

The staff welcomed attendees to the

room and we all began by writing our names on the huge piece of paper. We were free to write our names as large as we wanted, in whatever colour and style we pleased.

This proceeded with the welcome song accompanied by Eve on the guitar, introducing us all individually to the session followed by the visual timetable for the session.



Next it was time to get creative. We were presented with various colours of paint and a fantastic range of painting resources including rubber ducks, toothbrushes, combs and sponges. We were free to apply paint as we desired.

SEND Local Offer

The only instruction being to cover all traces on the white paper - we certainly lived up to the challenge!



Music played in the background, inspiring as we painted and some musical sounds were even created using the painting tools.

We stood back and admired our finished master piece and thought about one word to describe it - 'explosion' and 'happy'.

It was then time for a break.

After biscuits and juice it was now time to move about a bit. Various pieces of music were played and we were presented with a collection of materials.

We each chose material that we thought reflected the music and moved around the room to express this.

We considered the mood created by the music and following this was the opportunity to explore some instruments, including the guitar, violin, drums and shakers.

The focus was thinking about instruments which make sounds to reflect colours. We made music together using the carefully selected 'colour' instruments.

After all this creativity the session ended naturally with a goodbye song accompanied by Eve on the guitar.

With many thanks to Carla Godwin, Family Information Service Outreach Officer, for the article

Keep an out for Trafford Family Information Service Outreach Officers, out and about at groups near to you

Contact us :

By phone on 0161 912 1053

Mon-Fri, 8.30am to 5pm

By email: FIS@trafford.gov.uk

[@TraffordFIS](https://twitter.com/TraffordFIS) on Twitter

[Trafford Family Information Service](https://www.facebook.com/TraffordFamilyInformationService) on Facebook.

Trafford Parents Forum

5th Birthday Awards Ceremony

It was all glitz and glamour at The Forum's 5th Birthday celebration on Tuesday 26th March 2019.



It was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate our parent carers in Trafford, their families and support networks.

Awards were given for individuals of all ages who contribute to supporting SEND families in their community and make a difference to someone else's

life. The awards were also for organisations and individuals who regularly go above and beyond in their support for SEND families.

The event was joined by the Deputy Leader of Trafford Council Cllr Catherine Hynes, Executive Member Cllr Jane Baugh and Trafford Council's Interim Corporate Director of Children Services Cathy Rooney to help celebrate and to present the awards to the lucky winners.

It was fantastic to hand out awards made by one of Trafford's very own young people, Robert Bailey.



Trafford Parents Forum

Max Cards

Trafford Parents Forum is distributing Max Cards again this month, at all its drop in events.

The Max Card is the UK's leading discount card for families of children with additional needs. Families can use their Max Card at venues across the UK to get free or discounted admission. More information can be found at:

<https://mymaxcard.co.uk>

To qualify you must be a parent carer, of a child or young person with SEND in Trafford. It's £3 and it's simply a case of completing a short membership form to get your card.

Lots of families in Trafford have had brilliant times, using their Max Card since The Forum launched them in October last year.

Drop in sessions

July has seen the return of The Forum's Communication and Engagement Officer, Rebecca Blinkhorn. Rebecca will be back arranging lots of

events and running the weekly drop in sessions.

So many parent carers are now coming along to the weekly drop in at Sale Life Centre. The session runs from 10 until 12 every Tuesday in term-time. The last one for this year will be Tuesday 23rd July 2019.

The Forum gets the drinks in, all you need to do is turn up!

Our last evening drop in, will take place on Thursday, 11th July between 7pm to 9pm at Costa Coffee, Orient, Trafford Centre. It's a drop in, so turn up any time and The Forum will get you a drink. (They've been known to get the cakes in too!)

Have a great summer!

We wish you a lovely summer break. We're always available through our social media even when the office is shut. We're looking forward to seeing you in the 2019/20 year!



Leisure Activities and What's On

Holiday Activities and Events

[Accessible Festival](#)

Sunday 28 July 2019, 1pm to 6pm

Bury Athletics Track, Bury, BL9 9FX

Fully accessible festival including Music and activities for adults and children (and their families) with disabilities.

[Billy and Andy's Music School](#)

Mon 29 July to Thurs 29 August 2019, 10am to 4pm

Chorlton Scout Hut, M21 0SB

Five weeks of accessible music fun leads to our biggest performance ever!

[Everyone Can Holiday Sessions](#)

Tues 30 and Wed 31 July 2019, 2-4pm

School Road, Sale, M33 7XX

We will match technology to your needs to ensure you can play video games.

[Under One Roof](#)

Thurs 1 August 2019, from 6:30pm

YES, 38 Charles St, M1 7BD

Accessible raving for adults with learning disabilities and friends.

[Jump Space holiday sessions](#)

Mondays/Tuesdays/Thursdays in August—various times

Hardman Street, Stockport SK3 0BJ

Trampolines, accessible play and sensory room—1hour sessions suitable for children aged 4 -17 years.

[The Lion King - Autism Friendly Screening](#)

Monday 12 August 2019, 3pm

UKFast, 1 Archway, M15 5QJ

UKFast and Together Trust present an autism friendly screening of The Lion King.

[Everyone Can 24-hour game party](#)

Sat 17-Sun 18 Aug 2019, from 10am

School Road, Sale, M33 7XX

Our fundraising gameathon is back for its second year! Expect competitions, prize giveaways and heaps of fun.

[See, Make and Do: Autism friendly sessions at Manchester Museum](#)

Second Saturday of every month, 9.15am to 10.30am

Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL

Activities take place before the Museum opens to the general public and there will be a quiet room available too.

[Kidz to Adultz North](#)

Thurs 14 Nov2019, 9:30am to 4:30pm

Event City, Urmston, M41 7TB

Free exhibition dedicated to children/ young adults up to 25 years with SEND.

Leisure Activities and What's On

Why not learn something new?

Gorse Hill Studio Creative Community

Gorse Hill Studios, M32 0PS

Music and creative arts programmes,
national qualification: The Arts Award.

Autistic Animation Group

Thurs, 4.30pm to 6.30pm

Altrincham Open Studios, WA14 1EJ

Work towards an Arts Award, equivalent
to GCSE and A Level.

Project.INC 11-19 Art Curriculum

Term Time Tuesday to Friday

The Hat Works, Stockport, SK3 0EU

Students can study for Arts Awards or
work towards a GCSE.

Venture Arts Bronze Award Arts

Mon, 10am to 12 noon or 1pm to 3pm

Venture Arts, Hulme, M15 5RF

Managed by Trinity College London in
association with Arts Council England.

Melody Maker Experience

Gorse Hill Studios, M32 0PR

Experience a sound recording session
or develop your talents through stage
performance opportunities.

LDOK.net Radio

Media City UK, Salford, M50 2EQ

For those with a learning disability
wishing to have a go at radio
broadcasting, whilst encouraging and
promoting wider support and
recognition of the community.

Green Academies Project (GAP) with the National Trust

Taster sessions to suit you

Dunham Massey, WA14 4SJ

For Partington and Carrington young
people aged 11-24. A fully inclusive
conservation project where you can
learn new skills and get advice.

I Can Do It! Henshaws Lifeskills

Evenings, weekends and holidays

Henshaws, Old Trafford, M16 0GS

Funded by BBC Children in Need, this
is a free lifeskills course available for
anyone with sight loss from 8 to 18.

Shaping Our Inclusion – GMCDP

Meets Fortnightly

Windrush Centre, M16 7WD

Provides training and development
opportunities throughout the year.

Services



Sport Works inclusive sessions for young people

What is it?

Sport Works and Gorse Hill Studios have been running these inclusive sessions to young people with disabilities and/or additional needs since 2015.

In this time, we have worked with over 100 young people and understand their needs, expectations and challenges.

It is a 2 hour youth session at Davyhulme Youth Centre on Tuesdays from 7pm-9pm.

What goes on?

Pretty much everything! But here is a selection...

Sports: Basketball, boccia, dodgeball, tag rugby, hockey, cricket, gymnastics, Danish cricket, tag rounders, obstacle course , cheerleading, martial arts, rock climbing, volleyball, new age curling, bean bag ball.....oh yeah and of course FOOTBALL

Arts: Painting, basket weaving, jewellery making and more

Drama: Short plays, acting.

Music: Singing, dancing and we have

even made our own music video!

Trips: Recently we have arranged visits to Hotel Football and played on the rooftop pitch, we have gone on a barge trip and we have seen Man Utd play Juventus.

Cooking: Every week a lovely snack is prepared by the young people and our magic chef, Jo.

Awards and qualifications: We offer the opportunity to gain Sports, Boat Crew or Arts awards if it interests you, but this is optional.

How old do I need to be?

12- 25 years old

How do I attend?

Contact Jon Uttley on 07539 851326 or jon@sportworksltd.co.uk. You can also just turn up on the night with parent or carer or PA and we will fill in a quick form.

How much?

Just £1, no charge for your first session.

How can I find out more?

[Sport Works and Gorse Hill Studios](#)
[Inclusive Youth Club](#)

With thanks to Jon Uttley, SportWorks for the article

Services

Together Trust, a parent's view

Together Trust is a charity providing a wide range of care, special education and community services for children and adults with autism, learning difficulties and/or complex needs.

See more on the local offer:

[Together Trust](#)

[Weekend and Holiday Clubs](#)

(Commissioned Short Breaks)

Another winner!

A parent carer let us know her experiences with Together Trust and how one man helped her family. So much so she nominated him at the Trafford Parents Forum Award Ceremony in March:

"I just want to let you know what a huge difference Neil and the Together Trust have made to our family.

About 2 months ago there had been a trip planned into Manchester and when they got there my son couldn't cope in the cinema.

So Neil took him to a shop full of role playing games and models. They spent the day painting tiny figures and playing the games of Warhammer. My son finds



new things really hard to engage with but found Neil's enthusiasm and encouragement really helped.

When he returned home he was so excited about the effort and help Neil had given him. He told his Dad and they now regularly go to this shop together and paint the figures and play at home. My son and my husband have always found bonding tricky but this has been a revelation for them both and I am one happy mum and wife.

Thank you Neil and the Together Trust. I have also nominated Neil for a community award for this."

Article by Ben Andrews, Project Manager, Unlimited Potential

Services



Pure Innovations Work Experience Project

Work experience is so important!

At Pure innovations, we run the Work Experience Project, working in partnership with various colleges in Manchester.

We aim to provide a wholesome, enjoyable and realistic work experience placement for SEND students who want to gain experience to prepare them for the working world.

We have run this programme for two years now, being very successful with many of our students progressing onto a Supported Internship with the aspiration of gaining paid employment.



The Work Experience Project is ran by myself Rebecca Rimmer (Work Experience Facilitator) and Danielle

Sidderley (Senior Employment Officer) at Pure Innovations.

We work very closely with learners and schools or colleges to offer a bespoke package, personal to each learner's needs, aspirations and personal preference.

We start by working with the student to create an accessible vocational profile to gain a clear insight into the student's aspirations, experiences, skills and what support they might need to help them along the way.

We put this together with the young person's input and can complete this either at college, the student's home or in the community.

We then use this information to match the young person to a work experience placement that matches their skills and interests, but also gives the opportunity to develop their skills and understanding of work and the expectations of paid employment.

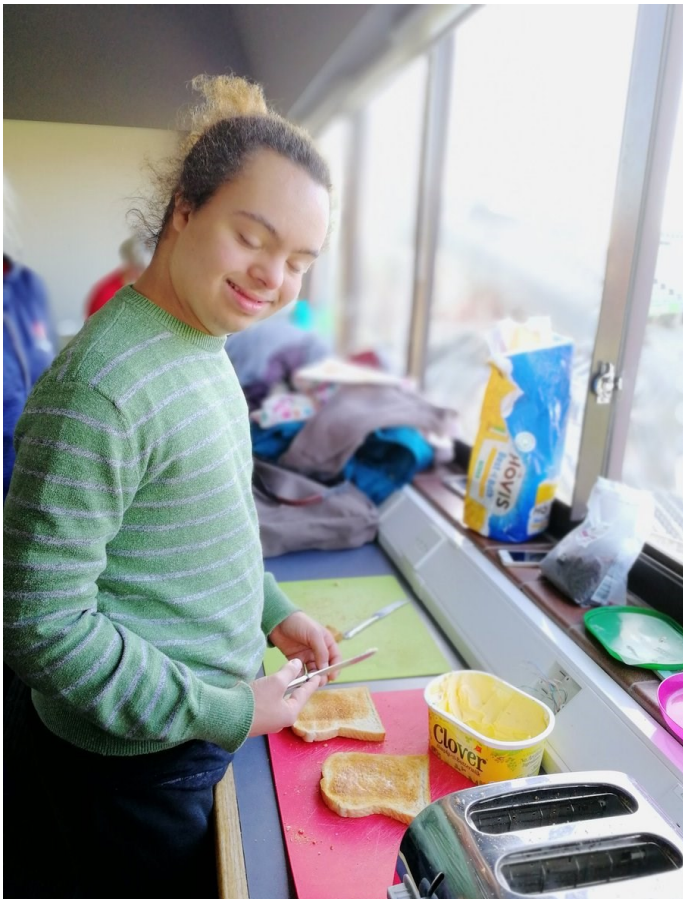
We give continuous support throughout the work experience placement and offer 1:1 job coaching support as required. We monitor progression, set goals and support and encourage throughout the placement.

Services



Many learners come to us being very shy, nervous and not really knowing what to expect. I have personally seen the difference this makes in a young person's life and the progression made is outstanding.

Each learner will receive a portfolio on completion of their placement, which will contain reviews, references from employers, progression charts, evidence of learning and photos.



With thanks to Rebecca Rimmer, Pure Innovations for the article

What sorts of employers do we work with to offer work experience placements?

Well the list is endless, we are always creating new opportunities!!

Here's a few employers who we've worked with in the last year..

- McDonalds
- Lancashire County Cricket Club Foundation
- Premier Inn
- Malmaison Manchester
- Costa Coffee
- Co-op
- The Entertainer
- The Body Shop
- One Manchester

Anyone interested or simply needing some more information about this project, we would love to hear from you, and make a difference in your child/ young adult's life. Please visit the Pure Innovations website or contact Danielle at DanielleS@pureinnovations.co.uk

See more on the local offer:

[Pure Innovations, Work Experience, Supported Internships](#)

Services

Accessible travel from Manchester Airport

Travel can be challenging for people with SEND. Manchester Airport want to remove barriers to accessible travel.

They have implemented two schemes to help visitors get their travels off to a flying start!

Invisible Disabilities Lanyards

Passengers may not want to share details of their disabilities in public, or use the airport's assistance service.

Manchester Airport can offer you a special lanyard to wear on your journey through the airport. This will identify you to staff as someone who may need additional support or understanding. Airport staff have been specially trained to recognise the lanyards and act accordingly.

The special lanyard permits access to their family and priority lanes at security as well as the use of the special assistance lanes at the UK Border on arrival into Manchester Airport.

To pick up a lanyard at Manchester, you can approach the Assistance Reception areas. These are available within the Check-In halls in Terminal 1A and B, Terminal 2 and Terminal 3.



Staff at the sites are happy to give you a lanyard, even if you haven't requested or need special assistance. You can check in at the assistance desk in the departure hall on your day of travel.

This will hopefully be of help to some autistic adults who may require support but in a discreet way and will also help to support families who are travelling with autistic children.

The Sunflower Room

The Sunflower Room in Terminal 1 will be a quiet space where visitors will be able to go if in need of some time to regulate.

The aim of the Sunflower Room is to aid Special Assistance guests who need to break away from the noise, bright lights and crowds of the main Departure Lounge to help them relax and feel calm in a quieter environment.

Services

Guests who require use of this room will be guided here as part of the Special Assistance Service.

This may be particularly helpful for adults on the autistic spectrum and also families travelling with children who may be on the spectrum.

It's an extra measure to help support guests with additional needs and we hope will help a lot of people who are travelling.

The quiet room is spacious and has plain walls, sensory lights, a minimal layout and no additional distractions such as toys. There are ideas at the moment to possibly introduce some floor seating such as beanbags.



One of the Greater Manchester Autism Consortium project officers has been in consultation with the airport and we

very much welcome the changes which have and are being made to help support anyone who is on the autistic spectrum.

We hope this will be a support for adults and families travelling who may need a little extra support while navigating their way through the airport.

Other help available on local offer:

Manchester Airport have produced 3 helpful booklets for families travelling with Autistic children.

[Airport Awareness booklets for families with Autistic children](#)

These booklets take you on the journey through Manchester Airport, using photographs to explain the process you will take. It has been divided into the various stages of your journey, describing what you will see and hear, from arriving at the airport, going through security and through to returning back home.

In each section there is a tick box for you to interact and engage with your child in the sights and sounds along your journey through the airport. There is space at the back of this book for your child to jot down any worries they may have and also a fun zone to fill time when you may be waiting around.