

The Link

SEND Newsletter

Spring Edition 2020

In the light of Coronavirus Covid-19, please be aware that events that have been listed in our What's On section this edition may not take place. Please contact the provider directly.

We hope you find the newsletter informative.

There is a double dose of info in our "Spotlight On ..." with articles on Sensory Processing with Occupational Therapy AND Trafford's Speech and Language Therapy School Support Team.

Read all about Trafford's Information Service - bringing together and strengthening the work of Trafford SENDIASS and Trafford FIS.

There's new video content made with parent carers and young people! Check out the Independent Travel Training information, and meet our Travel Training Officer.

Find out more about the new pre-employment support service from Scope, Starting Line.

We wish you and your family remain safe and as healthy as possible in the upcoming months.

CONTENTS

Spotlight On...	2
SEND News	8
Advice & Guidance	9
The Local Offer	12
Trafford Parent Forum	15
Activities & What's On	17
Services	19

Sign Up!

Register to receive future editions directly into your inbox:

www.trafford.gov.uk/sendlink

If you no longer wish to receive emails about the Link Newsletter please email:

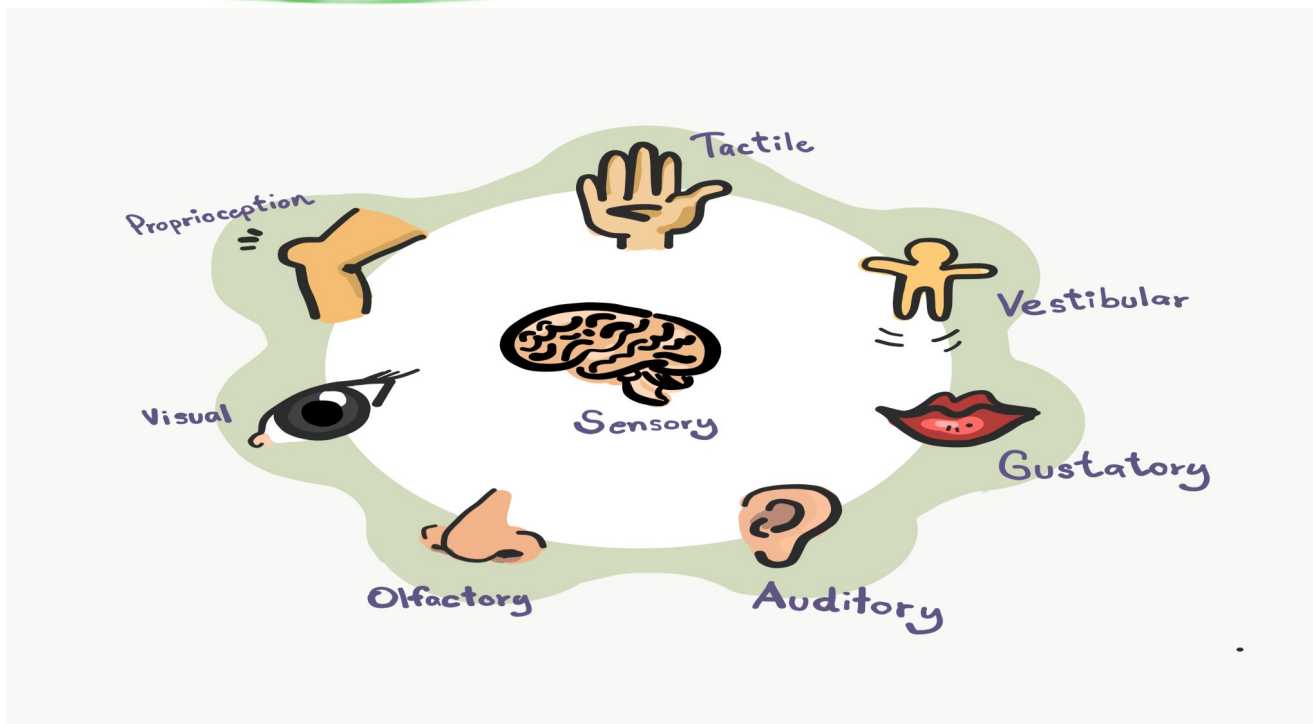
FIS@trafford.gov.uk

With the subject:

"Unsubscribe Link Newsletter"



Spotlight on: Sensory Processing



What is sensory integration?

When we receive sensory information, our brain sorts this, makes sense of it, then, if needed, acts on it.

This is sensory integration. Our seven senses are:

- **Visual**
- **Auditory** (sound)
- **Taste**
- **Smell**
- **Touch**
- **Proprioception** (muscle and joint movement)
- **Vestibular** (balance and head movement).

Our brains generally integrate sensory information automatically, all the time.

Who we are:

[Trafford Children's
Therapy Service](#)

Typical child development

All humans have sensory preferences and dislikes. It is normal for all of us to like some things and not like others, e.g. a preference for soft clothing and a dislike of itchy woollen jumpers.

Generally, all children will go through phases of being fussy. This can usually be managed with standard parenting strategies.

Spotlight on: Sensory Processing

Most children need a lot of movement opportunities every day to develop their sensory systems.

NHS Choices recommend a minimum of 3 hours for mobile under 5s and 1 hour for 5 to 18 year olds.

It is part of normal child development to move and want to seek these activities.

See more about guidelines for children, young people and adults and helpful tips on how to

[Get Active Your Way](#)

Sensory Processing Difficulties

Some children with a neurodisability also have sensory processing difficulties. We know that most children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) will have sensory processing difficulties associated with their diagnosis.

These children might be too sensitive to certain sensations such as loud noises, smells, the feel of their clothes or another person's touch. They might actively try to avoid these sensations through certain behaviours.

Some children are not sensitive enough to certain sensations such as food around their mouth, movement and body position. They might actively seek

sensations through behaviours such as chewing non-food items, fidgeting or being generally on the go.

Sensory processing can be very variable from one day to the next and from one child to another.

We know that children with high levels of anxiety tend to display a higher level of sensory sensitivity and are more sensitive to sensations such as noise, touch, smells and tastes.

We also know that children who are struggling to communicate and express their emotions or needs sometimes use sensory behaviours to gain attention.

It is important to consider both of these things in the context of sensory processing difficulties and address them alongside the sensory behaviours.

If a child has a problem integrating sensory information, they can find daily tasks difficult. It may result in children having a disproportionate response to sensory information, e.g. screaming if they hear a noise or saying that someone lightly touching their arm was painful.

However, it is important to also rule out other reasons for behaviour such as communication, attention, pain, attachment difficulties and mental health problems such as anxiety.

Spotlight on: Sensory Processing

There is no official diagnosis that can be given to describe sensory integration difficulties.

There are a few main categories of sensory integration difficulties. These are:

- Sensory reactivity (being over or under sensitive)
- Sensory perception (not knowing about quality of sensory input, e.g. knowing you've been touched but not where or whether it was hard or soft).
- Sensory motor (poor awareness of body and being clumsy, poor planning of new activities, finding physical activities difficult to coordinate).

If the level of difficulty is starting to significantly impact on a child's every day functioning, your child's paediatrician will be able to assess whether further medical investigations are needed. If it is suspected these might be sensory difficulties, we hope that information on our website will help.

Sensory support

We know difficulties processing sensory information can make everyday activities challenging for children and their families, which is why Trafford Children's Therapy



Service have put together some handy downloadable sheets that you can print off to read yourself or share with other people who know your child.

Where next?

[MFT NHS Occupational Therapy](#)
[Sensory Processing](#)
[Pre-Referral Advice](#)

With thanks to Ritu Iyer, Specialist Paediatric Occupational Therapist, for writing this article and Joanne Sweeney, Team Lead, Trafford Community Children's Therapy Service for her coordination.

Spotlight on: Speech and Language School Support Team

Meet the Team

My name is Lucy McGill and I support the other SST SLTs as they go in to mainstream primary schools all across Trafford.



The other team members are Terese Rafferty, who mainly works in the South of the borough, Steph Ashling (North) and Melanie Hallatt (North and South).

This service is for children in Trafford mainstream primary schools.

We have different services for children in Small Specialist Classes, Private Day Nurseries, Secondary Schools and Special Schools.

What we do

We provide training to parents and school staff and we also provide language and communication assessment, advice and targets for pupils with needs in this area.

We have a rolling programme of training which we offer free of charge at Sale Waterside.

This is open to both staff and parents who want to know how to do activities with children who've been identified (by us or by school) as needing support in a specific area.

Please talk to your SENDCo or SLT if you're wondering whether going to one of the courses will be useful for your child – they cover areas of language like 'Vocabulary' and 'Listening Comprehension'.

In the last 12 months, we have also launched EYFS versions of the sessions, aimed at younger children.

When we launched our current programme of training in 2017, our goal was to align our service with how schools support children, and therefore to empower schools to support some of the children who have mild-moderate language needs.

Spotlight on: Speech and Language School Support Team

Two parts of the SST service aim to support pupils with less severe language needs:

- Universal offer (support available to all pupils e.g. classroom strategies like visual timetables)
- Targeted offer (group intervention delivered by school for pupils with possible or identified language needs)

Our 'Language Friendly Classrooms' training covers our universal offer and this session covers classroom strategies to reduce the impact of language difficulties – many of which can be easily adapted for home.

The Graduated Approach also calls this level of support 'universal' and it's like 'Quality First Teaching' in schools.

[Trafford Graduated Approach to Special Educational Needs](#)
[A guide for parent carers and young people](#)

Our 'targeted' offer can be likened to the Graduated Approach 'SEN Support' level of help. Pupils may need this level as well as the universal level of support to make progress.

The group intervention school staff run after accessing our training courses at Sale Waterside is our targeted offer.

We also have a 'specialist' offer – which fits in with the 'High Level of Need' bit of the Graduated Approach.

Some children need something else in addition to the universal and targeted offer. For those children, we can offer further assessment and individualised targets.

The goal of this will be to further empower school staff to support language needs and to give everyone who works with the child (including parents) individualised strategies and ideas to continue to minimise the impact of language needs.

If, after 3 cycles of this, the pupil still needs more support, school have the option of accessing support from the Language Outreach Service – our service for children with the most significant language needs.

Our 2020 Goals

In 2019, we realised that 55% of the children we saw were being discharged after their initial assessment, back to the care of the school and the targeted intervention groups. Often, the school

Spotlight on: Speech and Language School Support Team

would have mentioned a particular concern in the referral, and we were confirming this concern and recommending the corresponding group.

By this time, most schools in Trafford had accessed our training, and several had set up a rolling programme of our intervention groups.

I realised we needed to improve and develop our service to the children accessing the 'specialist' offer, and to improve the support and further training to staff who had accessed our well established training sessions.

In order to do this we want to empower schools to try an intervention before they refer to us.

This brings Speech and Language Therapy more in line with other areas of need e.g. reading.

Schools have an extensive toolkit of reading interventions for example, and we want them to feel as equipped with intervening for language.

For some children, this school-based intervention will be all they need to make progress, and they may never need to be seen by one of the SST team.

We launched this new approach in November 2019 at the SENDCo forum,

and we have already noticed a reduction in referrals. This has enabled the SST therapists to write to all the schools and update them on who is accessing the 'specialist' offer, and to offer further assessment appointments.

It has also meant that we have reduced our waiting time for initial assessments.

In the next few weeks, we hope to launch a pre-referral advice line for schools to support them in choosing the correct intervention group to start with.

We also want to build on our TA advice forums to support their running of the groups. We also hope that 2020 enables us to bring about further positive changes for our service to children with speech, language and communication needs.

With thanks to Lucy McGill, Specialist Speech and Language Therapist for writing the article

Consultation Corner

[Take part in NHS challenging behavior study for preschool age children](#)

[Preparing for adulthood - Contact survey on transition from child to adult services](#)

[.Gov.UK Reforms to unregulated provision for children in care and care leavers](#)

SEND News



Short Breaks offer for Children and Young People with Autism

Trafford Commissioning are currently developing a short break offer alongside parent carers specifically for children and young people with a diagnosis of ASD.

The service is hoped to be up and running in time for the new academic year on 1st September 2020.

After a number of meetings with parents carers we have designed an offer that we hope will meet some of the very varying needs of children and young people in Trafford with autism.

The service is to run during school holidays only as parents felt this was a time when more support was needed. It will be run as a group offer with a higher staff to child ratio than the other short break services.

This is so those children and young people who feel they need more dedicated support and are less comfortable socialising with other children will not be excluded from the service.

We are keen for the successful provider to work closely with all families accessing this offer, so the service can be developed as it runs to best help meet the needs of the families accessing it.

With thanks to Kate Campbell, Commissioning Support Officer, for the article.

SENCO Award Training

A Level 3 Early Years SENCO Award is currently being delivered to 35 early years practitioners from settings across Trafford.

The qualification is Nationally recognised and has been developed by School Improvement Liverpool working with the Department of Education (DfE).

A multi-agency team are delivering the qualification. This includes an Early Years Consultant, Educational Psychologist, Teacher from a Special School and a member of the SENAS team.

The course involves sharing key messages about the importance of the role of the SENCO in an early years setting to support children with SEND and their families looking at both National and Local perspectives.

A range of guest speakers from across Trafford are being invited to present at sessions to illustrate to SENCOs the range services available to support children with SEND and their families and also to form a strong network of support across Trafford.

With thanks to Lynda Kilduff, EYFS Consultant, for the article.

Advice and Guidance

Trafford Information Service

Two great services, working together to support families

At the start of the New Year, Trafford Information Service was formed, bringing together two expert services that provide a wide range of information, advice and support to Trafford families:

Trafford Special Educational Needs and Disability Information Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) and the Family Information Service (FIS).

The two services, although still working independently, have joined together to provide a stronger offer to families - delivering the right information, at the right time, in the right way.

SENDIASS

0161 912 3150

sendiass@trafford.gov.uk

Monday to Friday, 9am to 12pm

4th Floor, Sale Waterside, M33 7ZF

sendiass.trafford.gov.uk

Facebook: [@TraffordSENDIASS](https://www.facebook.com/TraffordSENDIASS)

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

Family Information Service

0161 912 1053

FIS@trafford.gov.uk

Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5pm

2nd Floor, Sale Waterside, M33 7ZF

www.trafforddirectory.co.uk

Facebook: [@TraffordFIS](https://www.facebook.com/TraffordFIS)

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

Current joint work

SENDIASS and FIS are delivering joint Outreach events, not only to increase awareness of both services, but to raise the profile of the excellent work we do. We are working hard to increase our engagement, especially with young people.



What we do:

We provide free, confidential, impartial advice and support for parent carers, children and young people age 0 - 25 in relation to SEND who live in Trafford.

Advice and Guidance

We do this in many ways:

- Offer a dedicated phone line available Monday to Friday 9.00am to 12.00 noon.
- Signpost you to other helpful places for support, such as Trafford Parents Forum or Trafford's SEND local offer.
- Offer a comprehensive website which holds up to date information
- Social Media channels. You can find us on Facebook and Twitter for more information, or if you have any questions.
- The team are IPSEA trained to provide basic legal advice in relation to SEND and the rights of parent carers, children and young people.
- We sit on several Council Committee groups and ensure your voice is heard, and can help to influence policy and procedure.
- On occasion we can support you at meetings in school or in some cases offer a home visit.
- Our casework with parent carers, children and young people remains at arm's length from the Council SEND services and is completely separate to Trafford FIS.

This means we can continue to support you confidentially and impartially.

How we are managed:

Our SENDIASS Steering Group is made up of representatives from local authority health, education and social care services along with an equal number of parent carers.

The Steering Group is chaired independently and is responsible for auditing the service against the [National Minimum Standards Framework](#), This helps to make sure that impartiality is maintained.

The Steering Group is also influential in shaping the development of the service.



**Trafford
Family
Information
Service**

What we do:

We provide free, impartial, confidential information and advice to families, young people and professionals on a range of subjects.

This includes things to do and events, services, organisations, childcare and early education.

Advice and Guidance

We also publish, manage and maintain the SEND Local Offer.

When we refer to our local offer, we mean all the services and organisations which are part of the support on offer in Trafford for children and young people with SEND.

**Watch our video about
[Trafford's SEND Local Offer](#)**

We do this in many ways:

- ♦ The telephone helpline is available 5 days a week from 8.30am to 5pm which is managed by skilled FIS Advisors who are trained to level three in Advice and Guidance.
- ♦ Our Outreach Officers are also trained in Advice and Guidance and work in the heart of Trafford communities to help support, advise and signpost families.
- ♦ Outreach officers also promote key services such as early education funding entitlement, additional help finding childcare (brokerage) and much more.
- ♦ Trafford Directory is a website where you can access information and advice about services, local activities

and support for all ages. This is available online 24/7.

- ♦ Information Officers develop and manage the Trafford Directory, which also includes the published SEND Local Offer here in Trafford.
- ♦ Content on the Directory is produced alongside input from families, young people and professionals.
- ♦ SEND Link Newsletter is published termly containing information, news, services as well as lots of things to do over the school holidays.
- ♦ We have a presence on Social Media Channels and you can find us on Facebook and Twitter for information or if you have any enquiries.

Standards and Awards

We have been accredited for several years with Families First Quality Standards.

In 2019, we were proud to receive the National Families First Quality Award for defining, delivering and improving the information for families!

Article by Eli Edwards. With thanks to Carole Sharp - Information Services Manager, Monica Tandon - Senior FIS Officer and Carol Thistlethwaite - SENDIASS Manager

SEND Local Offer

Independent Travel Training:

Watch our Travel Training Video and meet Trafford's Travel Training Officer

Independent travel training is fully launched back in Trafford after the Trafford Travel Coordination Unit brought in their own Travel Training Officer.



Danielle Lewis-Allcock is the travel training officer for Trafford.

She has over 10 years' experience of being a travel trainer and has delivered the programme to over 80 young people with SEND over the past decade.

These young people are now travelling to and from their place of education independently using public transport, or have used their skills to negotiate additional routes to further education, voluntary and paid work.

What is ITT?

Independent Travel Training is teaching a young person with SEND the skills on how to get to their place of education safely and independently using public transport (bus, tram or train) or a safe walking route.

Travel Training is a one-to-one individualised programme tailored to that student's needs.

Independent Travel Training (ITT) provides young people with the knowledge and skills they need to travel independently, whilst providing parents and carers with peace of mind that their young person is travelling safely.

Road safety, stranger danger and 'what if' scenarios are some of the skills Danielle incorporates into the training, it is natural and good practice for things to go wrong, this happens in everyday life.

Independent travel is a crucial life skill that gives people the freedom to fulfil their potential and live a full life.



SEND Local Offer



The benefits of Travel Training:

Travel training can have a big impact on the student's life by enabling the independent use of public transport.

- Raise confidence and self-esteem as their independence grows.
- Young people become less reliant on parents and carers to take them to places.
- It creates more opportunities to take part in social activities.
- Improvement to general health and well-being, improved quality of life.

See more on the local offer:

[Independent Travel Training](#)

Full eligibility criteria for Travel Training can be found in the [All Age Transport Policy](#)

Travel Training Video

Here Danielle talks to us about how the video was made

“Family Information Service approached me and asked if I would like to develop and promote a video about Travel Training in Trafford.

I had a chat with our communication and marketing reform manager alongside FIS about how was the best way to promote the service, and how to showcase the positive aspects of it whilst being honest.

We decided to do a combination of interviews and filming a student on their route. We wanted both parent carers and young people to have their say about their own journeys with travel training.

One of the parents we interviewed was the mother of Daniel, who we filmed on his tram journey. Daniel had a relatively easy journey and was in school 30 minutes after leaving his house. Daniel has used his skills learned through travel training to travel independently to various other places within the community confidently and safely.

Daniel's mother, Inka, was very positive and really got across how much she appreciated and valued the service and what a positive influence it has had on her son and the family.

SEND Local Offer

Sarah's daughter is currently on the programme and has a long journey from Sale to Stockport to school. This has had its concerns as she has to travel by train and this only comes once an hour.

I always teach an 'alternative' route in case the primary route fails. This young person is proof the programme will take as long as necessary as she is now 6 months in and still doing an average 5 sessions per week.

I asked the parents to speak honest and openly when being interviewed as I want future parents/carers and young people to have a true insight into the programme."

The result of working with parent carers and young people are three easy and accessible videos we hope that you find helpful.

[Summary video](#)

[For parents](#)

[For young people](#) (pictured)

These have been produced by Emma Gilpin, our Communications and Marketing Manager - Reform. We think that she has done a great job.

Watch them now on Trafford's Local Offer or our SEND Youtube channel!

With thanks to Danielle Lewis-Allcock, Travel Training Officer, for writing the article.



Trafford Parents Forum



Trafford Parents Forum

From Drop-Ins to SEND Surgeries, Experience Groups to Parent Reps and Surveys to Winterfunland; it's been a busy few months here at Trafford Parents Forum!

We had a record number of responses to our Autumn Survey. Thanks so much to everyone who answered and contributed to this. Going forwards we are meeting with a working group made up from members of SEND board and Trafford Parents Forum, to delve deep into the shared experiences with a view that we can come back with an action plan to share with parent carers.

Our weekly, term time **Drop-In** has been continuing at The LifeCentre in Sale. Most people come along by themselves and there is always someone from Trafford Parents Forum, leading the session.

Over the last few weeks we have had the first of our new **SEND Surgeries**. It is an opportunity to see the EHCP Team, SENDIASS, Family Information Service and us, all under one roof.

A parent carer that came to a recent drop in said:

"I came to see Trafford SENDIASS. I wanted advice on suitable schools for my son when he goes to high school. He has Autism, ADHD and Sensory issues. SENDIASS were really helpful providing information on the local Trafford Schools, which could meet his needs."

It is a brilliant opportunity to get to grips with the Local Offer as the Family Information Service are available to answer any questions you might have.

Our **Facebook Closed Group** continues to go from strength to strength: from questions about changing rooms to swimming lessons to emotional support and practical pointers. It's the place to find out anything you need to know, from other parent Carers in Trafford.

All members are both parent carers in Trafford and a member of The Forum. We moderate every post. There isn't anything our expert parent carers don't know about SEND parenting and being a parent carer in Trafford! It's a great place to find support, guidance and friendship, all in our local area.

To join, please follow this link:

[Trafford Parents Forum FB Group](#)



Trafford Parents Forum



Trafford Parents Forum

Don't forget all members of Trafford Parents Forum are also eligible for a Max Card. 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 www.mymaxcard.co.uk

They are £3 and are available to buy at any of events or drop ins.



Our families really enjoyed Winterfunland. Thank you so much to Winterfunland for the complimentary tickets! It was so lovely to see our families enjoying this time together, at Christmas!



Our Preparing for Adulthood Experience Groups were a wonderful insight from Parent Carers. We were amazed at how open and honest our Parent Carers were, in terms of sharing their experiences. We are really looking forward to continuing to work together, on this project.



Thanks so much to Linda, from Linda's Papercraft for the wonderful self-care, card making sessions. They are so much fun and give our parent carers a welcome break from the stresses of every-day life.

With thanks to Rebecca Blinkhorn, Communication and Engagement Officer, Trafford Parents Forum

Leisure Activities and What's On

In the light of Coronavirus Covid-19, please be aware that events that have been listed in our What's On section this edition may not take place. Please contact the provider directly.

[Accessible Performances at Z-Arts](#) [The Tiger who came to Tea](#) [Adventures of Mog the Forgetful Cat](#)

Selected dates February - December
Z-Arts, Hulme, M15 5ZA

Reduced capacity and relaxed pace. Explore the world of Judith Kerr's books. Carers can obtain an Essential Companion ticket.

[Art of the Brick - renowned Lego exhibit](#)

Running until Monday 20 April 2020
Great Northern Warehouse, M3 4EN

Must see exhibition that has toured globally for more than 12 years.

[Limelight Academy Free class](#)

Saturday 21 March
Lostock College, M32 9PL

Performing Arts School for children and young adults 8-25 with SEND

[SMDSSG Bowling](#)

Saturday 22 March, 10.30am

Saturday 26 April, 10.30am

Dog Bowl, Manchester, M1 5WW

Join South Manchester Down Syndrome Support Group for Bowling

[SMDSSG 2020 Annual General Meeting](#)

Wednesday 25 March, 7pm

Green Lane, Stockport, SK4 3LH

AGM and Pizza Night at South Manchester Down's Syndrome Support Group

[Relaxed Screening at HOME](#) [Weathering with You \(12A\)](#)

Saturday 28 March, 11am

HOME Manchester, M15 4FN

Highly anticipated anime from the makers of Your Name.

[Relaxed Performance at HOME - Not I](#)

Tuesday 31 March, 7.30pm

HOME Manchester, M15 4FN

All performances are BSL integrated and relaxed. Not I explores neurodiversity.

Recommended for 14+

[Frogstastic Club Night \(18+\)](#)

Wednesday, 1 April

Frog and Bucket, Manchester, M4 1LJ

Premier Inclusive Club Night

[Boogie Night](#)

Friday 24 April, 7.30pm

Wilmslow Road, M20 4AW

Inclusive disco for people with and without disabilities, kids and families welcome

[Relaxed Screening at HOME](#)

[Saturday 25 April, 11am](#) - Film TBC

[Satuday 30 May, 11am](#) - [The Aristocats](#)

[Saturday 27 June, 11am](#) - Film TBC

HOME Manchester, M15 4FN

Suitable for families to enjoy the arts in a stress-free environment.

[Under One Roof - Live Band Special](#)

Thursday 14 May, 6.30-9.30pm

YES, Manchester, M1 7BD

Accessible raving for adults with learning disabilities, families and friends. We're taking a break from the rave for a Live Music Special!

[Z-access SEND Family Fun Day](#)

Sunday 14 June, 10am - 2pm

Z-Arts, Hulme, M15 5ZA

Our 11th access Family Fun Day. Drama, music, arts, crafts, creative play and sensory

Leisure Activities and What's On

Training and Information Events

Family Fund Information and Support Day

Thursday 19 March, 10.30am - 2pm
Irish World Heritage Centre, M8 0AE
 Learn more about money, services and grants available to you and your disabled child.

Sleep Tight Trafford - 1 to 1 Sleep Clinic

Tuesday 24 March, 9.15am - 3.15pm
Partington & Carrington Children's Centre
 Sessions open to any Trafford parent carer who is struggling with their child's sleep

Trafford Parents Forum SEND Surgery

Thursday 26 March, 10am - 12pm

Thursday 9 April, 10am - 12pm

Thursday 14 May, 10am - 12pm

Thursday 11 June 10am - 12pm

Thursday 25 June 10am - 12pm

Thursday 9 July 10am - 12pm

Oakland House, Stretford, M16 0PQ

Here to help with your questions and concerns.
 It is a drop in, turn up whenever!

Autism Learns: Anxiety and Mental Health

Friday 27 March, 9am - 4.45pm
Pendulum Hotel, Manchester, M1 3BB
 Gain practical skills and knowledge on maintaining mental health in a home and school

Planning for the Future - Mencap

Thursday 7 April, 12.30 - 2.30pm
Jury's Inn, Manchester, M1 5LE
 Discussions around how your loved one will cope when you are gone. For parent carers of a child with learning disability

SMDSSG Transition - Nursery to Year 7

Tuesday 21 April, 9.30am - 1pm
Sale Football Club, M33 3WB
 FREE training event from South Manchester Down's Syndrome Support Group

SMDSSG Transition - School to adulthood

Tuesday 21 April, 9.30am - 1pm
Sale Football Club, M33 3WB
 FREE training event from South Manchester Down's Syndrome Support Group

Sensory Needs Seminar

Thursday 23 April, 9.30am - 2.30pm
Benchill Community Centre, M22 8EJ
 Greater Manchester Autism Consortium FREE seminar for parent carers of children with Autism

The Autism Show

Friday 26 and Saturday 27 June 2020
Event City, Trafford, M41 7TB
 National event for Autism, in association with NAS. 100 hours of talks, clinics and workshops

Kids to Adultz North

Thursday 12 November, 9.30am - 4.30pm
Event City, Trafford, M41 7TB
 One of the UKs largest FREE event

Newly listed groups and activities

- [The Limelight Academy](#)
- [Disability Play Session at PlayFactor](#)
- [Autism Friendly Sessions at Dino Falls](#)
- [Better Things Drop In](#)
- [Better Things Multisport Drop In](#)
- [Disability Youth Club](#)
- [Dealing with Depression and Anxiety group for young people \(42nd Street\)](#)
- [Can Do Skills development programme](#)
- [Greater Manchester Selective Mutism Network](#)
- [Manchester Eagles learning disability basketball](#)
- [1st Trafford Park Inclusive Scouts](#) (see more next edition!)
- [Starting Line pre-employment training](#) (see more in our Services section!)

Services:

Starting Line

Starting Line

Disability charity Scope have opened a new pre-employment service in Manchester.

Starting Line is a free face-to face programme for disabled people who would like to start their journey into work.

See more on local offer:
[Starting Line](#)

Sessions run two mornings a week over seven weeks. The training sessions cover a range of knowledge and skills for the employment market and workplace, including things like goal setting, CV and cover letter writing and communication skills.

Customers also get one-to-one support from a specialist employment advisor to discuss their goals, plan training or volunteering opportunities, and work on their skills for finding employment.

Erin has Asperger syndrome and struggled to find work when she left college. She was put in touch with Starting Line:

“Starting Line is good because you get to meet people in a similar situation to you. When you get knocked down a lot your

confidence goes and you start feeling really alone and isolated. It seemed like they actually did care and it helped me. It did help me get my confidence higher up.”

Find out more and apply on our website:

www.scope.org.uk/starting-line

or email startingline@scope.org.uk

With thanks to Alex Hazell from Scope for the article

TRAFFORD YOUNG CARERS TEAM

can offer support to you if you are aged 5-25 and help look after someone that has a long-term health condition. This includes a mental or physical health condition and drug or alcohol addiction.

We run free trips and activities, we can give you 1:1 support and advice, support you in school, advocate for you, provide financial advice and refer you to other organisations that can help .



traffordcarerscentre.org.uk

0161 848 2400, option 1

07985 288 294

