

Walsall SEND Service Newsletter



Walsall Council

AUTUMN TERM 2025

WELCOME TO THE WALSALL SEND SERVICE AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is designed for parents and carers of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Here, we share important updates, celebrate successes, and highlight opportunities for you to engage with and shape SEND services in Walsall. We are committed to working together to improve support, services, and outcomes for children and young people with SEND. Your voice matters, and we welcome your feedback and involvement.

ARE YOU ON OUR MAILING LIST?



Stay up to date with the latest SEND news, updates, and events in Walsall by joining our mailing list. If you are not already receiving our emails, please contact: localoffer@walsall.gov.uk

HELP SHAPE OUR SEND WORKSHOPS

Following feedback from parents, carers, and professionals, we're planning a series of workshops to help build understanding of SEND pathways and processes. We want to make sure these sessions are relevant, accessible, and timed to suit you.

Please take a few minutes to complete this short survey. Your responses will help us decide what topics to cover, how to deliver the sessions, and when to run them, starting with our first workshop before Christmas.

Thank you for helping us co-create something meaningful!

Please use this link: [Workshop Survey](#) or scan the QR code:



AUTUMN TERM PARTNERSHIP QUALITY ASSURANCE DAY

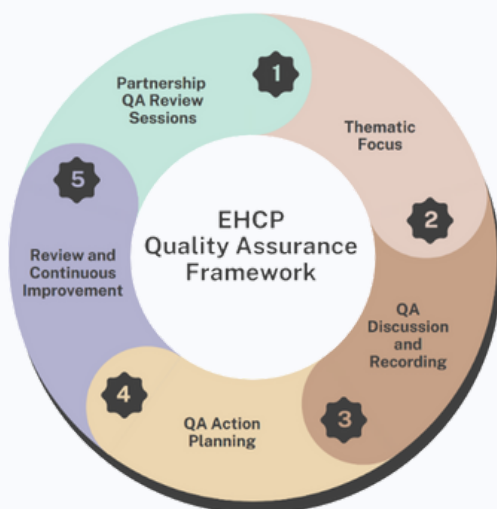
On Tuesday 30th September, we brought together partners from across education, health, social care, and our parent/carers for our 2nd SEND Quality Assurance Partnership Day of 2025, held at Walsall Art Gallery. It was a fantastic, creative space to explore this important work together.

The focus of the day was to review a broad range of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and reflect honestly on what's working well and where we need to improve. This wasn't about perfect plans, it was about real ones and using them to drive forward a shared vision of consistently high-quality, child and young person centred EHCPs across the borough.

The session was another example of our ongoing and impactful approach to coproduction. Parents, carers and professionals played a key role in the discussions, contributing their insight and lived experience to help shape better outcomes for families.

Thank you to everyone who took part. This is part of our continued commitment to improving the quality and consistency of EHCPs in Walsall, making sure every plan tells the real story of a child or young person and supports them to achieve their best possible outcomes. See you all again in the Spring Term!

If you'd like to be part of it, please get in touch at localoffer@walsall.gov.uk

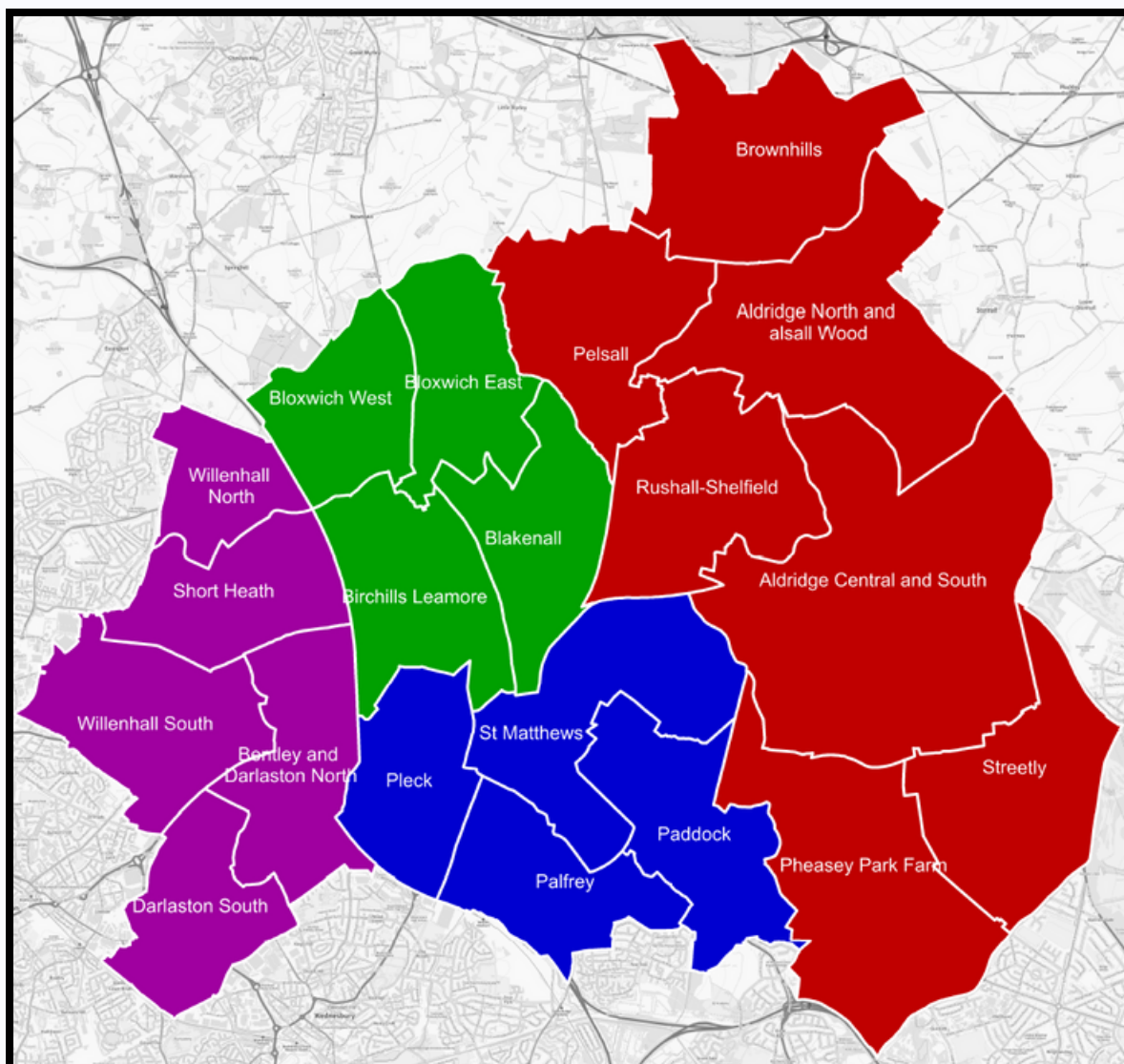


Your Voice Matters!

UNDERSTANDING YOUR WALSALL WARDS & LOCALITIES

There are 4 localities in Walsall. The North, East, South and West. Within these localities there are wards. There are 20 wards within Walsall.

North	
East	
South	
West	



Here is a list which locality each ward sits in

North	East	South	West
Birchills Leamore Blakenall Bloxwich West Bloxwich East	Aldridge Central & South Aldridge North & Walsall Wood Brownhills Pelsall Pheasey Park Farm Rushall Shelfield Streetly	Paddock Palfrey Pleck St Matthews	Bentley & Darlaston North Darlaston South Short Heath Willenhall North Willenhall South

SEN CASEWORK OFFICER ASSIGNMENT

The EHC team is split into two smaller teams. We have a team of SEN casework officers who work on EHC New Assessments, another that works on EHC Annual Reviews.

The annual review teams are split into localities and SEN Caseworker Officers are allocated to the wards of Walsall. Each team of SEN Caseworker Officers has a Senior SEN Casework Officer. Please see the list below of which caseworker works in which ward.

Please note that due to the nature of the role, there may be changes to staffing, including movement between roles, staff absences, or staff leave. We will provide updates as necessary.

Please see below table for the EHC Team Structure

EHC Team Manager: Rebecca Shaw					
Senior SEN Casework Officer	Olivia Dodd	Alison Hancox	Nicola Mitchell	Michelle Stafford	Amy Male
Team	North Annual Reviews	East Annual Reviews	New Assessments	West Annual Review	Tribunals & Complaints
SEN Casework Officers	Sharon Henry	Rachael Holdcroft	Lisa Small	Tiffany Smith	Josie Morgan
	Takunda Mugabe	Lisa Tanner	Sophie Dowson	Holly Parsons	
	Mia Porter	Lauren Askey	Laura Bevan	Emma Humphries	
		Lucy Varley	Bethan McGarrie		

SEN CASEWORK OFFICER WARD ASSIGNMENT

North Locality			
Birchills Leamore	Bloxwich East	Bloxwich West	Blakenall
Sharon Henry	Mia Porter	Mia Porter	Takunda Mugabe

East Locality						
Aldridge Central & South	Aldridge North & Walsall Wood	Brownhills	Pelsall	Pheasey Park Farm	Rushall Shelfield	Streetly
Rachael Holdcroft	Laura Askey	Rachael Holdcroft	Lisa Tanner	Lisa Tanner	Lauren Askey	Lisa Tanner

Central & South Locality			
Paddock	Palfrey	Pleck	St Mathews
Lucy Varley	Lucy Varley	TBC	TBC

West Locality				
Bentley & Darlaston North	Darlaston South	Short Heath	Willenhall North	Willenhall South
Holly Parsons	Emma Humphries	Tiffany Smith	Holly Parsons	Tiffany Smith

CONTACTING THE SEND TEAM

If you need to get in touch about SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) matters, please follow the process outlined below.

Initial Contact

Please send your enquiry to the SEND Admin mailbox at SEN@walsall.gov.uk. Your message will be directed to the most appropriate team member, and we aim to respond within 5 working days. Alternatively, you can contact the **SEND switchboard** on **01922 652871**. If your query is urgent, please let the team know, they will do their best to find an alternative team member who can assist you sooner.

If you have your SEN Casework Officer's email address, you are welcome to contact them directly. However, please copy SEN@walsall.gov.uk into your message so we can track your enquiry and ensure it is followed up if needed.

If You Haven't Received a Response

We aim to respond to all enquiries within 5 working days. If you haven't heard back after this time, please send a follow-up email to the SEN@walsall.gov.uk with the subject line: Follow-Up Enquiry – For the Attention of the Senior Casework Officer. This will alert a senior member of the team to review your message and ensure it is picked up promptly.

If You Still Need Support

If your enquiry remains unresolved or you need further assistance, please email SEN@walsall.gov.uk with the subject line: For the Attention of the EHC Team Manager. Our EHC Team Manager, will review your message and make sure it is directed to the right person for a timely response.

Please Note

To help us manage correspondence efficiently, individual staff email addresses are not routinely shared. All communication should go through SEN@walsall.gov.uk to ensure your enquiry is properly logged, tracked and followed up.

Respectful Communication

We understand that some situations can be frustrating, and we're here to help.

We ask that all communication remains courteous and respectful so that we can work together to resolve issues effectively. Aggressive or inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated and calls may be ended if necessary.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

PARENT/CARER SUPPORT

Neurodiverse Parent Group

Discover Your Unique Community



Supportive Community



Discussions and Awareness



Workshops and Guest speakers

More Info: [MettaMinds](#)



COLLINGWOOD AUTISM SUPPORT GROUP

COLLINGWOOD CENTRE,
COLLINGWOOD DRIVE, GREAT BARR,
BIRMINGHAM, B43 7NF
TEL: 07823 333910/0121 360 1484

Tuesdays 7 – 9pm

More Info: [Collingwood](#)



FACE WALSALL
PARENT CARER FORUM
FAMILIES & CARERS EMPOWERED

FACE Walsall Parent Carer Forum

Are you supporting a child or young person with special educational needs or a disability aged 0-25?

Want to make a difference? Give us your feedback...Join us and have your voice heard.

What is a Parent Carer Forum?

Our aim is to improve services for children and young people by ensuring that families' voices are heard by planners and decision-makers across Education, Health, and Social Care.

We host events, workshops, and training sessions to empower parents and carers, helping them become a stronger voice for their children and young people.

Placing the views of all parent carers at the centre of decision making

Together we can make a difference for families in Walsall.

For more information contact
Email: Facewalsall@gmail.com
Website: <https://www.facewalsall.com/>



SEND PARENT PARTNERSHIP GROUP

Are you a parent or carer of a child or young person with **Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND)**? We want to hear from you!

Join our **SEND Parent Partnership Group** to share your experiences, provide valuable feedback, and help shape SEND services in Walsall

Why Join?

- **Have your say** - Share your thoughts, ideas, and experiences.
- **Make a difference** - Contribute to improving SEND support and services in Walsall.
- **Connect with others** - Meet with other parents and carers like you!

Together, we can create positive change!

If you're interested in joining, we'd love to hear from you. Please get in touch with Sam:

samantha.house@walsall.gov.uk

Walsall Council

BARRIERS TO EDUCATION: HELPING EVERY CHILD FEEL SAFE AT SCHOOL



The Barriers to Education website is a supportive resource for families and professionals working with children who struggle to attend school. It's built on real experiences and offers practical advice to help children feel safe, understood, and included.

Explore tools, stories, and ideas to help your child thrive, whether they're in school, out of school, or somewhere in between. For more info use this link:

[BarrierstoEducation](#)

PARENT/CARER SUPPORT

WALSALL SENDIASS DROP IN SESSIONS & WORKSHOPS

For more info and book your space contact Walsall

SENDIASS here: [WalsallSENDIASS](#)

Walsall
SENDIASS

Drop In Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday 21 st October	10am - 11am	South & Central Family Hub, WS3 1HJ
Thursday 20 th November	1pm - 2pm	East Family Hub, WS8 6HA
Tuesday 9 th December	11am - 12pm	West Family Hub, WS10 8AE

Date	Time	Session	Venue
Tuesday 11 th November	12:30pm - 2pm	Workshop 3 How to make a request for a parent led EHCP	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EU
Thursday 11 th December	10am - 12:30pm	Workshop 4 What is an EHCP and what do all the sections mean?	Manor Farm Community Association, WS4 1EU

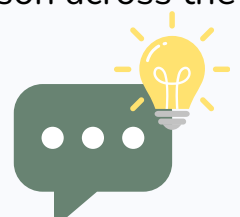
CONTACT - SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES OF CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS



Contact offers trusted advice and support for families raising children with additional needs. From a free helpline and a Listening Ear service to downloadable guides and email newsletters.

They also run fun and informative workshop, both online and in-person across the UK - covering topics like benefits, sleep, wellbeing, and more.

Find out more at [Contact](#)



HEALTH SUPPORT

SUPPORTED WAITING NETWORK DATES

The supported waiting partnership network meetings will be running every month where there will be guest speakers to advise on a variety of monthly topics and many services who support with access to additional support for you and your child.



The poster features the Walsall Family Hubs logo (Supporting families to live happier lives) and the NHS Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust logo. The title is 'Supported Waiting Parent Network'. It asks if you have a child on a waiting list for a paediatric health service and invites you to join for support. It lists forthcoming dates for 2025: June 25th, July 30th, August 27th, September 24th, October 29th, and November 26th. It provides contact information: telephone 01922 656463 or email pals.officer@nhs.net. It also states the time is 9.30am-11.30am and the location is Manor Farm Community Association, King George Crescent, Rushall, Walsall, WS4 1EU. An illustration shows a family (mother, father, and two children) with a dog.

Each monthly meeting will be held on the **Last Wednesday of the month** at **Manor Farm Community Association, Rushall, WS4 1EU**

Next Dates:

- Wednesday 29th October
- Wednesday 26th November

For more information or further advice please call: **01922 656463** or email pals.officer@nhs.net

SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPY (SALT) DROP INS

*Do you have questions about your child's speech or language development?
Are you worried that your child is not talking or does not understand you?
Would you like some advice on general strategies to help?*

If you're worried about your child's communication skills and your child is not already known to our service, please come to one of our drop-in sessions for advice and support.

**Thursday
6th November**

9:30-11:30am

Oak Park
Leisure Centre
WS9 9PQ

**Thursday
20th November**

9:30-11:30am

Willenhall
Library
WV13 2EX

**Monday
24th November**

9:15-11:30am

South Family
Hub
WS2 8NF

**Monday
15th December**

9:15-11:30am

Virtual Drop In
Session

For more info, email the SaLT team: walsall.slt@nhs.net or
call: 01922 605400

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT



EBSNA' - Emotionally Based School Non- Attendance

A free 45 minute webinar for parents and carers

'Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance, or EBSNA for short, refers to young people who struggle to attend school because of a range of emotional factors.

These can include struggling with issues like low mood, anxiety and loneliness. The impact of EBSNA can range from the young person experiencing an occasional reluctance to attend school, to complete non-attendance. It can start suddenly or develop gradually over time.

Kooth have developed this free webinar for families to explore EBSNA as a complex issue and will give guidance on how digital mental health support can help.

For more information in how to access please use think link:

KoothBytes



CAMHS Parent/Carer Workshops

Come and join our Parent/Carer Workshops, run by Black Country CAMHS services (on Zoom for 1.5hours)! Groups held 12pm - 1.30pm.

We know that suffering from mental health difficulties does not only affect the person struggling, but also the family around them. Parenting a child/young person with mental health difficulties can create additional challenges for parents.

We are running workshops exploring a range of difficulties that children/young people may experience, that can impact their emotional wellbeing.

11.06.25 - Anxiety

09.07.25 - Low Mood / Depression

17.09.25 – Autistic Spectrum Conditions

15.10.25 - Trauma and Attachment

12.11.25 – Anger / Conduct Issues

10.12.25 – Self Harming Behaviours

14.01.26 – Anxiety / OCD



To register your interest telephone **Andrea Ehgartner** on **01922 607400**



bchft_camhs



@CAMHS_BCHFT



www.blackcountrychildrens.nhs.uk/



Rethink Mental Illness.

Black Country Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

Sanctuary Hubs

Feeling lonely, overwhelmed or that things are too much for right now? **The Sanctuary Hubs are here for you.**

The Hubs are open for you to drop-in every **Monday - Friday 6.00pm to 11.00pm** and **Saturday and Sunday 12(noon) to 11.00pm**. If you can't visit a Sanctuary Hub you can self-refer or be referred with your consent by contacting the Black Country 24/7 Helpline by phone or text.

Dudley Sanctuary Hub	DY1 Community Centre, Stafford Street Dudley, DY1 1SA
Sandwell Sanctuary Hub	Hope Place, 321 High Street West Bromwich, B70 8LU
Walsall Sanctuary Hub	1 Queen's Parade, Bloxwich Walsall, WS3 2EX
Wolverhampton Sanctuary Hub	84 Salop Street, Wolverhampton, WV3 0SR

If you need urgent help with your mental health or you are struggling to cope, please call NHS 111 and selection Option 2.
You can also access this service by texting 07860 025 281



CHILDREN/YOUNG PERSON OPPORTUNITIES

YOUTH SEND FORUM

We're looking for amazing young people in **Year 4 or above** who have **Special Educational Needs (SEND)** to join our **Youth SEND Forum**.

If you enjoy sharing ideas and want to help improve SEND services, we'd love for you to get involved!

When & Where:

 **Monday, 27th October**

 **10:30pm**

 **In Person – Civic Centre, WS1 1TP**

What to Expect:

-  **Share** your thoughts, ideas, and experiences.
-  **Help Improve** SEND support and services in Walsall.
-  **Make new friends** with other young people like you!

Ask a teacher to contact me if you'd like to join!

 samantha.house@walsall.gov.uk



Walsall Council

The Youth SEND Forum will be meeting in person this half term!

If you or a young person you know aged 8-16 years old would like an opportunity to share your thoughts, experiences and meet other like minded young people please get in touch

We are really excited to meet all the young people in person and hear directly from them!

Please contact Sam on:

samantha.house@walsall.gov.uk to get involved.

WINTER PORTAL GOES LIVE: **TUESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER @ 10AM**



Walsall Holiday Activities & Food Programme

HAF Winter 2025

What's on offer this Winter?
This winter we lots of exciting & free activities for children and young people aged 5-16 yrs on income based free school meals. The portal will be live for you to get booked on **11/11/25**.

Free activities:

- Horse riding
- Arts & Crafts
- Cooking
- Pantomimes
- Football
- Sports
- Swimming
- & much more!

FREE Healthy Meal

sign up now!

Walsall Council | Walsall Holiday Activities & Food Programme | Department for Education

The HAF offer for this winter for you to choose is up to **4 pick & mix/family sessions per child**

We have a range of activities that may include: Bowling, Cinema, Summer Sensory Sessions, Swimming & Adventurous Activities.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE HAF TEAM:

Please **check your account/s** to ensure your **details are up to date** (we have had a number of parents not being able to participate in the sessions as they have not updated their child/ren's details)

If you need any support please contact the HAF team via; wr4c@walsall.gov.uk

CHILDREN/YOUNG PERSON OPPORTUNITIES



ALL VISION
A NEW TO CAMPS

presents:

You Matter

A wellbeing focused mentoring programme for 11-15 year olds in Walsall

9 WEEKS

Giving young people the tools to understand themselves, manage challenges, grow confidence and improve overall wellbeing.

Exploring life topics, building positive connections, and gaining the knowledge and support they need to thrive in school and beyond.

Self-Esteem Emotions Relationships Mental Health

You Matter - Mental Health and Wellbeing Programme for 11-15 year olds in Walsall.

This is a 9 week course that will take place in person.

5pm - 6:30pm Tuesday evenings.

For more information please contact:
ebony@vision-for-all.com



The FREE Digital Sensory Show

Phoebe's Green Christmas

"Every year, I look forward to sharing the show with my class."

"Fun, inclusive, and a great resource!"

Register here

embracingarts

Phoebe's Green Christmas is a **free**, digital festive show created especially for neurodiverse children, those with profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD), and children with life-limiting conditions. It's designed to be enjoyed wherever your child feels most comfortable, at home, in school, hospital, or hospice.

Expect music, puppets, sensory fun, and lots of Christmas cheer! The show is available to watch from **3rd November 2025 to 9th January 2026**.

For more information in how to book a slot please use this link: [EmbracingArts](https://embracingarts.com)



GIRLS YOUTH CLUB

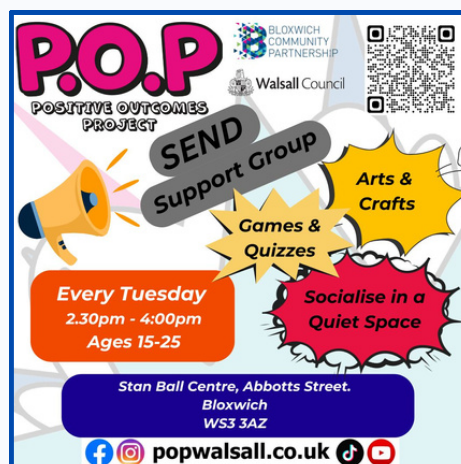
Every Friday from 4:30pm to 6:30pm at Palfrey Park, Dale Street, WS1 4AF

Only £1 per session!

AGE: 8 - 16

IQRA
Inclusive Youth and Community Resource Agency

For more information
Call: 01922 644006
Email: info@iq-ss.co.uk



P.O.P.

POSITIVE OUTCOMES PROJECT

SEND Support Group

Games & Quizzes

Arts & Crafts

Socialise in a Quiet Space

Every Tuesday
2.30pm - 4.00pm
Ages 15-25

Stan Ball Centre, Abbotts Street,
Bloxwich
WS3 3AZ

popwalsall.co.uk



STAR LIGHT YOUTH CODING AND GAMING CLUB

Star Light Multi CIC

Every Saturday
2PM - 4PM
From 4th Jan 2025
Book Online

Gaming

Coding

Virtual Reality

Relax with friends

Free Entry
Age 9 - 16

Drop off sessions
25a Station St, Walsall,
WS2 9JZ
07396 765853
www.starlightmulticic.co.uk

Funded By
west midlands police and crime commissioner

FAMILY EVENTS/OPPORTUNITIES

Funded by
UK Government



**Free Bus Travel
This Half Term**

You're Bussing It  West Midlands Bus

**FREE bus travel for parents
this October half-term**

From 27 October to 2
November 2025, Transport
West Midlands are offering
parents, guardians or carers
a whole week of unlimited
free bus travel across the
West Midlands.

For more info:
TransportWM



**AUTUMN FAMILY
WELLBEING WALK**
WITH SASSY SENSORY SURPRISES CIC
SATURDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2025
@ WALSALL ARBORETUM
11:30AM - 1:00PM

Join the Sassy Sensory Surprises team for a relaxed
and welcoming autumn wellbeing walk.

- Connect with other SEND families
- Boost your fitness and mental health
- Get the children outdoors exploring nature
- Take part in our fun Sassy Scavenger Hunt

Booking is essential – to book your space with us, please get in touch

We can't wait to welcome you and your family!
Follow us for updates and sensory inspiration:

toni@sassysensorysurprises.co.uk
www.sassysensorysurprises.co.uk
@sassysensorysurprises



**WALSALL
FIREWORKS
SPECTACULAR**

Saturday 1 November
Walsall Arboretum

Wednesday 5 November
KGV Bloxwich

Walsall Council

WE ARE
WALSALL
2040



Halloween costumes optional

**Halloween 2025
Activity Trails**

FREE events for Families

PUMPKIN CARVING **HALLOWEEN CRAFTS** **WOODLAND TRAIL**

Tuesday 28 October
5.30pm - 7pm
Blackwood Park, BT4 3PJ
What3words: //gosh.drove.pokers

Wednesday 29 October
5.30pm - 7pm
Moorcroft Wood LHR, WS10 8GA
What3words: //harsh.clois.cass

Wednesday 29 October
11am - 1pm
Palfrey Park, WS1 4AN
What3words: //spider.stow.above

Thursday 30 October
2pm - 4pm
King George V Playing Fields, WS3 3NJ
What3words: //look.store.object

Walsall Council

Booking required!
Please email: healthyspaces@walsall.gov.uk

SADDLERS
SHOPPING CENTRE

**SLIME TIME
SPOOKTACULAR**

FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER, 11AM-4PM

Pose with the Ghostbusters! Free spooky balloon modeller,
scary face painter and ghostly glitter tattoos.
Have a go at slime making too!

www.saddlersshopping.co.uk

**Halloween Arts
& Crafts**

Get ready for a spooktacular time at our stay & play
event. Come & join us for games, craft activities, and lots
of fun!

WEST FAMILY HUB,
TUESDAY 28TH OCTOBER
10:30 - 12PM
ILMINGTON HOUSE, CRESCENT
ROAD, DARLASTON, WS10 8AE

SOUTH AND CENTRAL FAMILY HUB,
THURSDAY 30TH OCTOBER
10:00 - 11:30
BIRCHILLS STREET, WS2 8NF

NORTH FAMILY HUB,
WEDNESDAY 29TH OCTOBER
10:00 - 11:30 AM
275 BLAKENALL LANE, BLAKENALL
WS3 1JU

EAST FAMILY HUB,
MONDAY 27TH OCTOBER
10:00 - 11:30AM
SILVER COURT,
BROWN HILLS, WS8 6HA

Booking required
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/walsall-family-hubs-79787418523> or scan

Walsall Family Hubs
Supporting families to live happier lives

FREE
0-5 YEARS

SCAN ME

www.walsallfamilyhubs.co.uk

WALSALL FAMILIES IN THE KNOW

Funded by
UK Government

**Halloween
Spooktacular**

Bouncy castles
Wiggle cars
Arts and crafts
Face Painting
Fancy dress competition
Mini Disco by JD Sounds
Treasure hunt

Coffee shop
Spooky treats &
Hot food available

**Bloxwich
Active
Living**

Craft & baby
sensory
Supported by
Family Hubs

£5 PER CHILD
FREE entry for adults
(adult supervision
required at
all times)

EVENTS

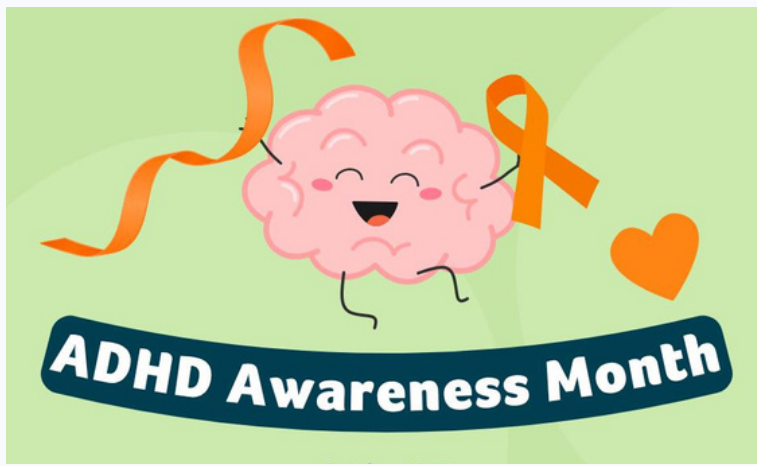


This is an event is designed for parent/carers to come along and to be able to chat to those who offer services to our children/ young people in Walsall

When - Friday 7th November - 10am - 12pm

Where - Bloxwich Active Living, High St, Bloxwich, Walsall WS3 2DA





SEND SERVICES FEEDBACK

Please could you spare a few minutes to complete this feedback form on your experience with the SEND Services. Please use the QR code or link below. Your feedback is greatly appreciated.

[SENDServicesFeedback](#)



FEEDBACK

If you have any feedback or wish something to be included in the next SEND Communications please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Next Issue: SEND Services Communications Autumn 2

Submit your updates by 5th November to be included!

Please use the below emails

Sam: samantha.house@walsall.gov.uk

Local Offer: localoffer@walsall.gov.uk



Thank you for being part of the Walsall SEND community!



Walsall Council

