



QUICK LINKS – new this week & news



DSPL 1 Information Event

Save the date!

Quick Parent Survey: Please take a couple of minutes to complete this short survey for DSPL 1:

<https://forms.microsoft.com/e/feiiLjLH5A>

NEW Springboard Letchworth Open Afternoon

North Hertfordshire College is pleased to announce our open afternoon at **Springboard Letchworth** which will be held on **Tuesday 4th February 2025 3pm – 5pm** at our premises. This is an opportunity for professionals, parents, and prospective students to meet the team and find out more about the Springboard programme. Full Details click [here](#).

[Mission EmployAble - Fulfilling lives for people with learning disabilities](#)

Accepting applications after Christmas for Internships starting in September 2025

Neurodiversity Service [Directory supporting-your-neurodiverse-child-handbook-pdf-6.6mb.pdf \(hertfordshire.gov.uk\)](#)

Webinar: The right education, in the right place, at the right time: enhancing inclusive mainstream schools and increasing specialist provision in Hertfordshire



Survey Moving in or out of Hertfordshire with an EHCP	ADD -Vance new this week/coming soon NEW Prep EHCP Review, Sleep, 6 wk courses ADHD/Autism	Early Years SEND Groups REMINDER various groups
Supporting Links Bitesize Parenting for parents in Herts Eventbrite REMINDER Eat Better, What's going on with my teenager (lite bites)	SEND News Sign up for SEND News for email updates SEND news - 30 September 2024 (hertfordshire.gov.uk)	Herts Parent Carer Involvement
Space Herts new this week/coming soon NEW Anxiety/SEND, Therapeutic Thinking, Sensory	Carers in Hertfordshire FREE online monthly support group for parents and carers	Carers In Herts & Young Carers
Angels Support Groups this week NEW Meet Up & Chat, Girls & Women	Young Carers service - Carers In Herts	EHC Portal
Autism Central	Watch now: Watch "Improving the way we manage our EHCP duties in Hertfordshire" on YouTube.	NESSie this week/coming soon NEW Self Harming Behaviours, Anxiety
Autism Hertfordshire Transition Service for 16-20 year olds	Herts Mind Network	Child Wellbeing Practitioners NEW Self Esteem & Resilience, Emotional Regulation, Sleep, Emotional Literacy
ADHD Foundation Resources Archive - ADHD Foundation : ADHD Foundation	Sandbox Body Image ? (mindler.co.uk)	Resource Zone The Sandbox (mindler.co.uk)
	Families Feeling Safe	Mental Health First Aid
Autism UK Social stories and comic strip conversations (autism.org.uk)	Wellbeing : Young People	NHS Talking Therapies
SENsational Active Tots with Stevenage FC (ages 1-5)	Families in Focus	
CEOP Safety Centre	Step2Skills Courses	Contact Money Matters



Young Carers Survey	We would like to hear from young carers and their families about Young Carers Services. We understand that being a young carer is a unique role that brings strengths and opportunities as well as challenges and responsibilities. Hertfordshire County Council arranges Carers in Hertfordshire to deliver Young Carers Services, we want to work with young carers and their families to understand what young carers want from a service and this survey is an opportunity for you to share your thoughts, needs, and ideas.	This survey is aimed at young carers aged 10-18. It is okay to ask an adult to help you if you need. Young Carers Service Survey 	This survey is aimed at parent and carers of young carers under the age of 10. Young Carers Service Parent Feedback Survey 
	Hertfordshire parents! Hertfordshire's Children and Young People's Mental Health Services (CYPMHS) system wants to understand what parents and carers need when they are faced with supporting their child or young person's poor emotional wellbeing. It can be difficult to understand why they might be experiencing low moods, anxiety or self-harming behaviours, how to cope as a family, or knowing the strategies that could help at home. In preparation for commissioning a new service, we want to make sure parents and carers feel supported, have professionals and peers to speak to and share experiences with, all while knowing they are far from alone. Complete the survey here The survey will be open until Sunday 26 January 2025		



The **SEND** Local Offer



'Introduction to the SEND Local Offer website' – webinar
The Local Offer website lets parents, young people and professionals know what special educational needs and disabilities services are available in Hertfordshire, and who can access them. There is so much more than that, too.

(for professionals AND parent carers) Tuesday 14 January
8pm - 9pm [Register to join this webinar](#)

A quick note: The Local Offer website is different to Short Breaks (SBLO). We won't be going into detail about SBLO.



A friendly face from the Local Offer team will take you through what's on the website and how you can use it to find the right services and support.

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/localoffer

Hertfordshire Additional Needs Database (HAND)	Hertfordshire Additional Needs Database – voluntary register of disabled children and young people aged 0-25. By joining the register you can get discounts at places around the county and beyond.	Short Breaks	Short breaks offer disabled children and young people the chance to spend time out with others socialising and doing fun activities, giving their families a break and providing them with confidence their child is well supported by a trained worker. They include holiday and Saturday clubs, with activities ranging from Lego and computer skills to buddying sessions.
Educational, health and care plans (EHCP)	If SEN support isn't enough, then an Education, Health and Care Plan might be the next step.	Support with education	The educational support your child is entitled to, types of education and how to access learning if your child can't get into school
Courses and activities in Hertfordshire	Find courses, clubs and activities for you and your family, and short breaks and childcare too.	Early Years (ages 0-5)	Help available in the early years, including health visitors and family centres.
Contact a SEND service	Information on how to contact SEND service and details of their Advice Lines	Services for children and young people (ages 0-25)	From doctors and dentists to more specialist support for complex needs.
Preparing for adulthood	Thinking about your child's future early can help to relieve some of the worries you might have. Advice on how you and your child can prepare.	Services for parents, carers and families	Organisations who support parents, carers and families of children with SEND in Hertfordshire.
Money	Financial support you can apply for yourself, money advice, and funding professionals can get too.	Feedback	Find out how you can shape SEND services, or what to do if you're not happy.
The SEND Local Offer has lots of resources including:	Watch at a time to suit you webinars – Autism and ADHD ADD-vance Understanding ADHD Webinar ADD-vance Understanding Autism Webinar	ADHD Foundation – a Teenager's guide to living with ADHD SEND documents and resources (hertfordshire.gov.uk)	
Introducing the new EHC Portal: tracking the EHC assessment process with ease	Hertfordshire County Council Introducing the new EHC Portal: tracking the EHC assessment process with ease	Development of a new online EHC Portal for families, launching (in a phased way) from mid-October. The portal will make it easier for families to track the progress of their Education Health and Care (EHC) Needs Assessment. See link for further details.	



Services For Young People	Services for Young People (SFYP) Megamix Project for young people with SEND ages 13-17 Tuesdays, 6:30pm to 8:30pm Bowes Lyon Young People's Centre Services for Young People (SFYP) Megamix Project for young people with SEND ages 13-17 (Stevenage) - 15/10/2024 Hertfordshire County Council
Services for Young People Recruitment Hub	SfYP offers a diverse range of services and employment programmes for young people aged 16-25 who are no in education, employment or training (NEET) and those aged 15+ who are at risk of not progressing into education or training. Visit the Recruitment Hub for more information: Recruitment Hub
Supporting your Neurodivergent Child handbook	Hertfordshire County Council and the NHS are delighted to share with you the exciting and new Supporting your Neurodivergent Child handbook that has been developed for Hertfordshire parent/carers and professionals. The Neurodiversity Handbook has useful resources, support and signposting on a whole range of things relating to Neurodiversity. The resource is accessible to all regardless of whether the young person has a diagnosis or not, and can be used at any point during a young person's journey.



Voices of Hertfordshire

[Voices of Hertfordshire - YouTube](#)

[Instagram: Voices of Hertfordshire @voicesofhertfordshire](#)

Hertfordshire Children and Young People's Mental Health Service Directory

The services below provide a combination of early intervention and more specialist support for children and young people's mental health. Click the service name to be redirected to more information.

ChatHealth 0-5	PALMS
ChatHealth 11-19	Rephael House Counselling
Children's Crisis Assessment and Treatment Team	Safe Space
Children's Wellbeing Practitioners	School Nurses and Duty Line
CHUMS Bereavement Support	Services for Young People
Educational Psychologists	Signpost
Families First	Single Point Access (SPA)
First Steps ED	Specialist CAMHS
Health for Kids	Spectrum Family and Young People's Service
Health for Teens	Step 2
Herts Haven Cafés	The Sandbox
Just Talk	The Toolbox (Neurodiverse)
Just Talk Ambassador Scheme	Togetherall
Lumi Nova	WithYouth
Mental Health Support Teams in Schools (MHSTs)	YCT Counselling
NESSE Parenting	Youth Talk Counselling
NHS Talking Therapies	Young Minds Parent Helpline



Telephone service
Face to face service
Includes support for early years

Online/virtual service
Referral required

- Reaching developmental and emotional milestones, learning healthy social skills and how to cope when there are problems. Mentally healthy children have a positive quality of life and can function well at home, in school, and in their communities.
- Difficulties with normal life problems, poor self confidence, low self esteem, low aspirations, difficult family relationships, poor peer relationships, experimental substance misuse, bereavement, poor concentration, difficulty sustaining relationships, some worries, low mood.
- Many worries, high levels of anxiety, persistent low mood, body image concerns, behaviour puts peers at risk, persistent or high risk substance misuse, risk taking behaviour, unable to display empathy, difficulty coping with anger or frustration, bereavement by suicide/suspected suicide, withdrawn or unwilling to engage, disruptive or challenging behaviour, unable to maintain peer relationships (bullying, bullied or aggression etc).
- Mental health problems which are:
 - Persistent, complex and severe
 - Present in all environments (home, school, with peers)
 - Beyond a normal response to life's problems
- Deliberate self harm requiring hospital treatment, suicidal ideation with imminent plan and means, psychotic episode (hearing unexpected voices, unrealistic or racing thoughts not related to physical or substance misuse), intentional overdosing, persistent inability to engage with services or support offered, risk taking behaviour with no underlying mental health disorder, unresponsive to treatment and continuing to decline.

If you have any suggested changes to the directory, please email shelley.moody@hertfordshire.gov.uk



- No referrals, no judgements – just an open door and a safe welcoming space to talk
- Professional workers to support you with your wellbeing
- Practical help at your fingertips – coping strategies, stress management techniques and more!
- Emotional support tailored to your needs

For more information scan the QR code



Opening times and locations

The cafés are open in Watford, Hemel Hempstead and Stevenage across the week.

Day	Time	Location
Mon	3:30 – 8pm	Watford Palace Theatre
Tue	3:30 – 8pm	Bowes Lyon, Stevenage
Wed	3:30 – 8pm	Bowes Lyon, Stevenage
Thu	3:30 – 8pm	Quaker Meeting House, Hemel Hempstead
Sat	12pm – 5pm	Bowes Lyon, Stevenage
Sat	12pm – 5pm	Quaker Meeting House, Hemel Hempstead

T: 0208 189 8400 E: cyp@hertsmindnetwork.org W: www.withyouth.org

[CYPMHS Service Directory - SW \(justtalkherts.org\)](#)

[Mental health support for all children and young people in Hertfordshire \(justtalkherts.org\)](#)



Hertfordshire Children and Young People's Neurodiversity Service Directory

The services below provide a combination of early intervention and more specialist neurodiversity support. Click the service name to be redirected to more information.

Telephone support

Online/virtual support

Face to face support

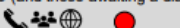
Referral required

Support for: Parents and carers Professionals Children and young people

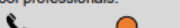
ADD-vance – Support for families affected by ADHD, Autism or related conditions and the professionals who support them.



Angels – Support for families of autistic children and/or children who have ADHD (and those awaiting a diagnosis)



Ask SALI – A SEND Advice Line for Inclusion for SENCOs and other school professionals.



Autism Herts – Deliver a range of services to support Autistic people aged 16+ and their carers.



Courses and workshops – Parenting support for parents and carers



Digital Webinars – Online webinars for parents, carers, young people and professionals.



DSPL (Delivering Special Provision Locally) – There are 9 DSPL areas providing support to schools and families.



Early Years SEN Health Visitors (E&N Herts) – Support with understanding your child's needs, information on services and accessing support for families with children aged 0-4.



Educational Psychologists – Support for learning, development and emotional wellbeing of children and young people.



ESC (Education Support Centre) – Provide alternative education for children of statutory school age who have been permanently excluded or are at risk of permanent exclusion.



Families in Focus – Provide online therapeutic parenting courses.



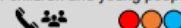
Family Support Workers (DSPL/LSP) – Local support offered on a range of different topics.



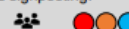
Homecare – Support in the home for disabled children with complex needs.



ISL (Integrated Services for Learning) – Multi-professional service helping schools, setting and families to improve outcomes for children and young people.



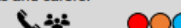
Lending Space – An equipment lending library for families with children and young people with SEND. Also offer advice, a listening ear and signposting.



Local Offer – A Hertfordshire website advertising what special educational needs and disability services are available and who can access them.



Nessie – Offer therapeutic support to children and young people, training for professionals and webinars and support for parents and carers.



Neurodiversity Support Hub – An advice line offering support, signposting and guidance about a whole range of things relating to ADHD and Autism. WhatsApp chat also available.



OSB (Overnight Short Breaks) – A service for children with disabilities and complex health needs, offering them an overnight stay in a suitable setting, giving parents and carers a break from their caring responsibilities.



Potential Kids – Provides learning, social and sports opportunities to neurodivergent children and young people.



SENDIASS – An impartial advice and support service for parents, carers and their children.



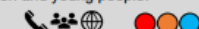
SEND SAS – SEND specialist advisory & support service offer education support for schools / colleges and families.



Short Breaks – A scheme offering children and young people with SEND the opportunity to spend time out with others socialising and doing fun activities.



Space – Offering a variety of support for families of neurodivergent children and young people.



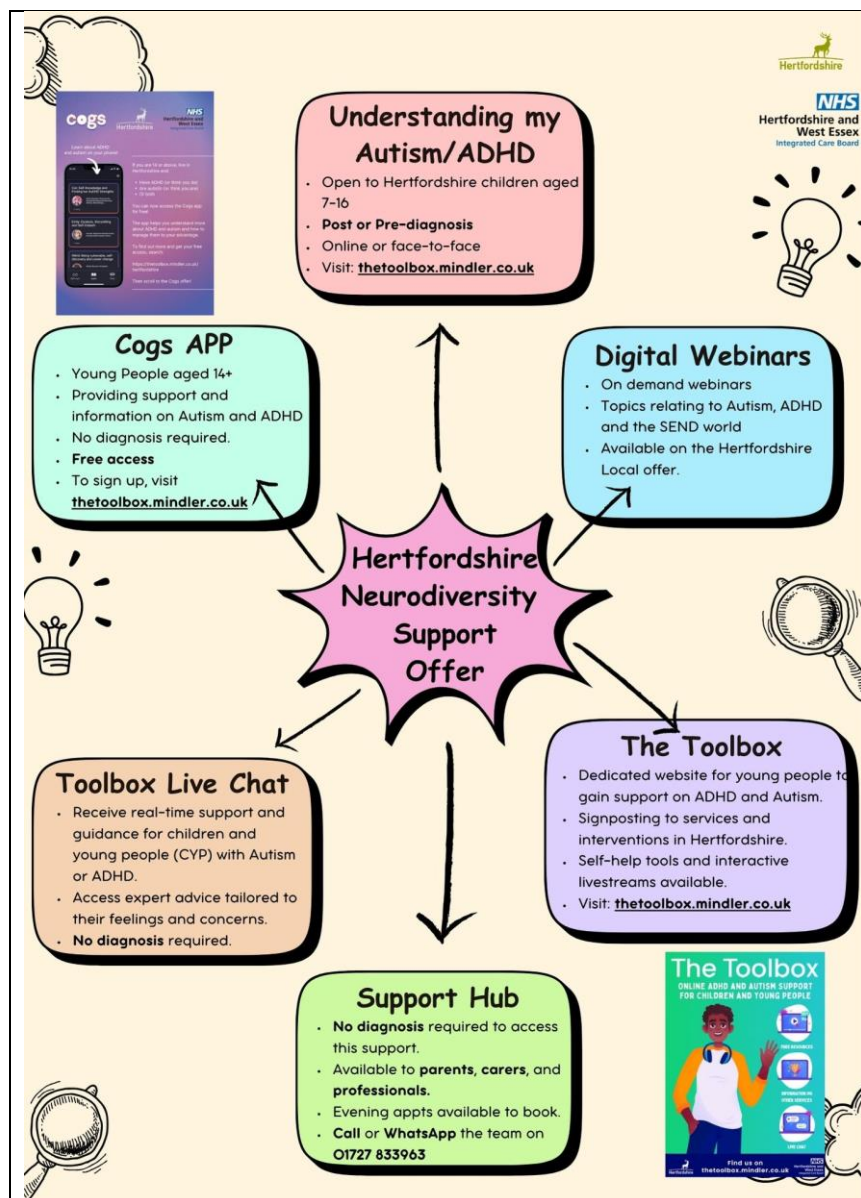
The Toolbox – Online support for neurodiverse children and young people. Includes gaming livestreams, live text chat options and other resources.



Understanding my Autism/ADHD – Support for autistic children and young people and those with ADHD. Includes online and in person workshops and a downloadable app offered by a variety of providers.



Neurodiversity Support



Understanding my Autism/ADHD

Do you have a child aged between 7-16 diagnosed with Autism, ADHD, or both?

We're thrilled to launch a range of exciting offers designed to support children and teens just like yours!

These workshops, are available online and in-person. Led by experienced professionals, sessions will provide tailored strategies to help your young person understand their Autism, and or ADHD, in a fun and engaging way!

Referrals from professionals are welcome, or you can easily sign up your child yourself.

Are you ready to empower your child on their journey of self-discovery?

Find out more here:
thetoolbox.mindler.co.uk

The Toolbox

ONLINE ADHD AND AUTISM SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

FREE RESOURCES

INFORMATION ON OTHER SERVICES

LIVE CHAT

Find us on thetoolbox.mindler.co.uk

Neurodiversity Support Hub

For Parents, Carers and Professionals in Hertfordshire

We can offer support, signposting and guidance about a whole range of things including but not limited to:

- Understanding ADHD/Autism
- Distressed Behaviours
- Anxiety
- School

The phones are answered by our team of parents and carers of neurodivergent children and young people

Are you a Parent, Carer or Professional?

01727 833963

supporthub@add-vance.org

Opening Hours

- 9AM - 1PM - Monday, Wednesday & Friday
- 9AM - 3PM - Tuesday & Thursday
- 7PM - 9PM - Wednesday (By Appt)

Here to support, reach out for a listening ear

Understanding my Autism/ADHD

A Range of Different Offers including an APP - You Choose

- Are you aged 7-16 and have either Autism, ADHD, or both?
- We are launching some amazing workshops that could help you learn more about yourself and how incredible you are.

Are you ready to embark on an incredible journey of self-discovery? Join us now!

thetoolbox.mindler.co.uk



FOLLOW Help develop Speech, Language & Communication Skills at home	FOLLOW Linktree Introducing the FOLLOW campaign! A very simple and easy to use set of strategies that parents and carers can use with their little ones to help develop speech, language and communication skills at home. For more information, please use the link below. https://linktr.ee/EYFOLLOW     
Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust	Children & Young People's Therapies referral forms are now Online! What is changing? Starting on the 4th March, HCT will launch the updated digital referral forms. These changes have been made to help improve patient experience by providing easier access to services and streamlining the overall process. CYPT services includes Children's Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy & Speech, and Language Therapy. The digital referral form route is accessible by an online link for use by appropriate referrers including Schools, Parents/Carers, Self-referrals, GP's and Health Care Professionals. You can make a referral to these services by following the below links or visiting our website www.hct.nhs.uk   

 Nutritionists supporting one to one sessions at First Steps ED	Nutritionists are now embedded into one to one support pathways at First Steps ED. This is following the latest advice and guidance in ensuring the best outcomes for children and young people with eating difficulties. First Steps to Understanding Eating Disorders (First Steps ED) is for Hertfordshire's children and young people aged 5-18, parents/care givers. The service provides digital and face to face one-to-one support sessions, as well as weekly psychoeducation and group support programmes (Wellbeing Workshop, Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder (ARFID) Support Group, Binge Eating Workshops etc). Parents, carers and older siblings can also gain access to First Steps ED's Parent Support Programme.
'Cogs' wellbeing app for neurodiverse young people (ages 14+)	'Cogs' is a wellbeing app created by and for the neurodivergent community. For ages 14+, it can help young people navigate their day, understand more about autism and ADHD and build positive habits. Register for free access on the Toolbox website



Free online wellbeing groups for neurodivergent and/or disabled young people (ages 13-25)

Young neurodivergent and/or disabled people aged 13-25 (plus those awaiting diagnosis or young people with suspected diagnosis) can join KIDS for free self-care groups, every Thursday 3pm - 4pm throughout summer. Every week will be different. This is a space for you to recharge and reset. Every session you will be able to talk and get to know other young people. These will be safe spaces for peer support and connection so this is the place to share experiences and ask for advice. There will be an opportunity to try different types of movement such as dance, yoga and stretches. We'll end each session with some mindfulness that might include music and sounds.

All activities are optional and you can join to talk and/or listen only. You will be able to take breaks when you need. All the movements can be adapted to be done from a chair.

In the past, we have run peer support groups on:

- Social anxiety
- Protecting our mental health online
- Boundaries
- Autistic burnout
- Making a self-care plan

Young people suggested all the topics above themselves for groups and we are always open to what young people would like to talk to about. The young people have also suggested film and book discussion groups and a group to talk about their special interests, there is no shortage of ideas on what to do moving forward. All of the groups have time for the young people to input on what they want to do next.

The groups can be a really good place to learn about neurodivergence in general and managing your mental health with respect to this and to ask any questions when you are at the start of the diagnostic process.

If you have any questions or want to have a chat about this group, please email Orla at orla.price@kids.org.uk. Orla can also set up meetings with young people 1:1 to provide any support or answer any questions to do with accessing the groups. [View all of the wellbeing groups - Young People's Hub from KIDS](#)

'Cogs' wellbeing app for neurodiverse young people (ages 14+)

'Cogs' is a wellbeing app created by and for the neurodivergent community. For ages 14+, it can help young people navigate their day, understand more about autism and ADHD and build positive habits. [Register for free access on the Toolbox website](#)

The Toolbox	The Information Zone		
Hertfordshire Partner Organisations The Toolbox See link for current schedule of workshops including and full details/criteria:	• Understanding My ADHD and Autism • Hertfordshire Bee You – Autism and ADHD – No Diagnosis Required. • CathARTic – Autism and Me: 6 Week Creative Program	• COGS Neurodiversity App • NESSie – My World and Me – Autism/ADHD • SPACE – Understanding My Autism and ADHD	



SPACE Herts	<i>Charity supporting families of children and young people who are neurodivergent (Autism, ADHD, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, Dyscalculia, Tourette's and other neurodiverse conditions).</i>	
Understanding and Supporting Emotional Regulation Tickets, Thu 16 Jan 2025 at 10:00 Eventbrite		Emotional Regulation
Anxiety and SEND Tickets, Fri 17 Jan 2025 at 10:00 Eventbrite		Anxiety & SEND
Therapeutic Thinking for Parent Carers Tickets, Mon 20 Jan 2025 at 10:00 Eventbrite		Therapeutic Thinking
Sensory Signs, Signals and Solutions Workshop Tickets, Mon 20 Jan 2025 at 19:00 Eventbrite		Sensory Signs, Signals and Solutions
Understanding My Autism and ADHD - School Years 10-11 - Girls (ONLINE) Tickets, Tue, Jan 21, 2025 at 4:30 PM Eventbrite		Understanding My Autism/ADHD (10 to 11)
EHCP New Application Workshop Tickets, Wed 22 Jan 2025 at 10:00 Eventbrite		EHCP New Application
FOR FURTHER ACTIVITIES AND SESSIONS SEE: SPACE HERTFORDSHIRE Events Eventbrite		Additional Activities
ADD-Vance	<i>A registered charity with a team of over 20 dedicated trainers, coaches, admin staff and volunteers – supporting families of children with ADHD and/or Autism. Some HCC Funded workshops are recorded to enable you to watch at a convenient time.</i>	
ONLINE SUPPORT GROUP for Parents/Carers of Primary Aged Children Tickets, Tue 4 Feb 2025 at 13:30 Eventbrite		Online Support Group (Primary)
Preparing for an EHCP Review - FREE ONLINE WORKSHOP Tickets, Wed 5 Feb 2025 at 10:00 Eventbrite		Preparing EHCP Review
Tips & Tools for Sleep - FREE ONLINE WORKSHOP Tickets, Mon 10 Feb 2025 at 10:00 Eventbrite		Tips/Tools for Sleep
ONLINE SUPPORT GROUP for Parents/Carers of Secondary Aged Children Tickets, Tue 11 Feb 2025 at 13:30 Eventbrite		Online Support Group (Secondary)
Understanding ADHD and Autism in the Primary Years - FREE 6 WEEK COURSE Tickets, Tue 25 Feb 2025 at 10:00 Eventbrite		6wk course: ADHD/Autism (Primary)
Understanding ADHD and Autism - FREE ONLINE 6 WEEK COURSE FOR DADS Tickets, Wed 26 Feb 2025 at 19:00 Eventbrite		6wk course: ADHD/Autism (Dads)
Understanding ADHD and Autism in the Teen Years-FREE ONLINE 6 WEEK COURSE Tickets, Thu 27 Feb 2025 at 10:00 Eventbrite		6wk course: ADHD/Autism (Teens)



Autism Hertfordshire			
Evening Groups	<i>Evening social groups for adults 18+. In St Albans and Stevenage. Wednesdays, every 2 weeks – contact 01727 743246 orenquiries@autismherts.org for details</i>		
Daytime Groups	<i>Community based sessions where attendees can take advantage of regular walks or lunches in local cases with their peer group. Supported by two staff members, across Herts. contact 01727 743246 orenquiries@autismherts.org for details</i>		
Angels Support Group	<i>Angels is charity that supports families of autistic children and/or children who have ADHD (and those awaiting diagnosis).</i>		
Tuesdays – Zoom 10am to 12pm	Thursdays – Stevenage 10am to 12pm Home Start : 5 Bedwell Park, SG1 1NB	Thursdays – Zoom 7:30pm to 8:30pm	
14 Jan – Making the most of meetings with professionals	16 Jan – Meet Up and Chat		
21 Jan – Girls and Women		23 Jan – Evening Parent/Carer Support Group	
28 Jan – Understanding PDA			
4 Jan – Why Autism and ADHD affect sleep	6 Feb – Meet Up and Chat		
11 Feb – Reducing Conflict		13 Feb – Evening Parent/Carer Support	
Podcasts: Podcasts - Angels Support Group	Support Groups and workshops, Meet up and Chat www.angelssupportgroup.org.uk Angels 2025 Programme Jan-April		
Autism Central	<i>Autism Central aims to make it easier to learn more about autism and services available to you.</i>		
Resources	Designed to make it easier, signposts to information on wide range of topics around autism and support that is available from Autism Central, their partner organisations and other trusted sources.	One-to-one	Talk to your hub for a one-to-one chat to help find the information and services available in your area.
Events	Talk to people who share similar experiences by joining a workshop, coffee morning or virtual meet up.		



Supporting Links		A local Social Enterprise, providing parenting support through courses, workshops and 1:1 mentoring of parents and children.	
Workshops: We have a number of single session workshops for parents of children with diagnosed or suspected ASD and or ADHD. These are funded by Herts County Council so are free for parents who live or go to school in Herts to attend.		Use the Course ID (See below) to book your place Booking Essential: bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk or 07512 709556 See website for flyers and links: New What's On (supportinglinks.co.uk)	
NEW Bitesize Parenting for parents in Herts One hour online workshops – offers insights and practical solutions for a typical parenting challenge		How to I get my child to eat better? 16 Jan at 10am Bitesize Parenting for parents in Herts Eventbrite	
What is going on in my teenager's head? 23 Jan at 7pm What is going on in my teenager's head? (721) Registration, Thu 23 Jan 2025 at 19:00 Eventbrite		Why does my child behave like that? 27 Jan at 1:30pm Why does my child behave like that? (722) Registration, Mon 27 Jan 2025 at 13:30 Eventbrite	
Why does my child give up so easily? 5 Feb at 12:30pm Why does my child give up so easily? (723) Registration, Wed 5 Feb 2025 at 12:30 Eventbrite		How do I get my child to listen to me? 10 Feb at 7pm How do I get my child to listen to me? (724) Registration, Mon 10 Feb 2025 at 19:00 Eventbrite	
How can my child learn to manage their feelings? 26 Feb at 12:30pm How can my child learn to manage their feelings? (725) Registration, Wed 26 Feb 2025 at 12:30 Eventbrite		Why can't my child make good decisions? 6 Mar at 7pm Why can't my child make good decisions? (726) Registration, Thu 6 Mar 2025 at 19:00 Eventbrite	
Is it possible to praise my child too much? 19 Mar at 1:30pm Is it possible to praise my child too much? (727) Registration, Mon 10 Mar 2025 at 13:30 Eventbrite		How do I talk to my teen/preteen about ...? 17 Mar at 7pm How do I talk to my teen/preteen about...? (728) Registration, Mon 17 Mar 2025 at 19:00 Eventbrite	
Why don't my children get on with each other better? 27 Mar at 10am Why don't my children get on with each other better? (729) Registration, Thu 27 Mar 2025 at 10:00 Eventbrite			
ASD & ADHD The Teenage Years	Talking ASD & ADHD: The Teenage Years (715) For parents/carers in Herts. Registration, Tue 4 Mar 2025 at 19:30 Eventbrite		The Teenage Years
ASD & ADHD SIBLING STRUGGLES	Talking ASD & ADHD: Sibling Struggles (713) For parents/carers in Herts. Registration, Thu 13 Feb 2025 at 19:30 Eventbrite		Sibling Struggles
ASD & ADHD RESPONDING TO ANGER	Talking ASD & ADHD: Responding to Anger (714) For parents/carers in Herts. Registration, Wed 2 Apr 2025 at 09:30 Eventbrite		Responding to Anger



Talking Anxiety in Families 6 Weekly Sessions for parents/carers of under 12's		Wednesdays 7:45pm to 9:30pm 8 Jan to 12 Feb ONLINE COURSE ID 705	Talking Anxiety in Families
Talking Teens 6 Weekly Sessions for parents/carers of children aged 12-19	Wednesdays 7pm to 9pm 26 Feb to 2 April Face to Face Course ID 707 Oakleaf Primary School, Hemel Hempstead	Tuesdays 7:45pm to 9:15pm 7 Jan to 11 Feb ONLINE COURSE ID 708	Talking Teens
Talking Dads/Male Carers 6 Weekly sessions for Dads/Male Carers of all ages	Mondays 7:45pm to 9:15pm (ages 0-19) 6 Jan to 10 Feb ONLINE COURSE ID 710	Thursdays 7:45pm to 9:15pm (ages 0-11) 27 Feb to 3 Apr ONLINE COURSE ID 711 Wednesdays 7:45pm to 9:15pm (ages 12-19) 26 Feb to 2 Mar ONLINE COURSE ID 712	Talking Dads/Male Carers
Talking Anxiety in Teens 6 week session for parents and carers of children 12-19		Mondays 7:45pm to 9:30pm 24 Feb to 31 Mar ONLINE COURSE ID 706	
Talking Additional Needs (no diagnosis needed) A 6-week group for parents and carers of children with any additional need from 2-25.	6 November to 11 December Venue TBC St Albans Course ID 676	Tuesdays 9:45am to 11:15am (ages 2-19) 25 Feb to 1 Apr ONLINE COURSE ID 701 Wednesdays 7:45pm to 9:15pm (AGES 12-19) 8 Jan to 12 Feb ONLINE COURSE ID 709	Talking Additional Needs
Talking Families 6 weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged 0-12	Tuesdays 9:45am to 11:15am Jan to 11 Feb ONLINE COURSE ID 703	Tuesdays 8pm to 9:30pm 7 Jan to 11 Feb ONLINE COURSE ID 704 Tuesdays 8pm to 9:30pm 25 Feb to 1 Apr ONLINE COURSE ID 702	Talking Families



Families in Focus		<i>Hertfordshire based community interest company, which provides training, information and therapeutic and emotional support to parents.</i>
Email to book: bookings@familiesinfocus.co.uk		
Transforming family life through empathy - helping families to build strong family connections A proven therapeutic approach for parents of children aged 3 to 11 yrs, to increase positive family communication to manage behaviours that challenge, reducing behaviours that challenge and building your family's emotional wellbeing 3 x 2 hour sessions Email to book: bookings@familiesinfocus.co.uk		Transforming family life through empathy for Parents of children with SEND 4-10 years More dates coming soon in March 2025
Handling anger of children with Autism & ADHD FREE 6 week course Increase understanding of how Autism and ADHD affects emotional regulation Increase awareness of a child's sensory needs Increase your understanding of triggers that cause children's angry outbursts Learn healthy anger management strategies for children and parents to reduce angry reactions	- Monday mornings 9.30-11.30am ONLINE VIA ZOOM 6 sessions Bookings open - January 6th 13th 20th 27th February 3rd 10th - Monday lunchtimes 12.15 -2.15pm ONLINE VIA ZOOM 6 session course Book now - January 6th 13th 20th 27th February 3rd 10th - Monday evenings 6.30-8.30pm ONLINE VIA ZOOM 6 Session course Book now - January 6th 13th 20th 27th February 3rd 10th	Handling anger of children with Autism & ADHD Current SEND courses – Families in Focus
A complete guide to parenting children with Autism & ADHD FREE 10 week course for parents living in Hertfordshire and parenting a child with Autism or ADHD (with diagnosis or awaiting assessment) aged 2 to 11. Gain a greater understanding and answer the question 'why does my child do that?' Learn a range of strategies and solutions, to better manage behaviours that challenge. Understanding sensory needs of children. Increase understanding of children's common sleep issues.	Tuesday mornings 9:30am to 11:30am 7, 14, 21, 28 January 4, 11, 28 February, 4, 11 March Tuesday evening 6:30pm to 8:30pm 7, 14, 21, 28 January 4, 11, 28 February 4, 11 March	A Complete Guide to parenting children with Autism and ADHD Current SEND courses – Families in Focus
Handling anger of primary aged children with Autism or ADHD FREE six-week course is funded by Hertfordshire County Council and FREE for parents of primary-aged children with ADHD and/or Autism living in Hertfordshire. Online, interactive course for parents provides practical support to understand why children with Autism or ADHD react with anger and provides proven	Wednesdays 9:30am to 11:30am OR 6:30pm to 8:30pm. 26 February, 5, 12, 19, 26 March, 2 April Mondays	Handling anger Primary aged children (Autism/ADHD)



techniques to reduce angry meltdowns and increase emotional regulation for the whole family.	9:30am to 11:30am 24 February, 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 March	
Handling anger in your family (No SEND) Online, interactive course will transform family life and includes: Increase understanding of the triggers leading to children's & parents' anger Techniques to increase children's emotional regulation and decrease angry meltdowns Strategies to support children to understand and 'let go' of their emotions safely Tried and tested techniques to reduce stress and conflict Support parents to share experiences and knowledge	Wednesdays 9:30am to 11:30am, 8, 15, 22, 29 Jan & 5, 12 Feb Mondays Lunch & Learn 12:30pm to 2pm Evenings 7pm to 8:30pm 24 Feb, 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 March	Handling anger in your family
Family Lives	Positive Co-Parenting of Neurodiverse Children – 8 Week online facilitated group This programme is designed specifically for parents living together or apart, who are facing conflicts and struggling to find common ground in raising their neurodiverse child. This is a valuable opportunity to enhance relationships, strengthen parenting skills and create a more harmonious home environment. Who should attend? • Parents who are experiencing conflicts and challenges due to the neurodiversity of their child. • Parents who want to improve communication and build stronger partnership in parenting and co-parenting their neurodiverse child. • Parents seeking guidance, support, and practical strategies to navigate the unique challenges of raising a neurodiverse child. For more information or make a referral, scan the QR code, email services@familylives.org.uk or call 0204 522 8700 or 0204 522 8699.	
Herts Mind Network	Hertfordshire Mind Network	



Children's Wellbeing Practitioners	HCT Children's Wellbeing Practitioners Events Eventbrite Upcoming courses: Emotional Wellbeing and Regulation, Emotional Wellbeing Workshop, Sleep Workshop, Developing Your Child's Emotional Literacy	Check for available courses, please note they book up quickly
Child General Emotional Wellbeing and Regulation Tips for Parents Tickets, Wed 22 Jan 2025 at 10:00 Eventbrite		Wellbeing and Regulation
Adolescent Self-esteem and Resilience Workshop Tickets, Mon 27 Jan 2025 at 18:00 Eventbrite		Self-Esteem and Resilience
Sleep Workshop (Child and Adolescent) Tickets, Thu 6 Feb 2025 at 18:00 Eventbrite		Sleep Workshop
Children's Wellbeing Practitioners Service Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust (hct.nhs.uk) Pre-recorded webinar, workshops for parents / carers and young people and links to the guidance docs.		School Avoidance
CARERS IN HERTS		
Carers In Herts Evening Phone Support	Evening Phone Appointments available 5:30pm to 7:30pm on Wednesdays Book now: contact@carersinherts.org.uk / 01992 58 69 69	
Monthly Support Group	7pm to 9pm via zoom Children Young People's Mental Health Services (CYPMHS) - Carers In Herts contact@carersinherts.org.uk	
Young Carers	See link for contact and links	



NHS Hertfordshire Talking Therapies		Primary Care Mental Health Update
Student Support	Starting Collect/University is an amazing experience, full of incredible moments and opportunities, it can sometimes feel challenging. Please see link for self-referral for support available.	Referral HPFT IAPT Services (hpft-talkingtherapies.nhs.uk)
ADHD Awareness Month	Understanding ADHD and low self-esteem webinar. Most people with ADHD can experience low self-esteem because of difficulties in different areas of their life. These difficulties may arise because of the experiences that come with ADHD, such as forgetfulness, poor concentration, extreme restlessness.	Understanding ADHD and low self-esteem HPFT IAPT Services (hpft-talkingtherapies.nhs.uk)
Talk for Your Health Campaign #TalkHealth2024 Support for LTC – Long Term Conditions	Talk for Your Health: Emotional Support for Long Term Conditions (LTC) HPFT IAPT Services (hpft-talkingtherapies.nhs.uk) Celebrating Our First Month of the “Talk for Your Health” Campaign Talk for Your Health: Emotional Support for Long Term Conditions (LTC) HPFT IAPT Services	
Support for Long Term Conditions	People living with long term physical health conditions such as diabetes, chronic pain, COPD, or chronic heart disease may face various challenges across many areas of their life. Resources and Self-help HPFT IAPT Services (hpft-talkingtherapies.nhs.uk)	
Living well with persistent pain	Living well with persistent pain HPFT IAPT Services (hpft-talkingtherapies.nhs.uk)	
Long Covid: Moving Forward	Long COVID: Moving forwards HPFT IAPT Services (hpft-talkingtherapies.nhs.uk)	
Nature and Wellbeing SAD Seasonable Affective Disorder	Nature and Wellbeing HPFT IAPT Services	
Webinars Diabetes and emotional wellbeing	Diabetes and Emotional Wellbeing HPFT IAPT Services (hpft-talkingtherapies.nhs.uk)	
Living Well with a Long-term Physical Health Condition	Living Well with a Long-term Physical Health Condition HPFT IAPT Services (hpft-talkingtherapies.nhs.uk)	



MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training	2 day first aider course suitable for everyone who teaches, works, lives with or cares for 8 to 18 year olds. Fully funded. 9:30am to 4pm Youth MHFA, Facts and Figures, Depression and Anxiety, Suicide and Psychosis, Self-harm and Eating Disorders For further information contact hweicbhv.schoolsmh@nhs.net
1 Day Champion Course	Mental Health First Aid Training – 1 Day Champion Course FREE For Parents and Carers of 8 to 18 Year Olds 9:30am to 4pm What is mental health, health and mental ill health, stigma and discrimination, depression and suicide. Mental health conditions: anxiety, self harm, eating disorders, psychosis, recovery, resilience. Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) 1 day course for Parents & Carers Tickets, Multiple Dates Eventbrite
NESSie	<i>Support the positive mental health of children and young people 0-25 years. 1-1 and group therapies for children and young people and webinars and support to parents and carers.</i>
NESSie is funded by HCC to support parents/carers of children and young people with emotional and mental health issues. The aim of this work is to help parents/carers develop a positive and more confident approach to supporting their young person, whilst offering a chance to gain peer support; useful strategies and practical tools.	FREE online and face-to-face workshops on a range of mental health issues that affect children and young people. Parent Support Line 07932 651319 (Wednesdays 9am to 12pm or by appointment) Private moderated Facebook support groups. support advice sessions. Peer support groups: a confidential group, where parents will have an opportunity to share their experiences, support each other through challenges and identify coping strategies. For more information: Podio

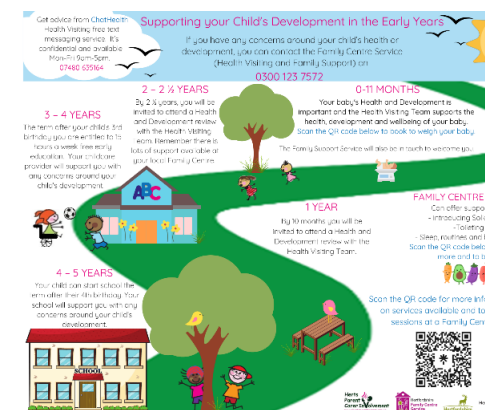


NESSie		Support the positive mental health of children and young people 0-25 years. 1-1 and group therapies for children and young people and webinars and support to parents and carers.	
Parent/Carer Live Webinar –	Self-Harming Behaviours Thursday, 30 January 9:30am to 11:30am Nessie Public Booking Platform V3.1	Parent/Carer Live Webinar –	Anxiety Wednesday, 5 March 2025 Nessie Public Booking Platform V3.1
Webinar Playback	Supporting a Child Struggling to Attend School	Nessie Public Booking Platform V3.0 (procfu.com)	
‘My World & Me’™ is a 12-week group programme for children and young people aged 7-16 years who live in Hertfordshire. This group is run by two NESSie Autism/LD specialists and aims to support your child/young person to have an opportunity to meet other young people of similar age and experiences. Focusing on celebrating your child’s strengths, this group aims to be fun whilst supporting confidence, independence, and resilience. NESSie is proud to be neurodiverse affirmative with the majority of our team having lived experience. Please note that spaces are limited to 8 participants per group. Upon receiving your booking information you will be contacted by a member of our team for a chat. If your requested group is at capacity or a need for alternative support is identified, you will be offered an alternative group or signposted to alternative support. Completing the booking does not guarantee a space on the chosen group.			
Understanding My Autism/ADHD: ages 11-16 (online) Nessie Public Booking Platform V3.0		This workshop is during school hours – children are welcome to join online from school or home. Please contact info@nessieined.com for more information. The joining link will be send ahead of the first session.	Thursdays, 9 January 2025 to 3 April 2025 2pm to 3pm
Understanding My Autism/ADHD: for ages 7-11 (online) Nessie Public Booking Platform V3.0		This workshop is during school hours – children are welcome to join online from school or home. Please contact info@nessieined.com for more information. The joining link will be send ahead of the first session.	Wednesdays, 8 January 2025 to 2 April 2025 2pm to 4pm
Understanding My Autism/ADHD: for ages 7-11 (Royston) Nessie Public Booking Platform V3.0		This workshop is during school hours – children are welcome to join online from school or home. Please contact info@nessieined.com for more information. The joining link will be send ahead of the first session.	Wednesdays, 8 January 2025 to 2 April 2025 10am to 11am
Understanding My Autism: for ages 11-14 (Stevenage) Nessie Public Booking Platform V3.0		This workshop is during school hours – children are welcome to join online from school or home. Please contact info@nessieined.com for more information. The joining link will be send ahead of the first session.	Tuesdays 7 January 2025 to 1 April 13:55 to 14:55
Understanding Pre-Diagnosis ages 7-11 (online) Nessie Public Booking Platform V3.0		This workshop is during school hours – children are welcome to join online from school or home. Please contact info@nessieined.com for more information. The joining link will be send ahead of the first session.	Tuesdays 7 January 2025 to 1 April 2pm to 3pm
Understanding Pre-Diagnosis ages 11-16 (online) Nessie Public Booking Platform V3.0		This workshop is during school hours – children are welcome to join online from school or home. Please contact info@nessieined.com for more information. The joining link will be send ahead of the first session.	Thursdays 9 January 2025 to 3 April 2025 2pm to 3pm



EARLY YEARS – SEND GROUPS

NORTH HERTS FAMILY CENTRE SEND Drop In - Free Drop In What's On North Herts District Summer 2024 (mailchi.mp)	Toddler Group: Arise and Shine Letchworth Garden City Church, The Icknield Centre, Icknield Way, Letchworth , SG6 1EF Tuesdays from 10.00am to 11.15am (term time)
	SEND Playgroup At the British Schools Museum Mondays 1pm to 2:30pm (ages 0-5) no booking necessary FREE The Café at The Museum, The British Schools Museum, 41 Queen Street, Hitchin SG4 9TS Broadwater Family Centre , Longmeadow Primary School, Oaks Cross, Stevenage SG2 8LT Thursdays 10am to 11:15 (all year)
	Royston & Villages Family Centre , Roman Way First School, Burns Road, Royston SG8 5EQ Fridays 9:30am to 10:45am from 24 October.
SENsational Active Tots with Stevenage FC (ages 1-5)	Looking for somewhere to run off a bit of steam? The Family Centre Service alongside Stevenage FC are running new SENsational Active Tots Sessions for 1-5 year olds. These sessions are all about bringing physical activity to life through various sports and challenges. Taking place at Fairlands Valley Park in Stevenage and FREE for the first 8 weeks (£3.50 thereafter). Wednesdays 10am to 10:45am, joinin.online





Springboard Letchworth

North Hertfordshire College is pleased to announce our open afternoon at **Springboard Letchworth** which will be held on Tuesday 4th February 2025 3pm – 5pm at our premises. This is an opportunity for professionals, parents, and prospective students to meet the team and find out more about the Springboard programme.

Please note our address for this event will be:

**Springboard
Letchworth Town Hall,
Broadway,
Letchworth Garden City,
Hertfordshire,
SG6 3BX**

The nearest car park is Morrison's where you can park for free for three hours.

Springboard is a full-time personalised course which provides students with the support, knowledge, skills and confidence to become more independent, make informed decisions and ultimately to progress into mainstream college and work. The course is delivered in self-contained teaching centres in Watford and Letchworth.

Springboard is for young people aged 16 and over who require additional support before progressing to a cross college vocational course or employment. Many of our students have a diagnosis or traits of autism. Many have associated emotional and mental health needs that require specialist and bespoke support before they can move on and make a successful transition to adulthood. We do also consider 15-year-olds but only if they have a EHCP.

Our students study Employability, Functional Skills Maths and English from E3 to Level 2, Creative Arts (Drama) Therapy, Life Skills, Personal Development and Wellbeing, Vocational Tasters in Art, Cooking and First Aid, Enrichment, and complete 34 hours of work experience in their vocational area of interest. We support our students to transition into cross college vocational courses, supported internships or apprenticeships or employment by helping them to discover what they want to do after Springboard, arranging taster sessions and supporting them at interviews.



Delivering Special
Provision Locally

Parents, Carers and Young People
Weekly Round Up Issue: 121
15/01/2025

DSPL 1
(North Herts)

dspl1admin@wransom.herts.sch.uk

(please email if you need the flyers or further information)

[Updates and Resources \(nhdspl.org.uk\)](http://UpdatesandResources(nhdspl.org.uk))

Find us on Facebook and Twitter

Students need to meet our assessment criteria in order to access the provision although individual needs are always considered and decisions are made on a case by case basis and subject to funding being approved by the Local Authority.

If you would like to attend please RSVP to Mickaela Windsor mwindsor@nhc.ac.uk or Rebecca Lewis rebecca.lewis@nhc.ac.uk or call us on 07943 526089.

To help us to manage numbers we would appreciate a confirmation from you as to what time you are planning to attend.

Please forward this email to any students, parents or professional contacts who may be interested in attending.

If you are unable to attend but would like to find out more about our provision, we would be happy to meet with you on an individual basis. Please email Mickaela or Rebecca at the above emails and we can arrange for you to come in and see us. Alternatively, we can come to your setting to meet with you any groups of students and parents that you believe would benefit from Springboard.