

# Summer Term 2021

Parent Engagement updates

Online Courses ~ Workshops ~ Local Events ~ General Information

## Toilet Training

25<sup>th</sup> May 10AM-12PM on Microsoft Teams. A highly informative training session delivered by Bladder and Bowel Specialist Nursery Nurses from The Continence Advisory Service.

Contact [lyuba.kisel@arbourvaleschool.org](mailto:lyuba.kisel@arbourvaleschool.org) to book your place.



## Introduction to Slough Parents and Carers Forum

18<sup>th</sup> May 11am on Microsoft Teams. Hosted by **Special Voices**. Please contact them directly.

## Sleeping Difficulties

Workshops hosted by **Parenting Special Children**, please see the following link:

<https://www.parentingspecialchildren.co.uk/event/pre-and-post-assessment-workshop-sleep-and-autism-adhd-east-berkshire-zoom-2-2-2/>

## Thames Valley Adventure Playground

Specialist play and learning facilities centre. Supporting children and adults with Special Needs. Book your session now! TVAP also offer both unsupported and supported breaks. Contact them for more information.

<https://www.tvap.co.uk/>

Tel: 01628 628599

Email: [theplayground@tvap.co.uk](mailto:theplayground@tvap.co.uk)



## Special Voices

Special Voices are a local group of volunteers who are well established within your community who aim to 'help you find what you need when you need it'. They host a weekly coffee morning every Friday from 10am -12pm for parents of Special Needs children and families of AVS children are all welcome. Attendance is free and the group atmosphere is both friendly and supportive. Under current regulations, this is temporarily held online.

Special Voices also run conferences, as well as information days where they invite guest speakers from agencies such as CAMHS and Speech and Language Therapy services.

Special Voices have a website, please see the following link for more information and contact details: [www.specialvoices.co.uk](http://www.specialvoices.co.uk)

To ensure you are always up to date with the support available to you and your family, you can subscribe to their newsletter by emailing: [info@specialvoices.co.uk](mailto:info@specialvoices.co.uk)

Special Voices also have a FaceBook page where they regularly post information that may be relevant to families in the local community: <https://www.facebook.com/Special-Voices-416015871807762>



## Arbour Vale School

Our school provides a number of opportunities for your children such as a **Breakfast Club**, **After School Clubs** and **Holiday Clubs**. Clubs are popular and do fill up, so please enquire in advance.

We can also help you with vital communication tools such as support with PECS. Please contact the school or speak to your class teacher.

## Autism Berkshire

Autism Berkshire offers a service that supports with completing applications for benefits and allowances.

<https://www.autismberkshire.org.uk/>

Helpline: 01189 594 594



## Support for Siblings

SIBS is an excellent source of advice and support for siblings. Please see link to their website: <https://www.sibs.org.uk/>

Support for the wider family and support network is also available. Family Information service: 01753476589

## Young Carers

For siblings of children and young people with a special need, Young Carers can provide support and opportunities. Please call 07547559050 to discuss what support they can offer.

## GP Services

People with a learning disability are entitled to a free annual health check with their GP. Please contact your GP to arrange.

It is also important that your GP is aware that you are a carer. Please ensure this is recorded in your GP notes.

## Local to Bucks

For services local to Bucks please see: [www.factbucks.org.uk](http://www.factbucks.org.uk)

## Look after yourself too!

It is important to look after you too. Organisations like Special Voices can help find support for you and your family as and when needed. There is also Slough Carers Support: <https://sloughcarerssupport.co.uk/>

And of course, you can speak to us at Arbour Vale School and we will support your child and family where possible.

## Slough Family Services

[www.sloughfamilyservices.org.uk](http://www.sloughfamilyservices.org.uk)

Tel: 01753 476589

Slough Family Services can offer **Short Breaks**. To find out more, get in touch with your local officer. To find your designated officer visit the website or call the number above. They will help to direct you to the information you need.

Slough is also running a **Holiday Activities and Food Programme**. Please contact the providers for more information around availability and eligibility.

## The Family Fund

Regarding financial support, The Family Fund offers annual grants of up to £475 to families of children and young people with special needs. Please see the following link for more information: [www.familyfund.org.uk](http://www.familyfund.org.uk)

## Family Information Services

Although currently closed, Children's Centres can help with advice, signposting and form filling. You can contact The Family Information Service in Slough for support.

Tel: 01753476589

## Blue Badge

Each local authority is slightly different regarding their criteria. However, new legislation determines that Local Authorities must consider 'invisible disabilities' such as Autism. If you are in receipt of DLA and receive the high rate mobility you are automatically entitled to a Blue Badge.

## Parenting Special Children

And finally, Parenting Special Children have a Helpline, if you have any questions or need any advice or signposting please do contact us at:

Email: [dss@parentingspecialchildren.co.uk](mailto:dss@parentingspecialchildren.co.uk)

Tel: 01189863532

