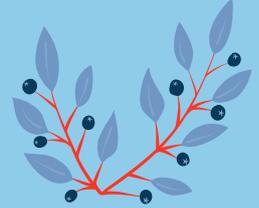


## Newsletter - Winter 2023



### Welcome!

Here at the Telford Childrens Autism Hub, we are excited to bring you our first Newsletter since opening our doors in January 22. These past months have been an incredibly busy time for the new team, and this is an opportunity to introduce ourselves to our families across Telford and Wrekin. There will be many people who know me from my role within the SENDIASS Team and my knowledge and skills gained over time within the area of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and in supporting families with Autism have been invaluable in providing me with an opportunity to be involved in this new Service.

We want to be able to share with families the support that we provide, listen to our parents/carers, children and young people to ensure that the service is led by their voices, what works well and the challenges they may face.

The hub is a place where families can come together and share positive times together. We encourage children and young people by supporting their confidence, promoting their independence, sharing with others and by doing so supporting their transition into adulthood.

A significant part is to enable children and young people to feel included within their communities and feel connected. We have spent time raising our profile and continue to raise awareness of Autism to the wider community.

Our new team who will be introducing themselves, bring with them a wide range of skills and have been working hard to deliver family support in a range of ways throughout the Summer including a range of family activities, Coffee and Chat Sessions, Workshops and we have been out and about at awareness raising events to ensure that we are reaching a wide audience.

We also welcome to the team Nicola King who is our specialist advisor from Autism West Midlands who provides individual advice sessions for parents/carers and supports our training workshop delivery.

We also acknowledge that parents who may have some worries about their child will speak to their school or nursery. We have been visiting local schools and informing nurseries and Post 16 providers of our service and are now starting to see more families being signposted to us.

We have some planned activities coming up throughout the next few months and we really would love to see new faces and new ideas to support the service development.

It has been great to see the children and young people who attend the hub growing in confidence as they attend our sessions, and we hope to be able to share their stories with you.

From the team and I we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been involved in supporting us over the initial months. If you are a parent/carer of a child or young person 0-18 years living in Telford and Wrekin with a diagnosis of Autism, please get in touch with us. We will do our best to help and will endeavour to provide you with the appropriate information and support at the right time for you.

Many thanks

Julie Collins

Childrens Service Manager



### Meet the Team



Viki  
Family Support



Tracey  
Team Assistant



Julie  
Team Assistant



Nicola  
Specialist Autism Advisor



# 2022 - A Year of Reflection



"I would like to say a huge thank you for giving my child the opportunity to attend Arthog Outreach. They had an amazing day full of fun and positivity. They were really nervous about attending the event today but being able to do practical things really helped their self esteem and put their nerves at ease"



'Thank you all for the lovely coffee and chat session this morning, it was lovely to meet other parents in a similar situation.'



"I really enjoyed the Understanding my Autistic Child Workshop. It was full of information which was really helpful. The video clips helped me to understand how an autistic person can see the world and has given me a better understanding of autism."



# News/Updates

## ONE GREAT DAY FUN RAISING FOR CHILDREN

### In the Spotlight



Tilly has been coming to Telford Children's Autism Hub since May 2022. She has become a great ambassador for Autism and has very kindly shared her views and experiences of the Hub.

"I go to the Hub because it gives me the chance to be myself, so to speak, and to unwind and reflect on my day.

I have had multiple experiences at the Hub, including a day out at the Arthog Outreach and helping at the One Great Day event at the town centre. I have also enjoyed some of the workshops that have been hosted at the Hub; the anime workshop and the Dug Out Sessions. These experiences have made me embrace my creative side a bit more and help me to accept who I am!"

If you have any good news stories/achievements to share, we would love to hear about it. Send us your story and we could use it in our next Newsletter



A massive thank you to Telford Centre and to you all for supporting us at our One Great Day event at Telford Shopping Centre.

There was so much to do including face painting, art activities, treasure hunt, cycle challenge, raffle, toy tombola and lots more! It was wonderful to see so many of our families there enjoying themselves. We raised an amazing £2157 which will be shared between the Children's Autism Hub and Great Ormond Street Hospital. The money raised will help fund a new sensory space at the Children's Autism Hub and develop the existing family activity sessions. We couldn't have done it without you.

A special thank you goes to Tilly who is a valued member of our Autism hub. Tilly gave up her free time to volunteer for us and she was amazing!

### Contact Us

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[www.telfordautismhub.org.uk/childrens-autism-hub](http://www.telfordautismhub.org.uk/childrens-autism-hub)



Telford Children's Autism Hub

[telfordchildrensautism](https://www.instagram.com/telfordchildrensautism)

### Staff Training

The team are excited to attend some Autism training in the forthcoming months including Women & Autism and Autism in Young People 😊



Dates for your Diary

COFFEE & CHAT	MONDAY 30TH JANUARY 11.15AM - 12.15PM	Grab a cuppa, relax and enjoy the opportunity to meet our team, talk with other parents, share ideas and offer support.
EARLY YEARS SUPPORT GROUP (Jointly run with SENDIASS)	MONDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 9.15AM - 10.45AM	SEND support and play for Early Years families
UNDERSTANDING MY AUTISTIC CHILD WORKSHOP	TUESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 10.00AM - 12.30PM	What is Autism? Autism as a spectrum Characteristics of Autism Supporting your Autistic child Reasons for behaviour
THE HUB @NEWPORT	THURSDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 12.30PM - 2.30PM	Drop in if you have any special educational needs questions for Michelle (Telford SENDIASS) or want to learn more about the Children's Autism offer in Telford. Viki will be there to answer your queries.
COFFEE & CHAT	MONDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 11.15AM - 12.15PM	Grab a cuppa, relax and enjoy the opportunity to meet our team, talk with other parents, share ideas and offer support.
EARLY YEARS SUPPORT GROUP (Jointly run with SENDIASS)	MONDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 9.15AM - 10.45AM	SEND support and play for Early Years families
'CAFE UNO'	MONDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2.00PM - 3.30PM	Love games & puzzles? Then come and join us at Cafe Uno
AUTISM & ME WORKSHOP	WEDNESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 11.00AM - 12.00PM	A short workshop for key stage 2 children (year 3 to 6) to begin to build up a positive understanding of Autism and how it affects them.
COFFEE & CHAT	MONDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 11.15AM - 12.15PM	Grab a cuppa, relax and enjoy the opportunity to meet our team, talk with other parents, share ideas and offer support.
TEEN CONFIDENCE WORKSHOP FOR YOUNG PEOPLE	<u>5 WEEKLY SESSIONS</u> FROM MONDAY 27TH FEBRUARY - MONDAY 27TH MARCH 4.30PM - 6.00PM	What is Autism? Anxiety Social Interaction Anger Sensory Happiness & Wellbeing



cont....

DUGOUT/YOUTH GROUP	THURSDAY 2ND MARCH 4.30PM - 6.00PM	Our Family Sessions provide the perfect opportunity for you to spend quality time together, allowing you to support your child in a relaxed, friendly environment. Each session has a variety of activities available, allowing you and your child to have fun together as well as meet with other families from our Hub.
EARLY YEARS SUPPORT GROUP (Jointly run with SENDIASS)	MONDAY 6TH MARCH 9.15AM - 10.45AM	SEND support and play for Early Years families
COFFEE & CHAT	MONDAY 6TH MARCH 11.15AM - 12.15PM	Grab a cuppa, relax and enjoy the opportunity to meet our team, talk with other parents, share ideas and offer support.
COFFEE & CHAT	MONDAY 13TH MARCH 11.15AM - 12.15PM	Grab a cuppa, relax and enjoy the opportunity to meet our team, talk with other parents, share ideas and offer support.
THE HUB @NEWPORT	THURSDAY 16TH MARCH 10.00AM - 12.00PM	Drop in if you have any special educational needs questions for Michelle (Telford SENDIASS) or want to learn more about the Children's Autism offer in Telford. Viki will be there to answer your queries.
EARLY YEARS SUPPORT GROUP (Jointly run with SENDIASS)	MONDAY 20TH MARCH 9.15AM - 10.45AM	SEND support and play for Early Years families
COFFEE & CHAT	MONDAY 20TH MARCH 11.15AM - 12.15PM	Grab a cuppa, relax and enjoy the opportunity to meet our team, talk with other parents, share ideas and offer support.
PRIMARY FAMILY FUN SESSION	TUESDAY 21ST MARCH 4.00PM - 5.00PM	Our Family Sessions provide the perfect opportunity for you to spend quality time together, allowing you to support your child in a relaxed, friendly environment. Each session has a variety of activities available, allowing you and your child to have fun together as well as meet with other families from our Hub.

