

SHORT BREAK CARE SERVICES STATEMENT SEPTEMBER 2011

**Version 4
October 2011**

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Accessibility

This document can be made available in large print, Braille, audio or in electronic format.

Copies in alternative languages may also be obtained.

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1 Introduction

In 2009 the Government introduced the Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC) initiative to transform services and support for disabled children and their families. There were two clear aspects to the Government's agenda. Firstly, the transformation of how services and support are provided to children with disabilities and their carers and, secondly, funding for a significant increase in the level of short breaks.

On 1st April 2011 the Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children Regulations (2011) placed a duty on Local Authorities to provide short breaks to children and young people with disabilities and their families. These Regulations state:

1. In performing their duty under paragraph 6(1)(c) of Schedule 2 to the 1989 Act, a local authority must provide, so far as is reasonably practicable, a range of services which is sufficient to assist carers to continue to provide care or to do so more effectively.
2. In particular, the local authority must provide, as appropriate, a range of:
 - (a) day-time care in the homes of disabled children or elsewhere;
 - (b) overnight care in the homes of disabled children or elsewhere;
 - (c) educational or leisure activities for disabled children outside their homes, and
 - (d) services available to assist carers in the evenings, at weekends and during the school holidays.

The regulations also place a duty on the Local Authority to, by 1st October 2011, in consultation with carers, prepare and publish "a short breaks services statement" setting out details of:

- a) The range of services provided in their area
- b) Any criteria by which eligibility for those services will be assessed
- c) The range of services designed to meet the needs of carers in their area.

In April 2011 the Local Authority published its Short Break Care Sufficiency Plan. This plan:

1. Reviewed current provision
2. Undertook a needs assessment involving consulting extensively with children with disabilities and their carers
3. Identified areas for prioritising for development.

This Short Break Care Services Statement has been made available for comment to 600 parents who are registered with the Aiming High Information Service and parent groups such as those held at the Kerith Family Church and by Friends of EarlyBird. The comments received have been incorporated into the Statement.

2 Principles

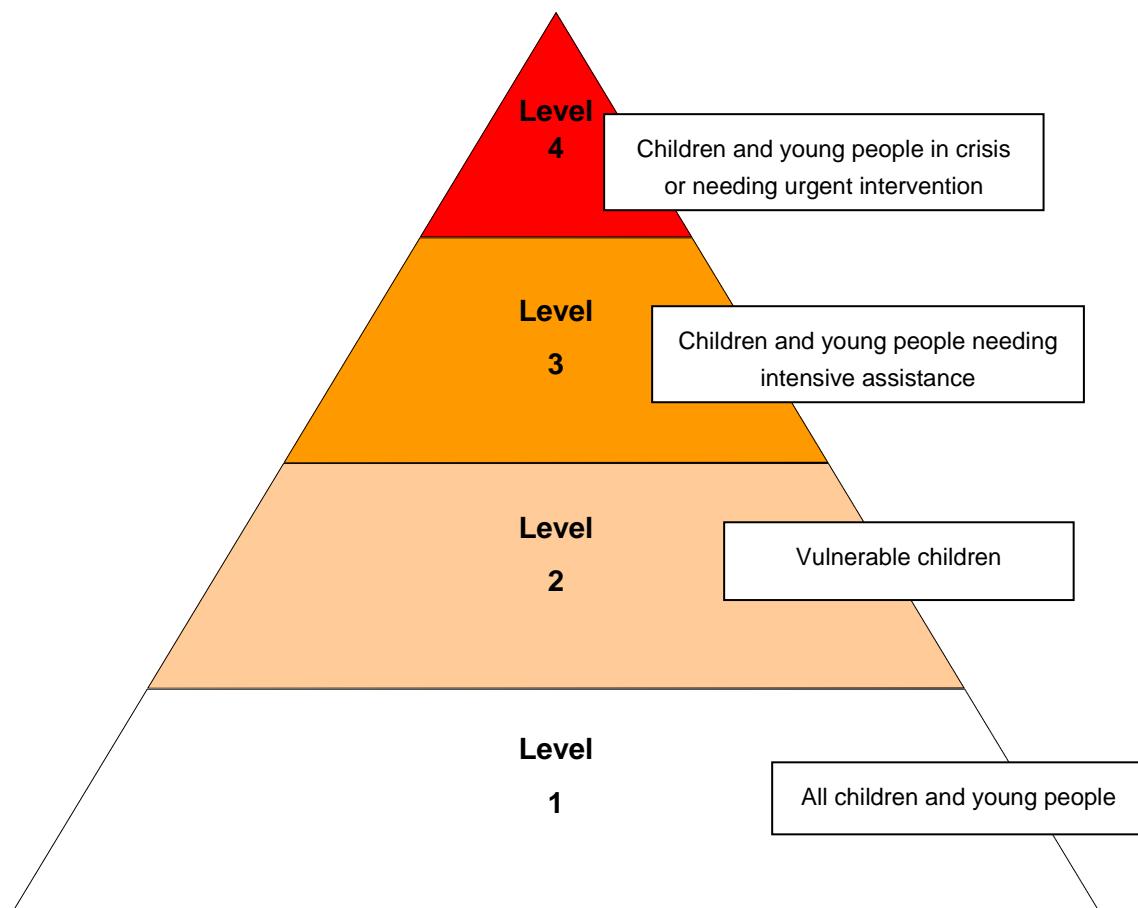
As a consequence of additional funding from Central Government and the continued commitment of Bracknell Forest Council over the last two years there has been a significant increase in the number and range of short breaks available for disabled children and their families in Bracknell Forest.

Short breaks form a continuum of services, which support disabled children and their families. They are provided to give:

- Children and young people with a disability enjoy experiences away from their primary carers, thereby contributing to their personal and social development;
- Parents, carers and families a necessary and valuable break from caring responsibilities.

Additional funding and resources have been provided to a variety of settings. These settings are often referred to as:

- **Level 1** - Universal e.g. mainstream after school and holiday clubs, childminders, sports clubs, brownies
- **Level 2** - Targeted e.g. holiday schemes or Saturday clubs specifically for children with disabilities
- **Level 3** - Specialist e.g. services accessed following an assessment by Children's Social Care
- **Level 4** - Crisis/ Intensive e.g. specialist residential care placements or emergency placements in foster care.



Our needs analysis undertaken in 2008 and updated annually has identified the need to further develop universal and targeted services. Through this we have been able to reduce some of the pressure on specialist and crisis services. In developing local provision our key principles have been:

- Focusing on developing universal and targeted settings
- Creating sustainable activities

- Ensuring value for money
- Providing activities at the same cost or less than would be available to any other child
- Reducing bureaucracy/ the need for eligibility criteria
- Offering positive activities for children and young people
- Providing breaks when parent/ carers want them

3 Range of Services and Eligibility Criteria

There is a wide range of short breaks available for children with disabilities up to the age of 18 years old. However certain activities will take young people up to the age of 19 years old. Information about these activities, including criteria and age range, is disseminated via the Aiming High Service through regular email updates and mail shots. Information is also contained on the Bracknell Forest website. Within Appendix A there is included a copy of the most recent update of activities available.

Activities and support available can be divided into 3 main areas; Universal, Targeted and Specialist settings.

3.1 Universal Settings

A number of universal services and providers have developed provision for children with disabilities including after school, holiday and weekend clubs. Activities such as karate, dance and football have been developed and are popular. Additional capacity and activities have been developed by Children's Centres, Early Years and Extended Services. We have also developed training and a fund to support the inclusion of children to access mainstream settings. These activities are available directly via the provider.

There are no formal assessment processes or eligibility criteria set down to access these services and fees are applied by the provider.

3.2 Targeted Settings

There has been a substantial increase in the range and volume of targeted short breaks, in particular Saturday clubs and holiday schemes. The criteria for accessing these activities are determined by the provider and are based on factors such as age, type of disability and potential risks.

There are no formal assessment processes or eligibility criteria set down to access these services. Wherever possible the Council has subsidised these services so that only a small fee is applied by the provider.

3.3 Specialist Settings

Specialist services and support including Larchwood Short Break Unit, short break foster carers, direct payments, home care and agency support, community childminders and independent short break providers are provided by the Local Authority.

Services are determined following an assessment by Children's Social Care. Details of this can be found on the Bracknell Forest Website. <http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/accessing-childrens-social-care-services.pdf>. There is no fee payable for these services.

Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust also provide, through the Children's Community Nursing and Respite Service, support, provision of nursing input and access to their short break health respite unit in Maidenhead. Details of this service can be found on the Berkshire East Community Health Service website www.berkshire-eastchhs.nhs.uk

4 Services to Meet the Needs of Carers

Parent/ carers are supported within Bracknell Forest in a number of ways.

4.1 Parent Groups

There are a number of parent groups in Bracknell Forest such as Kerith Konnections, Friends of EarlyBird and the Dialogue Group. Mencap, National Autistic Society and other national organisations also provide support in the area. Details can be found within Appendix A and information about groups is regularly sent out to parents via the Aiming High Service.

4.2 Parent Support Groups & Training

There are a number of parent training courses available to support parents/ carers of children with disabilities. There are universal courses available, which are advertised across settings as well as some specific targeted training around behaviour management and children with autism. Details are available via the Aiming High Service or Bracknell Forest Council Parenting Co-ordinator.

4.3 Children's Social Care

For families where support in the community is not sufficient to meet the needs of their child, Children's Social Care based on an assessment of the whole needs of the family, including the Carer's needs, will develop a support or care plan. This may involve providing support within the home, the provision of foster care or other support to enable the family to have a break.

4.4 Children's Community Nursing Team

For families where the health needs of their child are complex and the support available locally is not sufficient, following an assessment, the Children's Community Nursing Team may provide support such as care within the home or respite at their short break unit in Maidenhead.

4.5 Carers Grant

Grants are made available each year for parents/ carers of disabled children to enable them to have a break. This is advertised widely by the Aiming High Service and is targeted to provide support to vulnerable families, who may not have the resources to fund short breaks.

5 Summary

Bracknell Forest Council is committed to supporting children with disabilities and their families. Information about support available is made readily available through the Aiming High Service through emails, mail shots and the Bracknell Forest website. Appendix A provides for a more detailed description of activities available at the time of writing this statement.

Through an annual consultation with parents of children with disabilities, children and professionals combined with the data and information collected by the Council, local provision is reviewed and developed annually to meet the needs within Bracknell Forest. The most recent review is outlined in our Short Break Care Sufficiency Plan published in April 2011.

This Short Break Statement will be updated at least every three years with the action plan reviewed and developed by Children's Social Care Management team and Aiming High for Disabled Children's Steering group annually. These reviews will be supported through the continuing consultation with parents, children with disabilities and professionals.

6 Appendix A – Aiming High July update

1. HOLIDAY & SATURDAY CLUB ACTIVITIES
2. REGULAR AFTER SCHOOL / WEEKEND ACTIVITIES
3. ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES & PLAYRANGERS
4. PARENT GROUPS & SUPPORT

*** NEW = 1st time entries

1. HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES (targeted schemes and mainstream & universal settings)

Targeted Schemes – for children and young people with disabilities including complex needs

Konnections Holiday & Saturday Clubs - Targeted

This year Konnections will be providing:

6 weeks of Under 11's holiday scheme

- 2 weeks of Over 11's holiday scheme
- Under 11's Saturday club. There is currently a waiting list for this club but Aiming High have agreed a substantial increase of provision through 2011/2012. If you would like more information, please contact Sandy Carter.

Contact: Sandy Carter

Email: sandy.carter@kerith.co.uk

Telephone: 01344 828809

Dates below and available as an attachment from provider upon request

Kids Holiday & Saturday Clubs - Targeted

This year Kids will be providing:

- 6 weeks of Over 11's holiday scheme
- 2 weeks of Under 11's holiday scheme
- Over 11's Saturday club

Email: clare.turner@kids.org.uk

Telephone: 07748909792

Dates below. Available as a word document with timetable from provider upon request

	Konnections	Kids
Under 11's Holiday	Aug 2011: Mon 1 st – Fri 5 th , Mon 8 th – Fri 12 th , Mon 15 th – Fri 19 th , Mon 22 nd – Fri 26 th Bookings being taken now Oct half term 2011: Wed 26 th and Thurs 27 th Oct	Aug 2011: 22 nd , 23 rd Oct 2011: 23 rd Dec 2011: 21 st Feb 2012: 13 th , 14 th Bookings are being taken now for all dates
Over 11's Holiday	Aug: Mon 29 th – Wed 31 st Bookings being taken now	Aug 2011: 1 st - 5 th , 8 th - 12 th , 15 th - 19 th Oct 2011: 24 th , 25 th , 26 th Dec 2011: 19 th , 20 th , 28 th , 29 th Feb 2012: 15 th , 16 th

		Bookings are being taken now for all dates
Under 11's Saturday	Sept 2011: 10 th , 17 th , 24th Oct 2011: 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , 29th Nov 2011: 5 th , 12 th , 19 th , 26th Dec 2011: 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th	
Over 11's Saturday		Sept 2011: 10 th , 17 th , 24 th Oct 2011: 1 st , 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd Nov 2011: 5 th , 12 th , 19 th , 26 th Dec 2011: 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th Jan 2012: 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , 29 th Feb 2012: 4 th , 11 th , 25 th March 2012: 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th
***NEW Additional	Under 11's Thursday 27 th October 2011 Over 11's Thursday 16 th February 2012 These days are specifically for children and young people living in Bracknell Forest with significant difficulties and complex needs. Criteria apply. Priority will be given to children who have not accessed these additional days in the past. Activity will be determined when ability of children and young people known. For further information, please contact Konnections.	

Challengers Play and Leisure Team News

Disability Challengers is an independent children's charity which provides over 25,000 play and leisure spaces to 1,200 disabled children and young people. We rely heavily on voluntary support so if you can help please call 01483 230 060 or email fundraising@disability-challengers.org

★ AUTUMN TERM BOOKING PERIOD | Coming up...

Booking instructions will be emailed to families next week. We will also send a summary of these instructions to you. Challengers Booking Line 01483 230 939.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL:

BOOKING LINE | 01483 230 939

Play and Leisure Team: playandleisureteam@disability-challengers.org | 01483 230 930
www.disability-challengers.org

Disability Challengers, Stoke Park, Guildford, GU1 1TU

A charitable company limited by guarantee 4300724 Registered charity no. 1095134

Universal Schemes – suitable for children and young people who:

- Have moderate learning difficulties
- Require low level and minimal supervision
- Can communicate in small group settings

Oakwood Youth Challenge

This year Oakwood will be providing a further range of pony and activity days

- 7-10 yrs 9.30am-12.30pm
- 11-18 yrs 1.00-4.00pm
- £10 per session

Email: hannah@oakwoodyouth.co.uk

Telephone: 0118 9792253



Pony days	Activity days
Monday 8 th Aug 2011	Monday 1 st Aug 2011
Monday 22 nd Aug 2011	Monday 15 th Aug 2011
Monday 24 th Oct 2011	Monday 29 th Aug 2011
	Monday 13 th Feb 2012

John Nike Holiday Camp days

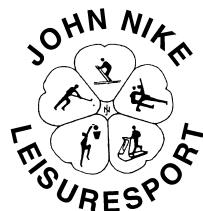
- 8-18 yrs
- 9.30am-4.00pm
- £29.50 per day (includes lunch)
- DATES:

Thursday 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th August, 1st September

Thursday 27th October

Email: jnl-bracknell@nikegroup.co.uk

Telephone: 01344 789000



Edgbarrow Sports Centre

Are pleased to offer inclusive activities and holiday clubs that would be suitable for children with moderate learning difficulties and who require minimal support or supervision. Foxy's holiday club can meet the needs of children age 3 – 11 years.

For further information, please contact Leigh Barker, Children's Coordinator, direct line: 01344 355383, Edgbarrow Sports Centre: 01344 776211 or via email leigh.barker@bracknell-forest.gov.uk.

*****NEW**

Bracknell Leisure Centre

Summer holiday brochure which includes all sports and swimming courses now available. For more information, visit <http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/leisure> or contact Bracknell Leisure Centre, Bagshot Road, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 9SE Telephone: 01344 454203

Email: blc.enquiries@bracknell-forest.gov.uk
www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/leisure

*****NEW**

Summer Activities for 11-19 year olds

Please find below a web link for summer activities run by the Youth Service.

www.xpresionz.co.uk

Judy Galvin from the Youth Service is also running transition events for young people with SEN. Contact 0782 593 2827

2. REGULAR AFTER SCHOOL / WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

Summary Timetable

MONDAY	Dance Club 4.00-5.00pm £3.90	Pedal Go Karting 5.30-6.30pm £4.50	Youth Club at Konnections 6.30-8.30pm £1.00		
TUESDAY	Multi Activity Games 4.00-6.00pm £2.90	Karate 6.45-7.30pm			
WEDNESDAY	Stay and Play 1.30-3pm	WHOOSH 6.00-7.30pm	Dance Club 6.15-7.15pm £3.90	Challenge Club 7.00-9.00pm £1.00	Paul's Karaoke £2.00
THURSDAY	Youth Sailing Project 5.30-8.30pm	Oakwood Youth Challenge 6.00-7.30pm £2.00	***NEW FBC All stars 5.30-6.30pm £2.00		
FRIDAY	Oakwood Youth Challenge 4.00-5.30pm £2.00	EarlyBird Tea Party 4.00-6.00pm	Youth Club at The Wayz 5.00-6.30pm	Family Swim 6.15-7.30pm £1.50	Youth Club at The Wayz 7.15-9pm £1.00
SATURDAY	Activity Club 9.30-11.15am £2.00	Trampolining 1.00-2.00pm & 2.15-3.15pm £5.00	Ice Skating 2.00-3.00pm £4.50	Football 2.30-4.00pm £3.00	Family Swim 6.30-7.30pm FREE
SUNDAY	Gymnastics 11.00-12noon & 12-1.00pm	Climbing Club 12.30-2.00pm	Ice Skating 2.00-3.00pm £4.50	Ski taster day – 22 nd May	

MONDAY DANCE CLUB

Bracknell Open Learning Centre, Rectory Lane

Contact: Kelly Wilkins

Email: kelly.wilkins@hotmail.co.uk

Telephone: 07725269138

MONDAY PEDAL GO KARTING

Edgbarrow Sports Centre, Crowthorne, RG45 7JL

Contact: Leigh Barker

Email: leigh.barker@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Telephone: 01344 776211

MONDAY YOUTH CLUB (11-18 yrs)

Konnections

Term time only. Most parents stay and meet for coffee, biscuits and chat.

Contact: Sandy Carter

Email: sandy.carter@kerith.co.uk

Telephone: 01344 828809

TUESDAY MULTI ACTIVITY GAMES

Bracknell Leisure Centre until Easter, thereafter Edgbarrow Sports Centre, Crowthorne, RG45 7JL

Contact: Leigh Barker

Email: leigh.barker@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Telephone: 01344 776211

TUESDAY KARATE CLUB – course of lessons

Great Hollands Primary School, Wordsworth Road, RG12 8QN
Contact: Daniel or Gillian
Email: karate@silwoodparkkarate.co.uk
Telephone: 01344 440328

WEDNESDAY Stay and Play Sessions

All Saints Church Hall, London Road, Ascot
Term time only
For families who have little ones Under 5 with additional needs (siblings Under 5 welcome too)
Contact: Laura or Michelle at South Ascot Children's Centre
Telephone: 07512 850387

WEDNESDAY WHOOSH

Bracknell Sport and Leisure Centre, Bagshot Road, Bracknell
Whoosh is a soft play adventure and activity centre, run by a private company within Bracknell Sports Centre for children with additional needs and siblings.
Suitable for ages 1-10. There are slides, ball pools, rope swings, aerial runways and a toddler area
Birthdays and special occasions can be celebrated during this session
Telephone: 01344 868383

WEDNESDAY DANCE CLUB

Ascot Jubilee, Goaters Road, Ascot
Contact: Kelly Wilkins
Email: kelly.wilkins@hotmail.co.uk
Telephone: 07725269138

WEDNESDAY Challenge Club

Youth & Community Centre, Priestwood, Court Road
Social Club for people with learning difficulties aged 16+
Live music or disco every Wednesday
For more information please call 07932 489 487
Email: thechallengeclub@hotmail.co.uk

WEDNESDAY Paul's Karaoke (formerly Karaoke Nights)

Rose Room, Rose Street Methodist Church, Rose Street, Wokingham
This group meets on the middle two Wednesdays of each month (except August) and is open to anyone 16+ who has a learning disability
Please call Wokingham Mencap for information: 0118 979 8539

THURSDAY YOUTH SAILING PROJECT (11-18 yrs)

Konnections
April 14th – Sept 1st
Contact: Sandy Carter
Email: sandy.carter@kerith.co.uk
Telephone: 01344 828809

THURSDAY YOUTH GROUP (11-18 yrs)

Oakwood Youth Challenge
Runs 1st and 3rd Thursday each month, term time only and young people attend once per month
Email: hannah@oakwoodyouth.co.uk
Telephone: 0118 9792253

*****NEW dates**

Autumn Group 1 dates
Autumn Group 2 dates

8th Sept, 6th Oct, 3rd Nov & 1st Dec 2011
22nd Sept, 20th Oct, 17th Nov & 15th Dec 2011

*****NEW**

THURSDAY FBC All Stars (7-18 yrs)

FBC All Stars is an inclusive sports club for people with a disability. The club specifically caters for young people with a visual, auditory or physical disability and their friends and family with an interest in sport. The club will run every Thursday term time only at the Sports Hall, Gorse Ride North, Finchampstead, RG40 4ES from 15th September 2011.

Sports include curling, archery, table tennis, boccia and more.

Contact: Beth Cutting

Email: beth@finchampstead.com

Telephone: 0118 9088158

www.fbcentre.com

FRIDAY AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (7-18 yrs)

Oakwood Youth Challenge

Runs every other Friday, term time only

Email: hannah@oakwoodyouth.co.uk

Telephone: 0118 9792253

*****NEW dates**

Autumn Term dates: 16th & 30th Sept, 14th Oct, 11th & 25th Nov and 9th Dec 2011

FRIDAY Early Bird's Tea Party

The Rowans Children's Centre, Pondmoor Road, RG12 7JZ

First Friday of the month 4-6pm

This group is for parents whose children are under 9, and are on the ASD spectrum. Full soft play kit and ball pool will be available.

For more information and to book a place telephone: 01344 312800

FRIDAY YOUTH CLUBS

Wayz

5-6.30pm - the aim of this project is to boost social skills and other life skills of young people aged 13-16 yrs

7.15-9pm – The Hang Out – 13-18 yrs with moderate learning difficulties

Contact: Gareth Mepham

Email: gareth.mepham@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Telephone: 07928816186

FRIDAY FAMILY SWIM

Carnival Pool, Wellington Road, Wokingham, RG40 2AF

Contact: 0118 977 0007

SATURDAY CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY CLUB

Bracknell & Wokingham Mencap, Crescent Centre, Lower Earley

9.30am-11.15am, term time only

Activities include arts and crafts and give children with learning difficulties and their siblings an opportunity to have fun together, in a fully supportive environment

Please book, as limited spaces are available

£2 per session

To book a place or find out more contact Wokingham Mencap: 0118 979 8539, email: admin@wokinghammencap.org

SATURDAY TRAMPOLINING

Bracknell Trampoline Centre

Every Saturday

£5 per session, sessions are paid for termly

1-2pm and 2.15-3.15pm. The centre runs two, one hour trampolining sessions for children and adults with special needs. To discuss individual needs or to arrange a trial session, please telephone: 01344 306301

SATURDAY ICE SKATING

John Nike

Under 11's 1st Saturday each month

2.00-3pm

£4.50 per session

Email: jnl-bracknell@nikegroup.co.uk

Telephone: 01344 789000

SATURDAY FOOTBALL

Ascot Jubilee, Goaters Road, Ascot

2.30-4.00pm

£3.00 per session

Contact: Jason Collins, telephone 01344 459325 / 07403317172 or email jason@red10fc.com or Stephen Satterly, telephone 01344 487727 / 0753912152 or email stephen@red10fc.com

SATURDAY FAMILY SWIM

Carnival Pool, Wellington Road, Wokingham, RG40 2AF

Once Saturday per month (usually 2nd), free monthly swim for all families with children with additional needs aged 0-18 yrs. Toys, swim equipment and floats.

Contact: 0118 977 0007

SUNDAY Pinewood Gymnastics

5-16 yrs

11am-12noon, an independent class. Paid termly

12noon-1pm – introductory / 'drop in class', £6 per session

Parents usually remain on site for duration of class

For enquiries and bookings, telephone: 01344 773 237

*****NEW dates**

SUNDAY CLIMBING – Chameleon Club

Wellington College Sports Centre

Monthly indoor climbing club for children with moderate learning difficulties or disabilities

10-15 yrs

£11.00 per session. Autumn dates will be advertised during August.

Contact: Clare De Meyer

Telephone: 0118 9874849

SUNDAY ICE SKATING

John Nike

Over 11's 1st Sunday each month

2.00-3pm

£4.50 per session

Email: jnl-bracknell@nikegroup.co.uk

Telephone: 01344 789000

Short Break Services Statement

The Look Out Discovery Centre

Exploration and education go hand in hand with an unforgettable, fun day out at The Look Out with 90 hands-on exciting science and nature exhibits. Find out more about woodland, water, light, colour, sound, communication, body, perception and forces and movement in one day. The Look Out is fully accessible with the exception of the 22m tower, however one of the exhibits shows the view from the top of the tower. The adventure play area at The Look Out is fantastic. It is in three sections: 3-6 year olds, 7-11 year olds, with a NEW recent addition of play equipment for all access and all ages which has been part funded by Aiming High.

Open daily 10am – 5pm with on site coffee and gift shop.

Super saver ticket is only £17.60 for 2 adults and 2 children or 1 adult and 3 children (valid until 31.03.12). Children aged 3 and under are free! Special parent and toddler rates for term time during the week. Visitors with disabilities are charged £4.40 each, with no charge for the carer.

www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/be

01344 354400

The Look Out Discovery Centre

Nine Mile Ride, Bracknell, Berkshire. RG12 7QW.

3. Activities for families & Play Rangers

Aiming High Family Fun Day – Friday 5th August 2011

For all Bracknell families of children and young people with disabilities. Join us at Oakwood Youth Challenge, Waterloo Road, Wokingham, RG40 3DA for a fun day for all the family.

For further information, please email jo.lillywhite@bracknell-forest.gov.uk or telephone 01344 352733.

GO! Activities - 2011 sees the Great Opportunities (GO!) project launch an additional monthly program of fun and exciting activities that are exclusively for families within the Bracknell Forest Borough. GO! provides one-off leisure activities for children and young people, aged 5-19, with additional needs and their family and friends.

***** NEW**

Let's GO! Horse Riding

**@ Bearwood Riding Centre,
Sindlesham, Wokingham, RG41 5DB**

Tuesday 2nd August 3pm-6pm

When you book you will be given a ½ hour time slot

Car parking facilities available

Health and safety restrictions apply

You will be asked confirmation questions at the time of booking

***** NEW**

Let's GO! to a Magic Show

**@ Rivermead
Richfield Avenue, Reading, RG1 8EQ**

Interactive magic show, including party games, cheesy party dances, and balloon modelling

Tuesday 9th August 2011 10am-2pm

Car parking facilities available onsite

***** NEW**

Let's GO! to Legoland – exclusive to Bracknell families

**Legoland Windsor, Winkfield Road,
Windsor, SL4 4AY**

Tuesday 30th August 2011

Adults £15

Children £10
Car parking £2—payable on site

For enquiries or to book a place on any event please contact:
Email - enquiries@familyresourcecentreuk.org
Freephone - 0800 328 9148

Play Rangers - the aim of the Play Ranger Team is to increase the number of children using parks and open spaces in the Bracknell area by offering more play opportunities. The service will operate on an 'open access' principle, with children free to come and go as they please; there is no charge and no registration is required.
Contact the Play Rangers; Jenna 07876 393544 or Sam 07876 582882 or email play.rangers@bracknell-forest.gov.uk or visit www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/playservice for timetable and programme

4. PARENT GROUPS & SUPPORT

Konnections, Friday Mums Group

10-12noon term time only
For further information please contact Sandy Carter
Email: sandy.carter@kerith.co.uk
Telephone: 01344 828809

Friends of Early Bird, Autism Support Group Every Friday at The Oaks Children's Centre

1 - 3pm. This is a social and support group for parents/carers of children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). A creche is available for the duration of the session and its a great place to meet other parents.
Email: green.christineh@gmail.com
Telephone: 07891192274

Bracknell Berkshire Autistic Society (BAS), ASD Support Group Meetings Monthly meetings (Term Time only)

9.30 - 11.30pm at the Forest Park Community Centre, Horndean Road, Forest Park, RG12 0XQ. The sessions include a guest speaker who will talk about strategies and support, Q&A, plus an opportunity for parents to meet new friends. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions and take part in a general discussion.
Email: contact@autismberkshire.org.uk
Telephone: 0118 9594594
www.autismberkshire.org.uk

The Dialogue Group

The Dialogue Group is a Partnership Forum between key professionals who work with children with additional needs and parents/carers of children with additional needs. It provides a networking opportunity for parents/carers, and opportunity for consultation and participation in planning and developing services within Bracknell Forest. Key speakers are invited to discuss current services and new developments.

For a copy of the latest minutes, please email aiming.high@bracknell-forest.gov.uk
Forthcoming meetings: 20th September, 22nd November 2011

Little Darlings Support Group (West Berkshire Down Syndrome Group)

Lower Earley Baptist Church, Maiden Place, Lower Earley, RG5 3HE
Friday morning 9.30am-12 noon
For more information and to check if the session is running please contact Charlie Williamson

Telephone: 07847 327528
Email: charlie@wbdsg.org.uk

Workshops for Parents & Carers

FREE support for all Families in Bracknell Forest.

These workshops are not Learning Disability specific and are open to all parents and carers. For booking and more information about these sessions and other support available to parents and carers contact Mary Khawaja.

Email: parent.support@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Telephone: 01344 354067

Web: www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/parenting

Childcare for Over 11's with Moderate Learning Disabilities

Do you have or care for a young person with moderate learning disabilities who may need care after school or during the holidays while you are at work or attending college / activities now or in the future?

As part of our continued commitment to provide adequate and appropriate childcare, we are in the process of determining demand for such provision and already have one young person who we would like to 'buddy' up in a setting so that in the main, there is a suitable peer group while parents are at work.

For further information and to register your interest, please contact:

James Saunders

Play and Childcare Development Coordinator

Telephone: 01344 312817

Email: james.saunders@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Funding available to support mainstream settings

The Inclusion Fund has been allocated some funding again this year from the Aiming High budget.

The main purpose of this fund is to improve access for children and young people with disabilities within a universal or mainstream setting. Mainstream providers such as after school clubs and holiday schemes (e.g Holly Spring, Edgbarrow sports centre, Sandy Lane and WASPS) can meet the needs of children with moderate learning difficulties but initial support may be required to ensure a positive integration.

Subject to referral to a small panel of professionals, funding can be made available on a short term and temporary basis for additional staff; to enable greater independence through equipment or improved access; or to enhance training and expertise in the setting.

Children accessing these settings would typically require minimal supervision, have moderate learning difficulties, be on school action or school action plus and need some initial support to build confidence.

For children and young people with more complex needs or who require a higher level of support, where a mainstream setting is not appropriate, activities and holiday schemes are available predominantly through Konnections and Kids.

If you have a query regarding suitability, please do not hesitate to contact Jo Lillywhite, Development Manager, Aiming High for Disabled Children

Telephone: 01344 352733

Email: aiming.high@bracknel-forest.gov.uk

***** NEW Dates**

Siblings Support Project

Konnections have introduced a sibling support programme for children who have a disabled brother or sister. The first project ran during the Summer Term 2011 for 8 weeks. Autumn Term programme starts on 28th Sept 2011 with an introduction session on 21st Sept.

For further information and to book the course, please contact Sandy Carte.r

Email: sandy.carter@kerith.co.uk

Telephone: 01344 828809

Siblings Club, Wokingham Mencap Groups
Woodley Siblings Club – Mondays 4.45 – 6.30pm
Wokingham Siblings Club – Thursdays 5-6.45pm

Club is for children aged 7-14 yrs living with a disabled brother or sister. The emphasis on the group is the young person having fun; an opportunity for them to be themselves and meet other siblings.

Cost is £1.00 per session. To find out more or book a place please contact 0118 9798539 or email admin@wokinghammencap.org

Behaviour Support for Parents

A 6 hour behaviour management course for parents/carers of children and young people with disabilities. The course will be covered over two 3 hour sessions and would ideally suit parents who have not undertaken any behaviour management training or who would like a refresh. Parents who have already attended EarlyBird or EarlyBird plus may find this useful to reinforce strategies at home. For further information please contact:

Email: parent.support@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Telephone: 01344 354254

Future dates: Mon 12th & Tues 13th Sept 2011, 5.30-8.30pm (subject to demand)
Tues 13th & Wed 14th Dec 2011, 10am-1pm

We are unable to provide childcare.

E Learning for Parents at Konnections

Group will meet every other Wednesday morning and will offer training for parent/carers of disabled children.

This is a new opportunity to learn useful disability specific information to support your child. The courses, which are all computer based and supported by a tutor are:

- Understanding Autism
- Understanding and Managing Behaviour
- Dyslexia
- Inclusion for Speech and Language Needs
- Motor Coordination Difficulties
- Hearing Impairment
- Visual Impairment

The courses vary in length but typically take between 10 and 20 hours of time online.

If you are interested in joining one of these courses, or would like more info please e-mail karen.mehta@kerith.co.uk or ring 01344 828802

Family Information Service

The Family Information Service (FIS) provides a free and impartial information and signposting service on childcare and other services that support parents and carers of children and young people up to the age of 20.

We also work with organisations and professionals who support families.

From the 1st April 2011 the service will be provided by Bracknell Forest Council

fis@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/familyinformation

01344 352000

Parent Partnership Service

Are you concerned about your child's learning and development?

Do they need additional support in their school or early years setting?

Is your child being assessed for special educational needs?

Do you feel overwhelmed by the information you are receiving about your child?
If the answer to any of these questions is 'yes', the Parent Partnership Service may be able to help.
Email: parent.partnership@bracknell-forest.gov.uk
Telephone: 01344 354011

Bracknell Mencap

Our family liaison workers support local people who care for a person aged 14+ with a learning disability or an autism spectrum condition.
We can provide one to one support with regard to issues such as benefits, direct payments and transition to adult services and help with form filing. We also support carers in meetings and assessments.
Drop ins are held on Mondays 1pm - 3pm and Thursdays 11am - 1pm and a coffee morning on the 3rd Thursday of each month.
T.G.I.F (THANK GOODNESS IT'S FRIDAY) is a social group for people age 18 - 30 with a mild autism spectrum condition or aspergers. The group meets on the 1st Friday of each month.
Contact Alison on 01344 868076 for further details.