



Local Services and Support Groups for Children with Autism

Child Autism UK

Website: <https://www.childautism.org.uk/getting-involved/join-child-autism-today>

Phone: 01344 882248

Child Autism UK is a member organisation. They provide mutual support and information about possible treatments for autism in children as well as the benefits of starting treatments early.

United response

Website: <https://www.unitedresponse.org.uk/autism>

United Response provides a range of support services for adults and young people with learning disabilities, autism, mental health needs or physical disabilities.

NHS Website

Website: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/autism/autism-and-everyday-life/help-for-families/>

This has lots of pointers about diagnosis to schooling your child. Lots of further information is available from this website.

Ambitious about Autism

Website: <https://www.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk/about-us>

Phone: 020 8815 5444

Ambitious about Autism is the national charity for children and young people with autism. We provide services, raise awareness and understanding, and campaign for change.

SENDirect

Website: <https://www.sendirect.org.uk/information/about-us/what-is-sendirect/>

Phone: 0808 808 3555

SENDirect helps find and compare accessible services and activities to meet the needs to your child. As well as searching for local support, you can review and share recommendations, and find out what services have benefitted other families with disabled children.

Contact

Website: <https://contact.org.uk/about-us/>

Contact is a charity for families with disabled children. They support families with the best possible guidance and information and bring families together to support each other. They help families to campaign, volunteer and fundraise to improve life for themselves and others.

Mencap

Website: <https://www.mencap.org.uk/about-us>

Phone:0808 808 1111

Mencap is the leading voice of learning disability. Everything they do is about valuing and supporting people with a learning disability, and their families and carers. Their vision is a world where people with a learning disability are valued equally, listened to and included.

Leicestershire Country Council

Website: <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/special-educational-needs-and-disability/where-to-start-with-send>

The Leicestershire Local Offer gives children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) and their families information about help and services in Leicestershire.

Leicestershire SEND

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/Leicslocaloffer>

Leicestershire local offer provide support and information on children and young people on special educational needs and disabilities.

Sure Start Children's Centres

Phone: 0116 305 0306

Location: c/o The Pavilion, Sportsfield Lane, Huncote, Leicester, LE9 3BN

Sure Start Children's Centres are a government programme, which aims to achieve better outcomes for children, parents/carers and families. Children's Centres are places where children and their families can receive services, information and advice, services vary from centre to centre.

Autism East Midlands

Website: <https://www.autismeastmidlands.org.uk/about-autism-east-midlands/>

As a leading autism charity, we exist to ensure autistic people can live their lives with dignity, choice and independence.

Autism East Midlands - Parent training.

Website: <https://www.autismeastmidlands.org.uk/learning-development/parent-workshops/>

Autism East Midlands has developed a range of training courses and workshops for the parents, carers, siblings and the extended families of individuals with autism of all ages. These range from short 2 hour workshops to 8 week courses and are designed to help you support and better understand your loved one.

Scope

Website: <https://www.scope.org.uk/>

Phone: 0808 800 3333

Scope are a disability equality charity in England and Wales. They provide practical information and emotional support when it's most needed, and campaign relentlessly to create a fairer society.

0-4 years Support Group Chat

Website: <https://community.contact.org.uk/categories/0-5-year-olds>

For families whose child is in the early years. Talk about getting a diagnosis, childcare, preschool, equipment or anything else related to early years.

5-10 years Support Group Chat

Website: <https://community.contact.org.uk/categories/5-10-year-olds>

For families whose child is primary school age. Talk about school, behaviour, health, siblings or any other issue affecting a primary school aged child.

11-15 years support group chat

Website: <https://community.contact.org.uk/categories/11-15-year-olds>

For families whose child is secondary school age. Talk about exams, moving on from school, behaviour, relationships or any other issue affecting your secondary school aged child.

16+ years support group chat

Website: <https://community.contact.org.uk/categories/16%2B-year-olds>

For families whose child is moving into adulthood or aged 16+. Talk about moving to college, the transition to adult services, making decisions, money matters or anything affecting your child.

Condition Support Group Chat

Website: <https://community.contact.org.uk/categories/talk-about-specific-conditions>

Talk to others about your child's particular disability or condition.

Tea Break Support Group Chat

Website: <https://community.contact.org.uk/categories/tea-break>

Need a break from caring? This is your space to have a chat about everything and anything - it doesn't have to be related to disability.

Brighter Beginning Training

Website: <https://contact.org.uk/advice-and-support/local-support/our-programmes/brighter-beginnings/>

Through a series of workshops, you'll learn how to tackle some of the unique challenges you might face in the early years. From where to find local support and getting the help you need in education, to support for your child's behaviour and understanding sleep.

Fledglings Shop

Website: <https://fledglings.org.uk/pages/our-story-page>

Fledglings is part of the national charity, Contact. They are a non-profit shop that helps families with disabled children by supplying products and equipment that help with everyday challenges. We provide an easy and trusted environment to find the right solutions and allow families to connect and share their experiences.

Behaviour that Challenges - Tips for Managing Behaviour

Website: <https://contact.org.uk/advice-and-support/health-medical-information/common-concerns/behaviour-that-challenges/>

Many young children have emotional outbursts, but behaviour can become challenging when it happens frequently or repetitively or it is harmful to the child, the parent or other people.

Feeding and Eating Support

Website: <https://contact.org.uk/advice-and-support/health-medical-information/common-concerns/feeding-and-eating/>

On this page, you'll learn about the reasons your child might be having difficulty eating and find out what you can do to address common issues.

Potty and Toilet Training

Website: <https://contact.org.uk/advice-and-support/health-medical-information/common-concerns/potty-and-toilet-training/>

On this page, you will find information about how to start toilet training and what you can do to deal with common issues.

Speech, Learning and Movement

Website: <https://contact.org.uk/advice-and-support/health-medical-information/common-concerns/speech-learning-and-movement/>

Understanding issues and next steps in your child is having difficulties with speech, learning and movement.

Helping You and Your Child Sleep

Website: <https://contact.org.uk/advice-and-support/health-medical-information/common-concerns/helping-you-and-your-child-sleep/>

A child who does not sleep well can affect the whole family. Disabled children and those with certain [medical conditions](#) are more likely to experience problems with sleeping.

Resource Library from Contact.org

Website: <https://contact.org.uk/about-us/resource-library>

Contact.org produce a series of guides and factsheets on all aspects of raising a child with additional needs.

The Friendship Club Support Group

Number: Diane Madelin 07722 914124

For 11-19yrs with ASC and moderate learning difficulties. Pre-registration is required as places are limited. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month between 7pm and 9pm. At the Cafe, Salvation Army, Ladysmith Road, South Wigston, Leics LE18 4UZ.

Jigsaw Support Group

Number: Dave Nutting 07582 197173

Jigsaw provides activities, support, information and advice for families with autistic children from 0-19 yrs. The group is run by parents. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month between 7pm-9pm. At the Cafe, Salvation Army, Ladysmith Road, South Wigston, Leics LE18 4UZ.

Reality Support Group

Number: Leisa Smith 0791 285 0517

Reality aims to support the whole family unit affected by ASC/Asperger Syndrome. No formal diagnosis is required. The group organises activities, trips and outings for the whole family. These meetings are held at Braunstone Sure Start, Gallards Hill, Braunstone, Leicester LE3 1QR.