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March 2023 newsletter

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[Link to March 23 Newsletter on FVN website](#)

[CLICK HERE](#)



Family Voice Norfolk Conference 2023

Quote from a professional

“As always, there was a real buzz about the venue and it was fab to meet parents, young people and professionals. Thank you for inviting me.”

Photos from the day

Quote from a parent

“Really appreciate this conference – it has given me faith in humans again and being heard has been amazing.”



INVISIBLE

Norfolk's Neurodiversity Festival

Together,
we can
influence change
countrywide

Together,
we can listen
and we can
learn

Together,
we can be heard
and we can be
VISIBLE

the
forum
31st March - 1st April 2023

◆ Workshops

◆ Talks

◆ Exhibitors

 For more information
scan the QR code



VISIBLE VOICES

Workshops & Talks

Friday 31st March	Saturday 1st April
10:00am - Metacognition	10:00am - Dyslexia
10:45am - Positive Change	10:45am - The SEND Unlocked Directory
11:30am - ADHD	11:30am - ADHD
12:15pm - Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA)	12:15pm - Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator
1:00pm - Substance Misuse & Neurodiversity	1:00pm - Welfare Benefit Appeals
1:45pm - Provision Expected at SEND Support	1:45pm - Provision Expected at SEND Support (PEaSS)
2:30pm - Emotional Regulation	2:30pm - Emotional Regulation

Exhibitors

- ◆ The Autism Reality Bus
- ◆ Reflex Theatre performing throughout the day
- ◆ Art Exhibition showcasing ND artists
- Much more...

To book a FREE space at one of the VISIBLE Voices talks, scan the QR code



[CLICK HERE TO BOOK A PLACE](#)

VISIBLE Festival hosted by NANSA 31st March -1st April



Department for Education active norfolk Norfolk County Council

Big Norfolk Holiday Fun

April 3 - April 17

- Funded holiday activity scheme for children aged 4 - 16 this Easter
- **FREE** for all families eligible for benefits related free school meals
- Fantastic range of sports, outdoor, arts and creative activities across Norfolk for your child in a warm space with a free healthy lunch
- We try to make our activities inclusive to all. Please make the provider aware when booking if your child has special educational needs or a disability (SEND)
- More specialist SEN providers available for 2023
- Search for an activity near you with our Every Move activity finder

**Booking now open
Find an activity near you**

Visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/bignorfolkholidayfun

Big Norfolk Holiday Fun

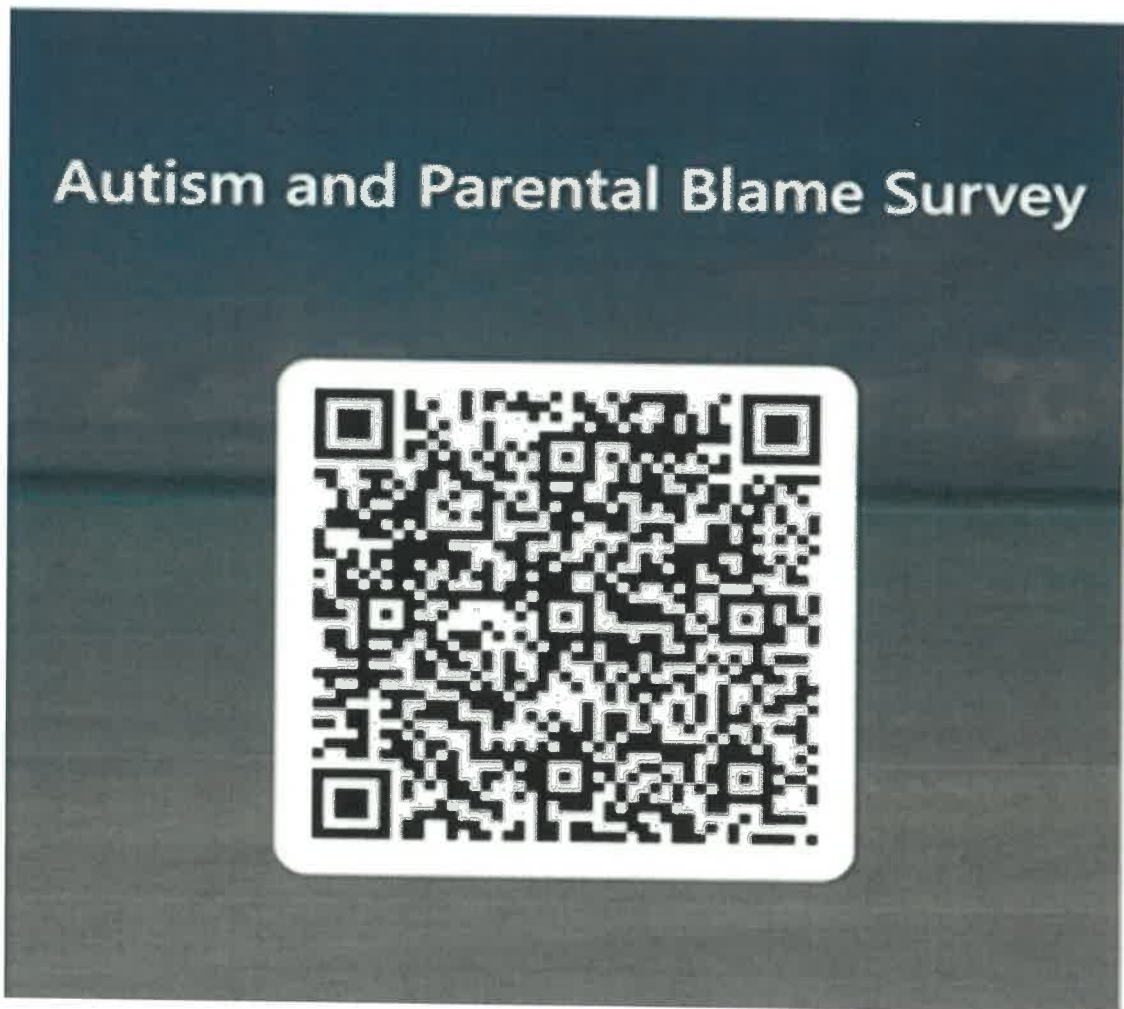
Some specialist SEN providers still have spaces, please see below.

[Days full of fun, for children with SEND, at The Treasure Box provided by The Treasure Box | EveryMove](#)

[All Access \(SEND\) Arts Easter Fun Days - Big Norfolk Holiday Fun \(HAF\) provided by The Oak Circus Centre | EveryMove](#)

There will be a mix of paid for and free spaces. The free spaces are for children who are eligible for means-tested free school meals and children who Norfolk County Council feel are particularly vulnerable. Awarded Places will be considered on a case-by-case basis. If you wish to be considered for an Awarded Place, please direct any professional working with your child to use the referral form attached to the question 'Why are free spaces available for certain children and not others', on this [link](#)

BIG Norfolk Holiday Fun



National study seeks to understand how parents of autistic children experience parental blame when they approach health, education, and care services for support

To Find out more





Creating Happy Confident Children



Based around a different story each week, these sessions promote the self-esteem and confidence of young children. Each week you will support your child to dance, sing and take part in craft and play-based learning opportunities.

These fun and energetic sessions help children to build their resilience, feel good about themselves, have the confidence to try new things and know that it is ok to make mistakes! The sessions are for parents/carers with their children aged up to 7 years, taking part together. We welcome SEND families.

To find out more and book your place:

Scan the QR code above or visit:
www.norfolk.gov.uk/familylearning



Family Learning at your library

TO BOOK



SENSORY PLAY



Join our friendly and supportive Family Learning Team for this **FREE** and **FUN** short course. Discover how babies experience the world through their senses. Suitable for parents or carers and their children aged 0-1yrs. We welcome SEND families

Dereham Library
Sensory Play
Course code: FLELB0322P
27/04/2023 - 25/05/2023
Thursdays, 10:00-11:30

Sensory play

TO BOOK

[There are similar courses in different locations](#)
[click here for details](#)





Stepping Out

could help you

Are you?

15 - 18 years old?

Living in Norfolk?

Experiencing poor mental health?

Unemployed and not in education or training?
Or struggling to stay in education?

Don't know where to start...?

*Funded by Norfolk County Council
and supported by NSFT*

The **MATTHEW PROJECT**
Finding hope together





**All sessions tailored to your needs.
Coaches meet you in a location you feel comfortable in.
Opportunity to access positive activities tailored to help
develop your skills and confidence**



**Up to 8 weekly
wellbeing
sessions**

This will give you a toolkit of strategies to manage your mental health.



**Up to 6 weekly
coaching
sessions**

We will look at your strengths and aspirations. Together we will set goals and plans for your future.



**Up to 4 catch up
sessions**

Chance to catch up with your coach after you have finished the programme to help you with transitioning.

For a referral form or further information: steppingout@matthewproject.org

Stepping out - The Matthew Project

For a referral form or futher information click [here](#)





Making Sense of SEND FREE INFORMATION FAIR

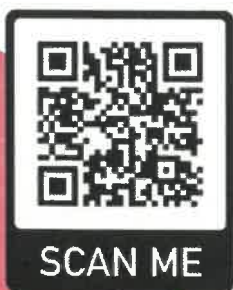
Weds 29 March 2023 **10am-12pm**

Swaffham Community Centre

For parents and carers of children aged 0-25 with SEND. Information stands will include:



Optional talks to attend: "6 tips for supporting autistic people" and "an introduction to Kooth/Qwell"



Free refreshments will be provided, and you are welcome to stay for as long as you'd like.

For more info and to book your free place through Eventbrite, scan the QR code

Have you booked your place for Making Sense of SEND in Swaffham yet? It's looking set to be a fantastic morning!

We've got loads of services joining us at our information fair, so you find out more about them and ask lots of questions.

We'll also have two presentations from 11am, one from Lee Gibbons (ASD Helping Hands) and one from Chloe Symeou (Norfolk and Waveney Kooth). These are optional to attend so

if you'd like to carry on visiting the information stands, you're more than welcome to!
Free refreshments will be available.

Sign up for your free place here



SEND FEST

SENDfest 2023

Date – Saturday 17th June 2023

Location – Easton College

Timings – 10:00am until 3:00pm

SENDfest will bring together children and young people, and their families.
A full day Festival style event featuring multisport activities, musical workshops, vocational opportunities and keynote speakers

- Tennis
- Singing
- Community Sports Foundation
- World Music
- Preparation for Adult Life
- DJ-ing
- Disco
- Track and Play
- Football Fun Factory
- Beatboxing
- Wheelchair Basketball
- Plus loads more

SIGN UP HERE

Have you booked your places at SENDfest ? At Easton College on Saturday 17th June 2023

This Free to attend ‘festival’ style event is brought to you by Norfolk County Council.

A day of fun and activities for families of children and young people with SEND.

SENDfest will feature multisport activities, musical workshops, vocational opportunities, Preparing for Adult Life (PFAL) workshops and keynote speakers for families, children and young people with complex needs. If you have any access needs there is the option to share this on the form.

Book your free places here



Join us for an online talk with autistic guest speakers Dean Beadle and Robyn Steward

A great opportunity to learn from them both about social needs and communication styles and hear them speak about their experiences.



Tuesday 28th March
Parent/carers: 1.30–2.30pm
Professionals: 3.30–4.30pm

Email emma.stevens@norfolk.gov.uk to sign up

[Autism Awareness week - online talk](#)

Email to sign up





Transformational reform begins for children and young people with SEND

Plan for better, fairer access to high quality special educational needs and disabilities support.

Children and young people across England with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) or in alternative provision (AP) will get high-quality, early support wherever they live in the country.

To read the press release click [here](#)



family voice
norfolk
together improving services

We hope you have enjoyed our new-look newsletter.
If you have any thoughts

On how often you would like to receive it from us please get in touch! It would be lovely to hear from you.