

SEND DIRECTORY

WHAT'S AVAILABLE IN THE LOCAL AREA AND BEYOND

This guide provides information for parents and carers of children and young adults with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in the local area and beyond. It includes details on financial support, benefits, transport, legal aid, local services, activity clubs, charities, and other resources available to support families. If you know of other services or organisations you would like to see listed, please let us know.

If you would like this document translated into a different language, please get in touch and we will do our best to help.

THE LOCAL OFFER

Your Boroughs Local Offer provides information and guidance about services and support available for children and young people with SEND. Such as information for carers, childcare and school holidays, SEN support, Needs Assessments and EHCP's, Education, SEND transport, post 16 education pathways, 16-25 pathways to employment, transitions and preparing for adulthood, health services, social care, short breaks, activities for children and young people and parenting courses.

- [AfCinfo website - Kingston and Richmond :: SEND Local Offer](#)
- [SEND Local Offer | London Borough of Hounslow](#)
- [The London Borough of Wandsworth](#)
- [The London Borough of Hillingdon](#)
- [Surrey County Council](#)
- [The London Borough of Ealing](#)
- [The London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham](#)

YOU OR YOUR CHILD MAY BE ENTITLED TO:

SEND School Transport

Your local council can offer school / college transport assistance for eligible SEND pupils.

Richmond - https://www.richmond.gov.uk/send_transport

Hounslow - [Make an application | School travel assistance | London Borough of Hounslow](#)

Disability Living Allowance (DLA)

Financial support for children under 16 who have care or mobility needs due to a disability. Apply via: <https://www.gov.uk/disability-living-allowance-children>

Personal Independence Payment (PIP)

Financial Support for those over 16 who have care or mobility needs [Personal Independence Payment \(PIP\): What PIP is for - GOV.UK](#)

Blue Badge Scheme

Provides parking benefits for disabled individuals. Apply through Richmond Council: https://www.richmond.gov.uk/services/parking/blue_badges

Carer's Allowance

A benefit for people who care for someone with substantial care needs. More info: <https://www.gov.uk/carers-allowance>

Disabled Persons Freedom Pass

Freedom Pass provides Londoners over the age of 66 and those with eligible disabilities free public transport across the capital and on local buses across England. [Disabled person's Freedom Pass | London Councils – Home](#)

The Taxi Card Scheme

The Taxicard is a subsidized service designed to assist individuals with severe disabilities who find it challenging to access other forms of transportation. This scheme allows eligible users to travel in licensed taxis and private hire vehicles at reduced fares. [Taxicard | London Councils – Home](#)

National Disability Card

Access more opportunities, venues and events with the National Disability Card - an easy, secure and portable way to show others that you have a verified disability. [National Disability Card UK | Easy Online Application](#)

Max Card

The Max Card is the UK's leading discount card for foster families and families of children with additional needs. Families can use their Max Card at venues across the UK to get free or discounted admission. The scheme is designed to help families save money on great days out at castles, zoos, bowling alleys, trampoline parks and many more. [About Us – Discounts for fostered and disabled children – MaxCardMaxCard](#)

CEA Card Scheme

The scheme allows a Cardholder to be accompanied by someone, free of charge, when they purchase a ticket to visit a participating cinema with that person. [Home - CEA Card](#)

Discounts for Carers

Free to join. For care assistants, live-in carers, those that care for loved ones, and everyone in between They have a huge range of discounts, money-saving deals and vouchers that you're entitled to, including travel and holiday deals , money off top fashion brands, savings on homeware and electricals, through to deals on mobile phones, utilities and gym memberships. Exclusive discounts, cashback & vouchers. [Discounts for Carers | FREE Savings for Paid & Unpaid Carers](#)

FUNDING AND GRANTS

Families may be eligible for grants or funding for specialist equipment, buggies, car seats, trikes, sensory equipment. There are also crisis funds and loans for household goods and emergency needs.

[Family Fund](#)

[Household Support Fund | Richmond AID](#)

[Grant Enquiries – Citizens Advice Richmond](#)

[General 2 — The Victoria Foundation](#)

[Special equipment for children - Variety, the Children's Charity](#)

[Apply for a Local Assistance Scheme grant - London Borough of Richmond upon Thames](#)

[Caudwell Children | Transforming Lives of Disabled Children](#)

[Boparan](#)

[Childhood Can't Wait | Whizz Kidz](#)

[Newlife the Charity - Changing the lives of disabled children](#)

[Children Today](#)

Activity Fund (Richmond and Kingston)

The Activity Fund offers a sum of £140 per year and can be used towards the cost of activities for your child such as

Groups/clubs/sessions/lessons/camp/outings

An annual membership/annual pass

Resources to enable the child/young person to enjoy an activity/activities at home

A family holiday (additional eligibility criteria applies)

AfCinfo website - Kingston and Richmond :: Local Offer / Information and advice / Short Breaks / Aiming High Short Break schemes / Activity

Hounslow Family Service Directory

List of all Hounslow services, grants / funding available and summer holiday activities and clubs [Hounslow Family Service Directory](#).

CLUBS, WEEKENDS, SCHOOL HOLIDAYS, SHORT BREAKS

Short Breaks

Short breaks provide disabled children and young people with fun, enjoyment and a chance to be with friends while their parents and carers get a break from caring. They come in many different forms, ranging from an overnight stay in a residential centre or a carer's home to attending a youth club, leisure centre or getting involved in a sports activity. **Richmond** - [AfCinfo website - Kingston and Richmond :: Local Offer / Information and advice / Short Breaks / About Short Breaks](#) **Hounslow** - [Short Breaks \(Hounslow\)](#):

Holiday Activity and Food Programme – Hounslow HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) programme is open to all Hounslow children from reception to year 11 (inclusive) who receive benefits related Free School Meals. A voucher will be issued via your child's school and can be used in the Holiday Activities and Food Programme and Short Breaks. The programme offers a whole host of activities which will be fun and enjoyable for your young person and the whole family. To find out more, please visit the [HAF website](#)

FUEL – Richmond and Kingston

FUEL (which stands for 'Feed Ur Everyday Lives') is the name for the holiday activity and food programme (HAF) in the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames and the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. It is funded by the Department of Education and run by Achieving for Children. We make free places at holiday clubs available during the Easter, summer and Christmas holidays for young people who receive benefit related free school meals. Young people can attend 4 sessions over Easter, 16 sessions over the summer and 4 sessions over winter.

[AfCinfo website - Kingston and Richmond :: Community Information / Information and advice / FUEL - Holiday Activities and Food Programme](#)

Rise

Summer activities include canoeing and all-ability cycling sessions. Fees apply.

[Rise \(Richmond Inclusive Sport and Exercise\) Activities](#):

Albany Outdoors

[Albany Outdoors](#), Inclusion and special educational needs and disability club: 8 years to adults: Summer activities include dragon boating, paddle boarding, canoeing and kayaking. Bookings available through their website

Challengers

Challengers Play Scheme for disabled children ages 4-12: Clarendon Primary in Hampton. Must be registered with Challengers in order to use the service

TAG Youth Club

TAG Youth Club for Disabled Young People delivers a programme of personal, social and educational opportunities to young people with disabilities or additional needs. We aim to empower and optimise the potential of those aged 8 to 25 who have a disability and an identified need. We work with young people who either live, learn or earn in Richmond Upon Thames and surrounding areas of Southwest London and Surrey.
www.tagyouthclub.org

Keen2Go

Keen2Go are an activities and events provider committed to delivering a wide range of opportunities for young people with autism and learning disabilities with services based in Sutton and Richmond. They offer a selection of weekly sessions and special school holiday programmes - with all activities rooted in their core principles of inclusivity, compassion and personal development. [Disability Activities | Sutton | Keen2Go](#)

SEN Unity

SEN Unity offers a range of engaging and interactive sessions specifically designed for neurodiverse children, including those with Autism, ADHD, and other learning and physical difficulties. Our mission is to provide support and resources that promote development and well-being in a nurturing and inclusive environment. [Services and Support – SEN Unity CIC](#)

Yorda Adventures

We run a variety of play, care and family projects that support our young people and their families. All of our activities are tailored for the children we care for. We work to enable them to get the best out of their day, have lots of fun and support them through any challenges they may face.
www.yordaadventures.org

SEN Sports

SEN Sports LTD is a dedicated company, committed to providing inclusive and exciting sporting events for children with Special Educational Needs (SEN). Our events are designed to celebrate the abilities and achievements of every child, creating a safe, supportive, and inspiring environment for them to thrive, learn new skills, remain active and have fun! [Inclusive Sports for Special Needs Children | London SEN Club](#)

Riding for the Disabled (RDA)

Park Lane Stables RDA offers therapeutic horse riding for children with disabilities. Website: <https://www.parklanestables.co.uk>

SEND Swimming

LBHSC - SEN Swim lessons (free/funded) for ages 5-18 [Funded Projects - LBHSC](#)

Teddington Torpedos - [PDF Layout](#)

SEN Swim [SEN Swim Lessons & Locations](#) | [Tailored 1:1 Swim Classes](#) | [Sen Swim](#)

Snakes and Ladders SEN Sessions.

Free soft-play sessions for ages 0-12. Wednesdays from 4:15 – 6:15 in Syon Park, Brentford [Snakes and Ladders SEND Play Sessions](#)

Marble Hill Play Centre SENSational Saturdays

Runs monthly and open to families with SEND children. [Marble Hill Play Centres SENSational Saturday Club:](#)

CHARITIES AND SUPPORT

Richmond AID

Richmond AID is a charity run by and for Disabled people in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames and surrounding areas. We support people of all ages with all disabilities, including physical and sensory impairments, mental health issues and learning difficulties. Our aim is to support Disabled people to live independent lives and to have the same opportunities as non-Disabled people.

Skylarks

Skylarks is an independent Richmond upon Thames-based charity that provides activities and therapies for children with disabilities and additional needs. We provide the environment for children with additional needs and their siblings to build lasting relationships, while also offering them the opportunity to grow and develop together through play, activities and therapies. We provide information and support for families and carers, all under one roof and at the same time. We offer a range of workshops, therapies and support groups, or simply a listening ear over a hot drink.

[Skylarks – Home](#)

RUILS

RUILS is a user-led charity supporting Disabled children and adults and people with long term health and mental health conditions to live independently, be part of their community and to live life to the full.

We provide information, advice, advocacy, befriending and activities to our clients and their families across South West London – Richmond, Kingston, Wandsworth and Hounslow. www.ruils.co.uk

Crossroads Care

Provides holistic, bespoke, high quality respite care and support for families with disabled children. Website: <https://www.crossroadscarerk.org.uk>

Richmond Carers Centre

Provides support, advice, and events for carers in Richmond. Website: <https://www.richmondcarers.org>

SENDIASS Richmond & Kingston

Provides impartial advice and support to families navigating SEND services. Website: <https://www.kids.org.uk/sendiaass-richmond-and-kingston>

Contact

Contact run a free advice and information helpline for parents and carers living in any part of the UK. They also run workshops and events and give advice on subjects such as education, benefits, legal, financial, preparing for adult life and early years support. <https://contact.org.uk/>

Fight Back 4 Justice

Help with Legal and EHCP disagreements www.fightback4justice.co.uk

Purple Elephant Project

We are a children's mental health charity, supporting over 100 children and their families every week with therapeutic services such as Play and Art Therapy across the London Boroughs of Richmond, Hounslow and beyond. [Our Hub - The Purple Elephant Project](#)

KCIL

Kingston Centre for Independent Living is a charity who provide children with disabilities and their families brokering services and independent information and advice. They support personal budgets across education, health, short breaks and respite care. [Kcil – Kingston Centre For Independent Living](#)

ERIC

SEN toilet training, bladder issues and interoception support for all ages [Children with additional needs - ERIC](#)

Bladder & Bowel UK

SEN Toileting and bladder / bowel issues and support [JD Potty and toilet training for children with additional needs and disabilities Advice on Bladder and Bowel Problems in Children and Young People](#)

The Sleep Charity

[Children with SEND - The Sleep Charity](#) National Sleep Helpline: 03303 530 541

SOS!SEN

Our vision is for all children and young people who have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities in England to get the right education, health and care support they are entitled to in order to enable them to achieve their full potential as learners and skilled, independent individuals.

<https://sossen.org.uk/>

Sunshine Support

SEND advice, peer to peer support, consultancy, sleep support and an extensive list of online webinars [Home - Sunshine Support](#)

Mencap

Mencap's mission is to create a kinder, fairer, and more inclusive society for people with learning disabilities. They provide a wide range of services, including Personal Support: Mencap operates over 700 services, offering personal support to thousands of individuals each year.

Advocacy: They advocate for the rights of people with learning disabilities, ensuring their voices are heard in decision-making processes. Mencap runs various community initiatives to support families and individuals. www.mencap.org.uk

IPSEA

IPSEA are the leading charity in the field of SEND law in England, and we provide free and independent legal advice and support to families of children and young people with SEND. We also provide training on the SEND legal framework, and we influence policy at both a local and national level.

www.ipsea.org.uk

Scope

Scope campaign to transform attitudes to disability, tackle injustice and inspire action.

We create opportunities and provide information and support that empowers. www.scope.org.uk

MindEd

MindEd is a free online platform that provides information and education on mental health for children, young people, adults, and older people. It offers accessible, engaging online training in emotional and behavioral 'first aid' and essential therapeutic skills. MindEd is designed for professionals, parents, and anyone interested in mental health, and it is completely open access with over 500 sessions available online. [MindEd Hub](#)

The British SEND Foundation

The British SEND Foundation (BSF) is a pioneering, community-driven organization dedicated to supporting children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their families across the UK. BSF is founded on the principles of equity, inclusion, and innovation, ensuring that children with SEND receive the resources, education, and support they need to thrive in all aspects of life. [Home - British Send Foundation %](#)

Puberty

Growing up, sex and relationships this section on the **Contact** website contains a variety of articles about Puberty and growing up, Sex and sexual awareness and Sex and relationship education in school you will also find guides to download for parents and for young people. **Family Lives** have an article Puberty and disabled teens (Family Lives) which contains tips for supporting your teenager.

National Autistic Society has a guide for parents talking to their children about sex education, including how to talk to your child about puberty.

Sheffield's Children's NHS Trust has a library of resources on its website which includes a guide to talking about puberty to boys with a learning disability, unfortunately there isn't one about talking to girls. **Easy Health** is a website which covers a range of health subjects in an easy read format, you have to register to access the resources, but it's completely free.

PARENT CARER FORUMS

Richmond Parent Carer Forum

Richmond parent carer forum is an independent group run by parents for parents or carers of children/young people (aged 0 – 25 years) who have any form of special educational need or disability. We receive core funding from the Department for Education and our purpose is to ensure that the voices of parents, children and young people are heard in the planning and implementation of SEND services in Richmond. We can also help you to access services and provide valuable peer support, connecting you with other parents who understand the special joys and challenges of raising a family with additional needs. Joining is FREE! To become a member please complete our application form [here](#).

Hounslow Parent Carer Forum

The Forum meets monthly to discuss real issues that affect families such as health, education and employment. Professionals from organisations including the local authority are invited to share their current plans and to hear what parents have to say. It is also a place to share information parent to parent and to ask questions. [Hounslow Parent Carers Forum – For Parents and Carers of Children and Young People with disabilities or special needs in the Borough of Hounslow](#)

ATTRACTIONS AND EVENTS

Many London attractions offer free carers tickets and relaxed / quiet tours or openings:

London Transport Museum SEND family events at quieter times. [What's on calendar](#) | [London Transport Museum](#)

London Zoo London Zoo offer relaxed tours at quieter times [Relaxed Tours](#) | [London Zoo](#)

Sea Life Centre [Website Accessibility](#) | [SEA LIFE London Aquarium](#)

Madame Tussauds [Quiet Sessions at Madame Tussauds London - Autism & Sensory-Friendly Visits](#)

Natural History Museum [Dinosaurs: Relaxed Morning Visit](#) | [Natural History Museum](#)

National Portrait Gallery [Access - National Portrait Gallery](#)

Warner Bros Studios [Relaxed Tour - Warner Bros. Studio Tour London](#)

Lego Land [15198_Sensory Guide WEB](#)

Shrek's Adventure [Accessibility guide](#) | [Shrek's Adventure! London](#)

Young V&A [Access at Young V&A · V&A](#)

Hampton Court Palace Magic Garden [Rise and Roar: quiet session in The Magic Garden](#) | [Hampton Court Palace](#) | [Historic Royal Palaces](#)

Kew Gardens [Children's Garden quiet sessions](#) | [Kew](#)

Chessington World of Adventures [Accessibility Guide & Ride Access Pass](#) | [Chessington](#)

THEATRE

Theatre

A number of theatres such as Richmond, Wimbledon and the West End have relaxed performances. Click here to search by area. [Upcoming Relaxed Performances – ATG Tickets - United Kingdom](#)

Hampton Hill Theatre

Hampton Hill Theatre and Teddington Theatre Company offer 'relaxed performance' options for their shows which allow for movement and noise in the audience and quieter shows with calm lighting. [Welcome to Hampton Hill Theatre](#) | [Hampton Hill Theatre](#)

Rose Theatre Kingston

The Rose Theatre offer relaxed performances as well as captioned and audio described shows. [Access | Rose Theatre, Kingston, London](#)

The Exchange Twickenham

A number of relaxed performances, films and child friendly comedy events. [Family fun of all kinds at The Exchange, Twickenham](#)

FILM

Odeon - [ODEON Cinemas | Autism and sensory difficulties](#)

The Barbican - [Relaxed Screenings | Barbican](#)

Picturehouse Cinemas - [Relaxed Screenings | Picturehouse Cinemas](#)

VUE Cinemas - [Accessibility Information | Legal | Vue Cinemas](#)

BFI - [Relaxed screenings | BFI Southbank](#)

Everyman Cinemas - [Relaxed Screenings — Everyman Cinema](#)

Cineworld - [Autism Friendly Screenings | Cineworld](#)

AccessAble

AccessAble is here to take the chance out of going out. To give you the accessibility information you need to work out if a place is going to be accessible for you. They've surveyed 10,000s of venues across the UK and Ireland, including shops, pubs, restaurants, cinemas, theatres, railway stations, hotels, colleges, universities, hospitals and more. Use AccessAble to find wheelchair friendly venues or check out disabled access and facilities. [Home | AccessAble](#)