



Directory of Services for
Children with
Disabilities
2011



About This Directory

This directory is intended as a comprehensive guide to a large range of local and national services for parents and carers of children and young people with disabilities.

Many of the services featured are not commissioned or delivered by the council but may still be of use to families living within Westminster.

We strongly recommend that before you visit any of the listed services, you first contact them using the provided details to check:

- the service is appropriate for your child
- whether any charges are payable for the service
- opening times.

For a quick guide to key local services please see page 2.

Organisations Not Featured in this Directory

If your organisation provides a service for families of children with disabilities and you are not included in this directory, or if you would like to update details of your organisation's listing for future editions, please contact the Westminster Family Information Service on 020 7641 7929.

DISCLAIMER

Westminster can take no responsibility for any services listed in this directory which are not directly provided or commissioned by the council.

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Quick Guide to Services

The information below is a quick guide to services which may be useful for families of children with disabilities living in Westminster. This list is intended to signpost parents and carers of children with disabilities to a range of services and providers who can offer further information and guidance. Please note that this is not a comprehensive list of services, and that services and locations are subject to change.

Please call ahead if you plan to visit any of the services to ensure the age range and facilities are appropriate and relevant for your child.

Council Services

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES SOCIAL WORK TEAM

Woodfield Road Medical Centre,
Woodfield Road, London, W9 3XZ
Tel: 020 7266 7090

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS SERVICE

1st Floor, 4 Frampton Street,
London, NW8 8LF
Tel: 020 7641 5348

WESTMINSTER FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE

4 Frampton Street, London, NW8 8LF
Tel: 020 7641 7929

HOUSING OPTIONS BUILDING

101 Orchardson Street, London, NW8 8EA
Tel: 020 7641 1000 (Monday – Friday,
8am – 6pm)

(ADULT SERVICES) WESTMINSTER LEARNING DISABILITY PARTNERSHIP

Westminster Social Services,
Learning Disabilities, 2nd Floor,
215 Lisson Grove, London, NW8 8LW
Tel: 020 7641 6000 / 020 7641 7411

PARENT PARTNERSHIP SERVICE

4 Frampton Street, London, NW8 8LF
Tel: 020 7641 7929

Special Schools in Westminster

COLLEGE PARK SCHOOL

c/o Westminster Kingsway College,
Castle Lane, London, SW1E 6DR
Tel: 020 7976 5593

QEII JUBILEE SCHOOL

Kennet Road, London, W9 3LG
Tel: 020 7641 5825

Mainstream Schools with Disability Specialisms

MILLBANK PRIMARY SCHOOL

(Autism specialism)
Erasmus Street, London, SW1P 4HR
Tel: 020 7641 5945

EDWARD WILSON PRIMARY

(Visual Impairment Unit)
Senior Street, London, W2 5TL
Tel: 020 7641 4303

CHURCHILL GARDENS PRIMARY

(Speech and Language unit)
Ranelagh Road, Pimlico,
London, SW1V 3EU
Tel: 020 7641 5935

Parent and Carer Support Organisations

WESTMINSTER PARENT PARTICIPATION GROUP – MAKE IT HAPPEN

21 Dart Street, London, W10 4LD

CARERS NETWORK WESTMINSTER

Carers Network Westminster Office 8,
Beethoven Centre, Third Avenue,
London, W10 4JL
Tel: 020 8960 3033

WESTMINSTER CARERS SERVICE

Sixth Floor, 25-27 Oxford Street,
London, W1D 2DW
Tel: 020 7434 0670

PAN (PARENTS ADVICE NETWORK) WESTMINSTER

c/o VAW, 37 Chapel Street,
London, NW1 5DP
Tel: 020 7723 8656

Sports Centres

THE STOWE CENTRE

The Stowe Centre 258 Harrow Road,
London, W2 5ES
Tel: 020 7266 8221

LITTLE VENICE SPORTS CENTRE

10 Crompton Street, London, W2 1ND
Tel: 020 7641 5111

QUEEN MOTHER SPORTS CENTRE

223 Vauxhall Bridge Road,
London, SW1V 1EL
Tel: 020 7630 5522

Health Services in Westminster

ST MARY'S HOSPITAL

Praed Street, London, W2 1NY
Tel: 020 3312 6330 (adults)
Tel: 020 3312 3774 / 3771 (children)

WOODFIELD ROAD CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

Woodfield Road Medical Centre,
Woodfield Road, London, W9 3XZ
Tel: 020 7266 8600

Other Organisations/Providers of CWD Services

WESTMINSTER SOCIETY FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

Rainbow Family Centre includes Rainbow Specialist Nursery, play, youth and holiday schemes, and family support and outreach.
11 Bravington Road, London, W9 3AB
Tel: 020 8968 2690

WESTMINSTER SOCIETY FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

Centre for independent living on Harrow Road – for adults with disabilities. Parents with children reaching the age of 18 will find this service useful.
Tel: 020 8968 2688

LISSON GREEN INCLUSIVE PLAY PROJECT

Lisson Green Play Project,
12 Bledlow Close, London, NW8 8RT
Tel: 020 7642 1102 (delivered by WSPLD)

CAXTON YOUTH CLUB

Club for disabled young people.
Basement Clubrooms, Tintern House,
Hugh Street, Westminster,
London, SW1V 4JF
Tel: 020 7834 1883

PHAB CLUB

Club for disabled and non-disabled children and young people.
Churchill Gardens Youth Club,
Annex Hall Churchill Gardens Estate,
Churchill Gardens Road, London, SW1V 3AL
Tel: 01825 749 826

Local Services

Council Services

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES TEAM

Westminster's Children with Disabilities team gives support, advice and information to families, carers and professionals who care for children whose disability has a significant impact on their day-to-day lives.

The team is made up of social workers, occupational therapists, a welfare benefits worker, a transitions worker, a health development worker and a Connexions worker.

The team works in close partnership with the Child Development Service based at Woodfield Road Medical Centre, the Special Educational Needs team based at Frampton Street and the Paddington Green CAHMS service. A Social Worker/Behavioural Therapist from this service does outreach work in family homes.

The team provides a range of services:

- Family support – assessments and ongoing support for families.
- Welfare benefits advice – information and advice about applying for disability benefits.
- Transition support – help for young people with the transition to adulthood.
- Occupational therapy – assessments, aids and equipment to help children live more independently and advice on alterations required in the home.
- Behavioural support – therapeutic support in the home for families experiencing difficulties managing their child's behaviour.
- Short term breaks – care for a disabled child at home or in a different setting to give parents a break.
- Funded play provision – information and advice to help parents access local and specialist play services.
- Direct Payments – money given to parents/carers or disabled young people aged 16+ to purchase services they want themselves.

Referral Procedure: Via Duty & Assessment Team, Children and Community Services.

Address The Medical Centre, 7e Woodfield Road, London, W9 3XZ
Tel 020 7266 7090 | 020 7266 7111 | 020 7266 7112 | 020 7266 7110
Fax 020 7289 6276
Minicom 020 7289 4124
Email nlaurence@westminster.gov.uk
Wheelchair access ... Yes
Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

The Child Development Service is provided by two teams covering the south and north areas of the City of Westminster. The members of the teams include paediatricians, psychologists, speech therapists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, and social workers. The services provide an integrated assessment and review process. This enables professionals to work with a child and family to develop a plan of treatment and provide services that are required, the plan is regularly reviewed.

The Child Development Service in the north of the city is co-located with the Children with Disabilities Social Work Team.

Your child's health visitor, GP, child health clinic doctor, school doctor or nurse, therapist, educational psychologist or social worker can refer your child to the appropriate Child Development Service.

North

Address The Community Child Health and Child Development Service,
The Medical Centre, 7e Woodfield Road, London, W9 3XZ
Tel 020 7266 8835
Covers W1 | W2 | WC2 | W9 | W10 | W11 | NW1 | NW6 | NW8

South

Address Cheyne Child Development Service, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital,
369 Fulham Road, London, SW10 9NH
Tel 020 8846 6488
Covers SW1 | SW3 | SW7 | SW10 | W8 | W14

CHILDREN'S CENTRES & SPARKLE TIME SESSIONS

Westminster City Council runs 12 Sure Start Children's Centres throughout the city, offering families with children under five years old access to information and services including early education and childcare, child and family health services, family support – including help with parenting skills, help for parents to get back into employment and outreach service.

Sparkle Time sessions are specifically for children with disabilities and their families and run from Maida Vale, Bayswater, Churchill Gardens and Soho children's centres.

For more information on children's centres and Sparkle time sessions visit www.westminster.gov.uk/childrenscentre or contact:

Maida Vale Children's Centre

Contact the North East Locality Children's Centre Manager, Abdul Azad on
020 7641 5675 | aazad@westminster.gov.uk

Bayswater Children's Centre

Contact the North West Locality Children's Centre Manager, Katherine Harwood on
020 7641 5673 | kharwood@westminster.gov.uk

South Children's Centres

Contact the South Locality Children's Centre Manager, Faye Branscombe on
020 7614 5676 | fbranscombe@westminster.gov.uk

HOUSING OPTIONS SERVICE

Westminster City Council's Housing Options Service offers:

- advice on housing problems to private sector and social housing tenants, leaseholders and landlords
- assessment of the council's duty to homeless people, including homelessness prevention
- information about finding accommodation
- housing advice and options
- provision of temporary accommodation where a duty is owed
- administration of the Housing Register and Tenant Transfer List (Westminster City Council tenants can also contact their local estate office about transfers).

Address 101 Orchardson Street, London, NW8 8EA
Tel 020 7641 1000
Helpline 020 7641 1000
Fax 020 7598 7412
Minicom 020 7641 3514
Web www.westminster.gov.uk/housing
Email hoscustomerservices@cwh.org.uk
Opening hours Monday – Friday, 8.30am – 5pm

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT & COMMISSIONING

Nationally, about 20% of children may have some form of special educational needs (SEN) at some time. For the vast majority of children, mainstream schools will meet such needs, with outside help if necessary.

All mainstream schools must have a Special Educational Needs policy and a Special Educational Needs Coordinator. Your child's school will be able to give you information about their arrangements.

There are no hard and fast categories of special educational needs. It is recognised that each child is unique and each local authority should reflect the particular circumstances of the child. Local authorities recognise that there is a wide spectrum of special educational needs that are frequently interrelated, although there are also specific needs that usually relate to particular types of impairment. Children will have needs and requirements that by and large fall into at least one of four areas, although many children will have interrelated needs. These needs can impact considerably on a child's ability to function, learn and succeed.

The areas of needs are:

- Communication and interaction
- Cognition and learning
- Behaviour, emotional and social development
- Sensory and/or physical

In only a small minority of cases will a child have special educational needs of a severity or complexity that requires the council to become involved. The council, as far as possible, aims to educate children with special educational needs in mainstream schools, although some pupils may need a special school placement.

The policy for SEN is available on request and sets out the principles, practices and procedures.

If you have any queries or need further clarification about help advice and support available in Westminster, please contact Special Educational Needs using the details below:

Address Westminster City Council, 1st Floor, 4 Frampton Street, London, NW8 8LF
 Tel 020 7641 5350 | 020 7641 5352 | 020 7641 5348
 Fax 020 7641 7609
 Web www.westminster.gov.uk/educationandlearning
 Email sen@westminster.gov.uk
 Wheelchair Access... Yes
 Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

WESTMINSTER FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE (FIS)

The FIS provides information, advice and guidance on matters relating to children and young people (0-19 years) and their families.

The FIS holds up-to-date information on Ofsted registered childcare and early years education available throughout the city, including:

- childminders
- day nurseries
- out of school hours facilities
- pre-school (sometimes called playgroups).

Advice on services such as Children’s Centre activities, parent and toddler groups, crèche facilities and drop-ins is also available.

The FIS gives general information and guidance on:

- tax credits
- early education places for three and four year olds
- activities for all ages.

The FIS has information on:

- up-to-date childminder vacancy details, including out of school hours care and childcare during unsociable hours where available
- day nurseries, nursery schools and nursery classes including full and part time places at nurseries in Westminster
- advice about childcare costs and tax credits
- nursery education places for 3 and 4 year olds
- pre-schools listed with details of opening hours
- details of clubs providing out-of-school childcare and play activities for 0-19 year olds in your area
- parent and toddler groups drop-ins for parents and carers
- schools – lists of primary and secondary schools and information on educating at home and independent schools.

- swimming classes, soft play, dance, music, sport, library story-time, martial arts, tumble-tots and other leisure activities
- support groups and services, for children with special needs
- contact details for local support groups for parents and carers such as National Childbirth Trust
- recruitment information for people who wish to make childcare their career
- information sessions and lists of jobs available in local childcare settings.

Address 1st Floor, 215 Lisson Grove, London, NW8 8LF
Tel 020 7641 7929
Web www.westminster.gov.uk/children
Email fis@westminster.gov.uk
Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm (voicemail outside these hours)

WESTMINSTER TAXICARD SCHEME

The Taxicard scheme allows residents of Westminster with mobility needs, that prevent them from using buses or trains, to travel in black cabs at reduced fares.

Application forms can be obtained from any Social and Community Services office. Alternatively, Westminster residents can phone for details using the contact numbers below.

This service is managed by Enterprise on behalf of Westminster City Council.

Address Taxicard Scheme, Adults Services Department, City Hall,
64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP
Tel 020 7641 2266
Fax 020 7641 1987
Email: taxicard@westminster.gov.uk
Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

Voluntary Organisations

CARERS NETWORK WESTMINSTER

Carers' Network Westminster is an independent voluntary body representing carers and their needs, including ensuring that carers access all benefits and services that they are entitled to, and referring carers to where they can best access support relevant to their needs.

Address Office 8, Beethoven Centre, Third Avenue, London, W10 4JL
 Tel 020 8960 3033
 Fax 020 8962 9461
 Email info@carers-network.co.uk
 Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

DISABLED LIVING FOUNDATION (DLF)

The Disabled Living Foundation is a national charity providing impartial and expert information, advice and training on daily living equipment for professionals, older adults, children and people with disabilities. It provides health care professionals and the general public with advice on over 14,000 products that enable individuals to increase their independence.

Address 380-384 Harrow Road, London, W9 2HU
 Tel 020 7289 6111
 Helpline 0845 130 9177
 Fax 020 7266 2922
 Minicom 0870 603 9176
 Web www.dlf.org.uk
 Email dlfinfo@dlf.org.uk
 Wheelchair access ... Full disabled access, including disabled parking and adapted bathrooms
 Opening hours Monday to Friday, 10am – 5pm

FAMILY SERVICES TEAM – THE WESTMINSTER SOCIETY FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

The Family Services Team provides confidential, independent support, advice and information to parents and carers of children with disabilities and adults with disabilities living in Westminster. Services include:

- access to a wide range of information and support
- parents' information room with internet access
- links to other organisations and agencies
- parent information groups
- advice around education, benefits, grants, housing, health, mobility, specialist organisations, play schemes, carer holiday grants, respite and home care.

Appointments with the service can be at your home or at the Rainbow Family Centre. Parents and carers can either refer themselves or can be referred by a third party once they have given their consent.

Address Rainbow Family Centre, 11 Bravington Road, London, W9 3AB
 Tel 020 8968 2693 | 020 8968 2694
 Fax 020 8962 9851
 Opening/tel hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

NEWPIN ST PAULS

NEWPIN is a family centre for parents with at least one child under the age of 5 years. The centre aims to inspire parents to recognise the value of consistent good practice in caring for children, and to raise their own self confidence. This is achieved by offering emotional and practical support and providing:

- a fantastic outside play area with disabled access
- parenting programmes based on Mellow Parenting
- parent support groups
- family play programmes
- PEEP
- family play and support drop-ins
- Active Kids
- exercise classes
- family learning with Westminster Adult Education Service
- Book Start
- first aid courses
- music sessions
- healthy living programmes.

The centre works closely with all organisations to offer families the best support available.

Activities are run throughout the week, 9am – 3pm.

Tel 020 7724 6765
Email stpaulsnewpin@yahoo.co.uk
Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

SPECIAL PEOPLE

Special People works exclusively with children and young adults who have a wide variety of special needs. The organisation has staff experienced in working with children who have nursing needs, who present challenging behaviours, who require specific input such as physiotherapy or speech and language therapy or who are merely in need of stimulation.

Special People believes:

- that children and adults with and without disabilities should enjoy an equal place in an inclusive environment
- that everyone should be enabled to interact, drawing strength from each other's differences and similarities
- that the users of education, social and health services need to be given every opportunity to communicate to ensure their participation in decision-making.

Special People is registered with the Care Quality Commission

Address The Laundry Club, Sparsholt Road, Crouch Hill, London, N19 4EL
Tel 020 7686 0253
Fax 020 7686 0254
Email info@specialpeople.org.uk

VOLUNTARY ACTION WESTMINSTER (VAW)

VAW is an independent charity, working in the City of Westminster with voluntary organisations and local people, to help them gain the skills and strength of voice they need to make a difference for local communities.

Voluntary Action Westminster:

- gives advice and information on how to run voluntary and community groups
- offers training courses for management committees, volunteers and voluntary sector staff
- runs the Westminster Community Network to bring together local voluntary and community groups
- reaches out to families with young children, to tell them what services their local Children's Centre offers
- gives local people and communities a voice in health and social care services that affect them.

Address 37 Chapel Street, London, NW1 5DP
 Tel 020 7723 1216
 Fax 020 7723 8929
 Contact Rozana Rozahn
 Web www.vawcvs.org
 Email general@vawcvs.org
 Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9.30am – 5pm
 Wheelchair Access... Yes

WESTMINSTER BEFRIEND A FAMILY

Volunteers and Family Workers at Westminster Befriend a Family provide weekly home support to families where a parent or child has a disability.

Volunteers can also take young carers out to ensure they have a break from caring responsibilities and enjoy a fun and learning activity such as playing football in the park, swimming, going to a museum or the library. Befriend a Family provides weekly martial arts and swimming lessons for children and organises regular family outings to the seaside, aquariums and other fun places as well as offering a weekly drop-in advice service for parents (with a crèche) and running parent coffee mornings.

Address 3rd Floor, 34 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 0RE
 Tel 020 7828 2765 (24 hour service)
 Fax 020 7828 2780
 Email dmin@befriendafamily.co.uk

WESTMINSTER CARERS SERVICE

Westminster Carers Service is an independent charity formed in 1988 to provide relief for carers of dependent people.

Westminster Carers Service can offer respite care for a maximum of 8 hours per week, at a time to suit each carer. This may be provided as part of a Social Services care package. Clients may also purchase additional hours for themselves.

The organisation prides itself on the caring and professional service it offers to residents of Westminster. Great care is taken in the selection of relief staff who receive intensive ongoing training to ensure that services are of the highest standard.

Although the organisation receives financial support from Westminster City Council it also has to raise funds in order to ensure continuation of services.

Westminster Carers Service aims:

- to provide regular, reliable relief care each week to families or persons responsible for the care of a heavily dependent person in an endeavour to prevent/delay their admission to hospital or residential care
- to appoint approved relief carers to visit and undertake duties in the home carried out by the carer(s)
- to provide carers with a break from their duties and thereby assist them to lead a normal life and to maintain their physical and mental health
- to maintain a high standard of service that meets the domiciliary care standards laid out in the Care Standards Act 2000
- to match the needs of the carer and the person they care for with appropriately skilled and trained relief carers sensitively, taking into account the linguistic, cultural and religious background of the family as appropriate
- to promote the mutual support of carers and to enable them to share experiences in an informal setting.

Address 6th Floor, 25-27 Oxford Street, London, W1D 2DW
Tel 020 7434 0670
Fax 020 7734 9168
Web www.westcarers.org.uk

WESTMINSTER YOUNG CARERS SERVICE

Westminster Young Carers Service is for young people who:

- are under 18 years of age
- look after or help care for a relative.

The service offers support by:

- recognising the young person's role as a carer
- providing information and advice
- offering a wide range of social and recreational activities and educational workshops
- organising events for young carers to meet others in the same position
- providing advocacy
- helping with school work.

Address 6th Floor, 25-27 Oxford Street, London, W1D 2DW
Tel 020 7434 0670
Fax 020 7734 9168
Web www.westcarers.org.uk
Email youngcarers@westcarers.co.uk
Wheelchair access... Yes

Parent Support and Information

WESTMINSTER PARENT PARTICIPATION GROUP – MAKE IT HAPPEN

If you are the parent of a child or young person with disabilities living in Westminster, and would like to comment on services you receive, you can have your say by joining 'Make It Happen', the Parents Participation Group for Westminster.

The group was formed as part of the Government project 'Aiming High for Disabled Children' to ensure that parents play a full part in the decision making process for services.

Members work in partnership with professionals in Social Care, Health, Education and the voluntary sector that are involved in planning services for children and young people with disabilities and their families in the City of Westminster.

The group exists to represent you and to make sure that your views are heard when decisions are made.

By joining the group you can help influence the future development and delivery of services for you and your child/ren.

Address 'Make it Happen', Family Services and Early Support Resource Centre,
21 Dart Street, London, W10 4NA
Tel 020 8960 5384
Email Wmppg09@hotmail.co.uk
Web www.wmppg.co.uk

PAN (PARENTS ADVICE NETWORK) – WESTMINSTER

PAN Westminster is a service run by parents of children aged 0-19 years who have special educational needs, learning difficulties and disabilities. PAN provides information, support and advice on special education needs, disability, education laws, schools, colleges and any other issues surrounding education.

PAN works with parents who either live in Westminster or whose children attend school in Westminster.

Address c/o VAW 37 Chapel Street, London, NW1 5DP
Tel 020 7723 8656
Fax 020 7723 3741
Email panwestminster@yahoo.co.uk
Web caslater.freesevers.com/PANwestminster.html
Wheelchair Access... Yes; Ground Floor ramps
Opening Hours..... 9am – 5pm (During school terms)

PARENT PARTNERSHIP, SEN & DISABILITY

Westminster Parent Partnership Service (WPPS) provides an impartial and neutral information and support service for all Westminster parents/carers of children with special educational needs (SEN) and disabilities, with or without statements.

WPPS offers opportunities for parents to develop their knowledge and skills to contribute to all the arrangements for meeting their child's needs. Support from PPS is provided through a telephone helpline service, private appointments, links with helpful organisations and an extensive resource library.

Address 1st Floor Frampton Street, London, NW8 8EA
 Tel 020 7641 5355 | 020 7641 7929
 Email rchowdhury@westminster.gov.uk
 Opening hours 9.30am – 4.30pm

CONTACT A FAMILY

Contact a Family is a national charity for families with disabled children. It aims to link parents of disabled children to local and national support networks, and to provide information and advice, as well as encouraging mutual support between families whose children have disabilities and special needs.

Contact a Family:

- supports families of children with disabilities and specific health conditions including rare disorders
- provides information for professionals
- produces a directory of disorders which is available at www.cafamily.org.uk
- helps set up, run and develop UK-based support groups for families with disabled children and rare disorders
- provides information for carers and professionals on specific disorders and referral to other organisations where appropriate
- organises training, fun days, information events and workshops for families through local and national offices
- produces publications including Contact a Family Directory of Specific Conditions and National Support Groups and a range of fact sheets around special educational needs, benefits and assessments.

Address 209-211 City Road, London, EC1V 1JN
 Tel 020 7608 8700
 Helpline 0808 808 3555
 Text 0808 808 3556
 Email info@cafamily.org.uk
 Web www.cafamily.org.uk
 Opening hours Monday – Friday

Health Services

Local Support

CENTRAL LONDON COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE

Central London Community HealthCare NHS Trust provides community health services to the City of Westminster, Kensington and Chelsea, Hammersmith and Fulham and Barnet. You can visit their website at the web address below for information about your rights to health services, access to a GP or dentist and all other health services, as well as keeping you up to date about developments in the NHS locally.

Address 7th Floor, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP
 Phone 020 7798 1300
 Fax 020 7798 1301
 Web www.CLCH.nhs.uk

THE WAY AHEAD REGISTER

The Way Ahead Register is a confidential record of information about children with special needs and disabilities living in Westminster, Hammersmith & Fulham and Kensington & Chelsea. The Children Act 1989 required all local authorities to establish a register of children with a disability in their area. This was for the purpose of assisting service planning to meet the needs of children with disabilities and their families. Children's names are added to the register at their parent's request, and in return parents can receive information about services available in their area. All children who are on the Way Ahead Register are entitled to a membership card. The card will help families gain understanding and recognition that your child has a special need or disability. The card may also assist in obtaining discounts where concessions are offered.

Working in partnership:

- NHS Westminster
- Kensington & Chelsea PCT
- Hammersmith & Fulham PCT
- Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust
- Central London Community Healthcare NHS Trust
- Chelsea and Westminster NHS Foundation Trust
- London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham
- Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
- Westminster City Council

Further information including a copy of the Way Ahead leaflet and registration form can be found at www.westminster.gov.uk/services/healthandsocialcare/familycare/the-way-ahead-register/

You can get a copy of Westminster PCTs 'Your Guide to Local Health Services' from www.westminster-pct.nhs.uk

COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S NURSING TEAM

Specialist, trained community children's nurses (CCNs) provide high quality nursing care, education, health promotion and support to children and their families in appropriate community settings including the child's own home, schools, nurseries, and playgroups within the geographical boundaries of Westminster.

The team will see any child aged 0-16 years (up to 18 years if special needs) who requires nursing assessment, management and support in the community.

Children can be referred to the team by:

- health professionals in the acute and secondary sector
- Social Services
- therapists
- parents.

Address The Medical Centre, 7e Woodfield Road, London, W9 3XZ
Tel 020 7266 8840 (24 hour answerphone)
Fax 020 7266 8830

CHILD & ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE AT CHELSEA AND WESTMINSTER

The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service offers general assessment, treatment and consultation for children aged 0-18 years at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital as well as via an outpatient service for complex cases.

The team includes:

- child and adolescent psychiatrists
- a family psychotherapist
- a Social Services representative
- an art therapist.

The service also provides rapid assessment for acute crises.

Referrals are accepted from Child and Adolescent Health professionals, including:

- GPs
- paediatricians
- social services
- education professionals.

Emergency referrals are seen on the day of the referral.

Address Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, 369 Fulham Road, SW10 9NH
Tel 020 8746 8617
Fax 020 8746 8870

CHILD & FAMILY CONSULTATION SERVICE – VIOLET MELCHETT CLINIC

The team offers both specialist and general services for children aged 0-18 years and is based in Chelsea. It serves the population of South Kensington and Chelsea and South Westminster.

Areas of specialist intervention are family therapy and family work with parents and children under five years. In addition, the team offers:

- early intervention work in schools
- liaison with social services teams
- joint work with other professionals
- services for children whose carers have mental health problems
- services for children who have suffered abuse.

Referrals are accepted from parents and professionals.

Address 30 Flood Walk, Chelsea, London, SW3 5RR
Tel 020 3315 2837

ST MARY'S HOSPITAL CHILD & ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE (CAMHS)

This outpatient service offers a range of family and psychological therapies and pharmacological treatments to children aged 0-17 years. Emergency referrals can be seen on the day of referral (Monday – Friday). This service covers:

- North Westminster for the full service
- all of Westminster for neuropsychiatry and learning disability services
- a wider catchment area for the paediatric liaison service.

Referrals to this multi-disciplinary team are accepted from Social Workers, GPs, schools and St Mary's Hospital.

Address 17 Paddington Green, London, W2 1LQG
Tel 020 7723 1081
Fax 020 7723 1926

DENTISTS

Most children with disabilities will use the same dental services as other children. If your child is not able to use ordinary dental services, the Community Dental Service can treat them either at a dental clinic or occasionally at home. Referrals can be made through your GP, Health Visitor or Child Development Service.

PALS (PATIENT ADVICE & LIAISON SERVICE)

PALS will:

- listen to your concerns, suggestions or questions
- help sort out problems quickly
- provide you with information on local NHS Services
- assist and support you.

Although PALS is part of Westminster PCT, it provides an impartial link to your local health service. PALS respects patients' rights to confidentiality at all times. PALS can support you through the complaints process and signpost you to other organisations.

Tel 0800 587 8818
 Email pals@westminster-pct.nhs.uk

National Organisations

HEALTH SERVICE OMBUDSMAN

The Health Service Ombudsman looks into complaints made by on behalf of people who have suffered as a result of unsatisfactory NHS treatment or service. It is completely independent of the NHS and the government and all services are free.

Before asking the Ombudsman to look into a complaint, it must first be taken up locally with the organisation concerned. If the way the complaint has been dealt with locally is unsatisfactory, the next step is to write to the Ombudsman giving all the details.

Address Millbank Tower, Millbank, London, SW1P 4QP
 Helpline 0345 015 4033
 Fax 020 7217 4000
 Minicom 020 7217 4066
 Website www.ombudsman.org.uk
 Email phso.enquiries@ombudsman.org.uk
 Opening/tel hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 8pm | Saturday, 9am – 1pm

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS NATIONAL THERAPY CENTRES

These centres provide general support and information, therapies, treatment and help to all MS sufferers, including:

- physiotherapy
- dieticians
- hydrotherapy and swim
- hyperbaric oxygen therapy
- counselling
- speech therapy
- continence
- chiropody
- reflexology
- aromatherapy
- shiatsu.

There are 39 centres throughout the country.

Address PO Box 126 Whitchurch, SY14 7WL
 Tel 0845 367 0977
 Email info@msntc.org.uk
 Web www.msntc.org.uk
 Office Hours Monday – Friday, 9.30am – 4.30pm (answerphone out of hours)
 Telephone Hours Monday – Friday, 9.30am – 4.30pm (answerphone out of hours)
 Wheelchair Access... Yes
 Public Transport No

Social Services

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES TEAM

For further information see page 4.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES DUTY & ASSESSMENT TEAM

The team works with children aged 0-18 arranging services to support and promote the well-being of children in need and their families across the whole of Westminster.

Referrals can be made to this service by all agencies and members of the public by telephone, fax, e-mail or in person. All referrals made to Children's Social Services will initially be dealt with by this team. If ongoing social work support is required then this will be provided by a family support team.

The team protect and promote the welfare of children by:

- offering information, advice and practical support and counselling to families
- providing support for children with disabilities to allow them to lead lives that are as normal as possible by referring them to the Children With Disabilities Team for an assessment
- helping unaccompanied young people
- helping families seeking asylum
- protecting children at risk of abuse or neglect
- providing foster care, adoption services and residential accommodation for children who cannot live at home
- providing support to young people leaving care to help them live independently in the community
- working with young people in trouble with the law.

Address 4 Frampton Street, London, NW8 8LF

Helpline 020 7641 7525

Fax 020 7641 7526

Minicom 020 7641 8222

Contact Ms Lucy Titheridge | Service Manager

Web www.westminster.gov.uk

Email ltitheridge@westminster.gov.uk

Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

EMERGENCY DUTY TEAM, CITY OF WESTMINSTER

The Emergency Duty team provides an out of hours social work service to children and families living in Westminster and all children looked after by Westminster Children's Services.

Address Operates city wide

Tel 020 7641 6000

Phone hours Monday – Friday, 5pm – 9am | all weekend

Education

Westminster Special Schools

COLLEGE PARK SCHOOL – A SPECIALIST SCHOOL FOR COMMUNICATION AND INTERACTION

The school provides for pupils from the ages of 5 to 19 with complex needs. Each class is small and has at least three experienced and well qualified staff supporting the pupils, providing intensive support.

The school has five full time speech therapists who work closely with staff and pupils.

All pupils follow the national curriculum and at KS4 and KS5 a wide range of accredited courses are offered to all students including GCSE, Entry Level, BTEC, ASDAN and the Foundation Diploma.

The school has a social worker from the Children with Disabilities team who works closely with the pastoral and home school liaison team. The school has very close links with local colleges and other sixth form providers, which ensures post 16 and post 19 students have plenty of choice when choosing further education.

The school provides an excellent transition package for all students.

Admissions to the school are arranged through Westminster’s SEN Planning and Placement Team. They can be contacted on 020 7641 5356.

College Park School is temporarily located at the following location:

Address Westminster College, Castle Lane, Victoria, London, SW1E 6DR
Tel 020 7976 5593
Fax 020 7630 1574
Web www.qe2cp.westminster.sch.uk

QUEEN ELIZABETH II SCHOOL

The school provides education for children with severe and profound learning difficulties, including autism, from 5 to 19 years of age. There are places for up to 70 children and young people.

The school offers a high level of specialist support from Speech and Language Therapists, Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists. Link social workers visit the school fortnightly. A Family Support Worker, is available to offer advice and support to families and is in school 2.5 days a week.

After school clubs for secondary age children are available two afternoons a week and similar clubs for children in the primary department will soon be available one afternoon each week. Please note these services include a small charge.

Older pupils can participate in LINK courses with local colleges of further education in year 14. Admissions to the school are arranged through Westminster's SEN Planning and Placement Team, which can be contacted on 020 7641 5356

Address Kennet Road, London, W9 3LG
 Tel 020 7641 5825
 Fax 020 7641 5823
 Email office@qe2cp.westminster.sch.uk
 Web www.qe2cp.westminster.sch.uk
 Opening/tel hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 4.30pm

Mainstream Primary Schools with Disability Specialisms

CHURCHILL GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL – SPEECH & LANGUAGE SPECIALISM

Mixed community primary school, with specialist speech and language provision

Address Ranelagh Road, Pimlico, Westminster, London, SW1V 3EU
 Tel 020 7641 5935
 Fax 020 7641 6388
 Email office@cgprimary.co.uk
 Web www.churchillgardensprimary.co.uk

EDWARD WILSON PRIMARY SCHOOL – VI UNIT

Mixed community primary school, with a specialist unit for visually impaired children

Address Edward Wilson Primary School, Senior Street, London, W2 5TL
 Tel 020 7641 4303
 Fax 020 7641 4317
 Email office@edwardwilson.org.uk
 Web www.edwardwilson.westminster.sch.uk

MILLBANK PRIMARY SCHOOL – AUTISM UNIT

Mixed community primary school with a specialist autism unit attached.

Address Erasmus Street, London, SW1P 4HR
 Tel 020 7641 5945
 Fax 020 7641 5945
 Email office@millbankschool.co.uk
 Web www.millbank.westminster.sch.uk

Other Local Education Services

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE (WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL)

Educational Psychology promotes the emotional well-being, achievements, progress and inclusion of children and young people (0-19 years). The service provides assessment, consultation, advice and training to early years settings, schools, families and the local authority. The Westminster Team have regular allocated visits to all Westminster schools.

Address 1st Floor 4 Frampton Street, London, NW8 8EA
 Tel 020 7641 7602
 Fax 020 7641 7601
 Opening hours 9am – 5pm
 Web www.westminster.gov.uk/services/educationandlearning/schoolsandcolleges/schoolsinformation/edpsych/

KIDS LONDON – CITY OF WESTMINSTER HOME LEARNING (PORTAGE)

KIDS is a national charity which provides local services to children who have special needs and their families. KIDS' mission is to work in partnership with parents and collaborate with others, to enable children with disabilities across England to develop their skills and abilities, and to fulfill their potential.

A Home Learning worker visits the child and parent/carer at home, usually weekly, and works with them to help the child learn new skills. Aims for learning experiences are decided jointly and are broken into small achievable steps. Parents are fully involved in every stage in the planning, delivery and reviewing of the service.

Address Portman Early Childhood Centre, 12-18 Salisbury Street, London, NW8 8DE
 Tel 020 7641 4151
 Web www.kids.org.uk
 Email Pauline.Harris3@kids.org.uk
 Wheelchair access... Yes
 Opening hours 9am – 5pm

SPECIALIST ADVISORY & TEACHING TEAM

The Westminster Children's Services Department employs a number of advisory, specialist teachers to support children with SEN. These teachers visit children with visual and hearing impairment, children with autistic Spectrum Disorders and children with speech and language difficulties in school. HI, VI and ASD teachers may also undertake home visits when appropriate.

Address College Park School, c/o Westminster Kingsway College, Castle Lane, London, SW1E 6DR
 Tel 020 7976 5593
 Fax 020 7963 8552
 Email admin@qe2cp.westminster.sch.uk
 Phone hours 9am – 5pm

BEAUCHAMP LODGE SETTLEMENT – FLOATING CLASSROOM

The Floating Classroom is a purpose-built education boat moored at Little Venice near Paddington Station. From here the classroom travels along the Grand Union and Regent's Canals delivering engaging, fun and hands-on science, environment and history learning activities for primary school children in Westminster and across London .

The service also offers a programme of activities for children with Special Educational Needs and a wide range of family/community group learning days.

Address The Stowe Centre, 258 Harrow Road, London, W2 5ES
 Tel 020 7266 8249
 Email info@beauchamplodge.co.uk
 Web www.beauchamplodge.co.uk

National Education Organisations

ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL SPECIALIST COLLEGES (NATSPEC)

Colleges which are members of NATSPEC offer a wide choice of innovative, high quality further education and training for young people and adults with complex learning difficulties or disabilities.

Information is available from Alison Boulton (Chief Executive):

Tel 01179 232 830
 Web www.natspec.org.uk
 Email chiefexecutive@natspec.org.uk
 Address Natspec, c/o Derwin College, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 3GA
 Wheelchair access... No

CENTRE FOR STUDIES ON INTEGRATION IN EDUCATION (CSIE)

The Centre for Studies on Inclusive Education (CSIE) is an independent centre actively supporting inclusive education as a basic human right of every child. The centre is funded by charitable donations, with additional income from sale of publications and small grants for research or other projects.

CSIE's work is driven by a commitment to overcome barriers to learning and participation for all children and young people. Key activities include lobbying and campaigning, research, training, consultancy and dissemination of information.

Address New Redland Building, Coldharbour Lane, Frenchay, Bristol, BS16 1QU
 Tel 0117 328 4007
 Fax 0117 328 4005
 Email admin@csie.org.uk
 Web www.csie.org.uk

PARENTS FOR INCLUSION (PI)

Parents for Inclusion (PI) is a growing network of organisations and individuals working together for the real inclusion of all disabled children, and made up of parents, people who work with parents of disabled children, teachers, SENCOs, and local authority staff.

PI provides an inclusion helpline, works closely with disabled adult trainers to provide “Planning Positive Futures” training for parents and helps parents set up self-help groups in schools.

Address 336 Brixton Road, London, SW9 7AA
Tel 020 7738 3888
Helpline 0800 652 3145
Web www.parentsforinclusion.org

NORDOFF ROBBINS LONDON CENTRE

London hosts the operational headquarters of national music charity Nordoff Robbins, which is dedicated to transforming the lives of children and adults affected by illness, disability, trauma or isolation.

Nordoff Robbins is the UK’s largest specialist provider of music therapy to vulnerable people of all ages and also runs music and health projects, training and research in music therapy.

When people are isolated by illness, disability or trauma, they often find it difficult to communicate or take part in everyday life. Music can help them find a voice, and can build a bridge to social contact. It helps them feel emotion and joy, connect with their families, and achieve things that they may not otherwise attempt.

Sessions at the London Centre are charged for but reduced fees are available by special arrangement.

Address 2 Lissenden Gardens, London, NW5 1PQ
Tel 020 7267 4496
Contact..... Mandy Hembrow, Administrator of London Centre Music Services
Web www.nordoff-robbins.org.uk
Email admin@nordoff-robbins.org.uk
Wheelchair access ... Yes
Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 6pm | Saturday, 9am – 3pm

Specialist Equipment

Local Services

CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES TEAM – PAEDIATRIC OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SERVICE

Occupational therapists working in the team offer a community based assessment service for aids, adaptations and equipment. The team will observe your child doing everyday activities at home, nursery or school and decide, with you, what equipment will help your child to live as independently as possible.

The team offers advice and recommendations regarding major adaptations required to your home to meet the needs of your child. Occupational Therapists are also able to submit reports to the Housing Department if you need to move because your present accommodation cannot be adapted.

Address The Medical Centre, 7e Woodfield Road, London, W9 3XZ
 Tel 020 7266 7090 | 020 7266 7116
 Fax 020 7289 6276
 Minicom 020 7289 4124
 Email jweldon@westminster.gov.uk
 Wheelchair access... Yes
 Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm
 Phone hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm (except Wednesday, 9.30am – 11.30am)

WHIZZ-KIDZ

Whizz-Kidz is a UK wide charity that helps disabled children and young people gain independence by providing them with powered wheelchairs, lightweight manual wheelchairs and other vital mobility equipment. The charity provides wheelchair skills training in schemes across the country, helping children to stay safe and gain maximum independence from their wheelchair.

The charity also supports disabled children throughout their childhood through a network of local clubs, life skills training events, opportunities to get involved in campaigning and a national work experience programme with a number of major employers. All services are provided free of charge.

Referral Procedures: Application forms are available from the council's Children's Services Team or online at www.whizz-kidz.org.uk/gethelp/getequipment/applyforequipment

Address 4th Floor, Elliot House, 10-12 Allington Street, London, SW1E 5EH
 Tel 020 7798 6109
 Email kidzservices@whizz-kidz.org.uk
 Web www.whizz-kidz.org.uk

National Organisations

AFASIC

AFASIC is a charity representing children and young adults with communication impairments, working for their inclusion in society and supporting their parents and carers. AFASIC provides children, young people, families and professionals with:

- a telephone helpline service
- training conferences
- information sheets
- newsletters
- publications
- support through local groups
- expertise in developing good practice.

Website: www.afasicengland.org.uk

Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

Helpline Monday – Friday, 10.30am – 2.30pm

THE ACE CENTRE ADVISORY TRUST

The ACE Centre in Oxford helps children and young people with physical and communication difficulties by introducing them to communication technology that can make that vital difference.

It offers a wide variety of services including in-depth individual assessments, information and specialist training for parents and professionals as well as producing a range of publications.

Contact..... Dr Ben Jabuni | Director

Address 92 Windmill Road, Headington, OX3 7DR

Telephone..... 01865 759 800

Fax..... 01865 759 810

Website..... www.ace-centre.org.uk

Email info@ace-centre.org.uk

Wheelchair access... Fully wheelchair accessible

Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

CENMAC (CENTRE FOR MICRO-ASSISTED COMMUNICATION)

CENMAC is a team of advisory teachers with backgrounds in special schools and mainstream inclusion. It works in the Greater London area with children aged 3 to 19 years who have a physical disability that prevents them communicating in writing.

CENMAC supports the communication needs of such learners through the loan of appropriate technological aids. The organisation's aim is to help each learner gain full and equal access to the National Curriculum.

Address Charlton School Charlton Park Road, London, SE7 8JB
 Telephone..... 020 8854 1019
 Fax..... 020 8854 1143
 Web www.cenmac.com
 Email mail@cenmac.com
 Disabled Access There is currently no disabled access to the 1st floor
 Opening/tel hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm (term time only)

FOUNDATION FOR ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY (FAST)

FAST is a national charity working with users of assistive technology to maximise their independence. FAST brings together people who use assistive technology, researchers, developers, manufacturers and service providers to build effective partnerships. The aim is to ensure that the development of assistive technology is led by the needs and wishes of the users.

Address 31 Scarborough Street, London, E1 8DR
 Tel 020 7264 8955
 Web www.fastuk.org
 Email info@fastuk.org
 Opening/tel hours Monday – Friday, 8.30am – 4.30pm

LIFELINE 4 KIDS (FORMERLY: HANDICAPPED CHILDREN'S AID COMMITTEE)

Lifeline 4 Kids assists children with disabilities (up to 18 years) throughout the UK by funding the purchase of essential equipment. Beneficiaries suffering from various diseases and medical conditions will be considered. The charity also assists organisations concerned with special needs children.

Application forms and guidelines are available from the below address.

Address 215 West End Lane, London, NW6 1XJ
 Telephone..... 020 7794 1661
 Fax..... 020 7794 1161
 Website..... www.lifeline4kids.org
 Email mail@lifeline4kids.org
 Phone hours..... 10am – 5.30pm

MOTABILITY

The Motability Scheme is the UK's leading car scheme for disabled people. It provides affordable, convenient, trouble-free motoring to disabled customers and their families. Powered wheelchairs and scooters can also be financed using the Motability Scheme.

The scheme is available to anyone receiving the Higher Rate Motability Component of the Disability Living Allowance, or the War Pensioners' Motability Supplement. Customers can transfer their motability allowance to Motability to lease or purchase a car, powered wheelchair or scooter. Children from three years old and people who don't drive can also apply for cars as passengers, provided they receive the correct allowance.

Motability is a national charity committed to meeting the motability needs of disabled people. The charity also provides financial assistance to customers who would otherwise be unable to afford the motability solution they need.

Address Warwick House, Roydon Road, Harlow, Essex, CM19 5PX
 Helpline 0845 456 4566
 Fax 01279 632 000
 Minicom 0845 675 0009
 Web www.motability.co.uk
 Opening hours Monday – Friday, 8.30am – 5.30pm

GO KIDS GO! (FORMERLY THE ASSOCIATION OF WHEELCHAIR CHILDREN)

Go Kids Go! is a specialist national charity providing free mobility training and advice to wheelchair-using young people and their families across the UK and Ireland.

Go Kids Go!:

- teaches children useful, practical skills, enabling them to move safely and confidently about their homes and neighbourhoods
- runs manual / powered wheelchair courses
- runs professionals workshops & wheelchair/disability awareness workshops in mainstream schools, covering issues such as road safety and kerb work for wheelchair users, coping with slopes and rough ground
- organises fun activities such as wheelchair dance and wheelchair basketball
- encourages parents and siblings to join in (and provides extra wheelchairs).

Services include:

- helping parents, when necessary, acquire equipment that is appropriate to their child's needs
- providing advice and advocacy support to the parents of wheelchair using children
- running workshops for healthcare professionals where guidance is given on how to assess the suitability of equipment for children and subsequent training in its use.

Address 6 Woodman Parade, Woodman Street, North Woolwich, London, E16 2LL
 Tel 020 7473 3684
 Email colin@go-kids-go.org.uk
 Public Transport: DLR – King George V. Buses: 473 | 474

Play & Youth

Local Services

LISSON GREEN INCLUSIVE PLAY

Lisson Green Inclusive Play provides:

- inclusive, safe, supervised and stimulating play opportunities for all children where they are able to explore their potential in secure, familiar surroundings with high quality resources, good outdoor play space and qualified staff
- a quality play curriculum which extends children's learning with opportunities for homework support, access to information technology, educational and creative activities and sport and physical activities.

Staff are qualified and trained and have a range of experience and skills to support individuals and groups. Policies, procedures and guidelines are in place to enable staff to work safely and ensure that all children are kept healthy, well and happy.

The play work team is diverse to reflect the many different local communities around Lisson Green and all workers are receive diversity and equal opportunities training.

Address 12 Bedlow Close, Capland Street, London, NW8 8RT

Tel 020 7724 3798

RAINBOW FAMILY CENTRE

Based in Bravington Road, Rainbow Family Centre is part of the Westminster Children's Centres service delivery across Westminster. The centre works very closely with all mainstream and specialist services offered to children, young people and their families living in Westminster.

The centre is part of the Westminster Society for People with Learning Disabilities (affiliated to Mencap) and offers a variety of services and support for children 0-18 years of age and their families.

Services are offered within the community and at Lisson Green Play Centre and Rainbow Family Resources and information Centre at 21 Dart Street

Key services are:

- early years services
 - play and youth services
 - family support and early support Key Working services
 - Rainbow Domiciliary Care and support service for children and young people
 - Westminster Children's Centre Outreach Team.
-

Address Rainbow Family Centre, 11 Bravington Road, London, W9 3AB
 Tel 020 8968 2690 | 020 8968 7376
 Fax 020 8962 9851
 Contact Mrs Carol Foyle | Director of Children | Youth and Family Services
 Email cfoyle@wspld.org
 Wheelchair access... Yes, all on ground floor level

PHAB

Phab's aim is to promote and encourage people of all abilities to come together on equal terms, to achieve complete inclusion within the wider community. The organisation works with children and young people with disabilities and their siblings to provide fun and inclusive activities for 8-16 year olds, including:

- sport
- art & craft
- cooking
- computers
- days out
- drama
- music
- dance
- regional & national events.

Address Churchill Gardens Youth Centre, Churchill Gardens Road, London, SW1V 3HY
 When Sundays from 11:30am – 2pm
 Tel 07910 556 588 | 01825 749 826
 Email janine.williams@phab.org.uk
 Web www.phab.org.uk

PIMLICO TOY LIBRARY

Pimlico Toy Library is a Registered Charity in its 25th year of raising funds to work with families in Westminster. The Toy Library offers toys, games and puzzles to play with and borrow in a clean, bright, safe place.

Qualified Toy Librarians can help you and your child to learn and have fun through play. The library is open to any family with a child/ren aged 0-11 years.

The initial joining fee is £12 and subsequent annual membership is £8 a year. The cost of borrowing a toy is 20p / week for each toy borrowed.

Address 133A Lupus Street, Pimlico, London, SW1V 3EN
 Tel 020 7834 3356
 Fax 020 7834 3356
 Email ptlsw1@btconnect.com
 Wheelchair access... Yes: Ground floor | Toilet
 Opening hours Mondays – Wednesday, 9.30am – 5.30pm | Thursday, 9.30am – 3.30pm

THE STOWE CENTRE

Rainbow Services at the Stowe for disabled 13-18 year olds.

Rainbow provides youth activities for young people with disabilities (aged 14 to 18 years) on Tuesdays – Fridays during holiday periods (except for Christmas). Activities run from 9am – 4.15pm (including pick ups and drop offs) with transport provided if needed.

During school term time, Rainbow also run a Saturday Youth Project for young people with disabilities (aged 13 to 18 years), which runs every Saturday from 9am to 2.30pm (with transport).

Rainbow Youth Service also runs a term time evening project on Mondays from 5.30 – 9.30pm. This is an inclusive project for young people with disabilities (aged 13 to 18 years).

Address 258 Harrow Road, London, W2 5ES
 Tel 020 7641 7747
 Fax 020 7266 8230

CAXTON YOUTH ORGANISATION

The Caxton Youth Organisation provides informal educational opportunities for disabled young people and their non-disabled friends, to enable them to acquire new skills and knowledge.

The organisation's narrow boat is also used to help enhance and develop independent living skills, social and practical health and safety awareness.

Caxton Youth Organisation works to ensure that their members have access to opportunities, freedom and choice equal to their non-disabled peers, and encourages collective initiatives with other community groups.

Address Basement Clubrooms, Tintern House, Abbots Manor Estate,
 Alderney Street, London, SW1V 4JF
 Tel 020 7834 1883
 Fax 020 7834 1883
 Email caxtonyouthorg@btconnect.com
 Membership £1 nightly subs | £5 yearly membership
 Wheelchair Access... Yes, including toilet

THE CROXLEY PROJECT

The Croxley Project provides Social and Leisure activities for adults with learning disabilities aged 18 upwards. Priority is given to those living at home with their families/carers.

Groups and activities include:

- 'Accessing the Community Groups': Monday and Thursday evenings from 6 – 10pm and Saturdays 10 – 4pm
- Lunch clubs: Tuesdays 1 – 5pm and Fridays 1 – 4pm
- Photography Group: Thursdays 3 – 5pm
- Football club: Thursdays 3.30 – 4.30pm
- Social Club: Tuesdays 7 – 9pm

Transport is available for those who need it. Anybody who has a learning disability and lives in Westminster is welcome. Referrals are accepted through Social Services.

There are sometimes waiting lists for certain clubs and events.

Address 16a Croxley Road, London, W9 3HL
Tel 020 8968 2684
Fax 020 8968 9165
Email dsolomons@wspld.org
Wheelchair Access... Yes, stair lift to use upstairs facilities, TV

WESTMINSTER LOCALITY YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

Westminster Locality Young People's Services (LYPS) offers advice, information, guidance and support services to young people aged 13 to 19 years (up to 25 years for those with learning difficulties or disabilities).

Personal Advisers (PAs) work in Special Schools as well as with young people in City of Westminster College and in specialist services such as the Youth Offending Team, the LAC/ Leaving Care Teams, the Children with Disabilities Team and the Adult Learning Disabilities team.

Westminster also runs three Youth Hubs, providing relaxed and friendly environments which encourage young people to get the support to allow them to take control of their lives

Youth Hub @ The Stowe | The Stowe Centre, 258 Harrow Road, W2 5ES | Tel: 0845 077 0779
Youth Hub @ Lupus Street | 131 Lupus Street, London, SW1V 3EN | Tel: 020 7641 2069
Youth Hub @ Church Street Library | Church St, London, NW8 8EU | Tel: 020 7641 1300

Youth Hubs have a drop-in service or young people can make an appointment to see a worker who can help them look at a wide range of career options as well as training and college courses. The service can also help young people with personal difficulties or issues such as housing, bullying, health or problems at home.

The service includes confidential one to one rooms where young people can talk to staff in private – including professionals from other organisations for more specialised support and information (e.g. young persons drugs project and a sexual health service).

Young people can also find details of new job vacancies each week using free IT facilities to search for jobs or to update CVs.

Sport

Local Services

LITTLE VENICE SPORTS CLUB – THURSDAY CLUB

The Thursday Club is a series of fun multi-sports sessions for people with disabilities aged 11-18 years, who live, work or go to school or college in Westminster.

Sessions run every Thursday – young people can arrive from 4pm, with sessions running from 4.30 – 6pm during school term time.

Sessions run at Little Venice Sports Centre, 10 Crompton Street, London W2 1ND and cost only £1 per session. This cost includes a free transport service that will pick you up from your home/school and drop you off after the session.

Contact..... Cory Wharton-Malcolm | Sports Development Officer
Tel..... 020 7641 5889
Fax..... 020 7641 5878

PADDINGTON RECREATION GROUND

Paddington Recreation Ground has a modern, well-equipped Inclusive Fitness Initiative awarded gym with a wide range of exercise classes and other facilities, which ensure there is something for everyone.

Facilities available at Paddington Recreation Ground include:

- tennis courts
- basketball/netball courts
- hockey pitch
- football pitches
- athletics track
- cricket pitch and nets
- trim trail
- environmental area.

If you have a MyWestminster ResCard or concession card you can get discounts on access to and use of all these facilities including free swimming (for people with disabilities).

You can apply for an Active Westminster Passport if you are aged 0-19, which gives you free swimming and other sport and leisure discounts. Visit www.westminster.gov.uk/activepassport for more information.

To find out more about specific times and activities please contact individual leisure centres.

Address Randolph Avenue, London, W9 1PD
 Tel 020 7641 3642
 Bookings 020 7641 3642, Gym 020 7641 4819
 Fax 020 7328 7033
 Web www.gll.org/borough/westminster.asp

Nuffield Health also manage St Augustine's Schools sports hall which has four badminton courts and can cater for 5-a-side football, volleyball, netball, basketball, trampolining, table tennis and other indoor activities.

Address Oxford Road, London, NW6 5SN
 Tel 020 7641 3642
 Bookings 020 7641 3642
 Fax 020 7328 7033
 Web www.gll.org/borough/westminster.asp

PIMLICO PUFFINS SWIMMING CLUB

Pimlico Puffins is a swimming club for those who have a learning or physical disability who would like to learn to swim or exercise in the water. All ages, sizes and characters come to our club to enjoy a swim.

This service is free to disabled residents of Westminster and free transportation may also be arranged.

The Puffins have fun whilst providing a safe and pleasant environment in which disabled people can swim. The pool is closed to the public during Puffins sessions so you can enjoy the pool in private.

The Puffins meet on Mondays at the Queen Mother Sports Centre, Vauxhall Bridge Road, Victoria SW1V 1EL, from 7.45pm and swim from 8 – 9pm and 9 – 9.30pm. Afterwards, swimmers gather together for a refreshments.

Swimmers enjoy themselves and develop their confidence in the water. Half of the pool is sectioned off for those swimmers who require individual attention and the remainder is divided into lanes for people who are able to swim without a lot of attention.

Volunteers take on a range of tasks, from one-to-one swimming to assisting a small group of swimmers in the shallow pool or escorting swimmers to and from the club, volunteers are always needed. Ambulances and drivers are provided by Westminster City Council.

Address Queen Mother Sports Centre, 223 Vauxhall Bridge Road,
 London, SW1V 1EL
 Tel 07971 186 608
 Web www.pimlicopuffins.org.uk
 Email corinne.leon@gmail.com

All the facilities are accessible by ramp from the main entrance and by lift to other levels. There are changing facilities and spacious toilets for people with disabilities for both wet and dry sports and a disabled hoist for the main pool.

WESTMINSTER SPORTS CENTRE – MOBERLY SPORTS AND EDUCATION CENTRE

The centre positively promotes the interest and needs of people with disabilities, those with special needs, people over 50, and young people (especially girls). Its facilities comprise:

- large sports hall
- studio room
- weights room
- outdoor artificial pitch and area
- unique multi-sensory room which has a number of uses for therapy, young children, and special needs groups.

Sports include:

- badminton
- basketball
- boxing/boxercise
- dance
- gymnastics
- judo
- netball
- table tennis
- parkour

Address Moberly Sports and Education Centre, Kilburn Lane, London, W10 4AH
 Tel 020 7641 4807
 Helpline 020 7641 4807
 Web www.westminster.gov.uk
 Email sport@westminster.gov.uk
 Wheelchair access... Yes, facilities are all on ground level with a toilet for disabled use
 Opening hours 9am – 10pm

CANALSIDE ACTIVITY CENTRE

Based in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, this centre is close to the North West area of Westminster.

Watersports and outdoor pursuits encourage personal development and good social skills amongst the young people who attend.

Canoeing and kayaking are taught as part of the onsite programme. Regular offsite days and residential trips are also organised, which enables members to broaden their horizons, widen their experiences and test themselves in more challenging environments.

Canalside caters for all abilities and works with young people from ages of 9 to 19 years and up to 25 years for those with disabilities.

The Canalside activity centre strives to be an inclusive environment and encourages young people with disabilities to use our facilities.

Address Canalside Activity Centre, Canalside Close, London, W10 5AY
 Tel 020 8968 4500
 Email Canalside.Centre@rbkc.gov.uk

National Organisations

CEREBRAL PALSY SPORT (CP SPORT)

CP Sport has a proud record of discovering and developing talented people with cerebral palsy who have gone on to taste success at the highest levels in a variety of sports, in many cases winning Paralympic medals. Key sports are athletics, swimming, football, table cricket, multi-sports development days, boccia and bowls.

CP Sport engages people of all abilities, encouraging them to attend events and work with coaches to improve performance.

Address Heathcoat Building, Nottingham Science Park, University Boulevard,
Nottingham, NG9 2QJ
Tel 0115 925 7027
Fax 0115 922 4666
Web www.cpsport.org
Email info@cpsport.org

DISABILITY SPORT EVENT (FORMERLY BRITISH SPORT ASSOCIATION FOR THE DISABLED)

DSE is the Events Division of the English Federation of Disability Sport. DSE organises and develops programmes of sports events at local, regional and national level, providing, developing and co-ordinating sports and recreation opportunities for people with disabilities. DSE also acts as an information and advice support service for enquirers concerning all aspects of the provisions of sport and recreation for disabled people.

Address Belle Vue Centre, Manchester, M12 5GL
Tel 0161 953 2499
Fax 0161 953 2499
Web www.disabilitysport.org.uk
Email info@dse.org.uk
Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION

Riding for the Disabled Association aims to provide disabled people with the opportunity to ride on horseback and/or to carriage drive to benefit their health and well-being.

Phone the number below for details of your nearest group.

Address Norfolk House, 1a Tournament Court, Edgehill Drive, Warwick, CV34 6LG
Telephone 0845 658 1082
Fax 0845 658 1083
Web www.rda.org.uk
Email info@rda.org.uk
Opening/tel hours Monday – Thursday, 9am – 5pm | Friday, 9am – 4pm

Arts & Leisure

Local Services

ABUNDANCE ARTS

Abundance Arts provides interactive music, live percussion, dance, storytelling and visual arts for children with disabilities and special needs. Fun, easily accessible activities are shaped to participants' requirements and age groups and offer many learning and therapeutic benefits, including stimulating, relaxing and energising both individuals and groups.

Address Canalside House, 383 Ladbrooke Grove, London, W10 5AA

Tel 020 7792 0935 | 07941 625 359

Fax 020 7792 0935

Website www.abundancearts.com

Email arts@abundancearts.com

CHICKEN SHED THEATRE

This is a professional inclusive drama enterprise which offers drama classes to disabled children and young people and gives them the opportunity to take part in productions.

Address Chase Side, Southgate, London, N14 4PE

Telephone 020 8351 6161

Email info@chickenshed.org.uk

KITH & KIDS

Kith & Kids is a group of families actively involved in social inclusion of people with learning disabilities and autism into the community.

The group supports each individual family in every aspect that affects family life, including:

- quality of services
- education
- day care
- leisure activities
- short-term care.

Activities Include:

- social development projects during the main school holidays
 - summer camp
 - a Saturday/Sunday club.
-

It has an on-going befriending scheme and also an Employability and Life Skills Project for those at the more able end of the autistic spectrum.

Address c/o The Irish Centre, Pretoria Road, London, N17 8DX
 Tel 020 8801 7432
 Email projects@kithandkids.org.uk
 Web www.kithandkids.org.uk
 Opening hours: Monday – Friday, 10am – 6pm
 Public transport..... BR – White Hart Lane
 Wheelchair Access... Yes

PADDINGTON ARTS

Paddington Arts is a centre for the performing arts and media for young people aged 6 to 26 years. Many courses are designed to include disabled children and young adults.

Address 32 Woodfield Road, London, W9 2BE
 Tel 020 7286 2722
 Email info@paddingtonarts.org.uk
 Web www.paddingtonarts.org.uk

POLKA THEATRE FOR CHILDREN

Polka Theatre is dedicated exclusively to producing and presenting high quality theatre for young audiences. The Polka Theatre performs plays for children of all ages (check the recommended age for a particular event). The Theatre also runs courses, clubs and workshops.

Special Needs Workshops: The Theatre has leaders skilled at working with children who have special needs. Workshops can be tailored to support these requirements.

Address 240 The Broadway, London, SW19 1SB
 Tel 020 8545 8320
 Fax 020 8545 8365
 Web www.polkatheatre.com
 Email boxoffice@polkatheatre.com
 Box office tel..... 020 8543 4888 (separate from the number above).
 Box office fax..... 020 8545 8366
 Wheelchair access... Yes, wheelchair access and induction loop system for people with hearing aids
 Opening hours Tuesday – Saturday, 10am – 5pm

SHAPE

Shape is a disability-led arts organisation working to improve access to culture for disabled people. Activities include:

- developing opportunities for disabled artists
- training cultural institutions to be more open to disabled people
- running participatory arts and development programmes.

Shape Tickets offers tickets to a wide range of arts and entertainment events across London often at reduced prices and with no booking fees. Membership of Shape Tickets costs just £10 per year, and you are eligible to join if you are disabled.

Shape in Education offers training for disabled artists to work in education settings and artists' residencies in schools for disabled children.

- Shape Training offers accredited training courses and placements in all aspects of arts management and practice. Shape training offers a comprehensive training packages including Open Access Seminars and a programme of disability equality seminars.
- Creative Steps careers advice and mentoring support programme
- Training Support Network for young disabled and deaf people wishing to enter the arts industries
- Advice and information on training and development in the arts.

Local Arts Development offers workshops, projects and events for disabled people, mental health system survivors and older people.

The Deaf Arts Programme is a national programme of projects and events promoting deaf arts and equal access to the arts for deaf and hard of hearing people.

Nearest tube..... Kentish Town | Northern Line
 Buses 24 | 46 | 134 | 214 | 393 | C2
 Address Deane House Studios, 27 Greenwood Place, London, NW5 1LB
 Tel 020 7424 7357
 Email mark@shapearts.org.uk
 Web www.shapearts.org.uk
 Wheelchair access... Yes

TRICYCLE THEATRE

The varied programme at this theatre includes puppet shows, mime, magic, clowns and circus. Children's theatre shows take place on Saturdays 11.30am and 2pm with extra shows during school holidays. Family films are shown in the cinema on Saturdays at 1pm. An induction loop is available.

Address 269 Kilburn High Road, London, NW6 7JR
 Tel 020 7328 1000
 Fax 020 7328 0795
 Minicom 020 7625 5105
 Web www.tricycle.co.uk
 Email info@tricycle.co.uk
 Wheelchair access ... Yes
 Opening hours Monday – Friday, 10am – 6pm
 Phone hours Monday – Saturday, 10am – 9pm | Sunday, 2pm – 9pm

UNICORN THEATRE FOR CHILDREN

The Unicorn Theatre for Children produces and presents plays throughout the year for 0-19 year olds at its state-of-the-art theatre.

It is committed to involving children with disabilities in performances and workshops. The theatre offers integrated sign language interpreted performances, audio described and captioned performances, and autism friendly performances. The theatre performs in a fully accessible venue.

Address 147 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2HZ
 Tel 020 7645 0500
 Fax 020 7645 0550
 Web www.unicorntheatre.com
 Email admin@unicorntheatre.com

Holidays

Local Services

CARERS NETWORK (See page 9)

Administers the Carers Grant Holiday Fund which is available for carers of disabled adults and children resident in Westminster.

National Organisations

ASTHMA UK – KICK ASTHMA HOLIDAYS

Asthma UK's week-long Kick Asthma adventure holidays are for children and young people with asthma and other related conditions. The holidays are managed by experts and children are closely supervised by specially trained volunteers and health professionals. Kick Asthma breaks are divided into two age groups: 6-11 years and 12-16 years, and are held at a variety of locations across the UK throughout July and August.

The cost of Kick Asthma breaks is subsidised by Asthma UK and ranges from £20-£350 depending on people's ability to pay.

Address Sumit House, 70 Wilson Street, London, EC2A 2DB
 Tel 0800 121 6244
 Fax 020 7256 6075
 Opening Times Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

BREAK

Break is a registered charity that provides holidays and respite care for children, adults and families with special needs, including those with challenging behaviours and high level care needs.

Fully inclusive supported holidays for children with learning disabilities provide a real seaside Norfolk based holiday. Break also has self catering chalets in the West Country for families with special needs and on low incomes.

Break also provides a wide range of other services – homes and leaving care support for looked after children, assessments for families in crisis and mental health services for women.

Address Davison House, 1 Montague Road, Sheringham, NR26 8WN
 Tel 01263 822 161
 Fax 01263 822 181
 Web www.break-charity.org
 Email office@break-charity.org
 Wheelchair access ... Fully accessible centres
 Transport Specially adapted transport available
 Opening/tel hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm (24 answering machine)

Money, Welfare Benefits & Legal Advice

Local Services

Please refer also to the Westminster Family Information Service booklet “Financial Support for Parents” obtainable by calling 020 7641 7929 or at www.westminster.gov.uk

FINANCE AND BENEFITS ADVICE FOR PARENTS OF DISABLED CHILDREN

This new service is available for parents/principal carers of disabled children living in Westminster. Confidential one to one sessions and group sessions for parents are available. The service has been set up by Westminster City Council and is delivered by Action for Children to ensure that parents of disabled children understand the benefits they are entitled to claim and are able to seek advice around debt and returning to work or employment.

Contact..... Marianne Kooij

Tel 07738 888 720 (Monday – Fridays) to arrange an appointment

DIRECT PAYMENTS

Where children with disabilities receive a care package through the Children with Disabilities team their parents/carers are able to request a direct payment to purchase services directly, rather than having these arranged via the council. Support is provided to make sure that anyone employed is a responsible person. Advice is also given on employment regulations such as the how to pay National Insurance.

For further details on direct payments for children with disabilities contact the CWD Service see page 4.

National Organisations

CHILDREN’S RIGHTS OFFICERS & ADVOCATES (CROA)

CROA improves access to and promotes the human rights of children and young people in need through campaigning, training & policy support for Children’s Rights Officers & Advocates. The organisation’s National Development Project co-ordinates the services offered to our members and responds to the needs of the membership in terms of developing resources, campaigning on children’s rights issues and providing a link between children, advocates and senior government officials as well as the Children’s Commissioners for England and Wales.

Address Suite 5J, North Mill, Bridgefoot, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 1YD

Helpline 01773 820 100

Email info@croa.org.uk

Web www.croa.org.uk

Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

BENEFIT ENQUIRY LINE

The Benefit Enquiry Line is a confidential telephone advice line offering general information to people who are disabled, have a health condition, are a carer or are a representative of any of these people, about benefits that are available.

For general information about what benefits and/or help you may be able to claim please contact Benefit Enquiry Line on:

Tel 0800 88 22 00
Textphone..... 0800 24 33 55
Opening hours Monday – Friday, 8.30am – 6.30pm | Saturday, 9am – 1pm

If you have a query regarding payment or processing of your benefit please contact the office that is dealing with your claim, their contact details can be found on any documents that you may have received from them or via one of the following websites:

Web [los.direct.gov.uk](https://www.los.direct.gov.uk)
www.thepensionservice.gov.uk
www.hmrc.gov.uk

If you are living overseas, want to go and live overseas are coming back or have recently come back from overseas to the UK and you have a query about social security benefits, please contact the International Pension Centre, who deal with these queries. Their details are below:

Address The International Pension Centre, Department for Work and Pensions,
Tyneview Park, Benton, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, NE98 1BA
Telephone..... 0191 218 7777
Textphone..... 0191 218 7280
Fax..... 0191 218 7021
Email ttp.internationalqueries@thepensionservice.gsi.gov.uk

Information about benefits and other help/advice, including claiming some benefits online, can be found via the Direct Gov website: www.direct.gov.uk

You may wish to check what you may be entitled to claim via the Direct Gov online Benefits Adviser. www.direct.gov.uk/en/Dio11/DoltOnline/DoltOnlineByCategory/DG_172666

CENTRAL LONDON LAW CENTRE

The Central London Law Centre gives free legal advice and representation for those persons resident in Greater London where there is no other advice centre available, and persons working in Fitzrovia, the West End, Soho, and Covent Garden, in housing, immigration and employment law.

The Central London Law Centre prioritises clients who fall within its specialist areas such as asylum, discrimination and unfair dismissal. The housing unit advises clients who live in the area but will also take clients in adjoining areas where there are no other advice centres available. These arrangements are also dependent on workload as there are only two caseworkers in each unit. We also provide telephone advice throughout London.

Cantonese, Mandarin and Polish speakers are available.
Please telephone first before coming to one of the advice sessions.

Public transport..... **Tube: Leicester Square, Piccadilly Circus or Charing Cross**
Wheelchair access... **None. As there is no disability access, the Centre will provide home visits or arrange interviews in accessible premises close by, with sufficient notice**
Web **www.Londonlawcentre.org.uk**
Opening/tel hours **Monday – Friday, 10am – 5:30pm**

DISABILITY ALLIANCE

Disability Alliance is committed to breaking the link between poverty and disability by providing information to disabled people about their entitlements and campaigning for improvements to the social security system and for increases in disability benefits.

The alliance provides information on benefits through publications (including the Disability Rights Handbook) and a website providing free access to over 50 factsheets, updates on case law and current policy news.

Referral Procedure: Anyone can contact Disability Alliance however the organisation is not an advice service and cannot answer individual benefit enquiries.

Address **Universal House, 88-94 Wentworth Street, London, E1 7SA**
Tel **020 7247 8776**
Fax **020 7247 8765**
Website **www.disabilityalliance.org**
Email **office@disabilityalliance.org**
Wheelchair Access... **Yes**
Opening hours **Monday – Friday, 10am – 4pm**
Phone hours..... **Monday – Friday, 10am – 4pm**

DISABILITY LAW SERVICE

The Disability Law Service is made up of solicitors, advisers, and trained volunteers who provide up-to-date, informed legal advice for people with disabilities, their families, enablers and carers. The advice is free and the service offers complete confidentiality.

Advice is provided on:

- benefits
- community care
- consumer/contract law
- discrimination
- education/children
- employment
- other issues relating to disability.

Please note that education advice only applies to post –16 further and higher education.

Address 39-45 Cavell Street, London, E1 2BP
 Tel 020 7791 9800
 Fax 020 7791 9802
 Minicom 020 7791 9801
 Email advice@dls.org.uk
 Wheelchair access... Yes

FAMILY FUND

The Family Fund champions an inclusive society where families with severely disabled or seriously ill children have choices and the opportunity to enjoy ordinary life.

The Fund helps families of children aged 17 years and under. Grants are given related to the care of children including holidays, leisure, laundry, equipment, driving lessons, and more. If your family income is £28,000 or less, you can apply for support. An application form is available by post or can be downloaded from the website.

Address Unit 4, Alpha Court, Monks Cross Drive, York, YO32 9WN
 Telephone 0845 130 45 42
 Fax 01904 652625
 Minicom 01904 658085
 Web www.familyfund.org.uk
 Email info@familyfund.org.uk
 Wheelchair access... Yes
 Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

ROALD DAHL'S MARVELLOUS CHILDREN'S CHARITY

Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity makes grants to charities and organisations with exclusively charitable aims for work with children in the areas of neurology and haematology. The charity also makes small grants to support individual children with specific neurological or haematological conditions. Potential applicants are strongly advised to read the current guidelines before making an application.

Application forms and guidelines are available from the address below or the website.

Address 81A High Street, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, HP16 0AL
 Tel 01494 890 465
 Fax 01494 890 459
 Email enquiries@marvellouschildrenscharity.org
 Web www.marvellouschildrenscharity.org
 Wheelchair access... No
 Opening/tel hours Monday – Friday, 9.30am – 5.15pm

Visual Impairment Services

CHATTER-POST WORLD WIDE

Linking visually impaired young people across the world “Chatter-Post” is an international tape correspondence club for 6-20 year olds. Freepost is provided in the UK with minimal postal charges elsewhere.

The young person makes a self recorded tape of their personal details and sends it to Chatter-Post who carefully consider their application and team them with a similar Chatter-Friend, sending out a Starter-Pack including own-label tapes in a logo'd postal wallet, plus the voice and address of a Chatter-Friend. The service is free to all visually impaired young people.

Address c/o17 Montana Road, London, SW20 8TW
 Tel 020 8946 1441
 Email roberta.deste@btinternet.com

CLEARVISION PROJECT

This is a nationwide postal lending library of over 11,000 children's books in print and Braille; ideal for print and Braille readers to share.

Books are sent direct to your address and there is no postage to pay. Membership is free to families; organisations such as schools, libraries and visual impairment services pay a heavily subsidised annual fee of £50. Long loan periods enable repeated reading of favourite books.

With over 3,500 titles, it is impractical to issue a booklist but if you provide as much information as you can about the child or children who will be using the books (age, reading age, interests, classroom topics, etc.) the ClearVision Library will send appropriate books from those in stock.

ClearVision also has a loans collection of books in print + Moon (an easier alternative to braille) and, for schools and V.I. services only, a collection of over a thousand hand-made tactile books.

Address Linden Lodge School, 61 Princes Way, London, SW19 6JB
 Tel 020 8789 9575
 Web www.clearvisionproject.org
 Email info@clearvisionproject.org

DEAFBLIND UK

Deafblind UK is a national charity offering specialist services and support to deafblind people and those who have progressive sight and hearing loss. Our aim is to enable people living with this unique disability to maintain their independence and quality of life, and to reduce the isolation that Deafblindness creates.

Deafblind UK offers comprehensive services to deafblind people, their carers and professionals including:

- training in deafblind communication and guiding
- a free Information and advice Line
- a regional network of staff and volunteers
- membership magazine “Openhand” (available in different reading formats)
- specialist assessments of deafblind people’s needs.

Address National Centre for Deafblindness, Cygnet Road, Peterborough PE7 8FD
 Tel 01733 358 100 (voice/text)
 Info/advice line 0800 132 320 (voice/text)
 Fax 01733 358 356
 Web www.deafblind.org.uk
 Email info@deafblind.org.uk
 Opening/tel hours Monday – Thursday, 9am – 5pm | Friday, 9am – 4pm

LISTENING BOOKS

Listening Books provides a postal and online audio book library service to anyone with an illness or disability that makes it impossible or difficult to hold a book, turn pages, or read in the usual way. The service provides audio books for both pleasure and learning.

Membership fees start at £20 per year for organisations and individuals.

Address 12 Lant Street, London, SE1 1QH
 Tel 020 7407 9417
 Fax 020 7403 1377
 Website www.listening-books.org.uk
 Email info@listening-books.org.uk
 Opening/tel hours Monday – Friday, 9.00am – 5.00pm

ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF THE BLIND (RNIB)

The Royal National Institute of the Blind offers information, support and advice to anyone with a sight problem, their families and carers. They can advise on the following:

- eye health and making the most of your sight
- easy to use products and gadgets
- audio books and magazines
- education, training and employment
- leisure opportunities.

Address 105 Judd Street, London, WC1H 9NE
 Tel 020 7388 1266 (Switchboard)
 Helpline 0303 123 9999
 Fax 020 7388 2034
 Web www.rnib.org.uk
 Email helpline@rnib.org.uk
 Wheelchair access... Yes
 Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

RNIB TALKING BOOKS SERVICE

The RNIB Talking Books Service provides a postal library service for blind and partially sighted people of any age, offering a wide range of professionally recorded books on special easy-to-use playback equipment. The service is available to the whole of the British Isles.

There is an annual membership subscription, often paid by the local authority.

Information on current subscription rates may be obtained from Customer Services at the below address:

Address RNIB Peterborough, PO Box 173, Peterborough, PE2 6WS
 Tel 01733 375000
 Helpline 0303 123 9999
 Fax 01733 375001
 Minicom 0845 758 5691
 Web www.rnib.org.uk
 Email helpline@rnib.org.uk
 Opening hours Monday – Friday, 8.45am – 6pm | Closed 2.30pm – 4.30pm every
 Thursday for staff training | Saturday, 9am – 4pm

SENSE – NATIONAL DEAFBLIND & RUBELLA ASSOCIATION

Sense is the leading national charity that supports and campaigns for children and adults who are deafblind. Sense provides expert advice and information as well as specialist services to deafblind people, their families, carers and the professionals who work with them, as well as supporting people who have sensory impairments and additional disabilities.

Services include on-going support for deafblind people and families. These range from day services where deafblind people have the opportunity to learn new skills, to Sense-run houses in the community – where people are supported to live as independently as possible. Sense also provides leading specialist advice, for example on education options and assistive technology.

Address Sense Head Office, 101 Pentonville Road, London, N1 9LG
 Tel 0845 127 0060
 Text 0845 127 0062
 Fax 0845 127 0061
 Email info@sense.org.uk
 Web www.sense.org.uk
 Opening hours Monday – Thursday, 9am – 5:30pm | Friday, 9am – 5pm

Hearing Impairment Services

BRITISH DEAF ASSOCIATION

The British Deaf Association is the largest Deaf-led organisation in the UK, representing the British Sign Language community, which is united by shared experiences, history and, most importantly, by language. The association celebrates Deaf Culture, Deaf Identity and British Sign Language. Work is focused on achieving equality for Deaf people through campaigning and community engagement. Working with local Deaf Communities is crucial to the success of BDA campaigns and creates opportunities for Deaf people to develop and engage with each other and the wider community.

The association has one aim: to see a society where Sign Language users have the same rights, responsibilities, opportunities and quality of life as everyone else. The focus on Deaf Community Empowerment is based around four community activities:

- Community Advocacy
- Children, Youth and Family
- Community Development
- BSL work.

The BDA's Community Advocacy Team works with Deaf Communities and Individuals when they are seeking resolutions to any issues that are of concern to them, by ensuring that their views are understood and that they are aware of their civil and human rights. The BDA Advocacy Team is guided by the principle that every person should be valued, and ensures that people are not ignored and excluded because of the prejudices they face, that lead to lack of respect from others.

The Children, Youth and Family Team works with young deaf people and their families to create exciting and rewarding opportunities for them to share experiences with other young Deaf people and have access to positive role models. The Team achieves this by working in partnership to support Youth Clubs, Youth Groups and Youth Camps for young deaf people throughout the UK.

The Community Development Team supports local deaf groups with their events, campaigns and other social activities. The team develops relationships within the local Deaf communities and researches how the BDA can improve local opportunities for Deaf people. They work with local authorities and service providers to enable them to sign up to the BSL Charter. They are the public face of the BDA at a local level and are the all-important link between local deaf groups and the national campaigning work of the BDA.

Address **Coventry Point 10th Floor, Market Way, Coventry, CV1 1EA**
 Tel **02476 550 936**
 Text **02476 550 393**
 Fax **02476 221 541**
 Web **www.bda.org.uk**
 Email **bda@bda.org.uk**

DEAF CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & FAMILY SERVICES

This is a community and outpatient service offering assessment and treatment to deaf children with mental health and/or behavioural problems.

This service is for deaf children experiencing mental health problems and/or behavioural problems up to the age of 18 years.

GP referrals, referrals from other health professionals, from teachers and from parent/carers are accepted for this service.

Address Deaf Children, Young People and Family Services, Outpatient Unit,
Hightrees, Building 16, Springfield University Hospital,
61 Glenburnie Road, Tooting, London, SW17 7DJ

Tel 020 8682 6925

Fax 020 8682 6461

Minicom 020 8682 6950

Text 07879 420 453

Email cornerhouse@swlstg-tr.nhs.uk

Wheelchair access... No

Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

Lead Clinician..... Dr Andrew Holwell

Admin Manager..... Marie Toomey

DEAF EDUCATION THROUGH LISTENING & TALKING (DELTA)

DELTA is a voluntary association of teachers and parents of deaf children, who give information and advice about the education of deaf or hard of hearing children. DELTA works to help deaf children listen and talk by:

- providing information on the Natural Aural approach to the education of deaf children
- organising meetings for families across the country who want to help their deaf children listen and talk
- running summer schools for the whole family so they can learn the skills and techniques they need
- offering training courses on the Natural Aural approach to teachers of the deaf
- working with local education authorities who are trying to provide this option
- informing doctors, health visitors, audiologists and other professionals who help deaf children about the approach and its achievements
- contributing to research and development projects to evaluate and improve the approach.

Membership is open to anyone committed to the principles of the natural aural approach.

Meetings take place throughout the year all over the country. There is usually a speaker and opportunities for parents and teachers to share experiences. Meetings are usually on Saturdays and the small fee charged usually includes a crèche.

Publications: DELTA provides a range of booklets, factsheets and other information

Address The Con Powell Centre, Alfa House, Molesey Road, Walton on Thames,
Surrey KT12 3PD

Tel 0845 108 1437

Web www.deafeducation.org.uk

Email enquiries@deafeducation.org.uk

Opening hours Monday – Thursday, 9am – 3pm

NATIONAL DEAF CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The National Deaf Children's Society (NDCS) is an organisation of parents, families and carers which exists to support parents in enabling their child to maximise their skills and abilities. Its fundamental role is to advocate for parents and carers as and when appropriate, whilst at all times ensuring the child's welfare is paramount. Self referral is acceptable.

Services include:

- information on all aspects of childhood deafness
- information about hearing tests and hearing aids
- advice on technology and equipment for your child
- support with Disability Living Allowance claims and Disability Appeal Tribunals
- information on education, including further and higher education
- a youth service.

Address 15 Dufferin Street, London, EC1Y 8UR
 Tel 020 7490 8656 (voice and text)
 Helpline 0808 800 8880 (voice and text)
 Fax 020 7251 5020
 Minicom 0808 800 8880 (voice and text)
 Web www.ndcs.org.uk
 Email helpline@ndcs.org.uk
 Wheelchair access... Yes
 Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9.30am – 5pm | Saturday, 9.30am – 12pm

SPEECH, LANGUAGE & HEARING CENTRE

The centre provides for children under 5 years who have hearing impairment, a delay in their speech, language and communication and for more complex needs. It offers a structured, language enriched environment for each child in small groups and one-to-one therapy. The centre aims to enable children and where possible integrate them into mainstream schools.

An open referral system operates. Places are funded by local authority, through the Christopher Place Child Sponsorship Fund or by self-funding.

Public Transport: The Speech Language and Hearing Centre is a short walk from Euston, King's Cross and St Pancras Stations.

Address 1-5 Christopher Place, Chalton Street, London NW1 1JF
 Telephone 020 7383 3834
 Fax 020 7383 3099
 Minicom 020 7380 0350
 Website www.speech-lang.org.uk
 Email info@speech-lang.org.uk
 Wheelchair access... Yes
 Opening hours Monday to Friday, 8.30am – 5pm. (Term time)
 Tel hours Answerphone responded to regularly during holidays

TEXT RELAY

TEXT RELAY is a telephone relay service for deaf, hard of hearing, speech impaired and deafblind people. The service is funded and managed by BT. It is free of charge and enables text phone users to contact a hearing person via the conventional telephone network. (Text Relay users are charged standard BT rates – there are no extra charges for the relay service (calls cost the same as if dialled direct).

Helpline 0800 7311 888 (Hearing)
 Minicom..... 18001 0800 7311 888 (Text)
 Web www.textrelay.org
 Email helpline@textrelay.org

National Voluntary Organisations & Charities

BRITISH INSTITUTE OF LEARNING DISABILITIES (BILD)

The British Institute of Learning Disabilities (BILD), is a not for profit organisation with charitable status, which exists to improve the quality of life of all people with a learning disability. BILD provides information, publications, training and consultancy services for organisations and individuals about all aspects of learning disability. Various catalogues are available.

Address **Campion House, Green Street, Kidderminster, DY10 1JL**
 Tel **01562 723 010**
 Fax..... **01562 723 029**
 Web www.bild.org.uk
 Email enquiries@bild.org.uk
 Wheelchair access... **Yes**
 Opening hours **Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm**

CARA TRUST

Cara is an HIV support organisation for central and west London . We are open to anyone living with or affected by HIV. Services include annual summer holiday activity programme for children. For other services please contact us or click on the services or downloads sections of our website.

Address **Notting Hill Methodist Church (Rear entrance), 240 Lancaster Road,
 London W11 4AH**
 Nearest tube..... **Ladbroke Grove**
 Tel **020 7243 6147**
 Email mail@caralife.com
 Web www.caralife.com
 Wheelchair access... **Yes, Lift and fully accessible toilets**
 Opening hours **Monday – Friday, 10am – 5pm | 1st & 3rd Saturday, 10am – 5pm**

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY – DISABILITY ADVOCACY PROJECT

The Children's Society seeks to ensure that whatever disadvantages a child faces they still have a real chance in life.

The Disability Advocacy Project aims to:

- ensure that children and young people with disabilities who are 'Looked After' by local authorities are listened to
- highlight any views expressed, either verbally or non-verbally, by young people with disabilities ensuring that what they think about their lives is heard by decision-makers
- promote basic human rights, dignity and equality of opportunity for disabled young people in care.

Address Unit 2 51 Derbyshire Street, London, E2 6HQ
 Email supportercare@childrenssociety.org.uk
 Tel 020 7613 2886
 Fax 020 7729 8768
 Web www.childrensociety.org.uk

CHINESE NATIONAL HEALTHY LIVING CENTRE

The Chinese National Healthy Living Centre offers the following services for the Chinese community:

- Monitors health needs.
- Provides health information and some primary health care.
- Provides the Cantonese Healthline (0845 607 6030) and a free medical interpreting and advisory service. Bilingual doctors give advice on health problems and liaise with relevant health professionals.
- Runs a carers and disability support scheme for Chinese disabled people and their carers in London.

Address 29-30 Soho Square, London, W1D 3QS
 Tel 020 7287 0904
 Helpline 0845 601 6030
 Fax 020 7534 6565
 Contact Mr Eddie Chan, Director
 Web www.cnhlc.org.uk | www.healthinchinese.net
 Email general@cnhcl.org.uk
 Opening/tel hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm | Sunday Surgery, 11am – 4pm

COUNCIL FOR DISABLED CHILDREN (CDC)

The Council for Disabled Children (CDC) is the umbrella body for the disabled children's sector in England. CDC works to influence national policy that impacts upon disabled children and children with Special Educational Needs and their families. CDC is a semi-independent council of NCB, and has a staff team reporting to its director. The CDC Council is made up of a wide range of professional, voluntary and statutory organisations, including disabled young people and parent representatives. CDC's broad based membership and extensive network of contacts provides a unique overview of current issues. It also enables us to promote collaborative and partnership working among organisations.

CDC hosts the following networks: National Parent Partnership Network; Special educational Consortium; Transition Information Network; Every Disabled Child Matters Campaign and Making Ourselves Heard.

Address 8 Wakley Street, London, EC1V 7QE
 Tel 020 7843 1900
 Fax 020 7843 6313
 Web www.ncb.org.uk/cdc
 Email cdc@ncb.org.uk
 Wheelchair access... Yes

CHRISTIAN LEWIS TRUST – CHILDREN’S CANCER CHARITY

Aims:

- To improve the quality of life for children/teenagers affected by cancer.
- To provide emotional and practical support to their affected families during this stressful period.

Activities:

- Play Therapy.
- Assistance with finding comprehensive travel insurance cover.
- Counselling for the child and family.
- Befriending.
- Self-Help Parents Support Groups.
- Bereavement Support.
- Holidays (via luxury caravans at four sites in Wales, Disneyland Paris and Disney World Florida Holiday Programmes).

Address 62 Walter Road, Swansea, SA1 4PT
 Tel 0179 2480 500
 Fax 017 9248 0700
 Emergency contact.. 07967 630 839
 Email enquiries@christianlewis-trust.org

CYSTIC FIBROSIS TRUST

The Trust funds research into understanding, treating and curing Cystic Fibrosis, and aims to ensure that people with Cystic Fibrosis receive the best possible care and support in all aspects of their lives.

The helpline provides support and information for anyone affected by Cystic Fibrosis.

The Cystic Fibrosis Trust produces a range of publications and factsheets, details of which can be found on the website or by telephoning the switchboard.

Address 11 London Road, Bromley, BR1 1BY
 Tel 020 8464 7211
 Helpline 0300 373 1000
 Fax 020 8313 0472
 Web www.cftrust.org.uk
 Email Enquiries@cftrust.org.uk
 Wheelchair access... Yes

DOWN'S HEART GROUP

The Down's Heart Group is a UK charity which offers support and information to families who have a member with Down's Syndrome and heart problems. The group represents over 1800 people: families, children and professionals.

Services offered:

- Support and contact between families
- Information and advice about coping with the condition
- Encouragement of research into heart defects.

Activities include committee meetings and a Biannual Conference and General Meeting.

The Down's Heart Group publishes a regular newsletter, factsheets, an information pack, leaflets on various subjects, a video for families, and a website.

Subscription None
 Tel 0844 288 4800
 Fax 0844 288 4808
 Email info@dhg.org.uk

DOWN'S SYNDROME LONDON

The Down's Syndrome Association aims to help people with Down's Syndrome live full and rewarding lives. Provides information and support for people with Down's Syndrome and their families and information to interested members of the medical profession.

Address 6 Cranbourne Road, London, N10 2BT
 Tel 020 8815 0070
 Web www.downsyndromeok.org.uk
 Email info@downs-syndrome-London.org.uk

DOWN'S SYNDROME OK

Down's Syndrome OK is the South West Thames branch of the Down's Syndrome Association.

The parent-led support group covers Surrey, South West London & West Sussex and provides information and advice to children and adults with Down's Syndrome, parents, carers and professionals.

Telephone Contacts and details of various branches of the Down's Syndrome Association:

North West Thames Branch:

Stuart Kidd; Tel: 01442 219 047 | Fax: 01442 389 799

New London Branch:

Sue Morris: 020 7713 6280 | Ros Innes: 020 7435 9679

North East Branch:

Deidre Clement: 01277 365 618

South East Branch:

Alan Bone: 020 8310 5018

ENCEPHALITIS SOCIETY

The aim of the Society is to improve the quality of life of all people affected directly and indirectly by encephalitis.

It fulfils this aim by:

- supporting adults, children, families and carers of those affected by encephalitis.
- raising awareness about the condition, its consequences and support for improved services
- promoting and assisting with research into encephalitis.

Support:

- Offering a listening ear via a manned telephone information line.
- Providing direct support for adults, children and their families.
- Organising meetings, regionally and nationally, at which members can learn about the illness, its consequences and get together to share their experiences.
- Facilitating family weekends and retreat weekends for adults.
- Arranging conferences, workshops, and seminars for professionals.
- Maintaining Link Up, a contact scheme for members.
- Signposting people to other organisations, where appropriate.

Information Resources:

- Booklets, fact sheets, information packs and a DVD on encephalitis and its consequences.
- The Society's website: www.encephalitis.info
- Regular newsletters.
- Tailor-made training packages for health, education and social care professionals.
- Links to other organisations.

The Society raises awareness:

- amongst the general public and professionals through annual awareness weeks.
- amongst relevant professionals through workshops, training programmes and conferences.
- through representation on national fora and responding to government initiatives.
- presenting information and research at national and international conferences and professional forums.

The Society promotes its research by:

- appointing leading medical and health care professionals to the Society's Professional Advisory Panel
- conducting research and working in partnership with other researchers and research institutions
- putting researchers in the field, in touch with people affected
- undertaking surveys and evaluations
- raising funds for research projects
- awarding grants for research
- working in partnership with other organisations on research and formulating guidelines for best practice and national standards in the UK.

Address 7B Saville Street, Malton, YO17 7LL

Tel 01653 604366

Email elaine@encephalitis.info

Web www.encephalitis.info

Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

ERBS PALSY GROUP

The group offers:

- support to parents and professional workers
- contact between parents
- assistance in obtaining medical information
- advice on benefits and aids for affected children
- free benefits for members.

Erbs Palsy Group activities include raising public & professional awareness of the condition, fundraising for group activities and benefits for the children.

There is also an annual get together for parents and children and an annual education conference for professional workers.

The group produces a quarterly newsletter and a number of leaflets including:

- The cause and Effect of Obstetrical Erb's Palsy
- Plaster Casts for Nerve Graft Operations
- Plaster Casts for Muscle Release
- Claiming DLA
- Information for Schools (Primary and Junior/Senior)

Members include the families of over 1233 children and 132 professional workers

Subscription Voluntary subscription – details on request

Wheelchair access... No

FOUNDATION FOR LEARNING DISABILITIES (Mencap)

Mencap is the leading UK charity working with children and adults with learning disabilities. It campaigns for equal rights by challenging discrimination and disadvantage, raising expectations, and removing barriers to social inclusion. It works closely with local and national government and the media to promote the rights of people with learning disability by:

Offering information and advice on a range of learning disability issues via the National Learning Disability Helpline and Information Service. The Learning Disability Helpline can give advice on many subjects including: education, housing, money and benefits, support groups, leisure activities, advocacy and self-advocacy.

Providing support including residential housing, employment via the Pathway Employment Service, leisure via the National Federation of Gateway Clubs, and education at Mencap's three FE colleges.

Campaigning to bring about positive changes in people's lives.

Address 3rd Floor, Delta View, 2309-2311 Coventry Road, Birmingham, B26 3PG

Helpline 0808 808 1111

Minicom..... 0808 808 1111

Web www.mencap.org.uk

Email info@mencap.org.uk | help@mencap.org.uk

Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5.30pm

Phone hours..... Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

GRANDMA'S

Grandma's is a Christian charity which aims to provide practical help to children and families affected by HIV/AIDS. Services include: group outings in school holidays, youth activities and support groups for parents.

Address PO BOX 63106, London, W14 8TU
 Tel 020 3010 0014
 Email headoffice@grandmas.org.uk
 Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9.30am – 5pm

I CAN

I CAN exists to help children with communication difficulties/ disabilities. I CAN provides a combination of specialist therapy and education for children with the most severe and complex disabilities, information for parents and training and advice for teachers and other professionals. I CAN also works to ensure that the needs of these children are taken into account in all children's policy and carries out research to find the best ways to support children.

Aims:

- Communicative – Communication is our passion and improving communication is at the heart of everything that we do. Because good communication is always two way, we listen and respond clearly to children, their families and those who work with us.
- Professional – We strive for excellence in everything we do by using evidence, expertise and experience. We use our resources effectively to make the greatest impact.
- Innovative – We aim to change things for the better and are constantly developing and evaluating new and effective approaches to support children.
- Involving – We value the contribution of others. By working together, we can make a greater impact on more children's lives. We are also committed to equality of opportunity and take action to enable participation for all.
- Transparent – We share information about our plans and progress so that we are accountable for everything we do.

Activities include:

- A UK-wide network of Early Years Centres to support children with disabilities.
- Advice, information and training to professionals and early years settings to enable them to set up services that will help all children develop their communication skills.

Address 8 Wakley Street, London, EC1V 7QE
 Tel 0845 225 4071
 Fax 0845 225 4072
 Web www.ican.org.uk | www.talkingpoint.org.uk
 Email info@ican.org.uk
 Opening hours 9am – 5pm

JABS

JABS neither recommends nor advises against vaccination but aims to promote understanding about immunisations and offers basic support to any parent whose child has a health problem after vaccination.

Membership fees waged £10.00, unwaged by voluntary contribution
 Address 1 Gawsorth Road, Warrington, WA3 3RF
 Tel 01942 713565
 Helpline 0121 722 3004
 Web www.jabs.org.uk
 Email jackie@jabs.org.uk
 Opening/tel hours Monday – Friday, 10am – 5pm

THE NATIONAL AUTISTIC SOCIETY

The National Autistic Society (NAS) is a national organisation which provides support services, help and advice for people with autism (including Asperger Syndrome) and their carers, including a parent to parent service, an autism helpline and an education rights service as well as advice on welfare and benefit entitlement.

The National Autistic Society (NAS) provides support in the community, residential and outreach services and employment support and services for adults with autism.

Services cover the length and breadth of the UK, so there's likely to be an NAS support group or service near where you live. There are over 100 volunteer-run branches, which provide advice and support for people affected by autism. Regional teams co-ordinate our professional services.

Address The National Autistic Society, 393 City Road, London, EC1V 1NG
 Tel 020 7833 2299
 Fax 020 7833 9666
 Web www.autism.org.uk
 Email nas@nas.org.uk

PLAY MATTERS (NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TOY AND LEISURE LIBRARIES)

The Association acts as a national body for existing toy and leisure libraries across the UK. It offers:

- National Helpline – advice and support on the selection of toys and equipment, maintenance and all aspects of running or setting up a toy or leisure library.
- Training courses on setting up toy libraries, learning through play and other related topics.
- Quality Assurance – Quality Play Matters, a unique and specialist scheme for toy and leisure libraries.
- Insurance – specialist package for members.
- Publications and help sheets on toys, play and practical aspects of running toy and leisure libraries.
- Nearest Toy library service to the general public – contact Helpline Services.
- Starting a Toy Library – information service – contact Helpline Services.
- Service Level Agreements (with Local Authorities etc) to run toy library services directly.
- Outreach services to support local toy libraries.
- Conferences and Seminars.

It also gives similar information about leisure libraries. These offer leisure facilities and the loan of equipment to adults with learning disabilities and their families. They provide them with opportunities to develop practical skills and abilities. Providing information, advice and contact with other services, they can also act merely as a meeting place for friends, parents and carers. Toy Libraries are a community resource for play which may include play equipment, & toys for loan, opportunities for play, specialist resources for children with disabilities, family support services, resources for childcare professionals including childminders.

Address Play Matters, 1A Harmond Street, London NW1 8DN
 Tel 020 7428 2280
 Fax 020 7428 2281
 Web www.natll.org.uk
 Email admin@playmatters.co.uk
 Opening hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm
 Phone hours Monday – Friday, 9.30am – 1pm & 2pm – 5pm
 Helpline services Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9am – 4.30pm
 Helpline tel 020 7428 2286
 Helpline email helpline@playmatters.co.uk

POSITIVE PARENTING AND CHILDREN

Positive Parenting and Children (PPC) provides support to all children, young people and families whose lives are affected by disability, illness and mental health problems. Its current primary aim is to support those affected by HIV. PPC services work by addressing the needs of the family as a whole, including parents' needs.

PPC's main services include:

- a home-based family support service that provides stimulation and respite for children and advice, support and respite for parents
- operational crèches for the users of the support groups run by other organisations
- group activities for children infected or affected by HIV and AIDS including a monthly Saturday club.
- therapeutic weekend and holiday respite for children
- children's peer support and participation
- parenting support group
- fathers support worker.

Address Unit 64, Eurolink Business Centre, 49 Effra Road, London, SW2 1BZ
 Tel 020 7738 7333
 Fax 020 7501 9382
 Web www.ppcLondon.org.uk
 Email office@ppcLondon.org.uk | elaine@ppcLondon.org.uk
 Wheelchair access ... Yes

RADAR – ROYAL ASSOCIATION FOR DISABILITY RIGHTS

Radar is a national pan disability network for organisations of and for disabled people. The Association works to support the disabled lobby and create an environment in which disability organisations can effectively campaign.

Address 12 City Forum, 250 City Road, London, EC1V 8AF
 Tel 020 7250 3222 (automated system with options)
 Fax 020 7250 0212
 Minicom 020 7250 4119
 Web www.radar.org.uk
 Email radar@radar.org.uk
 Wheelchair access ... Level access at front of building, lifts, wheelchair accessible toilets
 Opening/tel hours ... Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

SCOPE

Scope is the UK's leading disability charity. Our focus is on children and adults with cerebral palsy and people living with other severe and complex impairments. Our vision is a world where disabled people have the same opportunities to fulfil their life ambitions as non disabled people.

For all enquiries, contact Scope Response:

Tel 0808 800 3333
 Email response@scope.org.uk
 Web www.scope.org.uk
 SMS Text Text SCOPE plus your message to 80039
 Open Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm | Closed weekends & bank holidays

SICKLE CELL SOCIETY

The society gives help and support to families affected by sickle cell disease and also offers financial support. The society aims to educate the public and health officials about the problems the disorder can cause. Addresses of local groups can be obtained by contacting the address below.

Membership Fees £25 (individuals without Sickle Cell), £40 (families) & £5.00 for sufferers
 Address 54 Station Road, London, NW10 4UA
 Tel 020 8961 7795 | 020 8961 4006
 Fax 020 8961 8346
 Web www.sicklecellsociety.org
 Email sicklecellsoc@btinternet.com
 Office/tel hours Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm

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