What's On during February half term 2023?

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Introduction

In this update, we give you news of some of the events and activities for children and young people with SEND, which will be taking place over the holidays in (or close) to the Enfield area as well as some days out in London and nearby.

We have included playschemes and some activities and days out. Some of these are specifically aimed at children and young people with additional needs and others are more general but may be suitable for some. Please do check individual websites and talk to the venues/organisers if you are not sure whether something may be suitable.



Our Voice

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that this information is accurate, we would recommend that you check with individual venues and providers in advance of any visit. Our website also includes some activities to keep your child entertained at home which may be useful.

We will update this guide with any other relevant information, so if you do hear of something that you think would be useful for other families, do let us know (contact details are at the end of this update).

'Local Offer' information

The Local Offer is the Local Authority website bringing together information about all aspects of provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). It contains a section on <u>activities and</u> <u>things to do</u> and information about <u>'Short Breaks'</u>

More information is in the attached <u>Enfield Children and Young Person's Service Guide for parents and</u> <u>carers</u> on local free and affordable activities. There is also information about <u>accessible toilets and</u> <u>changing facilities</u>.

General guidance

Visiting a new venue can be a daunting experience if you have children with either physical disabilities or sensory impairments. From issues around wheelchair access and accessible toilets to combating your child's anxieties over an unfamiliar environment, the relevant information isn't always easy to find. The <u>AccessAble</u> website gives detailed (and free) information about the accessibility of thousands of venues in the UK - including more than 200 in the Borough of Enfield. The information is available in easy -read format (often useful if you want to look at it with your child/young person) as well as a variety of different languages. Please do note however that some information may have changed as a result of the pandemic, so do check directly with the venue as appropriate. You may also find these guides useful: London attractions: <u>Accessible attractions - London Attraction - visitlondon.com</u> Rough Guide to Accessible Britain <u>https://www.motability.co.uk/news/rough-guide-to-accessible-britain/</u> Accessible days out Disability Horizons <u>10 accessible days out across the UK for disabled people</u> (disabilityhorizons.com)

Playschemes and other activities

The Local Authority publishes a booklet setting out playschemes and activities for the school holidays. The current version of this is on Local Offer <u>here</u> (entitled Holiday Play and Leisure activities booklet) along with additional information about playschemes and after-school clubs.

This includes specialist playschemes (including ALWA, Centre 404 VIP and Cheviots), inclusive playschemes like Endorphins, and other activities. You can see presentations from some of these providers on our website <u>here</u> as well as an overview from the Joint Service for Disabled Children, who manage <u>'Short Breaks'</u> in Enfield.



Children and Young People with SEND October Half Term 2022 | Christmas 2022 | February Half Term 2023



www.enfield.gov.uk



Imagine Children's festival Southbank

The Imagine Children's Festival is a relaxed festival meaning performances have a relaxed approach to noise and movement in the space and there is a chill-out space and noise-cancelling headphones available for both adults and children. The festival is aimed at ages 0-11 and includes children's theatre, music, dance, comedy, literature and family fun, dinosaurs, magic and more! The festival includes a range of free, inclusive and accessible events and activities taking place from 8th to 18th February. Full details here.

Chickenshed

Chickenshed is an Inclusive theatre company with a strong focus on supporting individuals with SEND. For details of all their current events and activities see the Chickenshed events page <u>here</u>. Venue: **Chickenshed**, Chase Side, Southgate, N14 4PE, UK

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Sunday shed sessions

Drop-in workshop sessions for all ages take place every Sunday. First sessions are free (for first time bookers) using code <u>SUNTRIAL</u> 5-7: 9.30 – 11 drama, dance, music and art

8-11: 11.30 - 1.30 music, dance, singing skills and live performance 12-18: 1.30 - 3.30 pm - workshops, scripted work and performance. 16+ 1.30 - 3.30 pm - musical theatre workshop Details of the different sessions can be found here.





Planet Play

50- minute Sensory learning sessions for babies and toddlers aged 0-3 years, every Friday at 10 am. Adults £9, babies and children free. More information <u>here</u>.

Relaxed theatre at Jackson's Lane

Jackson's Lane at Highgate have relaxed performances of 'The Museum of Marvellous Things' on Wednesday 15th and Saturday 18th February at 2.30 pm. This is an interactive fun-filled family event with puppets, songs, movement, live music and craft. Use the discount code MARVELLOUS10 at the checkout to get discounted £10 tickets (Standard price is £14). More details and booking link on the website <u>here</u>.



Please note that if you need to make a booking for a wheelchair space, or a complimentary carer seat, these need to be processed through the box office directly. If you require assistance with your booking, you please call on 020 8340 5226 and quote the discount code over the phone. Any problems or questions please contact Andy Martin, Front of House Manager on the above number.



SOUTHBANK

CENTRE

Our festival for families returns in February 2023 Get ready for our annual festival for children aged 0 -11 and their grown-ups: 11 days jam-packed with more than 100 events. 50% of which are completely

Trampolining relaxed sessions



During Half term SEND sessions will be running on Sunday 12th and Sunday 19th February. See our flyer (on the left) and the Jump In website <u>here</u> for more information and booking.

Swimming sessions

Edmonton Leisure Centre offer Disability Friendly Family Swimming sessions every Sunday from 11 am to 12 pm. The cost is £3.00 per session per person (adult or junior). This is a concessionary rate (no need to purchase the concession card itself).



Further details are available here.

Fusion Lifestyle advise pre-booking your spaces beforehand to avoid disappointment as there is limited capacity. You can find the booking under 'Lane & General Swimming' on the Fusion Lifestyle app, which you can download via https://download.mobilepro.uk.com/a/55U2?p=6.

Please note - these are NOT swimming LESSONS but are swimming sessions that the whole family can use to swim with the young person with disabilities.

Sports at home

The NHS Change4Life activities website includes a page <u>here</u> on sports and games for disabled children that you can do at home or in the garden.

Cinema

Use your CEA card when visiting the cinema with a disabled child, to get a free ticket for an accompanying adult – see <u>here</u> for information.

To find audio described or subtitled showings of films at Cineworld Enfield, click <u>here</u> and select either audio-described or subtitled.

There are currently no relaxed sessions planned at local cinemas during half-term, but keep an eye on the <u>Dimensions website</u> for details of Autism-friendly showings coming up.

Sensory play for under 5s

'Squish space' is a sensory play space at the Barbican for children aged 5 and under, and their families. Sessions take place most days from 10 am to 2 or 3 pm.

For more details and to pre-book your free space, see the website <u>here</u>. Places are limited and pre-booking is recommended. For any questions, contact <u>Creative.learning@barbican.org.uk</u>



Teenagers



SEND Youth clubs for age 11+

The SEND Youth Club at Bell Lane Youth Centre (Enfield EN3 5PA) will continue as usual during the half-term. This is a free Youth Club, exclusively for young people with SEND

aged 11 and over. It runs from 6.30 to 8.30 pm every Tuesday evening.

There are a range of fun activities, sports and workshops covering topics like personal safety and healthy relationships as well as developing life skills.

To book a place go to the Youth Enfield website <u>here</u> and on the 'filter by activities' select SEND – you will then see the booking link for this club.

Before your child attends you will need to register <u>here</u> – you will need to wait for a confirmation email before you are able to book (this may take 24 hours). There is a box for

additional information and medical needs which you should use to let them

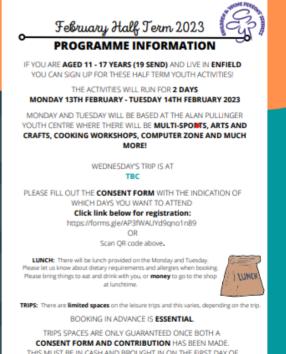
know about your child/young person's additional needs.



ECYPS Teenscheme

ECYPS are running a half term TEENSCHEME program on February 13th to 15th, 10 am to 3 pm at Alan Pullinger Centre in Southgate for ages 11-17. Please register <u>here.</u> Any queries to teenschemecyps@gmail.com or text to 07533 914575.





THIS MUST BE IN CASH AND BROUGHT IN ON THE BIRST DAY OF TEENSCHEME, OR BROUGHT INTO ECYPS, THE ARK, EDMONTON, N9 OUR PRIOR TO THE CLUB STARTING.

Museums and London landmarks

Post Early - relaxed event at the Postal Museum



The Postal Museum has a Relaxed event on 13th February from 10 am to 5 pm (£3.50 per person). This event has been co-produced with Ambitious about Autism and a group of their autistic Youth patrons, and is suitable for autistic and neurodiverse people and their families, and anyone who would benefit from visiting the museum when it is quieter.

Tickets must be pre-booked.

See details <u>here.</u>

The Tower Bridge Experience

The **Tower Bridge Experience** runs relaxed sessions once a month – the next one will be on Saturday 18th February with various sessions available to book between 9.30 and 11.10. For more information including booking arrangements see <u>here.</u>



Africa Fashion exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum



There will be a relaxed visit to the Victoria and Albert's 'Africa Fashion' Exhibition on Thursday February 16^{th} from 9-10 am. This is a free event but you must email <u>communities@vam.ac.uk</u> to book your spaces. More information on the 'Autism in Museums' website <u>here.</u>

Zoos

London Zoo has a programme of inclusive activities – see here.

For more information on all aspects of accessibility at the Zoo see <u>here</u>. Note the <u>Penguin Pass</u> which enables families with additional needs to avoid the queues. During half-term they will have three events for individuals with additional needs:

Relaxed early opening tour on Wednesday 15th February 8.30 to 10 am (before the Zoo opens to the general public) giving an opportunity to visit part of the zoo whilst it is quiet and calm enough to be a comfortable experience for autistic and neurodivergent children and adults, as well as other people who can benefit from this relaxed environment. Relaxed openings are free to book, but you will need tickets to access the zoo which can be booked online. A disability concession ticket entitles the holder to a free companion or carer place with each ticket. Information and details of how to book <u>here.</u>





Audio Described Tour on Wednesday 15th February at 11 am – see here for <u>details</u> and information on how to book. This 2-hour tour of the Zoo uses Audio Description to support blind and partially sighted people to get up close and personal with the animals, guiding the group around the Zoo on a route that includes some tactile models of the animals and, when available, an animal experience.

British Sign Language Day on Saturday 11th February - see more information <u>here</u>. There will be two, 2-hour, tours - delivered in British Sign Language - exploring different areas of the zoo, starting at **11.15 am** in the morning, and **2.15 pm** in the afternoon. The presentations are delivered by deaf presenter John Wilson and will help you learn more about the animals at London Zoo and ZSL's global conservation work.



<u>£3 ZOO TICKETS!</u>



Discounted tickets

If you are in receipt of Universal Credit, Working Tax Crdeit, Child Tax Credit, Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support Allowance or Jobseeker's allowance, you can currently (until end of March) buy £3 tickets at the zoo entrance from 11 am every day. You'll need to bring your proof of benefit letter with you. More information here.

Whipsnade Zoo

If you are going further afield Whipsnade Zoo has a useful page on <u>Accessibility and Inclusivity</u> <u>Zoological Society of London (ZSL)</u> This includes information about disabled parking, accessible toilets, wheelchair access and more. Note the '<u>Penguin Pass'</u> for visitors with additional needs, which can be downloaded to allow you to avoid any queues. There are no relaxed openings during half -term – the next one will be Sunday 26th February – <u>see here</u> for details and to book

Paradise Park's accessibility page is at <u>Disabled Access to the zoo & play area | Paradise Wildlife Park</u> (pwpark.com)

Siblings

Enfield Carers Centre has a programme of support for <u>young carers</u> including the brothers and sisters of children with additional needs. You can see more about the programme <u>here</u>, including activities during term time and other support available, and there is a brochure with more information on the main activities <u>here</u>.

During half term they will be running a Drama workshop from Tuesday to Thursday.

You will need to register them using the form on <u>this page</u> first.



We hope that you have found this update useful. If you have any feedback, or anything that you think we could be telling our families about, please let us know. Our contact details are: Telephone 07516 662315 Email: <u>info@ourvoiceenfield.org.uk</u> Website: www.ourvoiceenfield.org.uk

You can also follow us on our Facebook page at <u>https://www.facebook.com/ourvoiceenfield/</u> on <u>Twitter@EnfieldOurVoice</u> and on Instagram at https://www.instagram.com/ourvoiceenfield/



If you no longer wish to receive these emails, and/or would like us to remove your details from our database, please email us and we will remove your details from our mailing list and/or database.