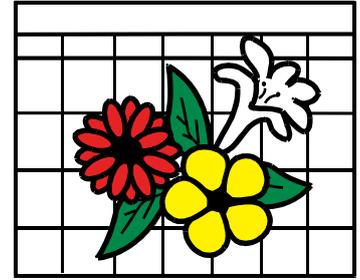




**South Manchester
Down's Syndrome Support Group**
Fulfilling Potential



May 2012

phone: 07593 542 107, email: contact@dsmanchester.org.uk website: dsmanchester.org.uk

Extraordinary General Meeting Saturday May 19 11am

Heaton Moor Evangelical church, Green Lane, Heaton Moor SK4 3LH

As many of you may know, we are going through the process of becoming a registered charity. To do this, we have been asked, by the charity commission, to change the following part of our governing document from:

3. The Objects

The Charity's objects (the Objects) are to:

- (1) Offer support and social activities for people with Down's syndrome and their families and carers living in the South Manchester area;*
- (2) Create and develop the conditions which will enable people with Down's syndrome, living in South Manchester, to reach their full potential;*
- (3) Undertake any other charitable activities in connection with Down's syndrome in the South Manchester area.*

To:

3. The Objects

The Charity's objects (the Objects) are to:

- 1) To relieve the needs of people with Down's syndrome and their families and carers living in the South Manchester area through the provision of support, education and practical advice and by such other means as the trustees may determine.*
- 2) To advance the education of the public, and in particular the parents and carers of people with Down's syndrome and professionals involved in their care and education, in the specific needs and abilities of people with Down's syndrome.*

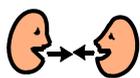
This change has to be passed at a general meeting.

If you have any comments about the wording then please let us know by May 10 at the latest, as we will have to have any modifications approved by the charity commission.

For us to progress to becoming a charity, we need members to be present to vote on this at the extraordinary general meeting.

The meeting should take no longer than 5 minutes and will only require you to read the wording change and vote whether you agree.

phone: 07593 542 107, email: contact@dsmanchester.org.uk website: dsmanchester.org.uk



Friday drop-ins May 11 and June 15 10am-12noon



Why not stop by for a coffee and a chat?

We are trying out a new venue:

Specialist Resource Centre, Central West Office, Westwood Street, Moss Side, M14 4PH. There is parking on the roads outside, opposite at the West Indian Centre, or the car park behind the centre on Roby Rd. Ring the bell for Specialist Resource Team and ask for the SMDSSG Drop -In.

Photos for Website



Our website is being redesigned. If you have any good quality, high resolution photos of your children that you are happy to publish on the website, please email them to: info@oblong.nu Please don't be disappointed if yours are not used—the designer will pick the best quality ones. **Many thanks**

Free To Good Home...

3 boxes (9) pack of Huggies pull ups ages 4-7. Interested ?

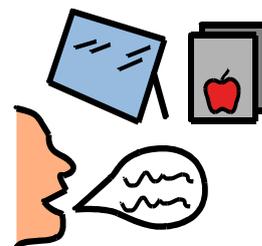
Please email Helen at: jessmartin33@hotmail.com

Chatterbox Club

Heaton Moor Evangelical church, Green Lane, Heaton Moor SK4 3LH

9.30am—12.15pm

Our Chatterbox Club is a family social occasion that also provides the opportunity for children to get together with others of a similar age for group speech therapy. For families who enroll for SLT, sessions are delivered by qualified speech and language therapists who have specialist training in the specific communication needs of people who have Down's syndrome. Parents and carers can pick up useful ideas and information from the therapists about how best to support their children's communication.



If you would like to enroll your child in the SLT sessions, contact Bernadette, email: contact@dsmanchester.org.uk, phone: 07593 542 107.

During the morning, families can have a coffee and share information, ideas and tips while their children play or take part in activities organised by an experienced arts and crafts teacher. "Sing and sign" classes are led by an experienced signer, offering the whole family a chance to learn some signs - a valuable support for children who have Down's syndrome. We often have visitors to Chatterbox and **Teachers and TAs are very welcome** - the activities modelled in these sessions are suitable to be used in educational settings. Even if your child is not enrolled for SLT sessions, your family is very welcome to come along for coffee, chat and sing and sign—just pop a donation in the box at the kitchen counter.

Dates: May 19 (to avoid holidays), June 23

Sing and sign times:

9:40-10:00 (6 plus), 10:05-10:25 (under 3s), 10:30-10:50 (3-6 year olds)

Yoga: 11.30-12.15

Upcoming Training Organised by SMDSSG

We are currently organising DSA training for the first week of October this year.
More details in June newsletter.....



Information Morning Medical Aspects of Down's Syndrome



Saturday June 30 9.30-12.30

followed by sandwiches and informal discussion.

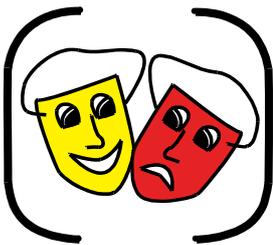


Benchill Sure Start and Specialist Resource Centre, 22 Lyndene Road, Benchill,
Wythenshawe, Manchester M22 4PZ

Mr Patrick Sheehan, consultant ENT surgeon, member of the Down's Syndrome Medical Interest Group and father of a child who has Down's syndrome, will tell us about some his areas of expertise, including hearing, nose, sinus and glue ear problems, reflux, recurrent chest infections and sleep problems. He will also outline guidelines for other referrals our children need including: ophthalmic needs and glasses, thyroid tests, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, orthotic needs and dental assessment. We will also have resources such as leaflets and information on various health issues, including guidelines for GPs and Down's syndrome growth charts. **If you want to come, please book a place ASAP to help us organise efficiently:** phone: 07593 542 107, email: contact@dsmanchester.org.uk

If you would like a crèche place, please book by June 1st. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis due to limited places.

SMDSSG Drama Group?



Calling all budding actors aged 9 years - 15years

We are exploring the possibility of setting up a drama group in collaboration with:

The Edge Theatre and Arts Centre in Chorlton Manchester.
www.watersedgearts.com

It will initially be a pilot project which we are hoping to start in September 2012 but this is dependent on securing funding so it may be later. The 1 ½ hour sessions will be held at The Edge theatre studios, Manchester Rd Chorlton, and provide a range of drama activities and opportunities for performing. It's a great way to have fun and develop confidence, self esteem, social, speech and language and communication skills.

We need to identify the demand for the group, so are you interested?
If so please email your details to contact@dsmanchester.org.uk or 'phone 07593 542 107.

To establish the best time and day for the group, please state your preference for either Sunday afternoon or early evening weekday.

phone: 07593 542 107, email: contact@dsmanchester.org.uk website: dsmanchester.org.uk

Schools Out

Phil Samphire is project worker for a new Greater Manchester Coalition of Disabled People (GMCDP) project. GMCDP has supported young disabled people aged 15 - 25 since 1992, and now wishes to offer the same support to younger disabled people. **Schools Out is a project for disabled children and young people aged 10 to 14 who live in Manchester (city wide)**. It aims to give young disabled people the same choices and opportunities as their non disabled peers, for instance accessing local youth clubs, after school clubs, sports, leisure. The project will offer one to one support and advocacy, an information and signposting service for disabled people and their families, travel training, as well as group sessions during school holidays. All group sessions will be held in accessible venues and all information will be produced in a range of accessible formats. Phil is happy to talk to our group or individual members and can be contacted on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Greater Manchester Coalition of Disabled People BEVC, Aked Close, Ardwick, M12 4AN
Tel 0161 273 5154 Mobile 07921 237 167, Email psamphire@gmcdp.com

DSA Workfit

The DSA recognises that people who have Down's syndrome are under-represented in the workforce and have some excellent success stories. Workfit is their website which offers advice and links prospective employers to prospective employees who have Down's syndrome. Please log on to the site for more information.

www.downs-syndrome.org.uk/shop/publications/employment/1200-workfit-connecting-employers-and-employees-with-down-s-syndrome.html

Please also contact Veronica Mulenga on 02086145100 for further details.'

East Lancs DSSG are having a family walk for the Big Step Forward—see attached flyer

Differences among Children with Down Syndrome: A National Survey

Message from: Department of Psychology, Institute of Psychiatry King's College London
Contact: Georgina Warner, PO77, Institute of Psychiatry, De Crespigny Park, London, SE5 8AF Phone: 020 7848 5717 Email: georgina.warner@kcl.ac.uk

We would like to say a big 'thank you' to everybody who has taken the time to complete our survey! We have managed to raise nearly £250 for the Down's Syndrome Association.

It's not too late to take part!

We are sorry to all those parents and carers who have already replied and keep receiving our reminders. However, if you still have the survey pack at home, or email in your inbox, it is not too late to send it in to us. If you would like us to forward the survey to you again please get in touch and we'll be happy to do so.

Originally, we said we'd donate £1000 if we hit 1000 replies; but we would like to reduce this number and we will donate £1000 if we can reach 600 replies!

Let's see if we can raise even more money for the Down's Syndrome Association!

phone: 07593 542 107, email: contact@dsmanchester.org.uk website: dsmanchester.org.uk

Activities/Events

Sensory Stars family sessions Saturday 12th May, 10am - 11.30am, at Independent Options, Chester Rd, Hazel Grove and Sunday 20th May, 1pm - 2.30pm, at Poynton Methodist Church hall, Civic Centre, Poynton. Sessions are aimed at children with additional needs and siblings aged 0-10 years, are £1.50 per family and include snack and refreshments. This month there is a RAINBOW theme with textures, treasure baskets, messy play, lights in the dark den, singing and bubbles and much more! For more information or to book please email Laura at sensorystars@hotmail.co.uk or website: www.sensorystars.co.uk

EST Donkey sanctuary Manchester, Green Fold Abbey Hey Manchester* M18 8RJ, Tel 0161 301 4051 for details www.elisabethsvendsentrust.org.uk/view/manchester. **Saturday club May 19.** For children with additional needs and their families. Rides are booked in as you arrive from 10am–1pm. Relax over a cup of tea/coffee, bring a picnic or have a snack and meet other parents, carers and supporters.

All ability Cycling* Trafford Wheelers Longford Athletics track, Ryebank Rd Stretford M21 9TA, Sundays 1-3pm. (Mondays and Fridays 9.30-12.30) £2/session. **Stockport Wheelers** Woodbank Park, Saturdays 2.00-4.30 (Thursdays and Fridays 9.30-12.30) **Wythenshawe Wheelers** Saturdays 1-3pm. (Tuesdays and Wednesday 9.30-12.30) £1.50/session, at The Athletics Facility, Wythenshawe Park, Wythenshawe Road, Manchester M23 0AB. **The Velodrome**, The National Cycling Centre, Stuart Street, Manchester M11 4DQ Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 1-3.30pm. For more information, please call Sue: 07753 428937.

CADS Clubs* If you are interested in any of the clubs please contact either Gemma or Paul at the Seashell Trust | Stanley Road | Cheadle Hulme | Cheshire | SK8 6RQ
Direct Line: 0161 610 0124 | Main Switchboard: 0161 610 0100 | Fax: 0161 610 0101
paul.barrett@seashelltrust.org.uk : www.seashelltrust.org.uk/cads

- Tuesday: Climbing 6-7pm. £5 per session
- Wednesday: Gymnastics 6-7pm. £3 per session
- Thursday: Yoga 4-5pm. £3 per session
- Friday: Football 6-8pm. £3 per session*
- Saturday: Dance and Drama, 10am–1pm £3 per session *Football at St James Catholic High School.

Manchester Specialist Resource Team groups* Stay and play sessions for young children with disabilities are held throughout the city. For more information about any of these groups contact Donna Griffin on 219 2648

The Friendship Club* for school age children who have Down's syndrome, their siblings and friends to socialise together. Interested? Contact Caroline Sheehan on 0161-925-6153.

L'Arche prayer evenings* A chance for people with learning disabilities, their friends, carers and family to pray and reflect together. Tea and biscuits afterwards. Every first Wednesday in the month, 7.30pm, at Chorlton Central Church, Barlow Moor Road, Chorlton, M21 8BF (Corner of Zetland Road and Barlow Moor Road). Fully accessible venue. For more information contact Kevin on 07714 397333 or at kevin.coogan@larche.org.uk.

***Please note: not run by the South Manchester Down Syndrome Support Group. For information only—we are not responsible for changes to date, time or venue. Please use the contact information supplied to confirm details and to ask any questions.**

For Manchester Parents

Learning Difficulties and Disabilities Board

Our group has representation on this board because I represent Manchester Parent Carer Network and SMDSSG at board meetings. The terms of reference of the board are below. At each meeting, the agenda includes the following items: Significant Service Changes, Communication and Service User Feedback, Feedback from other boards/groups.

Please let me know if you would like anything raised under these headings.

Next Meeting is May 8

Many thanks, Bernadette: phone: 07593 542 107, email: contact@dsmanchester.org.uk

Manchester Learning Difficulties and Disabilities Board, Terms of Reference

Purpose;

The LDD Board provides a forum through which schools, services and parents/carers work in partnership to improve outcomes for children and young people with learning difficulties and disabilities through:

- Improving understanding and awareness of local policies, issues and provision;
- sharing information about changes in national policy and preparing joint responses to national consultations;
- providing a strategic steer to other boards including the emotional health and well being board on children and young people with SEN or a disability;
- consulting on and sharing information about local implementation of national policy and changes to service delivery;
- improving the coordination and effectiveness of front line services;
- informing the commissioning of future service delivery;
- identifying and responding to service users experiences of services;
- identifying barriers which are preventing coordinated delivery and improved outcomes for children and young people and proposing solutions.

Reporting to:

The LDD Board will provide and receive information to the Children's Board which will link into the Health and Well Being Board.

Roles and responsibilities:

All members should:

- understand their responsibilities as a representative of their sector;
- ensure that information is reported back using appropriate channels to the sectors represented on the Board;
- treat in confidence any information which is clearly marked that it is not to be shared outside of the LDD Board;
- agree any agenda items in advance with the Chair of the Board;
- undertake tasks on behalf of the LDD board as appropriate;
- follow up on actions, outcomes and provide feedback to the LDD Board;
- circulate and read papers in advance of the Board meetings.

Membership to include representation from:

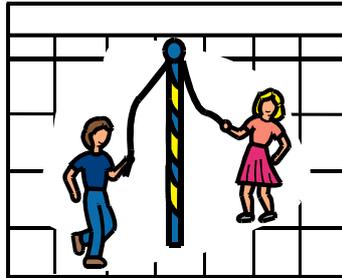
Children's Services, Schools, Parents/Carers, Health, CAMHS, Adult Services, Connexions, Early Years, Neighbourhoods.

phone: 07593 542 107, email: contact@dsmanchester.org.uk website: dsmanchester.org.uk

Dates for your diary



| | |
|--|----------------|
| Drop-in | May 11 |
| Chatterbox | May 19 |
| Drop-in | June 15 |
| Chatterbox | June 23 |
| Medical Aspect of Down's Syndrome | June 30 |



The views and items in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the South Manchester Down's Syndrome Support Group.

Mention does not necessarily mean recommendation or support.



South Manchester
Down's Syndrome Support Group
Fulfilling Potential



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Manchester M21 3BR

May 2012

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