

Side by Side: Connecting SEND Families through Play - FAQs

Q: Who is this session for?

A: This session is ideal for children aged 7-14 years old with SEND or additional needs who require a 1:1 support. In this session the parent/carers are required to attend and remain with the young person at all times, helping them parallel play and improving social, emotional and tactile skills.

Q: What type of activities/games will you have?

A: There will be 3 different zones dependent on the needs of the young person. Including an open space for running or football. Tactile and sensory equipment you can create obstacle courses with. E.g. soft play, crawl tunnels ladders, hurdles, physio balls etc. There will also be quiet zone with sensory resources, colouring and games available.

Q: What do parents/carers do during the session?

A: It is a parent and child send play session supported by the life leisure centre to be a parent and child led facilitated space to help promote wellbeing and health and fitness inclusively. Parent/carers or responsible adults must remain with the child/young person during the session. You will act as their 1:1 support throughout and have full responsibility of the child/young person whilst helping them engage in the activities. The space is there to provide a safe place for parents to play with their children and make friends and play with others too.

Q: Where is it?

A: We will use our multi – use area, a large sports hall with lots of room at our Houldsworth Village hub in Reddish. – Right next to Broadstone Mill, Broadstone rd, Reddish, SK5 7AT.

Q: Booking Process?

A: Sessions are available to book 7 days before the session. Visit www.lifeleisure.net/inclusion and find the ‘SEND Family Play’ activity. You will need to complete the required pre-activity questionnaire to help us support your child the best we can. Someone will then be in contact with you and send through a booking link. You will also need to create an account to book on.

Q: What is the price?

A: £5 per session.

Q: Who are the staff involved?

A: 1 staff member will be at the session to help support parent/carers in parallel play with the child/young person. This staff member will have had a wealth of experience working with children/young people with SEND including teaching and sports coaching. They will also be qualified in a wide range of areas including Autism awareness and Disability in sports training.

Q: What should my child wear?

A: Our suggestion is that each child/young person should wear appropriate clothing to do some physical activity in.

Q: Who else will be there?

A: The children/young people who attend will be between the ages of 7 & 14 and have a range of cognitive and physical disabilities. The maximum number of children/young people will be 6 (not including parent/cares.) Parent/carers will be required to attend so you'll meet other people in a similar situation to you and your child/young person. There will be occasions where a professional such as an occupational therapist or Speech and language therapist may attend the session to support.

Q: Will this be a regular session?

A: This session will be running every Tuesday, including during half -terms. This is excluding the Christmas/new year period (Dates will be confirmed sooner to the time)

Q: What adaptations have been made?

A: We have specialist equipment, PECS, ear defenders, a sensory borrow box and countdowns ready if needed. We will continue to assess what equipment can be purchased and included in the session. The toilet closest to the sports hall will be closed off to the public and made available for users of the session only. We also have a disabled access toilet in the reception area. The centre is wheelchair accessible and we have put in extra environmental control measures to ensure your child's safety.