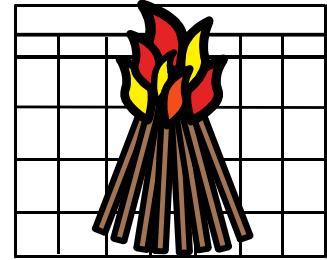


November 2014



Registered Charity No: 1147397

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

SMDSSG is ten years old this month

**Come Along To Chatterbox on
November 22 and Celebrate!**

**There will be birthday cake and
balloon modelling.**

**A huge thank you to everyone who has supported the group over
the years in so many different ways, from our early days, when
we met once a month at Burnage Children's Centre until now.
Here we are 10 years on, supporting families with lots of social
and learning opportunities.**

Well done everyone.



Chatterbox Club

Heaton Moor Evangelical church, Green Lane, Heaton Moor SK4 3LH 9.30am-12.30pm

A family social occasion providing the opportunity for children to meet with others of a similar age for group speech therapy. 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. If you do not enroll for the SLT sessions, you are welcome to join us for all the other activities. Feel free to pop a donation in the box at the refreshments counter towards the cost of running the club, which includes arts and craft activities, provided by Venture Arts (<http://www.venturearts.org>), sing and sign and yoga.

Sing and sign times: 10:15-10:35: 2's and under; 10:40-11:00: 3-5's; 11:05-11:25: over 5's

Yoga: 11:40-12:20

Dates for this term: November 22, December 6

Themes: November - Colours; December - Christmas

Our Chatterbox clubs for November & December are subsidised by a generous donation from The Hut Group. Venture Arts provide arts and crafts workshops thanks to a grant from The Greggs Foundation.

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

Our Family Christmas party is on Saturday December 20 11.30am-2pm

**English Martyrs Parish Centre, Alexandra Rd South Whalley Range,
Manchester M16 8GF (www.empc.org.uk)**

**All WELCOME—FREE entry for members, £5 non-members to include
membership, but please book a place in advance**

BOOK YOUR FAMILY'S PLACE NOW

(contact Bernadette on phone: 07593 542 107, email: contact@dsmanchester.org.uk).

For catering etc we need to know how many adults and children are coming from each family please.

We ask all families coming to **bring labelled wrapped gifts (value no more than £5) for each of their children.** Hand them in on the door (discreetly!) as you arrive—we'll make sure Santa gets them!

We'll be getting caterers to do some of the food but please fill in the food 'poll' for remaining items at :

<https://doodle.com/h3ahg4fv9g7bthat>

Please remember - any food you bring needs to be ready to serve.

There will be a bar available for you to purchase drinks.

- 11.15—doors open
- 11.30-12.45 food and drinks available
- 11.30—1pm circus skills to watch and try
- 11.30—1 pm Christmas craft activities
- Raffle tickets on sale until 12.30
- Tombola 11.30-1pm

be prepared to buy lots of tickets!

- 1 pm raffle draw
- From 1.15 Crystal chords choir will be singing some seasonal songs.
- Santa has agreed to visit us from 1.30—2pm.

Tombola Prizes

We need lots of good quality new or nearly new toys

and games for the Christmas tombola. If you have any to donate, please contact Cath at:

tombola@dsmanchester.org.uk or bring them to Chatterbox on December 6. **We need tombola prizes in advance of the party so they can be ticketed.**

Raffle Prizes

If you have any to donate, please contact Bernadette at: contact@dsmanchester.org.uk or bring them to Chatterbox on December 6. **We need all items in advance of the party—please donate by December 6.**

We are looking for volunteers to do the raffle this year. We usually contact local businesses for raffle prizes and have a standard letter you can use. Also people donate prizes, some of which we make into hampers, sets etc. We need two or three people to help with collecting the prizes, wrapping up hampers, ensuring we have raffle tickets and selling tickets on the day. A lot of work goes into organising the Christmas party, so please consider if you could help out by volunteering to help with the raffle, which is a terrific fundraiser for the group. If you would like to volunteer to do the raffle, please contact Bernadette phone: 07593 542 107 email: contact@dsmanchester.org.uk

**Help raise money for South Manchester Down's Syndrome Support Group by
shopping through easyfundraising.org.uk.**

You can raise money for South Manchester Down's Syndrome Support Group whenever you shop online. It's really simple – all you need to do is register and every time you shop online, the retailer makes a donation to SMDSSG. [Easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) works with over 2,700 well known retailers like Amazon, Argos, M&S, eBay and many more, and it doesn't cost you a single penny extra to use. The retailers will each donate up to 15% of the cost of your shopping. By making this one small change to your shopping habits, you could make a big difference to South Manchester Down's Syndrome Support Group. Find out more - <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/smdssg/>



South Manchester
Down's Syndrome Support Group
Fulfilling Potential



Youth Clubs

November 14, December 12

Ages: 10-16 - 5.30pm-7pm

Ages: 16 plus - 7.30pm-9pm

Barlow Moor Community Centre,
23 Merseybank Ave, Chorlton Manchester M21 7NT

www.barlowmoorca.co.uk

There will be refreshments, table tennis, arts and crafts, table football, pool and more.

Come along and have some fun.

If you are planning to come, contact Bernadette: contact@dsmanchester.org.uk

Tel: 07593 542 107 otherwise, just drop by



South Manchester
Down's Syndrome Support Group
Fulfilling Potential



Drumming

For Ages: 10+

Come along and have some fun!

December 6, 3-4pm

English Martyrs Parish Centre, Alexandra Rd South Whalley Range,
Manchester M16 8GF (www.empc.org.uk)

Cost for pilots: £3 SMDSSG members/£6 non-members

Come along and have fun with some samba and African rhythms. Sessions will be sociable and aimed at developing interactive skills, working on a mixture of rhythms. They will be split into two 20 minute sessions, with games and a short break between. This is a new initiative from SMDSSG, so we are asking parents/carers to stay around for the pilot sessions. Refreshments will be provided.

Using Sign Language To Develop Language and Communication



- Sign makes the language visual – so the child can hold it in their head for longer than the spoken word, giving the word a ‘tag’ before it can be said
- It attracts attention and helps the child focus on what you are trying to communicate
- Signing is a BRIDGE for spoken language
- Signs help children learn and remember new words
- It enables a child to use words he/she can not yet say, so they can communicate before they can speak—reducing frustration
- It gets the message across when speech is unclear
- It slows down your speech
- It reduces the amount you say
- It helps a child understand what you are trying to communicate

Remember that signs for our children should always be used with speech and are a bridge to speech.

The following resources may be useful:

BSL for sign supported English (SSE), is used in Manchester

www.britishsignlanguage.com, www.british-sign.co.uk,

Books available include: ‘Communication Link: A Dictionary of signs’ by Cath Smith from Beverley school for the deaf; ‘Let’s sign and Down’s syndrome’ by Cath Smith and Wendy Uttley

Makaton, is used in Stockport

www.makaton.org, Something Special DVDs, Dave BensonPhillips’ Makaton Nursery Rhymes – lots on the Makaton website. Also do regional courses in Makaton—details on their website.

Signalong (based on BSL), is used in Trafford and Salford

www.signalong.org.uk. Various Signalong resources are available on the website and if you do an internet search.

Forest books (www.forestbooks.com) have a lot of signing books in both BSL and Makaton.

Sing and Sign DVDs by Sasha Felix (www.singandsign.co.uk) there are several DVDs and other resources available. Sing and Sign is largely compatible with Signalong, Makaton and other sign supporting systems designed to be used with speech and based on the signs of British Sign Language (BSL).

Singing hands (www.singinghands.co.uk) lots of information on their website and clips on Youtube.

Our group currently offers support through our sing and sign sessions at Chatterbox.

Tina Kirwin (a BSL signer) who does these sessions is always happy to answer your queries, as are some of our parents (eg Bernadette and Jo).

Although there are different sign languages (and different regional variations in sign), what matters is that everyone working with your child is consistent.

Funding news

Many thanks to KPMG for their generous donation of £250.



You can now find us on Facebook at

<http://www.facebook.com/SMDSSG>

Come and like the page and keep up to date with what the group is doing.

Local Offers for children and young people with special educational needs and disability (SEND)

Manchester

http://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/500132/special_educational_needs/6181/manches-ters_local_offer_for_children_and_young_people_with_sen_and_disabilities

Cheshire East

https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/children_and_families/special_educational_needs/local_offer.aspx

Salford

<http://www.salford.gov.uk/localoffer.htm>

Trafford

http://trafford.childrensservicedirectory.org.uk/kb5/trafford/fsd/site.page?id=F5IHIP_2Kjs

Stockport

<http://www.stockport.gov.uk/atozindex/sendreform/localoffer/>

Tameside

<http://www.tameside.gov.uk/localoffer>

Useful websites for information around statements, EHC plans, education and the law

Down's syndrome association

<http://www.downs-syndrome.org.uk/for-families-and-carers/education/sen-and-the-law/>

Afasic website

<http://www.afasic.org.uk/help-for-your-child/useful-reading/assessments-and-statements/>

IPSEA website

<https://www.ipsea.org.uk/>

Down Syndrome Education Online

<http://www.down-syndrome.org/>

Cerebra

<http://www.cerebra.org.uk/English/GetInformation/Pages/default.aspx>

Information, Advice and Support (IAS) Manchester (formerly Parent Partnership Service)

Help and Support for parents or carers of a child with special educational needs

Email: Parents@manchester.gov.uk

Telephone: 0161 209 8356 10-3

Fax: 0161 274 7184

Westwood Street Centre, Westwood Street
Moss Side, Manchester M14 4PH

Website— click [here](#) or go to:

www.manchester.gov.uk

and search for IAS

IAS Manchester is the new name for the Parent Partnership Service. IAS Manchester offers independent information, advice and support to parents and carers to increase their involvement in the education of their children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). The service also ensures that parents, carers and young people have access to information and advice about issues relating to the child or young person's health and social care.

What does IAS Manchester do?

- advice, information and individual support about the special educational needs system including Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans
- where appropriate, referral to Independent Supporters to help families and young people going through the process of converting a SEN Statement to an EHC Plan
- support with education letters and meetings about your child's SEN
- support to make your views, choices and decisions known
- a confidential and impartial telephone help-line service
- parental/carer drop-ins in community locations and home visits if needed
- encourage partnership and dialogue between parents, Children's Services (Education), schools and voluntary organisations
- liaise with the Statutory Assessment Team and schools' SENCOs to progress your issues
- signposting to statutory, voluntary and community organisations

Other support groups around Greater Manchester

Tameside and Glossop Down's syndrome support group

Contact: Vicky on 07792827899 or email victoriamassey@hotmail.com.

Bury Down's Syndrome Support Group

<http://www.dsbury.org.uk/index.html>: contact@dsbury.org.uk Tel: 07796 765361 (Jackie) or Facebook

Bolton Smiley Faces

website: boltonsmileyfaces.org.uk Contact chair@boltonsmileyfaces.org.uk

Cheshire Down's syndrome support group

Website: www.cheshiredownssyndrome.com Tel: 07518 590300

Down's Syndrome Family & Carer's Group, Lancaster

Contact: Liz Fawcett lancasterdsgroup@hotmail.co.uk or 01524 64132.

West Pennine Down's syndrome support group

Website: www.dswestpennine.co.uk email: dswestpennine@hotmail.co.uk

General Enquiries: Tel: 07842555725 New Parent Helpline: Tel: 07842534819.

East Lancs Down's Syndrome Support Group

Website: www.eldssg.co.uk email: eastlancsdssg@aol.co.uk Telephone: 07766305320

Buxton—Happy Days for families of children with additional needs

contact: landdmaddocks@aol.com

NE Derbyshire Down's Syndrome Support Group

Monthly support group for parents, grandparents & carers of children with Downs Syndrome. Meetings take place on the third Friday of each month (except August) at Fairplay Centre, Alexandra Rd West, Chesterfield S40 1NP. 12.45—14.45. If you want more info or want to talk please call...

Rosie 07500 814361 or 01629 537692 Sue 07825 399789 Aimee 07803 593315 Stacy 07716 790995.

New Parent Support Group—St Helens

Ready Steady Downs is run by parent volunteers to enable local families and carers who have a child with Down Syndrome to come together, make new friends to gain support and advice.

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month 10:30 - 12:30 at The Bridge Centre, Roper Street, St. Helens, WA9 1EJ (at the side of Merton Bank Primary School) we ask for a £1.00 donation per family.

For more information contact us via Facebook or email readysteadydowns@hotmail.com.

The group is affiliated to the Down Syndrome Association.

Thursday November 20 - Manchester SEN Information Day —see attached flyer

Ignite Christmas Shop and Drop Camps AGE RANGE 10-25 years

Running weekly on Saturdays from 15 Nov - 13th Dec 10-3pm, COST £5.50 per day

Melland High School, Wembley Road,, Gorton, M18 7DT

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-shop-and-drop-ignite-inclusive-camp-tickets-13382861499

If you are unable to get online, please ring on 0161 234 1136

Everyone's welcome to join the Jump Space Christmas party on Friday 12th December, 6pm-8pm.

Santa will be visiting the sensory room armed with gifts, and there'll be lots of fun and games, including some jolly jumping on the trampolines (more details on the attached poster). Places are limited, so please secure your booking and make your payment in advance by speaking to a Jump Space staff member or by calling the office on 0161 637 2800.

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

Kidz up North
Thursday 20th November 2014
EventCity,
Barton Dock Road,
Manchester, M17 8AS
9.30am - 4.30pm



One of the largest, FREE UK exhibitions dedicated to children and young adults with disabilities and special needs, their families and the professionals who work with them.

Over 170 exhibitors offering advice and information on funding, mobility, seating, beds, communication, access, education, toys, transport, style, sensory, sports and leisure and more.....

Running alongside the event are FREE seminars for parents and professionals. Topics include: Moving and Handling, Sleep Issues, Contenance Issues, Direct Payments, Parental Experiences, Transition, Legal Advice and more ...

For FREE Visitors tickets
Please Call: 0161 607 8200
Email:

info@disabledliving.co.uk

www.kidzupnorth.co.uk

Are you A Lego Fan?

Wold You Like To Join A Lego Club?

Staff at Partington Children's Centre, Central Road, M31 4FL are looking for young people in Trafford with additional needs who are aged 14-18 to join their Lego club!

This is a chance to show off your skills by building some fantastic Lego models (including Lego Movie and Minecraft) and meet other young people who love Lego!

Sessions are on either Mondays (starting 24 November) or Wednesdays, both from 4.00-5.30pm. The cost for each session is £5.00 per person, payable on the day.

Your mum, dad or carer would need to stay on the premises, but will be able to chat to other parents and Made to Measure staff about future sessions whilst you get creative!

Parents/Carers: to book a place, or ask about different days/venues please contact the Made to Measure team on 0161 667 0809, text on 07767 111850 or email at madetomeasuretrafford@scope.org.uk



www.facebook.com/scopemadetomeasuretrafford

Forum: www.scope.org.uk/made-to-measure/trafford

Ongoing activities

Special Virtuosi* - music provision for people with additional needs. Thursday nights during term time at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester from 5.15 until 7pm. Everybody is able to play in the orchestra with those that do not play an orchestral instrument playing a variety of percussion parts (no prior experience necessary). For details: www.specialvirtuosi.co.uk contact: specialvirtuosi@gmail.com

Macclesfield Saturday Club* monthly youth group for children with Down's syndrome from the Macclesfield area. At Elim Church, Parsonage St, Macclesfield, Cheshire East SK11 7GY from 2:30-4:30pm. Join the Saturday Club Facebook group <http://www.facebook.com/groups/saturdayclubmacc/> for updates and details. Siblings are welcome! Parents/carers are required to stay with their children. Contact: Heidi - 07904301059, Anna - 07920851771, Dawn - 07938924527

DSActive football sessions with Moorside Rangers* Victoria Lane (Beechfarm Playing Fields) Swinton Manchester M27 9LF. Sunday mornings every fortnight 11am-1pm. <http://www.dsactive.org/teams/moorside-rangers-dsactive/> Contact Ian Clarke at clarkey@parklife.fsworld.co.uk. **New sessions for 16+ age groups—call Ian for details.**

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

Simply Cycling* <http://www.simply-cycling.org/join-us/>

Cycling for all abilities and opportunity to learn cycle skills with qualified teachers. £2 per rider.

Please call the numbers given in advance for details.

Trafford Wheelers at Longford Park Athletic Stadium Ryebank Road, Stretford (Sat Nav M21 9LJ)

Monday: 9.30 – 12 noon, **Friday:** 9.30 – 12 noon, **Sunday:** 1.00 – 3.00 pm. For more information call Helen on: **07871 621778** email: helenhines68@hotmail.co.uk

Wythenshawe Wheelers at Wythenshawe Park Athletics Track Wythenshawe Road, (Sat Nav. M23

OPH) **Tuesday:** 9.30 – 3.00 pm, **Weds:** 9.30 – 12 noon, **Friday:** 9.30 – 3.00 pm, **Sat:** 1.00 – 3.00 pm.

For more information please call Sue on: 07753 428937 e.mail:sueblaylock2708@aol.com

CADS (Children's able and disabled sports) Clubs*

www.seashelltrust.org.uk/sports/what-we-offer

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. Stay for a cup of tea and biscuits afterwards! Contact: Kevin on 07714 397333 or at kevin.coogan@larche.org.uk.

Music Mayhem* Singing and movement sessions at Timperley Community Centre, Mondays: 5pm - 5.40pm, ages up to 11: 6.15pm to 6.55pm ages 12+. Cost: £3 per child. For more information contact Leigh and Jaymie on 07754 613881

***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.**



Dates for your diary

Youth Club	November 14
Drama Club	November 17
Chatterbox Club	November 22
Secondary Training	November 24
Drama Club	November 24
Social Development Training	November 25
Chatterbox Club	December 6
Drumming	December 6
Drama Club	December 8
Youth Club	December 12
Drama club	December 15
Christmas Party	December 20

NOVEMBER



South Manchester
Down's Syndrome Support Group
Fulfilling Potential



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.

Registered Charity
No: 1147397

November 2014

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Manchester M21 3BR

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