

# SAPSS

## Newsletter 1

### Autumn term 2022

Welcome to our first Sensory and Physical Support Service (SAPSS) Newsletter!

We are planning on sending out one newsletter per term going forwards so we can ensure that families are aware of events and are kept up to date with team news. Please let us know if there is anything you would like to see included in future newsletters.

#### Summer activity afternoon

It was fantastic to see so many families at our activity afternoon held at Oldham Library and Lifelong Learning Centre in July this year. Families were able to engage in a variety of activities including craft activities, sensory story time and sensory play. The activity afternoon went so well that we are planning on repeating the event in June 2023. Details will follow next year.



## Parent/carer survey

Many thanks to all the parents and carers who filled in our survey last term. It was lovely to read such positive comments about the SAPSS and these have been shared with all team members. The main suggestion for improvements was about increasing the number of events we put on. We are looking into ways we can do this and are also adding an events section to this newsletter going forwards so that families can see what is available and can book on to any available events.

## Upcoming events

### **Henshaws and SAPSS joint event, 09.10.22**

Come and join us on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October at Summit Up Climbing in Oldham from 2.30pm-3.30pm to try out the climbing walls.

There are a limited number of spaces for this event so if you would like to join us then please book using <https://henshaws-cyp.square.site/>.

### **Oldham Coliseum, pantomime trip, VI trip, 02.12.22**

Our annual pantomime trip to this year's panto, Robin Hood, at The Coliseum is on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Service tickets for this event are limited to 10. In the first instance, invitations to attend will be offered to those children and young people (aged 10 and over) whose level of vision impairment means they would benefit most from access to the touch tour. However, if any other families wish to access the audio described performance of Robin Hood on Friday 2nd December at 7.30pm then seats can be booked via contacting Oldham Coliseum Theatre's Box Office on 0161 624 2829 or by emailing [boxoffice@coliseum.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@coliseum.org.uk).

## Ongoing events

### Preschool group

Our preschool group runs every Monday during termtime only from 12.30 – 2.30pm. Come along to meet other parents and carers who also have a child with vision/hearing needs. There are lots of fun filled activities including arts and crafts, singing, free play and snack time. You are welcome to stay for the whole session or just pop in and spend as much time as you are able to.



Held at Stanley Road Children's Centre, Derby Street, Chadderton, Oldham, OL9 7HX

#### Dates:

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November

### Parent/carer group for families of children with a hearing or vision impairment

Come along to meet other parents/carers who also have a child with a vision or hearing impairment. Clare (HI) and Jo (VI) will be there to talk about the support your child gets from the team and there will be opportunities to meet professionals from other agencies including POINT, Henshaws and the NDCS too. Feel free to stay for the whole session or just pop in for a coffee, and spend as much time as you are able.

It is held from once per half term from 10-11.30am in Meeting room 2 at Oldham Library and Lifelong Learning Centre, Greaves Street, Oldham, OL1 1AL.

The dates for this term are: **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022 and Monday 28th November 2022**

## **VI youth group**

VI youth group is held every Monday afternoon during termtime and is open for children and young people aged 8 and older with a vision impairment. The youth group is held at Mahdlo ([www.mahdloyz.org](http://www.mahdloyz.org)) and is jointly supported by staff from our team, Mahdlo and Henshaws.

We enjoy a range of activities including cooking sessions, arts and crafts and sport related activities such as using the climbing wall. Here are some examples of some of the amazing creations made during two of our arts and crafts sessions:



## **Sign Language classes**

For families of children and young people who use sign language, come along and learn too.

**Beginners' level** - held weekly during termtime from 11am-12pm every Monday in Meeting room 2 at Oldham Library and Lifelong Learning Centre, Greaves Street, Oldham, OL1 1AL.

**Advanced level** - held weekly during termtime from 10.30am-11.30am every Tuesday online via Teams.

Please contact [sapss@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:sapss@oldham.gov.uk) for further information.

## Sensory activity suggestion for autumn

As autumn is now upon us, it is the perfect time to enjoy a walk in the park collecting leaves and enjoying the rustling sounds made when running through them. Maybe you could collect some leaves to create leaf pictures like the one Mrs Korny has created below. If you do, then please email pictures of your creations over to [joanne.jones@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:joanne.jones@oldham.gov.uk) for inclusion in the next newsletter. I'm sure you all have some fantastic ideas for leaf pictures that are even better than Mrs Korny's!



## Oldham Connect

Please favourite and check out our webpage at <https://oldhamconnect.uk/Services/6336> which is kept up to date with service information, links to support available, links to charities and details of events.

## Contact details

As always, please feel free to contact the team at any point via [sapss@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:sapss@oldham.gov.uk) or by contacting:

Joanne Jones, Team Manager for Vision Impairment Support, directly via email at [joanne.jones@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:joanne.jones@oldham.gov.uk) or via telephone at 07790 543843 or

Clare Prior, Team Manager for Hearing Support, directly via email at [clare.prior@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:clare.prior@oldham.gov.uk) or via telephone at 07791 117318.