



Happy Halloween
from
Belfast Locality
Planning

Pumpkin Patch at City Hall

Our famous Pumpkin Patch is back, and this year it's even better! Join us at City Hall for a pumpkin-filled adventure with over 1,000 pumpkins to choose from. Friendly scarecrows and witches will be there to help you pick the perfect pumpkin!

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/belfast-one-pumpkin-patch-tickets-1580902063629?aff=oddtcreator>

If you have any information you would like to share across our Locality Planning Group members in Belfast please email:

LocalityPlanning@belfasttrust.hscni.net

Halloween at 2 Royal Avenue



- **No-carve pumpkin decorating** - after picking your pumpkin from the Belfast One pumpkin patch, bring it to 2RA to decorate and bring home! Whether you're aiming for fun, spooky or whimsical, this hands-on workshop is perfect for all ages and skill levels.
- **Monster masks** - what kind of monster will you become? Join us to dream up, build, and wear your own wild disguise, creepy, cute, or something in between. All you need is curiosity and a spark of imagination.

- **Walkabout characters** - keep an eye out for friendly Halloween walkabouts for fun photo ops and mischief!
- **Face painting** - transform into your favourite spooky character with our talented face painters, a fun way to complete your Halloween costume.
- **Spooky storytelling** - gather round and hear Halloween tales from Agatha the friendly witch.
- **Creature corner** - meet and greet some real-life creepy crawlies. From bugs to reptiles and small mammals, it's your chance to get up close and learn about these fascinating creatures.

Costumes are highly encouraged, so come dressed to impress!
This is a free event and you do not need to book - just drop in.

Date: Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 October
2025, 11am to 5pm

Venue: 2 Royal Avenue

Category: 2 Royal Avenue, Halloween

NXTGEN

OASIS
CARING IN ACTION



HALLOWS EVE GAMING INITIATIVE



16+

HEGI 16-25



**FREE 6 WEEK
PROGRAMME
FOR 16-25S!**

BUILD SOCIAL SKILLS!

BOOST YOUR CONFIDENCE!

**BECOME THE BEST IN OUR RETRO
GAMING COMPETITION!**

**SPECIAL
FEATURES**

INTERACTIVE SESSIONS WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
TRAVEL COSTS COVERED
OFF SITE TRIP
FREE FOOD

Hallows Eve Gaming Initiative (HEGI) is a 6 week, face-to-face, community, team and skill building programme based in East Belfast.

Find out more: Call/Text/Whatsapp: 07904374926;
Email: nxtgen@oasis-ni.org; Facebook: [NxtGen](#)
Youth Project at Oasis; Instagram: [nxtgenatoasis](#)

16+



HEGI
16-25





You Are Not Alone - Free Parent Online Drop-In

Parenting an autistic child can feel amazing, confusing, and overwhelming, sometimes all in the same day. That's why we host our **no-cost monthly online drop-in sessions for parents and carers.**

First Tuesday of every month
7pm - 8.30pm
Platform: Zoom



Erik Wagter - host of the drop-in

What these sessions are all about

We've created a safe, non-judgemental space where parents can bring their questions, share worries and connect with others who 'get it'.

Topics often included:

- Understanding and responding to challenging behaviour
- Making sense of autism on a deeper level
- The ups and downs of family relationships and dynamics
- Working with schools and professionals
- Meeting like-minded parents and realising you are not alone



What parents say:

'Thank you so much for the group this evening. I can't tell you how grateful I feel, and I really do feel less alone and more validated. My hope is back'

Who runs the sessions?

I'm Erik Wagter, co-founder of Autism Family Support Service. Alongside being a social worker, trainer and Solution Focused family coach, I also bring over two decades of personal lived family experience of autism. Sometimes my wife Sally will join in as well.

If you would like to join please send an email to sallywagter@gmail.com and we will send you the Zoom link.

Autism Family Support Service
www.autismfamilysupportservice.com

FREE mental health & well-being programme for children aged 9-11 years

OUR Generation: Spaces to Be

PlayBoard NI, the lead organisation for the development and promotion of play is delivering *Spaces to Be* – an innovative, cross-community and cross-border personal development programme supporting peacebuilding for children and young people.

Spaces to Be is a unique and interactive initiative designed to enhance the mental health and well-being of children aged 9 to 11. Rooted in the advocacy of the *Child's Right to Play*, the programme aims to:

- Increase mental health literacy
- Enhance emotional resilience
- Develop self-help and coping skills
- Encourage inclusivity and acceptance of difference
- Increase knowledge of community

Programme overview:

- A free, fully facilitated programme delivered by PlayBoard's experienced staff team
- Interactive staff training
- 5 dynamic play-based sessions for children

Play sessions themes:

1. **ME (Mind & Emotions)** - Exploring emotions, promoting positive physical and mental health, well-being and resilience, through play.
2. **ME and My Connections** - Exploring problem solving, empathy and intrapersonal skills.
3. **ME, My Connections and My Community** - Supporting children to consider the multiple social groups they are part of, and how they contribute to building peaceful communities.
4. **Better Together** - Supporting children to consider a range of perspectives and have positive attitudes towards other communities.
5. **Better Together Celebration** - Celebrating the power of play and how it can promote peacebuilding on a cross-community basis.



Co-funded by the European Union and UK Government



A project supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

GET IN TOUCH: OurGeneration@playboard.co.uk OR +44 28 9080 3380
www.playboard.org/resources/our-generation
www.ourgeneration-cyp.com





Musical Connections

Nurturing Musical
Cultures in Autism
Resource Bases

Friday 7th November
1pm - 4pm
The MAC
Belfast (BT1 2NJ)

Join us for a session to
explore music education
in Specialist Provision in
Mainstream Schools
(SPiMS).



[CLICK HERE OR](#)
SCAN THE QR CODE
TO REGISTER YOUR
ATTENDANCE

We want every autistic child and young person to access creative, child-centred music education. With AHRC funding, Live Music Now and the University of South Wales are building an evidence-informed picture of music learning in Specialist Provision (Autism Resource Bases) across the UK.

What it's for?

- Share what's working & where the gaps are.
- Hear perspectives from autistic professionals, carers and learners.
- Identify barriers (practical, cultural, structural) and realistic solutions.
- Prioritise next steps for research & practice.
- Grow a network for ongoing exchange & support in Northern Ireland.

What can you expect?

- Overview of research aims & timeline.
- Hear from **Dr Beth Pickard** (University of South Wales), **Alex Lupo** (Autistic Musician and Creative Lead, Live Music Now), **Gary Day** (NI Project Lead), and the Education Authority Specialist Provision Team.
- An open call to contribute insights, case studies and lived experience to the research.

Why now?

A Youth Music-supported pilot project over the past 3 years has shown benefits for autistic pupils' social, emotional and academic development—and raised important questions we want to explore together.

Your expertise and networks are essential to shaping practical, sustainable change & ensuring the research outcomes are relevant in Northern Ireland.



[CLICK HERE OR](#)
SCAN THE QR CODE
TO REGISTER YOUR
ATTENDANCE

Let us know of any access requirements and we'll readily accommodate them.



Data Detectives

Date & time

31 October 2025 | 11.00–12.30

What's it about?

This event aims to inspire young people to understand how health data is collected, educate them in how the environments in which they live can affect their health, and empower them with data skills to advocate for positive change. GroundsWell will be simultaneously running a UK-wide series of Data Detectives events in collaboration with our partners at the University of Edinburgh and University of Liverpool.

Who's leading the event?

Dr Niamh O'Kane in the Centre for Public Health at Queen's University Belfast, GroundsWell Consortium, and the Administrative Data Research Centre Northern Ireland

Open to

Children aged 7–12 years of age and their families – fancy dress encouraged!

What's on offer?

Join the research teams from the GroundsWell Consortium and the Administrative Data Research Centre Northern Ireland to explore all things health data: how we collect it, how we analyse it, and how we use it to better understand and improve public health

Exciting Halloween-themed challenges and activities will help young attendees better understand the health data landscape and encourage them to gain hands-on experience of collecting and analysing data.

Children can participate in the activities and challenges by themselves, or with the help of their family. Our research teams will be dressed in their Halloween finest, so we welcome all manners of fancy dress for the children and the adults!

<https://festivalofsocalscience.com/events/data-detectives/>



Falls Road Jobs & Benefits office presents

Universal Credit Information Sessions

Whiterock Children's Centre
91 Whiterock Road
Belfast, BT12 7PG

11.00am – 1.00pm
Monday 27 October
Monday 10 November
Monday 24 November
Monday 8 December

Have you received your ESA migration notice?
Drop in for support, guidance, and information
on creating and managing your account.
No appointment needed.

For more details, contact the Falls Road Jobs &
Benefits Office.



SCHOOL ANXIETY

Parent Group



Connect with other parents whose children's anxiety is impacting school attendance. The group offers peer support with input and guidance from understanding professionals.



**BELFAST
FIRST MEETING:
WEDNESDAY**

5TH NOVEMBER 2025

Venue: Horn Drive
Community Centre, 44a
Horn Drive, Belfast,
BT11 9GS

Time: 7-9pm

Email:
absa.parent.group@gmail.com



**SAVE THE DATE
CCP Conference**

A MAN FOR ALL REASONS

**27th November 2025
Dunadry Hotel, Antrim
9am - 1.30pm**

This event will explore the strategies and solutions that support the recruitment and retention of men in the Early Years Sector.

This event is aimed at senior managers, practitioners and policy leads.

Further information and booking details will be available soon!

YOU'RE INVITED

Working together to support young women in Belfast

The King's Trust invites you to a free breakfast event on Thursday 30 October 2025

Come along to:

- Connect with other organisations
- Learn about the support available to young women in Belfast, including our free courses
- Build local partnerships



[Supporting young women in partnership: King's Trust networking breakfast](#)

Does your organisation support young women in Belfast?

There are still spaces available at our free breakfast event next Thursday.

 Thursday 30 October

 9:30 - 11:30 AM

 The King's Trust Belfast Centre, Unit 6a, Weavers Court, Linfield Rd, Belfast, BT12 5GH

Next week, we're opening our doors to connect with organisations from across Belfast who support young women.

At The King's Trust, we maintain a focus on providing support to young women, and working with them to dismantle barriers to employment. We know that this is best achieved in partnership with organisations across our city.

So, we are excited to invite you to a free breakfast event:

 Thursday 30 October

 9:30 - 11:30 AM

 The King's Trust Belfast Centre, Unit 6a, Weavers Court, Linfield Rd, Belfast, BT12 5GH

The aim of the event is to bring organisations together to connect, network and learn about the support available to young women in Belfast. We want to provide the space and environment so you can build on your local partnership network as well as find out about the free support that we can offer.

You can expect a welcome from our friendly team and some networking activities - not to mention a delicious breakfast!

ASYLUM LINK ADVISOR

Supporting asylum seekers across Belfast with advice, casework, and signposting to available local resources, on:

- The asylum process, sources of support and local resources
- Applying for refugee status, where and how to access legal representation
- Support for refused asylum seekers looking to make fresh claims
- Rights and entitlements, and raising safeguarding concerns
- Advice for those transitioning or those granted a positive decision
- IAA Level 1 Immigration Advice including:
 - Applications for leave in line
 - Settlement (Protection route) applications
 - Travel document applications

*Individuals can drop-in or contact the below partner organisations for referral.

*Organisations can contact IOM directly for client referrals - asylumlinkbelfast@iom.int



Supported by



Belfast
City Council



IOM
UN MIGRATION



Immigration
Advice
Authority

More information:



ESOL IDEAS SWAP

- for People Working in the Voluntary Sector

When: Friday 24th October 1:15pm

Where: On-line

Cost: Free

Come along to an ideas exchange for supporting people learning English. Share your tips, activities or resources that worked well, in an informal 3-minute presentation. If you don't fancy presenting don't worry; you may feel inspired to join in the follow up discussion.

Thank you for a really interesting and useful session with lots of really good, practical ideas!
Ideas Swap April 2025

Thanks for having me. Some very useful tips and resources. Very helpful.
Ideas Swap April 2025

Thanks to everyone for sharing the ideas, really useful for me as someone quite new to teaching English.
Ideas Swap April 2025

Visit www.natecla.org.uk/teachmeets to see the kind of presentation we're looking for.

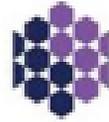
If you'd like to know more about presenting, contact linguatrust@outlook.com

If you'd like to attend as an audience member, ask the coordinator of your organisation for the link.

This event is organised by the Voluntary ESOL Working Group, which is supported by the National Association of Teaching English to Adults (NATECLA)



**Belfast
City Council**



Department for
Communities
www.communities-ni.gov.uk

An Roinn
Pobal

Mínnystre o
Communities

Belfast City Council's Social Supermarket Support Fund 2026-28 is open for applications now. The submission deadline for receipt of applications is 12 noon on Mon, 8th December 2025

[Social Supermarket Guidance Notes 2026-28](#)

If interested, it may be advisable to attend one of the following information sessions to offer support and guidance to organisations who wish to apply for the grant:

- Monday 3 November - Girdwood Community Hub Shared Space - 12.30 – 1.30pm
- Tuesday 4 November - Online – 4.00pm – 5.00pm

To attend the sessions please email cgugrants@belfastcity.gov.uk and tell us which session you would like to attend.

Belfast Cycling Network

Sailortown and Ulster University Pedestrian and Cycle Improvements

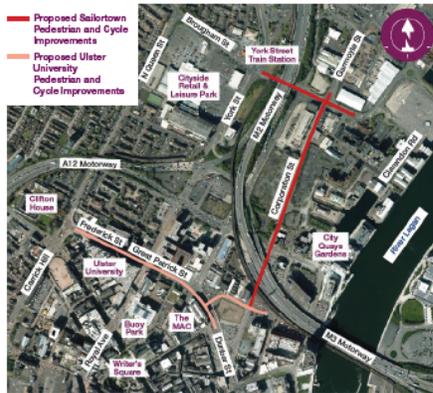
HAVE YOUR SAY

The Department for Infrastructure has developed proposals for Sailortown and Ulster University Pedestrian and Cycle Improvements. This is a key route within the Belfast Cycle Network. These proposals aim to provide 1.5km of new high quality active travel Infrastructure, connecting York Street Station to Ulster University and the Cathedral Quarter.

Key features include:

- A new segregated cycle facility and improved footways
- Installation of new pedestrian and cyclist crossing points to improve accessibility and safety
- Improved connectivity to key destinations

Proposed & Existing Infrastructure



Have your say:

Visit us and share your views with the project team at an In-person drop in event:

When: Thursday 23 October 2025, 12pm – 6pm

Where: St Joseph's Church, Sailortown, 9 Princes Dock St, Belfast, BT12 6DG

If you can't make it to the event:

1. Send us an email with your feedback to: activetravel.eastern@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk or
2. Write to us by post to: DfI Active Travel, Hydebank House, 4a Hospital Road, Ballydolphagan, Belfast, BT8 8JL

Comments can be submitted between 20th October and 14th November 2025

Active Travel Benefits

1. Improved connectivity for active travel
2. Environmentally friendly journeys
3. Promoting health and wellbeing

Find more details about this project by visiting our website or scanning the QR code:



www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/consultations/sailortown-and-ulster-university-pedestrian-and-cycling-improvements



"We are dedicated to nurturing independence and wellbeing, offering personalised support, advocacy, and guidance that inspires individuals to live confidently, with dignity, purpose, and soulful connection."

"Every soul deserves support"



WELLBEING



ADVICE



ADVOCACY



SUPPORT



BEFRIENDING



ASSISTANCE

For assistance or further information:

[Instagram.com/soulfully_supported](https://www.instagram.com/soulfully_supported)

help.soulful@gmail.com

07720 214288 call or Whatsapp

- Tailored person-centred support for adults 18+.
- Compassionate, trustworthy and professional service.
- Personalised tailored packages.



Mind wise

Children's Mental Health Week

BUILDING BLOCKS FOR A STRONGER FOUNDATION

9-13TH FEBRUARY 2026

- Introductory LEGO-Based Therapy training
- Advanced LEGO-Based Therapy training
- An evening of connection, research, and real-world experience in early intervention and prevention, featuring keynote speakers including Dr. Daniel Legoff, creator of LEGO-Based Therapy, Dr. Mary Lavell, School of Psychology, Queen's University Belfast, and many more.



Agnew

AJ TOYS & BOOKS

BEYOND BRICKS
Building Blocks for Strong Foundations



Early interest in MindWise Children's Mental Health Event

11 February 2026 – 13 February 2026

[Early interest in MindWise Children's Mental Health Event | MindWise](#)

developing
healthy
communities



HSC Public Health
Agency
Project supported by the PHA

We're pleased to draw your attention to a big opportunity for anyone one who, like us, believes that the voice of service users and carers should be at the heart of public health. The Public Health Agency's draft Partnership and Engagement Strategy is now out for consultation

The document advocates for a partnership-based approach to improving health and well-being and to addressing health inequalities and sets out the strategic direction for the *Experience* and *Involvement* programmes for the next five years.

You have until **21 December 2025** to submit a response

[Public Health Agency Partnership and Engagement Strategy 2025-2030 | HSC Public Health Agency](#)

Training Opportunities

Skills for Life and Work

Your Choice- Your Journey- Your Future

2025 COURSES INCLUDE:

- BRICKLAYING
- JOINERY
- CHILDCARE
- HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
- RETAIL
- ENGLISH
- PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT
- STORES AND WAREHOUSING
- ADMIN
- IT
- CATERING
- PLAYWORK
- HAIRDRESSING
- MATHS
- EMPLOYABILITY
- DIGITAL ICT

Register today 

PLACES STILL AVAILABLE Stockman House
39-43 Bedford Street

Belfast
BT2 7EE

CONTACT JULIA 07425589575
julla.hughes@brysonpathways.org

Bryson
PATHWAYS
Skills Based Training

 Department for the
Economy
An Roinn
Geilleagair
www.economy-ni.gov.uk
Skills for Life
and Work

Skills for Life and Work

Your Choice- Your Journey- Your Future

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Skills for Life
and Work

Training Opportunities



[Build your neuro-inclusive approach:](#)

[Upcoming Autism Training Courses](#)

Are you ready to understand more about autism, neurodiversity and how to build a neuro-inclusive approach?

Autism NI's CPD-certified and accredited training courses are designed to equip you with the knowledge, confidence, and practical tools to create truly inclusive environments - whether you work in education, healthcare, business, public services, or third sector.

In today's world, every professional will interact with autistic people. That's why inclusive practice isn't optional - it's essential. Our **expert-led, live training sessions include interactive Q&As**, giving you the chance to ask questions, share experiences, and get tailored guidance.

Secure your place now and build your inclusive practice.

[Upcoming autism training for professionals](#)

Training Opportunities



Prenatal Alcohol Exposure & FASD

(Suitable for Social Workers, Family Support/Outreach Workers, Care Workers, Education Support Workers)



Book your place

Understanding Prenatal Alcohol Exposure & FASD:

Developing an understanding of the impacts and how to support families, children and young people

Course Details:

Date: 11 December 2025

Time: 9:30 - 16:30 (1 hour for lunch)

Level: Advanced

Cost: £160+VAT per person

(Discounts offered for 10 or more places - please enquire - training@gateway-psychology.co.uk)

More Info

Training Opportunities

 www.people-1st.co.uk 

PEACEPLUS

Employability: Language Up Project

This is a free English language and community programme for people from minority ethnic backgrounds.

Who is it for?
If English is not your first language — and you want to improve your English language skills for work and everyday life in Belfast — this programme is for you!

- ✓ Improve your English
- ✓ Find a job or training
- ✓ Meet new people and feel more confident living in Northern Ireland

Contact Cathy Norris to find out more:
E: c.norris@people-1st.co.uk
T: 07786272022



Belfast City Council



The Belfast Local Community Action Plan is supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

What do the classes offer?

- ✦ Practical English for real jobs — not just classroom English!
- ✦ Classes are small, friendly, and flexible — so you can fit learning around your life.
- ✦ The programme also includes fun community activities — so you can practise English in real life and meet others!
- ✦ Learn useful words for jobs in:
 - Hospitality (restaurants, hotels, cafés)
 - Health and Social Care
 - Construction
 - Retail (shops, supermarkets)
 - Cleaning and facilities
 - Childcare
 - Warehousing & Logistics

What are the benefits?

- ✓ Improve your English for work
- ✓ Build your confidence
- ✓ Make local connections
- ✓ Learn about Belfast and Northern Ireland
- ✓ Get ready to apply for jobs or training

REGISTER NOW!

Contact Cathy Norris and the PEACEPLUS Language Up team

 **07786272022**

 c.norris@people-1st.co.uk



Belfast City Council



The Belfast Local Community Action Plan is supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

Training Opportunities



NEW on-demand Autism Training Webinars:

Build your professional development at a time that suits you

Understanding autism is essential for creating inclusive, empowering environments - whether you're working with children, young people, or adults. Our new **on-demand training webinars** are designed to help professionals like you improve your knowledge and enhance your practice, all at your own pace.

What's included:

- Expert-led webinars tailored to **children and young people** or **adults**.
- Practical strategies for communication, sensory needs, and inclusive support.
- How to build a neurodiversity-affirming approach in your role and service.

Plus: **Special introductory discounted packages** available to celebrate our launch!

[NEW on-demand webinars for professionals](#)

Professional Training



Supporting autistic adults

NEW
On-Demand
Webinar



15%
OFF

Introductory
Discount



BOOK NOW

Professional Training



Supporting autistic children and young people

NEW
On-Demand
Webinar



15%
OFF

Introductory
Discount



BOOK NOW

Why on-demand?

We know your time is valuable. These pre-recorded sessions allow you to learn in your own time and space - whether that's during a quiet moment at work, at home, or on the go. No deadlines. No pressure. Just high-quality content when it suits you.

You can now choose between our range of live courses and now our on-demand options, so you can choose the learning style that works for you.

Launch offer: Save nearly 15%

To celebrate the launch of our new on-demand autism training webinars, we're offering a special discounted price - **just £25 per course** for a limited time (standard price: £29). Take advantage of this offer to invest in your professional development and support autistic people with confidence.

Job Opportunities



♥ ♥ We're Hiring! Join our Team ♥ ♥

Are you passionate about making a difference in the autism community? We're looking for a dedicated Autism Support Officer to join our team and help us support children and families across Northern Ireland.

If you're ready to make a positive impact — **apply today!** ✨

<https://autismni.org/about-us/vacancies>