

Applications open  
week of 9 June 2025

**You may be entitled if  
you receive ANY  
of these benefits:**

- ✓ Income Support
- ✓ Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- ✓ Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance
- ✓ Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- ✓ Universal Credit and net household earnings not exceeding approved threshold

**FREE SCHOOL  
MEALS AND  
UNIFORM  
ALLOWANCE**



**eaconnect**

[www.eani.org.uk/fsm](http://www.eani.org.uk/fsm)

**FREE SCHOOL MEALS &  
UNIFORM ALLOWANCE**

**How do I apply?**

- 1 Log on to/register with EA Connect
- 2 Check your eligibility on EA Connect
- 3 Add each child you wish to claim for
- 4 Start your application
- 5 Upload supporting documentation
- 6 Confirm all info is correct and submit your application

For more info visit

[www.eani.org.uk/fsm](http://www.eani.org.uk/fsm)



**eaconnect**



**ea** Education  
Authority

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

[LocalityPlanning@belfasttrust.hscni.net](mailto:LocalityPlanning@belfasttrust.hscni.net)

**Forthspring**  
Inter Community Group

£2  
ENTRY

# FAMILY FUN DAY

- > BALLOON MODELLING
- > FACE PAINTING
- > BOUNCEY CASTLES
- > GO KARTS
- > MANICURES + NAILS
- > PETTING ZOO

**SATURDAY**  
**JUNE 21**  
**@12PM TO 3PM**



## WOMEN'S HEALTH DAY



**12PM - 3PM**  
**01.08.25**

*Join Us!*

Manicures  
Therapies

Healthy lunch  
Yoga

Health Checks  
Arts and Crafts



Forthspring Intercommunity Group, 373 Springfield Road

Made with PosterMyWall.com

All welcome - £5 donation

Autism NI is delighted to launch our new 'Understanding Autism' on demand webinar for parents and carers.

This pre-recorded video webinar explores the key differences relating to autism and a range of strategies to effectively support your autistic child.

To access this webinar, follow the link below and sign up using the booking form and online checkout. An individual link to access the webinar will then be sent to your email, to enable access.

**Please note:** This on demand webinar is for parent/carer use only.



New '**Understanding Autism**' On-Demand webinar for  
parents and carers

[New parent/carer 'Understanding Autism' webinar](#)



Support Group Schedule June 2025

[Support Group Meetings](#)

## Sense Hub Belfast

A place where no one is left out of life

Sense has been supporting people with complex disabilities in Northern Ireland for almost 40 years in our own centres, residential homes and out in the community.

In 2025, we're launching Sense Hub Belfast, a brand new centre where disabled people of all ages and their families can access a range of support and activities. The centre expands on the existing services available in Northern Ireland, here you'll be able to access:

- Play sessions for children aged 0-8.
- Nursery sessions for under 4's.
- After school clubs for children between 5 and 12.
- An adults day centre with lots of activities on offer.
- Arts, sports, and wellbeing activities in partnership with local providers.
- Transitions group for young people aged 14-25.
- Outdoor play space with accessible equipment.
- A tech suite with accessible technology.



## Specialist support for children and young people

Our teams provide free play sessions for children aged 0-8 years old with complex disabilities, and their families, to help them connect, communicate and develop. Sessions can include things like sensory stories and sensory exploration. We also have a specialist nursery supporting children under 4 with their development and offer after school sessions for under 12's, giving them the opportunity to try new things and make friends.

Our transitions group provides specialised support for young people aged 14-25 as they navigate between children's and adult services. The group provides access to social opportunities, experiences in the community and life lessons.

Our family support team work with families with children aged 12 and under with multi-sensory impairment. They can help with navigating healthcare and education systems, benefit advice and with sign posting to additional services. The team also host regular events and activities to ensure the whole family can engage with and enjoy the community.



## Day opportunities for adults

Our day centre provides adults with complex disabilities with lots of opportunities to try new activities, as well as build social and independent skills.

At the hub, those accessing the day centre can try things like baking and crafts or can practise independent living skills like making lunch and using computers. There are lots of opportunities to socialise with others and to visit places in the local community like shops, parks and farms.

We also have specialised programmes of support for older people including a fortnightly social club and Friday club focusing on reducing loneliness and building friendships.

"Since Ann Marie came to Sense she has blossomed, she is back to her best self."

Ann Marie's Family



## Arts, sports and wellbeing activities

We think everyone has the right to an active, creative life and our arts, sports and wellbeing programmes can help you do just that.

Want to have a go at visual arts? Looking to explore music making?

We partner with local organisations who provide everything from dance and music sessions to adapted sports workshops and relaxing wellbeing sessions both at the hub and out in the community. Sessions can be for individuals on a 1:1 basis or can be tailored to small groups that want to access sessions together.

"I can't wait to learn to bake cakes in the kitchen and develop my computer skills in the tech suite, that would be cool."

Jamie (below)



## We're Sense

Sense is here for everyone who has complex disabilities and everyone who is deafblind.

Whatever your age, wherever you live, we can help you communicate, connect and take part in life. If you're a parent or sibling of a child with complex disabilities or who is deafblind, we're here for you too.

Our support is tailored to you and your family. Because no one should be left out of life.

## Connect with us

Call us: 028 90833430

Text us: 07815442690

Email us: [enquiriesni@sense.org.uk](mailto:enquiriesni@sense.org.uk)

Visit us: [www.sense.org.uk/northern-ireland](http://www.sense.org.uk/northern-ireland)

Write to us: The Manor House, 51 Mallusk Road, Newtownabbey, County Antrim, Northern Ireland, BT36 4RU

## Need a different format?

Get in touch with us if you, or someone you know, needs this information in a different format.



No one left out of life

Registered charity number 289868

## Supported living and residential support

No matter what your needs, or how you communicate, our expert staff will be able to support you to live the life you want.

We have two supported living options in Northern Ireland; Dorchester Park in Belfast and Holly House in Lisburn. Both services support adults over 18 with complex disabilities to live independently whilst remaining active in their local communities, as well as with volunteering and employment opportunities.

Edevale is our residential service supporting 10 residents with complex disabilities. Staff support those living at Edevale with all aspects of daily living including personal care, cooking and participating in a range of life enhancing activities.



## Short breaks

Our short breaks service provides families with much needed respite. Our 3-bedroom property gives families and carers the opportunity to take a break, focus on themselves and other family members. It also offers individuals the opportunity to have regular weekend breaks or a longer holiday where they'll be supported by our expert staff.

This service can also be used to support people transitioning into long-term accommodation-based services if needed.

## Accessing children and young people's services

Children can be referred to one of our services by:

- Health and social care professionals including social workers.
- A family member.
- A carer.
- School/education provider.

We'll meet with you as a family to assess your needs and if we feel that we can offer the support that you need, we'll offer your child a place. These services can be funded in a few ways including:

- Your local social care trust.
- Self-funding.
- Direct payments.
- Universal credit.



## We're Sense

We believe that every disabled person should have the opportunity to connect with others and be included in the world. We use our knowledge and expertise to deliver personalised, creative and flexible support.

We're here for you and your family at every stage of life.

## Get in touch

For more information about our children's services, or about other Sense services across Northern Ireland, get in touch with our friendly team by:

Email: [enquiriesni@sense.org.uk](mailto:enquiriesni@sense.org.uk)

Phone: 028 9083 3430

Visit: [sense.org.uk/northern-ireland](https://sense.org.uk/northern-ireland)

If you or someone you know needs this information in a different format, please contact us.



Registered charity number 289868



## Sense Northern Ireland

### Services for children and young people

Specialist support for disabled children and young people with complex needs across Northern Ireland.

UPCOMING  
*Evening Glow Session*



*Breast, Cervical & Bowel  
Screening Awareness Programme*

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025  
Conway Mill

Public Health Dietitians Team



Food &  
Health  
Essentials

FREE

Training

For anyone who works with others to  
make healthier food and health choices

Upcoming  
training

Learn about the key food and health  
messages

📅 Wednesday  
23 July 2025

Gain skills and confidence to promote  
these key messages in YOUR setting

📍 Shankill Shared  
Womens Centre,  
Mayo Link, Belfast

Get access to a wide range of resources,  
sign posting and ongoing support

🕒 9.30am – 4.30pm



This is now the first step to completing training in our other  
programmes: Cook It!, I Can Cook It!, Food Values, Making  
the Most of your Slow Cooker and Nutrition Awareness.

Click [here](#) to register for this training

! Click here for  
information on all  
our programmes



PHdietitians@belfasttrust.hscni.net | 028 96 152 450

HSC  
Belfast Health and  
Social Care Trust  
caring supporting improving together

Public Health  
Dietitian's Group  
Northern Ireland

HSC Public Health  
Agency  
Project supported by the PHA



## Understanding Childhood Acquired Brain Injury [Virtual Workshop August 2025]

We have a new training date for our Understanding Childhood Acquired Brain Injury Workshop taking place on **20<sup>th</sup> August 2025**. This is a great opportunity for professionals to explore the experiences of Children/YP and their families face following Childhood Acquired Brain Injury and the challenges and issues they face. The training is free of charge to attend and CPD accredited.

For more information and to book a place please see the details below:

[Understanding Childhood Acquired Brain Injury \[Virtual Workshop August 2025\] - Child Brain Injury Trust](#)

**STAR**   
SKILLS TRAINING  
AND REINTEGRATION  
NORTHERN IRELAND

**FULL DAY WORKSHOPS ACROSS BELFAST**

**FREE EMPLOYABILITY WORKSHOP FOR REFUGEES**

Open to refugees with the right to work living Northern Ireland



**REGISTER HERE**

East Belfast 29.05.2025  
North Belfast 18.06.2025  
West Belfast 25.06.2025 (tbc)  
South Belfast 03.07.2025 (tbc)  
City Centre 24.07.2025

Learn about job searching, CVs, interviews, and workplace culture

Free Information Booklet to support you after the session

Free lunch and refreshments provided

Certificate of attendance

 Belfast City Council 

# ashton

## Lower North Belfast Family Support Hub



This is just a reminder about reserving a stall at Ashton's Family Information and Funday on:

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> July from 11.30-2pm in St. Patrick's Primary School, Churchill Street.**

This event has been a great success in previous years so we would like to encourage as many of you as possible to be there to share information about the amazing services available for families in North Belfast.

If you haven't already contacted me and would like to reserve a table for your organisation please drop me an email.

[edith.mcmanus@ashtoncentre.com](mailto:edith.mcmanus@ashtoncentre.com)

[www.ashtoncentre.com](http://www.ashtoncentre.com)

we are hosting our consultation with our asylum seeker, refugee and migrant communities on 17<sup>th</sup> June at 12-2pm in the Lansdowne hotel. We want to hear from up to 100 members of the community through a round table discussion/consultation. If you would like to host an information table at this event please let me know and we will facilitate it. Can I ask you to book a place on the Eventbrite link below as lunch will be served on the day, so registration is essential. Muslim and vegetarian diets will be catered for with lunch choices.

[North Belfast Migrant Support Forum Consultation Tickets, Tue, Jun 17, 2025 at 12:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

**The power of play – supporting children’s mental health**  
Wed 25 June, 12-1pm



### IMH Lunchtime Learning

The power of play - supporting children's mental health

**Wednesday 25th June**  
**12noon- 1pm online**



NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BUREAU



Project supported by the PHA



**Symposium: 18<sup>th</sup> June, 12.00 - 13.00**

Register here: <https://form.jotform.com/251274706388363>

# Unlocking The Power of Play!

Join us for an inspiring online symposium exploring how Learning Through Play is transforming children's lives in Tower Hamlets.



Save the Children



easypeasy



Ambition Aspire Achieve

institute of imagination

Supported by

The LEGO Foundation

[Archies Adventures in Emotions](#)

[Symposium registration](#)

**Bryson**  
PATHWAYS

# ARTS & PLAY

REUSE.RECREATE.REPURPOSE

TEACHING THE  
NEXT GENERATION

Master the art of using scrap and lead the way in **Environmental Social Governance (ESG)** through creative, eco-conscious play

## MEMBERSHIPS

- ✓ Pay an Annual Subscription
- ✓ Visit Regularly to Fill your Trolley with Scrap Treasures

**JOIN OUR CREATIVE COMMUNITY**

## STORE OPENING HOURS

Monday - Friday  
9.30am - 5.00pm

Late night opening on Thursdays to 7pm

- 📍 North City Business Park  
2 Duncairn Gardens, Belfast, BT15 2GG
- ☎ 028 9035 7545
- ✉ [playresource@brysonpathways.org](mailto:playresource@brysonpathways.org)

LOOSE  
PARTS  
PLAY



**PARENTS & CARER'S  
WALK & TALK**

Meet @ Seven Coffee Glen Road



Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June 10am

*Coffee  
Meet*



For more information contact  
[megan.mcglinchey@kidstogetherbelfast.org](mailto:megan.mcglinchey@kidstogetherbelfast.org)

Coming into the summer months we are going to try and get some of our parents together from Kids Together out for a 'Walk & Talk' once a month. The plan is to meet at Seven Coffee to grab a tea/coffee and potentially just go for a walk around Falls Park if the weather is on our side. Aiming to help support those parents who need peer support and may need to bring their children with them.

As our summer scheme is starting, we are possibly needed on different days. However, each month I will plan out in advance when we will be meeting and try give as much notice to you all as possible.



## Survey of support services in Belfast

The Welcome Information Programme is a 12-month-long capacity building project.

This survey is for organisations providing advice and support services in the Belfast City Council area, and has been designed to:

- identify existing community development needs in Belfast;
- assess what further support is necessary for your organisation to advise and support asylum seekers and refugees;
- to register your interest in your organisation taking part in a free training programme to skill you up on these issues.



[www.surveymonkey.com/c/WIP2025](http://www.surveymonkey.com/c/WIP2025)

For more information on the Welcome Information Programme, please contact: [migrationjustice@lawcentreni.org](mailto:migrationjustice@lawcentreni.org)



Supported by  
**Belfast**  
City Council



We are delighted to formally launch our **Welcome Information Programme** funded by Belfast City Council. This is a 12-month capacity-building programme for support and advice organisations in Belfast.

Today we start **Phase 1 - Survey of support services in Belfast**, including refugee support, migrant-led and wider organisations. The survey should take about 10 minutes to complete and asks about your experience and barriers to supporting migrant communities, with a particular focus on asylum. Your input will give Belfast City Council a better understanding of the available support in the City.

This survey is for organisations providing advice and support services in the Belfast City Council area, and has been designed to:

- identify existing community development needs in Belfast;
- assess what further support is necessary for your organisation to advise and support people seeking asylum in Belfast
- to register your interest in your organisation taking part in a free training programme to skill you up on these issues.

[www.surveymonkey.com/c/WIP2025](http://www.surveymonkey.com/c/WIP2025)

## Peacebuilding Transforms Communities

### CEP networking event

24 June 2025

9.30am-3.30pm

NICVA, Duncairn Gardens, Belfast



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

The Community Empowerment Programme is being delivered as part of the Belfast PEACEPLUS Local Community Action Plan. This project is supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

The Community Empowerment Programme (CEP) is being delivered by NICVA and a network of community partners across Belfast.

Over the next three years this comprehensive initiative is designed to build community capacity across Belfast city, impacting 1,000 individuals and community organisations who live and operate across the Belfast City Council area.

This event is the first in a series of networking events throughout the CEP.

***Be part of this transformative journey and help shape a stronger, more connected Belfast.***

### Purpose of event

- Explore the role of peace building in the VCSE Sector and the contribution it has made to transforming and empowering grassroots communities.
- Connect with other people who want to have an impact on their local communities in Belfast.
- Hear more about the CEP and how you can get involved.
- Shape the CEP and plan for how it can have the maximum impact.

### Who should attend?

This event is for community organisations and their staff and trustees, as well as individuals who reside or work in the Belfast City Council area and are interested in becoming involved in the Community Empowerment Programme (CEP).

### Content of the event

- Keynote Speakers - Belfast City Councillor (TBC), Celine McStravick NICVA CEO, Duncan Morrow, Professor in Politics and Director of Community Engagement at Ulster University, and Charmain Jones, Women Spaces Coordinator at Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network.
- Panel Discussion
- Facilitated Roundtable Discussions: What would you like to see the CEP Programme deliver over the next three years?
- Lunch and Networking
- Facilitated workshops

### How Can I Register?

You can register for the event by completing the Event Registration Request Form below. If you have any particular access requirements, please detail these on registration.

[CEP Networking Event 1: Peace Building Transforms Communities | NICVA](#)



[CEP Networking Event 1: Peace Building Transforms Communities | NICVA](#)



**Community Mentoring & Grants Programme**  
**2025-26**

Community Development & Health Network | **Elevate** | HSC Public Health Agency  
Project supported by the PHA

**NOW OPEN!**  
Applications close at 4pm on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025

[elevateni.org](http://elevateni.org)

Community Development & Health Network

The poster features a group photo of diverse individuals, some sitting and some standing, in front of a backdrop with the Elevate logo. The text is arranged in a clear, hierarchical manner, with the program name at the top, followed by logos and the 'NOW OPEN!' announcement. The application deadline is clearly stated, and the website URL is provided for more information.

[Elevate Community Mentoring & Grants Programme 2025-2026 IS NOW OPEN | Community Development and Health Network](http://elevateni.org)



**WHEELWORKS**

**SUMMER FUN**

**CREATIVE ACTIVITIES**

**Bring a world of fun to your community groups this Summer with our selection of popular activities – from music and gaming, to painting and filming!**

The poster has a vibrant blue background with green abstract shapes. The text is presented in bold, white and yellow fonts on colored rectangular backgrounds. The overall design is energetic and inviting, aimed at attracting community groups to participate in the summer activities.

[WheelWorks Summer Fun: Cool Creative Activities](#)

## Training and Employment Opportunities



JOB | PART TIME

# Early Years Development Worker

## Blackie River Community Group

Tuesday / 17 June 2025 4:00pm

**Job Role:** Carer Professions

**Salary:** 14,560.00

**Hours per week:** 20.00

[Early Years Development Worker | CommunityNI](#)

# Newsletters

**The King's Trust Newsletter**

Northern Ireland, June 2025



[Upcoming courses from The King's Trust](#)

[ASCERT News & Training Courses in June](#)