


Newsletter

January 2025

Welcome to our January newsletter. Happy New Year! ❄️ We hope you all had a lovely Christmas. Regular updates can also be found on our Facebook page so please do give us a [Like](#). 

Walsall SENDIASS – What to expect

Free	Impartial	Confidential	Arms-length	Fully Trained
There are no fees to pay no matter how much, or how often, you receive support.	We do not favour one party (e.g. family, educational setting, or local authority) over another We treat all parties respectfully We do not have a vested interest in the outcome of any discussions.	We keep your details on a secure and independent database and will not share your details or discuss your case with anyone else without your permission.	SENDIAS is separate from educational settings, the local authority, and health services. SENDIAS is a statutory service (required by law under the Children's and Families Act 2014). It is run by Family Action in Walsall.	Our staff and volunteers have extensive training in SEND law, safeguarding, data protection, and are all DBS checked.

SENDIAS do	SENDIAS do not
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Empower you to feel confident to express your views and wishes. ▪ Help you to understand and exercise your rights. ▪ Advise you of your options so you can make an informed decision. ▪ Provide templates and examples for letters, emails, and paperwork. ▪ Provide resources in various formats to support your query (e.g., webinars and factsheets). ▪ Help you to prepare for meetings or tribunals. ▪ Accompany you to meetings and tribunals if you are unable to advocate for yourself. ▪ Review documents and forms such as EHC.Needs Assessment requests, draft and final EHC Plans and appeal paperwork 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Make decisions for you, you know your child's and your own wishes and needs best. ▪ Attend all meetings. * ▪ Arrange meetings or take minutes. * ▪ Write letters or emails for you. * ▪ Complete paperwork on your behalf. * ▪ Print or photocopy documents for you. * ▪ SENDIAS does not hold power over the local authority or school policies, procedures and practice. ▪ Review benefit forms such as DLA or PIP. <p>*Unless you have additional support needs that mean you cannot undertake these actions independently.</p>

SEN and Disability
Information, Advice
and Support

Walsall
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You can access FREE and impartial advice from us on any aspect of SEN/disability in relation to education, health and social care for children and young people 0-25 years – just contact us with your questions.

SEN and Disability
Information, Advice
and Support

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[Parent / Carer Workshops](#)

At Walsall SENDIAS we will be running parent carer workshops every month where you can learn more about how children and young people with special educational needs/disabilities (SEND) can be supported. Please join us and improve your knowledge of the law around SEND so you feel more confident in discussions and understanding decisions.

Our upcoming session:

Appeals
Thursday 13th February
10-11:30am

Manor Farm Community Centre, Rushall, WS41EU (Room 3)

Book a place via Eventbrite if you wish to attend: [Appeals Workshop Tickets, Thu, Feb 13, 2025 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

[Our Website has recently been revamped](#) 

Please take a look at the link [here](#)

[February Half Term](#)

Walsall Art Gallery – Make ‘Rope Coasters’
Wednesday 19th Feb (11am-3pm, drop in) – Free (ages 4+)

Walsall Art Gallery - Saturday 1st March – SEND session –
Sensory Session – Free
11am – 12pm: A lively session for children with Additional
Needs

1-2pm: A quieter session for children with PMLD and/or
Complex Support Needs
Requires a booking: [The Peacock’s Feather: Sensory sessions with
Fantastic Journeys | The New Art Gallery Walsall](#)

[The Light Cinema](#)

The light cinema offers ‘relaxed screening’ viewings which are designed for people with sensory sensitivity
They also offer short films such as ‘The Highway Rat’ which are listed as ‘Toddler sessions’ – these are usually 30 minutes long and £3.50 for 1 toddler + 1 adult.

[Walsall Local Offer](#)

The Local Offer website has recently been updated. The Local Offer provides information about help available for children and young people (aged 0-25) with special educational needs and disabilities in Walsall.

Take a look at the Local Offer [here](#)

[Walsall SENDIAS Feedback](#)

If you have used our service, we would love to receive any feedback from you, please complete this very short survey [here](#) – Thank you!



[SEND FAIR](#) 📢

Our SEND Fair will be taking place on:

Tuesday 28th January 10-12pm at Manor Farm community centre, WS41EU

Please come along to see us! There will be a range of professionals there for you to speak to and ask any questions

Book [Here](#)

[Walsall Short Breaks](#) 🎮

Walsall Targeted Short Breaks Holiday Activities – February Half Term 2025.

Parent and carers are reminded that the deadline for submitting an Expression of Interest for the targeted short break activities that will be running during February Half term is Friday 17 January at 12 noon

If you are not sure about whether your child or young person is eligible to access short breaks then please e mail Liz Phillips, Short Breaks Activity Co-Ordinator at ShortBreaks@walsall.gov.uk

[Walsall SENDIASS Drop in sessions](#)

Our drop in sessions take place once a Month at Manor Farm or the Family Hubs. Our drop in sessions are attached to this Newsletter (at the bottom)

We are holding our First Virtual Drop in session on Tuesday 28th January between 6-7pm. If you'd like to attend this session please email in and we can give you the link closer to the day 😊



[Phone Line](#) ☆

When contacting our service you can phone us on: 01922 612 008. If we don't answer your call, please leave a message with your name, contact number and post code and a member of the Team will get in touch with you.

You can also email us on:

Walsallsendiass@family-action.org.uk

Please always check your spam folders for responses (as sometimes they go there)

[Important Information:](#)

The SENDIASS Team are at an event on Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st January so we will aim to respond to everyone by the Wednesday/Thursday of that week. Thank you for your understanding 😊

[Sassy Sensory](#)

Inclusive Swim and sports sessions - The Relaxed Sensory Family Swim and Sports Sessions are tailored for children with special educational needs and disabilities, offering an inclusive and enjoyable experience for the whole family.

Click the link below to sign up –

sassysensorysurprises.co.uk

Drop in Sessions 2024/2025

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday 24 th September 2024	10.00am – 11.00 am	Manor Farm Community Association, King George Crescent, WS4 1EU
Thursday 24 th October 2024	10.00am-11.00 am	West Locality Hub, Ilmington House, Crescent Road, Wednesbury, WS10 8AE
Monday 25 th November 2024	1pm- 2pm	North Locality Hub, 275 Blakenall Heath, Blakenall, Walsall WS3 1HJ
Tuesday 10 th December 2024	10am – 11.00am	Manor Farm Community Association, Room 3 King George Crescent, Rushall, WS4 1EU
Tuesday 28 th Jan 2025	6pm -7pm	Virtual Drop- in Microsoft Teams
Monday 24 th February 2025	1pm -2pm	South & Central Locality Hub, Birchills Street, Walsall, WS2 8NG
Thursday 27 th March 2025	1pm – 2.00pm	West Locality Hub, Ilmington House, Crescent Road, Wednesbury, WS10 8AE
Thursday 10 th April 2025	10.00am – 11.00pm	North Locality Hub, 275 Blakenall Heath, Blakenall, Walsall WS3 1HJ
Tuesday 20 th May 2025	1pm – 2.00pm	East Locality, 13 Silver Court, Brownhills WS8 6HA
Thursday 19 th June 2025	1.00pm – 2.00pm	South & Central Locality Hub, Birchills Street, Walsall, WS2 8NG
Monday 14 th July 2025	1.00pm – 2.00pm	Manor Farm Community Association, King George Crescent, WS4 1EU

Walsall SENDIASS Workshops 2024/2025

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Session</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Eventbrite Link</u>
Thursday 13 th February	10am-11:30am	Appeals	Manor Farm Community Centre, Rushall, Walsall, WS41EU (Room 3)	Please Book Here
Tuesday 11 th March	10am-11:30am	Parental Lead EHCP request	Manor Farm Community Centre, Rushall, Walsall, WS41EU (Room 3)	Please Book Here
Tuesday 8 th April	11am -12:30pm	SEN Support and School Meetings	Manor Farm Community Centre, Rushall, Walsall, WS41EU (Room 3)	Please Book Here
Thursday 15 th May	12:30pm-2pm	Parental Lead EHCP request	Manor Farm Community Centre, Rushall, Walsall, WS41EU (Room 3)	Please Book Here
Thursday 12 th June	10:30-12pm	Annual Reviews and Phase Transfer Reviews	Manor Farm Community Centre, Rushall, Walsall, WS41EU (Room 3)	Please Book Here
Tuesday 15 th July	10am –11:30am	Parental Lead EHCP request	Manor Farm Community Centre, Rushall, Walsall, WS41EU (Room 3)	Please Book Here

SEND Fair Poster



Walsall SENDIAS

SEND Fair

Tuesday 28th January 2025

10am-12pm

At Manor Farm Community Centre, King George Crescent, Walsall, WS4 1EU.

Please come along and join us at our free SEND Information Fair.

There will be a wide range of stalls from various organisations providing useful information. The SENDIAS team will also be available to offer free and impartial information and advice.

Please book your free ticket here

Please email us at walsallsendiass@family-action.org.uk

if you have any questions and we look forward to seeing you!

Please book your free ticket here - [Walsall SENDIASS SEND Fair Tickets, Tue, Jan 28, 2025 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)