EASTER 2025

#### I AM ME SCOTLAND

### NEWSLETTER



#### Welcome to I Am Me Scotland's Easter Newsletter!

This newsletter highlights a lot of wonderful community work. If you, or someone you know would like to be added to the mailing list for this Newsletter, please get in touch with us at

iammescotland@outlook.com

Do you want to find out more about I Am Me Scotland??
Click the picture to take a look at "What We Do!"









www.iammescotland.org.uk

Out and About Fundraising Learning Platform Other News...

#### **Keep Safe Scotland Update**



#### **Police Scotland Statement on Keep Safe**

Police Scotland has been looking at how we appropriately and proportionately police our communities, and as part of this work, we carried out a review of the Keep Safe initiative.

At the conclusion of the review, it was determined that the initiative, society and policing have significantly evolved since it was first established in 2016, and it was agreed that it is no longer feasible to continue with Keep Safe.

We would like to thank our partners I Am Me Scotland for their invaluable support with Keep Safe over the years and we remain committed to exploring future opportunities for collaboration, which make best use of officer resources, and meet the needs of the communities we serve.

We also extend our sincere thanks to all the premises which have signed up to be Keep Safe spaces.

Over the coming weeks Keep Safe premises will be visited by the SPOC (single point of contact) in their area, who will remove relevant signage and answer any further questions.

#### A message from I Am Me Scotland:

"With the safety and wellbeing of the most vulnerable people in our society as a priority for our work at I Am Me Scotland since the charity inception, we are saddened to see the award-winning Keep Safe initiative conclude. For the disabled community especially, in these already testing times, it will be a significant loss. We will work with our colleagues across the sector to explore how we can continue to bring reassurance, inclusion and a sense of safety and belonging to those who need it most, and, while we acknowledge that Police Scotland are no longer able to continue the Keep Safe initiative, we look forward to jointly exploring any possible future options to promote the safety of our communities in Scotland."

#### I Am Me Board of Trustees

For any enquiries regarding Keep Safe, please contact Police Scotland at policingtogetherkeepsafe@scotland.police.uk



#### **Disability Friendly**

The I Am Me Team have been working with a range of disability partners from across Scotland, to develop a brand new Disability Friendly training initiative.

Businesses and community organisations can sign up to become Disability Friendly, receiving free training and lots more...

Free Staff Training









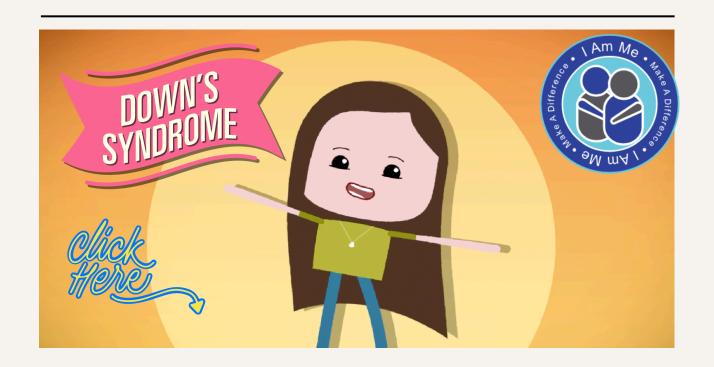


Join us, to create a Disability
Friendly network across Scotland
<a href="mailto:iammescotland@outlook.com">iammescotland@outlook.com</a>
or CLICK HERE



Supported by COPFS

#### **Down's Syndrome Awareness Day**



It was Down's Syndrome Awareness Day on 21<sup>st</sup> March. Chloe, Grace, Daniel, Amber, Charlotte, Rian and Daniel all continue to raise awareness of Down's Syndrome and the gift of an extra chromosome, with over 20,000 views.

Watch here

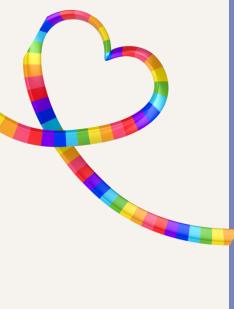


# World Autism Awareness Day



It was the World Autism Awareness Day on 2 April, and to mark this, Kieran made a video about our new Autism resource that is coming soon. Keep an eye out for when it goes live!







## DFN Project | SEARCH TO RENFREWSHIRE



Renfrewshire's DFN Project SEARCH is celebrating 10 incredible years of transforming lives! This employment programme, a partnership between Renfrewshire Council and Glasgow Clyde College, has supported over 100 young people with learning disabilities and autism since its launch in 2015.



Boasting outstanding results, 62.5% of graduates enter positive destinations—far exceeding the 5% national average. With interns gaining over 55,000 hours of work experience and achieving more than 700 qualifications, the programme has paved

the way for 55 graduates to secure paid employment and others to pursue education.

Each year, up to 12 young people, aged 17–29, can apply to benefit from classroom learning and work placements within Renfrewshire Council and within local businesses.

There are 17 DFN Project SEARCH across Scotland.

If you would like to check if there is one is available in your area either contact your local Council or check on the DFN Project SEARCH website – www.dfnfoundation.org

It was via a DFN Project Search internship that Kieran joined I Am Me in August 2015. To celebrate 10 years of their Partnership in Renfrewshire, they held an event to showcase their achievements.



Kieran was in their first intake and was able to give insight to parents and carers on his experience, such as training on social skills.

#### CONGRATULATIONS, EVERYONE





# Education Platform

Our Education Platform is being utilised in all 32 local authorities by police officers, teachers, health & social care practitioners, and parents and carers. There are lessons and training resources on various topics. If you would like FREE access to the platform, you can register here

https://iammescotlandeducation.org.uk/register/

**Exploitation Awareness** 

Disability Awareness

**My Police** 

Children's Rights

Nicotine, Tobacco & Vape Awareness

Alcohol & Substances

Anti-Social Behaviour

**Hate Crime** 

1884 Teachers 487 Police

**Officers** 

No. of people

using the

platform

2,807

people

51 HSCP 385 Other



#### **Police Scotland**

PC Guy Jenner from Police Scotland has been working with the I Am Me team to develop additional Nicotine, Tobacco and Vape awareness resources. These resources are developed from P7 up, and there are now 2 lessons that are available to download to support facilitators who do not have access to the internet while delivering.











#### **Scottish Borders Nicotine Prevention Toolkit**

The new Scottish Borders Nicotine Prevention toolkit has been developed and supported by several key stakeholders, including NHS Borders, Scottish Borders



Council, Trading Standards, and the Youth Sector. The I Am Me team have been working in partnership with the Scottish Borders Council and NHS to develop a lesson designed for S3-S6. This lesson is interactive and includes various activities, videos, and research tasks that can be used to raise awareness of the dangers of nicotine products. The toolkit is being launch on the 28<sup>th</sup> May, so watch this space!

# Spotlight on...



### Celebrating good work within our communities!

In this issue we have chosen to shine the spotlight on Shopmobility Renfrewshire, who are located in Paisley Centre Car Park.



Their mission is to empower individuals aged 16+ with mobility disabilities, both residents and visitors of Renfrewshire, by providing access to specialised equipment, repairs, opportunities, and advocacy. They strive to ensure everyone can actively participate in social, economic, and cultural life. With a membership of over 650 people, they are proud to be making a real difference in our community. They offer 4 pillars of strength:

- 1. Equipment Hires of Mobility Scooters, Powered & Manual Wheelchairs (Long and Short term). No cost applied during the day. Overnight it will cost £1 per night for a manual wheelchair and £5 for powered equipment.
- 2. Mobility Equipment Repairs and Maintenance Low cost
- 3. Social Inclusion Events Free
- 4. Free Advocacy applying an equalities and human rights approach – Ensuring the policies and practices of organisations in Renfrewshire consider the needs of people with mobility disabilities.





#### **New Arrival**

We're delighted to announce a new member of the I Am Me family - Aimee's baby Ivy Skye! Mum and baby are doing well, so many congratulations to Aimee and her fiancé, Robbie!

What a beautiful family!











# Coming Soon IN RENFREWSHIRE New Campaign Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

NSPCC Scotland and I Am Me Scotland are working in collaboration to develop a new and innovative campaign on child sexual exploitation.

This campaign will work with partners, including Renfrewshire Council, Police Scotland and other key stakeholders to explore this complex area and identify local solutions. The campaign will aim to build awareness on child sexual exploitation, how to spot the signs and what to do if you are worried about a child or a young person. We will seek to engage with young people themselves, but also with parents and carers, as well as practitioners and the wider community.

We are looking forward to sharing the development of the campaign with you, so watch this space!











iammescotland@outlook.com

HOME ABOUT US #MAKEADIFFERENCE FUNDING / AWARDS

р

#### I Am Me Scotland







Our Mission is to work with communities to create initiatives and resources that #MakeaDifference to people in Scotland.





We have been super busy working on a brand new website, where you can find out all about us... have a look at iammescotland.co.uk

We have also developed a brand new Charity video, highlighting the strength of our education resources and reinforcing our commitment to working with communities so that disabled and vulnerable people in Scotland can feel safe!









**Mhairi** and her friends are taking on the challenge of the **Dundee Kilt Walk** on the 17<sup>th</sup> August this year.

They will walk "The Mighty Stride" from St. Andrews to Dundee which is definitely a **MIGHTY** 20 miles, or 32.24km!

#### Support Deaf Children in our Communities



We are raising funds to create a heartfelt animation that shines a light on the experiences of deaf children in our communities. This project aims to foster understanding, break down barriers, and celebrate their unique contributions to our society.

Your donation will directly support the development of this animation, helping us spread awareness and create a positive impact. Together, we can build a more inclusive

Every contribution matters. Thank you for joining us on this journey to make a difference

Keep going with your training, and we can't wait to hear how you get on.



#### If you'd like to sponsor them on his amazing challenge, please give all you can!





## JUST GIVING



#### GET INVOLVED IN FUNDRAISING FOR I AM ME SCOTLAND!

First of all we would like to thank-you for picking I Am Me Scotland as the charity you would like to fundraise for.

#### **HOW TO?**

Just simply visit

and click the blue 'Fundraise' button in the top right-hand corner, fill in your details and follow the page instructions.

#### DISPLAY YOUR PAGE

Once you have a QR code/link this can be posted to your social media pages.

you can also print out a poster with the details by right clicking and save the image, then just simply print it out. Your friends and colleague will just need to hover their smartphone cameras over the QR code, and it will direct them to your Just Giving page where they can quickly and easily make a donation

#### CREATE YOUR LINK/QR CODE!

Once you have the web address to your own page, all you need to do is copy your address into the URL followed by "/qrcode". Your unique QR code will then be displayed on your screen. You can also access your QR code in the 'edit profile' section of your

Just Giving account.

**JustGiving**<sup>®</sup>

#### CONTACT

If you would like any fundraising ideas or have any questions, please contact the team at: iammescotland@outlook.com









A huge, massive THANKS to our Board of Trustees for all your support over the past year. Also, a big THANK YOU to our funders (Foundation Scotland, Awards for All, Reo Stakis, Renfrewshire Council & Arnold Clark) for all your support in 2024-2025. Biggest thanks to the Team and Volunteers for all your incredible work.... always!







Happy Birthday to:

Ivy Skye, Ciaran, Samantha, Andrew and Sam. We hope you had a wonderful day!

# Would you like to see your advert here?

We Are Light King for a new sponsor

#### What we do

- Develop information videos
- Design film content
- Develop education packages
- Collaborate with communities
- Host events

#### What we need

A sponsor for our education platform

#### What we offer

- Free Advertising
- Use of all resources
- The opportunity to be part of something amazing





