



WELCOME TO

# LANCASHIRE TAAG

YOUR **GUIDE** TO GETTING **STARTED**



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

*Empowering Families  
and Building Friendships  
Through Inclusive  
Activities*

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# Welcome to Lancashire TAAG!

We're thrilled to welcome you and your family to the Lancashire TAAG community! As a member of our group, you're joining a network of families dedicated to providing meaningful opportunities, support, and fun activities for children and young people with additional needs. This induction letter will guide you through all the essential information to help you get started.



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## Getting Started

### MEMBERSHIP FORMS:

To complete your registration, please fill out our membership forms. These forms help us to better understand each member's needs and ensure that everyone has a safe and enjoyable experience. Forms are available in person at our sessions.

## Weekly Activities and Events

### REGULAR SESSIONS:

Wednesday Evenings at Springfield Leisure Centre (Age 8 upwards)

### TIME:

- Session 1 6:45 PM – 7:45 PM
- Session 2 7:45 PM – 8:45 PM

Join us for a range of sports and activities in a supportive environment. Let us know if you would like to come and visit us for the first time.

## TAAG Tigers at Rascals (Ages 5-11)

- **When:** Once a month
- **Location:** Rascals Play Centre, Walton-le-Dale
- **Cost:** £5 per child (pre-booking required via our Facebook page)

Our full activity schedule and updates are posted on the Lancashire TAAG Facebook page.



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## Special Programmes

### **REBOUND THERAPY & CLIMBING WALL**

We're excited to offer unique programmes such as rebound therapy and climbing wall sessions to our members.



### **SUPPORTING LANCASHIRE TAAG THROUGH GIFT AID**

If you're eligible, signing up for Gift Aid allows us to make the most of your donations. Simply complete the Gift Aid form (available online by request or in person), and we'll be able to claim an extra 25p for every £1 you donate, at no additional cost to you.

### **YOUR FEEDBACK AND SUGGESTIONS MATTER**

We're always looking to improve and tailor our activities to best support our members. If you have any ideas or feedback, please email us at [info@taaglancashire.co.uk](mailto:info@taaglancashire.co.uk). Your input is invaluable as we strive to create a welcoming, inclusive environment for everyone.

### **JOIN OUR CHARITY LOTTERY**

Lancashire TAAG runs a charity lottery as a fun way to support our ongoing programmes. By joining, you'll have the chance to win exciting prizes while directly helping us fund new activities and cover essential costs. As an extra incentive, members who sign their friends, work colleagues and family can earn rewards, with rewards ranging from £10 - £100 in gift cards. Please ask for further details on the current incentive programme

## STAY CONNECTED

Join our TAAG Support Facebook Page for updates, event announcements, and to connect with other members. We encourage everyone to participate and share their experiences! Once again, welcome to Lancashire TAAG. We're here to support you and your family every step of the way, and we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming sessions and events!



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## Training

Oliver House, a specialist autism school, are offering free training to parents, support workers and health professionals. The courses run from 10AM to 12 Noon. Please note that you must book on the course. Please contact Jenny Powell at Oliver House to reserve your space on 01257 220011. Venue: Valley Church, Fourfields, Bamber Bridge, PR5 6GS

### Upcoming training courses:

4 th November	Autism and ADHD
2 nd December	Sensory issues and Autism

#### 2025

13th January	Maximising Educational Opportunities
10th February	Organisations who support families
10th March	Behaviours that challenge
12th May	Autism and associated conditions
9 th June	The Future ~ Beyond School Age
7 th July	Transitions in Autism

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# Lancashire TAAG

## Positive Support and Behaviour Guidelines

At TAAG, we understand that children and young people may have different needs and that some behaviours may be challenging. We are committed to working together with parents, carers, and, where suitable, the young person themselves to ensure everyone feels safe and supported in participating.

### AGREEING ON BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

Our Code of Conduct helps everyone understand what behaviour is respectful and safe. Parents, carers, children, young people, staff, and volunteers will all be made aware of these guidelines. Sometimes, a young person may need a break from activities or others until they feel calm again.

We discuss any challenging behaviours and ways to manage them regularly with everyone involved – including staff, volunteers, children, young people, and parents/carers – so that everyone's rights and responsibilities are clear. New members will have the chance to read and agree to this Code of Conduct when they join.

### SUPPORTIVE WAYS TO MANAGE BEHAVIOUR

Our responses to behaviour will always be fair and considerate. When needed, we'll calmly guide a young person away from a situation that may be causing frustration. Everyone's well-being, health, and safety are our top priority. If a situation becomes difficult, parents may be asked to help support their child.

Our approach is based on working together. Only TAAG staff and volunteers will address situations involving behaviour – we ask that parents do not directly approach other children. We'll work through these situations as a team, keeping communication open with families.

## **WAYS STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS CAN SUPPORT POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR:**

- Take a break – This may mean a break from an activity or a pause with a volunteer.
- Positive encouragement – Praising positive behaviour.
- De-escalation – Talking calmly with the young person to reduce tension.
- Additional supervision – Increasing support from staff or volunteers as needed.
- Consequences if needed – Such as missing a turn in an activity.
- Specialist support – Working with other professionals if it helps support the young person's needs.

## **UNACCEPTABLE RESPONSES – WHAT WE WILL NOT DO:**

- No physical punishment or threats.
- No ignoring or isolating any young person.
- No denying access to essentials, like food, water, or bathroom breaks.
- No verbal intimidation, ridicule, or shaming.

If, despite everyone's efforts, a young person's behaviour remains challenging in ways that affect safety, we may need to discuss suspending or restricting their participation to ensure everyone feels safe.



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## Code of Conduct

Our sessions are a Parent-Led Group supported by our TAAG volunteers. While volunteers are here to help, each child or teen remains the responsibility of their parent or carer during the session. If needed, a volunteer may ask you to speak with or stay close to your child.

### **GUIDELINES FOR ALL PARENTS, CARERS, STAFF, AND VOLUNTEERS:**

- Be understanding and respectful – of other families and young people.
- Protect privacy and confidentiality – Respect the privacy of all members.
- No photos or videos of other children – Feel free to take photos or videos of your own child, but please avoid capturing others.

*TAAG occasionally takes photos for our website, social media, or materials. If you're comfortable with this, please indicate on your membership form.*

Thank you for your understanding and support. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out – we're here to help!

**LANCASHIRE TAAG**

[info@taaglancashire.co.uk](mailto:info@taaglancashire.co.uk)

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# Thank You for Joining Us!

"Thank you for being part of our community! Your involvement helps us build an inclusive and supportive environment for everyone. We look forward to making wonderful memories together!"

**Lancashire TAAG's main contact information:**

<https://taaglancashire.co.uk/>

[info@taaglancashire.co.uk](mailto:info@taaglancashire.co.uk)

