



Autism in Surrey

Working to improve the lives
of autistic people in Surrey

West Surrey Autism Friendly Communities Group

Notes from our August 2025 meetings

Girlguiding Connect

We met with the Inclusion Lead at
Girlguiding Surrey this week.

Girlguiding launched their Connect
initiative in 2024.

Connect is a virtual offer for girls who
are unable to attend face to face
meetings.

girlguiding Connect



[Click here](#) to go to our website where the slides
and these notes can also be downloaded.

Slides from our August 2025 meetings

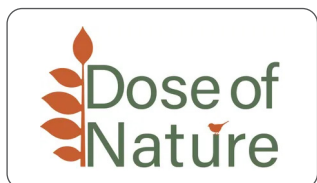
We have attached the slides from our August meetings in the post meeting email to everyone on the West Surrey Autism Friendly Communities mailing list. The slides have a lot of new information on inclusive opportunities across West Surrey, a summary of the work we have been doing in West Surrey and ideas for future development.



[Click here](#) to go to the Additional Needs Service
Showcase webpage.

Additional Needs Service Showcase - Monday 27th October 2025 at The Ash Centre, Ash Hill Road, Ash, GU12 5DP - 10am to 3pm.

Hosted by the Surrey Family Information Service in partnership with the Guildford Borough Community Wellbeing Team and Family Voice Surrey, these events offer a fantastic opportunity for families and professionals who support them to explore and connect with a variety of local services, organisations, and charities. **There is no need to book, just turn up!**



[Click here](#) to go to the Dose of Nature website

Dose of Nature

Dose of Nature works with people with mental health problems and the general population, encouraging everyone to connect with nature in order to improve their mental wellbeing. Our Dose of Nature Prescriptions and wellbeing workshops take place predominately in south-west London and in Guildford, Surrey,



[Click here to go to the Swingbridge boats website](#)

Swingbridge Boats

Swingbridge boats provide a wonderful experience for young people, community groups, the elderly and families, particularly those who have limited mobility or other additional needs.

These outings offer the opportunity to enhance well being by the soothing speed and tranquillity of travelling on water. The two boats are owned by Surrey Care Trust and they run cruises on the River Wey throughout the spring, summer and early autumn.

Our October 2025 meetings

Our next West Surrey Autism Friendly Communities meetings will be held on Teams on:

- Tuesday 7th October - 10am to 12noon
- Thursday 23rd October - 7pm to 8.30pm



Microsoft Teams

The Tuesday morning meeting will be an opportunity to hear about the latest work we have been doing in West Surrey in August and September. The Thursday evening meeting will be more of a focus group with our team, where we will discussing topics in more depth.

Topics for our October meetings

Youth groups



At our August meetings we focused on social and support groups for autistic adults.

Before our October meetings the Autism by Experience team will be finding out more about the wide range of youth groups and activities across West Surrey. **Please do signpost us to any groups** you think we should include.

We are keen to hear families experiences of using both specialist and mainstream youth groups and activities.

Sport and leisure



The Autism by Experience team are researching a wide range of inclusive sport and leisure opportunities and we will report our findings.

Click here to find out about health and activity trackers available to borrow from Surrey libraries.

Click here to find out about the BetterPoints app. You can earn rewards and win prizes for travelling around Surrey on foot, by bike or by public transport.

Actions from August



We plan to:

Send out a survey about autistic people's experiences of using cinemas.

Help the Camberley Support Group to find a place to meet.

Develop ideas for a quarterly Neurodivergent Night Out in West Surrey with a range of activities.

Set up a support network for people running unsupported social and support groups.

Set up an open meeting for people supporting people who are very isolated.

Email Autism by Experience: AFC@autismbyexperience.co.uk