Autism Friendly Surrey



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Autism by Experience CIC



We are a not-for-profit Community Interest Company called Autism by Experience CIC.

www.autismbyexperience.co.uk

We have 13 paid staff, most of whom are autistic and we are looking forward to helping to make communities more 'Autism Friendly'.

Our team

Wendy, Daniel and Mike will be the team members from Autism by Experience working across the Frimley area. Kira is our minute taker!









Contact us using AFC@autismbyexperience.co.uk



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Mapping activities across Surrey

During May and June we have continued to map Quiet Hours and inclusive activities for both adults and children across Surrey.



We are collating information about a wide range of venues and activities.

We are making contact with venues and activities and have started visiting them.

We can offer venues training on autism/neurodivergence and support to create visual stories.

Our facebook Group

We are uploading information from the mapping we are doing onto our facebook group which we've recently set up.



We have collated this information by area e.g. Frimley / North-West Surrey.

These are word documents for now, but we are exploring more accessible ways of sharing this information.

We are also on Instagram



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Facebook Groups for families

There are a range of facebook groups across Surrey for families with autistic /neurodivergent children.

You can find these by typing the group name into facebook and searching:

- Neuro Diverse Support Group
- We Shine Local Network
- Surrey Autism Spectrum
- Surrey SEN Group





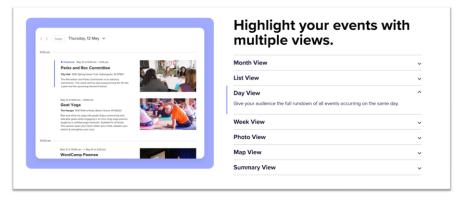
The National Autistic
Society Surrey Branch
offer support groups for
families, a bi-monthly
newsletter and

moderated email forum.

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Exploring calendars

We are currently looking at developing an online event calendar for quiet hours and inclusive activities. There are apps we can use for this.



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Visual stories

We can support venues to create a Visual Story to help people to prepare in advance for a visit to a venue for the first time.

The Visual Story will be on the website of a venue and aims to answer questions or worries people may have about going somewhere new, as well as helpful adjustments.



Supported 'taster sessions'

We are keen to work with venues to offer 'taster sessions' for autistic / neurodivergent children and adults.



Trying a new activity for the first time can feel daunting.

Our team are keen to support people and can arrange taster sessions where we can meet people at the venue to support them to try an activity out.

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Training

We are developing our ideas for autism / neurodivergence training for venues in local communities.



Our current thinking is to advertise training sessions targeted at venues offering similar services. For example:

A training workshop for leisure centre staff in Surrey and a training workshop for library staff in Surrey.

Visits in the Frimley area

Wendy and Daniel have been visiting venues in Frimley who offer inclusive activities and quiet hours.

It has been helpful to experience these venues and find out what they are like in reality.

We have had a really positive response from venues who seem very keen to be inclusive.



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High Score Arcade - Farnborough

High Score Arcade have a monthly Quiet Hour.



Daniel and Wendy booked onto the May Quiet Hour and visited.

High Score Arcade Farnborough

Surrey Libraries – Super Access



<u>Surrey Libraries – Extended opening hours</u>

Providing residents with extra hours of additional access.

Surrey Libraries are installing new technology which provides longer and more convenient opening times for residents, extended opening hours which are in addition to the existing staffed hours.

Libraries offering this include Camberley and Farnham

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The Brick People





The store is in The Meads shopping centre in Farnborough. It's a place to play with Lego!

- It's £5 an hour to play with their selection of lego.
- There is a quiet room, and board games.
- There is a Sunday morning Pokemon club

The Brick People team are very keen to offer the events and activities that the local community want.

The Brick People

Camberley Town Youth FC

Our amazing team of volunteers is launching "Inclusive Football for All"!

This new initiative is about making youth football accessible, welcoming, and fun for everyone — regardless of ability or needs.

We recently heard about this so wanted to share it with you.



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Support and social groups

We are keen to support the further development of social and support groups for autistic adults in Surrey.



There are existing groups that meet regularly.

- Some of these groups are funded and supported
- Some groups are run by members themselves and unsupported

We are compiling a list of local groups

Adult support and social groups

<u>The National Autistic Society</u> (seperate to The Surrey Branch) run funded support groups for adults



- Godalming Women's Group (adults once a month every third Saturday afternoon)
- Guildford Aspire (adults once a month on a Thursday evening)
- All Surrey virtual social group (adults Last Friday evening of each month)

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Autistic Peer Network

We have organised online meetings for autistic adults in July 2025. The aim is to get autistic people views on developing peer networks.

Autistic Adults Peer Network Consultation evenings:

- Thursday 10th July 2025 7pm to 8.30pm
- Saturday 19th July 2025 11am to 12.30pm

Autistic Parents Peer Network Consultation evening:

Tuesday 1st July 2025 – 7pm to 8.30pm



Staying safe in the community

We are working with young people to design an easy-to-read guide to staying safe in the community.

Staying safe when:

- Using buses and trains
- Using social media
- Meeting new people





