

Autism Friendly Surrey



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Welcome

We want you to feel comfortable during our meeting.



There is no obligation to speak – it's okay to just listen if you prefer.

It's okay to have your camera off if you prefer.

We will try to avoid the meeting going too quickly, please use the hands up icon (or your hand) if you'd like to speak.

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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'.

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Our team for East Surrey

We want to make sure we cover the whole of East Surrey, and are keen to hear about what's already going on, and ideas for people's local town/village.



Beth, Millie and Mike will be the team members from Autism by Experience working across East Surrey. Kira is our minute taker.

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Autism Friendly Surrey

Autism Friendly Communities is for autistic children and adults. It aims to:



- Bring people together to develop autism friendly community facilities and share information about local resources
- Facilitate peer support networks – helping people connect through activities and interests.
- Reduce stigma and increase understanding within Surrey

We are currently mapping quiet hours and inclusive activities across Surrey.

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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:

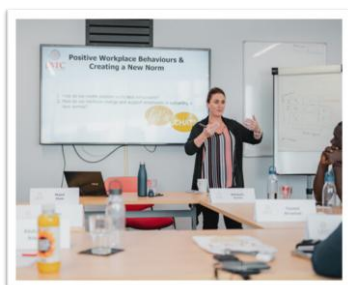
- Using buses and trains
- Using social media
- Meeting new people



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Our training offer

We will be delivering 10 training workshops for shops, businesses and services across Surrey – this will be 2 workshops in each of the 5 areas.



The workshops will be for managers and staff in shops, businesses and services. We are a training company and will develop these workshops over the summer.

We want to help staff at venues better understand the needs of autistic and neurodivergent people and approaches that are helpful.

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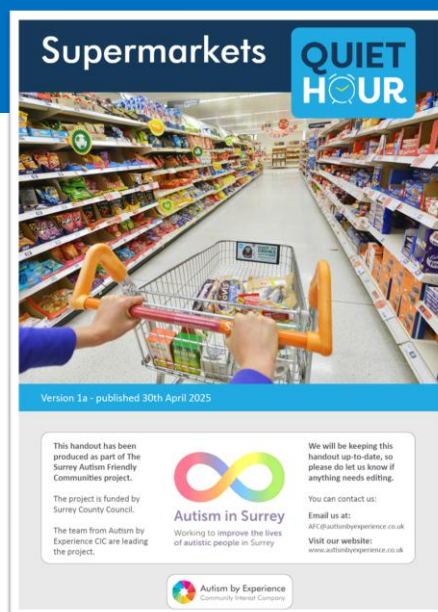
Mapping East Surrey

We have started mapping quiet hours and inclusive activities for children, young people and adults across Surrey.

For example, we have produced a easy to read guide to supermarket quiet hours across Surrey.

We will be regularly updating this, and the latest version will be on our website.

[Supermarket quiet hours](#)



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Mapping East Surrey



SEND Play Barn Session

Godstone Farm
Discover • Explore • Play

Join us for a dedicated SEND session, meet other families & relax in our brand new Play Barn!

9.30am - 10.30am
First Saturday of the month!

This session is for families of children with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities. This is a safe space for them to play and feel relaxed. Tickets must be booked in advance on our website. Tickets include use of the farm for the day.

The Play Barn will open to the general public at 10.30am.

Godstone Farm run a SEND session the first Saturday of the month from 9.30am to 10.30am

[Godstone Farm Send Session](#)

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Mapping East Surrey

The ARC in Caterham offers a wide range of activities and opportunities:



[The ARC Caterham](#)

Pokémon Club

Every Monday from 15:30 - 17:30 with a buffet.

Special needs softplay and Sensory room

held on a Monday 15:00 - 19:00

Thursday SEN Meet

Every Thursday we run a SEN youth club for ages 12 to 18. Running from 18:00 to 20:30.

Other activities include the Include Choir and Prospero Theatre group.

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Mapping East Surrey

That Retro Place café in Caterham:



Is a small café packed full of retro board games, computer games and retro memorabilia.

They even have retro arcade machines and run a weekly Subbuteo night (Thursdays).

They are keen to offer more events and run a meet up for parents of autistic children once a month on a Friday lunchtime.

[That Retro Place Facebook page](#)

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Mapping East Surrey

Activity and Social Evening for Autistic and Neurodivergent Adults held at The Light in Redhill fortnightly on a Monday evening from 7pm to 9pm.



A welcoming and supported evening for adults, with activities like bowling, pool, board games and quizzes.

Run in partnership by The Light and Autism by Experience. We have a dedicated room and our facilitators support people to access activities.

Entry, board games and quizzes are free. There is a charge for optional additional activities like bowling.

[Autism Friendly Night Out](#)

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Autism In Museums



A website which collates information about quiet times at museums across the UK.

There is calendar of events you can access.

[Autism in Museums](#)

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Accessible Screenings

Accessible Screenings UK is the first ever comprehensive and searchable listings database for accessible screenings in UK cinemas.



[Accessible Screenings UK](#)

These include:

- Subtitled (ST) / Opened Captioned or OC)
- Audio described (AD),
- Autism Friendly Screenings (AF)
- Dementia Friendly Screenings (DF)..

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Leisure Centres

We are starting work mapping the inclusive activities offered at Leisure Centre's in East Surrey.



These include:

- YMCA Redhill
- Donyngs Redhill
- Horley Leisure Centre
- Oxted Leisure Centre
- Tandridge Leisure Centre

We can visit leisure centres to talk about inclusive activities and visual stories

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One place to find information

It can be hard to find information about quiet hours and relaxed / inclusive activities – searching through lots of websites.

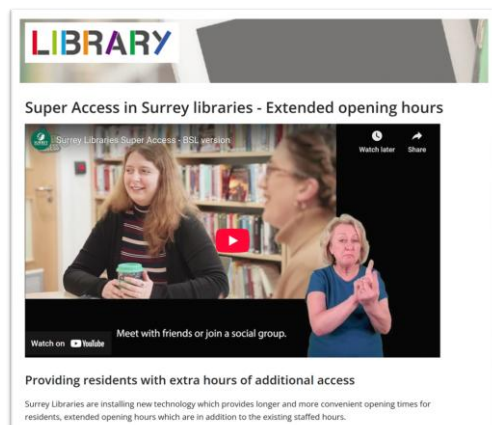


After completing our mapping across Surrey, we want to make this information available in one place online.

Libraries in Surrey have offered to display printed copies too.

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Surrey Libraries – Extended Hours



Providing residents with extra hours of additional access – including evenings and weekends.

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 Oxted and Horley.

[Surrey Libraries – Extended opening hours](#)

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Surrey Libraries – Virtual Tours

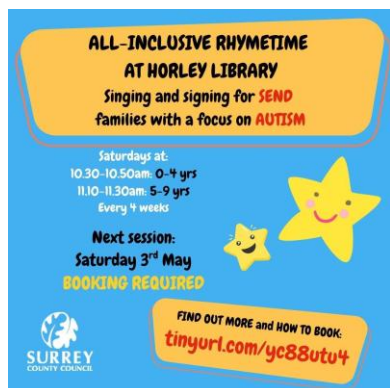


Many of Surrey's libraries have a virtual tour, so you can have a look around and familiarize yourself with the library before visiting.

[Horley Library Virtual Tour](#)

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Surrey Libraries – Activities



Our libraries are Where It Happens!

Did you know that Surrey Libraries are the social, economic, learning and cultural hubs right at the heart of communities across Surrey.

From rhymetime, crafts, Lego, coding and chess clubs.

[Find out what's on at your local library](#)

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The Light Redhill

Izzy and Tilly from The Light in Redhill told us more about their relaxed activities.



The Light offer the following relaxed activities:

- Relaxed Cinema Screening
- Relaxed Bowling – Sunday 9am
- Relaxed Climbing – Thursday 4pm

[Click here](#) to go to The Light Autism Friendly web page which has more information and a link to their visual/sensory story.

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Facebook Groups



We are planning to set up an Autism Friendly East Surrey facebook group.

Penny Sims supports the East Surrey autism, adhd and neurodivergence support group. This group is for families who have a neurodivergent child and has around 1200 members.

[East Surrey autism, adhd and neurodivergence support group.](#)