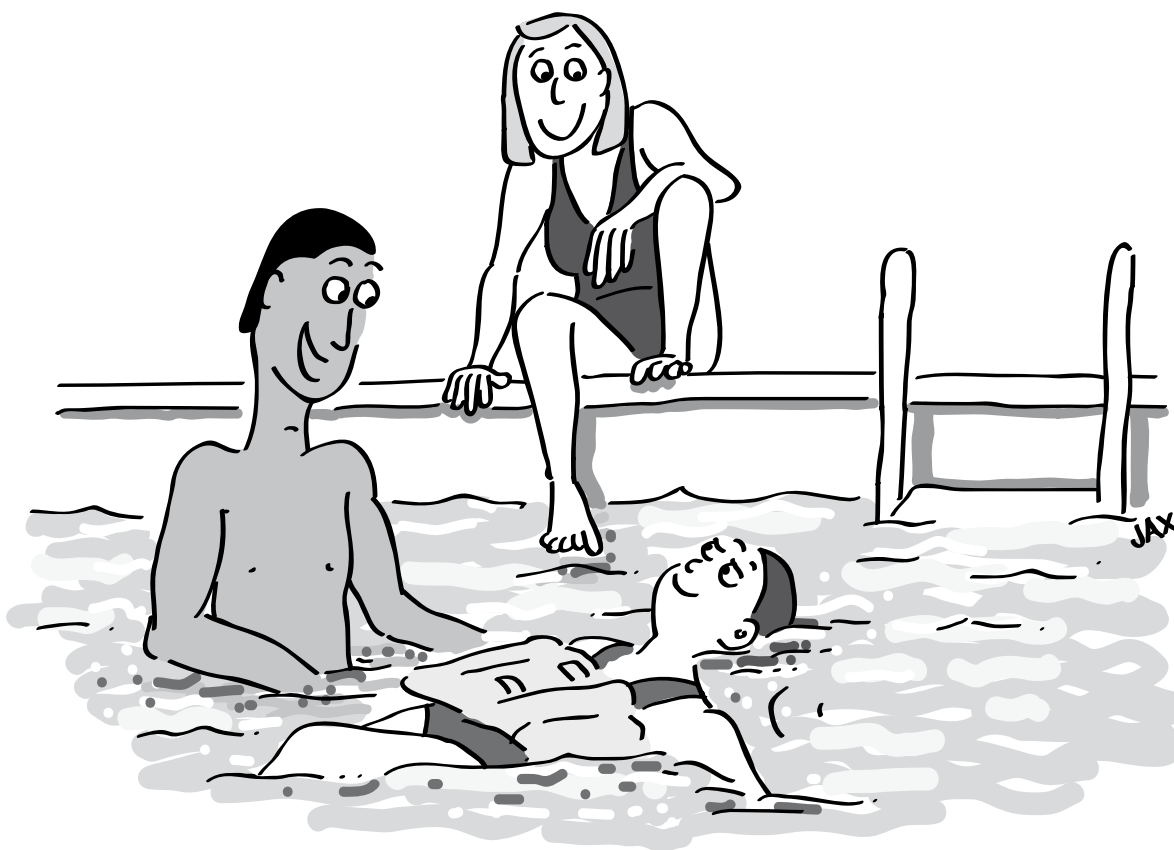


Leisure & Holidays



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1 What is leisure?



Leisure does not just relate to sports; it is a wide variety of activities which take place outside school, college and work. Leisure interests are an essential part of who we are.

As young people move into adulthood it will be important that they can access leisure opportunities independently of their parents.

2 What's going on locally?



There are probably a number of leisure opportunities in the area, but it can often be difficult to find out about what is available.

There may be activities and events specifically for young disabled people but it is a good idea to find out if a non-specialist club or activity could provide support.

Alternately your son or daughter may be able to get direct payments to pay for support (see below), or a volunteer organisation may be able to provide someone to support the young person.

It may be an idea for the young person to meet the co-coordinator of an activity or event over time so that they have an understanding of their needs.

Finding out how to get there is also important. For transport refer to Section 8 - Getting About.

3 Leisure centres



Some leisure centres have special clubs and activities for disabled children and adults. Others do not run specific activities, but will be flexible in other ways, for example giving reduced admission rates or having special equipment.

Leisure providers have a duty under the Equality Act (see next page) to make "reasonable adjustments" for access.

The Act also calls for positive attitudes and approaches towards disabled people. In other words, disabled people have a right to be treated courteously, and must not be treated differently from others simply because of their disability.

4 Holidays



There are different types of holiday available to disabled young people. This could be a holiday that specifically caters for people with a disability or holidays that may need a bit of extra planning to make sure the right support is provided. There are family holidays or holidays that are just for young people. There are a number of organisations that may be able to help, including the Family Fund.

Social care services, under the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970, may help towards the cost of a holiday. You would have to be assessed as in need of a holiday and other cheaper options may be considered.

Grant Making Trusts (a list of these can be obtained from your local library or from the internet) and voluntary organisations may also be able to offer financial support. Tourism for All (formerly the Holiday Care Service) can advise who may be able to offer financial support.

If a young person needs financial support for a holiday then applying for funds should be done well in advance to allow time for a decision to be made.

5 Direct payments and leisure



If your son or daughter is assessed as having social care needs, they may be able to take cash in the form of direct payments instead of receiving an actual service. These direct payments can be used to buy in support that meets assessed needs.

Leisure is now seen as a social need. Direct payments can be used to help disabled people access leisure facilities, for example by paying for transport, or for a personal assistant to go out with someone.

They can only be used however to purchase support that has been identified in a self-supported assessment by the social care team. Contact your son's or daughter's social worker or care manager for more details.



If your son or daughter has an individualised budget (see Social Care section), they may be able to use some of it to pay for leisure activities.

6 The Equality Act 2010 (replacing the Disability Discrimination Act)



Under the Equality Act , it is unlawful for service providers to treat disabled people less favourably for a reason related to their disability. This includes cinemas, theatres and other leisure providers. Service providers have to make 'reasonable' adjustments in relation to the physical features of their premises. Reasonable adjustments must be advertised in all publicly available information.

Types of adjustment will vary in each individual case depending on, for example, funding, the type of building or premises and the number of staff.

Examples of reasonable adjustments include:

- installing an induction loop for people who are hearing impaired
- giving the option to book tickets via email as well as telephone
- providing disability awareness training for staff who have contact with the public
- providing larger, well-defined signs for people with impaired vision
- putting in a ramp at the entrance to a building where steps exist.

Failure or refusal to provide a disabled person with a service which is offered to other people is discrimination unless it can be justified.

Contact the Equality and Human Rights Commission (formally known as the Disability Rights Commission) for advice:

Telephone: 0845 604 6610

Website: www.equalityhumanrights.com

Clear, detailed guidance for employers, workers, service providers and service users is available on this website, together with the Codes of Practice written under the Equality Act.

Useful Contacts



National

Disability Sport Events

Address: Belle Vue Centre
Pink Bank Lane
Manchester
M12 5GL

Telephone: 0161 953 2499

Email: info@dse.org.uk

Website: www.disabilitysport.org.uk

Provides and co-ordinates leisure opportunities for people with all disabilities, from beginner level to international standard.

Tourism for All UK (formerly Holiday Care)

Address: c/o Vitalise
Shap Road Industrial Estate
Shap Road
Kendal
Cumbria LA9 6NZ

Telephone: 0845 1249971

E-mail: info@tourismforall.org.uk

Website: www.tourismforall.org.uk

Tourism for All aims to give disabled people information on where their specific access needs can be met so that they can fully participate in travel and leisure. They have a directory of accessible accommodation, attractions, respite care and services. Although they do not provide funding or organise holidays, they can signpost you to other organisations that do.

Family Fund

Address: 4 Alpha Court
Monks Cross Drive
York YO32 9WN

Telephone: 0845 1304542

E-mail: info@familyfund.org.uk

Website: www.familyfund.org.uk

Grants and information for families of disabled and seriously ill children and young people (aged 0 -18th birthday). They give grants for things that make life easier and more enjoyable for the disabled child/young person and their family.

National Holiday Fund

Address: PO Box 318
Great Yarmouth
NR29 4WT

Telephone: 01493 731235

E-mail: nhfoffice@aol.com

Website: www.nhfcharity.co.uk

Takes chronically or terminally ill children and temporarily or permanently physically disabled children, accompanied by appropriately qualified carers and fully qualified medical staff, on a unique international adventure, primarily to Florida, USA.

Scope

Address: 6 Market Road
London N7 9PW

Helpline: 0808 800 3333 Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm

Text: SCOPE, plus your message to 80039

Email: response@scope.org.uk

Website: www.scope.org.uk

Supports disabled people and their families.

Door-to-Door

Website: www.dptac.gov.uk/door-to-door

This website is run by the Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee (DPTAC), and aims to give disabled people information and advice about travelling using all forms of transport.

UK Sports Association for People with Learning Disability

Address: 1st Floor
12 City Forum
250 City Road
London EC1V 2PU

Telephone: 020 7490 3057

Email: info@uksportsassociation.org

Website: www.uksportsassociation.org

National governing body which coordinates and promotes sport and recreation for all people with a learning disability in the UK.

Heart and Soul

Telephone: 020 8694 1632

Email: info@heartnsoul.co.uk

Website: www.heartnsoul.co.uk

An arts organization led by artists with disabilities. Heart and Soul run club nights and provide creative and performance opportunities for people with a learning disability to express themselves in areas of music, theatre, design and digital arts. Venues include Kingston and Croydon. They also provide awareness training for staff.



Local

Contact your local borough or district council for information
They will be able to tell you about what is available in your area.

Surrey Family Information Service

Telephone: 0300 200 1004

Email: surrey.fis@surreycc.gov.uk

Website: www.surreycc.gov.uk/fis

Provides information, advice and assistance to parents of children and young people aged 0 -19 years old (up to 25 years old for young people with special needs). Includes a directory of services for families, with information on holiday and leisure activities, as well as family finances and childcare provision.

Mencap Leisure Team

Address: 13a Nutley Lane
Reigate RH2 9HP

Telephone: 01737 225902

Email: claire.webley@mencap.org.uk

Mencap co-ordinates many leisure opportunities within Surrey, mainly for people aged age 18+, through their leisure development team. These include social groups and holiday leisure schemes.

Link Leisure

Address: New Horizons
4a Board School Road
Woking GU21 5HE

Telephone: 01483 770037

Email: info@linkleisure.org.uk

Website: www.linkleisure.org.uk

Provides a range of sports, social and recreational activities for children and adults with special needs, including sessions specifically for 16-25 year olds. Operates primarily in the boroughs of Woking and Surrey Heath. Runs holiday schemes and weekend activities.

Disability Challengers

Address: Challengers
Stoke Park
Guildford GU1 1TU

Main Telephone: 01483 579390

Play and Leisure Team Telephone: 01483 230 930 (for bookings)
Open Mon - Fri 9.30am - 5pm

Email: information@disability-challengers.org

Website: www.disability-challengers.org

Disability Challengers is a charity that develops and delivers play and leisure for disabled children and young people.

They are based in Guildford and have a Play and Leisure Team who run a range of play, youth and young adult schemes in school holidays and throughout term-time at Challengers Guildford - their full time playcentre - and at community venues across Surrey and Bracknell.

Disability Challengers have another play and youth centre in Farnham.

There are places for children and young people who need one-to-one support and who have complex needs at all schemes.

Please call the Play and Leisure Team to find out more or to book on to a Challengers scheme.

Payments can be made using direct payments or Carers' Vouchers. Discounts available for families in receipt of Income Support (proof required).

White Lodge

Address: Holloway Hill
Chertsey
Surrey KT16 0AE

Telephone: 01932 567131

Email: sbrooker@whitelodgecentre.co.uk

Website: www.whitelodgecentre.co.uk

Provides a range of flexible and creative activities and opportunities for disabled children, young people and adults, for their families and for carers across Surrey.

YMCA

Voluntary organisation committed to supporting all young people, particularly in times of need. Offers services including housing, counselling, volunteer and buddying schemes and sport and fitness opportunities – including holiday programmes as well as regular activities for young people.

Website: www.ymca.org.uk

Based at 3 centres in Surrey:

Woking

Telephone: 01483 757160

Email: info@wokingymca.org.uk

Website: www.wokingymca.org.uk

Guildford

Telephone: 01483 532555

Email: info@guildfordymca.org.uk

Website: www.guildfordymca.org.uk

Redhill

Telephone: 01737 779979

Email: admin@ymcaredhill.com

Website: www.ymcaredhill.org

Contact individual centres or visit their website to see what each centre can offer.

London Youth Activenture

London Youth organises residential opportunities for young people (ages 8-18 years) with impairments (physical/non physical) during school holidays

Address: Activenture Office, Hindleap Warren,
Wych Cross, Forest Row, East Sussex, RH18 5JH

Telephone: 01342 828215

Email: di@hindleap.com

Website: www.londonyouth.org.uk

The Children's Trust Tadworth

The Children's Trust runs play schemes at Tadworth in Surrey during school holidays for children and young people aged 5 - 19 with profound disabilities and complex needs.

Address: Tadworth Court, Tadworth
Surrey KT20 5RU

Telephone: 01737 365 000

Website: www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk

halow

halow have youth clubs and activity days based in Guildford and Haslemere for young people aged 16-19. The group offers a chance for members to take part in activities that can help them expand their social network.

Address: Carroll House
11 Quarry Street, Guildford
Surrey GU1 3UY

Telephone: 01483 447960

Email: info@halowproject.org.uk

Website: www.halowproject.org.uk

InterAKtive

InterAKtive run holiday play schemes specifically for children and young people aged 8-18 who have Autistic Spectrum Disorders. These schemes run at Linden Bridge School.

Address: PO Box 55, Banstead, Surrey
SM7 1WW

Telephone: 07876 762178

Email: info@interaktive.org.uk

Website: www.interaktive.org.uk

Badshot Lea and Colts SAINTS Football Club

A football club for disabled children and young people aged 5-18 running Saturday practice sessions and competitions during the football season. This club is in Badshot Lead and open to all families to access directly.

Telephone: 01252 325868

Email: simonrslater@btinternet.com