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| **Leeds Local Offer (SEND) Ebulletin – February 2025** |
| Leeds SEND Local Offer logoWelcome to the February 2025 edition of the Leeds Local Offer ebulletin. The ebulletin is an opportunity for us to share with you an update for the Leeds Area SEND and AP Partnership Board, service updates, opportunities and events for children, young people, parents, carers and professionals. We encourage you to share the information within your teams and with children, young people and families you are working with. * [Service updates](#_Service_Updates)
* [Events and groups for families](#_Events_for_families)
* [Voice and influence opportunities](#_Voice_and_influence)
* [Professionals – resources, opportunities and events](#_Professionals_–_resources,)

Previous editions of the ebulletin can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/LLObulletin> If you have any stories, service updates, groups or events that you would like us to feature in a future issue you can send them to me at LLO@leeds.gov.uk.  |
| **Service updates / information** |
| **New Online Forms for EHC Needs Assessment**We are excited to announce the launch of new online forms for requesting an Education, Health, and Care (EHC) needs assessment for parents, carers, and young people. These forms are part of our ongoing SEND and Inclusion Transformation Programme and are now available on the [Education, health and care needs assessments and plans](https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/support-for-pupils-with-send/support-with-learning/education-health-and-care-needs-assessments-and-plans) webpage on the Leeds Gov website. Please read the guidance on the [Requesting an EHC needs assessment | Leeds Local Offer](https://www.leedslocaloffer.org.uk/education-health-and-care-plans-ehcps/requesting-ehc-needs-assessment)  webpage before starting the form. Benefits of the New Forms * Clearer Questions: More straightforward and focused questions make it easier to provide the necessary information.
* Faster Processing: Collecting all necessary information upfront reduces the need for follow-up questions.
* Less Manual Handling: Online submission minimises delays caused by manual inputting.
* Automatic Confirmation: Receive an automatic acknowledgement once your form is submitted.

**Development Process**These forms were developed with extensive feedback from parents, carers, and young people. We conducted several rounds of testing with different groups to ensure the forms meet the needs of our community. Some of the groups we engaged with were the internal project team, the parent carer forum group, the SENDIASS team, and the SEND Youth Council. This feedback was invaluable in making improvements and. We want to thank everyone involved in this process. For more details about the new forms and other parts of the transformation programme, please visit the [SEND and Inclusion Transformation Programme](https://www.leedslocaloffer.org.uk/education/send-and-inclusion-transformation) webpage on the Leeds Local Offer. In the ‘Senior Leadership Communications’ tab, you’ll find a January 2025 update dedicated to the new forms. If you have any questions or feedback, please email EHCPreview@leeds.gov.uk. For specific queries about your case, contact SENSAP at  SENSAP@leeds.gov.uk or call 0113 376 0062.  |
| **Leeds MindMate Neurodiversity information hub: new ADHD content**MindMate are excited to share new, detailed content about [ADHD](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmindmate.org.uk%2Fnd%2Fwhat-is-nd%2Fadhd%2F&data=05%7C02%7CLLO%40Leeds.gov.uk%7C37ee5a991eb748fd34b808dd3a17ee6d%7C16864fae286e4707a78bd7188d6149a7%7C0%7C0%7C638730596685656587%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=q%2FMjsrXv3J%2FnsvF%2FErp9D80490f57vCQ1Ff83d9FW68%3D&reserved=0) on their [Neurodiversity Information Hub](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.mindmate.org.uk%2Fnd&data=05%7C02%7CLLO%40Leeds.gov.uk%7C37ee5a991eb748fd34b808dd3a17ee6d%7C16864fae286e4707a78bd7188d6149a7%7C0%7C0%7C638730596685676007%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=sibKlYJQzQVxQt8OTYB0Ji0Y%2F24X7lq70J6TVU1tIJ8%3D&reserved=0), the one stop digital information resource for neurodivergence in children and young people across Leeds. And beyond. Updates include:* [ADHD - MindMate](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmindmate.org.uk%2Fnd%2Fwhat-is-nd%2Fadhd%2F&data=05%7C02%7CLLO%40Leeds.gov.uk%7C37ee5a991eb748fd34b808dd3a17ee6d%7C16864fae286e4707a78bd7188d6149a7%7C0%7C0%7C638730596685689665%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=C3tUgRyS8aS99VfJ3NAsgX3Z41sttnkbKMZ9bjArdc0%3D&reserved=0) – introduction to ADHD, including our *downloadable* ‘quick guide’, different clinical presentations and book recommendations.
* [ADHD strengths and challenges - MindMate](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmindmate.org.uk%2Fnd%2Fwhat-is-nd%2Fadhd%2Fadhd-strengths-and-challenges%2F&data=05%7C02%7CLLO%40Leeds.gov.uk%7C37ee5a991eb748fd34b808dd3a17ee6d%7C16864fae286e4707a78bd7188d6149a7%7C0%7C0%7C638730596685702791%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=WvATy5PRlPY%2FqhlAGtzL2zsEY%2BJYQZGRET%2B%2BiJEm03Q%3D&reserved=0) – including *downloadable* ‘iceberg’ posters showing ADHD externalised and internalised strengths and challenges.

 * [ADHD attention types - MindMate](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmindmate.org.uk%2Fnd%2Fwhat-is-nd%2Fadhd%2Fadhd-attention-types%2F&data=05%7C02%7CLLO%40Leeds.gov.uk%7C37ee5a991eb748fd34b808dd3a17ee6d%7C16864fae286e4707a78bd7188d6149a7%7C0%7C0%7C638730596685715640%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=c3vUiy%2BWfK4qA8cBAlhGjlJWEzQizxPznP8vbEds%2Bkw%3D&reserved=0) – do you know the difference between divided attention and hyperfocus?
* [ADHD diagnosis, recommendations and medication - MindMate](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmindmate.org.uk%2Fnd%2Fwhat-is-nd%2Fadhd%2Fadhd-med%2F&data=05%7C02%7CLLO%40Leeds.gov.uk%7C37ee5a991eb748fd34b808dd3a17ee6d%7C16864fae286e4707a78bd7188d6149a7%7C0%7C0%7C638730596685729165%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=xmqG7gZAKaz9XDxyeXIhooSc44uFFCkFYyax0S3JKgc%3D&reserved=0) – detailed daily recommendations following a diagnosis of ADHD and the medication options.
* [ADHD and emotions - MindMate](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmindmate.org.uk%2Fnd%2Fwhat-is-nd%2Fadhd%2Fadhd-and-emotions%2F&data=05%7C02%7CLLO%40Leeds.gov.uk%7C37ee5a991eb748fd34b808dd3a17ee6d%7C16864fae286e4707a78bd7188d6149a7%7C0%7C0%7C638730596685748534%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=dZfaBRQeokxUMP3VDTu2qtHFacLAKfQlYfDsb9TtPPA%3D&reserved=0) – emotions can feel different in ADHD, including rejection sensitivity.
* [ADHD language and learning - MindMate](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmindmate.org.uk%2Fnd%2Fwhat-is-nd%2Fadhd%2Fadhd-language-and-learning%2F&data=05%7C02%7CLLO%40Leeds.gov.uk%7C37ee5a991eb748fd34b808dd3a17ee6d%7C16864fae286e4707a78bd7188d6149a7%7C0%7C0%7C638730596685767277%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=k9%2Fmpf414z9wd8WnafrjDD2pcsd8JIVxE7LPZMCUZtk%3D&reserved=0) – language and learning can also look and feel different in ADHD.

MindMate also updating their [Autism - MindMate](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmindmate.org.uk%2Fnd%2Fwhat-is-nd%2Fautism%2F&data=05%7C02%7CLLO%40Leeds.gov.uk%7C37ee5a991eb748fd34b808dd3a17ee6d%7C16864fae286e4707a78bd7188d6149a7%7C0%7C0%7C638730596685781821%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=2iCP3tRSRSMw1Pg1NhT1hYWHgAhErqfS%2FG3JgjXh4MM%3D&reserved=0) neurotype page so please keep checking back for updates!If you have any feedback about the ND Info Hub, please do complete our short [Survey](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fsecure.membra.co.uk%2FExperienceLCH%2Fs%2FSurveyIntro.aspx%3FLang%3DEN%26%26ID%3Db2222fac-50a6-4fd9-8a8c250121115228%26%26bsl%3D0&data=05%7C02%7CLLO%40Leeds.gov.uk%7C37ee5a991eb748fd34b808dd3a17ee6d%7C16864fae286e4707a78bd7188d6149a7%7C0%7C0%7C638730596685794491%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=3duQelN2uL2AgAag3ftEPCnse2qCkkFRHTEuYMqVevc%3D&reserved=0).   |
| **Events and groups for families** |
| **SEND parent carer monthly information drop-in**A monthly drop in for parents and carers to speak to services to receive information and advice about what is available in Leeds to support their family.* Leeds Local Offer
* SENDIASS
* Leeds Parent Carer Forum
* Carers Leeds
* Child Health and Disability Team (CHAD)
* Leeds Speech and Language Service

**Dates and times of drop in*** Wednesday 5th February, 10.30 till 12.30 at Plus Net, 17 Marlborough Street, Leeds, LS1 4PE
* No drop in March 2025 due to Leeds Local Offer Live event on Wednesday 26th March, 10am till 3pm at Pudsey Civic Hall.
* Wednesday 2nd April, 10.30 till 12.30 at NSPCC, 5th Floor, St John’s Offices, Albion Street, LS2 8LQ

Each drop in will host a workshop for parents and carers. If you require further information about the drop in sessions please email LLO@leeds.gov.uk or join the Leeds Local Offer [facebook group](https://www.facebook.com/groups/leedslocaloffer/?locale=en_GB). |
| **Leeds Local Offer Live** Wednesday 26th March 202510am till 3pm (drop in)Pudsey Civic Hall, LS28 5TAThe Leeds Local Offer website provides information about services for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their parents and carers in one place. Leeds Local Offer Live is an annual market place event that provides families with the opportunity to find out more about SEND services in Leeds. At this years’ event you will also have the opportunity to attend workshop sessions: * Ordinarily available provision and toolkit
* Eating / ARFID support

[Book your free event ticket here.](https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/LLOLive2025/)If you would like further information please email llo@leeds.gov.uk  |
| **Scope: digital inclusion drop-in**Drop-in access to computers for disabled people and their families. Scope provide support to learn digital skills from a digital adviser.* You can find information and advice online to take away with you.
* Learn how to use online tools that can help you stay connected with friends.
* Get help with sending emails, filling in forms, online banking and using Microsoft 365.

**When:** Every Wednesday (starting from 5 February), 10 am till 2pm**Where:** Leeds Community Hub, 3 Brewery Wharf, Dock Street, LS10 1JF You can visit the [Eventbrite page](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.eventbrite.co.uk%2fo%2fscope-80975104533&c=E,1,ckpBxVOsNE5uyWWCgpAAGEIqsAzYPkOCt-osi-KMeCPrUBNDt3RGR-STGwf4F9izKR9llDmGOUN3nKfK9ATmSsTqWJQpA7D8DaHwbXYX06Htauy5sw,,&typo=1), or email Scope at leeds@scope.org.uk .You can find out more [about the Leeds hub](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.scope.org.uk%2fleeds-community-hub%2fabout-the-leeds-hub%3fcampaignkw%3dAbout%2520the%2520Leeds%2520hub&c=E,1,F7apxn4eUj0wdtqiK4Dj-6DvlaxclJQZSfel6qPuobXwOAfL0TIzL2_HOljM-87G9nkEamAxVJhMlFCh3txXJRs7KvL2cYa5ni9Y3jmAh7rVW8kj&typo=1) on the Scope website. |
| **Support group for parents of children with cerebral palsy**Scope are launching a new support group for parents of children with cerebral palsy. Get together with other parents of children with cerebral palsy. Come along to share your experiences and help us shape our offer for Leeds.Date and time:  Thursday 24 April 2024Time: 11am till 12.30pmLocation: Scope Community Hub. Dock Street, Leeds LS10 1JF [Click here to reserve your spot.](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.eventbrite.co.uk%2Fe%2Fparent-support-group-for-children-with-cerebral-palsy-tickets-1226408543969%3Faff%3Doddtdtcreator&data=05%7C02%7Ckayleigh.thurlow%40leeds.gov.uk%7Cecd550f696a7419a54af08dd407c8588%7C16864fae286e4707a78bd7188d6149a7%7C0%7C0%7C638737625877155256%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Kw422ptS%2B%2FYC%2B6VCIyeNqzKTVB1xbr%2FQqe5TieXFsts%3D&reserved=0)  |
| **Voice and influence opportunities***opportunities for young people, parents and carers to have their voices heard.*  |
| **Leeds Parent Carer Forum: hospital passports**The Leeds Parent Carer Forum are hosting a coffee morning with the Learning Disabilities and Autism Team, Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust. You will find out more about [hospital passports](https://www.leedsth.nhs.uk/services/autism-and-learning-disability/the-hospital-passport/?fbclid=IwY2xjawIIQKpleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHZJLIlUjn2uF3I3_eorGjfNv7wrSLEQoGT6Pru6g2HJQGBubfAh_UR3y5w_aem_O-Me78eROwaPKMZlk0z5Fg), a document that can help professionals support your child during hospital visits. Date: Friday 7th February 2025Time: 10am till 12pm Venue: The Vinery Centre, 20 Vinery Terrace, LS9 9LU [Click here to book your free space](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hospital-passports-tickets-1215537428169?aff=oddtdtcreator).  |
| **The Big Conversation**The Big Conversation is a chance for children and young people to have their say about the issues that are important to England’s children.The Children's Commissioner is really excited to hear what you think and to have the chance to share the stories of children and young people in this way, focusing on the issues that are most important to England’s young people including education, climate change, online safety, knife crime and housing.[Click here](https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-conversation/) for more information about the Big Conversation, and to complete the survey.  |
| **Call out for families to mystery shop Leeds City Museum**Leeds City Museum is one of the eight Leeds Museums & Galleries sites. It is in Millenium Square in Leeds City Centre. There are four galleries in Leeds City Museum. The Life on Earth Gallery tells the story of all living things on earth based on animals and fossils owned by Leeds Collectors. The Leeds Story Gallery tells of the history of Leeds: from the Vikings to present day. Our Ancient Worlds Gallery explores the beliefs and everyday lives of Ancient Greeks, Romans and Egyptians. This gallery features the remains of a mummified Ancient Egyptian priest, Nesyamun. There a further two smaller galleries, Voices of Asia and Collectors Cabinet can be found on the first floor as well as three events spaces: the Brodrick Hall, the Thoresby Room and the Denny Room. Leeds City Museum are inviting families of children with additional needs to the museum this festive season (although you are always welcome!) to give them feedback on the accessibility of their displays and spaces. The feedback survey will take 5-10 minutes to complete and can be done during or after their visit. [Click here to complete the survey.](https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/LeedsCityMuseum/) They aim to act on the feedback and make Leeds City Museum a space that is truly for everyone.  |
| **SEND youth activities survey 2024/25** Community Committees need the help of young people in Leeds to find out what activities they should provide in local areas.We are asking young people (under 18 years old) to complete a short survey to help Community Committees understand what activities young people like to do.It should only take a few minutes to answer all of the questions and remember to click Finish to submit your response to us. The last day that you can respond is 31 March 2025.[Click here to complete the survey.](https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/OTCFFA/)If you need to speak to someone about this survey then please email CommunityCommitteeFunding@leeds.gov.uk or telephone 0113 378 5808 |
| **Professionals**resources, opportunities, and events. |
| **STARS Training**Please see below STARS courses that have places still available which are all booked through Leeds for Learning.* Virtual AET schools introduction to the autism progression framework: 23rd January 2025
* Virtual AET early years leading good autism practice: leadership, inclusion and structural reasonable adjustments (tier 3): 12th February 2025
* Virtual STARS An Introduction to Intensive Interaction Training : 13th February 2025
* Virtual schools AET leading good autism practice: leadership, inclusion and structural reasonable adjustments (tier 3): 27th February 2025
* LIVE -  AET schools good autism practice (tier 2): 4th March 2025
* Virtual AET early years developing good autism practice (tier 2): 13th March 2025
* Virtual AET schools good autism practice primary (tier 2): 24th April 2025
* Virtual STARS Using Play Bricks to Support Social Inclusion: 8th May 2025
* LIVE STARS Using Play Bricks to Support Social Inclusion: 14th May 2025
* Virtual AET early years developing good autism practice (tier 2): 15th May 2025
* Virtual schools AET leading good autism practice: leadership, inclusion and structural reasonable adjustments (tier 3): 5th June 2025
* Virtual STARS An Introduction to Intensive Interaction Training: 5th June 2025
* Virtual AET schools introduction to the autism progression framework: 19th June 2025
* Virtual AET schools good autism practice (tier 2): 3rd July 2025

**Book your place through Leeds for Learning.** |
| **Raising awareness of disabilities, a project by young people**Child Friendly Leeds, Leeds Youth Voice and Town Centre Securities PLC (TCS) partnered on a fantastic campaign to raise awareness of disabilities. This was based on listening to the voices of children and young people, ‘[Everyone’s Included: the Leeds SEND and Inclusion Strategy’](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flinkprotect.cudasvc.com%2Furl%3Fa%3Dhttps%253a%252f%252fwww.leeds.gov.uk%252fone-minute-guides%252feveryones-included-leeds-send-and-inclusion-strategy%2523%253a~%253atext%253dThe%252520SEND%252520and%252520Inclusion%252520Strategy%252520sets%252520out%252520the%252520%25273Is%2527%252520%25252D%252cwith%252520their%252520peers%25252C%252520wherever%252520possible.%26c%3DE%2C1%2CHOywlEh4V3wf__vOOebNdhpWyV4bYoJ3pbXBJlfy9oZ1fMCFDelXVFX-mcqUrtnTvrJLeN_-yBsWmku3C07VwW12miZZoJum9qcsEHopO5qdgE-P_Er0ScRLdg%2C%2C%26typo%3D1&data=05%7C02%7CLLO%40Leeds.gov.uk%7C49f2d59a8ec042630dab08dd3aca4f8c%7C16864fae286e4707a78bd7188d6149a7%7C0%7C0%7C638731362760658680%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=sUIRg4RIA494ilVbnKipSafogNIyuAq%2FzHT1eC8lP%2Bk%3D&reserved=0), the [Child Friendly Leeds 12 Wishes](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flinkprotect.cudasvc.com%2Furl%3Fa%3Dhttps%253a%252f%252fwww.leeds.gov.uk%252fchildfriendlyleeds%252fcfl-the-story%252f12-wishes%26c%3DE%2C1%2Ck7t0FKWvFPw_Kuahe3C1G3lSncV0iaJxZ0nSzW0qyBKRtxHggzxjm5djFyC5xDG6gv1yjpLbhM2zFK-0WD3t3AtmbKUk4n0wQpV4XQqn1A%2C%2C%26typo%3D1&data=05%7C02%7CLLO%40Leeds.gov.uk%7C49f2d59a8ec042630dab08dd3aca4f8c%7C16864fae286e4707a78bd7188d6149a7%7C0%7C0%7C638731362760697055%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=fvxjGXkCkrtyxTXhZ6a3n8glP53n%2ByaJ5muGLGUc4fY%3D&reserved=0) and the project idea from our ambassador, TCS plc. Wish number 12 for the city is: Leeds is an inclusive city for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. *Children and young people feel there is more awareness and understanding of different disabilities and that there are more activities and places to go that are accessible to all.*In Autumn 2023, the Voice, Influence and Change team visited five settings with art materials to find out what they would like to share with others about their disabilities, what makes them unique, and how we can make a difference. The sessions were extremely eye opening in which we collated fantastic artwork, spoken words and the feedback from young people and the staff. The themes, illustrations and drawings by the young people were used to develop the campaign. An exhibition was held at a unit in the Merrion Centre to view, hear and feel the emotions and understand more about hidden disabilities and how we as a city can make a difference. Partners across the city were encouraged to share the key social media messages and awareness raising posters. The communications pack can, free downloadable posters and resources be [found here](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwearechildfriendlyleeds.com%2Fraising-awareness-of-disabilities%2F&data=05%7C02%7CLLO%40Leeds.gov.uk%7C49f2d59a8ec042630dab08dd3aca4f8c%7C16864fae286e4707a78bd7188d6149a7%7C0%7C0%7C638731362760717700%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1Gm2OnrqFXM%2FxJkao3MR1x%2BFCSSjfAhjArmiRVIctMU%3D&reserved=0).  |
| **Resource: activities to use when consulting with children and young people**The Voice, Influence and Change Team have developed a resource to support services when consulting with children and young people. The resource provides information about different consultation activities that can be used to gather the views of children and young people. All resources can be [downloaded here](https://www.leedslocaloffer.org.uk/information-professionals/voice-and-influence).  |
| **Celebrate British Science week with Lotherton**This March Lotherton will be celebrating the wonders of science! Between 7th and 16th of March 2025, the theme for British Science Week is ‘Change and Adapt’. Lotherton estate have lots to offer that fits this topic beautifully, from the animals in Wildlife World to the estate grounds. In the Wildlife World workshops they will discuss how animals in their collection have changed and adapted to suit different environments and habitats from around the world. In the outdoor learning areas on the estate, they will look at the changes and adaptations of their native plants and animals. **Wildlife World:*** Adaptation Investigators (KS2 & KS3)
* Rainforests (KS1 & KS2)
* Living in the Dark (KS1 & KS2)
* Habitats (KS1 & KS2)
* All about Penguins! (EYFS & Year 1)

**Outdoor Learning:*** The Woodland Hunt (EYFS)
* Signs of the Seasons (EYFS & KS1)
* Estate Explorers (KS2)
* Plant Life Cycles (KS2)

These workshops will run all year round too! For further information about booking a school visit to Lotherton, please email lothertonlearning@leeds.gov.uk or [visit the website here](https://museumsandgalleries.leeds.gov.uk/lotherton/learn-at-lotherton/). |
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