



Holy Cross Catholic Primary School

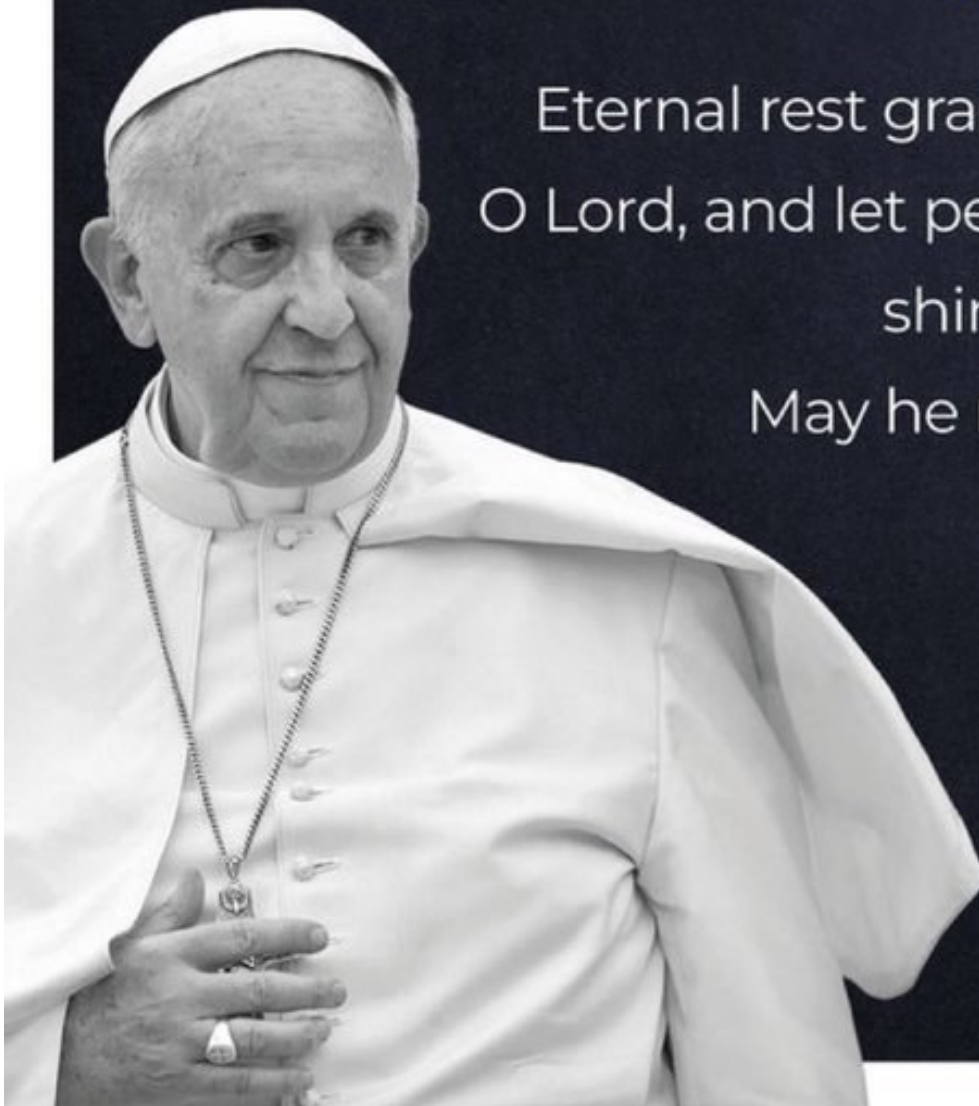
Charles Street, St. Helens, WA10 1LN

25/04/2025

POPE FRANCIS

1936-2025

Eternal rest grant upon him,
O Lord, and let perpetual light
shine upon him.
May he rest in peace.
Amen.



Today our school joined our parish family for mass with Fr. Jino, at Holy Cross and St. Helen church, to remember Pope Francis. We reflected on the difference he made to our world and gave thanks for blessing in having him as our Pope.

We Care, We Share, We Value.



Virtues to Live by: Resilience

Definition of Resilience

To persevere is to do good when it becomes hard to do or obstacles are put in the way. A person with perseverance can be relied upon because they are committed to seeing things through to the end.

"Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." (Colossians 3:13)



*Well done to our Virtues
winner this week, for
living out our virtue and
being a shining example
of resilience.*

Our Virtue to Live by:

Perseverance and Resilience

I will not give up.

I will have faith and hope even when things are difficult.

"O God, put a steadfast spirit within me." Psalm 50:12

Virtues to Live by

You Persevere and you are Resilient

when

You don't let doubts stop you from trying.

You are not afraid because you know you are not alone.

You ask God to help you grow through your personal challenges.

You take one step at a time – you keep going!

You complete what you start.

You are a reliable classmate.



Reception shared what they have learned about the virtue of resilience. We talked about how the Bible tells us to trust God to get us through hard times. Reception performed a song in assembly which helps us to believe that we are unstoppable!



A FOND FAREWELL TO OUR DEPUTY HEADTEACHER MISS CHAUVEAU



Dear Parents and Carers,

It's not easy to put into words just how much Miss Chauveau has meant to our school, but as she prepares to retire at the end of this year, we want to take a moment to celebrate and reflect on the incredible impact she has had.

For 8 years, Miss Chauveau has been the heart of our school in so many ways — a calm, steady presence in the chaos, a champion for our students, a support to staff, and a guiding hand in times of change. She has given so much more than time and effort; she has given her dedication, care, wisdom, humour, and an unwavering belief in what we can all achieve together.

Whether it was greeting students at the gate with a smile, staying late to support school events, or offering kind advice when it was needed most, her influence will be remembered not only in school policies and programs, but in the countless everyday moments that made this community feel like home.

We will miss her dearly — the leadership, yes, but even more so the person: thoughtful, compassionate, and always willing to listen and help. As she moves into retirement, we hope it brings plenty of well-deserved rest, time with loved ones, and new adventures (or just more time for a good book and a cup of tea!).

Please join us, over this summer term, in thanking Miss Chauveau for everything and wishing her all the best for this next chapter. We'll be celebrating together in July, and will keep you updated about the appointment of a Deputy Headteacher.

With warmest wishes,

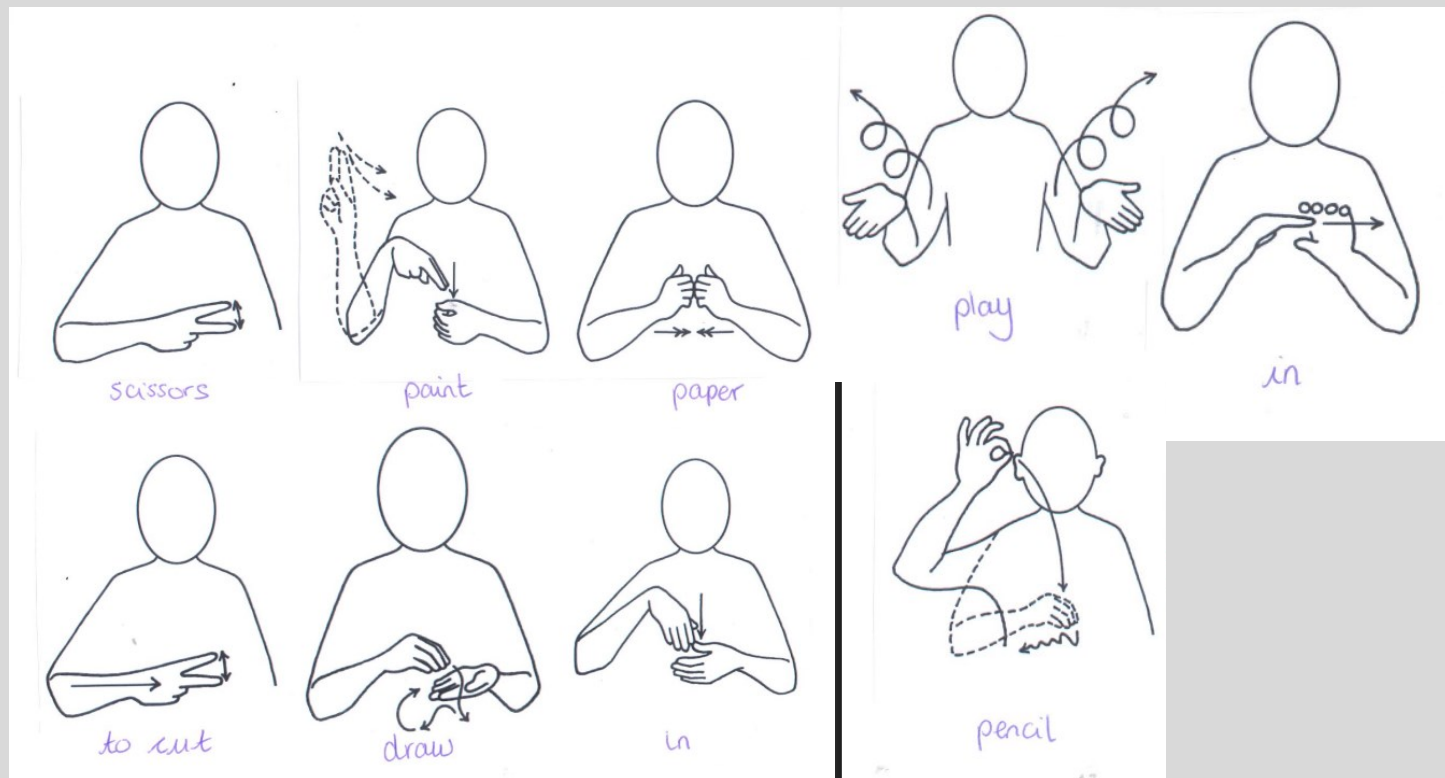
Mrs C Gillespie

Headteacher



Sign with us!

Each week children develop their basic sign language skills so that as a school family we can all communicate with members of our school who use BSL and Makaton.



Language of the Month: Portuguese

We have 17 languages spoken amongst our school family. Each month we explore a different language from our diverse school community.

Welcome	Bem vindo
Hello	Olá
Goodbye	Tchau
Yes	Sim
No	Não
Thank you	Obrigado (m) /Obrigada (f)

One	-	Um
Two	-	Dois
Three	-	Três
Four	-	Quatro
Five	-	Cinco
Six	-	Seis
Seven	-	Sete
Eight	-	Oito
Nine	-	Nove
Ten	-	Dez

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MAKING FRIENDS ONLINE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

In today's digital world, it's increasingly common for children to form friendships with people they've never met in person. While online connections can offer children a sense of belonging, they also carry significant risks. Around 19% of children aged 10 to 15 in England and Wales have chatted online with someone they've never met face to face. This guide offers expert advice for parents and educators on helping children navigate online friendships safely.

ONLINE GROOMING THREATS

Predators can use games, chat apps or social media platforms to build relationships with children and gain their trust. This may quickly develop into grooming or exploitation. Between April 2017 and March 2023, UK police recorded nearly 34,000 online grooming offences – an 82% increase in just five years.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Children may encounter distressing or explicit material while interacting with online contacts – especially via TikTok, Instagram or Snapchat. This is evidenced in a survey by the Children's Commissioner for England, which found that 45% of children aged 8 to 17 had seen content online that made them feel uncomfortable, worried or upset.

PRIVACY AND DATA RISKS

Children and young people often overshare personal details – such as where they live or go to school – without understanding the consequences. In fact, 4.4% of 10 to 15-year-olds in the UK have met up in real life with someone they'd only spoken to online.

COMPROMISED PERSONAL SAFETY

Meeting an online 'friend' in real life risks placing a child in serious danger. From abduction to coercion, the consequences can be devastating. Reports of children being harmed after such meetings are becoming increasingly common in the UK, highlighting the need for safeguarding intervention.

PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS

Online harm – such as cyberbullying, grooming or exposure to disturbing content – can lead to long-term emotional issues, including anxiety, depression and PTSD. 'Sextortion' gangs, who threaten to release sexual information about a person unless they pay them money, have reportedly targeted children as young as 11, leaving them traumatised and ashamed.

LONG-TERM REPERCUSSIONS

Children exposed to harmful online relationships early on may develop unhealthy beliefs about relationships, consent, or self-worth. In a recent case, a 26-year-old posed as a girl on Snapchat to befriend children aged 10 to 16, manipulating them into sexual activity and causing profound emotional distress. One 12-year-old tragically died by suicide, highlighting the long-term psychological harm online friendships with strangers can cause.

26 FRIENDS ONLINE NOW

Advice for Parents & Educators

TEACH SAFE ONLINE HABITS

Help children understand how to use privacy settings, protect their personal information, spot fake profiles, and report anything suspicious or concerning, like pressure tactics. Encourage them to think critically about what they share – and whom they're talking to.

KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Let children know they can talk to you about their online life. Avoid reacting with anger or judgement, as this may prevent them from opening up in the future. A child who feels listened to is more likely to disclose problems before they escalate.

ENCOURAGE REAL-WORLD CONNECTIONS

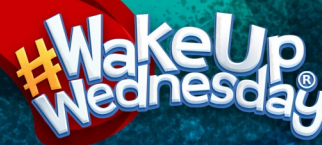
Support children in building friendships through school, clubs, hobbies and activities in the real world. Strong offline relationships help reduce children's reliance on online platforms for social interaction, and can help them develop resilience and social confidence.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Parental control settings on devices, games and apps can help manage screen time, filter out inappropriate content, and monitor activity. While no system is perfect, they provide a valuable layer of protection as children explore digital spaces.

Meet Our Expert

Gabriella Russo is a safeguarding consultant with over 30 years' experience in supporting children, families, and adults across education, local authority, and mental health settings – both in the UK (including at Parliamentary level) and internationally.



The National College

Attendance

School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Our whole school attendance this week is

95.2%

The Government set target is 97%.

Well done to

Year 2 & Year 5

for having the best attendance this week with

100%

Attendance this week

Nursery	90%
Reception	93%
Year 1	94%
Year 2	100%
Year 3	92%
Year 4	93%
Year 5	100%
Year 6	93%

Getting Your Child to School Really Matters



Did You Know... ?

In a School Year, If Your Child is Late Every Day By...

Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...

or They Would Have Missed Approximately...

5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

Please Encourage Punctuality to Maintain Attendance

Happy Birthday!

On this special day,
we celebrate how blessed the world
became when God gave us you.



©WishesMsg.com

Thi Duong

Muizz Adelowo

Emmanuel Olonade

Julia Stawczyk

We care, We share, We value.

Swimming—Wednesday's

Y5 need their swimming kit in school every Wednesday—the coach leaves at 9.00am

Lunch Clubs

Rosary Club—Monday 12.30-1.00
 Minnie Vinnies—Tuesday 12.30-1.00
 Rota Kids—Thursday 12.30-1.00
 Young Carers—Friday 12.30-1.00

School clubs

KS2 Dodgeball—Monday 3.30-4.15pm
 Y1-Y6 Mindfulness—Tuesday 3.30-4.00pm
 Choir Y3-Y6—Wednesday 3.30-4.00pm
 Multi-Skills Y1—Wednesday 8.00-8.40am
 KS2 Books on film—Wednesday 3.30-4.00pm

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAY DATES 2024/2025

Term	School opens on:	School closes on:
Autumn term 2023	3rd September	25th October
	4th November	20th December
Spring term 2024	6th January	14th February
	24th February	4th April
Summer term 2024	22nd April	23rd May
	2nd June	16th July
Inset days	2nd September 17th & 18th July 21st & 22nd July <u>Bank Holidays</u> 18th April 21st April 5th May	

Year Group	Homework
N	Library book read to them (each night) Talking task – phase one phonics (weekly) Practical maths (weekly)
R	Reading (each night) Reading & spelling tricky words practice (weekly) Number (weekly)
KS1	Reading (each night) Times Tables (each night) Reading & spelling tricky words practice (weekly) Maths (weekly) English comprehension (weekly)
KS2	Reading (each night) Times Tables (each night) Reading & spelling tricky words practice (weekly) Maths (weekly) English comprehension (weekly)

CYPMHS Crisis Response service as they have had some updates.

This service is for Children & Young People who are in need of immediate assistance for their **mental health or behaviour.**

<https://www.merseycare.nhs.uk/our-services/warrington/child-and-adolescent-mental-health-service-crisis-response->



What's on in St Helens

Summer 1 Half Term 2025



ADDvanced Solutions Community Network is an open access offer that supports the emotional health and wellbeing of neurodivergent children and young people, their families and the professionals that work with them. Below you will find the learning programmes and workshops for St Helens families. No diagnosis or referral is needed to access the offer.



Learning Programmes
page 3 & 4

[Find out more](#)



Community Network Groups
page 2

[See below](#)



Online Learning Opportunities
page 2

[Find out more](#)

St Helens Community Network Group: Every Tuesday afternoon during term time

An informal, open access learning opportunity to seek advice and support around challenges at all stages of your journey. No need to book, just come along, to meet the team and visiting professionals.

Time: 12:30pm – 2:30pm

Venue: Wonderland Community Centre

Unit 4 Reflection Court, Canal Street. WA10 3JQ.
The community centre is a 10 minute walk from St Helens Central train station and St Helens bus station. It is located opposite the Chapel House car showroom.

[Get directions](#)



Topics this half term:

Tuesday 22 nd April	Introduction to ADHD
Tuesday 29 th April	In partnership with Mako Create
Tuesday 6 th May	Situational Mutism
Tuesday 13 th May	Attachment and Neurodivergence
Tuesday 20 th May	Difficulties Attending School

Online Learning Opportunities

We offer several opportunities for parents and carers to access our offer online if this is your preference. Weekly Community Network Groups, termly workshops and also our Learning Programmes are delivered in a webinar format via Zoom for Healthcare.

Please register in advance to attend.

[View our online calendar here or via the QR code](#)



ONLINE COMMUNITY NETWORK GROUP

Monday mornings
9.30am – 11.00am

[Click here to register](#)

Monday 21st April	Bank Holiday
Monday 28th April	Attachment and Neurodivergence Exploring the similarities and overlap of attachment theory and neurodivergence
Monday 5th May	Bank Holiday
Monday 12th May	Zones of Regulation Supporting children and young people to be more aware of their emotional state
Monday 19th May	Understanding Echolalia Exploring repetitive and unusual patterns of speech.

ONLINE COMMUNITY NETWORK GROUP

Wednesday evenings
5.00pm – 6.30pm

[Click here to register](#)

Wednesday 23rd April	Attachment and Neurodivergence Exploring the similarities and overlap of attachment theory and neurodivergence
Wednesday 30th April	Troubleshooting Homework
Wednesday 7th May	Sharing a Diagnosis
Wednesday 14th May	Understanding Echolalia Exploring repetitive and unusual patterns of speech.
Wednesday 21st May	Benefits Exploring DLA, PIP, and other benefits which may be available to neurodivergent children and young people.

Online 'Supporting Sleep Difficulties' Workshop

An extended webinar workshop, exploring aspects of neurodivergence that can contribute to difficulties with sleep for children and young people and what we can do to support better sleep.

Friday 2nd May – 9.30am – 12.00pm

[Click here to register](#)



Mental Health and Wellbeing Workshop

An extended webinar workshop, exploring how we can support neurodivergent young people to maintain good mental and physical health and wellbeing. Part of our "Preparing for the Future" offer for parents and carers of young people 11+ awaiting an autism or learning disability assessment.

Monday 28th April – 6.30pm – 8.30pm

[Click here to register](#)



Online community network groups and learning workshops provide parents and carers with an understanding of a particular topic around neurodevelopmental conditions. We provide strategies to support children and young people at home and in school, with an opportunity to interact with our team via the chat and Q&A function. If you are using a phone, you will need to download the Zoom app beforehand. Please be mindful of your data usage. If you do not have an unlimited data plan, you may need to connect to a Wi-Fi connection to prevent charges.



Learning Programmes for St Helens parents and carers

We offer learning programmes in St Helens to support parents and carers to understand and meet the needs of their neurodivergent children and young people, pre, during and post diagnosis.

[View our online calendar here](#) or via the QR code to find the latest available dates



Neurodevelopmental Conditions Learning Programme

This programme equips parents and carers with a greater understanding of neurodevelopmental conditions, specific learning difficulties and associated mental health needs and equips them with practical strategies that support the difficulties that may present, including:

- **Neurodevelopmental Conditions – Including Autism, ADHD, Sensory Processing Difficulties, Specific Learning Difficulties.**
- **Managing everyday challenges and behaviours – including sleep, toileting and eating difficulties.**
- **Your Local Offer, disability welfare rights and SEND, Early Help and Education Health Care Plans.**

No referral or diagnosis is needed

[Click here for latest dates to attend face to face or online](#)



Preparing for the Future Learning Programme

Offering parents and carers, in St Helens, Knowsley and Warrington, learning opportunities to understand and better support young people aged 11+.

This is a structured, 6 session learning programme, delivered face to face or online, supporting parents and carers as their young person approaches adulthood:

- **Independent living**
- **Community inclusion**
- **Relationships**
- **Good health and wellbeing**
- **Exploring local provision and services for young people**
- **Planning for transition**
- **Supporting independence**
- **Reasonable adjustments and SEND**
- **Further education and employment**

Venue: Maggie O'Neil Training Centre

433 Liverpool Road, Huyton, Liverpool L36 8HT
(just a few minutes from M57)

Across 3 Fridays – 9.30am – 2.30pm
9th, 16th and 23rd May 2025

[Book Now](#)



Autism Learning Programme

The Autism Learning Programme has been designed to support and empower parents and carers in their understanding of how autism is experienced by children and young people, providing learning, guidance and strategies to better support your child/young person. The programme is commissioned by NHS Cheshire & Merseyside for St Helens parents/ carers whose children and young people have received a diagnosis of ASD.

Across 3 Thursdays – 9.30am – 2.30pm
8th, 15th and 22nd May 2025

Please contact us to book your free place – venue to be confirmed.
Call our office on **01744 582172**, email us on info@advancedsolutions.co.uk

[Register here](#)

Professionals Neurodevelopmental Conditions Awareness Raising Training

Designed to improve professionals' understanding of neurodevelopmental conditions (NDCs), how they may present and how one condition may overlap with another. Professionals attending this training will develop knowledge, skills and confidence to better support neurodiverse children, young people and their families:

- **Understand the differences between and the typical behaviours of ADHD, Autism, and other NDCs**
- **Understand the impact that unsupported and unmanaged NDCs can have on an individual and their family**
- **Understand the impact that sensory processing difficulties can have on children and young people**
- **Identify local support available for professionals, children, young people and their families.**

Tuesday 20th May – 9.15am – 4.00pm – St Helens – venue to be confirmed.

If you are interested in this full day's training, please call the office on 01744 582172 or email info@advancedsolutions.co.uk



St Helens Schools – Professionals online training workshops

Free online training sessions for any staff of St Helens secondary schools, topics this half term are:

Developing Emotional Regulation Tuesday 22nd April – 3.30pm – 5.30pm
Navigating Autism and Demand Avoidance Tuesday 13th May – 3.30pm – 5.30pm

[Book Now](#)

Preparing for Adulthood Professionals Workshop

A webinar workshop, exploring how professionals can support neurodivergent young people as they prepare for adulthood. Part of our "Preparing for the Future" project to support young people 11+ awaiting an autism or learning disability assessment.

Tuesday 29th April – 3.30pm – 5.30pm

[Click here to register](#)

Seeking Crisis Support?

ADDvanced Solutions Community Network is not a crisis service. If you, a child or young person is experiencing acute distress and is deemed to be a risk to themselves or others, please see our [urgent support page](#).



The details we request when you register are kept securely and used in line with our privacy policy: <https://www.addvancedsolutions.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Privacy-Policy.pdf>

Get in touch with us



Neurodevelopment pathway drop ins



Mersey Care
NHS Foundation Trust

Come along to one of our drop in sessions in St Helens.

Our team will answer questions you have about the neurodevelopment pathway process.

You don't need to be using our service, you can drop in if you have any questions to ask about this.

We look forward to meeting you.

Second Tuesday of the month at Parr Children's Centre, 9.30am to 11.30am and Sutton Family Hub 1pm to 4pm*.

Third Tuesday of the month at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

Fourth Tuesday of the month at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

*Please note, on Tuesday 8 July the session will be held at Sutton Family Hub 1pm to 4pm only.

13 May at Parr Children's Centre, 9.30am to 11.30am and Sutton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

10 June at Parr Children's Centre, 9.30am to 11.30am and Sutton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

8 July at Sutton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

20 May at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

17 June at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

15 July at Newton Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

27 May at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

24 June at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

22 July at Central Link Family Hub, 1pm to 4pm.

Sutton Family Hub, Ellamsbridge Road, Sutton, St Helens, WA9 3PY

Parr Children's Centre, Ashton's Green Drive, Parr, St Helens, WA9 2AP

Central Link Family Hub, Westfield Street, (off Peter Street), St Helens, WA10 1QF





FREE! DEAF AWARENESS TRAINING IN HALTON

as part of



Deaf Awareness Week takes place in May and to bridge the gap between the hearing and Deaf/Hard of Hearing community we have a **FREE** 2 hour Deaf Awareness Session, in Halton.

In brief you will cover:

- Deaf awareness
- Deaf culture
- Working with D/deaf people
- Effective communication
- Working with Interpreters

Our Deaf Awareness Training (DAT) is a valuable course for individuals, organisations or businesses.

BOOK HERE



When? **Wednesday 21st May, 2025**



Time? **2-4pm**



Halton Sensory Service, 126 Widnes Road, WA8 6AX

for further information contact:

01744 23887 or email: training@deafnessresourcecentre.org

Active April 2025

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



1 Commit to being more active this month, starting today

2 Spend as much time as possible outdoors today

3 Listen to your body and be grateful for what it can do

4 Eat healthy and natural food today and drink lots of water

5 Turn a regular activity into a playful game today

6 Do a body-scan meditation and really notice how your body feels

7 Get natural light early in the day. Dim the lights in the evening

8 Give your body a boost by laughing or making someone laugh

9 Turn your housework or chores into a fun form of exercise

10 Have a day with less screen time and more movement

11 Set yourself an exercise goal or sign up to an activity challenge

12 Move as much as possible, even if you're stuck inside

13 Make sleep a priority and go to bed in good time

14 Relax your body & mind with yoga, tai chi or meditation

15 Get active by singing today (even if you think you can't sing!)

16 Go exploring around your local area and notice new things

17 Be active outside. Plant some seeds and encourage growth

18 Try out a new exercise, activity or dance class

19 Spend less time sitting today. Get up and move more often

20 Focus on 'eating a rainbow' of multi-coloured vegetables today

21 Regularly pause to stretch and breathe during the day

22 Enjoy moving to your favourite music. Really go for it

23 Go out and do an errand for a loved one or neighbour

24 Get active in nature. Feed the birds or go wildlife-spotting

25 Have a 'no screens' night and take time to recharge yourself

26 Take an extra break in your day and walk outside for 15 minutes

27 Find a fun exercise to do while waiting for the kettle to boil

28 Meet a friend outside for a walk and a chat

29 Become an activist for a cause you really believe in

30 Make time to run, swim, dance, cycle or stretch today



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

MUSIC SERVICE ENSEMBLES AT ST HELENS TOWN HALL

2024 - 25 FREE!

TUESDAY...

ROCK & POP BAND

4.30PM - 5.50PM

WEDNESDAY

WIDER OPPORTUNITIES BAND

4PM - 5PM

WEDNESDAY

INTERMEDIATE WIND BAND

4PM - 5PM

WEDNESDAY

INTERMEDIATE STRINGS

4PM - 5PM

WEDNESDAY

MUSIC THEORY CLUB

4PM - 5PM

WEDNESDAY

YOUTH WIND ORCHESTRA

5.15PM - 6.30PM

WEDNESDAY

SINFONIA

5.15PM - 6.30PM

WEDNESDAY

MUSIC THEORY CLUB

5.15PM - 6.30PM



ST HELENS COUNCIL MUSIC SERVICE

INSPIRING MUSICAL CREATIVITY FOR EVERY CHILD AND YOUNG PERSON WE WORK WITH



@sthelensmusic



@sthelensmusicservice

01744 677946

musicservice@sthelens.gov.uk

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO JOIN AND REGISTER TODAY



ASDA Cashpot for schools

If you shop at ASDA, please consider selecting us as your chosen school as this will help our school cashpot to grow.

**you scan,
we DONATE
££s TO
SCHOOLS.**



Asda Rewards Cashpot for Schools

[Cashpot for Schools Terms & Conditions](#)

[Asda Rewards terms & Conditions](#)

1

Download and sign up to the Asda Rewards app

Opt into the Cashpot for Schools campaign and select a specific primary school or select 'Schools in Need'.

2

Shop in store across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com

Asda will donate a percentage of your shop to your chosen school each time you shop and scan.

3

Asda does the rest

The money raised will be donated through Parentkind to schools to spend on what they need most. This won't affect your own Cashpot earn.

Once opted in and selected a school, we will add £1 to your chosen schools Cashpot to help get them started.

Each school will get an additional £50 added to their Cashpot, after at least one customer has shopped and scanned their Rewards app.



Download on the
App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play

See Miss Davies for more information on main meals for the family for £4 per week.



Wesley Methodist Church
Vincent Street, St Helens WA10 1LF

For a **small weekly fee** local residents can join up as members and access a whole range of benefits.

Entrance to a weekly shop at the Pantry

Meet new people or volunteer

Free welcome gifts

Pay by cash or standing order



There are no qualifying rules for joining and we also give out tea/coffee and toast while you wait.

www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk

[f @Hopesthelens](https://www.facebook.com/Hopesthelens) [@Hopesthelens](https://www.instagram.com/Hopesthelens)

You can also call us on 01744 264 14