

# Short Breaks Newsletter



May 2023

## Telford and Wrekin's Leisure Services have improved their inclusive offer!

A partnership of people across Telford and Wrekin's Leisure services, Adult and Children's Social Care and parent carer forums have worked together to support and improve the delivery, inclusivity and accessibility of the Leisure offer to local people with disabilities.

- 80% of staff within Leisure Services have received Disability Awareness training, delivered by PODS Charity, to ensure there are knowledgeable staff at every location across the borough to assist or advise local residents with disabilities.
- Wellington and Abraham Darby Leisure Centre have replaced several pieces of gym equipment with accessible pieces, for example, swing assisted seats. Stirchley gym now has a full stock of accessible equipment that can be used by people with a variety of access requirements.
- Telford Ice Rink hold an additional SEND Skating session every Friday at 10-12pm and 5-6pm, due to popular demand.
- Telford Ice Rink hold two Soft Play sessions every Monday at 4-5.30pm for juniors and 6-8pm for seniors. This has been very well received by the public so far.
- Abraham Darby, Oakengates and Wellington Leisure Centre hold several SEND Swimming lessons every week and all staff members are trained to operate hoists, if required. They can be booked by calling the leisure centre reception.
- Telford Town Park has a brand new play area opening in May 2023 and can be accessed by children with disabilities. The new park will include wheelchair accessible equipment for local children to enjoy.

**Matthew Newens—Group Operations Manager Leisure & Southwater** *"Our aim within leisure services was to bring together a number of people including social care and parent carer forums to help support and improve the delivery, inclusivity and accessibility of our Leisure facilities and what we offer to local families, children and adults with learning, physical disabilities and Autism. I'm delighted with the work that we have delivered so far which has included upskilling a large proportion of the leisure workforce with more knowledge and awareness, refurbishing our Aspirations Health & Fitness facilities including specialist equipment at the Stirchley Leisure site, providing SEND soft play and skating sessions at the Telford Ice Rink, accessible equipment at the Junior play park in addition to accessing the water play area for during the summer months. We will continue to work with groups such as PODs in order to help further improve our offer and accessibility to our facilities."*

**Jayne Stevens—Strategic Coordinator PODS Parent Carer Forum** *"PODS are very pleased with the developments of the Inclusive Leisure Project that has worked hard to ensure that families with disabled children are heard in service development, from a survey about local provision, through to development of the refurbished gyms, including the specialist equipment at Stirchley, the Soft play, SEND sessions at the Ice Rink. We are pleased that the summer will see the return of the Water Play sessions on Saturday mornings and the additional accessible equipment at the Junior play park will be a bonus. We welcome the opportunity to work with Matt Newens and his team going forward and discuss how best to meet the needs of our local community."*

## SEND Community Based Activities Spotlight

We are so lucky in Telford to have a wide choice of accessible activities for children to get involved in, find new hobbies and socialise with their peers. As the weather has been up and down recently, here are some examples of the indoor activities that you and your children may be interested in:

**Let's Roll**—an indoor roller skating club open to all children, regardless of their ability. Every Sunday 10-12pm at Hadley Leisure Centre. Search 'lets roll' on Facebook or call 078165117860.

**Telford Chin Woo**—a Martial Arts club for children with disabilities. Visit [www.telfordchinwoo.co.uk](http://www.telfordchinwoo.co.uk) for more information.

**Cavalier Centre**—a horse riding centre that hosts several activities for children with disabilities. Visit [www.cavaliercentre.org](http://www.cavaliercentre.org) for more information.

More of Telford's activities are available on: [www.telfordsend.org.uk](http://www.telfordsend.org.uk)



## Join Our Children with Disabilities Register

The Children Act 1989 required all local authorities to establish a register of children with a disability in their area. To find out more about the register or to request a registration form and information pack, please email [shortbreaks@telford.gov.uk](mailto:shortbreaks@telford.gov.uk)

### SEND Drop In

A new SEND Drop In has been arranged, it provides an opportunity for parents, carers and young people to talk to a SEND Officer. The Drop In has been arranged to enable families to request advice from Future Focus Careers Advisors at the same time, as appropriate. The Drop Ins are every Monday at 1-4pm at Youth Hub (Floor 2), Southwater One, Southwater Square, Southwater Way, Telford, TF4 4JG

## Contact Us

If you have any queries about anything on the newsletter or any activities or events you would like to be added to the newsletter calendar to spread the word and increase attendance, please email [shortbreaks@telford.gov.uk](mailto:shortbreaks@telford.gov.uk)  
You can view all parts of our SEND Local Offer, including a copy of our SEND Activities booklet on our website: [www.telfordsend.org.uk](http://www.telfordsend.org.uk)

## Activities Locations and Booking Information

Below is a list of some of the local things to do for families and young people to get involved in.  
Follow the link to find out more.

**PODS Charity**—To book any PODS activities, visit [www.ticketsource.co.uk/Parents-Opening-Doors-PODS](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/Parents-Opening-Doors-PODS). For any queries, contact [support@podstelford.org](mailto:support@podstelford.org)

**Funky Friday Inclusive Disco**—£4 each. The Navy Club, Bellman's Yard. Newport, TF10 7AJ.

**Airea 51 SEN Session**—Airea 51, Stafford Park 12, Telford, TF3 3BJ. To book, visit the Airea 51 website.

**Youth Club 2021**—104-106 Southgate, Telford, TF7 4HG. To book, call 01952898052.

**Pirates and Princesses**—Unit 17, Cedar Court, Halesfield 17, TF7 4PF. To book, call 01952582382.

For details on Telford and Wrekin Leisure Services sessions, visit the Council website or contact the venues directly.

Local Offer  
for Special Educational Needs and Disability

Discover everything you need to know about education, health and care services in your local area for children and young people with SEND 0-25yrs at [www.telfordsend.org.uk](http://www.telfordsend.org.uk)



Telford & Wrekin  
Co-operative Council

Protect, care and invest  
to create a better borough

# What's on May 2023

Monday 1st	Tuesday 2nd	Wednesday 3rd	Thursday 4th	Friday 5th	Saturday 6th	Sunday 7th
		PODS Lego Club 4-5pm	SNAC Activities 10.30-1.30pm  Youth Club 2021 15-18 years 5-7pm	Ice Rink Session 10-12pm 5-6pm		SEND Swimming Session Abraham Darby 12:15-1:30pm  Pirates and Princesses SEN Sessions 9-10.30am
Monday 8th	Tuesday 9th	Wednesday 10th	Thursday 11th	Friday 12th	Saturday 13th	Sunday 14th
PODS Kings Coronation Afternoon Tea 1-4pm  Soft Play at the Ice Rink Junior 4-5.30pm Senior 6-8pm	PODS Minecraft Club 4-5pm  Pirates and Princesses SEN Sessions 4-6pm  Airea 51 SEND Session 6-7pm	PODS Lego Club 4-5pm  Airea 51 SEND Session 6-7pm	PODS Games Session 4-5pm  SNAC Activities 10.30-1.30pm  Youth Club 2021 15-18 years 5-7pm	Ice Rink Session 10-12pm 5-6pm		SEND Swimming Session Abraham Darby 12:15-1:30pm  Pirates and Princesses SEN Sessions 9-10.30am
Monday 15th	Tuesday 16th	Wednesday 17th	Thursday 18th	Friday 19th	Saturday 20th	Sunday 21st
Soft Play at the Ice Rink Junior 4-5.30pm Senior 6-8pm  PODS Code Club 3:45-4:45pm	PODS Minecraft Club 4-5pm  Pirates and Princesses SEN Sessions 4-6pm  Airea 51 SEND Session 6-7pm	PODS Lego Club 4-5pm  PODS Menspace 12-2pm  Airea 51 SEND Session 6-7pm	SNAC Activities 10.30-1.30pm  Youth Club 2021 15-18 years 5-7pm	Ice Rink Session 10-12pm 5-6pm  Funky Friday Inclusive Disco 15+ 7pm		SEND Swimming Session Abraham Darby 12:15-1:30pm  Pirates and Princesses SEN Sessions 9-10.30am
Monday 22nd	Tuesday 23rd	Wednesday 24th	Thursday 25th	Friday 26th	Saturday 27th	Sunday 28th
Soft Play at the Ice Rink Junior 4-5.30pm Senior 6-8pm	PODS Minecraft Club 4-5pm  Pirates and Princesses SEN Sessions 4-6pm  Airea 51 SEND Session 6-7pm	PODS Lego Club 4-5pm  Airea 51 SEND Session 6-7pm	SNAC Activities 10.30-1.30pm  PODS Wolf Yoga 4-5pm  Youth Club 2021 15-18 years 5-7pm	Ice Rink Session 10-12pm 5-6pm		SEND Swimming Session Abraham Darby 12:15-1:30pm  Pirates and Princesses SEN Sessions 9-10.30am
Monday 29th	Tuesday 30th	Wednesday 31st				
Soft Play at the Ice Rink Junior 4-5.30pm Senior 6-8pm	PODS Minecraft Club 4-5pm  Pirates and Princesses SEN Sessions 4-6pm  Airea 51 SEND Session 6-7pm	PODS Lego Club 4-5pm  Airea 51 SEND Session 6-7pm				

# What's on June 2023

			Thursday 1st	Friday 2nd	Saturday 3rd	Sunday 4th
			SNAC Activities 10.30-1.30pm  Youth Club 2021 15-18 years 5-7pm	Ice Rink Session 10-12pm 5-6pm		SEND Swimming Session Abraham Darby 12:15-1:30pm  Pirates and Princesses SEN Sessions 9-10.30am
Monday 5th	Tuesday 6th	Wednesday 7th	Thursday 8th	Friday 9th	Saturday 10th	Sunday 11th
Soft Play at the Ice Rink Junior 4-5.30pm Senior 6-8pm	PODS Minecraft Club 4-5pm  Pirates and Princesses SEN Sessions 4-6pm  Airea 51 SEND Session 6-7pm	PODS Lego Club 4-5pm  Airea 51 SEND Session 6-7pm	PODS Games Session 4-5pm  SNAC Activities 10.30-1.30pm  Youth Club 2021 15-18 years 5-7pm	Ice Rink Session 10-12pm 5-6pm		SEND Swimming Session Abraham Darby 12:15-1:30pm  Pirates and Princesses SEN Sessions 9-10.30am
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Monday 19th	Tuesday 20th	Wednesday 21st	Thursday 22nd	Friday 23rd	Saturday 24th	Sunday 25th
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Monday 26th	Tuesday 27th	Wednesday 28th	Thursday 29th	Friday 30th		
Soft Play at the Ice Rink Junior 4-5.30pm Senior 6-8pm	PODS Minecraft Club 4-5pm  Pirates and Princesses SEN Sessions 4-6pm  Airea 51 SEND Session 6-7pm	PODS Lego Club 4-5pm  Airea 51 SEND Session 6-7pm				