

7<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Thames Valley School  
Newsletter



National  
Autistic  
Society



Thames  
Valley  
School



Class of the week:

Smale, for  
improved  
engagement in  
lessons from all  
students.



A Message from the Deputy Principal

This week we have had some very brave young men in our Primary Department, who participated in their immunisation programme, without complaint. Well done, gents! As a school we actively encourage partnership working, and this is a great example of this. We also work with local employers and business partnerships (we are arranging Work Experience for early next year), as well as the Police (Safer Schools), health (immunisations), local Alternative Provisions (such as Reading Football Club), and others. It is important for us to be part of the wider community.

We have a new member of staff joining us, Stacia Pettersen is a very experienced practitioner who has worked around the country supporting schools who are on an improvement journey. Ms Pettersen joined us on Monday and will be working with the Senior Leadership Team as well as the wider Trust to turbocharge our plan to get ready for our next Ofsted inspection.

Today has been a particularly challenging day, our amazing Site Manager Mr Holder came in to school to a flooding incident on the first floor which caused significant damage to the Primary Department on the ground floor. With a heavy heart we had to close two classes and offer online learning. We have worked solidly all day (support staff helping out to clear the damage and restore the school to serviceable), and will continue to do so with the aim of opening the classes again on Monday. We will keep you posted.

Have a restful weekend and we will see you again on Monday!

*Mr Calvert, Deputy Principal*

# This week's assembly was on Sukkot

## Before I explain what Sukkot is....



He is famous for rescuing the Israelites from the Egyptians and parting the red sea.

Do you remember a man called Moses?



The Israelites then wandered in the desert for 40 years. During this time God gave Moses the 10 commandments.

## Before I explain what Sukkot is....



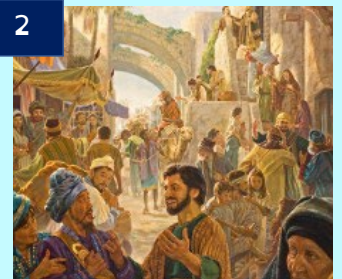
When the Israelites arrived in the promised land. They were commanded to worship daily. They were also commanded to participate in 3 major feasts.

1



Passover

2



Weeks / Pentecost

3

FEAST OF TABERNACLES



Tabernacles / Booths / Sukkot

# Israel



Israel grows most of its food in our winter and harvests it in spring, summer and autumn.

For each harvest, there is a feast.

1

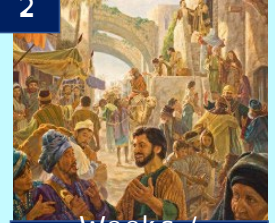


Passover

This happens just before Easter weekend. Usually in late March/ early April

This occurs 50 days after Passover. This year it was May 16<sup>th</sup>.

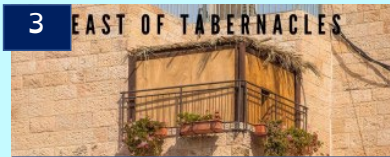
2



Weeks / Pentecost

3

EAST OF TABERNACLES



Tabernacles / Booths / Sukkot

This is the final harvest festival.

## What happens during Sukkot

### Hoshana Rabbah

The seventh day of Sukkot is called 'Hoshana Rabbah' which means 'the great help'. It is named Hoshana Rabbah after a prayer said on this day.

The night before Hoshana Rabbah people pray and study because Hoshana Rabbah is believed to be the final opportunity for God to judge what will happen to Jewish people the following year.

On the day of Hoshana Rabbah, Jewish people visit the synagogue. They say prayers for a good harvest while shaking four species which they wrap into a bundle.





# Sukkot

9<sup>th</sup> October – 16<sup>th</sup> October



This week in assembly we looked at the Jewish Festival of Sukkot.

This is sometimes called the festival of tabernacles or feast of booths.

This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> pilgrimage feast in the Jewish calendar. It takes place in September/October time each year and last for a week.



During this holiday, Jewish families build a Sukkah to 'dwell' in for the week. This is a temporary building with branches/ leaves or grasses as a roof.

It is to remind Jews of the 'booths' they lived in when they were wandering in the wilderness.

**Jews will often invite their friend and family over to spend time in their Sukkah.**

**It is a joyous celebration where Jews celebrate the final harvest and God's protection.**



**This year, Sukkot begins on the evening of Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October and finishes on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October**

## **Ways to celebrate Sukkot**

**Try building a Sukkah in the garden  
or build a fort in the living room**

**Encourage children to make welcome  
signs and garlands.**

**Make paper lanterns with the  
children**

**Children could prepare snacks like  
pizza, tacos and invite friends over for  
a sleepover in the sukkah or fort.**

**Invite guests over for music,  
dancing and good food.**

# Speech and Language Department

## Supporting your child to discover shared-interests with a peer...

### Starting the conversation:

Some children may find it difficult to know how to start a conversation with someone they would like to be friends with. It can be helpful to have some prepared questions or introductions to start the conversation to reduce anxiety.

Chat with your child about some ways they could start a conversation with someone they would like to be friends with. They could practise this interaction with an adult if they think that would be helpful.

Examples may include:

- **Saying hello and saying their name.**
- **Asking what the person's name is.**
- **Asking if they can play or join in.**
- **Talking about the environment, such as the weather or the place you are in.**

These 'small talk' questions may progress into deeper conversations. Can your child think of topics they could talk about with a new friend: For example, video games, movies, bands, books, YouTube, board games etc. This will help your child to work out if they have any shared interests.



## Design Technology

For this DT project, year 7 looked into graphic design and analysed different DVD covers. They discussed what different features are included in a cover and why, and then applied this to their own DVD design, following a design brief. Throughout the designing portion of this project, students are learning how to use PowerPoint to create an appropriate layout, how to remove the background of images and how to select and edit different fonts. Year 7's should be very proud of their progress!

Miss Pirkl

**DVD COVER DESIGN**

did case design a cover aged at 9-13 years old Point of sale

Task 1 Lesson 1

**DVD COVER RESEARCH**

Extension

Collect examples of existing DVD covers. Use copies ONLY and try to find examples in catalogues that are reduced in size as you will need to present several on this page.



ANALYSIS Use the space below to create a brainstorm for your DVD cover design. Think about all the things the cover should have and also the things it could have. Peter rabbit 2

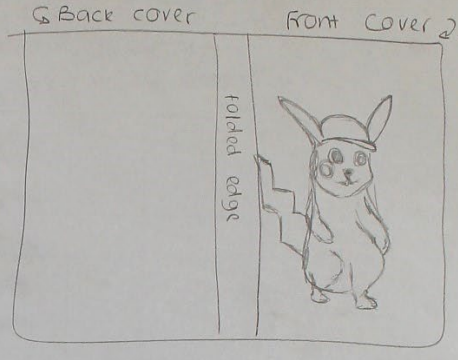
Task 2 Lesson 1

restand the ratio and this writing brief.

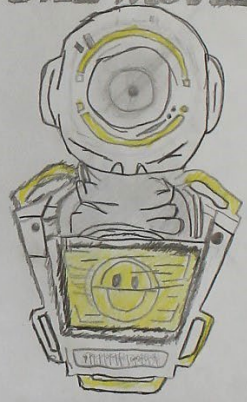
- Lesson Objective: The piece of work shows that my understanding, skill or knowledge of the lesson objective is currently:
- Emerging
  - Working Towards
  - Meeting Expectations
  - Exceeding Expectations

You wrote your design brief and created a detailed design. EBI Write in full sentences. : SHEET 1 GRADE N.C. LEVEL

NICOL 30/10



Apex Legends The movie



# IMPORTANT

We are always updating the student/pupil records, so please contact the office on [office@thamesvalley.reading.sch.uk](mailto:office@thamesvalley.reading.sch.uk) or [tinalalph@thamesvalley.reading.sch.uk](mailto:tinalalph@thamesvalley.reading.sch.uk) to advise of any food allergies or intolerances, or changes to circumstances.

## Water Bottles

### Water Bottles

As the weather becomes warmer, please remember to provide your child with a water bottle.

To ensure these are used for their intended purpose, please support us by providing a **plastic** water bottle. This can be refilled throughout the day by staff.



# Friends of TVS

## MAIN MESSAGE:

**This is a new group and a new way for parents to be involved. We can only do it if you help us by joining in, however you can.**

## **FoTVS is a way for parents to help the School by:**

- Supporting new parents
- Helping School Fundraise
- Promote opportunities for social activities

## **At the moment we are helping with:**

- Online Family Quizzes
- New parent buddy system
- TVS BBQ & Sports Days
- Parent WhatsApp Groups
- FoTVS Facebook closed group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/friendsoftvs/>
  - Pre-loved school uniform sales
  - Fundraise for the new TVS sensory garden

**If you want to find out more, join in or help us, please email us [friendsoftvs@gmail.com](mailto:friendsoftvs@gmail.com)**



# **(Deputy) Principal's Awards!**

**HERE ARE THE AWARDS FROM THE WEEK BEGINNING 3 October:**

**McGuinness:** Alfie, for building positive friendships with peers, AND Wilf, for using self regulation strategies and walking away from dysregulating situations.

**Applegate:** Jacob, for his eagerness to engage in every lessons and constantly making the right choices to stay safe.

**Packham:** Nicolas, for engaging in lessons and regulating using his MP3 player

**Hopkins:** Marshall, for working hard and engaging in lessons

**Tajiri:** Harry, for regulating his feelings and communicating his thoughts and emotions

**Hegerty:** Kian, for consistent attendance and engagement

**Thunberg:** James, for a successful first visit to the farm

**Wiltshire:** Aiden, for fantastic work in English this week

**De Blois:** Jack, for managing disappointment well and responding positively

**Smale:** Naomi for continued engagement in her studies

**Principal's Shield:** Miles, for doing some really good 1-1 work with Max this week, exploring feelings and family.

**Staff member of the week:** Mr Holder (and his team), who have worked tirelessly all week to make sure the school looks amazing. Mr Holder has had to manage quite a bit of damage to the school, and never complains. Thank you!


# Our Designated Safeguarding Team



## Safeguarding Team at Thames Valley School



**Miss R Archer**  
Designated Safeguarding  
Lead



Safeguarding Lead

**Mrs G Buley**  
QOL and SENCO



Deputy Safeguarding Officer

**Mr S Calvert**  
Deputy Principal



Deputy Safeguarding Officer

**Ms J Southby**  
Governor



Safeguarding Governor

**Everyone has the right to feel safe at ALL times.**

Children's Social Care – For reporting concerns **READING** Single point of access – Tel: 0118 937 3641  
Email: [Childrensinglepntofaccess@reading.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:Childrensinglepntofaccess@reading.gcsx.gov.uk)

To report and incident to the **LADO** – Local Authority Designated Officer – Tel 0118 937 2685  
Email: [LADO@brighterfuturesforchildren.org](mailto:LADO@brighterfuturesforchildren.org)







AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**  
with parental permission

# What parents need to know

# Twitch



Twitch is a gaming-focused live-streaming service, owned by Amazon, where you can watch others play games live and listen to commentary as they play. It has 15 million daily active users and more than three million people live broadcast video game streams and other content on Twitch, with channels dedicated to just about every popular video game imaginable – both modern and retro. There are also shows that feature gaming competitions, professional tournaments, game-related chat and news. Plus, numerous non-gaming channels covering everything from cookery and music to art and travel. But Twitch is not just about watching other people's shows – anyone can broadcast their own gaming action.



LIVE

## Top Tips for Parents

### THE RISK - IT'S LIVE & UNCENSORED

As gamers get engrossed in their games, it is very common to hear rather choice words, so the chance of your child encountering swear words and bad language is extremely high. There is not only the language of the person running the stream that you need to consider, but also the language of other Twitch users in the text-based chat that accompanies streams.

#### What parents can do

There's not much you can do to reduce exposure to bad language on Twitch, but if there are any troublesome users, it is possible to block them. It is a good idea to spend a little time with your child as they explore different channels on the platform, as this will give you an idea of the sort of content they are being exposed to. As Twitch does not offer any parental control options, this is the best way to police what your child is doing. If your child is overwhelmed or disturbed by comments that are being posted in the stream chat, it is possible to hide it from view by clicking the little arrow to the right of the Subscribe button.

### THE RISK - VIOLENT GAMES & ADULT CONTENT

Like so many websites, Twitch does not allow children under the age of 13 to create an account, but in practice, there's nothing to stop anyone signing up by simply entering a false date of birth. In addition to swearing, commentary provided by other Twitch users may well contain adult content, and the games themselves can be rather violent. Bear in mind that many of the games on the market these days have an age rating of 18, and this is indicative of the bad language, sexual content and violence that they may contain.

#### What parents can do

There is nothing that can be done to prevent your child from accessing whatever channel they want – short of using your router settings or parental control software to block access to the site completely. One of the problems with Twitch is that while there is plenty of child-friendly content out there, it is not at all easy to quickly identify what might not be suitable. Spend some time working with your child to help identify channels that will be appropriate for them. While it may be hard to ensure they stick to these channels, it is useful for them to know that there is content available that is not overtly adult in nature.

### THE RISK - POTENTIAL COSTS

By default, Twitch is ad-supported, but there is a monthly subscription option – called Twitch Turbo – that offers an ad-free experience. On top of this, it is possible to subscribe to individual channels, and each one is chargeable individually. There's also Twitch Prime, a premium experience included with the Amazon Prime and Prime Video subscription memberships, which offers bonus games and exclusive in-game content and Twitch Merch – an online store offering merchandise, such as T-shirts and hoodies. Twitch Bits is a virtual currency that gives your child the power to encourage and show support for streamers – through 'cheers' – and get attention in chat through animated emoticons. Bits cost real money and there's one option to buy 25,000 Bits for £288. It's easy to see how costs could very quickly mount up the more involved your child gets into Twitch.

#### What parents can do

Take steps to restrict access to your credit/debit card, as well as your PayPal account, to avoid getting hit by a large bill. If you are able to access your child's Twitch account, it is possible to check their purchase history, so you can see if they are spending too much money on subscriptions or donations. Explain to your child that subscribing to channels and purchasing Bits for cheers is optional, and that they can watch and enjoy a stream without doing either.

### THE RISK - UNWANTED CONTACT FROM OTHER USERS

Just like any website or platform with a social element to it, there is the risk that your child will not only come into contact with the sort of people you might rather they didn't, but also that they could be harassed, groomed or bullied online.

#### What parents can do

Within Twitch settings, in the Security and Privacy section, it is possible to block messages – known as 'whispers' – from strangers. It's worth noting that this option only blocks messages by those who are not 'your friend, someone you follow, someone you subscribe to, one of your mods, or one of your editors'. Talking things further, it is possible to completely block users who become problematic. Show your child how to make use of this option by clicking on a user's name and in the little pop-up that appears, click the icon that looks like a little speech bubble to block them. If your child wishes to report the user to Twitch, click the three dots button beneath the block option and click Report.

### THE RISK - WEBCAM SHARING

As well as seeing streaming footage of games, Twitch also lets users share their webcam, so people can see them. This gives yet another way for people to share inappropriate content, and it also gives another way for streamers to subject your child to advertising, sponsored content and product placement.

#### What parents can do

Getting involved in your child's use of Twitch is the best way to keep an eye on the sort of content they are consuming and intervene if anything inappropriate crops up. As part of your conversations with your child about what is appropriate to share online, try to educate them about careful use of their own webcam if they choose to stream their own gaming. As well as ensuring they are not encouraged into doing anything inappropriate on camera, it is also important to check that anything that can be used to identify them is not included in shot.

### THE RISK - TWITCH EMOTES

Twitch's interactive chat feature is littered with emoticons or 'emotes', which for first time users will be completely bewildering. They typically feature faces of notable streamers, Twitch employees or fictional characters, such as a grey-scale photograph of a game developer known as Kappa, which is often used in Twitch chat as a symbol of sarcasm or mockery. Your child may be upset or sensitive if they are the target of negative emotes while chatting with other gamers, or they may find some emoticons offensive.

#### What parents can do

Chat to your child about how they use Twitch and show an interest in understanding how it works. There are lots of online guides to Twitch emotes if you really want to get clued up on what your child is talking about in chats. Twitch's terms of service dictate that emotes must not be used for harassment – defined by 'targeted insults, defamation, intimidation, and threats of any nature'. If your child finds an emote that violates guidelines, they can report it via the 'User Report' tool. Channel owners can also add specific emotes to their 'Channel Banned Words' list.

SOURCES:  
<https://www.twitch.tv/>



National Online Safety  
A whole school community approach to online safety  
[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)

Email us at [hello@nationalonlinesafety.com](mailto:hello@nationalonlinesafety.com) or call us on 0800 368 8061



## School Calendar:

20 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents' Evening
21 <sup>st</sup> October	End of term

Some of you may have had difficulty accessing the school website in the last week. We've just updated the address to

[www.thamesvalleyschool.org.uk](http://www.thamesvalleyschool.org.uk) ,

please let us know if there are any issues or errors.



This page is for you at home to send in notices that you think other families might find interesting or helpful. Email [simoncalvert@thamesvalley.reading.sch.uk](mailto:simoncalvert@thamesvalley.reading.sch.uk) with your notice.

Please send in any school uniform that has been outgrown but is still in good condition. The Friends of TVS will be arranging a redistribution, and we don't have much stock at the moment, so always happy to accept more!

Ruth, Friends of TVS

# Parenting Programme

## June 2022 – March 2023



An annual planner for **FREE** parenting sessions held in our various children's centres across Reading.

June start  
2022

Whitley Children's Centre  
AM  
Mellow Bumps  
Starting Tues 7 June  
10-11.30am  
6 weeks  
PM  
Dads-to-be evening class  
2 hours, 2 weeks

July start  
2022

Sun Street Children's Centre  
AM  
Mellow Bumps  
2 hours, 6 weeks

Sept start  
2022

Sun Street Children's Centre  
AM  
YMTB  
9.30am – 1.30pm  
Weds, 12 weeks  
PM  
Webster Stratton evening class  
2 hours, 12 weeks  
Ranikhet Children's Centre  
Mellow Mums and Babies  
All day, 14 weeks

October start  
2022

Southcote Children's Centre  
PM  
Dads-to-be evening class  
2 hours, 2 weeks

Jan start  
2023

Sun Street Children's Centre  
AM  
YMTB  
9.30am – 1.30pm  
Weds, 12 weeks  
Ranikhet Children's Centre  
AM  
Mellow Bumps  
2 hours, 6 weeks  
Whitley Children's Centre  
AM  
Webster Stratton  
2 hours, 12 weeks

March start  
2023

Southcote Children's Centre  
Mellow Mums & Babies  
All day, 14 weeks

Find out more!



For all sessions, please book your place.

Email: [reading.childrenscentres@brighterfuturesforchildren.org](mailto:reading.childrenscentres@brighterfuturesforchildren.org)

more info overleaf

Follow us at  
@BFCchild



# More information on our FREE parenting sessions



**YMTB Young Mums-To-Be:** A 12-week antenatal course taught with a Poppy Team midwife to help pregnant young first time mums prepare for a new life as a parent. You will learn about having your baby and preparing for labour and birth. We explore the changes to you and your baby to understand antenatal development. We discuss the knowledge and understanding you need to care for your baby in the first 6 months and the support available. The course aims to help you develop skills around social interactions, managing emotional well-being and self-confidence.

**Dads-To-Be:** A 2-week evening session where expectant fathers can get practical advice from a midwife from the RBH and explore the emotional implications of having a new baby on both parents, as well as ways to support emotional well-being. It is a relaxed, friendly session and a great way to meet other expectant fathers.

**Mellow Bumps:** A 6-week antenatal group, especially relevant for families needing extra support eg. those working with a family worker, social worker, specialist midwifery team, perinatal mental health team or requiring extra support from health-visiting team. It is intended to decrease the stress levels of mums-to-be in pregnancy, to understand the importance of early interaction with babies for their brain development. The mums-to-be are also helped to identify their own needs and how to access support both in pregnancy and after the birth of their baby.

**Mellow Mums & Babies:** A 14-week, one day a week group for mums with babies aged 12 weeks to 1.5 years. Free creche on site where the babies will be cared for 2 hours in the morning and 2 hours in the afternoon. Between sessions there is a shared lunch and joint activity to help parents to enjoy interacting with their babies. Mums explore their own experiences to help them understand their care giving style. The programme is designed to improve attachment and develop strong parent-child relationships. Mellow Mums & Babies is a group based approached designed to support families who have additional health and social care needs.

**Webster Stratton:** A 12-week course, focusing on children aged 1-3yrs. Exploring simple but effective ways to enhance your child's emotional and social competence. You'll learn how to use play, language, positive discipline strategies and more to build a good relationship with your toddler. Free creche for under 5s to attend while their parent/carer attends the course.

## Find us at:

<b>Ranikhet</b> Children's Centre Spey Road Reading RG30 4ED	<b>Southcote</b> Children's Centre 85 Coronation Square Reading RG30 3QP
<b>Whitley</b> Children's Centre 330 Northumberland Ave Reading RG2 8DH	<b>Sun Street</b> Children's Centre Sun Street Reading RG1 3DX

If you are working with a family that you think would benefit from one of the courses, email: [sue.blackwood@brighterfuturesforchildren.org](mailto:sue.blackwood@brighterfuturesforchildren.org) or [sarah.ashton@brighterfuturesforchildren.org](mailto:sarah.ashton@brighterfuturesforchildren.org)  
A parenting referral will need to be completed through mosaic.

Follow us at  
[@bfrcchild](https://www.facebook.com/bfrcchild)



What do we do about money?

Do we need lasting power of attorney or adult social care?

What about housing?

## Preparing for adulthood - how we can help

Transition from children's to adults' services can be a challenging and worrying time. What does the future hold and what are the opportunities going to be for the young person when they leave school?

With many plans and decisions to be made within the world of adulthood, controlled by different laws, processes and professionals, what are the young adult's needs and aspirations, and how can these be met? What college or course is right? Do we need health services or adult social care? What should that look like? How do we get those services? What about work? What do we do about money? How will benefits be affected? Do we need lasting power of attorney or deputyship? What about housing? It is a daunting list!

The Reading Mencap Family Support Service has a specialist 'Preparing for Adulthood' Family Adviser who is skilled and knowledgeable about all the issues a young person and their family will face over the next few years.

The Family Support team are longstanding experts in learning disability and autism – some are also experts by experience.

We also have our own in-house Legal Officer for those, hopefully, rare occasions where you need a bit more specialist help to get your young person the service they need.

Our 'Preparing for Adulthood' Family Adviser will help you identify needs, define aspirations and plan and take action to ensure they are met and achieved.

## Things to consider...



### Looking after the Finances

We can help you to decide what is the best way to support your young person with their finances, either by being their appointee, getting a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) or Deputyship for finance. Our in-house Legal Officer will help to guide you through all the steps you need to take to decide what is best for your young person.

### Benefits

Benefits can be more complicated when someone becomes an adult and when there is a need to develop financial independence for the young adult. Our specialist Family Adviser will guide you through the system, including assistance to access specialist

benefits advice from our partner colleagues such as Communicare and Reading Community Welfare Rights, to help you make decisions, applications and to manage the requirements of benefits. If necessary, we can also support attendance at face-to-face benefit assessments, or appeals and tribunals.



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### Adult Social Care

Before the age of 18, a young adult may have an adult social care assessment under the Care Act 2014 if there appears to be a need for social care.

Our Preparing For Adulthood Family Advisor will give support to identify the young adult's needs and prepare for, and engage in, the assessment process. They will support you to achieve a good, sustainable care plan to meet

those assessed needs. This may include the Family Advisor helping you to make use of the Reading Directory, or to consider Direct Payments, or the use of a personal assistant and to advise about care providers along the way. The Family Advisor can also support the family or other unpaid carers to prepare for and access a carer's assessment. This may be as part of, or separate to, any Education, Health and Social Care Plan process.

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### Adult Social Care is not free

Unlike children's services, adult social care is not free and the local authority will assess the young adult's income, including their benefits, to decide how much they must pay towards their care. We will help you to manage this situation and to ensure you only pay what you need to. We will help you understand the financial assessment process and ensure you know your rights and the information and evidence that needs to be presented. This will include help to understand what Disability Related Expenses are and how to claim them.

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### Attending College and Training

When a young person leaves school they may have clear ideas about what they want to do in college or they may not. We can help them make a good decision about their education. We can help to ensure they get the college placement they want and need. But, if they don't want to attend college, we can put you in touch with the other organisations that can help with training and apprenticeships.



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### Life after College

Finding work or meaningful things to do for young adults who leave college but who do not gain employment can be a worry. We will help you to explore the different services in and around Reading which are there for young people to help them find employment or keep busy and stay healthy during the week, as well as making friends and having a good time.

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### Housing

Some young people may need to look for accommodation outside the family home. We can give support about housing and care choices and also help to access our partner voluntary sector colleagues who are experts in housing benefits.

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### Health

Young adults with learning disabilities may need a little more help to navigate adult health services and to manage health issues and stay healthy all year round. We can also help you understand how to obtain and attend

a free annual health check and about health screening services. We can advise you about health passports and making a plan for emergencies and about who will be there to help if the young adult or carer has to have a stay in hospital.

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### Leisure and socialising

Our family Advisor will help you to source age-appropriate leisure and social opportunities to meet individual needs of young adults. These opportunities are essential to the health and wellbeing of every young adult.



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## About Reading Mencap

Reading Mencap has been helping people with learning disabilities and their families in Reading for 60 years.

As well as our Family Support Service, we also run a range of services to provide a holistic response to the needs of those with learning disabilities and their family carers.

We run clubs in both weekday evenings and in the daytime, as well as two day-activity services for those who need a little more help.

You can also sign up for our quarterly newsletter which is packed with news and information as well as regular updates for important news you need to know.

Our Family Support Service has five Family Advisers, who offer an outreach case-working service of information, advice, and advocacy, whether in the family home, at our advice centre or at meetings, reviews or tribunals or wherever support is needed.

We work closely with the Reading IASS for



SEND service and the RBC Preparing for Adulthood Team and Communicare, as well as many other colleague voluntary sector organisations in Reading, to ensure our clients get the very best support available no matter what they need.

### How to contact us

Reading Mencap, 21 Alexandra Road Reading, RG1 5PE

Office hours: 9:30am to 1:30pm Monday to Friday;  
answering machine at other times

Call: 0118 966 2518

Email: [familysupport-kate@readingmencap.org.uk](mailto:familysupport-kate@readingmencap.org.uk)

web: [www.readingmencap.org.uk](http://www.readingmencap.org.uk)

Service commissioned by:



The local voice of learning disability

Reading Mencap is a registered charity No.1118287 and a company limited by guarantee No. 05976118.

It exists to inform, support and provide services for the families of children and adults with learning disabilities. We are affiliated to Royal Mencap, but remain an independent organisation, we receive no financial support from them.

## Support for transitioning to adulthood



An information, advice, and advocacy service for young people with learning disabilities aged 16-25 and their families.

A new Reading Borough Council funded service to support young people and adults with Learning Disability and Autism and their families, who are aged 16-25 and preparing for adulthood. Our new full time Transitions Family Adviser will offer an independent, outreach, information, advice and support service to guide young people and their families through the complexities of becoming an adult, to manage the changes in social care, benefits, housing, health, education, employment and financial management.

Our vision for children and young people with learning disabilities and autism in Reading is the same as for all children and young people, that they achieve well in their early years, at school and in college and make a good transition to adulthood to lead contented and fulfilled lives.

For enquiries about this new service contact:  
Tel: 0118 966 2518 (open Mon-Fri, 9.30am-1.30pm)  
Email: [familysupport-kate@readingmencap.org.uk](mailto:familysupport-kate@readingmencap.org.uk)

**You can view the information flyers by clicking on this link [Reading Mencap - Preparing for Adulthood Service | Reading Services Guide \(openobjects.com\)](#)**