

Hello FLAG Member,

We hope you are keeping well and looking forward to the summer break. We have put a list of some summer activities and other projects/services running locally. The Autism Team will be available for contact over the summer; we hope to take a few days between us to rest and recuperate, but should you need to get in touch there will be someone on hand to assist.

### **Summer Holiday Parent Group Dates**

We will be running two Zoom sessions over the summer holiday, please see the poster attached for dates and times.

### **Holiday Activities**

#### **Families United Network**

FUN are offering a series of family drop in sessions over the summer. There is no need to book, but you do need to be a member and adults are asked provide evidence of a negative Covid test or vaccination. Please visit their website for more information: <https://familiesunitednetwork.org.uk/uncategorized/important-news-fun-family-summer-holiday-club-sessions/>

#### **Targeted Youth Service Summer Projects**

Working in partnership with community organisations in each locality, the Targeted Youth Service and Amber Unit offer an open invitation for young people aged between 8 and 13 years old for the Raynham Way project and between 10 and 18 years old on all the other projects.

These projects are targeted in specific areas largely based on need but there could be some questions from the community about why projects are not operating closer to them or why they are not for younger children. Unfortunately we don't have the level of resources within the Service to provide projects in all areas to all ages but we have been extremely creative in getting additional smaller pots of funding for community organisations in each area to work in partnership to have a greater reach.

#### **Energise Luton Summer Camps**

Energise Luton Holiday Camps is Luton's Holiday Activity and Food 2021 (HAF2021) programme, funded by the Department for Education.

This nationwide initiative will provide children aged 5 to 16 on benefits-related free school meals with fun, enriching, inclusive and active summer holiday experiences, including sharing a nutritious meal with friends. There will be a wide range of holiday camps across our town.

Places on these camps will be FREE for children on free school meals. Children not on free school meals are welcome to attend (where capacity allows) with their friends for a nominal charge. There will be provision for SEND children too.

<https://www.activeluton.co.uk/Energise-Luton-Holiday-Camps>

#### **Big Trunk Trail**

You may have noticed some elephants arrive around town over the last week, they are part of 'The Big Trunk Trail'. A map can be downloaded from the website: <https://www.bigtrunktrail.co.uk/>

### **Stopsley Scarecrow Festival**

Stopsley will be hosting their first ever Scarecrow Festival from Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> August to Monday 30<sup>th</sup> August. Keep an eye on their Facebook page for maps, or if you're interested in participating please email [StopsleyScarecrowFestival@outlook.com](mailto:StopsleyScarecrowFestival@outlook.com).  
<https://www.facebook.com/StopsleyScarecrow/>

### **Local Community Gardens**

There are a number of community gardens across Luton that are free to access, some are running summer activities. You can find your local community garden on the map at the bottom of this page: <http://www.lutonfoodhub.co.uk/skills-for-life.html>

### **Family Information Service School Holiday Activities and Holiday Schemes Mailing List**

You can sign up to the FIS holiday mailing list to receive a list of activities and schemes on offer locally. You can sign up by filling in the form following this link: <https://directory.luton.gov.uk/kb5/luton/directory/service.page?id=96WjqtCuYCM>

### **Luton Sexual Health Services**

The team are offering support to young people over the summer holidays through 'Safetalk' This is available throughout the summer if any young people need to talk to someone about their sexual health, or to talk about things such as sexuality and gender identity.

### **Men's Mental Health Project**

Heads-Up is a campaign to help men get happy and stay happy. It has been set up to help men identify and deal with issues that tend to crop up in life from time to time. The project is looking for men aged 35-65 living in Luton, Bedfordshire and Milton Keynes to help develop a local men's mental health campaign. Please see the poster for further information.

The Autism Spectrum Team  
Special Educational Needs Service  
Children, Families and Education Directorate

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