


Easter Activities 2018

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for **8–17 year olds** with **Asperger's Syndrome / High Functioning Autism**

 **NOTE: we are now only able to accept applications for young people aged 8-17 years old at the time of the activity who have a diagnosis of Asperger's Syndrome or High Functioning Autism and live in Oxfordshire** (or access statutory services in Oxfordshire e.g. education, healthcare). If you are uncertain of your child's eligibility, then please contact us.

Please Note:


- Our staff:child ratio is approx **1:4**. **If your child requires more support please contact us** before booking. Children must be dropped off and collected from the stated venues.
- We have **strict** age restrictions - participants **must be** the correct age at the time of the event.
- Stated arrival/drop off times are when registration will begin. Our staff become responsible for young people **after** registration – if you arrive early please supervise your child and wait to register.
- We must have a referral for your child before they attend.

Bookings Please complete the **attached Application Form**.

- Receipt of applications will be accepted **AFTER** payment and a fully completed Application Form has been received.
- Final confirmation of places will be sent **AFTER** the closing date on Friday 9th March
- If you have queries or special arrangements regarding payment please let us know as soon as possible.
- **IMPORTANT** note about **MEDICATION** - If **whilst attending** our activities your child will need *any* medication which *may* require action/intervention/storage by our staff, e.g. Diabetes, medication for ADHD, epilepsy, please let us know ASAP so we can organise staff training. If our staff are not able to receive training in good time, the child's attendance will not be permitted.

The Closing Date for applications is **Friday 9th March** – Please **BOOK EARLY** as Activities are usually fully booked! We prioritise early bookings as much as possible.




If you have any queries or need help to complete the Application Form, please contact:
Judith by Email: info@afso.org.uk ☎ 01844 338696 (Monday-Wednesday term time only)

 **Illness** ~~If your child is unwell prior to the activity, please do not send them to our Activities~~ as this may impact on the health of our staff and other children, and we may have to cancel another activity. If you wouldn't send them to school, then please keep them at home and let us know.

Possible funding for Easter Holiday Activities

Short Breaks funding *may* be available to help fund activities and could *possibly* pay fees as well as transport for those on low income/benefits. Please contact Pauline Mackinnon at the Oxfordshire Family Information Service for more information on 08452 262636, (or 01865 328580 or 01865 896197 which may be cheaper from a mobile) or Email: fis.enquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk There may be funding available for transport. For more information, please contact the Oxfordshire Travel Hotline on 0845 310 1111 or www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/community-transport

Easter Activities Programme

Activity	Booking Fee
<p>Thursday 5th April 10am – 4pm ⓘ <u>13-17 year olds ONLY</u> Adventure Plus - Main Street, Clanfield, Oxfordshire, OX18 2SN Spend the day doing fun activities, the sessions will include climbing, archery, bush craft, and fencing. Come along and try something new or show off your skills.</p>	<p>£25 per child Bring packed lunch</p>
<p>Friday 6th April, 10am - 2:30pm ⓘ <u>8-12 Year olds ONLY</u> Video games, Art & craft, DVDs, games, & Internet at The Mish, 57f St Clements, Oxford, OX4 1AG  Bring your own game console, games, DVD to play and/or share with others. Table football, pool table, board games etc. NOTE: Certificate 15 and 18 games are prohibited! There will also be craft activities including decoupage and cardmaking and a selection of make-up to try out!</p>	<p>£15 per child Bring packed lunch</p>
<p>Monday 9th April 10am-2:30pm ⓘ <u>8-12 Year olds ONLY</u>  Animation Station OYAP@StudiO2, Old St Edburg's School, Cemetery Lane, Bicester, Oxon, OX26 6BB Come and join us for a Super Hero themed mash up day using animation including use of green screens, music and voice overs – fancy dress optional!</p>	<p>£20 per child Bring packed lunch</p>
<p>Wednesday 11th April 2018 3:45pm - 9pm ⓘ <u>13-17 year olds ONLY</u> City Mazes Unit 5, Ozone Leisure Park, Grenoble Road, Oxford OX4 4XP Play a game in the City Maze and then on to eat Frankie and Benney's. (fee includes a main course from the lunch menu, together with an unlimited refill drink - Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, R Whites Lemonade or Tango Orange only, follow the link for more details https://www.frankieandbennys.com/menu/lunch if you want to add a starter/desert you will need to bring <u>additional</u> money) We will go on to the cinema for those who want to make an evening of it. You can be collected earlier if you don't want to stay after eating.</p>	<p>£30 per child (please bring money for the cinema, cinema snacks if wanted, plus CEA card if you have one)</p>
<p>Thursday 12th April 11am – 1pm ⓘ <u>8-12 year olds ONLY</u> Laser Storm Fun Time (reception area), Black Bourton Road, Carterton, OX18 3EZ Laser Party with lunch (chips & either sausages, nuggets or fish fingers) NOTE: Helmets are provided and MUST be worn. <i>Please make sure you wear socks or bring them with you to wear.</i></p>	<p>£12 per child Lunch is provided</p>
<p>Friday 13th April, 10:45am -12:30pm ⓘ <u>13-17 year olds ONLY</u>  Laser Kombat 3a/3b Genoble Road, Ozone Leisure Park, Oxford, OX4 4XP. Indoor Laser game followed by lunch. NOTE: a specially designed backpack will be provided and must be worn. Food options: Chicken, Sausage, Fish or Pizza, plus chips served in mess tins. Squash will also be provided – it is thirsty work! You can choose your food option when you arrive.</p>	<p>£15 per child. Lunch is provided</p>

Join our E-mailing list

If you have not already joined our email mailing list – we recommend you join now! And be among the first to hear about courses and events.

If you are new to us please
complete a Referral Form first, available on our website www.afso.org.uk
 or contact us on Email: info@afso.org.uk ☎ 01844 338696

Fundraising Well done & Thank You

Thank you to everyone who fundraised and donated over the past few months. It's always a delight to hear of wonderful people supporting our work. Please keep the creative ideas coming, and help us raise much needed funds.



Agnes Mery gave son Joshua a cake-smashing first birthday party and instead of gifts raised a fabulous **£82.96**

High Street Methodist Messy Church, Witney

made a donation from their coffee bar sales and raised **£64.35**

The Roberts family raised a heart-warming £752 in memory of Ann Evans.

Thank you to Kate Roberts and family who thought of us at a time of sadness and loss.

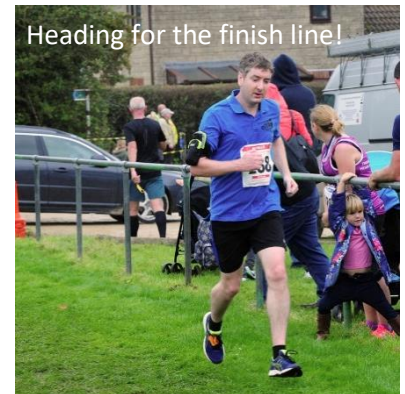
Kate says, "Autism Family Support is a valuable local charity and has supported Ann's grandson for many years".

Kevin Curley ran the Cricklade Half Marathon

and raised an awesome **£120**

Kevin says "our daughter is autistic and having access to good advice and support is crucial, AFSO have been helpful to us and we recognise and appreciate the importance of charities carrying out this vital work"

Thank you!



The Freemasons donated £600 We were invited to a Charity Giving Evening and presented with a cheque, along with several other local charities. Many thanks to Vaughan Humphries, Immediate Past Master, and everyone at Hampden Lodge No.6290

Thank you! To all the wonderful people who have supported us, and those who **donate regularly by Standing Order.** Your support is much appreciated

Thameside Singers raised £400 at their Christmas concert.

Thank you to our very own Judith Payne for nominating us (and singing!)

The Catholic Women's League Burnham section donated £50

Thank you to Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church

The Harris family raised a heart-warming £108 in memory of the late Rosemary Harris.

Thank you & best wishes to Debbie Harris and family who supported us at a time of sadness and loss.

A generous donation of £200 from an anonymous well-wisher – Thank you!

CPM Thame 10k run donated £100. Thank you for their continued support.

The Kings Arms, Oxford pub, collected £1,000 in our collection tin.

Cheers! to Ali, and his team for their continued support.

We support over 2,500 children & young people, and receive 26 NEW referrals per month!

Our small dynamic team work flat-out to try to keep up with the demand for support, but we desperately need more staff.

Please support us any way you can – here's some inspiration to get you going!

Fundraising inspiration

- **Ask your local pub/shop/business if they would display a collection tin** We can provide the tin, contact us for details.
- **Set up regular giving via a Standing Order from your bank.**
Please contact us for details. Email gita@afso.org.uk or reply to this message.
- **Make a donation via our JustGiving page** www.justgiving.com/childrenintouch
You can leave a message when you donate.
- **Collect donations instead of gifts/flowers at special occasions**
An alternative to gifts at birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, or in memory of a loved one at funerals
- **Ask your employer to raise funds for us** – we are happy to help with this. Nominate us as Charity of the Year, or organise an event such as a quiz night, sweepstake, cake sale, team building challenge.
- **Organise an event** e.g. quiz night, cake sale, golf day, disco, barn dance, an auction
- **Participate or organise a challenge**
Like our fabulous fundraisers: Robyn cut her long hair, Christine and Kathy skydived, Daniel ran The Oxford Half Marathon, John walked The Ridgeway non stop, Eva wrote a book!
- **Organise a school or work muffin day, fete, or fun day**
- **Leave a Legacy gift in your will.** Remember us in your will, leaving a legacy of support. Please feel free to contact us for information.
- **Sell on eBay, at a car boot, or auction for us.**



No cost, No catch – raise FREE donations for us every time you shop!

The **easiest** way to fundraise for us is using simple and safe **Easy fundraising**. Whenever you buy anything online, and in some High Street stores, you could be collecting free donations for Autism Family Support Oxfordshire! There are over 3,000 shops and sites ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline and Sainsbury's – *it doesn't cost you a penny extra!*

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Head to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/afso/> and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and then start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever!

Contact us for a Fundraising Pack or to discuss your ideas

We are happy to hear your comments and suggestions.

Please contact Gita Lobo by email: gita@afso.org.uk or call **07929 379125**, or feel free to chat with our staff.

Don't let our emails get stuck in your spam folder!
Please **SAVE** our email addresses
info@afso.org.uk and **judith@afso.org.uk**

We send emails with news of services, events, support groups, information and training courses offered by us and other organisations. Email is our preferred form of communication.

If you are receiving this Newsletter by post but have an email address, please consider sending us your email address as this saves us costs of printing and postage

Thank you!

Have your contact details **CHANGED?**

Please email us at
info@afso.org.uk with
details of the changes OR write
to us at the address below.

Would you prefer our Holiday Activities Newsletters sent by post?

Please let us know by emailing **info@afso.org.uk** OR
write to us at the address below. Please note we cannot
send regular bulletins by post, so you will miss some
information about some events.

News for adults

We also have an **adult bulletin** sent by email (only) aimed at **18 +years which includes details of courses, employment opportunities, social events etc.** If you, or they, would like to be added to this list, please email us the details.

Contact Us

www.afso.org.uk

Autism Family Support Oxfordshire
Thomley Hall Centre
Menmarsh Road
Worminghall
HP18 9JZ

Follow us!



AFS Oxfordshire



@autismAFS

T: 01844 338696
E: info@afso.org.uk

Other Activities in & around Oxfordshire

There are a number of other groups who run activities during school holidays and term time. We have included some below. If you are on our emailing list you will also be notified when we receive information about events, courses and activities. Also check out the Oxfordshire County Council *Local Offer* website [page](#) and *Family Information Directory* <https://fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/oxfordshire/directory/home.page> for details of what is available across the County.

OASIS www.oasonline.org.uk Email: chair@oasonline.org.uk

Parent led support group that arranges family playdays during the school holidays for all children on the Autistic Spectrum & siblings. These are heavily subsidised but parents/carers must accompany children.

Thomley Activity Centre www.thomley.org.uk Email: enquiries@thomley.org.uk Tel: 01844 338380

Recreational facility in Worminghall on Oxon/Bucks border, for children & young people with disabilities, families & friends. Specialist equipment, workshops, art & crafts, outdoor play, bikes, swings, sensory room and activity days during the Easter holidays.

OCC website Activities Oxfordshire <http://fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/oxfordshire/directory/youth.page?youthchannel=0> has list of activities and include activities for those with disabilities

MAX Card Apply to Oxfordshire County Council for a MAX card this allows discounts at attractions across the country for families with a child with an additional need. There are several venues within Oxfordshire that accept the cards. Please see the website for more information www.mymaxcard.co.uk or contact Michelle on T: 01235 849470 Email: parents@carersvoiceoxfordshire.org

OYAP www.oyap.org.uk Tel: 01869 602560 Activities including school holidays OYAP Trust aims to make participation in the arts accessible to anyone who expresses an interest. Should you find the cost of the project a barrier to taking part, we invite you to email them on admin@oyap.org.uk

Parasol - Tel: 01865 742816 Inclusive Play & Leisure in Oxford. Also provides Enablers – 1:1 staff to accompany children to other mainstream activities – contact Parasol for up-to-date details.

Barnardos -Tel: 01869 252905. Play schemes, youth groups and trips across Oxfordshire. Ages 5-18.

Lets Play Project - Tel: 01295 263694 www.letsplaybanbury.org Activities based in Banbury area for 5-19 year olds and siblings.

Yellow Submarine - Tel: 01865 236119 www.yellowsubmarine.org.uk

Day trips and activity days for 11-18 yr olds from Oxfordshire during school holidays they also have a facebook page called "ONINOX – upcoming activities for young people with SEN"

Southmoor Children's Centre - holiday group for children with additional needs at the children's centre, Laurel Drive, Southmoor, OX12 5DJ. Play activities, supported by the centre's SENCO worker, giving parents the opportunity to meet and chat. Contact Lorraine Hurdley, Tel: 01865 820751 Email: Lhurdley@spurgeons.org

OXSRAD - Tel: 01865 741 336 Email: info@oxsrad.org www.oxsrad.org

Address: Court Place Farm, Marsh Lane, Marston, Oxford OX3 0NQ. Integrated Sports & Leisure Centre. Recreational and leisure activities accessible to all. Gym, Sensory Room, Trampolining.

The Music Club -held at Crowmarsh Village Hall, Benson Lane, Crowmarsh. OX10 8ED. Children aged 0–19 years, siblings & carers. Music workshops, fun days. First Monday in the month (except bank holidays) and school holidays. They also have other events, contact them for more details. Tel: 07768 298297 / 0118 9722322 Email: info@music4disabledchildren.org.uk
www.music4disabledchildren.org.uk

Camp Mohawk Camp Mohawk, Highfield Lane, Crazies Hill, Wargrave, RG10 8PU. www.campmohawk.org.uk Tel: 0118 9404045 Email: info@campmohawk.org.uk "Drop in" and "Book in" Family Days available, details coming soon on their website

Special Needs Tennis -Shrivenham Tennis Club, SN6 8BL. Contact: Chris Hand, Tel: 079704817075 Email: cd.hand@yahoo.co.uk

Autism-Friendly Cinema Dimensions offers Autism Friendly Film screenings in partnership with ODEON, Vue, Showcase and Cineworld cinemas. Details are available at their website: www.dimensions-uk.org/what-we-do/autism-care/autism-friendly-films/ where you can join their mailing list for information and dates of screenings. The Regal Picturehouse, Henley-on-Thames also has film screenings especially for people with autism and their families. Email: regal@picturehouses.co.uk Tel: 0871 704 2064

Spectrum Girls SOCIAL GROUP FOR GIRLS WITH AS/HFA

Covering the Home Counties area. Contact Lesley on 0771 4483485 or Email: spectrumgirls@sky.com

Keen - joint organisation of Oxford University and Oxford Brookes University. They provide social, sporting and recreational activities for children and adults with special needs in the surrounding area during term time and in university holidays.

W: www.keenoxford.org/participate/sessions/ E: keen@keenoxford.org T: 01865 264 173

Disclaimer: While we share and forward information we do not accept responsibility for the accuracy and credibility of information or actions of third party organisations or individuals. We strongly advise you make further enquiries with third party organisations. We endeavour that all information provided is accurate, impartial and unbiased, however, we cannot accept liability for any loss whatsoever caused as a result of inaccuracy of this information. No responsibility is accepted for any loss or damage caused by information contained in this newsletter.