

Out of school activities | Sources of support

Parent / carer support groups

[https://
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/
children-and-families/
information-parents/breaks-
disabled-children](https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/children-and-families/information-parents/breaks-disabled-children)

[https://www.wnvp.co.uk/
support-groups](https://www.wnvp.co.uk/support-groups)

Support groups for dads / male carers

[https://
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/
children-and-families/
information-parents/breaks-
disabled-children](https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/children-and-families/information-parents/breaks-disabled-children)

[https://sends4dad.org.uk/
about-2/](https://sends4dad.org.uk/about-2/)

Support for siblings

<https://www.sibs.org.uk/>

General support for carers

[https://
www.carersoxfordshire.org.uk/](https://www.carersoxfordshire.org.uk/)

Carers Oxfordshire are a free service offering information, advice and support to unpaid adult carers who look after someone living in Oxfordshire.

Welcome to the September newsletter and another school year!

I have included several out of school opportunities in this newsletter and links to both Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire websites with detailed directories of all things SEND.

Banbury Town Council have a number of local events between now and Christmas starting with the Canal Festival on the 3rd and 4th of October. The Michaelmas Fair returns from the 14th to 17th October, Remembrance Sunday is November 8th and then the Christmas lights are lit on Sunday 29th November alongside the Winter Market.

Other local events include the Bicester Santa Fun Run on 6th December and Banbury Tractor Run on the 12th of December.

The GC will continue to host families, friends and alumni at their coffee mornings this term on the 22nd October and the 17th of December.

If you need support in finding activities for your child or support for yourself then please get in touch.

Best wishes, Natalie

What's on?

Links for regular updates on what's happening locally

Oxfordshire

[https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/children-and-families/
oxfordshire-send-local-offer](https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/children-and-families/oxfordshire-send-local-offer)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/569327876929330/about/>

[https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/children-and-families/
information-parents/breaks-disabled-children](https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/children-and-families/information-parents/breaks-disabled-children)

Northamptonshire

<https://www.facebook.com/LocalOfferWN/>

<https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/local-offer>

Featured Activities

WILDLIFE PALS

Tuesday 4-5:30pm

Wildlife Pals is a small, inclusive group for children with additional needs, focused on nature, movement and outdoor exploration. Following their lead to create sessions that adapt to their interests and energy

Sessions include:

- Wildlife exploration and nature discovery
- active outdoor play and games
- Creative activities
- Space to move, explore and be themselves

Ages 7 +
£25 Per Session
Email - kim@equilore.co.uk for more info



BARN PALS

Friday 4 - 5:30pm

Barn Pals is a small, friendly group centred around building confidence, connection and hands on experience with horses. Sessions give children a chance to learn new skills, spend time with horses and enjoy being part of the yard.

Sessions include:

- Horse care and handling
- Ground based activities
- learning about horses behaviour and welfare
- Confidence building exercises

Ages 7 +
£25 Per Session
Email - kim@equilore.co.uk for more info



Location - Equilore, Park End, Croughton, NN13 5LX
www.equilore.co.uk

SEND DRUM LESSONS

Drumming down barriers to learning the drums



Drum kit lessons bespoke for the physical and sensory requirements of each student.

Contact: 07983651098/felixbartlett.com

Express. Empower. Engage



LEARN TO SWIM WITH CRAZY CRABS SWIM SCHOOL



SEN swimming lessons available - priced the same as all of our other lessons

A variety of lessons - private, 2-2-1 & small group lessons for beginners up until to adults

Maximum 5 children per class, to guarantee high-quality lessons with our experienced teachers

Multiple locations across Oxfordshire, in intimate private pools

To find out more, email us at info@crazycrabsswimschool.co.uk






VIRTUAL MEETINGS

£7 per month

An alternative way to take part in the fun and adventure of Girlguiding for girls aged 4 - 18 who are unable to attend face-to-face meetings for health or social reasons. Previous membership is not necessary.

All girls have a home in Girlguiding - whoever they are, and wherever they are in the UK. We are Girlguiding Connect district - LaSER.

Rainbows	Brownies	Guides	Rangers
for 4 - 7 year olds	for 7 - 10 year olds	for 10 - 14 year olds	for 14 - 18 year olds
Mondays & Thursdays	Mondays & Thursdays	Mondays & Wednesdays	Thursdays

Email: connectdistrict@girlguidinglaser.org.uk
Join: bit.ly/joingconnect
Instagram/TikTok: @ggconnectdistrict Facebook: Girlguiding Connect district

Upcoming Events and Activities



SCIENCEOXFORD

Family Days every Saturday

Science Oxford Centre

Family Days
Exploration Zone with 20+ hands-on exhibits

Next sensory friendly
3rd October 2026

Monthly STEM CLUBS Ages 5-12

Book ahead
scienceoxford.com
Science Oxford Centre, Quarry Road, Headington, Oxford OX3 8SB

Creative Computing, Science & Nature Clubs



COMMUNITY FUND **oxfsn** Oxfordshire family SUPPORT NETWORK

UPCOMING EVENTS

DROP IN SESSIONS Bi monthly across the year at the OxFSN Office. No need to book, just pop by!

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC GUARDIAN 29th September, 11.00 - 13.00
Online Zoom event

THE ROUTE INTO SUPPORTED LIVING 10th November, 10.00 - 14.00
Information Event
Didcot Civic Hall, Didcot

PERSON CENTRED PLANNING 17th & 19th November, 10.00 - 14.00
OxFSN Office
23rd & 25th February, 10.00 - 14.00
OxFSN Office

SUPPORTED LIVING 9th December, 19.00 - 21.00
Online Zoom Event

PLANNING AHEAD 12th January, 2027 10.00 - 13.00
OxFSN Office

WILLS & TRUSTS 4th February, 19.00 - 20.30
Online Zoom event

Visit our website for further information on drop ins and all events and to book your place
<https://oxfsn.org.uk/events-calendar/>



Beezee FAMILIES

Ready to make new habits as a family?

Our free 12-week Beezee Families programme starts soon!

- Get healthy eating tips and free recipes
- Unlock the power of small changes
- Start moving more as a family

Wednesday 16th September 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
@ The Hill, Dover Avenue, Bretch Hill, Banbury, Oxfordshire, OX16 0JJ

Secure your FREE place today!

HelloOxfordshire@maximusuk.co.uk

03332 208952

oxf.maximusuk.co.uk

Our programmes are for children above their ideal weight. See our website for more information.



oxfsn Oxfordshire family SUPPORT NETWORK

ONLINE PRESENTATION....

....BY THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC GUARDIAN

Hear directly from the Office of the Public Guardian who will be joining us for an online presentation to speak about a number of topics including:-

- DEPUTYSHIP
- LASTING POWER OF ATTORNEY COVERING
- HEALTH AND WELFARE
- PROPERTY AND FINANCE

The Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) helps people in England and Wales to stay in control of decisions about their health and finance and make important decisions for others who cannot decide for themselves.

This is always a good opportunity for anyone not sure if they need to go down the deputyship route to hear directly from them and ask any questions you may have.

Booking is essential. You can secure your space by scanning the QR code or visiting www.ticketsource.co.uk/oxfordshire-family-support-network

TUESDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2026 11:00AM - 12:30 PM

For more information email kathy.liddell@oxfsn.org.uk

WWW.OXFSN.ORG.UK



Circus Starr will be visiting Oxford High School, Belbroughton Road, Oxford, OX2 6XA on

Sunday 27 September 2026

Show times: 1.30pm & 4.00pm

Families can apply for free tickets here: <https://www.circus-starr.org.uk/apply-for-tickets/>

Put simply, we bring fun to you!

We believe in a world where absolutely anything is possible. We understand that attending mainstream events can be difficult for children with additional needs or families in difficult circumstances – which is why we've created a tut-free zone; a show in which shouting out, dancing and jumping up and down are expected. At our shows, everyone is absolutely encouraged to let go, and just be themselves!

As one of the pioneers of 'relaxed' shows, you'll find our performances have reduced volumes and considered lighting, with special attention paid to sensory and emotional triggers.

What we do

We bring all the fun of the circus to children and families that may have found this difficult in the past. We know that a circus is a family event that brings everyone closer, encourages creativity and allows people to become stronger and more able to face life's challenges head on. We tour the UK bringing the very best in circus talent from around the world and stage 148 incredible, accessible shows every year.

Who we do it for

Children with disabilities, families on low incomes, those facing challenges such as domestic violence, bereavement or who may be living with a life-limiting condition. Every child, whoever they are, is free to be themselves at a Circus Starr Show – shout with joy, move to the music or appear centre stage!

Why we do it

We do it because nearly 1.5 million UK families can't afford a single day out together. We do it because 50% of families with disabled children say that the stigma and discrimination they face makes them feel isolated. We create a magical world, harnessing the power of the circus and invite families with all kinds of different needs to have fun together in a safe, welcoming and unique atmosphere.

So, what we are is inclusive, exciting, non-judgemental, fun, accessible and magical and we bring all of this to you! We look forward to welcoming you.

Banbury Canal Festival - Free event



Celebrate History, Heritage and Culture at the Canal Festival.

October 3rd, 11am until October 4th 5pm, Canal Side, Town Centre.

- A celebration of Banbury's waterways
- Live music and entertainment
- Food, drink, stalls and games