

Autism West Midlands Update – April 2022

Welcome to our April roundup of forthcoming events and activities on offer to families in the Shropshire Council area, can you believe the Easter holiday is just around the corner?! We are also including information about our Rising To The Challenge webinars which will be starting in May as we know you will want to signpost families to it early to get a place!

- **FREE Webinars**

For parents, carers and professionals throughout the region, watch “live” or via an automated link to watch a replay. Click on the links to find out more including registration details –

- **Understanding Autism – Wednesday 27th April 9.30am-10.30am**

<https://autismwestmidlands.org.uk/events/understanding-autism-webinar-west-midlands-27apr22/>

- **Autism and the teenage brain – Friday 29th April 9.30am – 10.30am**

<https://autismwestmidlands.org.uk/events/autism-and-the-teenage-brain-webinar-west-midlands-29apr/>

- **Rising To The Challenge – six webinar series starting Friday 13th May 9.30am**

Rising to the Challenge is our flagship webinar series covering a variety of autism-related topics appropriate to parents and carers of autistic children aged 5+. Each weekly presentation is followed by an optional ZOOM session where parents can discuss and explore the topic in more detail with members of the team. <https://autismwestmidlands.org.uk/events/rising-to-the-challenge-2022/>

EASTER ACTIVITIES

Attingham Park – springtime walk Thursday 21st April 10am, nr. Shrewsbury

Join us and other families for a walk and some fun in the wonderful surroundings of Attingham Park. This is a popular event, and we strongly suggest parents/carers book online in advance via the link below to ensure they can join in.

<https://autismwestmidlands.org.uk/events/attingham-park-walk-for-shropshire-families/>

All In Short Breaks Easter event for young people aged 12+ - Monday 11th April, Shrewsbury

A day of games, crafts, baking and a film at Belle Vue Youth Club! A great chance to meet other autistic young people supported by Autism West Midlands staff.

Find out more, including booking details below...

<https://autismwestmidlands.org.uk/events/shropshire-11th-april-belle-vue/>

- **WEEKLY Zoom Advice slots – every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday**

For those would like some face-to-face contact we are offering this virtually via video appointments. Zoom works well on mobile phones. To book a 45 min advice appointment with a specialist autism advisor please book via our shop.

<https://autismwestmidlands.org.uk/events/online-autism-advice-shropshire/>

- **Virtual Support Group for Parents - Wednesday Mornings 10am-11am & Wednesday Evenings 8pm-9pm – 1st and 3rd Weds of each month (term time)**

Our online support groups meet twice a month via Zoom. This is an opportunity to talk with other parents, share ideas, and offer support.

If you would like to join either of the support groups, please email the team here shropshire@autismwestmidlands.org.uk

- **Dad's Group – Monthly on a Thursday 7pm-8pm**

This is an opportunity for dads to meet online, share ideas, celebrate their children's achievement's and offer support to each other with a member of Autism West Midlands present. For more information and booking details see link below

<https://autismwestmidlands.org.uk/events/virtual-dads-support-group-west-midlands-mar31/>

- **Advice and support**

We also offer advice and support over the phone and via email. Parents/carers and professionals can contact our small team directly to arrange an appointment please call:

Shropshire office - 01952 454156

Mon, Wed, Fri - Wendy Cowton 07900784186

Weds, Thu, Fri - Emma Hegenbarth 07881109480

Tue, Wed, Thu - Dawn Lewis 07706309382

Email shropshire@autismwestmidlands.org.uk

Helpline 0121 450 7575