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Our Summer Holiday Activities are back! Activities are fully staffed. **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 all Activities at the stated venues.
- We have strict age restrictions participants must be the correct age at the time of the event.
- The stated arrival/drop off time is when registration will begin. Our staff become responsible for young people <u>after</u> registration if you arrive early please supervise your child and wait to register.

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

- Receipt of applications will be acknowledged **AFTER payment and a fully completed Application Form** has been received.
- Final confirmation of places will be sent AFTER the closing date on Friday 17th June 2016.
- 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. Attendance will not be permitted if our staff are unable to receive training in good time, or we were not made aware of medical needs.

The Closing Date for bookings is Friday 17th June 2016 – 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)

Don't miss this! NEW this Summer!

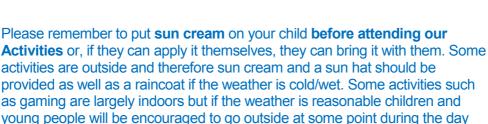
HACK IT: Return to the Killer Robot Factory



Help us hack into a computer game, rewrite the music, create sound effects and animation. You will even be changing the controller by wiring it up to objects. You will need your creative, gaming and practical skills to build this installation. The Juniors (8-12 year olds) will start the process and the Senior group (13-18) will take it forward. See the Activity Programme on page 2 for details.

There will be an unveiling of the finished installation at the end of the last session on **11th August**, when all involved, plus family and friends, will be invited to experience the wonder of your creativity.

In partnership with OYAP and supported with investment from Artswork, the South East Bridge.





Summer Holiday Activities are funded by:



and so sun cream and hat should still be provided.







Full Activity Programme on Page 2



Summer Activities Programme

Activity	Booking Fee
Monday 25 th July 2016 11am – 1pm (1) <u>8-12 year olds ONLY</u> Laser Storm - Darcy Bear, 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. Socks MUST be worn too but are not provided.	£12 per child Lunch provided
Wednesday 27 th July 10am - 3pm ① <u>13-18 year olds ONLY</u> Video games, DVDs, games & Internet at Abingdon Early Intervention Hub, The Net Young People's Centre, Stratton Way, Abingdon, OX14 3RG Bring your own game console, games, DVD, to play and/or share with others. Table football, pool table, board games. ALL Certificate 18 games are prohibited; some certificate 15 games may be prohibited	£15 per child Bring packed lunch or money to buy a Sandwich.
Thursday 28th July 10am - 2:30pm (i) 8-12 year olds ONLY Video games, DVDs, games & Internet at Abingdon Early Intervention Hub, The Net Young People's Centre, Stratton Way, Abingdon, OX14 3RG 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! For the second secon	£15 per child Bring packed lunch.
 Friday 29th July This is likely to be overbooked so only <u>one</u> horse riding session will be offered per child. Horse Riding Activity Day at Horsewyse, Westfield Farm, Westfield Road, Long Crendon A wonderful 'horsey' day including horse riding, horse grooming, nature walks, – depending on weather. NOTE: This is an outdoor activity and may involve getting muddy and wet. Appropriate clothing must be worn and sturdy trainers/boots. Helmets will be provided and MUST be worn. EITHER Drop off / collect your child at. Horsewyse: Arrive: 10am / Collect: 3pm OR Transport is provided from/back to Wolvercote Young Peoples Centre, St Peters Road, Wolvercote, Oxford, OX2 8AU: Drop off: 9am / Collect: 3:45pm 	£30 per child or £35 with transport Bring packed lunch
Tuesday 2nd August 10am-3pm (1) <u>8-12 year olds ONLY</u> Earth Trust Activity day at Hill Farm, Little Wittenham, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 4QZ A day to include pond dipping, clay animal making, bug hunting, fire lighting, hot chocolate making, pizza making & eating (at the end of the day so you will still need to bring lunch!) NOTE: This is an outdoor activity and may involve getting muddy and wet. Appropriate clothing and sun cream (if appropriate) must be worn.	£15 per child Bring packed lunch
Wednesday 3 rd August 2016 10am - 3pm <u>13-18 year olds ONLY</u> Video games, DVDs, games & Internet at Abingdon Early Intervention Hub, The Net Young People's Centre, Stratton Way, Abingdon, OX14 3RG Bring your own game console, games, DVD, to play and/or share with others. Table football, pool table, board games. ALL Certificate 18 games are prohibited; some certificate 15 games may be prohibited	£15 per child Bring packed lunch or money to buy a sandwich
Thursday 4th and Friday 5th August 10am-2:30pm (i) 8-12 year olds ONLY HACK IT at OYAP, The Courtyard Youth Arts Centre, Launton Road, Bicester, OX26 6DJ Please see the information on Page 1 You will need to be able to attend BOTH days Supported with investment from Artswork, the South East Bridge.	£20 per child Bring a packed lunch
Monday 8 th August 2016 11:30am-2:30pm Family Rowing and Picnic at The Riverside Centre, Donnington Bridge, Oxford, OX4 4AZ Families are invited to bring a picnic and row/canoe. Very stable boats, coaches, life jackets & instruction provided. There may also be a climbing wall for those who want to have a go. Note: Parents <u>MUST</u> accompany & be responsible for their children at this event - participation is optional! Bring lunch, towel, change of clothes (just in case!)	£8 per person participating. Bring a picnic
Tuesday 9 th , Wednesday 10 th and Thursday 11 th August 2016 10am-3pm ① 13-18 year olds ONLY HACK IT at OYAP, The Studio, 2 Crown Walk, Bicester, OX26 6HY Please see the information on Page 1 You will need to be able to attend ALL 3 days Supported with investment from Artswork, the South East Bridge	£30 per child Bring a packed lunch



Monday 15th August 2016 ① 8-12 Year olds ONLY Farmer Gow's at Fernham Road, Longcot, nr Faringdon, SN7 7PR Fun at Farmer Gow's interactive farm feeding chickens, pigs and goats, collecting eggs and a tractor trailer ride - all depending on weather and availability. NOTE: This is an outdoor activity and will involve getting muddy, and dirty hands. Suitable clothing and wellington boots must be worn, wellies can be provided if necessary (limited sizes). EITHER Drop off / collect your child at Farmer Gow's: Arrive: 10am / Collect: 1:30pm OR Transport is provided from/back to Wolvercote Young Peoples Centre, St Peters Road, Wolvercote, Oxford, OX2 8A: Drop off: 9am/ Collect: 2:15pm Please arrive on time – the bus will leave promptly! Wednesday 17th August 2015 10:am-12:30pm or 1pm— 3:30pm ① 13-18 year olds ONLY	£12 per child or £20 with transport Bring packed lunch £15 per child
Quad Bikes at TRAX, nr Pear Tree Park & Ride, Oxford A half day of Quad Bikes including lunch – <i>likely to be</i> pizza, jacket potatoes or burgers (TBC).	lunch included – or bring own lunch if required
Thursday 18th August 2016 10am - 2:30pm (i) 8-12 Year olds ONLY Video games, DVDs, games & Internet at Abingdon Early Intervention Hub, The Net Young People's Centre, Stratton Way, Abingdon, OX14 3RG Bring your own game console, games, DVD to play and/or share with others. NOTE: ALL Certificate 15 and 18 games are prohibited!	£15 per child Bring packed lunch
Friday 19th August 2016 This is likely to be overbooked so only one horse riding session will be offered per child. Horse Riding Activity Day at Horsewyse, Westfield Farm, Westfield Road, Long Crendon A wonderful 'horsey' day including horse riding, horse grooming, nature walks, water pistol shooting, and drawing – depending on weather. NOTE: This is an outdoor activity and may involve getting muddy and wet. Appropriate clothing must be worn and sturdy trainers/boots. Helmets will be provided and MUST be worn. EITHER Drop off / collect your child at. Horsewyse: Arrive: 10am / Collect: 3pm OR Transport is provided from/back to Wolvercote Young Peoples Centre, St Peters Road, Wolvercote, Oxford, OX2 8AU: Drop off: 9am / Collect: 3:45pm Please arrive on time – the bus will leave promptly!	£30 per child or £35 with transport Bring packed lunch
Monday 22 nd August 2016 11:30am-2:30pm Family Rowing and Picnic at The Riverside Centre, Donnington Bridge, Oxford, OX4 4AZ Families are invited to bring a picnic and row/canoe. Very stable boats, coaches, life jackets & instruction provided. There may also be a climbing wall for those who want to have a go. Note: Parents <u>MUST</u> accompany & be responsible for their children at this event - participation is optional! Bring lunch, towel, change of clothes (just in case!)	£8 per person participating Bring a picnic lunch
Tuesday 23rd August 2016 10am-3pm ① 13-18 year olds ONLY Earth Trust Activity day at Hill Farm, Little Wittenham, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 4QZ A day to include den building, collecting fire wood, fire lighting, hot chocolate making, Pizza making and eating (at the end of the activity so you will still need to bring lunch!) NOTE: This is an outdoor activity and may involve getting muddy and wet. Appropriate clothing must be worn.	£15 per child Bring packed lunch
Wednesday 24 th August 2016 10am - 3pm ① 13-18 year olds ONLY Video games, DVDs, games & Internet at Abingdon Early Intervention Hub, The Net Young People's Centre, Stratton Way, Abingdon, OX14 3RG Bring your own game console, games, DVD, to play and/or share with others. Table football, pool table, board games. ALL Certificate 18 games are prohibited; some certificate 15 games may be prohibited	£15 per child Bring packed lunch or money to buy a sandwich
Thursday 25th August 2016 10am - 2:30pm ① 8-12 Year olds ONLY Video games, DVDs, games & Internet at Abingdon Early Intervention Hub, The Net Young People's Centre, Stratton Way, Abingdon, OX14 3RG 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!	£15 per child Bring packed lunch
Tuesday 30 th August 2016 9:45am-12:45pm ① 13-18 year olds ONLY Outdoor Laser Tag at Furze Brake Woodland, Lockwood Farm, Culham No1 site, Station Road, Culham, Oxford, OX14 3DA Laser tag followed by lunch. NOTE: a cap is provided and must be worn (holds laser sensor). This is an outdoor activity in woodland, so please wear appropriate clothing.	£25 per child Bring packed lunch



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 Summer 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 <u>www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/community-transport</u>

Other Activities in & around Oxfordshire

There are a number of other groups who run activities during school holidays and term time. Please see our **Fact File** which can be downloaded from our website <u>www.afso.org.uk</u> for details of many of these organisations. 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* <u>website</u> page which details what is available across the county.

Forthcoming Events

- Challenging Behaviour Course (for parents who have completed a post diagnostic course). We run this course twice a year, our next course will be starting in September 2016. Look out for details in the Summer.
- Managing Physically Challenging Behaviour A workshop for parents who have attended and completed our Challenging Behaviour course.
 This workshop will be in December – details will be provided in October.

Check our website for updates www.afso.org.uk and follow us



IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT SERVICES

Oxfordshire County Council are recommissioning services for disabled children from April 2017, including short breaks (holiday play schemes, and youth groups) and overnight respite.

Proposed budget cuts could threaten our family support work.

Currently Oxfordshire County Council supports our highly valued and expert work by commissioning us to provide:

- School holiday activities
- Two of our youth groups: Saturday youth group in Oxford, and Stuff youth group in Abingdon
- Two Family Support Workers to provide autism-specific information, advice and support across Oxfordshire; coordinate our Activities; and support children to attend activities.

However, proposed cuts may mean <u>our family support work may NOT be funded</u> from April 2017 and the following services may be critically at risk:

- ALL information, advice, and support to parents and young people, currently carried out by Becky Loveless and Sam Burkin – the only 2 family support workers specifically supporting families living with autism in Oxfordshire.
- Advice surgeries, telephone and email support to parents, young people, and professionals.
- Individual work with children and young people.
- Weekly E-bulletins, and regular information by social media.
- Challenging Behaviour course.
- Abingdon Aspies parent support group for parents on the spectrum.
- Joint facilitating of EarlyBird parenting course.
- Workshops for young people.
- Training and consultation for professionals.

We know the impact on our families will be devastating, as many of you rely on our support. We fervently request your comments and support.

Oxfordshire County Council are seeking feedback from parents and professionals - so that they can provide services that most meet the needs of disabled children and young people and their families.

YOUR FEEDBACK IS <u>VITAL</u> and there are several ways to have your say.

- Go ONLINE: Visit <u>www.digitalforgood.org/occ-survey</u> and complete the very short survey from Oxfordshire County Council. PLEASE NOTE: Family support is not specifically mentioned in the survey! But you can use the blank comment boxes to express the services you value, including our family support work. Closing date for replies is 9th June 2016
- Attend a PUBLIC MEETING: We are holding two public meetings to inform you of the proposed cuts, discuss the impact on our service, and to share ideas on how we can all help to sustain our work

Tuesday 7th June 2016
10am-12noonORWednesday 8th June 2016
7pm-9pm

at Ark-T Centre, Crowell Road, Cowley, Oxford, OX4 3LN

Parking is available until 6:30PM in the Castle Car Park adjacent to the venue (£1.00 for 0-3 hours) For the evening meeting: On street parking is available on surrounding roads

PLEASE NOTE: Childcare is NOT provided at meetings

RSVP: To help us plan, please let us know you are attending: Please email judith@afso.org.uk

• EMAIL US DIRECTLY: Email your comments to Gita Lobo: gita@afso.org.uk

Your views are important, our united response & working together will help sustain our work!

Thank you! Gita Lobo, Chief Executive Officer



FUNDRAISING Forthcoming events



Mark is falling 10,000ft!

On 25th June Mark Taylor is due to skydive for us! Mark's five year old son was recently diagnosed with High Functioning Autism and Mark says "without the support of these charities, so many families would be lost".

Please support Mark and donate online: www.justgiving.com/Mark-Taylor102

Sam Burkin, is trekking the Three Peaks!

Our very own Sam, Community Outreach Worker, is aiming to scale Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon in 24 hours!! On 17th September Sam and three friends are attempting the ridiculous and hoping to survive. You may recall that only **12 months ago Sam could not walk** - *at all* - due to a brain lesion! The trek shows Sam's spirit and sense



of adventure as well as a celebration of being fit (hmmmm we'll soon find out!) and well ©

Please support Sam and donate whatever you can spare: www.justgiving.com/afso



Donna is walking, dancing, skipping, running 5 Million steps! Donna Archer will be totting up an average of **14000 steps a day**, to achieve an end of year total of 5 Million steps in 2016. Donna is ahead of schedule and feeling great! She says "my family have benefitted from the great support AFSO provide, and I want to do my bit to make sure they continue to do so into the future". Donna is an unstoppable force – she recently completed the Windsor 2016 Colour Obstacle Rush

and raised a fantastic £205 for us! Please support Donna and donate online:

www.justgiving.com/Donna-Archer

Well done & Thank You...

Infineum Charity of the Year fundraising

Staff at Infineum continue to show innovation and creative flair – matched by generosity and energy!

We were recently delighted to be presented with a tremendous £1647!

Funds were raised from: Unique Chic mufti day (their own take on Geek Chic!), cake sales and Tombola, CD sales, office furniture sale, personal donations, and match funding by the company!

The total received so far is an awesome **£4663** and they still have their biggest events yet to come! Special thanks to parent, Donna Archer, and to all the SMILE Team. We're loving your support and it's a pleasure working with you!

We wish to say a huge Thank You to all the wonderful people who support us, and **those who donate regularly by Standing Order**. Your support is much appreciated



Please help us fundraise

With cuts to our service looming, we rely on your ideas & support more than ever. If you have any suggestions, please do contact Gita on: Email: gita@afso.org.uk or @ call 07929 379125 / 01844 338696.

Here's some ideas to get you thinking: Nominate us as your company's Charity of the Year ★ Organise an event e.g quiz night, cake sale, tombola, golf day, fashion show, gala night ★ Do a sponsored challenge ★ Organise a school / work Mufti day ★ Regular giving by Standing Order ★ Leave a Legacy gift in your will ★ Sell on eBay, at auction, car boot sales, Music Magpie (unwanted CDs) etc ★ Collect donations instead of gifts/flowers at special occasions (e.g. birthdays, weddings, and funerals)

Join our 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 201844 338696

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 regular 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

We also have a **monthly adult newsletter** sent by email (only) aimed at **over 18s.** If you, or they, would like to be added to either or both of these lists, please email us the details.

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 our weekly or monthly newsletters by post, so you will miss some information about some events.

Contact Us



Autism Family Support – Oxfordshire



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

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

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Other Activities in & around Oxfordshire

OASIS - www.oasisonline.org.uk Email: chair@oasisonline.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 - Tel: 01844 338380 www.thomley.org.uk

Email: enquiries@thomley.org.uk Menmarsh Road, Worminghall HP18 9JZ.

Recreational facility 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 Summer holidays.

OCC website Activities Oxfordshire <u>http://fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/oxfordshire/directory/youth.page?youthchannel=0</u> 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 <u>www.mymaxcard.co.uk</u> or contact Michelle on T: 01235 849470 E: parents@carersvoiceoxfordshire.org

OYAP - 01869 602560 <u>www.oyap.org.uk</u> activities including school holidays. This summer have Spectrum Theatre Workshops. Through various theatre techniques and games, the workshops will develop communication and interaction skills in a fun and engaging environment. Led by professional artist who have knowledge, understanding and experience of working with the non-neuro typical. 17th August - 11.00am-4pm, Ages 12+, £12/ 24th August - 10.30am-1.30pm, Ages 7-11, £10

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 from Oxfordshire.

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

Day trips and activity days in the Oxford and Witney area 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: <u>info@music4disabledchildren.org.uk</u> www.music4disabledchildren.org.uk

Camp Mohawk - Camp Mohawk, Highfield Lane, Crazies Hill, Wargrave, RG10 8PU. Tel: 0118 9404045 Email: <u>info@campmohawk.org.uk</u> <u>www.campmohawk.org.uk</u> "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: <u>cd.hand@yahoo.co.uk</u>

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

National – Residential Camps -Doit4real run mainstream camps for young people. We have had good feedback from families who booked their child on the Autism Spectrum and/or siblings. See <u>www.doit4real.co.uk</u>

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.