

Care and Connect *for families*



May 2024 Issue #26



Welcome!

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Upcoming Building Work at TouchBase Glasgow

Those of you who visit TouchBase Glasgow regularly may have noticed the building looking tired and showing signs of wear and tear. In addition, the TouchBase still has some remnants of COVID precautions, such as floor tape to ensure social distancing. The good news is that we have successfully secured funding to refresh the building! Over the summer, work will take place to replace the flooring and redecorate TouchBase Glasgow, and we look forward to showing off the fantastic work. Families who regularly access the TouchBase will receive more detailed information before work commences.

NHS Learning Disability Health Checks

Another exciting project currently in the works at TouchBase Glasgow is the presence of the NHS Learning Disability Health Check team. The team, which is made up of Registered Learning Disability Nurses, was created in October of 2023 and is currently in the second phase of their pilot stage following an initial 12-week phase in Inverclyde. Members of the team are delivering vital health checks to people over 16 with learning disabilities at TouchBase Glasgow until the beginning of July. If you are based in the Greater Glasgow and Clyde area and would like to request a health check for a person you support over 16, please email ggc.ldhealthcheck@ggc.scot.nhs.uk or call 0141 800 7818.

Take a Break

Applications for Take a Break are now open. Take a Break provides cash grants to carers of disabled children and young people, aged 0 to 20, who have complex additional support needs. The grant can be used to contribute towards things like day trips, a short break away, an additional carer, travel costs, clubs and activities. The scheme aims to improve unpaid carer's quality of life, health and wellbeing by supporting them in accessing a break from the day-to-day routine of caring. It is funded by the Scottish Government and administered by Family Fund charity.

Find out more and apply online by visiting the Take a Break website: takeabreakscotland.org.uk.

Teddy Drive

We are looking for donations of pre-loved teddies, which will be cleaned and dressed by our Mecoco volunteers and sold to raise funds. Suitable teddies:

- Will have a CE label attached
- Will be approximately 20cm - 40cm in height
- Will be able to fit a t-shirt on it
- Can be dirty - don't worry, we'll wash it!

They do not need to be bears specifically - they can be dogs, lions, etc., as long as they can fit a t-shirt.

If you have a teddy or teddies which you think may be suitable, please hand them into the Fundraising office at TouchBase Glasgow or contact wendykyle@sensescotland.org.uk to arrange a collection.

Fundraising Opportunities

Sense Scotland is a charity. Many of our services rely on funding from trusts, foundations and the public. We need to raise at least £1million every year. Can you, your family, friends or employer help? To find out more about our fundraising activities and opportunities, please sign up to our fundraising newsletter at bit.ly/sense-scotland-fundraising, give the team a call on 0300 330 9292 or email us at fundraising@sensescotland.org.uk.

Masquerade Ball – Saturday, 16 November 2024

Tickets for our Ladies' Lunch in June are now all sold out, but you can save the date for another fantastic fundraising event this winter. Following in the footsteps of our 'A Night at the Museum' Ball last November, our Masquerade Broadway Ball will be another unmissable event at the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum in Glasgow. Stay tuned to our Facebook page at facebook.com/sensescotlandcharity for information about tickets and entertainment. We can't wait to see you there!

Upcoming Events

Coffee and Connect – Wednesday, 29 May

Come along and join us online for a catch-up and a cuppa. This will be a great opportunity to catch up with parents/carers from all over the country and speak with one of Sense Scotland's advisors. Book your free space at bit.ly/coffee-and-connect-may-24.

Connect and Sensory Play – Wednesday, 5 June

Our next Connect and Sensory Play session at TouchBase Fife will take place on Wednesday, 5 June, from 10am – 2pm! Drop-in anytime and see the wide range of sensory toys we have on offer and take part in our fun activity of the day.

The sessions are available for parents and carers with a child aged 0-18 with additional or complex needs. Children and their siblings are welcome to come along.

This is also a good opportunity for professionals working with families to come along and find out more about our services and how we can help support the families you work with.

If you would like more information, please email LindaMitchell@sensescotland.org.uk or call us on 01592 646015.

TouchBase Ayrshire Open Day – Friday, 7 June

Our Fundraising team are putting on an open day at TouchBase Ayrshire, which all of our families are welcome to join. Come along and take a look behind the scenes, meet staff and the people we support, take part in some creative activities and enjoy refreshments. If you are interested in attending, please email wendykyle@sensescotland.org.uk or call 0300 330 9292 by Friday, 31 May.

Kiltwalks – Aberdeen (2 June), Dundee (11 August), Edinburgh (15 September)

There are still places left at the remaining three Kiltwalks of the year, and you can sign up for free when you pledge to raise funds for Sense Scotland. Take part in the Wee Wander (3 - 5 miles), Big Stroll (11 – 15 miles, Edinburgh only), or Mighty Stride (25 miles) and join Team Sense Scotland at the country's largest mass participation walking events. Sign up now at sensescotland.org.uk/kiltwalk or email fundraising@sensescotland.org.uk for more info.

Twinkle Tots – Online – Every Tuesday, 10:30am – 12pm

Twinkle Tots is our Early Years team's weekly online toddler group for children aged under five with additional support needs. Book your free slot at bit.ly/twinkle-tots-online.

News From Your Service

[SERVICE NEWS GOES HERE]

Please let us know what you think of Care and Connect. Send your feedback to communications@sensescotland.org.uk.

You can find past issues at sensescotland.org.uk/care-and-connect.