

ACTIVITIES & CHOICE

Structure is important, especially for service users with autism; though children & young people will direct the play as the adults supervise.

The children & young people where possible; choose their snack options or a favourite game to feel independent as much as they can.

For service users to enjoy play scheme there are a variety of toys & equipment on offer. This includes books, sports, sensory, tabletop games, creativity, music, construction & water/sand play. By having fun the children & young people develop good self esteem & confidence.

The staff may plan some activities and provide the resources as an option for the children & young people; though the decision lies with the service users if they wish to participate.



Hertfordshire County based organisations such as the Police and Fire & Rescue service visit us and put on a show. Nearby companies are employed to do dance or sports coaching on site.

Local outings or day excursions include trips to parks, farms & the swimming pool. The relevant risk assessments, procedures, costing and travel arrangements are carried out for this to happen.

For the children & young people to express themselves the staff use a variety of methods to engage interaction; these include: verbal speech, Makaton signing & PECS (Picture Exchange Communication System).

PARENT/CARER RELATIONSHIPS

Communication is paramount to ensure information on the child meets their particular need.

An Individual Profile (Care Plan) is completed & asks about likes/dislikes; ways of communication; behavioural issues; medication & personal care etc & having consent to carry out certain tasks.

Feedback is welcome; monitored & acted upon where appropriate for improving our service delivery.



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SNAP
Hertfordshire
Ltd



Special Needs Activities and Play
Subsidiary of St Albans & Dacorum Mencap Societies

www.snapherts.org.uk



Playscheme
Information

SNAPs PROVISION

Our schemes offer a service to children & young people aged 5 to 19 years old, who have learning disabilities of varying severity. Some service users may also have physical or sensory disabilities and/or behaviour that is challenging.

HOLIDAY PLAYScheme

The play opportunities are based in local schools and run during the Easter, Christmas & Summer school holidays from the districts of Dacorum, St. Albans & Hatfield areas.

SATURDAY CLUB

We run monthly Saturday Clubs in Hemel Hempstead, St. Albans & Welwyn designed for children & young people 8 to 19 years old.

THE VENTURERS

Minibus trips out & about for more Moderate Learning Difficulty (MLD) during school holidays intended for young people aged 15 to 19 years old.

FATHER & CHILD SESSIONS

Approximately once a month this interest is provided for Dad's and their children aged 8 to 19 years old in St. Albans.



STAFFING & RESOURCES

The team consists of paid workers and volunteers; whom implement varied activity programmes across the different services. We operate with three staff to a one child ratio; for some service user's additional support may be increased. Onsite schemes have access to practical facilities at schools and SNAP provides the play equipment.

We have a good mixture of qualified/non-qualified experienced staff; enhanced CRB checks are undertaken and they work inline with SNAP policies.

OBJECTIVES

1. To provide good quality childcare and play experience for our service users.
2. To offer respite time for the need of parents.
3. To set an affordable pricing strategy to access our provision.
4. To work in partnership with parents/carers and all relevant organisations.
5. To ensure our policies/procedures are followed and assessed for their effectiveness.
6. To supply training for staff and placements for childcare/nursing students.
7. To support employment in the community.
8. To work within an equal opportunities framework.

INCLUSION POLICY

We recognise that all our service users have the right to play; that those with special needs may require support in order to participate. An environment is promoted in which children & young people are accepted and integrated, whilst encouraged to be independent.

IMPORTANCE OF PLAY

Children & Young People use play to develop, learn and practise skills; from expressing creativity and using their initiative to build social relationships, it is a time when they're free to experiment and explore through empowerment.

OFSTED

For SNAP to allow Under 6s to attend; we ensure our Playscheme sites are Ofsted registered. Inspections are carried out so that we comply with legal standards and good practise.



A Typical Day at Holiday Playscheme or Saturday Club

10am	Service users arrive.
10am to 11am	Activities; arts & crafts, sports and sensory toys.
11am to 11.30am	Snack
11.30 – 12.15	Activities; arts & crafts, cookery, sports and toys.
12.15pm to 1pm	Lunch
1pm to 3pm	Activities; arts & crafts, sports and sensory toys.
3pm	Service users go home.

PLEASE NOTE that if local trips off site are planned or full day excursions organised; you will be informed about the venues and time of event.

