

Come and Join Us.....

You do not have to come to the monthly meetings to be a member of Dolphins, you can simply join the mailing list and we can send you regular information about Dolphins, events and trips fill in the form below and you will be added to our mailing list.

Please return the form to : Laura Hall,
Dolphins secretary, 30 The Commons,
Welwyn Garden City, Herts, AL7 4RP

Alternatively you can email the requested information to dolphinnews@hotmail.co.uk

I wish to be added to the Dolphins mailing list

Parents Name

Address.....

.....

Postcode

Email

Please return this to Laura Hall, Dolphins secretary, 30 The Commons, Welwyn Garden City, Herts, AL7 4RP

Contact Details

Ruth Bradford, Special Needs Health Visitor
Tewin Ward
Child Development Centre
QE2 Hospital
Welwyn Garden City
Herts
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E-mail: ruth.Bradford@nhs.net

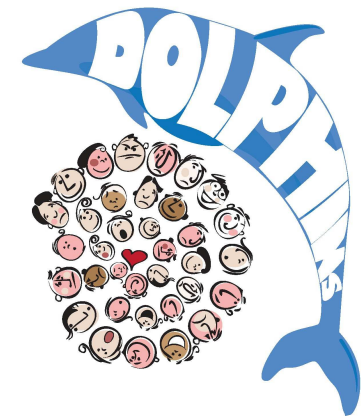
Parent Contact:
Laura Hall
Dolphin Secretary
01707 377099
07840 620772
dolphinnews@hotmail.co.uk

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In
Needy
Situations



Last updated July 2010

Dolphins



A support group for
parents of children
with special needs



About Dolphins

Dolphins is a support group for parents of children with special needs. The group welcomes children of all ages including siblings to all our activities.

Dolphins was launched in December 2003 with a Christmas party. It is run by a group of parents, supported by the Special Needs Health Visiting and Nursery Nurses.

Dolphins aims to provide parents with an opportunity to meet with other parents who have children with special needs, to support each other and share information. The Special Needs Health Visitor is often available at the monthly meetings for consultation

As we are an independent group, we rely solely on fund raising and grants. This allows us to run trips or activities with very little or no cost to our families

Currently we have over 100 families on our mailing list with approximately 20 families attending the monthly meetings regularly. You do not have to come to every meeting every month. You can be on the mailing list and come to meetings, trips or activities as it suits you and your family.



Monthly meetings

Dolphins meet on the first Friday of the month during the school term. If our scheduled meeting falls during a school holiday where possible we try to hold the meeting on the second Friday of that month.

Our meetings are held at Peartree Respite centre (Jubilee House), Knella Road, Welwyn Garden City, Herts, AL7 3QJ

We meet from 9.30am until 11.00am.

The monthly meetings are a great time to meet other parents, who may have been in similar situations that you may be in or possibly facing. We are a friendly group of parents, (mainly mums but we do occasionally get dads and they are more than welcome).

There is a crèche run by the local nursery nurses. Children with all special needs are welcome and siblings too.

There is no charge when attending the monthly meetings, however we do ask for a small contribution towards tea and coffee, etc.

We try to get speakers to come to some of the meetings. Some examples of the speakers we have had include: Yvonne Deal from the Money Advice unit, to talk about benefits (Disability Living Allowance & Carers Allowance), The special needs Dental team to give help and advice, Carers in Herts, and many more. We have even had Chocoholics come to a couple of meetings, bringing chocolate to taste and to help with our fundraising efforts

Activities and Trips

We realize that during the school holidays it can be hard to find activities to do with a child with special needs, this is why during school holidays we try to plan at least one activity a week.

During the half term we usually book Roller City (skating) solely for Dolphins use where everyone is welcome on the rink.

Over the longer holidays we try other activities which have included:

Jungle Mania, Bouncy Castle and trampoline sessions at gosling and in Hatfield, Swimming, Art and Craft session at Mill Green Museum, Thames Valley Adventure Playground (a secure and completely Inclusive playground) for all abilities and The Celtic Harmony Camp

We have an annual Christmas party with entertainer and of course father Christmas.

All members of the family are welcome especially siblings as sometimes they can miss out, because of a family members disability

