

**Happy 1st Birthday Bromley DSSG
and a Happy New Year to you all.**

Its our 1st Birthday!

Exactly a year ago, after much form-filling, the Bromley Down Syndrome Support Group was made official. It became a registered charity with the aim to support people in Bromley with Down Syndrome and their families. What a year it has been! We have already had so many fundraising events and are setting up new ways to help our members. What's next? **WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY!**

Training

We are very excited that BDSSG is in a position to fund training for the families and extended family members and carers who are members of the charity.

As Liz said in her email, the two courses on offer are:

- 1 - The Learning Profile of a child with Down Syndrome. (1hr30)
2. Behaviour in children with Down Syndrome (2hr).

As we are using our fundraising donations to fund this, I'm sure you will understand that we unfortunately can't train everybody. Educational professionals or others not in the Borough can access the training directly through the Inclusively Downs website for a fee of £30 per person, per course.

Your family and carers are also included in this offer.

Please contact us on bromleydssg@gmail.com if you have any questions or to sign up if you haven't already.



The Chis and Sid Xmas Fair

April was not to be deterred when the school's fair had to be postponed.

Determined to raise money for BDSSG, she took her stall to Bullers Wood Boys Christmas Fair, and raised an incredible **£228.20**

Thank you to everybody who donated gifts for the stall.

Don't forget to keep any surplus or unwanted gifts aside for our next fundraiser!

Covid News

I hope you are all aware of the new Covid recommendations for our children with DS that are 12 years and over. They should have all received a PCR in the post can access new antiviral treatment.

For the Under 18s, it is administered via infusion; an intravenous drip which takes about 30 minutes. We totally understand this is a very stressful and emotional thing to even contemplate, but is certainly worth considering if needed.

Karen and Toby recently went through this process, so if you would like to contact her about any questions or concerns you may have, or to talk about their experience, please contact her on bromleydssg@gmail.com





Plans for World Down Syndrome Day 21 March 2021

We are hoping to celebrate the day and our family members with another Fun Day and will keep you posted on the details. You can get involved in fundraising at your schools and workplaces for the day. Please let us know if you need any charity details or a collection box.

Coffee Afternoon

Our first coffee afternoon of the new year will be held on the 27th January - 1pm-3pm at the Phoenix Centre. we hope to see you there!

Groups and clubs in the area

Please sign up to Pel's mailing list, or email pin.ahmet@bromley.gov.uk so you can receive the relevant information on exciting things going on in the Borough!

Mytime are offering some great families activities at the moment for free, weekly sessions to all the family, including Ten Pin Bowling, family Splash and Softplay and Teen Circuits check their website for details and specific dates. at present running until March.

there is also myclub adults for the over 18's. www.mytimeactive.co.uk/myclubjunior

Our Families News

We were thrilled to hear about the new activities Daniel has been trying out. Daniel started tennis (at one of the @DSActiveclubs) and horse-riding in the autumn and his mum is thrilled by his progress. the full story can be seen on downs-syndrome.org.uk



Well done Daniel!

If you have a story you would like to share with us please let us know at bromleydssg@gmail.com

Latest apps to be recommended



please visit www.specialiapps.org where you will find the whole collection.

New Podcast

If you like a podcast, head to Coffee and Chromosomes hosted by Nisha and Hamel and brought to you by Wouldnt Change a Thing.

www.wouldntchangeathing.org/coffee-chromosomes/



What's next for the BDSSG?

We are still in the process of co-producing a Down Syndrome Pathway to benefit all children and young people with DS in the Borough. Thank you to our members who offered their insights and experiences during the initial process. The Local Authority has formed a Task and Finish group to work on finalising and implementing the Pathway for education, health and care. Liz is co-chair of the group, and we are ensuring that our members' voices are heard during the process. There are monthly meetings to track progress and we will keep you informed.

The Inclusive Education Pilot Campaign

This year Down Syndrome International are researching how the model of inclusive education is implemented in the U.K Their findings will inform a campaign advocating for raised awareness of the right for all learners to be included in mainstream classrooms.

If you would like to be part of this important campaign please take time to complete their anonymous survey bit.ly/DSiEducationSurvey