

West Berkshire Mencap is a local group originally known as Newbury Mencap and founded in 1954.

Members of staff, assisted by a large number of volunteers, provide a wide range of facilities and services for people of all ages with a learning disability, their families and carers.

Vision

Our vision is a world where people with a learning disability are valued equally, listened to and included. We want everyone to have the opportunity to achieve the things they want out of life.



Link Up

Link Up is a sheltered work skills project for people with learning disabilities who want to learn about employment in a real work environment. The project is based at New Greenham Park, just a few miles from Newbury town centre.

The members of the project carry out varied tasks in a live work setting, mostly based around packaging items for posting. A small subsistence allowance is paid whilst on the project. There is also a job coaching team which works with our trainees to help secure job tasters, work experience and subsequently a work placement.

Growing for All / Together

These projects aim to provide a real work environment for adults with learning disabilities within a sheltered greenhouse and garden environment at Cottismore Park.

Growing for All is aimed at trainees who are interested in gardening and greenhouse work and Growing Together is for trainees who have shown an interest in food production.



Disabling Barriers – Enabling Inclusion

A thriving group based in purpose built premises in Newbury, dedicated to providing services, fundraising and campaigning on behalf of people with learning disabilities, their families and carers.



Office open Monday to Friday 9.30 to 17.00

West Berkshire Mencap Centre

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Disabling Barriers – Enabling Inclusion

Family Adviser Service

The Family Adviser service provides support, advice and information to people with a learning disability, their families and professionals working with them. The West Berkshire Mencap Family Adviser Service also offers individual support.

Bubble Club

A parent and toddler group for children 0 to 5 years with a learning disability and their siblings. The Bubble Club is held one morning a week during term time at the Mencap Centre.

After School Clubs

Run four days a week, after school. Children are brought from school directly to the Mencap Centre, have their tea and enjoy some play time. We have a group of volunteers drawn from local schools who help with the children's needs.

Youth Club

Runs once a week for young people between 12 and 19.

Holiday Playschemes

The West Berkshire Mencap Playscheme is a 1 to 1 caring environment that operates at Easter and during the summer holidays (specific periods each year). This is suitable for children and young adults from 3 to 17 years with a learning disability.

Soft Playroom & Sensory Room

Our latest addition is an extension to the Mencap Centre which contains a soft playroom and a sensory room.

Outdoor Playground

Fully enclosed with specially adapted equipment including swings, slides, roundabout and a zip wire. Most of the equipment can be used by adults as well.

Respite Bungalow

West Berkshire Mencap owns Baily Thomas House in Pinchington Lane in Newbury. This is a respite bungalow for adults.

Gateway

The Gateway Club meets regularly during the year, one evening a week in Newbury and one evening a fortnight in Calcot. Various activities are planned for each week varying from Discos to Bingo, Karaoke to BBQ's. Outings to places of interest are also organized and normally take place at the weekend during the summer months.

Gateway Award

The Gateway Award scheme is similar to the Duke of Edinburgh Award. The award is based on each individual's achievement. It has been developed to encourage members to progress within their own capabilities. This is run one evening a week coinciding with term times.

Leisure Plus

This scheme has been developed to provide sports, leisure activities and independent living skills for adults with learning disabilities. Links with other associations and groups are encouraged to widen and improve leisure pursuits for our members.

Supported Living

West Berkshire Mencap is working with Greenham Common Trust to develop a number of supported living flats for young adults with learning disabilities. Each living unit will have a bedroom, en suite shower room and a living/dining room with kitchen facilities. West Berkshire Mencap is also looking for opportunities to develop further supported living accommodation.

Domiciliary Care Agency

West Berkshire Mencap is setting up a Domiciliary Care Agency to provide care and support to people with a learning disability within their own home.