## HAND

## Hertfordshire Additional Needs Database

Are you a parent or carer of a child or young person with an additional need or disability aged 0 – 25 years?

e.g. Multiple and complex health needs
Autism spectrum disorder, ADHD,
communication disorder
Visual or hearing impairment
Learning disability
Chronic physical illness
Significant pre-school delay
Physical disability

## What HAND can do for you:

- A newsletter each month www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/handnews
- Concessions on leisure facilities
- Information on benefits, activities, support groups and much more
- An opportunity to influence planning of future services

You can join HAND online at

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/hand

or call 01992 556984 or email hand@hertfordshire.gov.uk for a paper copy of the application and more information

Don't miss out





# **Jesign ref: 078754**

## Who can join HAND?

To join HAND the child or young person's special needs will have a substantial impact on their everyday life. They are likely to need additional support, adjustments and/or aid and adaptations to help them at school and at home.

Joining HAND is voluntary; whether you choose to join or not it will not affect eligibility for services following an assessment. Joining HAND is free, and is open to parents/carers voluntarily. A parent/carer can remove their child's name from HAND at any time. Young people from the age of 16 may wish to register themselves voluntarily; they can remove their own name from HAND at any time.

## A confidential service

No personal details about children or young people are shared. The information shared is statistical, and will not identify individual children.

### The benefits of joining HAND

- A membership card will be issued to HAND members, which can help in getting assistance and understanding for your child in many different situations. Some leisure providers have agreed to give concessions to families who have a membership card
- HAND News is our online monthly newsletter with news and information on services, support groups, holiday playschemes, activities, money advice and more
- With permission the database will be used as a mailing list to inform and consult children and young people and parents and carers about new services, changes in services, playschemes, holiday schemes and welfare benefits
- If you join we can send you information about services and new developments. It will also mean that we have a picture of the additional needs of children and young people in Hertfordshire, which will help us to improve and effectively plan services for the future.