

'Family is a doing word. Together, we change lives'

# **West Suffolk** Neurodevelopmental Support **Service**







We are Family Action



Team of 5



Serve West Suffolk



Commissioned by West Suffolk ICB



Part of the NDD Pathway/Coordination Function offer support includes pre, during and post diagnosis

## What Do We Offer?



## Personalised Support

1:1 person-centred, goal-focused support for families

Liaise with schools

Advocate for families

Signposting to other support services and local activities

Providing helpful resources

### Courses

Plan Bee

3 Week Course for parents

2 hours per week

virtual and face-to-face courses

Bespoke online Webinars Sleep, Anxiety, Social Knowledge,
Transitions, Low Demand
1 hour sessions
virtual

Teen Life - National Autistic Society Programme for Parents and Carers (6x2 hour sessions) face-to-face course

## What Do We Offer?



### **Monthly Newsletter**

Newsletter - has neurodivergent focused articles in each month, useful links, upcoming courses, local info

Available to families and professionals

### **Monthly Drop-in**

Families can support each other locally - No need to book!

Bury St Edmunds drop-in (Oakes Barn)

Haverhill drop-in (Clements Community Centre)



family

Develop an understanding of your child's individual needs.

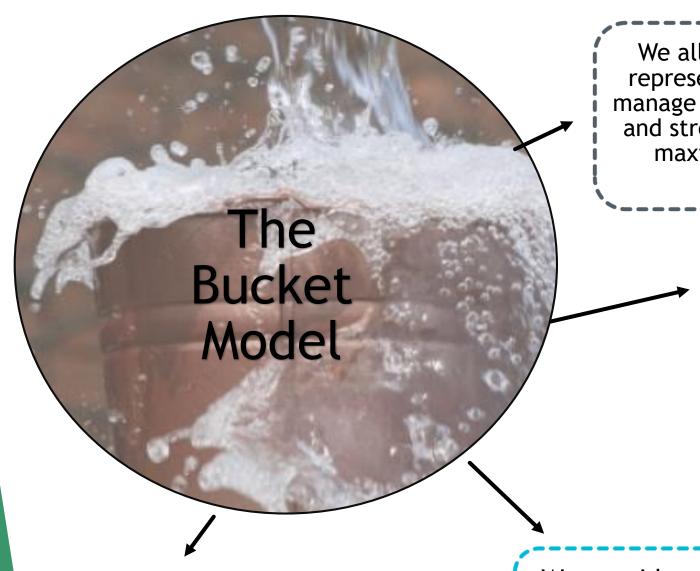
Understand how these needs impact the individual

To create a strategy plan for specific situations

To develop new skills and strategies to support your child, and support others to understand them

Peer support





We all have a bucket - it represents our capacity to manage or hold our emotions and stress - when we reach maximum capacity, it overflows.



The bucket model is key to our course - it encourages families to look at behaviour in a different way. It can support communication around stress and overwhelm as well.

All behaviour is communication.

We consider what might fill our bucket/a child's bucket and think about ways to avoid overflow.



STAR DIAR	Y

Setting	Trigger	Action	Response
(when, where, who	(what happened	(what exactly did they	(who responded and
was there?)	before?)	do?)	how—what was the
			result for the child?)

### Strategy Plan

We encourage families to create strategies based on their child's needs.

The STAR diary above helps parents break things down into categories and be reflective.

We have an approach called HIVE which stands for Holistic, Inclusive, Validating Environment.

Using this approach, we help families to create a strategy plan for specific situations such as transition into school, a doctor's appointment, visiting the supermarket.



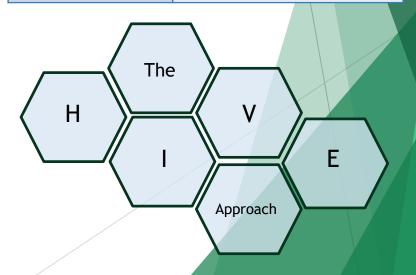
### **Situation:**

Potential Triggers:

Hopes for me: Hopes for my

child:

First signs of dysregulation: Strategies:



"We did find Plan Bee useful it gave us a different perspective on things and explained a few things that we were still struggling with so it was excellent I'm glad we attended thank you for your support your services have been a big help to our family".

"the course was so wonderful, the bucket model changed my life, it was like magic...nothing else worked like the Plan Bee course did".



"I wish these sessions would never stop, they are so so helpful, I can't express how grateful I am for all of you". "this course has helped me so much with things I understand and can use, would love to do it again if I needed more help".



# **Webinars**





#### **An Introduction to Transition** in Schools for **Neurodivergent Children**

#### **FREE Online Webinar**

60 - 90 minute online webinar designed to help

- · What transition is
- · Why transition may be difficult for my child
- · The different types of transition
- · The various strategies that can support transition











An introduction to...

We are not experts in the field.

Empower parents with knowledge.

Share strategies and invite them to choose what works.

Very accessible online.

Just over an hour and offer time for Q&A.



#### An Introduction to the Low **Demand Approach**

#### Free Online Webinar

60 - 90 minute online webinar designed to help

- · What a demand could be.
- · How and why children might be impacted by demands.
- · What we mean by a 'low demand approach'.
- · Ways to embed a low demand approach.





An Introduction to Anxiety in **Neurodivergent Children** 

#### **FREE Online Webinar**

60 - 90 minute online webinar signed to help

· What anxiety is

- · How anxiety affects the brain
- · How anxiety relates to behaviour
- How we can help





An Introduction to Sleep in **Neurodivergent Children** 

#### **FREE Online Webinar**

60 - 90 minute online webingr designed to

- · The basics of sleep science
- · Factors that may impact
- Developing good sleep hygiene
- · Strategies to support your child to rest and sleep





An Introduction to Social Knowledge in **Neurodivergent Children** 

#### **FREE Online Webingr**

60 - 90 minute online webinar designed to

- Why your young person may have difficulties with making friendships
- · Strategies to support and develop social knowledge
- · Embracing your child's strengths and passions







Really helpful workshop as is always the case for family action workshop/courses. thanks so much again. (Transition WS)

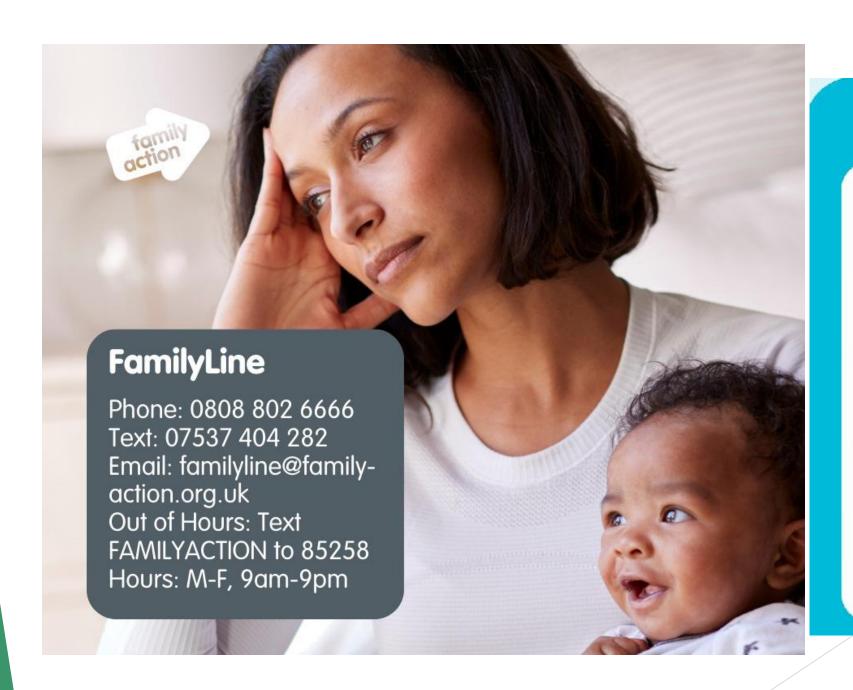
family

Great to get better insight on how to help girls with autism develop better social skills. Would be fantastic if there were places for girls to meet up with people like them. (Social Skills WS) Thank you for lots of valuable ideas and advice. It was reassuring to know our family is not alone.

(Sleep WS)

Informative and reassuring.
Relaxed and inclusive approach.
Great to be on zoom so don't need to travel. (Anxiety WS)







# **Contact Details**

►T: 01284 636655

►E: wsuffolk@family-action.org.uk

►W: www.family-action.org.uk

(Find our service under the Fam

(Find our service under the Family Support section).

▶Find us on Facebook: Family Action West Suffolk Neurodevelopmental Support Service

