InformationNOW
Information for people in Newcastle upon Tyne

Children's activities

There are lots of things for children and young people to do in Newcastle. Here's a list of local organisations that offer a range of art, musical, historical, interactive and science based activities.

Children's and families information

Children and Families Newcastle is the website for children and families in Newcastle. You can find community activities and local support services near you. This includes:

- services for Children with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)
- Children's activities such as: baby and toddler groups, school holiday activities or youth groups
- Schools, childcare providers and nurseries
- pregnancy and family support services
- The Local Offer: information, advice and support for the families of children and young people with Special Educational Needs or disabilities (SEND). This support directory includes clubs and groups available to children, young people and their families.

Newcastle's Best Holiday Ever is the free school holiday activities and food programme for children and young people who: receive free school meals, are a young carer, are assessed as vulnerable, at risk or in need, have an Education, health and care plan, are referred by a professional or are from a refugee family. Find the full list of activities and how to book a place on their website and read more about their eligibility criteria.

Community centres and hubs

Community Hubs have a range of practical, education and wellbeing activities for babies, children, young people, and families. This includes: family support, children's therapies, mental health support and childcare. They are across Newcastle in the North, East, Inner and Outer West of the city. Formerly known as Sure Start Centres.

Local Community centres offer a range of children's activities, holiday activities, family activities or parent and toddler groups. Read the **Community centres** article on InformationNOW for the list of Community Centres in Newcastle.

- **Denton Youth and Community Project**
- **Denton Burn Community Association**
- **Fawdon Community Centre**

- **West Denton Community Centre**
- **Gosforth Garden Village Association**
- **St. Vincent's Centre(Blackfriars Centre) Newcastle**
- **Chapel House and District Community Association (CHADCA)**
- **Heaton Community Centre**
- Kids Kabin in Walker
- Kenton Park Sports Centre has soft play and children's activities
- **St Martin's Centre** in Byker
- **Walkerville Community Centre**
- **West End Women and Girls Centre**

What's going on in Newcastle

Here's a list of other articles on InformationNOW for more details about what you can enjoy in Newcastle.

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Summer activities
Holiday activities

Useful websites

Leisure centres

You can find the list of leisure centres in Newcastle on InformationNOW. Some Leisure Centres may also offer children's sessions and activities, such as trampolining and soft play.

Swimming pools

There are a number of swimming pools in Newcastle. Many offer family swim sessions and swimming lessons. Some swimming pools charge less at certain times for children and families, such as during school holidays. Visit their website to see the swimming pool timetables and costs.

Toddler Groups

Churches and community centres often run toddler groups. You can see the list of **Places of worship** and **Community Centres** on InformationNOW to find a place near you.

You can find Toddler groups at:

- **St George's Church in Jesmond**
- **Holy Spirit Church in Denton**
- **CHADCA Early Years Playgroup**

Newcastle Support Directory is the website for children and families in Newcastle where you can find baby and toddler groups, youth groups and much more.

Places to visit with children

Alnwick Garden

Alnwick Garden was created with children in mind and has many activities for them to enjoy, including driving miniature tractors, or visiting the Poison Garden or The Treehouse, where they can play on the rope bridges.

BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art

BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art have new art exhibitions and a range of **free** activities for children and families. They have a permanent interactive play space. They offer drop-in art activities for children under 13 years old and their families every Saturday and Sunday between 2pm and 4pm. They have a picnic area and free refreshments available. **Admission is free.**

Discovery Museum

Discovery Museum has a water play area called Play Tyne which allows children under 7 to experience the workings of the River Tyne, including shipbuilding, loading cranes etc. **Admission is free.** It also has a range of interactive exhibitions and a small soft play area.

Laing Art Gallery

Laing Art Gallery has an Under Five's Area where young children can learn about art through play. The area has games and puzzles as well as a dressing up box. **Admission is free**. Please note it is closed on Mondays apart from Bank Holidays.

Life (previously known as the Centre for Life or Life Science Centre)

Life Science Centre (previously known as the Centre for Life) is a lively experience which aims to encourage questions about the world we live in. Attractions include interactive science exhibitions and live demonstrations. **There is a cost for this.**

The Glasshouse International Centre for Music

The Glasshouse International Centre for Music has a programme of activities for children, such as music making and Movers and Shakers. They also have a range of family-friendly events. There is a small play space on the ground floor which is free to access. **There is usually a cost to watch shows but some activities and entrance are free.**

Seven Stories – The Centre for Children's Books

Seven Stories – The Centre for Children's Books is an exhibition space dedicated to the celebration of British children's literature. Exhibitions change regularly. There is also a bookshop, storytelling and weekend and holiday drop-in family activities. Admission charges apply.

The Shipley Art Gallery

The Shipley Art Gallery has a range of activities for children and babies including 'Creative Baby' a sensory baby activity. They offer, free of charge, interactive resources for babies and families to use whilst visiting the gallery. You can borrow a 'Magic Carpet' made by artists, these special bags fold out into creative playmats, complete with a selection of toys. You can also borrow a 'Shipley Explorer' pack to enjoy with young children anywhere in the gallery. Donations welcome, admission free.

Libraries

Libraries have a range of children's books, graphic novels, access to computers, audio books, e books and they run activities and events. This includes storytelling, comics, crafts and more. There are libraries across Newcastle. Visit their website to find out more about what is going on near you.

What's going on in Newcastle

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Useful websites

The following websites have a wide range of suggestions for days out for children of all ages and special offers, to find something to suit you.

Family Explorers North East is a free service helping families to plan their days out and save money. Families are invited to sign up and receive hand-picked recommendations from 24 cultural venues across the North East every week, making choosing days out quicker and easier for anyone caring for children (including grandchildren, and great grandchildren!).They encourage families to share reviews of their visits so others can see honest and unbiased recommendations from families like them. You also receive discounts, money saving tips and free tools to make exploring the North East easy, affordable and fun. Sign up for Family Explorers North East and access special offers on their website.

Get Into Newcastle lists events, shops, restaurants, bars, clubs, theatres and attractions. You can find money off vouchers too. You can also find the Screen on the Green shows.

Day Out With The Kids (DOWTK) where you can find fun days out for kids across the UK.

North East Action for Children Parents and Inclusion (NAPI) list all the local parent and toddler groups in the City. There are also a number of Toy Libraries in Newcastle, which loan out toys, books and games for children to play with at home. Contact **North East Action for Children Parents and Inclusion (NAPI)** to find out if there is a toy library near you

What's On North East has ideas and information about upcoming events and activities in the North East.

Kids Days Out lists attractions and activities for kids all over the country.

What's On 4 Kids helps parents find local classes and activities for Little Ones (baby, toddler to pre-schoolers), school kids and kids party supplies, entertainers and venues.

Last updated: March 28, 2025

Useful Organisations

Kinship – formerly Grandparents Plus

Email: info@kinship.org.uk

Website: www.kinship.org.uk

Telephone: 03300 167 235

Address: The Foundry , SE11 5RR

West Denton Community Centre

Email: westdentoncommunitycentre@hotmail.com

Website: https://wdcc.communitybookings.co.uk/

Telephone: 0191 267 4242

Address: Hillhead Road, NE5 1DN

St Martin's Centre

Email: info@stmartinscentre.org.uk

Website: http://www.stmartinscentre.org.uk

Telephone: 0191 276 4002

Address: St Martin's Centre, NE6 2RJ

Gransnet

Email: contactus@gransnet.com

Website: www.gransnet.com

Proud Grandparents

Website: www.proudgrandparents.co.uk

Children's and Families Newcastle

Email: cfnwebsite@newcastle.gov.uk

Website: https://childrenandfamiliesnewcastle.org.uk/

Address: Civic Centre, NE1 8QH

Life (Centre for Life)

Email: info@life.org.uk

Website: www.life.org.uk

Telephone: 0191 243 8210

Address: Life Science Centre, NE1 4EP

Discovery Museum

Email: info@discoverymuseum.org.uk

Website: www.discoverymuseum.org.uk

Telephone: 0191 232 6789

Address: Blandford Square, NE1 4JA

Laing Art Gallery

Email: info@laingartgallery.org.uk

Website: www.laingartgallery.org.uk

Telephone: 0191 278 1611

Address: New Bridge Street, NE1 8AG

Seven Stories – The Centre for Children's Books

Email: info@sevenstories.org.uk

Website: www.sevenstories.org.uk

Telephone: 0845 271 0777

Address: 30 Lime Street, NE1 2PQ

BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art

Email: info@balticmill.com

Website: www.balticmill.com

Telephone: 0191 478 1810

Address: South Shore Road, NE8 3BA

The Glasshouse International Centre for Music

Email: boxoffice@theglasshouseicm.org

Website: www.theglasshouseicm.org

Telephone: 0191 443 4666

Address: The Glasshouse International Centre for Music, NE8 2JR

Monkwearmouth Station Museum

Email: museums@sunderland.gov.uk

Address: North Bridge Street, SR5 1AP

The Alnwick Garden

Email: info@alnwickgarden.com

Website: www.alnwickgarden.com

Telephone: 01665 511 350

Address: Denwick Lane, NE66 1YU

Get Into Newcastle NE1

Email: info@newcastlene1ltd.com

Website: www.getintonewcastle.co.uk

Telephone: 0191 211 3951

Address: Newcastle NE1 Ltd, NE1 1LE

What's on North East

Email: info@whatsonnortheast.com

Website: www.whatsonnortheast.com

Telephone: 03000 261 221

Address: Visit County Durham, DH1 1WA

Day out with the kids (DOWTK)

Website: www.dayoutwiththekids.co.uk

Kids Days Out

Website: www.kidsdaysout.co.uk

What's on 4 Kids

Email: northeast@whatson4.co.uk

Website: https://whatson4kids.co.uk/

Telephone: 0121 288 0009

Denton Burn Community Association

Email: dentonburnca@outlook.com

Website: www.dentonburncommunityassociation.co.uk

Telephone: 0191 274 1232

Address: Denton Burn Community Association, NE5 2UQ

Denton Youth and Community Project

Email: info@dycp.org.uk

Website: http://www.dycp.org.uk/

Telephone: 0191 264 7566

Address: Hillhead Road, NE5 1DN

Gosforth Garden Village Association

Email: info@ggva.org.uk

Address: Garden Village Community Centre, NE3 5DD

St. Vincent's Centre Newcastle

Email: stvincentsnewcastle@svp.org.uk

Website: https://www.svp.org.uk/st-vincents-newcastle/

Telephone: 0191 261 6027

Address: St Vincents Centre Newcastle, NE1 2TQ

Chapel House and District Community Association (CHADCA)

Email: chadca.centre@gmail.com

Telephone: 07758 256 780

Address: CHADCA Centre, NE5 1EG

Heaton Community Centre

Email: heatoncc@hotmail.co.uk

Website: http://www.heatoncc.org.uk/

Telephone: 0191 276 6712

Address: Heaton Community Centre, NE6 5LT

West End Women and Girls Centre

Email: info@westendwomenandgirls.co.uk

Website: www.westendwomenandgirls.co.uk

Telephone: 0191 273 4942

Address: The Stephenson Building, NE4 6SQ

Family Explorers North East

Website: http://familyexplorers.co.uk/

Walkerville Community Centre

Email: walkervillecommunitycentre@hotmail.co.uk

Website: https://walkervillecommunity.wixsite.com/mysite

Telephone: 0191 262 3147

Address: 6 Pinewood Close, NE6 4SZ

Fawdon Community Centre

Email: esme.reily@newcastlecat.org.uk

Website: http://www.newcastlecat.org.uk/

Telephone: 07804828355

Address: Fawdon Park Road, NE3 2PJ

Pottery Bank Community Centre Ltd

Email: info@potterybankcc.co.uk

Website: http://new.potterybankcc.co.uk/

Telephone: 0191 224 2349

Address: Yelverton Crescent, NE6 3SW

Wor Hoose Community Project

Email: liz.worhoose@hotmail.co.uk

Website: https://worhoosecommunityproject.com/

Telephone: 0191 2872885

Address: 31-33 Hexham Avenue, NE6 3AL

Jesmond Library

Email: enquiries@jesmondlibrary.org

Website: http://jesmondlibrary.org/

Telephone: 0191 281 2385

Address: St. Georges Terrace, NE2 2DL

North East Action for Children Parents and Inclusion (NAPI)

Email: admin@napi.org.uk

Website: www.napi.org.uk

Telephone: 0191 265 6158

Address: Heaton Community Centre, NE6 5DY

Shipley Art Gallery

Email: info@shipleyartgallery.org.uk

Website: www.shipleyartgallery.org.uk

Telephone: 0191 477 1495

Address: Prince Consort Road, NE8 4JB

St Anthony's Youth Education and Support (The Bostey)

Email: s.davidson@bostey.org.uk

Telephone: 0191234 7844

Address: The Bostey, NE6 3NG

Barnardo's Newcastle Young People's Support Team

Email: newcastleypst@barnardos.org.uk

Website: https://www.barnardos.org.uk/what-we-do/services/newcastle-young-peoples-support-team-independence-project

Telephone: 0191 253 2127

Address: Pottery Bank Community Centre,, NE6 3SW

Holy Spirit Church

Website: http://www.achurchnearyou.com/denton-holy-spirit/

Telephone: 0191 267 4633

Address: Holy Spirit Church, NE5 2BE

Children North East

Email: families.admin@children-ne.org.uk

Website: www.children-ne.org.uk

Telephone: 0191 256 2444

Address: Children's North East, NE15 6QE

Kids Kabin

Website: https://www.kidskabin.org.uk/

Telephone: 0191 295 3655

Address: 10 Church Walk, NE6 3DW

Kenton Park Sports Centre

Email: kentonpark@live.co.uk

Website: https://www.kentonparksportscentre.co.uk/

Telephone: 07592 363 131

Address: Anfield Road, NE3 3LL

Families Matter

Email: newcastleinnerwestenquiries@newcastle.gov.uk

Website: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1432363223656608

Telephone: 0191 214 2460

Address: Families Matter, NE5 3PJ

West Walker Family Centre

Email: newcastleeastenquiries@newcastle.gov.uk

Website: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064620375076

Telephone: 0191 275 9636

Address: West Walker Family Centre, NE6 3BU

CHADCA early years playgroup

Website: http://www.chadcaplaygroup.com/

Telephone: 07484 907 674

Address: Chadca Centre, NE5 1EG

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