# Mencap Berkshire

West Berkshire Mencap is a local charity 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 live a full and rewarding life and reach their full potential.



# The Family Advisor Team

Our role is to develop and provide services to support children with learning a disability and their families. Please speak to our Family Advisors about any ideas you have which would support families in West Berkshire. Once a need is identified we can begin work on trying to meet that need. This is how our present services have developed. We are a needs led service.

Our Family Advisor team has information on a wide range of learning disability issues.

Please call the Family Advisor team for the support and advice you need.



Tel: 01635 41464

Email: <a href="mailto:fas@wbmencap.org">fas@wbmencap.org</a>
Website: <a href="mailto:www.wbmencap.org">www.wbmencap.org</a>



West Berkshire Mencap Limited by Guarantee No. 3790942 Registered Charity No. 1076658

# Family Advisor Service

West Berkshire Mencap is an established and growing charity based in purpose built premises in Newbury, dedicated to providing services and campaigning to support people with a learning disability, their families and carers in the local community.



West Berkshire Mencap
The Mencap Centre
Enborne Gate, Enborne Road
Newbury, Berks. RG14 6AT
Email:info@wbmencap.org

### Family Advisor Service

Our aim is to provide support, advice and information to people with a learning disability, their families and professionals working with them. The West Berkshire Mencap Family Advisor Service also offers individual support to parents, carers and service users, which is tailor made to each individual.

We receive referrals from Adult Social Services, Children's Services, GP's, health visitors, schools, parents who use Mencap services and other local charities. We can help with a variety of issues including benefits advice, support at assessments and annual reviews, planning for the future, housing, deputyship and information leisure activities.

The Family Advisor Service have dedicated staff members to work with parents who require an advocate.

The Family Advisor team also provides information and support to a variety of Carers in West Berkshire.

The Family Advisor Service also organise social events and professional talks so that parents/ carers can meet up with one another and see the Family Advisory Team, as well as meet other professionals.

# **Benefits Support**

We can provide support to fill in a variety of benefit forms, such as:

Personal Independence

 Payments
 Disability Living Allowance

 Employment Support Allowance

 Housing Benefits.

We can also provide support and guidance regarding deputyship and mental capacity issues.



## **Advocacy Services**

We provide an advocacy service for parents and carers, and also for service users through a monthly drop-in service at Link Up. We can support people through a variety of different situations and life opportunities.

We also provide support for parents with a learning disability, by providing an advocacy service throughout Child Protection procedures. We can offer information, advice and guidance at any stage of their child's development.

This service can be requested from the Family Advisor Service by a referral form from a professional such as Social Services, psychologists and schools or by a self- referral from the client themselves. Once this referral has been received, a Family Advisor team member will be allocated to work with the individual if this work is deemed appropriate.