



Purpose & Aims
May 2023

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**Revive: A support hub for parents of children/adults with additional needs-
Description 12 of The Charities Act 2011: The relief of those in need, by
reason of disability, or other disadvantaged.**

Purpose:

Revive strives to provide a confidential, encouraging, non-judgemental safe space, where parents/carers are able to share concerns and issues regarding their child/adult with additional needs. It is important to state that this is an inclusive group for the community where there is no diagnosis needed to attend. Revive recognises the sheer number of children on the waiting list for paediatric assessments, as well as the CAMHS being under immense pressure. Children are welcome to attend with an adult as we are aware that not all children are able to attend school and so a small variety of toys will be available.

Parents are able to access and look through information folders signposting to accessible clubs, outreach societies (like Autism Outreach) and get help with understanding educational health and care plans. There is a resource folder with behaviour management ideas containing useful strategies and parents are encouraged to take whatever resources they would like to try.

Providing a vast resource bank means Revive can offer parents the opportunity to borrow equipment that can be expensive to purchase. These items include things like weighted blankets/vests, body socks, blackout sensory tents and reading aids plus many more. Each month gift bags are given out for each child and contain items that engage children with their senses. This creates opportunities for the child to engage in play, incorporating their sensory needs and gives parents the chance to see how effective engaging the senses can be for neurodivergent children/adults.

At Revive we are proud to be able to offer 'calm down boxes' to our parents to use with their children. These contain a variety of sensory items as well as unique things like a stethoscope, that enables the child to listen to their heartbeat and find different sounds around the room. These have proven to be invaluable and many parents have stressed how influential they are in helping to de-escalate stressful situations. These are given on a need basis and are not

assessed by any set criteria, in the hope that anyone who is struggling can access this support.

Aims:

- To support parents/ carers of children with additional needs by:
 1. Having a safe, confidential, non judgemental and encouraging environment.
 2. Signposting to services that may be able to help with their circumstances.
 3. Offering a wide variety of specialist resources that parents are able to borrow and try out with their children.
 4. Having various professionals visit from time to time to share useful information and be informative of accessible services on offer.
 5. Encouraging and nurturing parents on their journey and recognizing that all children with additional needs are unique and present their needs in a variety of ways, therefore meaning parents need individualized support suited to them.
 6. Advocating for the most vulnerable parents who are unable to understand the education system and need guidance.

- To reach the wider community by opening further support hubs around the county/region, in recognition that parents need support and there is nothing like this accessible for ALL parents (eg: those without a diagnosis or low income). This will mean:
 1. Sub teams will need to have guidance of aims and purposes and have some knowledge of special educational needs including being able to navigate the system.
 2. A separate set of resources will need to be readily available in each hub to lend out, meaning funding for each hub needs to be granted before opening.
 3. Networking between leaders of the group is essential to keep up to date on policies and procedures and maintain the same unified purpose set out on page 1.

- To provide sensory play events across the county that allow children with a disability to engage with their families in a safe and adapted environment. This includes:
 1. Using and paying any registered, professional play/occupational therapists for activities that provide relaxation or stimulation (depending on chosen activity and needs).
 2. Being inclusive of all children by offering a variety of events incorporating different age ranges and needs.

3. Conducting risk assessments on venue and any play equipment being used.
4. Making sure all volunteers and staff have an up to date DBS and abide to Revive safeguarding policy.

Revive aims to achieve each of these aims and evidence will be seen when lots of parents across the county are attending the group and expressing their gratitude for the support. Making a difference to the community and supporting the services that are so overwhelmed is essential for the SEN world, and parents desperately need more help and guidance, with the help of funding Revive can and will do this.