



# Who are we?



- ▶ Maidstone Mencap is a local charity supporting young adults and children who have learning difficulties, additional needs or disabilities.
- ▶ Our vision is to make a positive difference to the lives of those with learning disabilities, their families and carers, within Maidstone and its surrounding areas.
- ▶ We achieve our vision by; enabling and empowering the children and young people in our care to achieve their full potential.
- ▶ Providing the best possible start and support through care, education and therapy support from their early years onwards;
- ▶ Providing quality social and leisure activities and opportunities for self fulfilment within our safe and caring environment.
- ▶ We are affiliated to national Mencap but rely on local volunteers and local community fundraising.

# What we do?

## **Cobtree Playschool for Special Children**

A registered provider of early years education for children age 2 to 5

## **Junior Gateway**

Saturday Club for 5-15 year olds

## **Holiday Club**

Summer Club for 5-18 year olds

## **Youth Club**

A club for 16-25 year olds

## ***Also at Cobtree Hall***

Senior Gateway

A weekly club for adults



# Activities with the children



Activities throughout our club provision includes:

- ▶ Sensory, heuristic play opportunities
- ▶ Music and singing
- ▶ Arts and Craft
- ▶ Lots of Messy play, indoors and out
- ▶ Imaginary play opportunities
- ▶ Cooking

In the summer extra activities include

- ▶ Swimming
- ▶ Extended Park visits
- ▶ Special visitors and activities

Youth club outings in the community can include

- ▶ Bowling
- ▶ Swimming
- ▶ Trampoline park



## Your support

In order to run these services we depend on our volunteers, donations and fund raising events.



- ▶ You can help by supporting our fundraising events
- ▶ organising or running sponsored events
- ▶ Donating money or raffle prizes
- ▶ Becoming a volunteer at Juniors on a Saturday morning 9.30am - 12.30pm, Youth Club 6.30 - on a Thursday evening fortnightly or joining our Summer club team for August
- ▶ Check on our website [MaidstoneMencp.org](http://MaidstoneMencp.org) and join our Facebook family for details

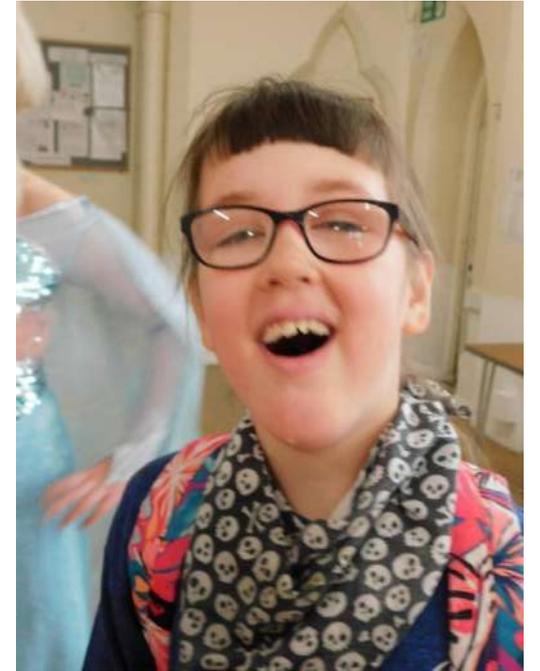


## Why volunteer?

The benefits of volunteering can be **enormous!**

- ▶ It's really good fun and fulfilling for those we care for and all in our team
- ▶ You get loads back from those you work with, making a valuable contribution to our community.
- ▶ You meet all sorts of people, making friends, learning new skills and broadens your social network
- ▶ It increases your self confidence, and gives you a sense of pride and natural sense of accomplishment.
- ▶ It provides excellent work experience for chosen career, supporting your personal statement and the important skills to use in a workplace such as teamwork and communication.
- ▶ Counts for community service as part of Duke of Edinburgh awards.





It's good fun!

# Volunteers go on to...

- ▶ Social work
- ▶ Medicine
- ▶ Nursing
- ▶ Mental Health
- ▶ Psychology
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Physiotherapy or Osteopathy
- ▶ Speech and Language therapy
- ▶ Working with people who have special needs
- ▶ Design (equipment for people with special needs)



# Connect with us

- ▶ Liane Morris
- ▶ [manager@maidstonemencap.org](mailto:manager@maidstonemencap.org)
- ▶ Cobtree Hall, Mote Park, Willington St, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 8E
- ▶ 01622 670464
- ▶ [MaidstoneMencap.org](http://MaidstoneMencap.org)
- ▶ [facebook.com/MaidstoneMencap](https://facebook.com/MaidstoneMencap)
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