



thames valley adventure playground

supporting **children & adults**
with **special needs** and their families

Fundraising Pack

Are you passionate about supporting children and adults with disabilities and special needs and their families?

Help us to make a difference to the lives of the thousands that request our help.



This small booklet is packed full of ways you can help transform the lives of children and adults with special needs.

fun • respite • opportunities • support • community

Registered Charity Number 1201368



About us

What do we do ?

- fun
- respite
- opportunities
- support
- community

As children, most of us would take for granted the chance to get out and about, exploring, climbing trees, visiting the park and hanging out with friends, but for many children and adults with a special need, this just isn't possible. If you have a physical disability, the difficulties are more obvious, but, if you have a learning disability or sensory problems, you may find it hard to relate to other people and to join in their games.

Since 1982 the **Thames Valley Adventure Playground** has provided a chance for children & adults with all types of special need to enjoy the fun, freedom and friendship afforded by the opportunity to play and share experiences in a safe adapted and stimulating environment. The **'Thames Valley Adventure Playground experience'** is unique and offers a real life line to many families of children with special needs. Our OFSTED-registered charity enables play and socialising in total safety, offers Respite Breaks, and organises events, workshops and weekly clubs, in addition to the large range of outdoor and indoor activities. We are frequently described as a lifeline for families of children and adults with special needs. Last year 30,000 visits were made to the Playground by children and adults with all types of special need from more than 30 different counties. We strive to support, advise and be a haven for the special needs community. It can be so isolating to have disability in the family and so providing a space where families can have fun ALL together, get information, support each other, feel part of a community that can empathise is vital.

Providing respite is also a very important part of what we do and last year we provided over 500 respite breaks for local families although demand always outstrips what we are able to accommodate. Respite gives families a chance to be together without caring responsibilities, a chance for siblings to be the centre of attention and makes those tasks that are usually impossible possible.

We are a centre of excellence; the value of our work was recently recognised for our Outstanding Service to the Community during the Lions Club centennial celebrations. Additionally, at the Maidenhead and Windsor Business Awards we were chosen as finalists for the Best charity out of 32 other local charities.

There is so much more going on at the playground - we extend an invitation for you to visit us and learn more.

Please contact us on 01628 628 599 or theplayground@tvap.co.uk to arrange this.



Why we need your support

Donations play an absolutely crucial part in keeping us going, and with annual costs of £350,000, and only 5% of what we need coming from local authority funding, you can be absolutely certain that the money raised is greatly appreciated by us and put to very good use.

We rely heavily on fundraising to keep our playground open and continue to plug the gap in inequalities in our community through supporting children and adults with special needs and their families and enabling them to experience the fun and freedom of adventure play. Your fundraising can provide more support for families and more learning opportunities for a child or adult with special needs in the form of respite care.

Join us in helping the thousands of families we support to live better lives!

What does this information pack contain?

- fundraising ideas for individuals
- fundraising ideas for schools
- fundraising ideas for businesses
- practical information

First steps

- contact us for a tour of the playground and come and meet our team
- contact us so we can help you with your fundraising plans
- consider us for the charity of the year at your work place / school / club
- spread the word about us and your fundraising aims to your family, friends and colleagues
- download and print one of our posters to hang in your offices / school

What your fundraising can provide:





How you can fundraise as an individual?



Taking on sponsored fundraising **challenges** are a great way to push yourself whilst also raising money for our cause. Could you run a half marathon or take part in a triathlon for example?



You could **organise** a little (or big!) fundraising event on our behalf, for example a raffle, ball, dinner, auction or coffee morning! These are a great fun way to rake in the pounds!



Volunteer with us at fundraising events such as bag packs or bucket collections or organise your own! You could also hold collecting boxes for us at work - maybe in the canteen or at reception?



Another easy way to fundraise is by searching your wardrobe attic or cupboards and selling all the unwanted clutter! Good ways to sell your stuff is via ebay, depop or at a car boot **sale!**



Feeling wild? Why not set a fundraising target and get your friends and family to donate in order for you to take on a **crazy challenge** (e.g. a skydive, head shave, leg wax, bath of beans etc). People love to donate money to see you do something silly / scary!



Are you a pro baker, knitter, painter or soap maker? Use your **talents** and auction or sell your creations to colleagues, neighbours or friends!



How you can fundraise at school?



Could you organise a bake sale, quiz night or social event with profits going to our cause?



Could you organise a school wide sponsored silence, walk or swim?



Could you host a dress down day with a donation required for those who take part?
E.g. a pyjama day



Could you organise a fun sparking event for example a girls vs boys netball or football match and run a cake sale alongside it?

How you can fundraise at work?



Is the world cup or a similar sporting event all the talk at work? Get people to put some money on their favourite team and set up a workplace sweepstake.



Taking on an individual challenge? Ask your work about matched giving.



Ask your work if they operate a give as you earn scheme or if they would you consider introducing one? Could you encourage your colleagues and friends to join our High Five for TVAP scheme?



Could you host a dress down day once a month with a donation required for those who take part?



Could you organise a bake sale, quiz night or social event with profits going to our cause?

come and visit us !
to organise a class / school / work tour of tvap please
email keith@tvap.co.uk



Sending in your money

There are many ways you can send in your life-enhancing pounds including via BACS, Justgiving, cheque and in person.

In person: Pop in Tues-Sat 10-15.30 or contact us on 01628 628 599 or theplayground@tvap.co.uk to arrange cash collection / drop off. (This is our preferred method of donation as it will enable us to claim gift aid on your fantastic fundraising.) Please contact us on 01628 628 599 or theplayground@tvap.co.uk to arrange cash collection / drop off.

BACS: Account Name: Thames Valley Adventure Playground Assoc.
Sort Code: 20-40-71 Account No.: 639 196 76. (please make sure to complete the form on our website when donating via this method)

Just giving: visit <https://www.justgiving.com/tvap> to make your donation

Cheque: please make this payable to Thames Valley Adventure Playground.

Postal address: Thames Valley Adventure Playground, Bath Road, Taplow, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 0PR





Our parents and carers say it best

"I cannot tell you how much we have valued coming to use the facility at **tvap** over the years - you've changed lives and forever friendships have been forged in your magical venue. Thank you so, so much for all your support"

"It is a fantastic place to go for children with special needs and everyone is extremely friendly and are made to feel comfortable without getting stared at. It allows children to express their emotions through sensory, music and specialist outdoor equipment. Our son absolutely loved the soft play area with lights and music I have never seen him so happy calm and safe [we will] definitely go back again"

"It is so nice to have places where families don't judge. Amazing thank you"

"5* - I go with my special needs play scheme, this place had beautiful views, ample space and activities and lovely friendly staff. This centre can not be faulted :-)"

"My 8 year old is high functioning autistic. (**tvap** is) the only place I can really feel relaxed to let him play without me having a watchful eye on him. I get quality on him. I get quality one to one with both the kids!"

"Amazing place for families with somebody who has Special needs of any sort. My son has learning difficulties, ASD and ADHD and **tvap** provides us with a safe space for him to let off steam without the risks involved in a mainstream environment as he runs off and is non verbal. It also gives his siblings the freedom to have so much fun without stress or judgement. I'd highly recommend it to SEN families and wish my local area had something similar"

"Every local authority should invest in a facility like this as the difference it makes to the lives of it's users is priceless"

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"It really is the most amazing place. Nearly 30 years ago I took my 2 year old son, who has Cerebral Palsy, to the Playground for the first time. He still visits on the rare occasions that he is back in the area because it is an important part of his life and our family's too. What a joy it was to return again with our grandson last month and rediscover the wonderful play opportunities and be welcomed again by the great staff team! Thank you so much Playground for all you mean to families like ours"

"It...
(Thames Valley Adventure Playground)
... is a lifesaver"



We'd like to say:

Thank you

Thank you so much for having an interest in supporting the thousands of local children and adults with special needs and their families and carers that request our help. We are truly grateful for corporates such as yourself for realising the importance of our work and being eager to contribute in order to enhance the lives of disadvantaged children and adults. Your company can make a direct difference in the local community by becoming a **tvap** corporate champion.

However you decide to get involved with our organisation we welcome you with open arms. As a small charity with annual costs of £350,000 and only 5% of what we need coming from local authority funding you can be absolutely certain that your support is greatly appreciated by us and really does make a difference to our playground users. We hope that this CSR pack has informed you of all the different ways you can support all that our charity offers and will enable you to support us in a way that aligns with your skills and interests.

Children as young as toddlers up to adults of 60+ are able to access help due to volunteers, donors and staff that all work hard to make a difference to the lives of individuals affected by disability, Thank you for wanting to be a part of this. We look forward to hearing from you.

What will you do to **make a difference?**

Get in **contact** on 01628 628051

or keith@tvap.co.uk



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Bath Road Taplow SL6 OPR

www.tvap.co.uk

Registered Charity Number 1201368