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Bristol Area Down's Syndrome Support

Down's Heart Group AGM weekend

In case you have not had this information direct from DHG Penny Green has asked me to circulate to our members.

It is open to everyone (not just DHG members) and it is possible to attend just the conference, or the whole weekend as best fits with individual families. She has sent me a booking form for non DHG members and I have replicated the important bits below. If you want to go then please contact them a booking form. They are subsidising the event and will give a bigger subsidy to their members, as I am sure you will understand.

Growing Up, Gaining Independence Conference Programme

How families adapt and deal with the birth of a child with Downs Syndrome Prof Marcia Van Riper Chair of the Family Health Division at the University of North Carolina and President of the International Family Nursing Association.

Changes to congenital heart services in the UK Chris Stringfellow Chair of Downs Heart Group

Growing Up with a congenital heart defect Paul Willgoss MBE Vice-Chair of the Childrens Heart Federation

Lunch

Workshops (will be run twice)

- Money Skills Sessions for young people and/or parents depending on numbers. Team from Barclays Bank
- Mama Im a big girl now! Exploring issues around puberty and relationships Helen Laverty - Nurse, Author and lecturer in Health Care at Nottingham University
- Implications for the future Discussing options for planning for future independent living (as appropriate) Prof Marcia Van Riper

• During the conference we will also have various resources and displays for you to browse and we will be screening various DVDs throughout the day. There will be a creche and activity workshop available during the conference where different activities will be available.

Annie and Adam from MiXiT will also be running drama and singing sessions and the youngsters will perform for us at the end of the conference. (Please note parents/carers are responsible for youngsters at lunchtime and all other times apart from during the conference and places must be pre-booked).

To celebrate World Down Syndrome Day we invite you to wear ODD SOCKS and make a donation to be split between DHG and DSi for the Reach Out programme. Please JOIN IN so we can get some great photos on the day!

World Down Syndrome Day Dinner & Disco Everyone is requested to dress to represent a country (let your imagination run wild)! After dinner we will be entertained by the youngsters (showcasing what they were doing in the drama and singing workshop) before the disco starts.

Sunday Depending on the level of interest, we can arrange visits to Nene Valley railway, the DS the Big Picture exhibition or just take advantage of the hotel facilities which include a pool.

Penny Green

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