



# Reconnect

The Kent community is uniting to give children and young people a summer of fun and opportunities.

From free bus travel and discounted 6-week leisure centre passes through to summer learning and a guide to what's on, [Reconnect](https://kent.gov.uk/reconnect) has something for children and young people of all ages.

Discover more, visit:  
[kent.gov.uk/reconnect](https://kent.gov.uk/reconnect)



## About Reconnect

**Reconnect** is uniting the Kent community in providing opportunities for children and young people to help them get ahead as we emerge from the Covid pandemic. We want our children and young people to reconnect with friends and family, get ahead in their learning and future employment, and be physically and mentally healthy. It's a year of exciting and varied opportunities, new and old, for children, young people and their families to become involved in.

All details are on the [Reconnect website](#).

## Local events, activities and clubs

Clubs, groups and community organisations across Kent are offering a range of activities – from one-off events, to regular, weekly sessions. Find out more by visiting the [Reconnect What's On guide](#).

## Free bus travel for 11- to 18-year-olds

Young people in school year groups 6 to 13 can travel for free by bus from 22 July to 31 August. Pupils will receive their Reconnect bus pass from their school by the end of term. The Reconnect bus pass is also available for college students (via their college) and children and young people (aged between 11 and 18) who are home-schooled (via open libraries, youth hubs and children's centres).

Passes can only be used on journeys that start and finish in Kent.

Visit the [Reconnect website](#) for full details about using the bus pass.

## 6-week leisure centre pass for £25 (or £10 if you receive free school meals)

Local leisure centres across Kent are offering a £25 six-week leisure centre pass to cover the summer holidays. Parents can buy the pass for their child or children direct from the leisure centre they want to use this summer. There is no limit on the number of times that children and young people can use their pass during the summer holidays. Full details of what's available at each participating leisure centre will be available on their websites.

Parents whose children receive benefits-related free school meals will receive an electronic Reconnect Discount Voucher enabling them to buy the leisure centre pass for £10.

Find the participating leisure centres on the [Reconnect website](#).

## Get ahead with your learning this summer

We have put together an exciting and innovative package of summer learning opportunities, designed to help children and young people catch up on any missed learning and to help them get a head start on the new school year in September with confidence. Full details are on the [Reconnect website](#).

- **Free** access for GCSEs and A-Level students to a library of more than 2,000 podcasts about the subjects they'll be studying from September. We've teamed up with Audiopi who bring to life a wide range of subjects in podcast format – and they're broken down into short episodes 10-12-minute episodes so students can tune in whether they're at home or on the move, fitting seamlessly around their lives.
- **Free** daily live maths and English lessons, fitness blast classes and Wellbeing Wednesday activities brought to children and young people by Invicta National Academy throughout the summer holidays. Available to all schoolchildren, KS1 to KS4, parents can pick and choose classes that fit with their child's needs. Classes are 45 minutes long and run 26 July to 27 August. Booking is open now.
- Get help with spelling those tricky words via the award-winning Sir Linkalot app, which is available for parents to download for **free** this summer. The Sir Linkalot app helps children of all ages spell any tricky word, all the way from 'was' to 'onomatopoeia' and is a gamechanger for those with dyslexia.
- Students can take a **virtual trip to six destinations** across the world and immerse themselves in the experiences of different cultures and perspectives using the Lyfta platform. The immersive and interactive journey gives children and young people the chance to connect with inspiring human stories from around the world, that model resilience, problem-solving, teamwork and other critical skills. [Click here](#) to access the registration form.
- There is a **50% discount** for all Kent families and children to join Kent Children's University, where they can develop practical and personal skills, build confidence, and discover new interests and talents beyond the classroom. Participating families can use Children's University Online to search for fun and enjoyable learning activities that their child can take part in outside normal school time. Activities range from trips to tourist destinations, music lessons, sessions in sports clubs, learning a language and much, much more.

Visit our [summer learning page on the Reconnect website](#) for full details of each offer and how to access them.



## Summer Reading Challenge – Wild World Heroes

This year's summer reading challenge is Wild World Heroes, a celebration of nature and action for the environment, in partnership with World Wildlife Fund UK. Running until 11 September 2021, the challenge is to read six library books to be in with a chance of receiving a medal and certificate (while stocks last). Find out more and to get involved, [visit our website](#).

## Free youth mental health first aid training

This **free** introductory session for parents/carers covers:

- Some of the common mental health issues affecting young people, including depression, anxiety, eating disorders and psychosis.
- Skills to work better with young people living with mental health issues.
- Ways to support young people with a mental health issue and relate to their experiences.

Visit [Maidstone Mind's website](#).

## Imago Family Fun Days

Imago/Kent Young Carers are delivering family fun days across Kent for young carers and their families this summer. Contact 0300 111 1110 or email [youngcarers@imago.community](mailto:youngcarers@imago.community).

## Young Persons Steering Group

Our Reconnect Young Persons Steering Group involves young people in the design and development of the programme and makes sure their voices are heard. The next meeting is in September - if you think your child might be interested in being involved, contact the Reconnect team:

[reconnect.kentcyp@kent.gov.uk](mailto:reconnect.kentcyp@kent.gov.uk).

## 3 ways to keep in touch with Reconnect

- Visit the [Reconnect website](#).
- Like the [Reconnect Kent Facebook page](#).
- Sign up to receive the [Reconnect newsletter](#) straight to your inbox.

Discover more, visit:  
[kent.gov.uk/reconnect](http://kent.gov.uk/reconnect)

