



SC0 10498, a SCIO
9 Lawton Road Dundee DD3 6SZ
support@ddcaok.com
www.ddcaok.com
01382 826888

Interested in a space on our evening family support groups?

We hope that our evening family support groups will provide a safe, accessible, relaxed, and supportive environment where parents can play with their children and young people. The groups are not "drop-in groups" – parents have told us that very busy groups can be difficult for their children, young people, and them.

We have around ten places on each of these groups (depending on the individual needs of those currently attending), so even if you return the attached form, I'm afraid we can't promise that we will ever be able to provide a space.

The groups run on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings from 6 pm until 7.30 pm. Each space is for one evening per week for two years (or until the young person reaches 20). So our groups don't get too busy, only one parent can bring one child/young person. If you need to bring young siblings, please speak to us about this. If we have space, each child must be supervised by an appropriate adult parent/carer.

Volunteers are recruited year round to help on these groups, but **each parent is responsible for the safety, supervision, care and support of their child or young person at these groups, including personal care.**

“How can we attend an evening family support group?”

To register an interest in attending a group, please complete and return the form below. We will acknowledge its receipt, and let you know *if or when* a suitable space becomes available.

“What are your criteria?”

- Is the child/young person aged 5 to 20 with a physical disability and/or a learning disability and/or diagnosed autism?
- How much does the young person and their parent *need* a group like ours?
- If special measures such as the use of a “Safe Space” or “CALM holds” are in place, I’m afraid we won’t be able to offer a space. We use neither at DDCA, and we have a “No restraint or holding policy”.

“How do you decide who gets a place?”

We will:

- ...consider the individual nature and circumstances of each child/young person and their family.
- ...consider the nature and dynamic of our current group of parents and young people.

Whenever a space becomes available, we will consider all the children, young people, and parents known to us and take into consideration the above factors. We will then offer a space to the child or young person and their parent who we feel best suits the available space, again taking into consideration the above factors.

“How much do the groups cost to attend?”

- There is no charge for any of our activities.



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Child/Young Person's name	
Name of parent accompanying the above child or young person	
Child/young person's date of birth	
Address	
Telephone	
Email	
What's the nature of this young person's disability? If the young person has autism, please confirm that this has been diagnosed.	
Tell us about this young person. Please continue on a separate sheet if you need to.	

Any behaviour that could be described as “challenging”? This doesn’t mean we won’t consider the young person for a place, but it depends on the frequency, nature, and severity of the behaviour. We understand that young people can go through changes at any time. Please be as honest and specific as possible, and continue on a separate sheet if necessary.	
Does the young person cause harm to themselves or others? If so, in what way and how frequently?	
How comfortable is the young person with other children or young people in a group setting?	
Do you have transport? We might be able to provide it if you don’t.	
Which school, college, or day centre does the child or young person attend?	
Does this child/young person attend any other groups?	

By signing these forms, you accept that if a space on one of our groups is offered, DDCA reserves the right to stop anyone attending at any time if we feel we can’t safely meet an individual or family’s needs or if anyone acts in an aggressive, violent, intimidating, or confrontational manner towards anyone else attending, volunteering, or staffing the group. If you are offered a space and you find the group isn’t for you, please let us know. If you don’t attend for two months without letting us know why, then we must allocate the space to another family.

You also consent to DDCA retaining the information you have provided so we can decide if any group we run currently or in the future would be suitable for you, and that we can safely meet your needs. Please see our GDPR policy (on our website) for further details.

Referred by	
Your name, address, phone number and e mail (if different from above)	
Your signature	
Today’s date	