



...building a brighter future for
children with Down Syndrome

**DO
SOMETHING
DOWNRIGHT
SPECIAL
TODAY!**

FUNDRAISING PACK

thank you!

for choosing to raise funds for Downright Special

Downright Special has been helping children with Down syndrome across Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire since 2007, steadily growing to the organisation that we are today, providing direct input and support to children, their families, their schools and the health and education professionals who work with them. None of this would be possible without the support of individuals, organisations or businesses like you and we are really grateful for all the donations of time, money and services.

On behalf of all the trustees, volunteers and Downright Special families I would like to say a very big thank you for supporting Downright Special and for helping to make a significant difference to the education and subsequent opportunities in life for children with Down syndrome in Hull and East Yorkshire.

Best regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gillian Bowlas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

GILLIAN BOWLAS, CHAIR



Who we are

Originally started in 2007 by a group of parents, we set out to provide vital support to each other and any other new parents who had children with Down syndrome. This quickly developed into an organised group giving emotional, practical and educational support to families. Downright Special has been a registered charity since 2009.

What we do

- Visit families with a new baby to offer support
- Run a weekly group session for children under 5, providing education, fun and play as well as support to parents and carers.
- Provide small-group education sessions for school-age children, tailored to the specific learning profile of children with Down syndrome .
- Share best practice teaching techniques with teaching assistants and nursery staff.
- Visit schools to provide specialist advice on individual cases.
- Provide specialist resource packs for children starting school and nursery.
- Conferences and training for parents and professionals.
- Social events for the whole family
- Promote the awareness of Down syndrome and encourage successful inclusion.



Our mission

To assist families and professionals in the Hull and East Yorkshire region in all aspects of the care and development of children with Down syndrome.



**WE ARE THE
ONLY
SPECIALIST
ORGANISATION
IN THE REGION
THAT DELIVERS ALL
THESE SERVICES;
WITHOUT US
THERE WOULD
BE LITTLE OR
NO SUPPORT.**

1

Around one in every **1000 babies** born in the UK will have Down syndrome. We support **around 75 children age 0-14** across Hull and East Yorkshire. This number is growing by **3 or 4 each year** as new babies are born

2

Down syndrome is caused by the presence of an extra chromosome in a baby's cells.

ANYONE can have a baby with Down Syndrome - it is a random occurrence.

3

People with Down syndrome all have different degrees of learning difficulty, but with the right kind of customised help from places like **DOWNRIGHT SPECIAL**, most will achieve their **milestones**, go to mainstream schools and live fulfilling lives

4

All parents want the best for their children and parents of a child with Down syndrome are no different

Why we need you!

To continue offering our services and support across the region we need your help to make it possible.

SUSTAINABILITY

TO IMPROVE OUR SERVICE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF ALL OUR CHILDREN, IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE WE NEED TO:

- Consider that our group expands by up to 4 children per year with all the additional resulting resources
- Employ more specialist teachers for our Friday sessions as we currently have children on a waiting list and a shortage of teachers
- Employ an early years specialist to support children who attend a pre-school or nursery
- Research, and soon provide, support to children in mainstream secondary school
- Provide new kinds of social activities suitable for the older children as they get into teenage years
- Find our own dedicated premises to operate from

£5

pays for one of our DVDs "Great Expectations" which is given to new parents who are just coming to terms with a diagnosis

£10

will pay for one new parent information pack

£30

will pay for one Makaton Book of Signs so families can learn to help their baby communicate

£50

will make and buy visual resources needed for one 30 minute lesson

£200

to support one child with school visits for one term

£300

to pay for a soft-play session where kids can mix with their peers and parents can spend time advising and supporting each other

£350

will pay for one specialist Education resource box to accompany a child to primary school

£500

to put on a training course each September for teaching assistants and class teachers new to working with a child with Down syndrome

£1000

to keep our phone lines, website and social media communication going for a year

£500

would pay for one Downright Special Friday. Each Friday session supports 30 children with Down syndrome and 12 Teaching Assistants. The sessions provide education built around the specific learning profile of children with Down syndrome, covering all aspects of their development including speech and language, literacy, numeracy, gross and fine and motor skills. We have 35 Friday sessions per year to fund = £17500

remember

it doesn't matter how little you give...

small amounts x large groups
= many lives changed

Fundraising Tips

giftaid it

1. Decide on an event or activity and register the event with fundraising@downrightspecial.co.uk
2. Find fun ways to fundraise, such as sponsors, raffles and games. Ask companies to donate prizes.
3. Look to see if your company operates a scheme called Matched Giving. This is an easy way to double your money.
4. Set up an online fundraising page with Virgin Money Giving via our website www.downrightspecial.co.uk/fundraising to make sponsoring easy.
5. Encourage your sponsors who are tax payers to Gift Aid their donations. You can do this by asking them to fill in a simple form or ticking a box on a sponsor form (downloadable from our website).
6. Consider promotion! Contact the media, use social media and visit our website.
7. Remember Health and Safety. Some events may require a risk assessment.
8. Do you need a licence? Check with the local authority if your event needs a special licence such as an alcohol or gambling licence.
9. You can donate the money via the Virgin Money Giving link on our website, do a BACS transfer, send us a cheque or we can even pick it up for you!
10. Relax and enjoy. You can contact us at any point if you need any help.

Now onto the downright fun part...choosing your event!




Myth: Only older mothers have babies with Down syndrome

Truth: Although older mothers have a higher individual chance of having a baby with Down syndrome, more are born to younger mothers, reflecting the higher birth rate in this group.

Do something Downright...

...funny

- Comedy night
- Bad tie day
- Odd sock day
- Fancy dress football
- Bad hair day
- Pyjama day at work
- Bushtucker Trial
- Superhero day at work
- Extra clothes day
at work

A group of children and adults are playing on a large, colorful parachute in a room with yellow walls. A young girl with blonde hair and red glasses is in the center, wearing a blue and white striped shirt and blue jeans, looking happy. To her left, a girl in a white floral shirt is jumping. In the background, a woman in a black shirt is sitting on the floor, and another woman in a white shirt is standing and holding a child. The parachute is made of various colored sections: yellow, green, red, and purple.

Do something downright...

...entertaining

- Eighties party
- Treasure hunt
- Family fun day
- Film night
- Murder mystery
- Bingo

- Black tie dinner
- People auction
- Fashion show
- Poker night
- Speed dating
- Quiz night

Do something downright...

...sporty

- Sponsored walk
- Run
- Swim
- Zumba
- Yoga
- Cycling
- Take part in existing events like the Hull 10k
- London Marathon
- Triathlon
- Great North Run

Myth: People with Down syndrome will live at home forever

Truth: A large percentage of adults with Down syndrome live independently or semi-independently in assisted living facilities and group homes. They have the same expectations as everyone else and with the right support can hold a job, have a romantic relationship, and live increasingly rich and varied lives.

Do something downright...

...foodie

- Cake sale
- Coffee morning
- Afternoon tea
- Chocolate ban
- Teddy bears picnic
- Guess how many sweets are in the jar
- Collect recipes and sell cookbooks
- Lunch party at work

Myth: People with Down syndrome all look the same

Truth: There are certain physical characteristics common to Down syndrome but a person with Down syndrome will always look more like his or her close family than someone else with the condition

Do something downright...

...loud

- Host a music festival
- Wear a 'loud' shirt to work
- Battle of the bands competition
- Karaoke
- Get sponsored to learn a song on a musical instrument

Do something downright...

...quiet

Myth: People with Down syndrome are always happy.

Truth: People with Down syndrome experience a full range of emotions such as sadness, anger and happiness, just like everyone else.

- Sponsored silence
- Sponsored silence where people can only use Makaton Sign Language to communicate
- Silent auction

Do something downright...

...daring

- Climb Mount Kilimanjaro
- Abseil
- Skydive
- Bungee jump
- 3 Peaks Challenge
- Machu Picchu
- Break a Guinness World Record

Myth: There is a limit to what children with Down Syndrome can learn

Truth: Whilst children with Down Syndrome learn more slowly, they are lifelong learners like the rest of us! They are strong visual learners and, utilising techniques that play to this strength, means that most children will learn to read, write and learn skills for life.



Do something downright...

...creative

- Make and sell jewellery
- Paintings
- Jumble sales
- Egg painting competition
- Sell unwanted stuff on eBay
- Raffles
- Book sale
- Sell a skill
e.g. manicures or
face painting



Do something downright...

...different

- Car washing
- Leg wax
- Barn dance
- Knit-a-thon
- Sponsored bag packing
- Sponsored litter picking
- Sponsored hair shave
- Welly throwing competition
- Gunge your boss
- Baked bean bath
- Wear a morph suit for the day
- Charge people to use the lift at work

Do something downright...

...seasonal

- Carol singing
- Fancy dress competition
- Easter egg hunt
- Santa's grotto
- Bonfire night
- Halloween fancy dress competition
- Pumpkin carving competition
- Valentines speed dating

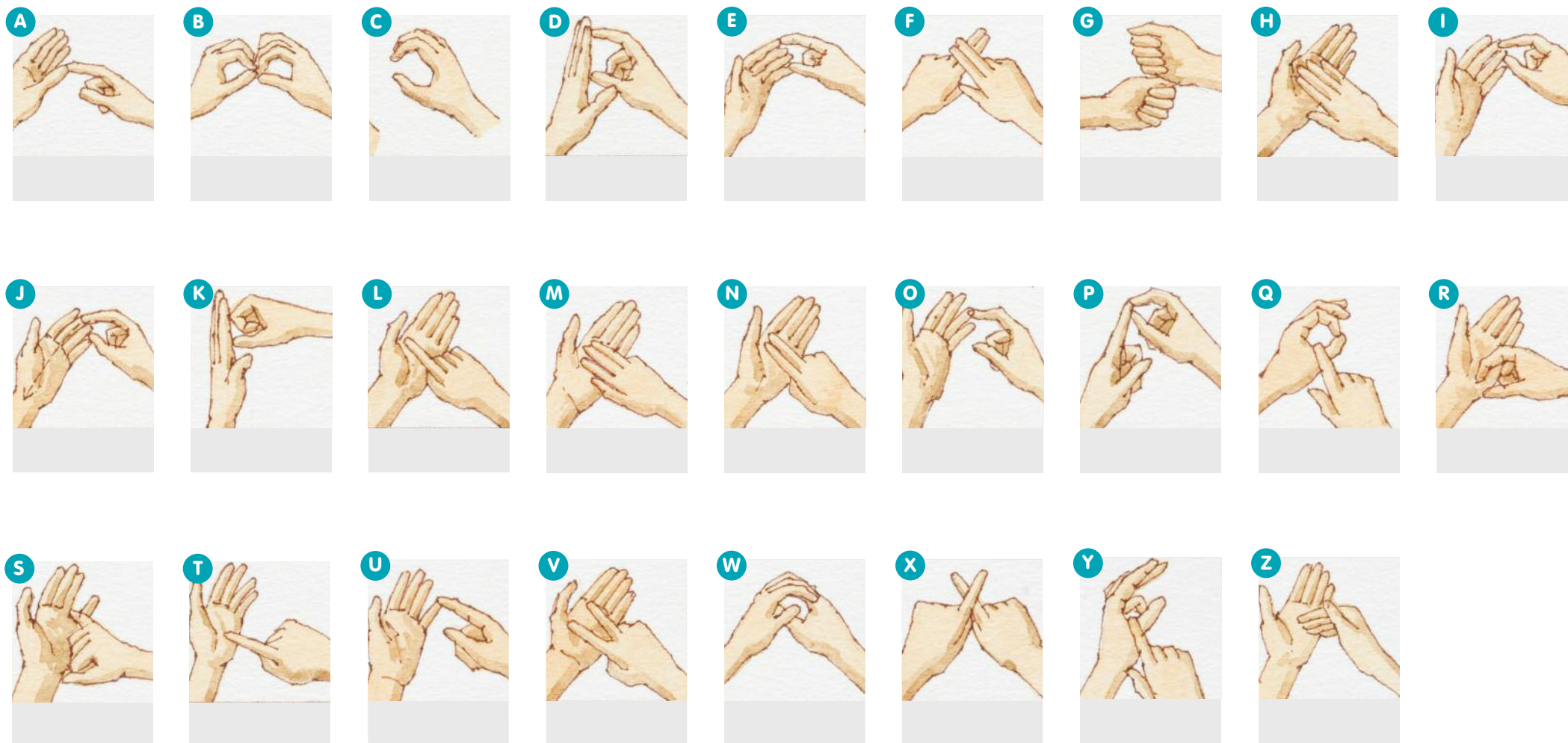
Myth: Children with Down Syndrome need to go to Special School

Truth: Research shows that most children do better in their local mainstream school where they can learn from their typically-developing peers. They do need the support of specific teaching strategies and an additional adult if they are to make the most of their education. Whilst many parents do choose to transfer their children to a special school in adolescence, increasing numbers of children spend all of their school years in the mainstream even gaining GCSEs!

Sweepstake...

To start your fundraising off why don't you play this game with friends, family or colleagues. Simply ask for a suggested donation of £2 and ask the player to put their name on a letter of their choice. Each letter

represents a letter in the Makaton alphabet. Once you have all the letters filled with a name, cut up the squares and put them into a hat. You could ask people or a company to donate a prize(s) for the winner.





...building a brighter future for children with Down Syndrome

A downright success!

“

Through Downright Special I have learnt sign language alongside my son which will have a huge impact on his language development. ”

PARENT

“

I can't imagine Downright Special not being part of our lives now. We celebrate not just Arthur's achievements but those of his friends and the difference that Downright Special makes to them is clear to see. ”

PARENT

“

The Downright Special Friday group has been invaluable to Ruby and her Teaching Assistant. Starting mainstream school would have been impossible without it! Thank you so very much. ”

PARENT

“

Without the charity I don't know where we would be as there is no other organisation in Hull and East Riding. It is so valuable that you are always at the end of the phone. ”

PARENT

“

I benefit from the most up-to-date information and resources to help and guide me supporting a child with Down syndrome in a mainstream school. ”

TEACHING ASSISTANT

“

When supporting Downright Special we really felt part of their team, we were all truly inspired by the work they deliver and more importantly being able to see the children and families who benefit made all our hard work worthwhile. ”

STEVE SAVAGE IT & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR AT GOSSCHALKS SOLICITORS



Fundraising Pack

Downright Special Network

Bodmin Road Church Office


Padstow Close, Bodmin Road

Bransholme

HULL, HU7 4HE

Telephone No: 01482 420160

Fundraising No: 07843 163 131

 Find us on Facebook /DownrightSpecialNetwork

 Follow us on Twitter @Downright21

 Find us on Linked In /company/downright-special

www.downrightspecial.co.uk

email: enquiries@downrightspecial.co.uk



Fundraising Standards
Board no FS01194.



Affiliated to

Trustees: Christopher Bowlas, Gillian Bowlas,
Dr Liz Herrieven, Samantha Findlay,
Christine Jennings.

Registered Charity Number: 1128178