



Children
in Northern
Ireland



Parenting Week Guide 2025

Monday 20 - Friday 24 October



#ParentingWeek25
#ParentWell



Parenting Week 2025



Be Cyber Safe NI

Be Cyber Safe NI takeover the Parentline Podcast Monday 20 October

Young people from the youth-led advisory group Be Cyber Safe NI are taking over the Parentline NI Podcast! In this special episode, they talk about their experiences of growing up online and send a message to parents about the risks and challenges young people face in the digital world.

[Listen online](#), available Monday 20 October.



The Fostering Network

Men Who Foster Bushcraft

Monday 20 October, 7pm, Belfast

Bushcraft evening for men who are foster carers. An opportunity to get together, learn some skills, build community and have some relaxed fun. Activities include tarp shelter building, camp fire, hotdogs and discussion. Places are limited, but if you are a male foster carer, live in the Belfast area and interested in getting together with other men who foster, get in touch.

Contact: Craig Lyttle, 07918684970



Children in Northern Ireland

Survey of parents / guardians of children with and without a disability

Monday 20 October

Parents Have Your Say. Children in Northern Ireland is launching a survey for parents of children with and without a disability, looking at how their children's rights are being upheld across a range of areas including health, education, participation, play and leisure and standard of living. This survey will also examine the impact of parenting on parents, looking at issues such as family finances and mental health. Findings will be used to inform government policy and practice around children and parenting. If you are a parent of a child with a disability or a child without a disability, we really need to hear from you. Please complete the survey now:

[Children in Northern Ireland parent / guardian survey.](#)



Parenting Week 2025



Parentline NI

Launch of 'Dads Talk'

Tuesday 21 October

A safe space for separated dads. Virtual meet-ups by zoom. Real talk, shared experiences.

Contact Parentline NI for information on self-referral, 0808 8020 400



The Fostering Network

Kinship Carers Support Group

**Tuesday 21 October 2025, 10am to 12 noon,
The Jethro Centre, 6 Flush Pl, Lurgan, BT66 7DT**

Support, networking and education group for kinship foster carers. Meets monthly in Lurgan on 3rd Tuesday each month. Other groups also run in Downpatrick - 1st Tuesday each month, Bangor - 1st Friday of each month and Omagh - last Wednesday of each month.

Contact: Helen Ramsey,
Helen.ramsey@fostering.net



Women in Business

Babies and Bumps networking

**Tuesday 21 October 2025, 10am to 12 noon,
Alfac, Belfast**

Join Women in Business to connect with other women who are on maternity leave, those who are about to go on maternity leave or working mothers who are preparing to return to work - you can even bring your baby along with you! With facilitated networking and refreshments, this is the perfect opportunity to chat with other women who are on similar life journeys, to share in advice and experiences in a welcoming environment for you and your little plus one.
[Find out more.](#)



Parenting Week 2025



**NSPCC in partnership with
Children in Northern Ireland and Parentline NI
Take 5 Seconds: Launch event
Wednesday 22 October, 9.30am to 12 noon
Shankhill Shared Womens Centre**

Parenting is tough. Some days are cuddles and laughter. Other days? Tantrums and meltdowns. Feeling overwhelmed is normal. But how we respond matters.

Take 5 Seconds is a positive parenting campaign by the NSPCC in partnership with Children in Northern Ireland (CiNI) and Parentline.

Join us at our launch event to learn more about our positive parenting resources.

[Register here.](#)



**The Fostering Network
Personal Educational Plan
Wednesday 22 October**

This workshop for foster carers explores the role of the carer in supporting children and young people when attending their Personal Education Plan (for children looked after). There will be discussion around the process involved and how foster carers can advocate with / on behalf of their young person for agreed support within the school.

Contact: Monica O'Neill, 07841970677,
monica.oneill@fostering.net



**Children in Wales
What parents are telling us:
The Big Conversation 2025
Wednesday 22 October, 12noon to 1pm, online**

Free lunchtime webinar to celebrate National Parenting Week. Hosted online via Teams. Don't miss this opportunity to engage with experts and learn more about parent experiences across the UK.

Find out more and [register here.](#)



Parenting Week 2025



Parentline NI

Ask the Expert

Thursday 23 October, 10am to 12noon

Allstate Northern Ireland, Mays Meadow, Belfast

Join Parentline NI and guest experts for a relaxed morning where you can chat with parenting experts, enjoy free tea, coffee, and treats, while getting practical tips from our experts.

Our experts will cover everything from sleep and behaviour to neurodiversity, anxiety, and mental health. We are delighted to offer this event along with our partners STRIVE NI, Settled Petals, Eden Consultancy and Allstate NI.

Free, drop-in event.

[Find out more.](#)



Parentline NI

Meeting with Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People

Friday 24 October

The Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People, will meet with parents to discuss the challenges and issues they face in raising children today. Parents will share their experiences and contribute their perspectives on matters affecting families in Northern Ireland.



Mourne Sure Start

Positive parenting tree, A family craft session, gratitude pebbles, wellbeing walk, parent affirmation wall, posting throughout the week about local supports.

All week during Parenting Week

The Seashell Centre, Newcastle Street, Kilkeel

Mourne Sure Start will have something every day during Parenting Week. On Monday there will be a table of leaflets on local support networks, folk are welcome to come in for a tea/coffee in the morning. Throughout the week at groups, they will celebrate parents and caregivers with a range of activities and crafts. There will also be a 'parenting wall of positivity'.

[Find out more.](#)

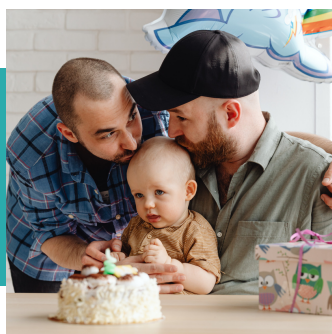


Parenting Week 2025



Autism NI Support Group Meetings Throughout October, across Northern Ireland

Autism NI have 20+ support groups based in local communities across Northern Ireland offering support to thousands of parents and carers of people with autism. Autism NI rely heavily on our support group network, which continues to be a vital part of community development where volunteers, parents, and carers provide advice and support to each other. Support group volunteers have tremendous understanding of autism and play a vital role in bringing new concepts and ideas to the groups and sharing from lived experiences and hints and tips with other families. Support group volunteers are creative and innovative in meeting emerging needs within the groups, and some facilitate family activities, events, and summer schemes. [Find out more.](#)



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For more information visit

www.ci-ni.org.uk



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