

Keep up to date with DACES-Derbyshire Adult Education February 2026 :11 days left to have your say on the future of Derbyshire Adult Communi



## Adult Community Education News

### DACES is Derbyshire Adult Community Education Service

Join us to get qualifications, confidence and skills for life and work!

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### 11 days left to have your say on the future of Derbyshire Adult Community Education Service



The consultation on the future of Derbyshire Adult Community Education Service (DACES) closes on **Sunday 22 February 2026**. This is your chance to influence how adult learning in Derbyshire evolves, your voice genuinely matters.

#### Share your views online

Complete the questionnaire and tell us what matters most to you: [Online Consultation Questionnaire](#)

#### Prefer a paper copy?

We're happy to send one to you.

- **Email:** [future.daces@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:future.daces@derbyshire.gov.uk)
- **Phone:** 01629 531241

**Help shape the future of adult learning**

Your feedback helps us build a service that supports learners, strengthens communities, and reflects the needs of Derbyshire residents. Don't miss your chance to be part of this important conversation.

### Join our tutor team – make a difference in Derbyshire

Derbyshire Adult Community Education Service (DACES) is looking for passionate, qualified tutors to deliver courses in our centres across Derbyshire and online.

We're especially keen to hear from those who can teach in areas such as:

- Family Learning – Helping parents support their children's education
- Employability Skills – Preparing adults for work, training, or career progression
- Supported Learning – Teaching adults with learning disabilities
- Digital Skills – From online safety to essential IT skills
- Mental Health First Aid – Supporting wellbeing in the community
- Community Development – Building stronger, connected communities
- Cookery – Creating healthy, budget-friendly meals



As part of our tutor pool, you'll enjoy flexibility to shape your schedule, excellent CPD opportunities, and support to develop your teaching and digital skills. Interested? Apply now and take the first step towards a rewarding role with Derbyshire County Council.

For more information and to apply, visit [Adult Tutor \(Tailored Learning\)](#). For more details, contact [Laura.Dewsnap@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:Laura.Dewsnap@derbyshire.gov.uk).

### Highlighting the Groundwork Five Counties Free Green Doctor Service



[Green Doctors](#) are energy experts that offer free, impartial advice to help save money on energy bills and become more energy efficient at home. The free service is open to people of any age and background in the East Midlands, whether you own your home, rent, or are a social housing tenant.

The advice they give is always tailored to your own situation and always

includes reviewing your bills to ensure you're not paying more than you should, looking out for damp and mould, and giving out energy-saving tips that really work! We have a range of free energy saving measures like LED light bulbs, draught excluders and heated throws, and we can also support with emergency heating, fuel vouchers, government grants, and energy debt.

If you have them, they can also show you how to make the most of solar panels, heat pumps, smart heating systems, and more.

On average, a household can save £325 a year by following the advice given by the Green Doctor!

This is completely FREE charity service, as they are fully funded. To book in a FREE home visit, click the link below or call the number on the poster and one of the team will contact you as soon as possible:

<https://www.groundwork.org.uk/fivecounties/green-doctor/>

**Disabled veteran David was incorrectly billed £4,500 by his energy supplier and very nearly made homeless.**

Unable to pay the debt, he was waiting for the bailiffs to come any day, when Green Doctor, Kirsty visited and reviewed his paperwork. She quickly realised that David had been receiving the gas bill for the whole caravan site where he lives - not just his own home.

Together they rang the supplier, and within 15 minutes David's undue debt was wiped, credit was put onto his account, and his bill was set to be just £20 a month. David says: "Without Kirsty I would have been another veteran on the streets, the supplier continuously didn't believe me when I tried to contest those bills. The relief is unbelievable, and I can see a future again.

"On top of that, I am hundreds of pounds better off every month with Kirsty helping me to apply for benefits I wasn't aware of. I can't thank her enough."

[Green Doctor flyer 2025.png](#)

**RunWalkTalk is coming to Danesmoor!**



A fantastic community event is heading to Danesmoor this spring, bringing people together to celebrate the powerful connection between moving our bodies and supporting our mental wellbeing.

This event is proudly organised by

the **Active and Healthy Lifestyles Team at North East Derbyshire District Council**, working with local partners to support happier, healthier communities. **On Thursday 12 March 2026**, the **St Barnabas Centre** will host *RunWalkTalk*, a free, friendly morning packed with activities for all ages and abilities. Whether you're a seasoned runner, a gentle walker, or simply looking for a reason to get out, meet others, and feel good, there's something here for everyone.

**What's happening on the day?**

All activities begin at **10am**, with options designed to be welcoming, accessible and enjoyable:

- **Snap and chat photography walk**  
A 1-mile buggy and wheelchair-friendly walk, using photography to explore the local area in a creative, mindful way.
- **Litter pick walk and talk**  
Another accessible 1-mile route, perfect for anyone who wants to enjoy fresh air while helping keep Danesmoor looking its best.
- **Walk Derbyshire 3-mile walk**  
A relaxed, sociable walk taking in local green spaces.
- **Jog Derbyshire sessions**  
Choose from a gentle 2.5-mile walk/jog or a 3-mile run, ideal for anyone wanting to build confidence at their own pace.

After the activities, everyone is invited back to the centre for **free refreshments, cake, conversation, taster sessions**, and information from local organisations. It's a brilliant chance to connect, unwind and celebrate community spirit.

#### Event details

🕒 **9.30am to 1pm**

📍 **St Barnabas Centre, Danesmoor**

🍰 **Free refreshments and cake provided**

🚶 **Live nearby? Leave the car at home and support a greener event.**

To book your place, simply scan the QR code on the poster or visit:

<https://www.jogderbyshire.co.uk/runwalktalk>

[NED #runwalktalk flyer final \(PDF\).pdf](#)

Let's get North East Derbyshire moving together and celebrate the places and people we love.

#### Early Years Essential Skills – fast track your early years career



If you're thinking about a future in early years education or exploring the idea of becoming a childminder, our **Early Years Essential Skills** programme is the perfect place to begin. This fully funded, 6-week course is open to residents aged 19+ living in **Derbyshire, Derby, Nottinghamshire and Nottingham**, and offers a supportive, practical introduction to working with young children.

Designed as a confident first step into the sector, the course blends hands-on learning with essential qualifications that employers value. Whether you're starting fresh, returning to work, or looking to build on your existing experience, this programme helps you move forward with purpose.

#### What you will gain

Participants will complete a package of key skills and certifications, including:

- **Paediatric First Aid**
- **Level 2 Food Safety**
- **Learning towards Level 3 Early Years Educator apprenticeship standards**
- **DBS check**
- **Early Years Toolkit** to support your next steps

These foundations not only boost your employability but also give you the confidence to progress into further training, employment, or an apprenticeship.

#### Next cohort

- **Start date:** 17 February 2026
- **Learning days:** Tuesdays and Thursdays

If you're ready to take the next step, it's easy to get involved.

[Complete the form](#) or **scan the QR code** to register your interest.



This could be the beginning of a rewarding new chapter, supporting children, families, and your own future.

### Healthy eating, easy recipes – new taster sessions for Gamesley residents



Gamesley residents are invited to join a friendly, hands-on introduction to healthy eating this February and March, with two upcoming opportunities to build confidence in the kitchen and discover simple, tasty meals you can recreate at home.

Our *Healthy Eating, Easy Recipes* taster course offers a relaxed space to learn practical skills, pick up helpful tips, and try out quick, nutritious recipes. Whether you're cooking for yourself or your family, these sessions are designed to make healthy eating feel achievable, enjoyable, and affordable.

#### **Upcoming dates at Gamesley Community Centre**

- **Tuesday 24 February at 1pm to 3pm** – *One-off taster session*
- **Tuesday 3 March at 1pm to 3pm** – *Start of a 5-week course*

Both sessions will be held at **Gamesley Community Centre** and are open to all local residents who want to feel more confident in the kitchen.

#### **How to book**



To reserve your place, call **01629 535895**, visit [Healthy eating, easy recipes](#) or simply scan the QR code to register. Bookings are managed by **Glossop Adult Community Education Centre**.

These sessions are a great way to learn new skills, meet others in the community, and enjoy the satisfaction of creating something delicious. We look forward to welcoming you.

### **Crochet and chat – a relaxed, creative taster for Gamesley residents**



Gamesley residents are invited to enjoy a gentle, creative break from the everyday with our upcoming *Crochet and Chat* sessions at Gamesley Library. Whether you're completely new to crochet or looking to build on the basics, these sessions offer a relaxed space to learn, practise, and connect with others.

The taster is perfect for anyone curious about trying something new. You'll be shown simple stitches, supported step-by-step, and encouraged to explore your creativity at your own pace. All materials are provided, and the sessions are completely free, making it an easy, welcoming way to give crochet a go.

#### **Upcoming Sessions at Gamesley Library**

- **Monday 24 February at 10am to midday** – *Taster session*
- **Tuesday 3 March at 10am to midday** – *Start of a 5-week course*

Both sessions are funded by the UK Government and the East Midlands Combined County Authority, with support from the Mayor of the East Midlands.

#### **How to book**



To reserve your place, contact **Glossop Adult Education Centre** on **01629 535895**, visit [Crochet and chat taster](#), or scan the QR code to register.

These sessions are a lovely way to unwind, meet new people, and pick up a skill that can bring comfort and creativity into your daily life. We look forward to welcoming you.

## Free Family Fun Fridays at Gamesley Community Centre



Families in Gamesley are invited to join us for a month of playful, creative and confidence-building activities designed to support your child's early learning and development. *Family Fun Fridays* offer a relaxed space where parents, carers and children can enjoy simple activities together—helping little ones build language skills, move more, and learn to relax through gentle, enjoyable sessions. Each week brings a different theme, giving families the chance to explore new ideas, share stories, and have fun together.

### Weekly themes

- **Storybook Fun – 27 February** Enjoy stories brought to life through play and imagination.
- **Duplo Storytime – 6 March** Build, create and explore early language through hands-on play.
- **Musical Moments – 13 March** Sing, move and make music together in a lively, friendly session.
- **Move More With the Kids – 20 March** Gentle exercise and playful movement to support wellbeing.
- **Parachute Fun – 27 March** A joyful, energetic session perfect for little learners.

### Where and when

**Gamesley Community Centre - Fridays at 9.30am to 11.30am**

These sessions are **free**, funded by the UK Government and the East Midlands Combined County Authority, with support from the Mayor of the East Midlands.

### How to Book



Reserve your place through [Adult Community Education – Derbyshire County Council](#), scan the QR code, or call **01629 535895**.

These Friday sessions are a lovely way to spend time together, meet other families, and support your child's development in a warm, welcoming environment. We look forward to seeing you there.

### **Family Lego Challenge Lab at Cotmanhay and Ilkeston Adult Community Education Centre: build, learn and play together this half term**



Families are invited to join us for a brand-new *Lego Challenge Lab* this half term - a fun, creative session designed to bring grown-ups and children together through hands-on building, imagination and teamwork.

Taking place at the **Cotmanhay and Ilkeston ACE Centre on Thursday 19 February, 10am to 12 noon**, this free family learning activity is part of our Tailored Learning programme, which supports the wider benefits of learning set out by the

Department for Education. This session focuses on strengthening parenting skills, boosting confidence, and helping adults support their children's learning in an enjoyable, relaxed environment.

During the workshop, families will take on a series of themed Lego challenges, from building towering structures to designing mini worlds and tackling surprise "challenge cards." Along the way, you'll explore communication, problem-solving and creative thinking together. There's no need for any previous Lego experience, just enthusiasm and a willingness to get stuck in.

The session is classroom-based and led by a friendly tutor who will guide activities, encourage teamwork and offer support throughout. All materials are provided, and there are no additional costs. You may wish to bring something to make notes, but the most important thing to bring is your imagination.

This course is open to Derbyshire residents aged 19 and over, attending with their children. Grown-ups must stay for the duration of the session.

### How to book



Bookings are now open. Visit [Lego challenge lab](#) or call **01629 531807** for more information or help with enrolment.

If you're inspired to continue learning, your tutor can talk to you about next steps, or you can explore more opportunities on our website. You can also speak to our Careers Service for free, friendly advice.

Come along, build something brilliant, and enjoy learning through play this half term.

### New Digital Skills Courses starting 23 February 2026



If you're looking to boost your confidence with computers and gain a recognised qualification quickly, our new **Essential Digital Skills (EDSQ)** courses could be the perfect next step. These friendly, supportive classes run for **2.5 hours a week over 20 weeks**, giving you the time and guidance you need to build practical digital skills for everyday life and work.

#### What you will learn

This EDSQ course will help you develop essential skills, including how to:

- Use **Office 365, Outlook** and **OneDrive**
- Transact and communicate **safely online**
- Search the internet **efficiently and confidently**
- Create and edit documents using **word processing**
- Work with **Excel spreadsheets**

#### How you will learn

Our tutors will support you every step of the way. You will:

- Follow **step-by-step instructions**
- Practise new skills with **guided support**
- Learn at **your own pace** in a relaxed environment

### Who can join?

These courses are open to **anyone aged 19+** who has a little computer knowledge and wants to develop their skills further.

### How it helps

By the end of the course, you'll feel more confident using a computer and will have gained a **nationally recognised qualification** to support your work, job prospects or everyday digital tasks.

### Cost

**Free**

### Where to join

Click on your preferred venue below for more details:

- [Glossop ACE Centre](#)
- [Bolsover ACE](#)
- [The Hub, South Normanton](#)
- [Swadlincote Centre](#)

### Your feedback is important is important to us

#### Have you completed a course with us recently ?



Your feedback is important to us. It helps us identify what we do well and what we can do better. Your feedback really does shape what we do. It supports us to:

- continue to improve quality
- make sure your learning is effective and enjoyable as possible
- makes sure our courses stay inclusive and relevant to meet your needs

If you have completed a course with us recently and haven't yet completed your feedback form, now is your

chance! Please scan the QR code or follow on the link below:

[Derbyshire Adult Community Education Service course feedback form 2025 to 2026](#)

It only takes two minutes to complete the form. We would love to hear from you. Every feedback form we receive makes a difference.

### Find a job with Derbyshire County Council

We work hard to be an excellent employer and in return we expect our employees to give their best so that we can deliver high quality services to the people of Derbyshire.

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[Ofsted says we're Good!](#)



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Derbyshire Adult Community Education Service

**SKILLS  
FOR LIFE**



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Funded by  
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For further information, contact your local [Adult Community Education Centre](#) or visit our website [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/adulteducation](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/adulteducation)

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