Issue #2 | November2026



Beacon's CYP VI Newsletter

Our quarterly newsletter filled with fun, friendly news and updates for children, young people and their families living with sight loss.

Accessible formats

Would you like this newsletter in a different format? We want everyone to be able to read, listen to and enjoy our updates in a way that works for them, whether its large print, Easy-Read, or any other formats, please don't hesitate to ask.



Meet the CYP VI Team

Get to know the Children & Young People (CYP VI) team who will be supporting our Children & Young People service.







Beacon

Kim	Mo	Jody
Lifestyle Day Service and Children & Young People Coordinator	Communications & Engagement Officer	Children & Young People Development Coordinator

Upcoming Events & Activities

Get involved with our exciting line up of activities designed specifically for children and young people living with sight loss, parents, carers, and siblings.

Members of the Beacon team are on hand to support participants throughout each activity - whether that means guiding, offering help, or making sure everyone feels confident and included.

Christmas Party Fun Day

Wed 23rd Dec | 11am–2pm | FREE

Get into the Christmas spirit with Beacon at our FREE Christmas Party Fun Day! We're looking forward to welcoming children and young people with sight loss or SEND to the Beacon for a festive get-together filled with Christmas fun. Parents, carers & siblings are all welcome to join us, so the whole family can come along and enjoy some festive cheer together.
Join us for a Christmas party with fun games, a festive film and a chance to spend time together in a warm, friendly and inclusive environment. Whether you're looking forward to getting into the Christmas spirit, enjoying the film or simply having fun with family and friends, we'd love you to celebrate with us!
A tuck shop will also be available, with snacks and treats to purchase while you enjoy the festivities.
Book Now:

Places are limited & booking is required.



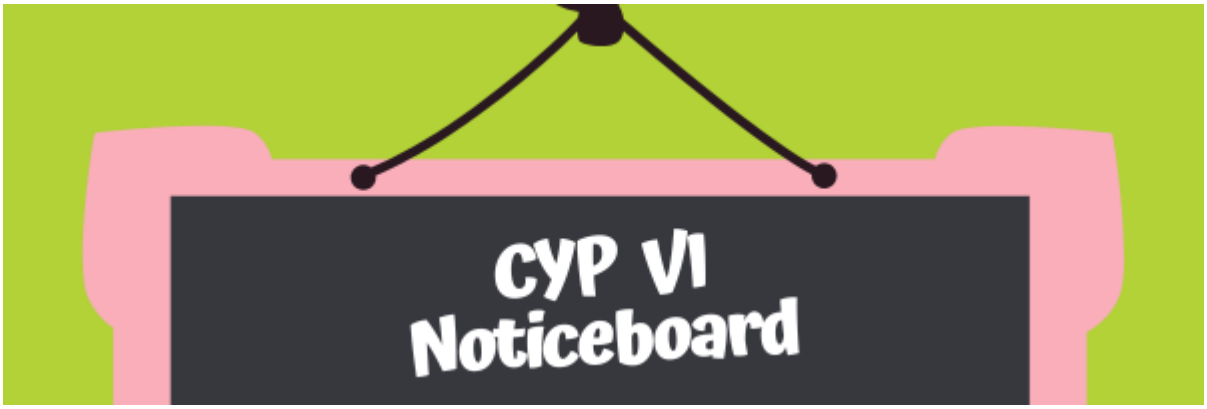
Event Details:
Date: Wednesday 23rd December 2026
Time: 11am–2pm
Location: Beacon Centre, Wolverhampton Road East, Wolverhampton WV4 6AZ

We recommend booking early to avoid disappointment and make sure you don't miss out on the festive fun! **We look forward to celebrating with you!**	

Film Club

Fri 29th Jan | 6pm – 8pm | Beacon Centre | FREE

Love a good film? **Join us at Beacon Centre for Film Club – a chance for children and young people living with sight loss to enjoy a film, meet others and make new friends.** **Part of our Children and Young People service, Film Club will feature audio-described films. Parents, carers and siblings are welcome too, so come along and enjoy an evening together.** **There will also be a tuck shop, with snacks and treats available to buy while you settle in for the film.** **Join us on Friday 29 January 2027, from 6pm to 8pm at Beacon Centre. Film Club will then take place every other month.** **Book Now:Book Your FREE place – Beacon Family Christmas Party Fun Day – Beacon Centre for the Blind, Wolverhampton Road** **Places are limited & booking is required.**	 **Event Details: Friday 29th January 2027** **Time: 6pm – 8pm** **Location: Beacon Centre, Wolverhampton Road East, Wolverhampton WV4 6AZ**



CYP VI Noticeboard:

Latest News:

A spooktacular Halloween celebration!

What a fang-tastic time we had at our Halloween fun day on 28th October! A huge thank you to all the children and young people, families, siblings & carers who joined us for a spooktacular day.

Our fun day brought together children and young people living with sight loss or special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), giving them the opportunity to enjoy a fun-filled day of activities and make special memories with their families.

There was plenty to keep everyone entertained, from pottery crafts and a film to games, disco dancing, tombola and our popular tuck shop. There were lot's of prizes to be won, and we loved seeing everyone's fantastic fancy-dress costumes, including those worn by our own staff! The centre looked amazing, with spooky decorations and surprises around every corner!

We also hosted a sight loss drop-in session, giving parents and carers the opportunity to ask questions and access support in a relaxed, friendly environment.

Most importantly, thank you to every family who joined us and helped make the event such a success. It was wonderful to see so many happy faces and create lasting memories together.







Bright for Sight 2026 round-up!

What a brilliant response to Bright for Sight 2026! A huge thank you to everyone who took part, welcomed us or helped raise funds for Beacon to support people living with sight loss. Together, you have helped make this year's campaign something to celebrate.

Bright for Sight brings people together to wear their brightest colours, raise funds and build awareness of sight loss. At its heart is a simple message: bright, contrasting colours can help people with sight loss navigate the world around them.

Through our sight loss awareness assemblies and workshops, we reached 2,750 children. Our visits took us to 16 schools, a college, a university and 1 community group. Thank you to everyone who welcomed us and took part in these sessions.

We have raised £6,900 and counting! Every contribution is appreciated, and we are so grateful to everyone who donated or supported us.

Growing Together at Merry hill



A big thank you to everyone who popped by to see us at the Growing Together Children's Health Event at Merry Hill on 27th Oct, during the half term holidays.
We loved meeting families, sharing information about Beacon and the support we offer to children, young people and families living with sight loss. It was lovely to be part of such a welcoming event, with plenty of activities, including our sensory autumn tray and fun challenges!

Wolverhampton SEND Stratergy 2027/29

Beacon has recently responded to a consultation from the City of Wolverhampton Council, providing our expertise in sight loss and ensuring that children and young people living with sight loss will be carefully considered in the new strategy and are not overlooked in the plan for the next few years.

Get involved

Would you like to suggest an activity, share your story, ask a question, or tell us what you want to see next? We would love to hear from you. This newsletter belongs to the children, young people and families who make Beacon special.

Information and signposting

If you are looking for support, advice or the next step, Beacon can help point you in the right direction. Our service offers activities, family support, sports & social opportunities, technology and equipment information, and support for professionals working with children and young people living with sight loss.

Families can contact Beacon to ask about upcoming sessions, local support, accessible activities, and practical advice. Schools and professionals can also get in touch to learn more about sight loss and inclusive practice.

Crisis Resilience Fund

For any families with children and young people with sight loss living in Wolverhampton are eligible to apply for the Crisis Resilience Fund.

The Beacon team can support you and your family with applications and any questions you may have; we have applications at Beacon.

Please do not hesitate to contact us on 01902 880 111 or email enquiries@beaconvision.org .

Please note this is an external fund, but Beacon can support the application process. The fund will be launching for people living in Dudley starting in mid-November.

RNIB

Get an accessible Letter from Santa for your child.

Ho! Ho! Ho! The festive season is coming around again, and Santa's elves are already working away at RNIB Requests for an accessible Letter from Santa in English or Welsh. You can ask for a letter in these formats: Uncontracted or contracted braille, large print, audio OR Email

It's the perfect chance to get creative with your child as the nights draw in. Spend some time reflecting on their year, how much they've grown and what they'd like for Christmas.

Make sure you include your child's name, age, postal address and preferred format as well as your contact number.

You can write to Santa in three ways:

1. **Apply online: Use the link below. Online applications give you an opportunity to include a short message to Santa from your child.**
2. **Email: santa@rnib.org.uk**
3. **Post a letter to: Santa, C/O RNIB, Northminster House, Northminster, Peterborough, PE1 1YN**

To receive a Letter from Santa, post a letter, send an email or apply online by 30 November.

Look UK

Healthy Parent Carer Programme: Support for you

On the 12th January 2027, LOOK is launching a free twelve-week course for parents and carers of visually impaired children and young people.

This course gives you time to focus on yourself, meet other parents, and learn simple ways to support your own wellbeing.

Find out more here

Beacon Fundraising Events

Coming up in the next few months in our fundraising calendar is:

Santa Run 2026

Sun 13th Dec | 9.30am – 1:00pm | West Park | Book Your Tickets



Book Your Tickets

Join us at West Park, Wolverhampton, on Sunday 13th December 2026. Registration opens at 9.30am, with a festive warm-up at 10am and the run at 10.05am. Walk, jog, run or dance the 5k route – it's all about joining in and having fun!

Children receive a Santa hat, and everyone taking part on two feet receives a medal, subject to availability. Look out for a surprise visit from Mrs Claus and her cheeky elf! Enjoy free photo downloads afterwards to remember your festive morning.

***Under-16s must be accompanied by an adult.**

Clubs and groups are welcome too, from football teams, dance schools and netball clubs to Scouts, Brownies and other children's community groups.

Coming with a club or group?

Get in touch about:

- **A group photo with our event photographer.**
- **A shout-out on Beacon's social media.**

Fancy becoming a fundraising superstar?

We want to celebrate your efforts with these rewards:
Raise over £50 to receive a Beacon pin badge & a thank-you card.
Raise over £150 to receive a unique fundraising medal, a Beacon pin badge & a limited-edition Santa Run tote bag.
Dogs can fundraise too! If your four-legged friend helps raise over £50, they'll receive a special Christmas dog stocking as a thank-you.

• **An exclusive group discount code.**	**Start fundraising by creating a JustGiving page.**

Need support to take part, including a guide runner? Please contact us before the event. For help taking part, group enquiries or discount codes, email supportus@beaconvision.org.

Beacon Carols by Candlelight

Thu 17th Dec | 5:30 PM - 8:15 PM | St Andrews Church | Book Your Tickets



Book Your Tickets

All are welcome to join us for Beacon's very first Carols by Candlelight, as we fill St. Andrew's Church with the warmth of festive music, candlelight, and Christmas cheer.
Hosted by Dickie Dodd, this special evening will bring the community together to celebrate the festive season with a wonderful programme of traditional carols and live performances from:
Festival Community Choir
Alder Coppice Primary School Choir
Matthew Richards, a talented pianist who featured on Channel 4's The Piano, whose beautiful music will add a truly special touch to this memorable occasion.
Event Details
Venue: St. Andrew's Church, Bilston Street, Sedgley, DY3 1JA
Doors Open from: 5:30pm, Service Starts: 6:30pm

Carols by Candlelight Ticket Options	
Adult Standard Ticket: £11.00	**Child Standard Ticket: £6.00**
Enjoy an extra-special festive experience with our VIP packages.	
VIP Adult Ticket: £15 **Includes:** **• Best seats in the house, including front row and VIP seating areas** **• A delicious festive treat** **• Drink on arrival (Festive hot chocolate, or alcohol-free mulled wine)**	**VIP Child Ticket: £10** **Includes:** **• VIP seating** **• A delicious festive treat** **• Drink on arrival (Kids Christmas Cherry Fizz or Festive hot chocolate)** **• A festive novelty gift - a Rudolph nose to wear during the concert or to take home with you.**

• A festive novelty gift - a Santa hat to wear during the concert or to take home with you.	

Accessibility Information

St. Andrew's Church is wheelchair accessible, with accessible seating available on the ground floor. Accessible seating areas are clearly highlighted on the floor plan when booking your tickets.

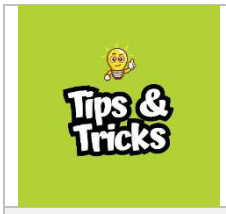
***Please note that some VIP seating is available in the balcony; however, there is no lift access to the balcony. Additional VIP seating is available on the ground floor for those who are not able to use the stairs. If you require wheelchair access or accessible seating, please select the appropriate seating area shown on the booking floor plan.**

***Please note: While the event has a beautiful candlelit atmosphere, the church will not be completely dark. Ambient lighting will remain on throughout the event to ensure good visibility and a comfortable, accessible experience for everyone.**

Free parking is available on a first come, first served basis. There are two large car parks located at the rear of St Andrew's Church, with additional parking available in the car park off Brick Street, behind the church.

There is also a pay-and-display car park behind The Clifton in Sedgley. Please allow extra time to park, particularly if arriving close to the start of the event.

If you require any further information or assistance, please contact us at supportus@beaconvision.org

	
Useful Tip	**Joke Corner**
Use the clock method for describing where food and drinks are placed on the plate, always put hot drinks at 12 o clock.	**What was the snowman doing in the vegetable patch? Picking his nose!**



Contact Beacon

Phone: 01902 880 111

Email: enquiries@beaconvision.org

Website: Children & Young People Service | Beacon Vision .

Address:

Beacon Centre for the Blind,

Wolverhampton Road East, Wolverhampton, WV4 6AZ

Join our WhatsApp channel for CYP VI,

https://www.whatsapp.com/channel/0029VbDeew3IHphMzkgvPf1E

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