



HAPPY TO CHAT - WALLSEND

Background of Happy to Chat

Happy to Chat started in January 2020 with the aim to get people in North Tyneside talking to each other. The project proved to be very popular, however due to the pandemic all the plans came to a stop. Now with restrictions lifting we are keen to start this project up again.

People sat in a relaxed session with a cuppa having a chat. A simple idea with a big impact to people's lives in the community.

When and where is Happy to Chat taking place?

We are aiming to launch Happy to Chat at the start of June. The sessions will be held at Dreamshine's Well-Bee-Ing Hub in Wallsend, every Thursday from 10:00-12:00.

Address: The Well-Bee-Ing Hub and Cafe, 84 Park Road, Wallsend.

How will it work?

Because of Covid 19 Happy to Chat will be different although the principle will be the same – encouraging people to talk. Everyone attending needs to be booked in in advance and we will be following strict guidelines to keep everyone safe. Temperature will be taken upon arrival and hand sanitisers will be placed on all of the tables. You will be supplied, if needed, with a non-medical re-usable face covering. Everyone will need to be socially distanced as per government guidelines.

The Happy to Chat sessions will allow a maximum of 8 people to get together as there are 8 tables available. These 8 people are allowed to bring a friend, carer, son or daughter etc. to accompany them to the sessions and sit together at the same table. You are not allowed to sit on the same table as someone you don't know however, you are encouraged to have a chat with people at a different table from a distance.

As restrictions start easing, we will be able to welcome more people per session and hopefully expand the scheme towards a lot more locations around North Tyneside.

How do I get involved?

Normally these events would be just pop in to join in. Covid has changed that so we are now inviting a small number of people to take part. You can book a place at one of sessions by contacting

Jennifer Mars on 07970367227 or jennifermars@voda.org.uk

Emma Brookes on 07596806378 or emma.brookes@voda.org.uk

For these 4 sessions we would like the same group of people to attend, so the session is not just a one-off opportunity to socialize.

24 th of June	10:00-12:00
1 st of July	10:00-12:00
8 th of July	10:00-12:00
15 th of July	10:00-12:00

Volunteering opportunities

Being a Happy to Chat volunteer involves going to the sessions, initiating a chat with the local residents to get the conversation going. We might ask you to help out with setting up the tables, coffee and tea as well.

We would love to hand out Happy to Chat buttons so you can show in public that you are up for a chat no matter where in North Tyneside you are.

Opportunity for organisations

Next to having people get to know each other, Happy to Chat is an opportunity for the local residents to get familiar with the services and activities in their area. If your organisation has any activities, services etc. the local residents might be able to benefit from please get in contact with Jennifer, see contact details below. We can hand out flyers or leaflets as well. In the future we hope that more people can join our sessions and other organisations are then more than welcome to join and chat to the local residents about what they can offer over a cup of tea.

Contact

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