


Milton Keynes Sensory Services



delivered by  B·I·D SERVICES

Winter 2025 Newsletter



Meet the team



Pauline Jarvis
Team Manager



Dona Rooke
Administrator



Rachel Cross
**Sensory Service
Officer**



Elaine Wooding
**Sensory Service
Officer**

MKSS News & Events

Hard Of Hearing Group – New Funding

We're excited to announce that we've secured funding from the Milton Keynes Community Foundation to run hard of hearing support groups next year.

We plan to start in February in the large meeting room at Gloucester House (not in our usual office space). Sessions will be on different days and times so more people can attend. The sessions will be especially useful for anyone new to hearing aids, as adjusting can be challenging.

We'll share full details soon, but in the meantime would love your ideas for activities, topics, or guest speakers. If you have hearing loss or support someone who does, please let us know what would help. I hope you'll join us!



[Image shows a group of people sitting around a table facing the lipreading teacher who is sitting in front of a TV screen and white board.]

Alzheimer's Society

Pauline recently met with Nicki Ward and Wendy Dunn from the Alzheimer's Society to explore how our services can work more closely together.

The Alzheimer's Society supports people living with dementia, as well as their families and carers. They provide a free, confidential service offering tailored information, support, and signposting to help people get the help they need.

For more information, please contact:

Milton Keynes Dementia Information and Support Service

Email: miltonkeynes@alzheimers.org.uk

Telephone: 01908 232612

Woughton Community Council (WCC)

WCC manages nine council estates in the south of the city. Recently, Tash Darling, Services Manager, reached out to us to help raise awareness of the support MKSS offers to people with sight and hearing loss.

We're excited to share that WCC's new building in Coffee Hall will soon become a hearing aid battery issuing centre. MKSS will provide training to WCC staff so they can offer this service locally. The building also has

rooms that could be used for hearing aid retubing, making it even easier for the community to access support.

Looking ahead to the new year, we plan to recruit volunteers who will be trained to deliver these services. If you live in the area and would like to get involved, please get in touch – we'd love to hear from you!

Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to support people who wear hearing aids - full training will be provided. If you have a couple of hours a week to spare and would like, give us a call.

Fake Hearing aid Adverts

One of our service users recently warned us about scam adverts targeting people on social media. These scams often focus on individuals with hearing loss, as the pages they interact with can reveal their interests.

To protect yourself, you can sign up for a free scam alert service by contacting www.which.co.uk

Out of Sight Campaign

Our Vision Rehabilitation Specialist Alexis Horam has also been working on behalf of RNIB's Out of Sight Campaign. She has recently given seven radio interviews and attended a parliamentary event at the House of Commons, talking about the strain on rehabilitation services nationally.

The campaign was started to address the issue of the thousands of people with sight loss who are missing out on vision rehabilitation services that help them live independently and stay connected.

For further information visit www.rnib.org.uk/campaign-with-us/support-a-campaign/out-of-sight/

Milton Keynes Gallery Events

BSL Exhibition Tour

Saturday 17 January 2026, 11am

Join Deaf artist, choreographer and BSL tour guide Chisato Minamimura for an in-depth exploration of MK Gallery's current exhibition To Improvise A Mountain: Lynette Yiadom-Boakye Curates. The exhibition includes work from a diverse group of international artists showcasing painting, sculpture, photography, film, and drawing from the 19th century to the present day.

This event will be delivered in British Sign Language (BSL) and is only suitable for D/deaf visitors and users of BSL.



Tactile Art Workshop

Thursday 22 January, 10.30am – 12.45pm

(refreshments included) £7 per person.

Join artist Lisa Tilley for a hands-on creative workshop designed specifically for those who are blind or partially sighted, and their companions. Explore the exhibition To Improvise A Mountain: Lynette Yiadom-Boakye Curates and create your own works inspired by our galleries.

Milton Keynes Theatre Access Performances

Goldilocks and the Three Bears

BSL: 17 December 2025 at 7.00pm

Audio Described:

19 December 2025 at 7.00pm

with Touch Tour at 5:30pm

Captioned: 30 December 2025 at 7.00pm



TINA - The Tina Turner Musical

Captioned: 03 February 2026 at 7:30pm

Audio Described: 04 February 2026 at 7:30pm

with Touch Tour at 6.00pm

Matthew Bourne's The Red Shoes

Audio Described: 12 February 2026 at 7:30pm

with Touch Tour at 6.00pm

Inspector Morse: House of Ghosts

Captioned: 19 March 2026 at 7:30pm

Audio Described: 21 March 2026 at 2:30pm with
Touch Tour at 1pm



HOW TO CONTACT MKSS

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Email/Facetime: mkss@bid.org.uk

ADDRESS

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We are on Social Media!



Facebook@MiltonKeynesSensoryServices

Instagram @bid_services

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SERVICES

Milton Keynes Sensory Services is funded by Milton Keynes Council and delivered by BID Services.

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