

Fundraising pack for schools and nurseries

THANK YOU FOR HOSTING DINODAY, YOU ARE ROAR-SOME!

Contact For families with disabled children

About DinoDay

DinoDay is our flagship annual event to raise funds and awareness for Contact, a charity that provides expert support for families with disabled children and children with additional needs across the UK.

It's a fun way for schools and nurseries to support Contact's life-changing services while raising awareness about the experiences of disabled people and the importance of inclusivity.

Why dinosaurs?

The inspiration behind DinoDay is a boy called Cameron Mathieson, who had Duchenne muscular dystrophy and sadly passed away aged 5 after spending more than two years in hospital.

Back then, Disability Living Allowance was taken away from children who spent more than 12 weeks in hospital. With our support, the Mathieson family overturned this unfair rule in a landmark case at the Supreme Court. Since then, no other family with a child who spends long periods in hospital has been denied this essential financial support.

Cameron, who was born on 19 June, loved dinosaurs (or dowsers, as he called them). His favourite dowser was Troy, a green triceratops!



As well as supporting our vital services, funds raised through DinoDay help us campaign to tackle the inequalities families with disabled children face – just like we did for Cameron's and thousands of others since.

Hosting DinoDay

Have fun while raising awareness of disability and special educational needs by hosting DinoDay in your school or nursery – all while supporting Contact's vital services for families with disabled children.

Wear green or a dino-themed outfit

On 19 June (or choose another day in June), ask the children to wear green or their favourite dinosaur outfit for a suggested donation of £1 per child.

You could also take them for a 19-minute dino stomp around your area!

Run a DinoDay activity

We've created a number of fun activities themed around dinosaurs and disability for you to run in your classroom or nursery, including:

- A dino-themed story to read in class and spark conversations with pupils about empathy, kindness and awareness of disability
- Lots of dino-mite colouring-in sheets, puzzles and word searches
- A DIY triceratops mask-making craft exercise using paper plates
- A video-based activity on sensory processing differences

All of these activities are available to download at: <u>www.contact.org.uk/dinoday-school-activities</u>



How we can help you

DinoDay fundraising support

We would be delighted to assist with your school's DinoDay activities and support of Contact. Please get in touch for tips and ideas to make your DinoDay event as simple and exciting as possible for your pupils by contacting our friendly team on <u>events@contact.org.uk</u>

free specialist aids for disabled children

All schools who fundraise as part of DinoDay will be entered into a free prize draw for a chance to win a wide range of learning aids and helpful products designed to support children with additional needs at your school!

Workshops for staff

Contact runs regular workshops and webinars for practitioners to help improve their confidence and skills supporting families of children with additional needs.

Bespoke training

We have been commissioned by schools and early years providers to create tailored training materials to improve their team's skills in supporting children with special educational needs and disabilities. This includes bespoke workshops and webinars, whether pre-recorded or live, with accompanying handouts. Get in touch to find out more at services@contact.org.uk

Information and advice

Our website has a <u>range of advice, tips and resources for practitioners</u> on key areas in which you can support disabled children and their families.

About Contact

We're Contact, the UK charity that supports families with children with disabilities and special educational needs — regardless of whether they have a formal diagnosis or not.

Our support services

Contact provides families with free emotional and practical support. Through our expert advice and information, we help parents to navigate a wide range of issues such as finances and benefits, education (including EHC Plans), and how to access social care support.

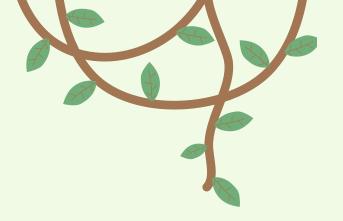
We would love to extend our services to families within your school community to ensure they have access to the help they need. This is available through our <u>website</u>, <u>helpline</u>, <u>Listening Ear service</u>, <u>Helpful Guide</u> booklet, <u>workshops</u> and <u>family events</u> — as well as our <u>dedicated By Your Side support</u> for families with a child in hospital.

Contact is also a campaigning charity that works to influence policy and help tackle the inequalities that families with disabled children face.



381,000

families in the UK turn to us every year for advice and support



contact

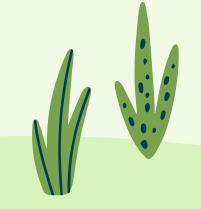
For families with disabled children

Please do get in touch if you have any questions about DinoDay via <u>events@contact.org.uk</u>

If you've raised any money for Contact, then you can donate it to us via <u>our donation page</u>. Thank you!

We have a wide range of information, advice and support for practitioners and parent carers on our website: <u>www.contact.org.uk</u>

Freephone helpline for parent carers: 0808 808 3555 (9.30am-5pm, Monday-Friday)





Contact is a trading name of Contact a Family. Charity registered in England and Wales (284912) and Scotland (SC039169). Company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (1633333). VAT registration GB 749 3846 82.