



SC0 10498, a SCIO
9 Lawton Road Dundee DD3 6SZ
support@ddcaok.com
www.ddcaok.com
01382 826888

Evening Family Groups at DDCA

We invite you to register your interest in our Evening Family Groups. These sessions provide a safe, fun, relaxed, and supportive environment where parents can play and bond with their children and meet other families.

To ensure the best experience for our families, these are not "drop-in" groups. We limit attendance to approximately 10 families per group to maintain a calm and accessible atmosphere, in line with family feedback.

- Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday evenings, 6.00 pm – 7.30 pm.
- One evening per week for up to two years (**or until the child turns 18**).
- **Cost:** All activities are **free of charge**.

Eligibility Criteria

To be considered for a space, the following must apply:

- **Age:** The child must be between **5 and 16 years old** and have a physical disability, and/or a learning disability, and/or a diagnosis of autism. To ensure every family gets a full two-year placement with us, we only accept **new applications** for children aged **5 to 16**.
- **Supervision:** Although we might have volunteers working alongside our two part time staff and either our manager or assistant manager, parents remain fully responsible for the safety, care, and support of their child during the session (including personal care).
- **Safety:** DDCA operates a **"No Restraint or Holding"** policy. We cannot offer spaces to children who require "Safe Spaces" or "CALM holds."

How We Allocate Places

Because demand is often high and spaces are limited, we cannot guarantee a place for everyone who applies. When a space becomes available, we consider:

1. The specific needs and circumstances of the child and family.
2. The current dynamic of the group to ensure it remains a safe and supportive environment for all.
3. The level of need for this specific type of group.

How to Apply

If you would like to join us, please complete and return the attached registration form. We will acknowledge receipt of your form and contact you if a suitable space becomes available. We also have a list of other support and funding ideas on our website.

How does the child cope in a group setting?

Please describe **any behaviour that may be challenging** (frequency, nature, and severity). This doesn't mean we won't consider the child, but it depends on the frequency, nature, and severity of the behaviour. We understand that children can go through changes at any time. Please be as honest and specific as possible and continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Does the child cause harm to themselves or others? If so, in what way and how frequently?

Do you have transport? Yes No

Does this child attend any other clubs or group? If so, which ones?

If different from above:

Referred by _____

Referrer's contact details _____

By signing this form, I understand and accept:

- DDCA reserves the right to stop anyone attending at any time if we feel we can't safely meet an individual or family's needs or if anyone acts in an aggressive, violent, intimidating, or confrontational manner towards anyone else attending.
- If we do not attend for two months without notice, the space will be reallocated.
- DDCA has a "No Restraint or holding" policy, and cannot offer a space to anyone who requires a "Safe Space" or "CALM holds" .
- Data Consent: I consent to DDCA retaining this information to assess suitability for current or future groups. (You may of course request to be removed from our list at any time).

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Checklist for Parents: Evening Family Groups

Before sending us your registration of interest, please check that our group is the right fit for your family's needs:

- Is your child between 5 and 16 years old? We accept new applications aged 5 to 16 to ensure a full two-year placement before they reach 18.
- Does your child have a physical disability and/or a learning disability and/or a diagnosis of autism?
- Can you commit to attending one evening per week (6:00 pm – 7:30 pm, excluding DDCA's set holiday dates) for the two-year placement?
- Are you able to remain on-site and take full responsibility for your child's safety, support, supervision, and personal care during the group?
- Do you accept our "No Restraint or Holding" policy and understand that we cannot offer spaces if your child requires a "Safe Space" or "CALM holds".
- Do you feel your child needs and would benefit from a small, quiet group setting (approx. 10 families) rather than a large "drop-in" environment?