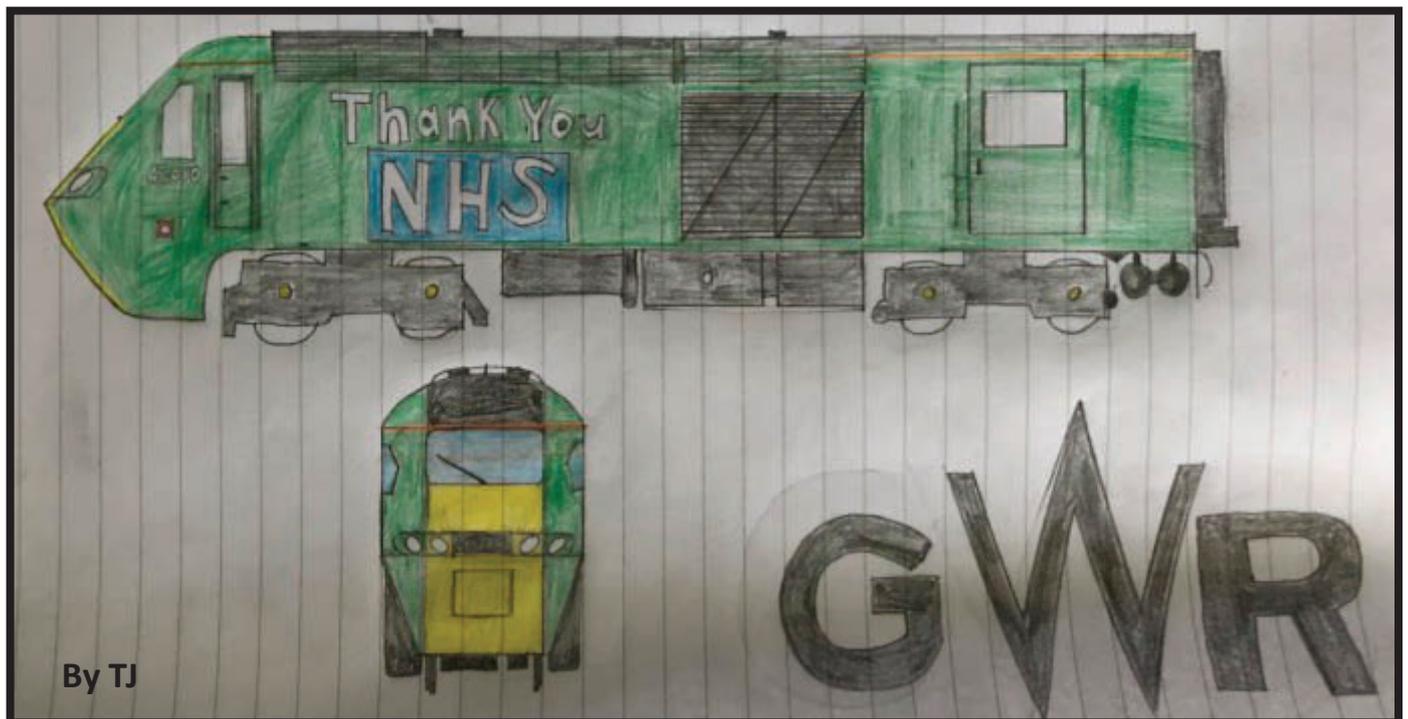




Lockdown Edition

Thank you NHS

and keyworkers



By TJ

Registered Charity 1088249

NEWSFLASH

Summer Edition 2020 Issue 705

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A BIG THANK YOU
to all our helpers and
volunteers for their
continued help & support



We want to hear from you!

We would love to know topics you would like to see in future additions, updates or events that are coming up that you would like to share with the rest of our members at YDA.

Please send anything you would like included to ydanewsflash@gmail.com

Message from the Youth Club Manager

Hello everyone.

I hope you are all keeping well and safe.

With regrets, we have had to cancel all Easter and Summer holiday activities/youth clubs and trips due to coronavirus. Unfortunately, we are not able to use either of our venues; Stoke Mandeville School or Green Street Youth Club. However, if lockdown starts to ease by the end of July, I will make a decision whether we will organise summer trips for Under11's, 12-15 and 16+.



Please ensure you follow the government guidelines:

- **Wearing a mask in public places/transport**
- **Keeping a 2 metres distance**
- **Washing hands for 20 seconds**

As you are all aware, during this time we haven't had the chance to publish a Newsflash. This edition is a "lockdown special" as we gather all members of staff, children and young adults' stories of their time during lockdown.

**Congratulations to Sam R for achieving student of 2020 in Hospitality,
Well done!**



Remember, you're not alone...

Contact Information

Website: www.yda.org.uk

Search Young Deaf Activities on Facebook

If you want to know anything about YDA, please contact:

Youth Club Manager

Mary Fallon Text: 07472179016

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Home Communications and Parent Support Group Manager

Jade Costello Voice/SMS: 07966 362683

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Jenny Freeman Wood Voice/SMS: 07963482553

Website Editor

Are you interested in this role? Please do get in touch

Newsflash Editor

Sarah Hobbs Mobile: 07853843531

Email: ydanewsflash@gmail.com

Parent Support Group

Whilst PSG haven't been able to meet face to face we've been running weekly zoom sessions at 10.30am which families have been finding very useful Please contact Jade if you would like to join in the fun.

We have been very lucky to have special guests attend our zoom sessions. Hannah Morgan, a Hearing Support Teacher giving us useful tips. Lorenzo, a Deaf role model and his Mum, Ivana giving us life experiences and showing that Deafness should not stop us from having big ambitions in life.

Jade, that first session was amazing! Thank you so much for organising.



PSG have been amazing during lockdown, so supportive. Please send on my thanks to Yasmena & Ella.

Can't wait to see you all again next Saturday! Thanks for continuing PSG via zoom.

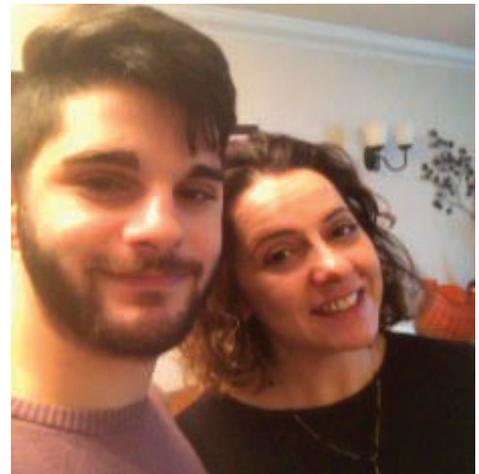
What a great session! Hannah was so informative.

Everything Ivana (mother of Lorenzo) has been through resonates with me being a parent of a deaf son.

Seeing a young deaf man with a more severe hearing loss than B living a 'normal' life with a regular job etc has empowered me to strive to achieve the same for B.

Very informative young man. Great role model for our young deaf children.

I will definitely subscribe to the NDCS magazine.



Come to YDA's Parent Support Group to meet other parents and children, share experiences and guide us on topics you want access to!

Lovely catch up with everyone.
Thanks for arranging.

If you are interested please contact:

Jade Costello

Parent Support Group Manager

Email - jade@yda.org.uk

Mobile - 07966 36268

This weekly meeting is really helpful. Thank you.

Thank you so much for this morning, was lovely to see everyone & had fun! It's surprising how doing something a bit different makes the day feel better. Thank you Jade, Ella & Yasmena.

We'd love to join again. Thanks so much for running it!

Thank you for today's lovely session. The children have been very receptive to the signing taught by Yasmena, have enjoyed Ella's message story and look forward to trying your craft idea.



Well done to Jacob for using what he had learnt with Yasmena during a zoom session at PSG for his home schooling activity



PSG Craft - Sasvita



PSG Craft - VE Day Bunting



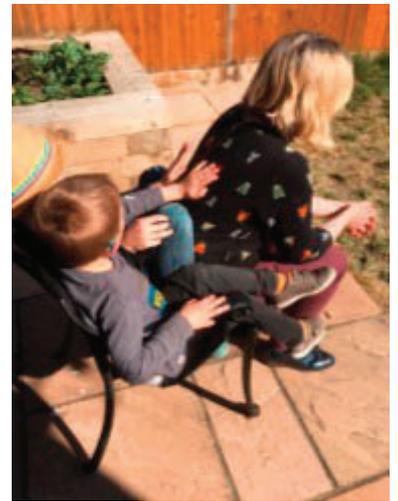
Kaleb using the message story on Mummy that he'd learnt during one of our PSG Zoom sessions.





Thank you for your continued support. The PowerPoints are really helpful.

THANK YOU!



Thank you PSG for another lovely session. We really appreciate the signing, massage stories & games ever week . The group discussion and question time with Hannah was great.



Kaleb clapping for all the essential key workers in his life (including all of Young Deaf Activities/PSG key staff)

Kaleb & Jacob practising signing a story after one of our PSG Zoom sessions.



PSG Bingo

Thank you Mary for giving up your evening and arranging a fun game of Bingo for our PSG Parents. Well done to our winners Victoria and Maggie. If anyone is interested in joining us for future dates please contact Jade for details.

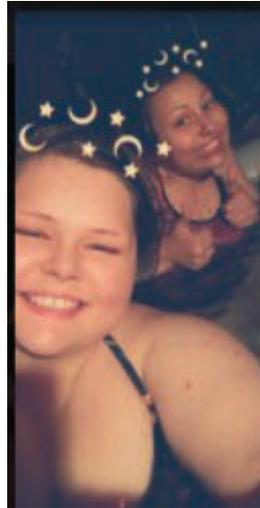
Jack and Vinnie have enjoyed playing in their paddling pool.



Building an insect home in the garden and looking for dinosaur remains along with football and bike rides.



Coping through covid-19, has it's good days and not so good days, but realising the best coping mechanism is having a positive attitude. Embracing the negative and turning it into a positive, enjoying the quality times with families, watching movies, going for long drives and singing at the tops of our lungs. Enjoying the days underneath the hot sun, soaking in the hot tubs with a glass of vodka and coke. Having regular FaceTime conversation with loves one and close friends, help to embrace the strength in our community during this tough times.— **Georgia**



Dakota has gone art mad during lockdown! She has missed her friends but a new SIM card means she can talk to them all now!



Being silly with Denver

Homemade foxy mask (from Five Nights at Freddy's)

I had my birthday in quarantine!!!.

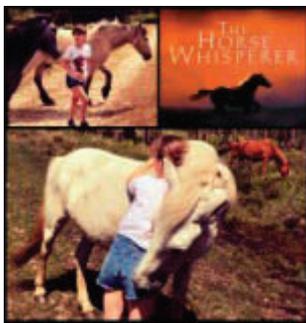
It was awesome, but sadly my friends couldn't have a party with me because of lockdown and I missed out on going to Harry Potter studios but on the bright side I could eat all of my big cake!

I have been practicing my baking, I have made bread and cake, lots and lots of cake. Other wise I have been lying around or doing homework. We have been on plenty of long dog walks for my dog Luca. **Violetta**



Here is Amelie's activities apart from home learning.

Also, we moved to a new house and she was helping her brother with painting her bedroom



Our Lockdown Stories

Kurtis is not enjoying the home schooling except for maths which he loves. He is missing YDA and you. Here is a couple of things that he has done for school work

A self portrait with food

On the food face the green bits by the lemons are for his hearing aids



I enjoyed chatting with YDA friends and Mary on zoom. I have just resumed work at KFC. I have helped Dad with everything. I can't wait to go back to youth club I missed my friends and Mary—**Ubi**

Here is a few things **William** has been up to during lockdown...

He stayed in a tent for 5 night (indoors) for a cub badges and made a virtual fire...

Cooking banana bread, and making his own 'pub' style lunch...

Went for a walk down the canal taking photos of the wildlife

Gardening, painting, playdough.

Peter made him a shed which he helped make and paint...

He has been helping me loads in the garden and he been looking after his sunflower..



Kiran has now started to cope with being at home as I have tried to continue with the same routine which he is used to.

We go for early morning walks to the local parks. He loves making Lego sets, he baked a cake for his dad birthday and we continue to do college work each day.

It has not being an easy start as he could not understand why he was not going to college, as he knows the college time table and was not happy being at home in college time especially since he stated he has stuffs and clothes in his room but with the college staff help with images and symbols explaining Covid 19 he now understands the situation.

He no longer complains about going for walks. He enjoys it now he now listens to music while walking.

He is also learning about wearing a mask. Which he does wear, and the process continues.



Life during lockdown by Lorenzo

For my first few weeks after the lockdown, I was struggling to build my motivation to focus on my university coursework during the second semester. Have to studied at home which wasn't the same going to university to see friends and teachers then coming home with the greater motivation. Unfortunately I don't have these motivation and have to find my way to get back on track. The only way was to play F1 game on ps4 which helped me to focus on my coursework and finished everything for my first year.

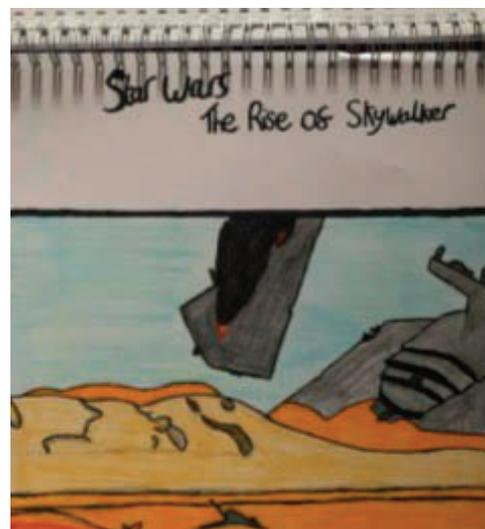
Working at the supermarket in Sainsbury's was difficult during the lockdown. From the beginning, mostly everything went out of stock due with the panic buying. We were trying to stop people buying more than two items to ensure everyone got what they need. The hardest part was to communicate customers wearing their masks and I have to tell that I am profoundly deaf.

Just to clarify with today the new pandemic with all the comforts of the modern world. But people complained because they weren't allowed to leave the house for a few weeks. They have electricity, warm water, mobile phone, got enough food and a safe roof over the heads. None of these existed in earlier times, but people survived these times from the last 100 years ago and never lost their enthusiasm for life. Today we complained because we have to wear masks in the public transports, supermarket and etc. A small change of viewpoint can work wonders. For this time, let us be thankful for the time we live in and most importantly to helps each other. I just want you to imagine how are you feeling during the time times from around 1914 to 1990 with all the wars, Spanish flu and etc.

We live in modern world technology. Never forget the older generations who used to live hard in the past. Great respect for them.



During lockdown, I have been busy to do garden, flowers and build sheds from used woods with my Dad. I still working windows cleaning on Monday, Wednesday and Friday with my boss Michele. I have been done bathroom floor with help from my Mum and Dad then move stuff from floor back in bathroom. Sometimes I been drawings Star Wars battle and crashing then I have been watching a new Star Wars film and it really brilliant. **Charlie**



My hobby is journey for train and going to different place also my personal is enthusiast photography for the train examples, Reading station going to somewhere from London Paddington and I can see number similar number plates.

I feel like stay at home because lockdown from the Covid-19. I been travel to Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire, I get my mask before travel for peak hours before return to home in High Wycombe. **TJ**



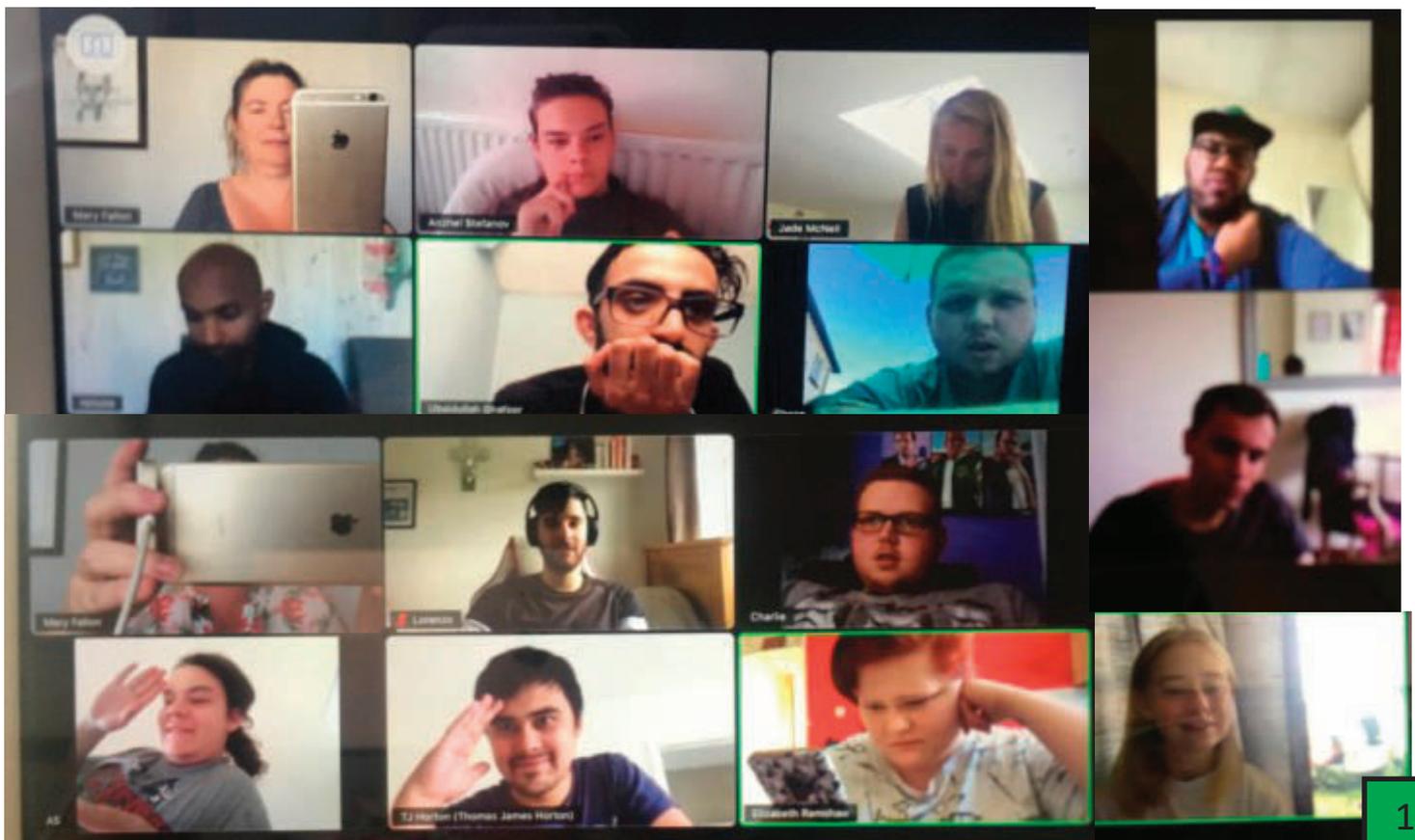
So what we doing so far

I am cleaning my room and house.

I cooked my family cake and dinner too

Monday to Thursday I have zoom college class meeting English. I have practice exam paper and so from now still I am drive my bike with my brother and my sister. I have done cooked my dessert and dinner... you can have look my photo **Anzhel**

Zoom Bingo



Staff Lockdown Stories

Mary,

Since Lockdown, I have set up Zoom meetings with YDA members, playing bingo on a few occasions. It has been lovely to have conversations and catch ups with the young members. I will be organising more games to play for them. In my spare time, I have been enjoying baking and making delicious food for my family. I have also been painting a wishing well. My son (Nathan) had his special 18th birthday. I tried to bake a cake; it didn't look the best but at least it was all gone! Sadly, Mark and I have missed two cruises to see the Midsummer sun in Norway and to the Caribbean. Fingers crossed next year we can give it a go!



Shaun,

During the lockdown I have been watching BSL clips for my interpreting course. I have also been working with students online. This is to help them complete their coursework. During my free-time I have enjoyed cutting the grass, cutting the hedge and painting the rooms in the house.

Yasmena,

Lockdown has had it ups and downs for us. We missed out on meeting family and friends outside but quickly discovered the joys of using zoom. I have re discovered a love of playing traditional games and have had competitions with friends on a weekly basis on zoom. Some of the games we have played are catchphrase, true and false Trivia, Colour Brain and Boggle. Great fun



Work wise, it has been busy and I have stayed in touch with colleagues by emails, Skype and I am now becoming adept at using Teams.

I have enjoyed little things too like spending time in the garden. We have had some great weather and it's nice to pay more attention to natural surroundings. I have tried to make my garden a place to relax and enjoy a bit of scenery. More recently, we have had my nieces and nephews visiting and keeping them busy and entertained is an enormous task !



Sarah,

Life has been very different over the last few months. I have been working throughout lockdown as an interpreter mainly in hospitals and GPs. It was very scary not to have any PPE. Early on during lockdown I was luck enough to meet Zeiba who runs Sew Special by ZM, she very kindly made me a mask that I could wear which allowed my clients to still see my lips. We realised there was a huge demand for this, so I set up a Gofundme page and raised £375 to be able to make free face masks for interpreters, teachers, speech and language therapist and many more, so far 282 masks have been made. If you would like a mask please contact her page on Facebook.



Kirsty,

Since Lockdown, I have tried to keep myself busy which has been quite difficult at times as I run out of things to do! Mostly, I have been cleaning around the house, throwing out unwanted bits, going on walks. I made some cheesecakes.

I swapped my bedroom with my brother Nathan; I have been painting my room, hoping to build a fitted wardrobe soon with my dad.

Luckily, we have had some sunny days, so I lay in the sun and imagine myself on holiday, it isn't the same, but it is something!



Helen,

Two weeks before lockdown I was skiing in Switzerland. The resort we were staying at meant you could ski over to Italy. The majority of the time the border appeared closed. It was uncertain whether this was due to unusually high winds or because of Coronavirus - even local people seemed unsure and the resort was unusually quiet.

Returning home my partner John works for an international company and had an email informing staff that the office was closed to prevent the spread of the virus as there had been cases confirmed in other countries.

I work part-time for the NHS in a Day Hospital. A plan was put together to close the Day Hospital the following week. After this staff worked together to get the Day Hospital up and running online. No one knew how to go about this but 4 of us set about doing it. It was a huge learning curve as none of us were particularly technologically minded but we supported and learnt from each other. From something that started off small. We are now offering 7 groups over 5 days with a capacity of 10 patients. Who knows how long this will continue but it is working for now. Our new virtual normal!

In my spare time I have been enjoying the garden - we have had 2 families of Great Tits nest in our bird boxes. I have also been making some tiles and painting wardrobes! We have been enjoying taking an hourly walk or cycle everyday-who needs the gym?! + NO Banana Bread!

Ella,

So the last few months have been strange but we've loved having Kaya home from uni and making happy memories. We've been looking through old photos and found an old one from a YDA visit to my parents farm! We've been cooking, making puzzles and painting rocks. We've really enjoyed weekly catch ups with PSG families and finding different message stories to enjoy!



Jade

Lockdown has been a very surreal time in our lives. If somebody had told us that this was going to happen we wouldn't have believed them. There has been many positives for example we've enjoyed lots of bike rides together, learnt new walks, taken on an allotment, spent lots of time with our pony and generally spent more time together as a immediate family.

The things that I have found difficult is not seeing my parents, extended family and friends. We've still managed to stay in contact with Parent Support Group via zoom which has been an amazing tool for us to use and some HCC families are using the same tool to continue learning sign language. I really hope to be able to see you all face to face soon but until then here's a positive quote that I found and wanted to share with you.



Take care and stay safe.

"Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass, it's about learning how to dance in the rain." Viviane Greene, Writer.



We were lucky before lockdown we went to Roald Dahl Museum where they were signing stories in BSL

Dakota and Leo



Face covering Exemption Card

If you cannot wear a face mask because of a disability or health problem please cut out one of the cards below to show



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Donations are appreciated, and a minimum donation of £2.50 is required for the lanyard ribbon.

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blue or pink

Wristbands
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Communication Card
Laminated

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Communication Card
Lanyard with ribbon
minimum donation £2.50

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COVID-19 Supporting Deaf Children & Adults UK-wide

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Chloe's and Sophie's Special Ears Fund
Registered Charity no. 1151263

Keep safe
and
Remember you
are not alone ...

