



Newly Diagnosed Weekend

1st - 3rd March 2019
Midlands Park Hotel, Portlaoise



About Chime

For over fifty years, we have championed for equal rights, greater accessibility and opportunities for individuals with deafness and hearing loss.

Since our inception as the National Association for the Deaf, we have changed our brand name twice to reflect our evolving advocacy campaigning - DeafHear in 2007 and, as of 1st November 2018, Chime.

While our name has changed, our focus and values have not. We remain dedicated to a society where deafness and hearing loss doesn't hold back an individual's potential, personal choice or quality of life.

Our nationwide resource centres provide access to services, social workers, mental health professionals, resources, assistive technologies, as well as access to a community promoting social inclusion, events, and more. Visit chime.ie



Event Details

In March 2019, Chime will host its bi-annual information weekend for families with children who have been newly diagnosed with a hearing loss. Previous weekends have been a great success and the feedback from families that have attended is extremely positive. If you are a parent of a child recently diagnosed with a hearing loss and have some questions about your child's future, this weekend is for you.

When: Friday 1st March - Sunday 3rd March 2019

Where: Midlands Park Hotel, Portlaoise, Co.Laois

Costs: Adults €70 per person over 16 years
Children €40 per child under 16 years

Details: The weekend is residential to enable families to share their experiences in a supportive and confidential environment.



Why Come?

For many parents, the diagnosis of their child's hearing loss may be somewhat of a shock. This may be especially so if the child is very young, but can be true for any age.

Parents may have questions about hearing loss, audiology, communication and their child's development.

This weekend is often the first time parents are able to get information on these topics from leading experts.

Many parents also feel somewhat isolated following their child's diagnosis, and this weekend is also the perfect time to meet other parents with similar experiences. Many friendships have begun at these weekends.



What happens?

This weekend is residential to enable families to share their experiences in a supportive and confidential environment.

Information for parents:

There are a number of information stands and workshop sessions facilitated by experts on topics such as audiology, hearing technologies, communication, entitlements and support services.

Sharing for parents:

There are ample opportunities for parents to share their experiences and learn from each other.

Fun for children:

Children aged 14 years and under are welcome at the weekend, and they can engage in a wide range of fun activities while their parents are attending workshop sessions.



Where is it on?

The Midlands Park Hotel is in Portlaoise town, ideally located only 1 hour from Dublin, 1.5 hours from Cork and just five minutes' walk from Portlaoise Train Station.

The hotel offers a number of family rooms (limited to four family members, a supplement may be incurred if additional accommodation is required). Residents also have access to a fitness suite and swimming pool.

The cost of attending the weekend is €70 per adult (16 years and over) and €40 per child for the weekend. All accommodation, meals, information pack and children's activities are provided by Chime.

To book, complete the booking form and return it to the address or email below before **Friday 8th February 2019**. For more information, please contact:

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Event Plan

Friday 1st March 2019:

- > Appointments allocated one to one with HSE Audiologist on request
- > Information stands
- > Toys, games, play and arts & crafts
- > Meet other families

Saturday 2nd March 2019

- > Introduction to Chime
- > Sharing experiences
- > 'Listen, Learn & Talk' - Jennifer Robertson, CI Beaumont
- > 'Hearing Aid Maintenance' - Chime

Sunday 3rd March 2019

- > 'EduTech' presented by Chime
- > Deaf and Hearing Awareness Training
- > Family Panel

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