

# Press Release

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For Immediate Release

## **New youth group for disabled young people in Hastings**

A new youth group for young people with disabilities is set to open in Hastings.

And East Sussex County Council youth workers who will be running the new Funky Teens club from January 2010 want to hear from any parents or young people who think the club might be suitable for them.

The launch of the new youth club follows a successful trial last summer. Based at the Bridge Community Centre in Priory Road the new club will be provided by the County Council's Youth Development Service (YDS) and is an extension of the successful Funky Teens youth clubs that already operate from Eastbourne, Uckfield and Heathfield on alternate Saturdays.

Launched in 2008 and named Funky Teens by the young people themselves, the clubs are specifically designed for young people aged 13-19 with disabilities. They provide a range of typical youth club activities such as games, workshops, talks and advice, and the opportunity to meet and make new friends.

The Funky Teens youth clubs are equipped to accommodate a wide range of disabilities including autism, ADHD, cerebral palsy and those who need wheelchairs. They also provide opportunities for the young people to take part in day trips.

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Cllr Meg Stroude, the County Council's Lead Member for Children and Families said: "I am really delighted we're going to be able to expand the Funky Teens clubs into Hastings. It has been really successful in other parts of the county and I'm sure the same will be true here. Funky Teens is a great idea. The clubs already in place are extremely successful and provide great opportunities for dozens of young people with disabilities to have fun and make new friends."

Anyone interested in finding out more about Funky Teens in Hastings should contact Karen Burchell on 01273 335130 or by email to [funky.teens@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:funky.teens@eastsussex.gov.uk)

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