www.carersmanchester.org.uk

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Caring for Someone with Sensory Impairment

Are you an unwaged carer living in Manchester and caring for someone who has impaired hearing or sight? Here is a summary of specialist support you can access.

Council Sensory Impairment Services

Manchester City Council's Sensory Team is a specialist team within Adult Social Care that supports people aged 18+ who are deaf, hard of hearing, visually impaired or have combined sensory loss. They offer equipment assessments, daily living skills training, and general advice and information.

- ✅ **Call 0161 219 2658 (general enquiries) / 0161 234 5001 (self-referrals)**
- ✅ **Email sensory.team@manchester.gov.uk**
- ✅ **Visit https://tinyurl.com/ywxwx527**

Manchester Sensory Support Service is a council-commissioned service working with children and young people who have a hearing or vision need. Based at the Lancasterian School in West Didsbury, they work with children to improve their educational achievements, communication skills and social confidence. To access this service, you will need a referral from a relevant medical professional.

- ✅ **Call 0161 445 0123 (option 4)**
- ✅ **Email admin@msss.co.uk**
- ✅ **Visit https://tinyurl.com/2fek65j3**

Deafness, Hearing Loss and Tinnitus

Manchester Deaf Centre provides support to the deaf community in Greater Manchester. They offer one to one support, social groups, peer support groups and advocacy, as well as a children and young people's support service.

- ☑ **Call 0161 273 3415**
  (Monday – Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm)
- ☑ **Email info@manchesterdeafcentre.com**
- ☑ **Visit https://www.manchesterdeafcentre.com/**

RNID (Royal National Institute for Deaf People) supports people who are deaf, or who have hearing loss or tinnitus. They campaign for an inclusive society and provide practical advice around topics such as living with hearing loss, rights at work and when using public services, and communication support.

- ☑ **Call 0808 808 0123 / text 07360 268 988**
  (Monday – Friday 8:30am – 5:00pm)
- ☑ **Email contact@rnid.org.uk**
- ☑ **BSL https://tinyurl.com/eptrjf2z**
- ☑ **Visit https://rnid.org.uk/**

National Deaf Children's Society supports deaf young people and their families. They run an advice line where you can speak to a guidance officer, as well as having education appeal specialists and grants to help young deaf people.

- ☑ **Call 0808 800 8880 / text 07860 022 888**
  (Monday – Thursday 9:00am – 5.00pm, Friday 9:00am – 12:30pm)
- ☑ **SignVideo https://tinyurl.com/yhbc3nft**
- ☑ **Visit https://www.ndcs.org.uk/**

Blindness and Sight Loss

Henshaw's supports children and adults living with sight loss and a range of other disabilities. They run community services including specialist groups, a Living Well with Sight Loss course, counselling, and support to access equipment and digital assessments. They also provide activities and advice to children and families affected by sight loss and run a specialist college and arts centre.

- ✅ **Call 0300 222 5555**
- ✅ **Email info@henshaws.org.uk**
- ✅ **Visit https://www.henshaws.org.uk/**

RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind People) supports blind and partially sighted people. They operate a helpline where you can speak to a sight loss adviser about practical and emotional support that is available to you.

- ✅ **Call 0303 123 9999**
  (Monday – Friday 8:00am – 8:00pm, Saturday 9:00am – 1:00pm)
- ✅ **Email helpline@rnib.org.uk**
- ✅ **Visit https://www.rnib.org.uk**

RSBC (Royal Society for Blind Children) offers a range of services including emotional support, advice for families, and activities and groups for young people.

- ✅ **Call 020 3198 0225**
  (Monday – Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm)
- ✅ **Email connections@rsbc.org.uk**
- ✅ **Visit https://www.rsbc.org.uk**

Deafblindness

Deafblind UK supports people with both sight and hearing loss. Their helpline offers practical advice, emotional support, help with technology, and information about accessible activities and holidays. They also have specialist support for veterans who have reduced sight and hearing due to serving in the armed forces.

- ✅ **Call 0800 132 320 / text 07903 572 885**
  (Monday – Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm)
- ✅ **Email info@deafblind.org.uk**
- ✅ **BSL https://tinyurl.com/3z5dv3vm**
- ✅ **Visit https://deafblind.org.uk/**

Sense supports anyone who is living with complex disabilities, including deafblindness. Their advice service covers information on health and social care, education, and communication issues.

- ✅ **Call 0300 330 9256**
  (Monday – Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm)
- ✅ **Web form https://tinyurl.com/2p8p6bpd**
- ✅ **BSL https://tinyurl.com/2p8ax42m**
- ✅ **Visit www.sense.org.uk**

Courses and Workshops

Carers Manchester runs free online workshops for carers. You may be interested in joining a Welfare and Benefits workshop to find out about the main benefits available to people with disabilities and their carers, or Being a Carer, which provides a general introduction to the support available.

- ✅ **Visit https://www.carersmanchester.org.uk/events**

If you would like to discuss your options for support or you have a general query about your caring role, you can call the Carers Manchester Contact Point on 0161 543 8000 (Monday-Friday 10am-4pm, Wednesdays 10am-6pm; except bank holidays) or email contactpoint@carersmanchester.org.uk.