**You are invited to come to “*A Chance to Chat*” with other people who have lived experience of Autism. Please see the attached sheet which outlines the locations that have been chosen and 2020’s Spring Term dates.**

**If you have any questions, please see the FAQ’s, or alternatively contact me on** **worcestershire@nas.org.uk**

**Beryl Curtis**

**Branch Chair**

**What times are the “*A Chance to Chat*”?**10.30am – 11.30am Of course you are free to turn up and leave whenever you want.

**What is the cost?**There is no cost involved, drinks and cakes are available to buy at all the cafes chosen.

**What will happen?**“***A Chance to Chat***” are not meetings. They are set up for you to meet others, and chat. I will be there, but only to listen to concerns that you may have, or to follow through on anything that you want from the Branch.

**Will it be private?**We will not have exclusive use of the cafes, and so members of the public may also be sitting at tables having a tea or coffee, however in selecting of the right venues, we have tried to use those which are not too cramped. Many have a quiet room that can be used if you want to talk in private.

**Could we meet more often than once a month?**Yes, but we do not have enough volunteers to be at more than two “***A Chance to Chat”*** sessions each week. There is nothing stopping you from meeting by yourselves without the volunteer present.

**Why have the cafes on the list been chosen? What can we do about selecting a different café in the area?**The cafes have been chosen for a number of reasons. Firstly, four are community based, supporting disabled adults gain work experience (Malvern, Kidderminster, Redditch and Evesham) which is a good reason for selecting them. The cafés chosen in Droitwich, Bromsgrove and Pershore were selected because of their locations in the centre of the towns. The Environmental Centre in Worcester was chosen because of its ethos.

Cafes which are part of larger chains were generally not chosen as their prices are generally higher.

***I am aware, however, that you know your area better than me so if you would like to choose another venue for next term, please let me know by February Half Term, so that it can be changed for publication of the Summer Term plan.***

**Is it OK for us to pass on the information about the “*A Chance to Chat*” sessions to others?**Of course! Please pass the message on. We will spread the message through Social Media, E-mail, Schools, and anywhere else that you think we could advertise. Please pass the word on, and remember to include those people who seem quite nervous about going to something they are unsure of.

**The chart only shows the Spring Term, what will happen after that?**I am planning to organise another term’s dates after February half term but will not publicise these in case you recommend any changes of venue. Please note that “***A Chance to Chat***” will only run during school term times.

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| **“A CHANCE TO CHAT”** **SPRING TERM 2020** | **Venue Address** | **January** | **February** | **March** | **April** |
| **DROITWICH**1st Tuesday in each month | Muffin BreakUnit 66, St Andrews Square Shopping CentreDroitwich WR9 8HE | 7th January | 4th February | 3rd March |  |
| **KIDDERMINSTER**1st Thursday in each month | Rees Café1-3 Exchange StreetKidderminster DY10 1BT | 2nd JanuaryNo meeting | 6th February | 5th March | 2nd April |
| **MALVERN**2nd Tuesday in each month | H20, Wyche Innovation CentreUpper ColwallMalvern WR13 6PL  | 14th January | 11th February | 10th March | END OF TERMNo meeting |
| **EVESHAM**2nd Thursday in each month | Working World, Wallace House Community CentreOat StreetEvesham WR11 4PJ | 9th January | 13th February | 12th March |  |
| **PERSHORE**3rd Tuesday in each month | Baristas Café and Bar5 Royal Arcade, Broad StreetPershore WR10 1AG | 21st January | 18th FebruaryHalf TermNo meeting | 17th March |  |
| **BROMSGROVE**3rd Thursday in each month | Bromsgrove Methodist Church Centre Coffee Shop19 Stratford RoadBromsgrove B60 1AS | 16th January | 20th FebruaryHalf TermNo meeting | 19th March |  |
| **WORCESTER**4th Tuesday in each month | Worcester Pump House Environment CentreWaterworks RoadWorcester WR1 3EZ | 28th January | 25th February | 24th March |  |
| **REDDITCH**4th Thursday in each month | Rees Café13 Church RoadRedditch B97 4AB | 23rd January | 27th February | 26th March |  |

**Time: 10.30am – 11.30am**