



**FREE**

# SCHOOL AVOIDANCE SUPPORT GROUP

GET INVOLVED, MAKE CONNECTIONS & STEP FORWARD!

Join us for weekly  
support sessions!

**FREE TO ATTEND**

**DROP-IN SESSION**

**NO NEED TO BOOK**

**FREE REFRESHMENTS**

**ARTS & GAMES ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN**

**WHEN?**

Starting April 23rd, 2025, Wednesdays, 1 - 3pm

**WHERE?**

The Pioneer Youth Club, Heathlands Drive, St Albans AL3 5AY

**WHO?**

Parents/guardians and children aged 5+ experiencing anxiety around attending school

**VISTA  
SUPPORT  
SERVICES**

Sessions are led by experienced professionals from Vista Support Services, including a Family Support Worker and a Student Support Worker.

**PIONEER  
YOUTH  
CHARITY**

The Pioneer Youth Charity has been a safe space for young people since 1941. In partnership with Vista Support Services, we are offering a support group for children and families struggling with anxiety around attending school or who may have stopped attending school altogether.

A collaboration between  
The Pioneer Youth Charity  
and Vista Support Services  
[pioneerclub.co.uk](http://pioneerclub.co.uk)  
[vistasupportservices.org.uk](http://vistasupportservices.org.uk)

**The  
Pioneer  
Club**

Registered charity number 302455

**Vista**  
Support Services



## SCHOOL AVOIDANCE SUPPORT GROUP

### WHY ATTEND?

School avoidance is a complex issue affecting countless children who find it impossible to attend school due to overwhelming feelings of anxiety, fear, or distress. This struggle can leave children feeling isolated, misunderstood, and falling behind academically, socially, and emotionally. We believe that every child deserves the support, tools, and environment they need to overcome these challenges and to flourish both in and outside of school.

### OUR GOALS:

- **Reduce school avoidance behaviours:** Provide tailored support to help children overcome anxiety, depression, or other barriers to attendance.
- **Empower parents:** Equip them with strategies to support their children at home and collaborate effectively with schools.
- **Build resilience:** Help children develop coping mechanisms to manage stress and anxiety in social and academic settings.
- **Strengthen school connections:** Improve communication and collaboration between families and schools.

### WHAT WE OFFER:

We offer weekly drop-in support for you and your family. Our Vista family and behaviour support workers are available for advice and guidance, alongside fun activities such as arts and crafts and gaming groups that aim to engage young people, build rapport with them, and ensure that they benefit from regular social interaction.

### FACILITATORS:

Sessions are led by experienced professionals from Vista Support Services, including a Family Support Worker and Behaviour Support Practitioner.

