

# SEND NEWS SPLASH

ISSUE NINETY SEVEN  
8TH NOVEMBER 2021  
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## Monday 15th November

### Early Years Childcare Entitlements and Support

Time: 10:00-11:00

What's it about?: Information and support around Early years and Childcare for parent/carers and professionals including 2 year funding, 3&4 year funding, PEEP and Hungry Little Minds campaign.

Presented by: Gemma Ferguson, Early Years Engagement Officer.

To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).

### The Local Offer: What it is and how can it help me?

When: Monday 15th November @13:00-14:00

What's it about?: This online session is about how you can access the information and services available in Swindon and how we can make this information more accessible.

Who's presenting: Andrew Myrie and Catherine Jones, Local Offer Development Officers.

To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).



## The Local Offer Big Fortnight 2021

Education  
and learning

Health and  
wellbeing

Leisure and  
activities

15–26th Nov 2021

The Local Offer Big Fortnight 2021 is fast approaching. Below is the full programme of events you can sign up to attend when it starts next week.

## Tuesday 16th November

### Helping you to help your child manage anxieties/worries

Time: 11:30-12:30 (Session repeated on Friday 19th November @ 11:30-12:30)

What's it about?: the aim of this online session is to help you to help your child to manage anxiety and worries along with a question and answer session.

Who's presenting: Barnardo's Mental Health Support Team (MHST).

To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).

### What is the Citizens Portal?

Time: 14:00-15:00

What's it about?: This session is for parents/carers and young people who would like to find out more about the benefits of the SEND Citizen Portal; Swindon Borough Council's online secure information sharing resource for Statutory SEND. In this session, you will be guided through what the portal is and how to use it. You will also have the opportunity to ask any questions. If you are already using the SEND Citizen Portal, there will also be the opportunity to provide any feedback on your experiences to help shape future developments.

Presented by: Hannah Geddert, Quality Assurance Senior Officer, SEND Service.

To book on to this session please select [Eventbrite link](#).

### Person-centred planning

Time: 16:30-17:30

What's it about?:

- what person-centred planning is
- the main principles and importance of person-centred planning
- what that should look like for children, young people and families
- what the impact of person-centred planning should be
- resources available to support person-centred planning.

This session is suitable for anyone who has an interest in person-centred planning including young people, parents/carers and professionals.

There will also be an opportunity to ask questions you may have about person-centred planning.

Presented by: Pauline Cooper, Educational Psychologist Service and Rachel Mann, Statutory SEND Service.

To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).

## Night session: Tuesday 16th November

### The role of the Transitions Team in Adult Social Care

Time: 18:30-19:30

What's it about?: This session, hosted by the Service Manager of the Transitions Team in Adult Social Care at Swindon Borough Council, will cover Care Act criteria, Referring into the Transitions Service, Roles in the Transitions Team, Planning Live, and will include a Question and Answer Session.

Presented by: Alison Forster, Service Manager, Transitions.

To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).

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## Thursday 18th November

### Swindon Neurodevelopmental Conditions (NDC) Pathway update and Q&A session

Time: 10:00-11:00 (session repeated on Monday 22nd November 13:00-14:00)

What's it about?: Aim of the online session is to provide an update on the progress of the NDC pathway so far and ongoing developments and improvements along with question and answer session.

Who's presenting: Dr Teresa Carter, Community Paediatrician and Amy Smith, BSW CCG Programme.

To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).



### Understanding Educational Psychology Assessments

Time: 11:30-12:30

What's it about?: This online session will provide an overview of the types of assessments that Educational Psychologists may use when working with teachers, parents, or young people. It will provide information on what assessments are available, how the assessments are administered, and what information is gained from the assessments. There will be some time for questions and answers.

Who's presenting: Matt Baker and Peter Dunning, Educational Psychologists.

To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).



### Routes to Apprenticeships

Time: 13:00-13:30

What's it about?: this online session will provide information on the various routes to apprenticeships, including where to find vacancies and support available.

Who's presenting: Morag Sullivan, Higher Education and Apprenticeship Project Manager.

To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).



## Wednesday 17th November

### UET Short Breaks, local respite centre for Children with SEND

Time: 10:00 - 11:00

What's it about?: An informative session about UET Short Breaks, providing information on: who we are, what we offer, where we are, how children can access the provision. There will be opportunity for Q&A.

Presented by: Hayley Farmer, Short Break Manager.

To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).



### SIAS – The SEND information, advice and support service –

#### How can we help?

When: 16:30-17:30 (session repeated on Friday 26th November @ 11:30-12:30)

What's it about?: An online information session about SIAS, the SEND information advice and support service – who we are, what we do and how we can help families, children and young people with SEND.

We will give information on SEND support, EHCPs, mediations and tribunals and also have time for questions to be asked. Please be aware that this is a public session, so any questions asked during it will not be confidential.

Who's presenting: Freyr Bendleton, Manager, SEND Information, Advice and Support Service.

To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).



#### An overview of exclusions/behaviour policies

Time: 13:00 - 14:00

What's it about?: An overview of the school exclusion position in Swindon with historical comparison. Latest advice from the DfE /GovUK. Advice on the school exclusion process with a particular focus on permanent exclusion and support/strategies in place within Swindon schools..

Presented by: Nigel Pickering, Additional Provision and Reintegration Manager, and Maria Wilson, Exclusion and Reintegration Officer

To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#)



## Friday 19th November

### Helping you to help your child manage anxieties/worries

Time: 11:30-12:30

See Tuesday 16th November for more information and to book

### Ensuring that the voice of children and young people is heard.

Time: 13:00-14:00

What's it about?: Information around the benefits of a 'person centred approach' in schools, how their voice can help shape improvements, and ensuring children and young people's voice is heard in a meaningful way within Annual reviews. Attendees will be given the opportunity to share their own good practice.

Who's presenting: David Williams, SENCo, Paul Dobson, Project manager, STEP.

To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).



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## Tuesday 23rd November

### Practical strategies and approaches to promote school attendance

Time: 10:00 -11:00

What's it about?: Online presentation outlining the key points from recent research and literature about the causes of school non-attendance and an overview of the practical strategies and approaches we can use to support children and young people to attend school.

Who's presenting: Jaime Rowley, Educational Psychologist.

**To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).** 

### What is Voluntary Action in Swindon?

Time: 11:30-12:30

What's it about?: Voluntary Action Swindon supports local community and voluntary groups across the borough - as well as coordinating campaigns like the Swindon Equality Coalition and Swindon Wellbeing. Come along and find out how VAS can support new and existing voluntary groups, and how you can get involved.

Who's presenting: Jol Rose, Inclusion & Collaboration at VAS


**To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).** 

### Statutory Assessment for an EHCP and Annual Reviews – what to expect?

Time: 14:00-15:00

What's it about?: The presentation will cover what parents and professionals should expect once the Local Authority agrees a statutory assessment for an EHCP and talking through the Annual Review process timeline.

Who's presenting: Ben Stone, Keri Niblett, Marny Jessop, Statutory Services Team Leaders.

**To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).** 

## Monday 22nd November

### Swindon Neurodevelopmental Conditions (NDC) Pathway update and Q&A session

Time: 13:00-14:00

See Thursday 18th November for more information and to book

### Developing the Care Leavers Local Offer

Time: 16:30-17:30

What's it about?: Members of the Voice and Influence Panel (VIP) will be discussing their work on developing a Care Leavers Local Offer that is made 'by Care Leavers, for Care Leavers'. In August VIP members gave feedback and practical solutions on how the Care Leavers Local Offer could be made more accessible and interesting to the young people using it. The Participation Team have been working in co-production with VIP members, Care Experienced Consultant and the Local Offer team to implement their recommendations and changes. Our goal is to create an interactive and informative Local Offer that allows Care Leavers to know their rights, entitlements and access support. Our presentation will talk about the work we have done so far, the changes we hope to see and why working in co-production with young people is so important.

Presented by: Chloe Wolfe, Participation Support Officer and VIP members.

**To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).** 

## Wednesday 24th November

### An Introduction to the Visual and Hearing Impaired Services in Swindon

Time: 10:00-11:00

What's it about?: An overview of the advisory teacher role, what we do, who we work with and what support we provide for our children, young people, families and settings in mainstream and Special Schools in Swindon..

Who's presenting: Joanne Clarke, Advisory Teacher for Assistive Technology including Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AT/AAC) and Jane Kilminster, Interim Senior Qualified Advisory Teacher of the Deaf.

**To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).** 

### School Travel Assistance on the Local Offer

Time: 11:30-12:30

What's it about?: This online event will inform parent/carers on the resources available on the Local Offer website that will help you apply for school travel assistance, who is eligible and the different options of travel assistance available.

Who's presenting: Roger Haworth, Education Transport Team Leader.

**To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).** 

### The Cognition and Learning Advisory Support Service (CLASS): How we support children with learning difficulties in Swindon schools

Time: 13:00-14:00

What's it about?: Advisory Teachers from The Cognition and Learning Advisory Support Service (CLASS) will be presenting a virtual session. In the session we will look at the following:

What is expected of the school before the service is involved?

What this Service does to support children with cognition and learning difficulties – working with schools.

What can parents do at home to help?

Presented by: Sue Kinsler and Rachel Williams, Advisory Teachers for CLASS.

**To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#).** 


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## Passenger Assistants Required (Casual)

We are looking for individuals to join our team as Casual Passenger Assistants. Passenger Assistants are responsible for ensuring the safety, safeguarding and well-being of passengers during their journey, whether on Council-provided school or social care transport.


Hours: Vary from 7.5 up to 15 per week (approximately depending on the area).

For more information, please refer to the [Swindon Borough Council Careers page](#). 

## The Annual SEND Survey 2021 is open (until end of November)

The annual SEND survey has been co-designed to ensure we have a way of annually measuring what professionals, parents and young people think about SEND Services in Swindon.

Please fill out this 5 minute survey, to help us understand what has been working well over the past 12 months and what could work better.

To fill out the survey please click on the [Annual SEND Survey 2021](#) link. 

## Contact the SEND Service

To speak to a member of the SEND Service, please call 01793 464641 and we will answer your query in 48-96 hours.

Telephone lines are open Monday to Thursday 8am-5pm and 8am-4:30pm on Friday. Alternatively, you can email [SENDSERVICE@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:SENDSERVICE@swindon.gov.uk).

For more information please [click here](#). 

## Wednesday 24th November continued

**Let's talk money: where to keep it, how to get it and where to spend it**

When: Wednesday 24th November @16:30-17:30

What's it about?: Managing money can be challenging whoever we are. Join John and Lucy for a session where we will discuss with you ways to build your financial resilience in uncertain times. We will discuss things such as opening bank accounts, claiming benefits and managing budgets.

Who's presenting: John Bristow and Lucy MacIntosh, Citizens Advice Bureau.

To book on this session click on this [Eventbrite link](#). 

## Thursday 25th November

**Aiming High – social and leisure activities for children and young people with disabilities.**

Time 10-11:00.

What's it about?: Aiming High provide opportunities for children and young people with disabilities to enjoy a range of social and leisure activities outside of school hours (this is known as the Aiming High 'local offer' for short breaks). This could range from information and advice about activities, support to access mainstream activities or the provision of Aiming High specialist services. The service is for children and young people aged from 0 to 18th birthday. This session is an opportunity to hear more about Aiming High and the types of support available, and ask any questions you may have. Presented by: Sarah Vernazza, Project & Policy Development Officer, Aiming High.

To book on to this session please select [Eventbrite link](#) 

**Pathway to Employment for Young People with a Support Need inc Building Bridges, The Platform Project, Phoenix Enterprises and Adult Community Learning.**

Time: 13:00 - 14:00

What's it about?: An opportunity to discover an alternative route into employment for young people with a support need. This will include information on the new EET (Education, Employment & Training) service being offered by Swindon Borough Council along with some key partners detailing their specific programmes and how they can support young people into EET. During this session each presentation will last 10 minutes followed by a short Q&A session.

Presented by: Phil Wood, EET Team Leader.

To book on to this session please select the [Eventbrite link](#) 

## Friday 26th November

**SIAS – The SEND information, advice and support service – How can we help?**

Time: 11:30-12:30

See Wednesday 17th November for more information and to book.

**BOOK NOW**

