


# SEND NEWS SPLASH

ISSUE EIGHTY NINE  
MONDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2021

## The Local Offer Big Fortnight is almost here!!

We want to hear your views on what you would like to see at this year's Local Offer Big Fortnight event.

To let us know your views, click the link to the survey [here](#) 

The survey is only 5 questions and will take no longer than 3 minutes to complete. The survey will run until Thursday 7th October 2021.

The Local Offer Big Fortnight is from Monday 15th to Friday 26th November 2021. Save the date!!


The Local Offer Big Fortnight is an event that will share the breath of the Local Offer with users, feedback and consult on services and policies and market the SEND Local Offer and raise awareness of the site with parents and carers of children with SEND (with or without an EHC Plan).

## Swindon SEND Families Voice Newsletter

Click [here](#) to read the excellent Autumn 2021 Swindon SEND Families Voice Newsletter. To see previous editions please see the [SEND News page](#) on the Local Offer.

## SEND us your FEEDBACK!!

We're keen to hear your views on the Local Offer website.

If you have any feedback about the content or any general comments about the website, you can leave them using this [feedback form](#). 

## An important message from the SEND Service

The SEND Statutory Service is currently experiencing a high volume of calls, in addition to this there is a high level of sickness within the Delivery Support Team and these are the staff who manage the 'SEND Front Door'. This means that with immediate effect and for a period of at least the next ten working days that all calls will be diverted to the Council's main switchboard. Calls will automatically transfer so you do not need to ring a different number. All calls will then be sent into the SEND Service who will triage response times. We will aim to respond at the earliest opportunity and thank you for your patience during this time.

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).

## Transport Update

During the summer the Passenger Transport Team has moved. The service was previously managed within the Operations section of the Council, but most of their operational delivery related to Children, specifically those with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND). Therefore operationally it made sense to move the service into Children's Services (SEND Operations) and this was agreed and is effective from 1st September 2021. We are looking forward to working together to further improve our service delivery and with our Children, Young People and their families to develop our travel offer. We are sure that our families will welcome this move and we look forward to working with you.

This is a move that is very much welcomed by Swindon SEND Families Voices, with Chair Person Jacqui Watt commenting "We are really pleased to hear that the Transport team will now be managed within Children's Services. We are confident that this will bring more opportunities for working together and find solutions for the challenges we face as families of children and young people with SEND."


## Transitions Roadshow 2021

Don't forget to sign up to the Transitions Roadshow by using the Eventbrite sign up [here](#). 

The Roadshow, running from the 20th to 24th September, is for parents, carers and professionals who support young people age 14+ with additional needs as they prepare for adult life. The week-long event will provide advice and information about what services and opportunities are available to support young people as they prepare for adulthood.

To sign up, to this virtual event, please visit the [Local Offer page](#), for more information

## SEND Workforce Development Survey

Please complete the SEND workforce development survey 2021, by clicking [HERE](#) - the survey will now remain open until end Sept 2021, to allow further time for you to complete it. 

The survey should take approximately 15 -20 minutes of your time to complete and is for anyone working with children/young people who may require additional support or SEN support, as well as children/young people with Educational Health Care Plans.