

Worcester County Council have circulated a Christmas Newsletter with information which may be useful to you all. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Family Front Door:

01905 822666 (Office Hrs) 01905 768020 (Emergency Out of Hrs)

The Emergency Deputy Team (EDT): 01905 768020

Get Safe: 01905 845568 / getsafe@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk



If you have reason to believe that a child, young person or adult is at immediate risk from harm CALL 999

The Home Office data shows **17,204 Domestic Abuse** related crimes were recorded by West Mercia Police in the year to March 2023.

It is a slight fall from 17,415 offences the year before.



Women's Aid 24hr Helpline

0800 980 3331

Male Domestic Abuse Helpline (24Hrs)

0800 014 9082

Help For Houses

- **Income Support**
- **Energy Bills—Cost of Living Payments**
- **Childcare Costs**
- **Household costs**
- **Childcare Costs**
- **Finding Work**



costoflivingsupport.campaign.gov.uk

provides access to contacts who can provide support for households.

Visit '[Energy Saving Tips](#)' Find out what actions you can take to get ready for winter and save money on your energy bills.

Money Helper



[Where to get free debt advice](#)

If you're struggling with debt, it can be hard to know where to turn. But with lots of free advice services available across the UK, you can find help in a way that's best for you.

Free Debt Adviser, click this link above and search for support in your local town.

Money Support and Advice



SHOP SMART NOT SHARK

RED FLAGS

- A loan - with no questions asked
- No paperwork or receipts
- Huge amounts of interest
- Threats to you and your family
- Forced to hand over valuables as security

IT COSTS A LOT MORE THAN THE PRICE TAG WHEN BORROWING FROM A **LOAN SHARK**

Report Today 0300 555 2222

STOPLOANSHARKS
Intervention · Support · Education

#shopsmartnotshark

www.stoploansharks.co.uk

Think smart, not shark when it comes to Christmas shopping this year. Shop around, there are many deals and offers out there. Be wary of any new friends offering to help you out quickly, know the signs and get the right help and support you need. We know Christmas can be hard, and if you're looking for a loan there are places you can go other than a bank. Visit www.findyourcreditunion.co.uk or www.findingfinance.org.uk.

For help and support with a loan shark @StopLoanSharksEngland is here to help, contact them today on 0300 555 2222

Food Banks

Worcester City (Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri 11am—2pm) 0808 2082138
7 Lowesmoor Wharf, Worcester WR1 2RS, UK

Droitwich (Tues 1pm—3pm & Fri) 07532 130604 / 07532 130604
Droitwich Baptist Church, Ombersley Street East, WR9 8QS

Redditch & Bromsgrove (Mon—Thursday 11am—2pm & Fri 10am—1pm) 01527 69161
Number 24, Church Green East, Redditch, B98 8DE

Malvern Hills Foodbank (Mon—10.15am—12.30pm, Tues 1pm—3.15pm, Thurs 10.15am—12.30pm) 07529 322985
Unit 4, Spring Court, Spring Lane South, Malvern, WR14 1AT

Pershire (Tues 11am—1pm, Fri 1pm—3pm) 01386555347
St Andrews, Church Walk, Pershore, WR10 1BH

Kidderminster (Mon, Wed & Fri 12:30pm—3pm) 015262 916555
Unit 9, Swan Shopping Centre, Blackwell Street, Kidderminster DY10 2DP



Act On Energy



We encourage energy conservation by providing free and impartial advice to householders and small businesses in Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Coventry, Solihull, Birmingham & the wider West Midlands

Household Support Fund

For those who have previously received funding from the Household Support Fund prior to 30th September 2022 you can now re-apply for funding – subject to the conditions.



Free Activities In The Local Area

Redditch Library

Crafty Kids Club (Wednesday's from 3:30pm to 4:30pm)



For children aged 4 years and above. Come along each week for a new STEAM-based construction activity. Invent and create toys, games and models.

Evesham Library

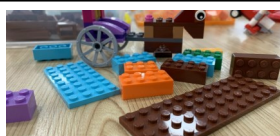
Table top Club (Thursday's from 10am to 2pm)



Tabletop club is a twice weekly club that allows anyone to play card and board games. We have a selection of board games and cards that you are welcome to play. Come and join in, bring a friend or make some new ones!

Alvechurch Library

Lego Club (Friday's from 3:30pm to 4:30pm)



Come and get creative at our LEGO club. Most suited for children aged 4 years and above. Let your imagination run wild with the latest LEGO challenge.

Droitwich Spa Library

Friday Film Club (Saturday's from 11am to 1:30pm)



Become and adventurer with our Dungeons and Dragons group. Booking in advance is essential. Suitable for adults 16 years and over.



Inspire , Redditch (the craft Barn in the Winynates Centre)

[Inspire Community training & Development - Home \(weebly.com\)](http://Inspire Community training & Development - Home (weebly.com))

Workshops/short courses

We offer a range of courses to support learners to gain confidence, self-esteem, friendship, learn new skills and support their mental health and well-being.

These include some seasonal groups/classes:

Wreath making, Diamond art, Dream Catchers, Folded book art, Weekly craft and chat

Self-development/well-being courses and workshops



Kids Eat for ...

For free at [TGI Fridays](#)

Breakfast for Free at [Beefeater](#)

For £5.99 at [Table Table](#)

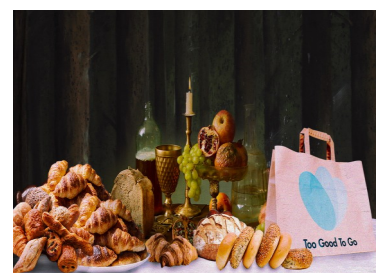
Breakfast for free and 3 course meal for £4.99 at [Brewers Fayre](#)

For £1 at [Bella Italia](#)



Too Good To Go. Waste Less and Spend Less.

Not only is the Too Good To Go App are fighting waste, this is a opportunity to rescue unsold food from restraints and super-market for a low cost.



[Join Our Food Waste Movement - Too Good To Go](#)

Support Hubs

Action for Children (2022). Support for Young People. <https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/our-work-and-impact/children-and-families/young-people/>

ADDers. ADD/ADHD Online Information for ADD. <http://www.adders.org.uk>

ADfam. Help for Families with Addiction. <https://adfam.org.uk/help-for-families>

Al Anon. For children of Alcoholics. <https://www.al-anonuk.org.uk/who-is-it-for/>

ALUMINA (Previously Self-Harm UK). Free Online Self-Harm Support for 14 – 19's. <https://www.selfharm.co.uk/>

Barnardo's. Supporting Young People. <https://www.barnardos.org.uk/what-we-do/supporting-young-people>

B-eat. Get help for eating disorders. <https://www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk/get-information-and-support/get-help-for-myself/>

Childline. <https://www.childline.org.uk/get-support/>

Craunston – Here for Youth. Substance Misuse. <https://cranstoun.org/help-and-advice/young-people/here4youth-worcestershire/>

Family Action. Support for children and families. <https://www.family-action.org.uk/what-we-do/>

Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust. Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service. <https://www.hacw.nhs.uk/camhs/>

HOPELINEUK (Papyrus). Prevention of Young Suicide. <https://www.papyrus-uk.org/papyrus-hopelineuk/>

Kemp Hospice. Family support and bereavement service. <https://www.kemphospice.org.uk/familysupport>

LGBT Foundation. <https://lgbt.foundation/howwecanhelp>

Male Domestic Abuse Helpline. <https://mensadviceline.org.uk/male-victims/>

Mind. Information and Support on mental health. <https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/>

National Self Harm Network. <https://www.nshn.co.uk>

Samaritans. <https://www.samaritans.org>

Self-Injury Support. Emotional Support Services. <https://www.selfinjurysupport.org.uk/our-support-services>

Shout Helpline. Helpline for young people. <https://giveusashout.org/get-help/>

The Lucy Faithful Foundation. Support for sufferers of child sexual abuse. <https://www.lucyfaithfull.org.uk/contact-us.htm>

The Men and Masculinities Programme. Domestic Abuse. <https://cranstoun.org/help-and-advice/domestic-abuse/men-and-masculinities/>

The Ollie Foundation. Mental health charity for young people. <https://theolliefoundation.org/contact/>

West Mercia Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre (WMRSASC) (2022). <https://www.wmrsasc.org.uk/young-people/>

Winston's Wish (2022). Bereavement charity for children. <https://www.winstonswish.org/helpline/>



'My pending requests have not been accepted'

As is stated on the website, non-FSM children are not guaranteed places. If you would like to discuss your pending request, you will need to contact the club directly.

For more information around activities for non-FSM eligible children with SEND, please visit the [Short Breaks information page](#).

'Where is my HAF code?'

For booking activities outside the HAF website, you will most likely be asked for a code. This can be found under the child's name in the **'My Children'** section.

Hello,

Merry Christmas! Please read the information carefully for information on the Christmas HAF programme.

Who can participate in HAF?

HAF is a government funded programme for children and young people aged 5-16 in receipt of benefits related Free School Meals.

Can my non-FSM child participate?

In line with Department for Education guidelines, the HAF Programme is primarily for children in receipt of benefits related Free School Meals. Some providers have a limited number of places available for non-FSM children who would otherwise be considered vulnerable however **these places are not guaranteed** and must be requested with providers to review and accept. Where activity clubs are fully booked by FSM eligible children, there will not be any additional spaces for non-FSM eligible participants.

'My child is too young for activities'

If your child is younger than 5, we can not guarantee them places.

The programme is designed for children and young people aged 5-16. Some providers let younger children take part, however this is not the norm.

Wyre Forest

Active Youth Outreach Services

Christmas Outreach 2023 - These activities are open to the whole community! Taekwondo, Circus, Arts, Biking and much more! Children under the age of 11 must be accompanied by an adult.

St Marys CofE VA Primary School - Activities include Taekwondo, Circus, Arts, Biking and much more!

Age: 5 - 18

Contact: fran@ayos.org.uk

Kitsune Martial Arts

Designed to be more than just a winter adventure — it's an opportunity for children aged 4-12 to make friends, build confidence, have fun, and learn valuable self-defence skills! Each day brings together the perfect blend of expert-led martial arts training tailored for young warriors, engaging games that foster friendship, and creative activities that boost confidence.

Age: 4 - 12

Contact: info@kmartialarts.co.uk, 07700 159 360

Kixx Kidderminster

An exciting opportunity to stay healthy and active and have lots of fun during the holidays! Of course there will be lots of football with a splash of dance and martial arts for those who wish to participate.

Age: 5 - 11

Contact: martin@kixx.org.uk, 07834073939



SEND

Little Oaks Preschool/Big Oaks HAF Holiday Club

Stay and Play session for 5 - 9 year olds - come and go where you like, Space Theme, Bouncy Castles, Sensory Activities, Craft - Making Stars, Light Projection. Relaxing Ambient Space Soundscapes.

You will need to stay with your child/ren throughout the duration of the session.

Age: 5 - 9

Contact: little.oakspreschool@yahoo.co.uk, 07528 695470

Museums Worcestershire

SEND Fun At City Art Gallery And Museum - quality enrichment day including a specialist arts workshop tailored to the needs of children with SEND and their families as well as a facilitated arts and craft workshop. An adult will need to attend with the child booked on.

Age: 5 - 11

Contact: 01905 361821

Worcester Snoezelen

Multi-sensory activities, with four sensory rooms. Also a soft play area which encourages physical play.

Age: 4 - 15

Contact: enquiries@worcestersnoezelen.org.uk, 01905 748229



For more info on activities for non-FSM eligible children with SEND, please visit the [Short Breaks information page](#).