

# Good to Know

12<sup>th</sup> March 2021

## Working with Families News

News:	For more info:
Up-to-date local information on <b>COVID-19 restrictions</b> can be found on Council's website	<a href="#">Sandwell Latest</a>
<b>Free rapid home tests for households with school age children</b> are now available. Adults with children are advised to test themselves every three or four days from next week. A box of tests can be picked up from testing sites in Smethwick, Tipton and West Bromwich now - no need to book, just collect them between 1.30pm and 7pm any day.	Details of where to collect the tests: <a href="https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/news/article/5946/free_rapid_tests_now_available_for_more_sandwell_residents">https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/news/article/5946/free_rapid_tests_now_available_for_more_sandwell_residents</a>
<b>Changes Antenatal</b> is being offered as both a three-week virtual course and as a distant-learning programme. If you know anyone who lives in Sandwell and is expecting a baby encourage them to book a place.	<a href="https://bookwhen.com/changes">https://bookwhen.com/changes</a>
If you are a <b>grandparent-to-be</b> , or another family member welcoming a new baby into your family then Changes Antenatal has a brand new FREE 2-hour virtual session for you. Find out all the latest advice and guidance for pregnancy and newborn baby care so that you can support the new parents as much as possible.	<a href="https://bookwhen.com/changes">https://bookwhen.com/changes</a>
The Department for Education has awarded grant funding to provide <b>Holiday Activities and Food (HAF)</b> to cover the <b>Easter</b> school holiday period for 2021 to support children and young people aged 5-16 years (reception to year 11) including those with SEND who are eligible for Free School Meals to access healthy food and enriching activities free of charge. This grant is open to voluntary and community sector / not for profit organisations and schools / educational settings.	Closing date for applications is Monday 22 March 2021 at 4pm. <a href="https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/2/00298/early_years_and_childcare/4/017/holiday_grant_programme_2019-20">https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/2/00298/early_years_and_childcare/4/017/holiday_grant_programme_2019-20</a>
"Action for Children are offering daily <b>Virtual Stay &amp; Plays for Children aged 0-5 years</b> , including Story Time, Make & Do, Rhythm & Rhyme and Language. The sessions also include an Information Hub to support and provide information for parents and carers."	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/oldburyandsmethwickcc/videos/2889701331352864">https://www.facebook.com/oldburyandsmethwickcc/videos/2889701331352864</a>

<p>The Anti-Bullying Alliance has produced some guidance for schools and children’s workforce staff on how to <b>Support Young People Who Display Bullying Behaviour</b>.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/tools-information/all-about-bullying/children-who-display-bullying-behaviour?mc_cid=e289c71564&amp;mc_eid=d0e5b47e72">http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/tools-information/all-about-bullying/children-who-display-bullying-behaviour?mc_cid=e289c71564&amp;mc_eid=d0e5b47e72</a></p>
<p>Gaming has been a popular activity over the last year. It’s helped kids keep in touch with their friends and stay entertained but there are often hidden costs. Netware has produced information about <b>in-game purchases and loot boxes</b>.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.net-aware.org.uk/news/what-you-need-to-know-about-loot-boxes-and-in-game-purchases/">https://www.net-aware.org.uk/news/what-you-need-to-know-about-loot-boxes-and-in-game-purchases/</a></p>
<p><b>Kaleidoscope Group Plus</b> would like to invite applications for two Recovery Team Leaders and three Recovery Support Workers, to provide out of hours mental health support, at its Sanctuary Hub in West Bromwich.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.kaleidoscopeplus.org.uk/blog/job-vacancies/">https://www.kaleidoscopeplus.org.uk/blog/job-vacancies/</a></p>
<p>If you need help or support from <b>Citizens Advice Sandwell and Walsall</b> there are number of ways to get in touch including Cassie a mobile advice unit. Go to the website for Cassie’s timetable and details of the advice line.</p>	<p><a href="https://citizensadvice-sandwell-walsall.org/how-we-can-help/">https://citizensadvice-sandwell-walsall.org/how-we-can-help/</a></p>
<p>Young people from Sandwell are to benefit from a new package of support to give them <b>access to training and career opportunities</b>. A new youth hub at Sandwell College is offering practical advice and support to young people aged 16-29 who are unemployed or at risk of losing their job, or leaving school, college or university.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.wmca.org.uk/news/new-sandwell-youth-hub-gives-young-people-access-to-training-and-career-opportunities/">https://www.wmca.org.uk/news/new-sandwell-youth-hub-gives-young-people-access-to-training-and-career-opportunities/</a></p>
<p>Give yourself a <b>fruit and vegetable boost</b> with Change 4 Life. Simply choose which plan you are going to go with and every week for 4 weeks you will be sent loads of ideas for eating more fruit or veg and a tasty recipe with easy to follow instructions.</p>	<p><a href="https://fruitandvegboost.change4life.co.uk/">https://fruitandvegboost.change4life.co.uk/</a></p>
<p><b>A new programme of cycling and walking schemes</b> is to be delivered in Sandwell and the West Midlands region. There are four new areas identified for improvements within Sandwell, which include widening pavements in town centres, new crossing points for pedestrians and cyclists, new cycle lanes and much more.</p>	<p>Have your say on: <a href="https://sandwellwalking-and-cycling.commonplace.is/">https://sandwellwalking-and-cycling.commonplace.is/</a></p>
<p>If you would like to promote services or information in this newsletter or share a good news story, please contact the team.</p>	<p>Parent Support Team <a href="mailto:parent_support@sandwell.gov.uk">parent_support@sandwell.gov.uk</a></p>