



News Release

Invite for parent carers to attend Carers Rights Day event

Issued: Day/Month/Year

Are you a parent carer looking after a child under 18 with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND?)

Swindon Carers Centre is inviting parent carers to attend an event to mark Carers Rights Day on Friday November 24th at Swindon Town Football Club, County Road, Swindon, SN1 2ED from 10am to 1.30pm.

Parents supporting a child with SEND don't always recognise themselves as carers – they are first and foremost parents. This year, for Carers Rights Day, Swindon Carers Centre is sharing the message that identifying and registering as a carer can open up opportunities for further support.

All parent carers are welcome to attend the event for advice, information and updates on support available for parent carers in Swindon.

Speakers for the day will include: Hannah Freeland, Designated Social Care Officer, Disabled Children's Team, Swindon Borough Council, Hillary Willard, Assistant Team Manager, Transitions Team, Swindon Borough Council, and Feyr Bendleton, Manager, SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SIAS).

The event's Q&A panel will include: Sir Robert Buckland, MP for South Swindon, Justin Tomlinson, MP for North Swindon, Lisa Arthey, Director of Children's Services, Swindon Borough Council, Roxanne Lucas, Interim Statutory Service Team Manager, SEND Services, Swindon Borough Council, and Caroline Holmes, Deputy Place Director for the Swindon Locality, Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care Board (BSW ICB).

Stallholders at the event will include:

- The Local Offer Team, Swindon Borough Council
- Education Inclusion Team, Swindon Borough Council
- Youth Engagement Team, Swindon Borough Council, and U Turn Drugs and Alcohol Service.
- Swindon Food Collective
- Citizen's Advice
- SIAS, Send Information Advice and Support
- Dressability
- Swindon Carers Centre
- Swindon SEND Families Voice
- Mums on a Mission
- Mental health charity MIND
- ABL Health/ B U Swindon

Parking is free for those attending the event. Parents are welcome to attend with the child they care for and there will be a small quiet area at the event. There will be no creche provision and parents are responsible for any children attending.

For more information scan the QR code below. You can also email communications@swindoncarers.org.uk or call (01793) 531133.



Ends

For more information contact:

communications@swindoncarers.org.uk

Notes to Editors

- Swindon Carers Centre is part of the national network of the Carers Trust and is also affiliated to Carers UK.
- SCC offers support, help and information to people in Swindon who have caring responsibilities.
- An unpaid carer is a person who provides unpaid support to a family member, partner, friend, or neighbour who needs help because of an illness, frailty, disability, mental health condition or an addiction and cannot cope without their support.
- The 2021 Census showed there were 18,315 unpaid carers of all ages (including children and young people) in the borough of Swindon. The number of carers caring for longer hours (20 to 50 hours a week and also 50+ hours a week) increased.
- The financial value provided by unpaid carers in Swindon is £592 million a year, up by 43% on the previous decade and is the largest percentage increase in the South West of England. *Source: Valuing Carers 2021 report, by Carers UK and the Centre for Care at the University of Sheffield - <https://www.carersuk.org/media/2d51e03c/valuing-carers-report.pdf>*

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