

Solihull Family Information Service

Parents' Network eBulletin December 2011

This eBulletin contains important information for parents in between newsletters. Items specifically for parents who have a child with a disability can be found towards the end. Click on the links to see more information on each item.

Family events in December

To find out what's going on in your local area in December, take a look at our events listing.

[Click to view more information](#)

Application deadline - free nursery places in Solihull schools

If you have a child born between 1 September 2008 and 31 August 2009 you can apply for 15 hours free nursery education in a Solihull school starting in September 2012. The deadline for applications is **2 December 2011**. Apply online and find out more at www.solihull.gov.uk/enrol

Application deadline for reception school places

If you have a child born between 1 September 2007 and 31 August 2008 you must apply for a place in full-time school starting in September 2012. If you live in Solihull apply at www.solihull.gov.uk/enrol by **15 January 2012**. If you live outside Solihull please apply through your local Council.

Speak to your local neighbourhood police officer

Local Neighbourhood Policing Teams are holding 'beat surgeries' around the borough. They are an opportunity for you to discuss with a local neighbourhood police officer any issues you think the police should be tackling in your community. To find a beat surgery near you please click on the link below.

[Click to view more information](#)

How to save £10million

Solihull Council is calling on residents, businesses and people who work in Solihull to have their say on how it can save £10million. Like councils across the country we have to work out how to run our services with less money. To take part in the consultation and see how we spend our money visit www.solihull.gov.uk/consultation



Fancy turning your hand to web design?

We are currently re-vamping our Family Information Service web pages to make them more parent-friendly and informative. They are due to go live in January and we would like to know what you think of them so we can make any improvements that you suggest.

A workshop will take place on **Wednesday 25 January** from 10am to 12pm at Kingshurst Youth and Community Centre, 5 Marston Drive, Kingshurst, Solihull B37 6BD.

If you would like to join in please call the Family Information Service on 0800 389 8667.

Competition for children to design shields on Malvern Park gates

As part of celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the Council is running a competition for local children to help design a new collection of decorative shields to adorn the ornamental gates at Malvern Park.

For more information and to enter the competition visit www.solihull.gov.uk/jubilee/shields

Parenting course for young parents

Parents with Prospects are running a parenting course for young parents aged 16 to 18 years old. It looks at many different areas including bonding and play, healthy eating and keeping children safe and well. The next course is due to start in January 2012.

[Click to view more information](#)

This part of the eBulletin is specifically for parents who have a child with a disability.

Call for volunteers to support other parents

National charity Scope is looking for local volunteers who have a child with a disability to act as 'befrienders' for their new Face 2 Face service in Solihull. Face 2 Face offers emotional support to parents of children who have been recognised as having a disability or additional needs.

Training courses are due to start in January 2012.

[Click to view more information](#)

Dyspraxia Foundation – Solihull and South Birmingham Support Group

Dyspraxia affects a person's movement and can result in problems with language, perception and thought. The Dyspraxia Foundation runs a support group in Solihull and South Birmingham for anyone affected by Dyspraxia. To view their meeting dates please click on the link below.

[Click to view more information](#)

Action for Blind People – Family Fun Day

Children and young people who are blind or partially sighted are invited to a family day run by Action for Blind People on **Saturday 18 February 2012** from 10am to 3.30pm.

The day will take place at Queen Alexandra College, Court Oak Road, Harborne, Birmingham, B17 9TG and will cost £5 per adult and £2 per child.

[Click to view more information](#)

Opt in/out of the Parents Network

If you know someone who would like to join the Parents Network, ask them to email their name and contact details to parentsnetwork@solihull.gov.uk or fill in a registration form at www.solihull.gov.uk/parentsnetwork

To opt out of the Parents Network email: parentsnetwork@solihull.gov.uk

The next newsletter will be in February.

Next eBulletin: March

If you have any information that you would like to share with parents on the Network such as activities and events email parentsnetwork@solihull.gov.uk