

Issue 22: Friday 17th February 2023



Dear parents, children, staff, and parishioners,

Half term has finally arrived! You only have to look at the school's facebook page to see the amazing array of learning experiences that the children have enjoyed this half term. Staff have worked tirelessly to provide exciting opportunities for the children and to really blur the line between learning and fun – Sacred Heart's where memories are made! The children have also worked very hard and as always, their behaviour for learning has been exceptional! Everyone deserves a well-earned break, and we hope you enjoy the opportunity to relax and spend some precious family time together.

We look forward to welcoming all the children back to school on Monday 27th February for our Lent Day.

Thank you to the children in Miss Gibson and Mrs O'Connor's class for their wonderful assembly on Shakespeare this morning. I loved learning more about the famous bard and very much enjoyed your acting!

Well done to all the children, who received an award this morning.

Worker of the Week

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Bridie T	Esther A	Joshua E	Elijah MDMS	Betty D	Rickyshea U	Vencel R	Hannah R
Driale	Orla M	Nancy A	Kiya R	Phoenix B	Dominik L	Harli-Jai L	Oihane A-I
	PE Days - New days Spring 1						
N/A	Wednesday	Thursday	Thursday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Friday	Monday
Att	Attendance: 94.7% Overall (total attendance for the week for the whole school) Our school target for this year is 97%.						
93.3%	88.2%	94.5%	98.1% 😊	96%	96.9%	97.3%	95.2%
House Poi	House Point Winner Leonardo House – 193 points 🎯 Winning house overall – Leonardo House – 2562 points			2 points			
Class Attend	ance Winner	4I Mrs Severs Class 😊					

We are so sorry to see you go...

Yesterday, we said goodbye to Mrs Gibbons, who is a wonderful member of our Nursery staff. She is leaving us to take on a new adventure in her life as a grandmother. We wish her every luck in the world and will miss her greatly. She has been a valuable support to our children at Sacred Heart for a number of years. Go well and go safely.





Looking at Learning

The children have absolutely loved the opportunity over the past two weeks to share their books with you! Their smiling faces as they proudly showed you their work was a joy to see. Thank you so much to everyone, who was able to join us. We hope you found the sessions informative.

<u>'Have Your Say Day'</u>

Our School Council and Eco Squad met this week and listened to feedback from our class council members, following our 'Have your Say Day' last week. After listening to each class' opinion, we discussed the pros and cons of each option before narrowing it down to 4. We then held a democratic vote. We will be announcing the winning action

in our first week back. The children's ideas were absolutely fantastic! Their top 4 ideas were (in no particular order):

1) A wildflower garden to attract bees and other wildlife.

- 2) A school vegetable patch where children can grow their own produce.
- 3) Recycling bins in every classroom
- 4) Weekly litter picking on our school site and the immediate area.



Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School Bray's Lane, Coventry, CV2 4DW Telephone: (024) 7645 3314 E-mail: <u>admin.sh@romeromac.com</u>

Website: <u>www.sacredheart.coventry.sch.uk</u> Principal: Paul Madia



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Magistrates Visit

This week, Year six had the opportunity to experience life in court as 4 local magistrates visited the school to teach the children about the British Value 'the rule of law' and our judicial system. We spent the morning learning about the role of magistrates, the court and the consequences of crime. The children then took part in a mock trial which resulted in a guilty verdict from our 3 magistrates. What a wonderful opportunity for our children





A<u>GIFT team Lent Prayer Time</u> 🙏 💙

Today our GIFT teams have gone to Cardinal Wiseman to plan out a prayer time that they will lead with pupils at Saint Peter and Paul in Lent.

The team have had some incredible ideas and they can't wait to deliver their prayer time in March.<u>#romeroreflects</u> #<u>studentleadership</u>

Parking reminder

Please can I ask that parents are considerate when parking to collect children from school and be considerate of the residents of Brays Lane. Residents have mentioned that a number of parents are parking well in advance of 3:20pm – some as early as 2:30pm. Please can I request that this doesn't happen as it directly impacts residents ability to park outside their houses. Please can you also ensure that engines are switched off when you are parked as leaving engines running creates unnecessary pollution and affects the air quality of our area. Many thanks for your cooperation with these issues.



World Book Day

On Thursday 2nd March, we will be celebrating all things books! Our theme this year is 'Books can change the world'. Children are invited to wear their pyjamas to school and listen to stories with special messages about how we can change the world.

We will also be holding our popular 'Bookie Breakfast'. Tickets for this event are $\pounds 3$ and MUST be bought in advance. Please send the money into school in a named envelope if you wish for your child to participate. As always, every child will receive a book token to spend on our World Book Day book. These are available to buy in bookshops and lots of local supermarkets.



Extreme reading competition: On World Book Day, we will launch our extreme reading

competition. The challenge is to find the most unusual, adventurous, or funny place to read a book and take a photo of yourself reading! The winning entry from each year group will receive a small prize. Get reading everyone!

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Reading Award

Congratulations to all the children, who received a reading award today! You are working so hard on your reading at home, and this is amazing!

Year Group		
Reception	Valentine	Darcie-Lea
Year 1	Emy	Colm
Year 2	Zuzanna	Cavan
Year 3	Nicole	Filip
Year 4	Harry	Zofia
Year 5	Darcie-Beau	Ada
Year 6	Jayden	Sophie

Reading at home with your child is the BEST thing you can do to support their learning. Please try and spend at least **10 minutes** a night hearing your child read and sharing stories. Good readers make good writers and helps to improve children's imagination, creativity and knowledge of the world.

We would love for you to share your favourite books with us! Why not put a review of your favourite book on the school reading padlet? Let's share our love of books with each other and give some recommendations to our friends. To access the padlet, please scan the QR code or follow the padlet link. <u>https://padlet.com/mtaggart4/115cpcoorjckyh4h</u>





券 🔁 <u>Year 3/4 Football Stars</u> 🟵 券

The year 3/4 girls football team played the third round of the Your School Games tournament. It was a great evening of football with the girls winning all of their games and two players making their debut performance for SH \heartsuit

To top off the day, the girls all got to hold the Arnold Clark cup ahead of the England Lioness' match vs Italy on Sunday 🛐 🏴. A great evening of football, well done team SH #romerothrives

<u>Swimming Champions</u> \mathbbm{Y}

Last Friday, our swimming team took part in the annual Catholic Schools Swimming gala and what a day it was! Every swimmer has been training hard for months for this competition and their training truly paid off. They put in an incredible team effort which crowned them the East schools shield winners from the morning! They then progressed into the finals - this saw the 8 best schools from across the city go head to head. It was extremely close but they did it - they held on to be crowned the overall 1st place champions!

Retaining their title of double champions for the 2nd year in a row is incredible! The children's smiles say it all, what a day!

We'll be holding swimming team trials for our 2024 team in October when we have on our site swimming pool again, so keep training hard!

<u>#romerothrives</u>



Teacher Training Day - Friday 3rd March 2023

A reminder that school will be closed to pupils on Friday 3rd March as we have a Romero Staff Training Day.

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Week at a glance

Date	Time	Activity		
Value and Virtue – Learned and Wise				
Monday 27 th February	All Day	Guitar Lessons		
	All Day	Lent Day		
	All Day	Y6 Dodgeball Competition		
Tuesday 28 th February	All Day	Piano and violin lessons		
	Morning	Drumming lessons		
	Morning	Y6 and YR Cake Sale		
	_			
Wednesday 1 st March	All Day	Strike Action		
Thursday `2 nd March	9:00am	Year 3 to Mass		
5	All Day	World Book Day		
	8:15am	Bookie Breakfast		
	3:00pm	Football Match vs Saint Peter and Paul (home)		
	5:00pm	Y2 Parental Engagement Workshop		
Friday 3 rd March	All Day	INSET DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED		

Strike Action

At this present moment in time, we are unable to confirm the arrangements for Wednesday 1st March's Strike Day. As soon as I know, I will communicate this out.

It is highly likely that arrangements will follow the same format as the last industrial action:

Open only to vulnerable pupils, children with an EHCP, pupils whose parents are classed as a critical worker and all nursery children - but will be closed to all other pupils in years R/1/2/3/4/5/6. On this day we will be running a collapsed curriculum and therefore we will not be expected to teach the National Curriculum.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs R Ellis Head of School

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Catherine Barr

Saturday 11 February 2023 www.catherinebarrbooks.me

Saturday 11 February 2023 STOKE LIBRARY 10.30am-11.30am Kingsway CV2 4EA Tel: 024 7678 6990

CENTRAL LIBRARY 2.30pm - 3.30pm Smithford Way CV1 1FY Tel: 024 7683 2314

Join author Catherine Barr for a fun interactive workshop focussing on 50 reasons to love endangered animals. Learn how to draw a platypus and take part in some activities. Catherine will be selling and signing some of her books. Suitable for ages 6+.

Spaces are limited, book in at the libraries or email libraries247@coventry.gov.uk

Coventry City Council

AGE





www.coventry.gov.uk/libraries

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jov.uk/universal-credit

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ARE YOU STRUGGLING WITH THE COST OF LIVINC?

Are you running out of money each month?

<u>centralenglandlc.org.uk/coventry-</u> For further help & support: 30v.uk/government/publications/min m-wage-rates-for-2022 you receiving the National mum Wage? Check the rates

Check if you can get Universal Credit

you are already receiving Universa missing some elements you are cialist help from Coventry ted capability for work-related ent, childcare costs element, endent Advice Services: 024 7652 nt, housing costs element. See nent (LCWRA), carer

Universal Credit. Have a look at Anyone experiencing ill health o vill be entitled ov.uk/browse/benefits caring for a child or adu to extra money on top

> Do you struggle to pay your lasting effects of Covid on health and wellbeing. But help is available

rent?

We are in a cost-of-living emergency ising, unemployment is high and lot

Energy prices are soaring, cost of food of people are still struggling with the

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Central England Law Centre

In order to receive the housing elemen of Universal Credit you need to enter your housing costs and check the box Sometimes this is missed. Check to see

if you receive this on your Universal

Credit account If you are subject to bedroom tax help to look over your claim and your rent then you should get specialist benefits cap, sanctions or a shortfall in

3773 DCATeam@coventry.gov.uk Contact the Local Authority: 024 7683 a Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP) entitlements and you may be entitled to

If you have been issued with court Centre: Central England Law Centre's Housing solicitors can help. Contact the Law papers because of rent arrears then

g.uk 02476 223 053 housingenquiri

Do you need help with your

Do you need help reducing

your outgoings?

Social Supermarkets offer heavily

£20 worth of food for a cost of a £5

membership. Find your nearest hub: discounted food parcels, typically abou

<u>etstalk.coventry.gov.uk/social-</u>

supermarkets

council tax?

counciltax@coventry.gov.uk Everybody can request to have their council tax spread over twelve months instead of ten, which reduces your Authority: 024 7683 1111 monthly bill. Contact your Local

that are eligible rebate. The council will contact those council tax bands A-D will be given £150 This year (2022), people that are in

eligible: 024 7683 3773/

Local Authority to find out if you are

Healthy Start vouchers. Contact your might be entitled to free school meals f you have school-age children, you

People living on low income and/or for Council Tax Support. **Contact you** tax bill significantly reduced by applying benefits like Universal Credit or Job benefits@coventry.gov.uk _ocal Authority to see if you are eligible: seeker's Allowance, can get their counci

Check the Local Authority's website: Coventry Citizen's Advice can also provide advice & help: ax-discretionary-relief-policy Authority can write off council tax deb <u>ventry.gov.uk/council-tax/council</u>

@coventrycab.org.uk

Coventry Foodbank offer free support to and struggling you may be able to cut Foodbank directly: 024 7699 3770 placed onto a social tariff. Contact you ocal people in crisis. **Con** our broadband costs by asking to be tact Coventry

If you are in receipt of Universal Credit

Trent on 0345 7500 500

help with your water bill. Call Severn Check to see if you are eligible for any

Contact the Local Authority and ask for Safe Homes Advice line: 0800 304 7159

are struggling. Contact the Warm and energy bills. Let your supplier know you Lots of people are struggling to pay the

support via the Household Support

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childrensbootfund.org.uk; Bare <u>clothingcoventry.org;</u> The Boot Fund: ocally. Contact Clothing Coventry:

lecessities <u>bare-necessities.org.uk</u>

products, clothing and shoes is available Additional help for toiletries, cleaning reeschoolmeals@coventry.gov.uk

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Help with Budgeting and the Cost of Living



- Check if you're entitled to benefits (even if you're working) and check they are correct
- <u>Council Tax</u> Have you claimed Council Tax Support? Are you entitled to a Discount/Exemption? No money to pay? Ask for a discretionary council tax reduction.
- Struggling to afford food, fuel, clothing Contact/apply to the Council Household Support Fund Tel: 08085 834333 (or online)
- Disability in the family? Have you claimed PIP/DLA/AA?
- <u>Rent Arrears/Bedroom Tax</u>? You may be eligible for a Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP)
- Water Bill Ask about the Big Difference Scheme
- Deductions from Benefits or paying debts before essentials? Get Advice!
- <u>Gas/Electric Costs</u>
 Contact supplier /ask about Priority Services register.
 Get Energy Efficiency Advice for ways to reduce usage.
 Ensure meter readings are up to date.
 Get Advice about Grants and Trust Funds and Paying Fuel Debt.
- Do a budget of income/outgoings this helps you see where you might be able to make changes – see over >>>
- Are there items on your budget that are not essential that you can reduce?

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Budget Sheet

(if you have access to the internet we would strongly recommend using a trusted budget planner e.g. https://tools.nationaldebtline.org/yourbudget/ or https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/everydaymoney/budgeting/budget-planner)

Income	pw/pm	Type of debt	Balance	Payments
Wages/salary	£	Rent/Mortgage	£	£
Wages/salary (partner)	£	Council Tax	£	£
Universal Credit	£	Electric	£	£
JSA/ESA/IS	£	Gas	£	£
Tax Credits	£	Fines	£	£
Child Benefit	£	Benefit Overpayment	£	£
Disability Benefits	£	Advance /Social Fund	£	£
Carers Allowance	£	Other-	£	£
Council Tax Support	£	Other -	£	£
Other Benefits -	£	Other -	£	£
Pensions	£	Other-	£	£
Pension Credit	£	Other -	£	£
Other Income	£	Other-	£	£
Other income	£	Other-	£	£
Total income	£	Total Priority Debt	£	£

Outgoings		Non-Priority Debt		
Rent /Mortgage	£	(e.g. credit cars, store card, loans)		ans)
Council Tax	£	Creditor	Balance	Payments
TV licence/rental	£		£	£
Gas	£		£	£
Electricity	£		£	£
Water	£		£	£
Food/Groceries	£		£	£
Public Transport	£		£	£
HP Vehicle	£			
Car /Vehicle costs	£			
School Costs (uniform /clubs)	£			
Clothing	£			
Phone, Internet	£	Total Priority Debt		
Mobile Phone	£			
Personal Care /Toiletries	£			
Other	£			
Other	£			
Total outgoings	£			



Sunday 10.30am (Family Mass)

Contacts

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Debt & Welfare Benefits Coventry Independent Advice Service 024 7652 1101 Coventry Citizen's Advice 0800 144 8848 National Debtline 0808 808 4000 Payplan 0800 280 2816 Step Change 0800 138 1111 Turn2Us 0808 802 2000 **Coventry City Council** Household Support Fund 08085 834333 Discretionary Housing Benefit 024 7683 3773 Benefits 024 7683 1800 Council Tax 024 7683 1111 Homeless advice service 024 7683 4025 Housina Coventry Law Centre (court proceedings and representation) 02476 223 053 P3 Housing Support 0808 196 2660. Homefinder 02476834024. Homeless advice service 024 7683 4025 Fuel /Water Severn Trent (Big Difference Scheme) 0345 7500 500 Act on Energy 0800 988 2881 National Energy Action 0800 304 7159 Coventry Independent Advice Service is a registered charity (1015216) and is regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (628958) Updated 01.07.22 Website: <u>www.sacredheart.coventry.sch.uk</u> E-mail sacreaneart.covtywrcaoo.org.uk Partnership Parish Priest: Father Tony Norton Principal: Paul Madia Mass Times Saturday 5pm



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Cost of Living One Minute Guide Information: Fuel Support:

1. Apply for a Household support grant

https://www.coventry.gov.uk/householdsupportfund

This fund is designed to be used to support households in the most need particularly those including children and pensioners who would otherwise struggle with energy bills, food and water bills.

- support with food
- heating/lighting repairs
- essential items such as sanitary products
- to pay for energy bills such as gas, electricity, oil and water/sewerage bills
- to purchase essential household items like fridges, freezers and ovens
- provide wider household support not linked to energy and water
- In cases of genuine emergency where existing housing support schemes do not meet this exceptional need, the fund can be used to support housing costs. Eligibility for Discretionary Housing Payments (DHPs) must first be considered along with whether the claimant is at statutory risk of homelessness and therefore owed a duty of support through the Homelessness Prevention Grant (HPG) These avenues of support must be exhausted before emergency housing support from the Household Support fund will be considered.

2. Talk to your landlord, especially if you are in a social tenancy (e.g. Citizen, Midland Heart etc) and ask them what support they have available for fuel support and emergency fuel provision this winter.

3. Contact your supplier if you are struggling to pay your energy, water or gas bill as soon as you are able. Ask them about Priority Services register, Energy Company Obligation (ECO Scheme), Warm House Discount Scheme, emergency energy, changing tariffs or additional entitlements.

Priority Services Register scheme: This scheme provides extra help and additional support during a power cut or disruption to energy services.

Eligible if they:

- have children 5 years old or younger living in the home
- are of pension age
- are disabled or chronically sick
- have a long-term medical condition
- · have a hearing or visual impairment or additional communication needs
- are pregnant
- are experiencing bereavement
- are a young homeowner
- are in a vulnerable situation

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Severn Trent Water Priority Register: <u>https://www.stwater.co.uk/my-account/help-</u>when-you-need-it/help-with-a-medical-condition-or-disability/

Energy Company Obligation (ECO Scheme): This scheme is to improve the ability of low-income, fuel-poor and vulnerable households to heat their homes, this could include installing insulation or an improved heating system.

Eligibility:

- Receive energy from one of these suppliers: <u>https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/eco-supplier-contact-details</u>
- Be in receipt of an eligible benefit: <u>https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/environmental-and-social-schemes/energy-company-obligation-eco/homeowners-and-tenants</u>

Other things you could do:

- Ensure meter readings are up to date.
- Get Energy Efficiency Advice for ways to reduce usage.
- Get Advice about Grants and Trust Funds and Paying Fuel Debt.

Warm Home Discount Scheme: <u>https://www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme</u>

Cold Weather Payments: You are eligible if you are getting benefits or support for mortgage interest. You can get a payment of £25 if the average temperature in your area is recorded as, or forecast to be, zero degrees Celsius or below over 7 consecutive days.

One Cold Weather Payment is due in Coventry because of the temperatures in December.

https://www.gov.uk/cold-weather-payment

Winter Fuel Payments: People born before 26 September 1956 you could get between £250 and £600 to help you pay your heating bills. https://www.gov.uk/winter-fuel-payment

4. Get Advice and Support:

Contact Citizens Advice Power Up project: https://www.coventrycitizensadvice.org.uk/project/power-up/

The Power Up project aims to help people living in the Western Power Distribution region out of fuel poverty by offering energy advice, help with managing fuel debt, energy saving and ways to reducing energy bills by switching suppliers or finding a better tariff. They can also provide free and independent consumer advice on a wide range of issues including energy use.

Website: https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/ Contact number: 02476 253 190 or 024 7622 3284 (advice line) Email WPD@coventrycanb.org.uk

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Coventry Independent Advice Service: also provide session in the Family Hubs

Website: <u>https://covadvice.org.uk/cost-of-living-crisis/</u> Contact number: 024 7652 1101 Advice enquiry form: <u>https://covadvice.org.uk/advice-enquiry-form/</u>

Groundworks – Green Doctor: Groundworks are now able to issue fuel vouchers to households who are struggling with the costs of gas and electric (£49 for a family, £24 for an individual).

- The Green Doctor project will:
 - Phone consultation with possible follow up visit if necessary (dependant on COVID-19 guidelines)
 - Energy Price comparison check
 - o Energy efficiency check-up and advice
 - Supply FREE energy saving measure for people's homes including LED bulbs, Radiator reflector panels, Draught proofing, CO monitors, Room thermometers, Blankets, Hot water bottles, Emergency heaters

Contact number: 0121 530 5516 Contact email: <u>wmgreendoctor@groundwork.org.uk</u>

National Energy Action:

- The Coventry HEAT team provides FREE help, support and advice on keeping your home warm and healthy. They can give you bespoke, confidential advice over the phone or visit you in your home, working holistically to help deliver solutions to the often multiple problems faced by individuals.
- Please phone and make an appointment: Call 0800 304 7159 for Energy Advice, Monday to Friday 10.00 am-12.00 noon, 0800 138 8218 for benefits advice

Scope - Disability Energy Support: Charity offering free energy advice to disabled people

Website: <u>https://www.scope.org.uk/campaigns/cost-of-living-crisis/</u> Contact number: 0808 800 3333 Contact email: <u>helpline@scope.org.uk</u>

Energy Saving Trust: Advice on saving money in your home through energy-saving tips and home improvements. Website: <u>https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/</u>

Funding and Grants:

Act on Energy: Keeping Coventry Warm provides funding for:

 External wall insulation
 Sacred Bra Bra
 Bra
 Website: www.sacredheart.coventry.sch.uk Principal: Paul Madia
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- · Cavity wall insulation
- First time gas central heating
- Broken boiler replacement
- Inefficient gas boiler
- Loft insulation
- Upgrade or repair of electric storage heaters available to households who are owner-occupiers or private renters who meet the health, income, and savings criteria.

Warm Home West Midlands: Energy saving advice, Energy saving measures, Income maximisation advice. Contact number: 0808 196 8298

The Energy Company Obligation (ECO) is a government energy efficiency scheme in Great Britain to help reduce carbon emissions and tackle fuel poverty. It can provide funding for insulation and broken or inefficient heating systems. Available for people who claim some household benefits.

The Big Difference Scheme: Severn Trent Water can offer a reduction of water bills to any Severn Trent customer with a household income below £18,278.

https://www.stwater.co.uk/my-account/help-when-you-need-it/help-with-paying-yourbill/big-difference-scheme/

WaterSure Bill Cap Scheme: To get help through WaterSure you must be a Severn Trent customer, have a water meter and receive eligible benefits.

You must also have either:

- a) three or more children under 19 living with you, or
- b) a medical condition requiring the extra use of water

https://www.stwater.co.uk/my-account/help-when-you-need-it/help-with-paying-yourbill/watersure-scheme/

Warm Spaces:

Many venues across Coventry are providing Warm Spaces open to everyone who may need it. The full list and a map of venues can be found here: https://www.coventry.gov.uk/directory/search?directoryID=115&showInMap=1&keywords=coventry&postcode=&search=Search

Venues include:

- Family Hubs
- Churches
- Libraries

If the children are at risk of harm, or parents are not able to heat their home and provide hot food and warmth today please use Section 17 funding to pay for food, top up fuel voucher etc.

