



Swindon SEND Families Voice

Swindon SEND Families Voice are the parent carer forum for Swindon. We provide support and signposting to parents and carers of Children or Young People with SEND and additional needs aged from 0-25 (with or without a diagnosis).

SEND Meeting Support Service:
sendmeetingservice.ssfv@outlook.com

SEND Sharing Service:
sendsharingservice.ssfv@outlook.com

The SEND Room:
Find us on Facebook search: SEND Room Swindon
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TheSENDRoom/>

Branches Support Group:
Follow our main Facebook Page for event posters and information:
<https://www.facebook.com/SwindonSENDfamiliesvoice/>

SEND Social Club:
sendsocialclub.ssfv@outlook.com

SEND Stay and Play:
sendstayandplay.ssfv@outlook.com

Reshaping Conversations:
<https://reshapingconversations.com/>

Listening Service Phonenumber:
To speak to a member of the team please call;
07486 873 405

Main Email:
swindonsendfamiliesvoice@outlook.com
Website:
<https://swindonsendfamiliesvoice.org.uk/>



Support **E**ncourage **N**urture **D**iscuss

The SEND Room is an online Facebook support group for parents and carers of children and young people aged 0-25 in Swindon who have any Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

- A place to support one another
- A place to meet others who understand
- A place to share information





To join our mailing list
please scan the QR code



COMMUNITY

- **SEND Sharing Service-** Our lending library which allows families access to SEND related books, sensory toys, practical physiotherapy tools, SEND pushchairs and much more. For a yearly fee of just £3 families can access a whole library of useful and fun items! We also offer a free collection and delivery service for items borrowed. The SEND Sharing service has proven itself to be an invaluable SEND Community resource.
- **SEND Information Packs-** Each year we create information packs for Reception age Children who are identified as having additional needs (no diagnosis required) by their Educational/Childcare setting to help Parents and Carers navigate this time of transition. We reach out to schools, nurseries and home educators to help provide information with a personal touch. A gift from our family to yours.
- **The SEND Room-** Bringing Parents together through our online Facebook Community of over 2,500 parents and carers of children and young people with SEND in Swindon.

CONNECTION

- **Breakfast Catch Ups-** Parent Carers tell us that one of the best forms of support they access is solid, strong connections to other SEND Families going through similar lived experiences. No child with SEND is ever the same, but parent carers often find common ground. Our regular half-termly Breakfast catch up is an opportunity for carers to chat, socialise and come together for a couple of hours of good company.
- **Coffee Mornings, Stay and Play and Social Club Sessions-** We support Families through our regular Coffee Mornings at Local Primary and Secondary Schools, Nurseries and through connecting with Local Community groups and projects that support families. We also run Stay and Play sessions for children under 5 and a Social Club for young people aged 13 - 25. These services provide a more informal and relaxed approach that allows parents to access face to face support whilst connecting with other SEND families.

SUPPORT

- **Phoneline-** Our phoneline is available to parents and carers who might need a listening ear, an extra boost of courage or some much needed emotional support for those tricky days. As parents of SEND children ourselves we understand how difficult the journey can be. One of our experienced team members is there to give parents and carers their time and support.
- **Branches-** Our support group Branches runs on a monthly basis and alternates between evenings and the day time. We have guest speakers such as professionals who can provide important up-to-date information about local SEND services and experts in various SEND related topics such as Challenging Behaviour, Autism, Anxiety, Toileting and Sex and Relationships for SEND Teens. The group also allows parents and carers to connect with each other and with The SEND Families Voice Representatives.
- **Meeting Support Service-** We are able to provide in person support at meetings to local SEND Families. Meetings such as Team Around the Child (TAC), Community Paediatrics appointments, School Attendance Meetings etc. At each meeting we will type up a set of notes and offer genuine emotional support, as we know from personal experience that these meetings can be overwhelming.

VOICES

- **Strategic Meetings and Co-production-** One of Swindon SEND Families Voice key roles behind the scenes is championing parent carers voices through the co-production that we take part in everyday with our strategic partners. These include Social Care, Health, Libraries, Community Groups and Projects, Education and other Council Departments such as the Travel team. Through this collaborative working we can spread and share important information. We work hard to improve the lived experiences of SEND families in Swindon by sharing their views and experiences with key stakeholders to effect positive change. We attend on average anywhere between 50 and 70 meetings a month making sure that SEND is always at the heart of planning and development of these vital public services and that parent carer voices are always heard.
- **Reshaping Conversations-** is our ongoing project looking to influence and improve the language of professionals and the wider public when talking to or about children and young people with SEND. We want to make Swindon (and the world!) a much more inclusive environment that allows SEND families to feel valued. We have teamed up with other local SEND groups to put together a website, booklet, video and training module. Our training module has now been taken up by Swindon Borough Council and local Health Services and has been used as mandatory training. We aim to keep the project going and keep reshaping even more conversations.