

# Summer of fun

FOR SANDWELL'S CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

## Fab events for all the family

From walking among sunflowers to watching movies outdoors, there are lots of fab family activities in Sandwell's parks and green spaces this summer.

Upcoming highlights include the **Spotify Presents Sandwell & Birmingham Mela** at Victoria Park, Smethwick, on Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 July. This is the largest Mela celebration in the country with celebrity performances, fair rides, South Asian food, music and stalls.

Enjoy food from around the world at our **Sandwell Food Festival** at Lightwoods House and Park in Bearwood on Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 July, along with cookery theatre, stalls, shopping and competitions.

Sandwell Valley Showground plays host to the **Sandwell Big Movie Weekend** on Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 August, with some of our best-loved films, with singalong fun and food. There are evening performances on both dates and a family matinee on the 20th.

And don't miss our **Sunflowers of Sandwell** at Forge Mill Farm, Sandwell Valley, in August - details will be announced nearer the time once the sunflowers bloom.

There will be opportunities to take awesome photos, pick your own flowers to take home, meet the farm animals and enjoy pizzas and drinks.

**ONE Fest** is a celebration of black heritage and culture from around the world. This is an inclusive event and everyone is welcome. It's set to be a wonderful Bank Holiday weekend festival (Saturday 26, Sunday 27, Monday 28 August) at Sandwell Valley Showground, with outstanding artistic on-stage talent, local artisan crafts, international foods and speciality vegan cuisine. Plus, there's a fun fair, activities and entertainment for children, young people and families.

For full details of activities including times and admission information, go to [www.visitsandwell.com](http://www.visitsandwell.com)

Share your 'Summer of Fun' and win a prize!

Just Youth are running a competition for children and young people during the summer to coincide with our holiday activity programme.

We invite you to produce a poem, a photograph or artwork that captures your 'Summer of Fun' in Sandwell.

It may be a representation of an activity or activities that you've attended during the summer or just something that has captured your imagination. You could win a family day out to Forge Mill Farm or Sandwell Leisure Trust's Air Mayhem.

Go to [www.justyouth.org.uk](http://www.justyouth.org.uk) for competition details, including entry rules, terms and conditions and information on prizes.



## Free swimming and more at leisure centres

Sandwell Leisure Trust is thrilled to announce the return of its exciting summer programme, brimming with fun-packed activities for young residents of Sandwell.

The very popular free swimming initiative continues for children aged 18 and under during school holidays at all swimming sites. Local young people will also have the opportunity to swim at the prestigious Sandwell Aquatics Centre, which proudly served as a host venue for the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games.

For those seeking more aquatic thrills, Wednesbury Leisure Centre will be offering thrilling Aqua Mayhem inflatable sessions in its large pool.

Alternatively, young adventurers can head to Tipton Sports Academy, where the thrilling Air Mayhem experience awaits them each day.

Additionally, the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) holiday camps will provide eligible families with a diverse range of activities suitable for all ages.

SLT will also be organising an array of enjoyable holiday sessions together with partner organisations.

Visit [www.slt-leisure.co.uk](http://www.slt-leisure.co.uk) or check on social media for detailed information about these sessions.



## Fun at West Bromwich Leisure Centre



Over at West Bromwich Leisure Centre, Places Leisure will be offering free swimming for Sandwell children aged 18 and under, along with hosting Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) holiday camps run by providers.

There's also a three-tiered soft play area where the little ones can run around while parents and carers relax with a hot or cold drink.

For more information, search 'West Bromwich Leisure Centre' at <https://www.placesleisure.org>

## Support for children and young people with SEND

Our vision for children and young people in Sandwell with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) is that they will be able to achieve their aspiration for a healthy, ordinary life through meaningful employment and fulfilling relationships within the community of their choosing.

To help achieve this vision, we have produced a Local Offer which sets out our support for children and young people in Sandwell with special educational needs and disabilities.

Find out more in the SEND Local Offer section of the Family Information Service Hub at <https://fis.sandwell.gov.uk>

On the website, there's also lots of advice for families around things to do, education, health, money and benefits, short breaks, child care and preparing for adulthood.



# Summer of fun

FOR SANDWELL'S CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUR FOUR-PAGE GUIDE TO ACTIVITIES ACROSS SANDWELL THIS SUMMER

## SHAPE Summer Fest is back!

SHAPE Youth Summer Fest is back for 2023...and this year is even bigger and better!

Come down to Sandwell Valley Showground in West Bromwich (B71 4BG) on Saturday 15 July, between 12noon and 8pm, to try out a whole host of free activities including sports, arts and crafts and family activities.

The event will feature guest appearances throughout the day, and performances on the stage from local, upcoming talent!

Blind Dave's Colour Run is also taking place again at this year's Summer Fest. Adult tickets are £20 and child tickets are £12.50. Tickets include your paint pack, T-shirt, runner's number and medal on completion.

For more information about this year's festival, and to register for the Colour Run, sign up by 4pm on 13 July, visit [www.justyouth.org.uk/ysf](http://www.justyouth.org.uk/ysf)



# SHAPE

## YOUTH SUMMER FEST

SATURDAY 15 JULY 2023  
12 NOON - 8PM  
SANDWELL VALLEY, WEST BROMWICH, B71 4BG

### FAMILY ZONE\*

Featuring family games, archery, obstacle courses, arts and crafts, giant bubble entertainment, smoothie bike and a cooking workshop with Digbeth Dining Club

### MUSIC ZONE

Live music from local artists, DJs and influencers.

**BHANGRA SMASH UP**

**CREEZ'ON**

**FLINTZ & TAYLOR**

(Britain's Got Talent 2022 Finalists)

And some special guest appearances:

**REYES CLEARY**

(West Bromwich Albion & England Under 21s Player)

**SHAKAN PITTERS**

(English Professional Boxer & Former British Light-Heavyweight Champion)

### SPORTS ZONE

Featuring zorb football, climbing wall, boxing, basketball, cycling, aerobics and more!

### BLIND DAVE'S COLOUR RUN

Plus  
A Live Careers Expo for 14 - 19 year olds (and up to 24 years with an EHCP),  
a Young Traders Market & lots more!

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:  
[WWW.JUSTYOUTH.ORG.UK](http://WWW.JUSTYOUTH.ORG.UK)

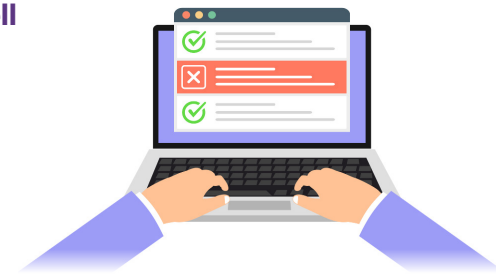
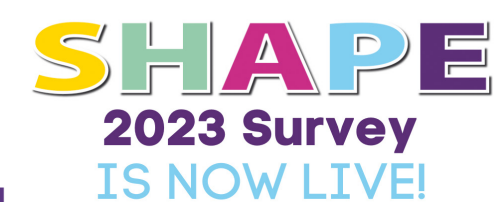


\* The Family Zone is open from 12noon-5pm. Music performances after this time are to be watched at parents' discretion.

## Have your say in SHAPE Survey

This year's SHAPE Survey is now live!

This annual survey is carried out to obtain the views and opinions of primary and secondary school pupils in Sandwell about various topics relating to their safety, community, mental health and wellbeing, education and future.



If you are aged 9-18, please complete the surveys online at [www.sandwell.gov.uk/consultationhub](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/consultationhub) by 24 July 2023.

## Fancy a summer of exciting activities?



Sandwell Holiday Activities have something for everyone - from archery to zorbing, we've got you covered!

Holiday Activities are a brilliant way to try new things, make new friends and learn new skills. There is plenty of choice including sports, music, dance, art, drama, cooking, days out and much more.

All providers are friendly and welcoming, they make sure children feel valued and included. All activities are safe, fun and engaging.

To book activities, just go to our website where you will find more information and more than 100 activities you could be part of this summer! Activities are supported by Department for Education funding.

Follow us on Facebook (search 'Sandwell Holiday Activities') to keep up to date or visit <https://holidayactivities.sandwell.gov.uk/>

## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS TO REMEMBER!

free activities for children and young people



COME AND FIND OUT MORE AT:  
<https://holidayactivities.sandwell.gov.uk/>

Little moments make big memories  
#MAKINGMEMORIES





# Summer of fun

FOR SANDWELL'S CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

## Fun activities for young people this summer

Sandwell Council's Youth Service will be running free holiday activity and food programmes in Sandwell parks and open spaces across the six towns.

A range of activities aimed at 11 to 19-year-olds (up to 25 for those with SEND) will be on offer including sports, arts and, new for this year, a virtual reality experience.

Have you got a teenager who wants to learn to play an instrument, sing or be part of a band? Then our School of Rock at Conegre Arts Centre, Tipton, is the place for them. Or they can learn a new trick at our School of Magic.

Are they interested in climbing, abseiling, archery and canoeing? Then get them booked onto one of our multi-activity days at Malthouse Stables, Tipton. Or, if they feel more adventurous, they can book onto a residential experience at the Frank Chapman Centre in Bewdley.

For families with young people who have SEND, we are offering free activities, funded by Holiday Activities and Food (HAF), including arts and crafts, a family day at the beach and an outdoor pursuits session at Malthouse Stables.

Alongside this, we have young women's only sessions. These include physical activity, arts and crafts, gardening and flower arranging, cookery and a picnic in the park. All targeted sessions need to be pre-booked and are on a first-come basis.



Visit [www.justyouth.org.uk](http://www.justyouth.org.uk) for more information on activities and programmes or follow us on Facebook (search 'JustYouthSandwell').

# Summer of fun

FOR SANDWELL'S CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

## Bostin summer at Sandwell museums

Enjoy messy arty fun, crazy chaotic creative crafts, performances, natural outdoor play activities, join in with and make music, create sculptures and loads more.

All our activities are free or have a small charge. Booking may be required for some activities.

Visit [www.sandwell.gov.uk/joininmuseums](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/joininmuseums) for full listings or [www.visitsandwell.com](http://www.visitsandwell.com) and follow us on social media @sandwellmuseums



## Sandwell Libraries celebrate summer in style

We'll have author events, storytelling, children's theatre, dance performances and much more at Sandwell libraries this summer.

For younger audiences, all libraries will be holding interactive Play, Talk, Read sessions and, if you are lucky, you may see our very own Sandy Bear as he tours around the libraries.

Just some of the many highlights include:

WhatNot Theatre are presenting two new shows – The Stealer of Stories on Wednesday 2 August, 2.30pm, at Thimblemill Library, Smethwick, and Flotsam and Jetsam's Voyage to the Trash Vortex on Wednesday 23 August, 3pm, at Tipton Library.

Local picture book author Laura Wooldridge will be appearing on Tuesday 1 August at Oldbury Library, 11am, and Cradley Heath Library, 2.30pm, and again on Thursday 17 August at 10.30am at Bleakhouse Library, Oldbury.

Local storyteller Adrian Johnson will be launching his new book, The Black Country Giant, at Thimblemill Library, 10.30am, and Smethwick Library, 2.30pm, on Thursday 27 July.

Contact your local library for their full programme – find out more at [www.sandwell.gov.uk/librariesonline](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/librariesonline) and [www.visitsandwell.com](http://www.visitsandwell.com) and search 'Sandwell Libraries' on Twitter (@sandwelllibs) or search 'SandwellLibraries' on Facebook.



Booster Cushion Theatre will be among the storytellers visiting Sandwell Libraries this summer.



Sandwell Museums and Arts Service

## In your town

Our Youth Service will be running a number of activity days in each of our six towns this summer.

Our youth clubs will also still be open and youth workers will be out and about throughout the summer, helping young people to find somewhere safe to go, something positive to do and someone to talk to.

Activity days open to all young people (just turn up on the day) will be running in a park in each town, offering a range of free activities including gaming bus, virtual reality experience, climbing wall, graffiti art, sports, laser quest and multi sports.

### Activity days in parks

**Tue 25 July – Thu 27 July, 4pm-8pm**  
Britannia Park, Rowley Regis B65 9HH

**Tue 1 August – Thu 3 August, 4pm-8pm**  
Victoria Park, Tipton DY4 8SW

**Tue 8 August – Thu 10 August, 4pm-8pm**  
Red House Park, Great Barr B43 6NA

**Tue 15 August – Thu 17 August, 4pm-8pm**  
Victoria Park, Smethwick B66 3QB

**Tue 22 August – Thu 24 August, 4pm-8pm**  
Lion Farm Playing Fields, Oldbury B69 1EA

**Tue 29 August – Thu 31 August, 4pm-8pm**  
Brunswick Park, Wednesbury WS10 9HH

Full details at [www.justyouth.org.uk](http://www.justyouth.org.uk)



Go Play Sandwell will also be running a number of free activities for children aged 5-12 at various locations in each of our six towns this summer, no need to book just turn up and play!

[www.goplaysandwell.co.uk](http://www.goplaysandwell.co.uk)



## Sandwell celebrates National Playday at West Smethwick Park

Playday is the national day for play, celebrated each year across the UK on the first Wednesday in August. Playday 2023 will be celebrated on Wednesday 2 August.

The theme for this year's Playday is Playing on a shoestring – making every day an adventure.

Play opportunities don't need to involve expensive activities, costly toys or trips to far-off destinations. It is often the simplest ideas, the free and found opportunities, which offer the most fun.

Join us on Wednesday 2 August between 12noon and 4pm at West Smethwick Park for our FREE event and join in some fun activities such as dhol drumming workshops, Forest Play sessions, giant bubbles and food-making workshops.

Check out activities throughout the year with Go Play Sandwell at [www.goplaysandwell.co.uk](http://www.goplaysandwell.co.uk)  
Sessions are FREE, open to all and run after school and in the school holidays or at the weekend.



Visit [www.goplaysandwell.co.uk](http://www.goplaysandwell.co.uk) to find out more.

## Could YOU WM be for you?



Some 20,000 young people are already involved in uniformed youth organisations across the West Midlands and many more could benefit.

You can find new real friends, have exciting and sometimes challenging adventures and experiences, develop many skills and abilities, and help others.

Youth Organisations in Uniform West Midlands ('YOU WM') represent the Army Cadet Force, Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association, Combined Cadet Forces, Fire Cadets, Girlguiding, Girls' Brigade, RAF Air Cadets, Sea Cadets Corps, Scouts, St John Ambulance and the Volunteer Police Cadets.

## YOU West Midlands offers an opportunity to make positive changes to your life and future.

Being part of a uniformed youth organisation can play a major and sometimes life-changing part in a young person's development of skills and confidence to fulfil their potential and help them play an active role in our communities.

YOU WM is strongly supported by the West Midlands Reserve Forces and Cadets' Association and West Midlands Lieutenancy.

Visit [www.youwm.org.uk](http://www.youwm.org.uk) to find out more.



This map is a guide to the offer in each town rather than showing exact geographical locations

