

Summer of fun

FOR SANDWELL'S CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Your four-page guide to activities across Sandwell this summer

Fun activities for young people return 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), supported by the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme, will be offering something fun and exciting for all young people. This includes our NEW Youth Bus, mobile climbing wall, multi sports, graffiti art and laser fun.

By popular demand our skate park coaching and competitions will be returning to Brunswick Park, Britannia Park and Victoria Park, Tipton.

Have you got a teenager who is interested in singing and wants to learn more about performing? Then our NEW Massaoke programme at Coneygre Arts Centre, Tipton, is the chance for them to sing in front of our packed out theatre!

Is your teenager adventurous? Then climbing, abseiling, archery or canoeing may be more their thing! Get them booked onto one of our multi-activity days at Malthouse Outdoor Activity Centre in Tipton. Or, if they feel even more adventurous, then book onto one of our hill walking days in the Shropshire Hills.

For families with young people who have SEND, we are offering free activities, including a family day at the beach and outdoor activities at Malthouse Stables.

Alongside this, we have young women-only sessions, including hill walking and a day at the beach. All targeted sessions need to be pre-booked and are on a first-come basis.

All of the above has been made possible through funding from the Holiday Activities and Food programme.



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

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

Exciting summer activities for children

As the summer holidays draw near, brace yourself for a spectacular line-up of Sandwell Holiday Activities to keep your youngsters entertained and active.

Funded by the Department for Education, Holiday Activities provide fantastic opportunities for children and young people to delve into new interests, forge friendships and hone new skills. Whether it's sports, music, dance, art, drama, cooking or thrilling day trips, there's something to captivate every child.

If your child receives free school meals based on benefits, you'll receive a Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) e-voucher. This voucher will come with a unique code and booking instructions via email or text.

Not eligible for the voucher but still looking for activities and some summer fun?

Head over to holidayactivities.sandwell.gov.uk to find activities offering FREE universal or subsidised spaces. Stay updated by following 'SandwellHolidayActivities' on Facebook.

Look no further than Go Play! Open to all children and young people aged 5-12, Go Play offers free play sessions led by trained play workers across Sandwell. Dive into more details at

www.goplaysandwell.co.uk or search 'GoPlaySandwell' on Facebook.

Let's make this summer unforgettable with fun, exciting and playful activities for children and young people of all ages in Sandwell!

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Sandwell celebrates

National Play Day

Join us as we celebrate the National Play Day – which is back for its 15th year, having already delighted over 10,000 children and families.

This year's main FREE event will be held at Coneygre Arts Centre in Tipton on Wednesday 7 August, 12noon to 4pm.

Enjoy free food workshops and Dohl drumming workshops – available for pre-booking before the event.

Experience a full set list featuring performances from theatre productions, local bands and magicians!

Engage in play across the entire site with sporting activities, archery, UV games, mud painting and crafts.

Pack a picnic and enjoy the summer fun! Don't miss out on this fun-filled day of play and entertainment!

Check out our National Play Day Summer Tour dates for more FREE events happening near you across the summer holidays.



NATIONAL PLAY DAY Summer Tour

FREE EVENTS FROM 12MIDDAY – 4PM

24 JULY		LIGHTWOODS HOUSE
26 JULY		WEDNESBURY RUGBY CLUB
31 JULY		HADEN HILL HOUSE
7 AUG		ONEYGRE ARTS CENTRE
14 AUG		DARTMOUTH PARK PAVILION
21 AUG		WEST SMETHWICK PAVILION

Arts and reading fun at Sandwell Libraries

Sandwell Libraries celebrate in style this summer with both Sandwell's Arts Festival and the Marvellous Makers Summer Reading Challenge.

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:

- **Dangerous Dave** will be bringing his high energy show to Central Library, West Bromwich on Wednesday 14 August – booking essential.
- Curiosity Productions will be bringing their brand-new theatre show, **Sleeping Seeds**, to Tipton Library on Friday 23 August at 10.30am. Perfect for families with children under 5 and supported by Black Country Touring – booking essential.

Contact your local library for their full programme and find out more at www.sandwell.gov.uk/librariesonline and www.visitsandwell.com

Search 'Sandwell Libraries' on X (@sandwelllibs) or search 'SandwellLibraries' on Facebook.

Go to www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk for the Summer Reading Challenge.

Go Play this summer!

Get ready for a summer full of fun with Sandwell Council's play service and become part of the fantastic Go Play Sandwell family!

Dive into a summer packed with indoor and outdoor fun including arts and crafts, archery, mud painting, mini-inflatables, family games and much more! All you need to do is check what is on in your area, show up and play – all at no cost!

Want to find out more? Contact our community Go Play providers: Powered by CAN in West Bromwich, Wednesbury, Oldbury and Smethwick; Sporting Your Futures in Rowley and Groundwork West Midlands in Tipton.

Amazing FREE play sessions are available for all school aged children and families across the borough all year round.

For a full calendar of events and contact details check out our play sessions calendar at www.goplaysandwell.co.uk



Emotional wellbeing support for all ages

The Sandwell All Age Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Directory provides a wide range of local, regional and national support services for children, young people and their families.

From crisis helplines to specialised therapy programmes, residents can find support for their emotional wellbeing. Find bereavement support, mental health counselling, advice around addictions and much more.

The directory covers various age groups, making sure people of all ages can access relevant services.

To access the directory, go to our Family Information Service Hub at fis.sandwell.gov.uk and search for 'Feelings, emotions and mental wellbeing'.



Accelerate into employment!



16 to 24-year-old Sandwell residents who are looking to get into employment or training can get support from the Accelerate project and Think Sandwell employment and skills team.

Whether you're just leaving school, college or uni and are about to take your first steps on the career ladder, or have been looking for a while and would like some additional help, Accelerate can support you to develop important skills for work and increase your confidence.

There's a range of activities on offer and you'll get to work 1-2-1 with an advisor who will help you work towards your goals.

Activities available include wall climbing, hill walking, canoeing, map reading, drama, film or music production, archery and more. There is no charge to take part, and lunch is provided on all days.

Email enquiries_recruitment@sandwell.gov.uk to find out more.

WHATEVER THE RESULT, WE'RE HERE TO HELP

Have you had your exam results and you're not sure what to do next?

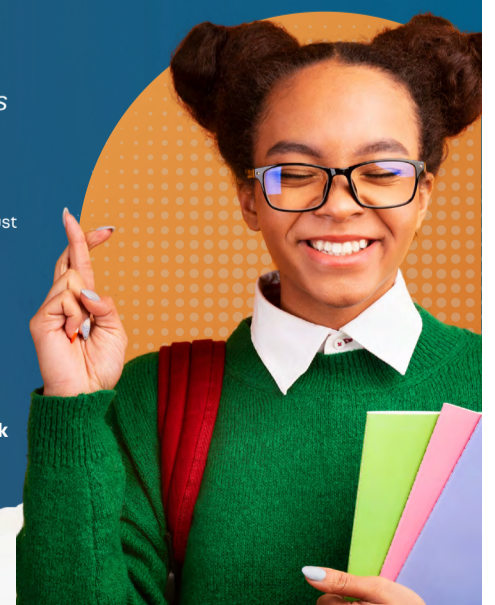
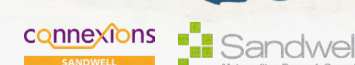
Get specialised information, advice and guidance on weekdays
Thursday 15 August 2024 to
Friday 30 August, 10am – 4pm

Not including Bank Holiday Monday 26 August

GET IN TOUCH

www.connexionssandwell.co.uk

sandwell_connexions@sandwell.gov.uk
0121 569 2955

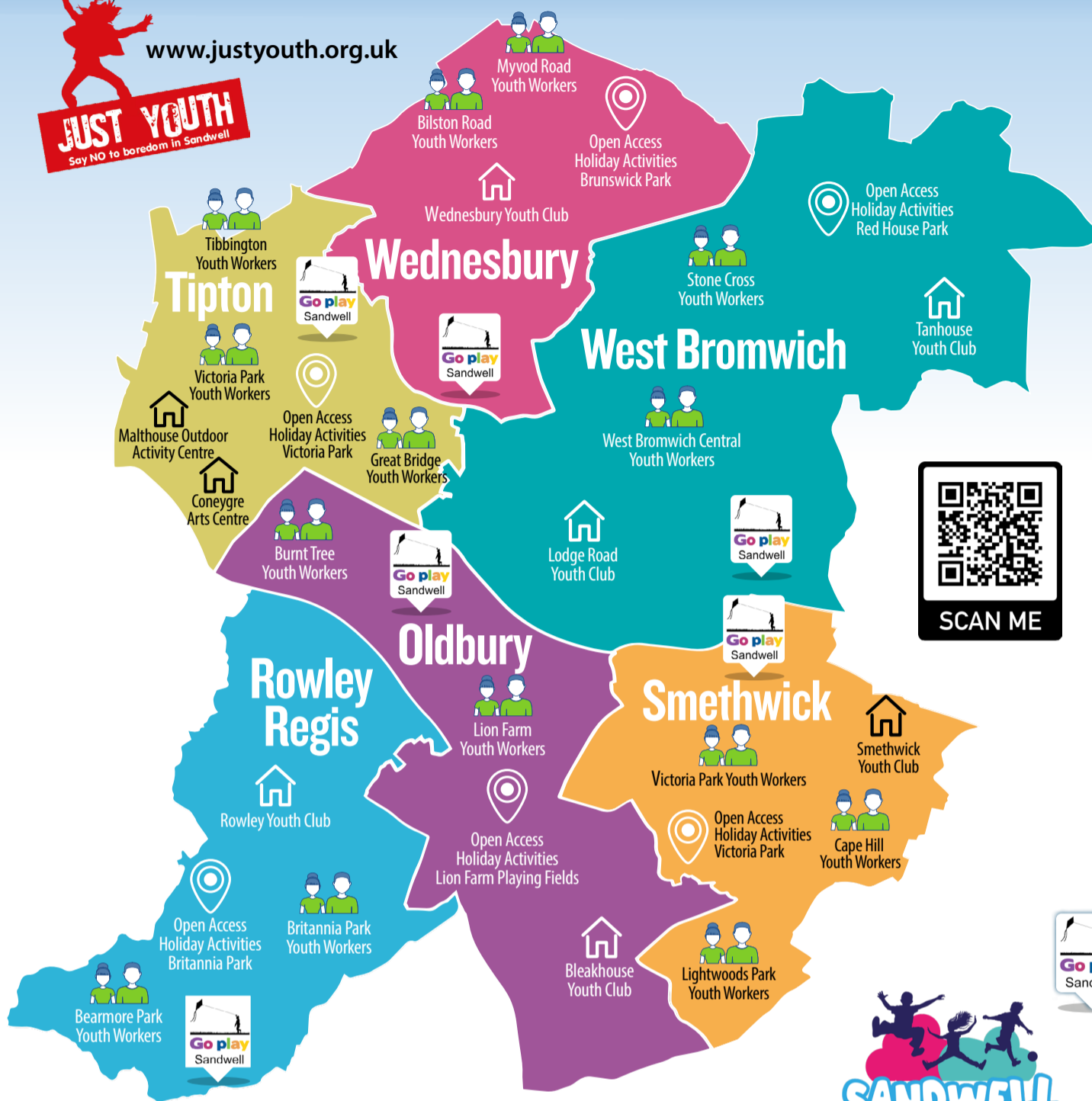


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www.justyouth.org.uk



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

In your town

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

Our regular youth clubs will 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, thanks to funding from the Holiday Activities and Food programme, including our climbing wall, graffiti art, laser fun and multi sports.

Activity days in parks

- Wed 24 Jul – Thu 25 Jul, 4pm-8pm**
Brunswick Park, Wednesbury WS10 9HH
- Wed 31 Jul – Thu 1 Aug, 4pm-8pm**
Red House Park, Great Barr B43 6NA
- Wed 7 Aug – Thu 8 Aug, 4pm-8pm**
Victoria Park, Smethwick B66 3QB
- Wed 14 Aug – Thu 15 Aug, 4pm-8pm**
Lion Farm Playing Fields, Oldbury B69 1EA
- Wed 21 Aug – Thu 22 Aug, 4pm-8pm**
Britannia Park, Rowley Regis B65 9HH
- Wed 28 Aug – Thu 29 Aug, 4pm-8pm**
Victoria Park, Tipton DY4 8SW

Full details at 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

Go play Sandwell



Brand-new Youth Bus gearing up for the summer

Our Youth Service is getting its brand-new Youth Bus ready to tour around Sandwell's parks this summer.

The Youth Bus offers young people activities featuring the latest technology including a mini recording studio, a sensory area, smart TVs and gaming consoles.

Young people aged 11 to 19 (up to 25 for young people with SEND) can come along to any of the sessions around Sandwell during the summer holiday.

The Youth Bus will make its debut at SHAPE Summer Youth Fest on Saturday 13 July and will be at the WEDNESDAY activity day in each of Sandwell's six towns listed in the article above.

The Youth Bus is the first of two new buses to serve as mobile youth provision for young people in Sandwell. The second bus is expected to be delivered later this year.

Go to www.justyouth.org.uk for details of other locations Youth Bus will be visiting.



Information for families

Sandwell Family Information Service (FIS) is an early help service by offering free, impartial information to local families with children aged 0 to 19 years (or up to 25 years with a special educational need or disability), young people and professionals.

FIS can support you to help find the right childcare provider, help with childcare applications and answer any other childcare-related queries.

Visit the FIS Hub fis.sandwell.gov.uk for national and local services, activities and advice pages.

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SHAPE Youth Summer Fest is back!

SHAPE Youth Summer Fest is back for 2024, with the biggest selection of free activities ever!

Join us on Saturday 13 July from 12noon until 8pm, at Sandwell Valley Showground in West Bromwich (B71 4BG), for a day filled with fun activities, good food and lots of live performances!

The event will feature activities for children and young people, including sports like cricket, zorb football, arts and crafts, Sandwell's new Youth Bus, DESIBlitz Art Bus, the mobile library, a careers expo for 14-19s, a young traders market and much more! Our two stages will showcase live music and performances from DJs and bands and local, upcoming talent!

The Albion Foundation has worked with SHAPE to bring back the ever-popular Blind Dave's Colour Run! The event is a 5k run, jog or leisurely walk with six colour stations where participants will be doused from head to toe in bright colours. Adult tickets are £15 and child tickets are £7.50 each, including a paint pack, T-shirt and medal on completion.

Visit www.justyouth.org.uk/ysf for more information about this year's SHAPE Youth Summer Fest. To register for the colour run, sign up by 10am on Wednesday 10 July.

SHAPE 2024 Survey IS NOW LIVE!



www.justyouth.org.uk/shapesurvey

Have you heard the 2024 SHAPE Survey is now live!

We need as many young people aged 11 - 19 years in Sandwell to complete it!

The survey responses contribute to Sandwell's key priorities for the next year!

To complete the survey, please visit www.justyouth.org.uk/shapesurvey

SHAPE YOUTH SUMMER FEST

SATURDAY 13 JULY 2024
12NOON - 8PM
SANDWELL VALLEY, WEST BROMWICH, B71 4BG

FREE Entry!

YOUTH ZONE

Featuring Music Workshops, Youth Bus, UV Rave Tent and Mini Stage with Open Mic performances

FAMILY ZONE

Featuring Arts and Crafts, Mud Painting, Giant Lego, Gardening and Planting, Outdoor Games, Soft Archery, Dhol Drumming Workshops and a Storyteller

MUSIC ZONE

DJ Rena Sparks, DJ Naziah, Melly, Nu Vibe Entertainment, DJ Auden Allen, and SHAPE Your Talent 2024 Winners

SPORTS ZONE

Featuring activities in Boxing, Cycling, Cricket, NFL Flag Football, a Climbing Wall, mini Gym and Zorb Football!

AND LOTS MORE...

Blind Dave's Colour Run*
A Careers Expo for 14-19 year olds
Junior and Senior Fairground rides*
Cultural Education Zone & DESIBlitz Art Bus
A Young Traders Market*
Various food stalls*



FOOD

FOOD

FOOD

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

WWW.JUSTYOUTH.ORG.UK



*There is a cost associated with these activities
PLEASE NOTE: SOME ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Summer events at parks and green spaces

We have some fabulous summer events coming up at Sandwell Valley and our parks and green spaces across Sandwell.

On Sunday 14 July, you can celebrate **Black Country Day and Sandwell's 50th Anniversary** at Sandwell Valley Visitor Centre with a host of live Black Country music.

The **Sandwell and Birmingham Mela** – the UK's biggest South Asian music festival – is at Victoria Park, Smethwick, on Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 July, with music, dance, food, arts and crafts.

Enjoy the **school summer holidays** with activities at Forge Mill Farm and Sandwell Valley Visitor Centre throughout the six-week break.

At Sandwell Valley Showground, our **Picnic Movies** evenings are back with Top Gun (12) on Friday 2 August, The Lion King (PG), Barbie (12A) and Grease (PG) on Saturday 3 August and Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (PG), The Greatest Showman (PG) and Hocus Pocus (PG) on Sunday 4 August.

Don't miss our spectacular **Sunflowers and Sunflower events** at Forge Mill Farm – look out for dates to book from mid-August.

Go to www.visitsandwell.com for details of these exciting events and more.



Family fun at Sandwell's museums



Our museums are celebrating **Our People, Our Places this year as Sandwell turns 50.**

Come on a journey with us this summer for a wide variety of family activities for all ages.

At **Wednesbury Museum** travel through the ages, meet the Vikings and Saxons, make medieval floor tiles and celebrate our Victorian museum.

While at **Oak House** get your hands dirty with archaeology week.

At **Bromwich Hall** celebrate our nature in our grounds and enjoy some fantastic hands-on fun with decorating pots.

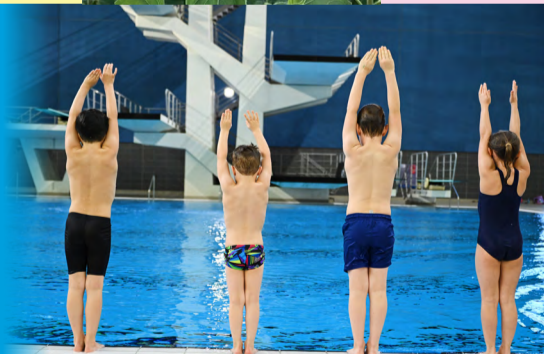
house and grounds for inspiration to create sculptures and some arty creations.

Across our sites there will also be games and activities with Go Play Sandwell, plus crafty fun, active and sporty activities, relaxing family yoga and lots more. There are also exhibitions and displays and regular activities and community groups to enjoy.

Entrance to our museums is free but there may be a small charge for some activities. Booking may be required for some activities.

www.sandwell.gov.uk/joininmuseums has full details or follow us on social media @sandwellmuseums

Free swimming and more at leisure centres



Free swimming is available for Sandwell children aged 18 and under during designated sessions over the school summer holidays.

Sandwell Leisure Trust centres will advertise specific sessions for the pools at Sandwell Aquatics Centre, Tipton Leisure Centre and Wednesbury Leisure Centre.

Go to www.slt-leisure.co.uk/free-swimming-in-sandwell for details or call 0300 012 0121.

For **West Bromwich Leisure Centre**, register for free swimming by visiting reception at the centre or for more information call 0121 580 6430 or search 'West Bromwich Leisure Centre' at www.placesleisure.org

Our leisure centres will also be working with partner organisations to offer an exciting range of fun-packed activities over the summer holidays, with something for everyone, so check the Sandwell Leisure Trust and Places Leisure websites and social media for more details.

Don't miss the summer holiday diving sessions at Sandwell Aquatics Centre – open to anyone from six to 16 and suitable for all abilities. Book soon to avoid disappointment! Go online to book at: www.slt-leisure.co.uk/divinglessons

STAY SAFE, STAY OUT

Stay safe this summer and please only swim in purpose-built, supervised swimming pools.

Sandwell has lots of open water including lakes, pools, ponds, canals and rivers, which can seem inviting during the summer months, but please don't be tempted to swim in them.

People can often misjudge their swimming ability. Water may feel warm on the surface, but just a few feet below can be icy cold, even in the hot weather and can very quickly cause severe cramp and hypothermia.

Go to www.sandwell.gov.uk/watersafety for more information.

