

# Guide to Finding Help with Food in Birmingham







The Active and Wellbeing Society's Big Feed Community Cafés provide tasty meals made from locally sourced surplus food that would otherwise end up in landfill.



The nutritious meals are provided FREE at the cafes linked to the TAWS food environment and wastage activities



For more information or to get involved, feel free to contact us at bigfeed@theaws.org







### **Food Banks**

The cost-of-living crisis has made it much more difficult for many people to afford food. There is help across Birmingham if you are finding it difficult to feed yourself and your family



Accessing a food bank or other projects for the first time can be daunting. However, the volunteers do their utmost to make visitors feel welcome.

To find a foodbank or other food support in Birmingham and surrounding areas, you can search on the following directories.



## Food Hubs & Community Grocers





www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk

A scheme called Your Local Pantry enables members to buy good quality food, including fresh, refrigerated, frozen and long-life foods, at a lower cost. Each pantry is set out like a shop and the food comes from surpluses from producers or big retailers. Pantries are run by community groups,

charities and churches and anyone can become a member. Each Pantry sets its own membership costs, usually about £5 a week, but a member who shops there every week can save about £1,000 a year on their groceries. There are several in Birmingham – to find out where your local one is, visit their website





There are four Incredible Surplus venues in Birmingham and one in Solihull. This organisation collects food from supermarkets, restaurants and other places that would otherwise go to waste. You can pick up your groceries and donate on a "Pay-As-You-Feel" basis – you pay what you can afford, if you can afford anything. You can always donate time (as a

volunteer), if you wish, but there is no obligation because Incredible Surplus exists to prevent food waste.

To find out where they are located and their opening times, visit their website. https://incrediblesurplus.org









www.FoodCycle.org.uk

Foodcycle currently provide free community meals at seven locations in and around Birmingham.

Everyone is welcome, no matter your background or circumstances. No referral is needed, you can just turn up for your three-course meal.

- Quinton
- Erdington
- Weoley Castle
- Kingstanding
- West Heath
- Longbridge
- Falcon Lodge

- Every Saturday @ 12pm
  - Every Monday @ 3:30pm
  - Every Tuesday @ 4 pm
  - Every Saturday @ 1pm
  - Every Sunday @ 1pm
  - Every Monday @ 7:15 pm
  - Every Monday @ 1pm





www.family-action.org.uk/

#### Food On Our Doorstep

Family Action has launched Food On Our Doorstep (FOOD) clubs to provide good-quality food at a low cost, while also reducing food waste. It costs just £1 a year for a family to become a member.

Once you've joined, you can purchase a bag of tasty food items every week worth approx. £15 for just £4!

To become a member you must live or work within approximately 15 minutes of a club.

- Erdington FOOD Club
- Garretts Green FOOD Club
- Ladywood FOOD Club
- Rubery FOOD Club
- St Ambrose FOOD Club
- Fox Hollies FOOD Club
- Ward End FOOD Club

Wednesdays @ 10am Tuesdays @ 10am Thursdays @ 11:30am Fridays @ 11am Tuesdays @ 12pm Fridays @ 12pm Thursdays @ 11am



### Food Support for Children & Families





www.birmingham.gov.uk/healthystart



If you are 10 weeks pregnant or more, have a child under four years old, or you or your family get certain benefits, you may be able to qualify for a Healthy Start card.

The card has money on it to be used in shops to buy:

- plain liquid cow's milk;
- fresh, frozen, and tinned fruit and vegetables;
- fresh, dried, and tinned pulses;
- infant formula milk based on cow's milk.
- You can also get free vitamins.







Free School Meals

www.birmingham.gov.uk

If you are on benefits, then you may be eligible for your child to have free school meals

Have a look at the Birmingham City Council website to check if you can claim for this.





https://bringitonbrum.coordinate.cloud



Bring It On Brum! is a FREE Holiday Activity and Food Programme funded by the Department for Education, designed for children and young people who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals across Birmingham to have fulfilling, active and healthy school holidays. The Bring It On Brum! holiday clubs are available during the spring, summer and winter holidays. Children and young people are eligible to attend holiday clubs for up to 4 days during the spring and winter school holidays and up to 16 days during the summer holidays. Sessions are booked online.

### Kids Eat for Free\* (\*Or just a pound)



