

# SUPPORT

## Information

There are a wide range of local services available in and around Castle Vale to support you with the cost of living, including help with energy, warm spaces, food, household essentials and community activities.



### **Birmingham City Council Support**

Local Welfare Provision Crisis Grant can provide financial help in short-term crisis with energy, food and other essential items. This is a grant, you will not be required to pay back. For more information, visit:

[www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20006/housing/2272/getting\\_help\\_with\\_your\\_energy\\_bills](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20006/housing/2272/getting_help_with_your_energy_bills)



### **The Big Difference Scheme**

If your household income is low, you may be entitled to a BIG reduction through the Big Difference Scheme.

If eligible for the scheme, you could receive a discount on your Severn Trent water bill.

<https://bigdiff.co.uk/login.php>



### **Warm Homes Network**

Energy vouchers may be available if you meet the criteria. To make sure support reaches the people who need it most, Warm Homes Network works closely with local partners.

This includes community groups, warm hubs and other organisations in Castle Vale who can refer you directly for fuel-poverty support, including fuel vouchers.

# Warm Spaces

Warm spaces offer free and safe place where you can relax, take part in activities, get advice, use local services and speak with others in your community.



## The Sanctuary

Tangmere Drive, Castle Vale,  
Birmingham, B35 7PX

Open Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm



## Spitfire Advice and Support Services

Spitfire House, 10 High Street, Castle  
Vale, Birmingham B35 7PR

Open Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm



## The Meeting Place Café

Yatesbury Avenue, Castle Vale,  
Birmingham, B35 6JT

(Entrance on Turnhouse Road)  
Open Monday to Friday, 9am-1pm

# Household Items

## The Local Welfare Provision

The Local Welfare Provision (LWP) scheme offers support if you're facing a short-term crisis and need immediate help with essential household items. This support is grant-based, so you won't need to pay anything back.

You can find more information at: [www.birmingham.gov.uk/short-term-help](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/short-term-help)

## Upcycle Birmingham Shop and Warehouse

The Upcycle shop sells good-quality recycled clothing and small household items at affordable prices.

Address: Unit 1, 4 High Street, Castle Vale, B35 7PR

Opening times:

- Monday to Friday: 9am–4pm
- Saturday: 10am–2pm

## Upcycle Warehouse – Furniture & Larger Items

The Upcycle warehouse offers larger furniture, home furnishings and bigger household items.

Address: St Gerard's Church Centre (Entrance on Turnhouse Road), Castle Vale, Birmingham, B35 6JT

Opening times:

- Monday to Friday: 9am–4pm

# Food

## Castle Vale Food Pantry

Spitfire Advice and Support Services Spitfire House, 10 High Street, Castle Vale, Birmingham B35 7PR

Opening Times

- 6pm Monday

## Food-cycle Birmingham

Food-cycle Birmingham in Erdington is a community project with Spurgeons, offering community meals for families in surrounding areas.

Lakeside Childrens Centre 22 Lakes Road, Birmingham, B23 7UH

For more information call: **0121 752 1970**

## Spitfire Food Bank

Available to those in need with no referral required. Feel free to speak to an advisor.

Spitfire House, 10 High Street, Castle Vale, Birmingham B35 7PR

Opening Monday – Friday, 9am–5pm.

## Food Justice Network Map

Database with information on Trussell Trust food banks, independent food banks and pantries, community cafes, cooked-food providers and additional support. For more information, visit:

<https://theaws.co.uk/our-approach/justice-networks/food-justice-network/>

## Greggs

We've partnered with Greggs to offer free food collections twice a week. Donations are available on a first-come, first-served basis and can include items like sandwiches, baguettes, sausage rolls, pasties, cakes and doughnuts. What's available will vary each time.

Collection days:

- Tuesdays
- Fridays

Please check The Sanctuary's opening times before you visit, as collections take place during usual hours.

# Local Activities

## The Sanctuary

The team provide a range of support including health, employment and youth services - all including free activities for Castle Vale residents. If you require advice or wish to come along to an activity, call: **0121 748 8111** or visit The Sanctuary and speak a member of staff.

The Sanctuary, Tangmere Drive, Castle Vale, B35 7PX

Open Monday to Thursday 9am-5pm and Friday 9am-4pm

## Young Stars

A Castle Vale based youth group offering fun and interactive sessions for local children while aiding their development.

For more information contact the team on: **07703 392808** or visit:

<http://www.weareyoungstars.com>

## Community Environmental Trust (CET)

An environmental charity that works with local communities to protect and improve green and blue spaces. They support people's wellbeing by offering free outdoor activities, including wellbeing walks and conservation sessions at the Castle Vale Conservation Area; food growing, outdoor Stay & Play sessions and outdoor educational activities for SEND children at the CET Community Garden; and paddle sport activities such as kayaking.

For more information, call 0121 747 3570 or visit <https://environmentaltrust.org.uk/>

## Castle Vale Children's Centre

Castle Vale Children's Centre hold weekly activities for parents and children.

For more information call: **0121 752 1920**

# Borrowing & Savings

## Advance Credit Union

A safe way to put money away for the future and a cost-effective way to borrow ethically and responsibly. Advance Credit Union is open to everyone who lives or works within a 'B' postcode. Members save by Payroll Deduction, standing order, Child Benefit or other benefits paid into accounts. For more information and to apply, visit: [www.advancecu.org.uk](http://www.advancecu.org.uk)