

# Child Friendly Cov

## November 2025



Children's and Education Services

We believe children and young people in Coventry should always...

-   
be and feel valued
-   
be and feel safe
-   
have opportunities
-   
be and feel healthy
-   
be and feel loved

# What is Child Friendly Cov?

Child Friendly Cov is a city-wide partnership approach with a shared ambition to make Coventry the best place in the UK for children, young people and families to grow up in and live. A city where all children and young people:



be & feel  
valued



be & feel  
safe



have  
opportunities



be & feel  
healthy



be & feel  
loved

# Partnership and Co-Production

- Central to Child Friendly Cov is **co-production**, with children and young people leading on what Child Friendly Cov should look like in **partnership** with professionals who work with children, young people and families.
- **Child Friendly Cov Champions** are a group of young people who shape the work of Child Friendly Cov. Their voice feeds into Steering Group and Stakeholder meetings.
- The **Child Friendly Cov Steering Group** is made up of professionals across the partnership and local businesses, who lead on key decisions in relation to the direction of Child Friendly Cov.
- Each **Child Friendly Cov pledge** has **two Co-Leads**, with representatives from the Council, partner agencies and local businesses, who co-ordinate activity taking place under their pledge.
- **Child Friendly Cov Stakeholder Events** take place each quarter, highlighting the work which has taken place under different pledges.

# Child and Young Person Voice and Influence

- **Pupil Parliament** is hosted annually by University of Warwick in partnership with the Participation Team. This year was the third Pupil Parliament with over 100 Year 5 and Year 6 pupils from 15 different schools. This year had sessions ran by young people, E.on, Positive Youth Foundation, Change Makers, as well as University of Warwick and the Participation Team.



- **A Conversation With ...** is part of our commitment to ensure young people have access to key decision makers and are able to influence change. These sessions are delivered in partnership with 'My Tomorrow' and have focussed on crime (with the Police and Crime Commissioner, Police Commander, Operational Lead for Youth Justice), and Council budgets (with Cllr Brown, Director of Children's and Education Services and Director of Communications).



# Child and Young Person Voice and Influence – One Big Voice



# Child and Young Person Voice and Influence – One Big Voice

- The **One Big Voice** survey is offered to all schools in the city with a view to identifying the priorities for Child Friendly Cov for the preceding 2 years.
- This years' survey is due to 'go live' week commencing 24<sup>th</sup> November. This year an 'opt out' approach is being used rather than 'opt in' aiming to have more schools taking part and contributing as one big voice for children and young people across the city.
- The survey is completed bi-annually, the first survey identified safety as being the key priority and resulted in the Safe Spaces initiative.



# Safe Spaces



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9y7r6GG1oRQ>



# Safe Spaces

- There are more than 40 safe spaces across the city, with further venues keen to become Safe Spaces.
- The Safe Spaces initiative has been commended within a SOCEX (Serious and Organised Crime Exchange) meeting for supporting to locate a vulnerable young person who was victim of exploitation.
- Safe Spaces was awarded the Local Commanders Special Award for Innovative Collaboration at the Local Policing Awards.
- Through the Safe Spaces initiative, McDonalds and CV Life staff have received specialist exploitation and missing awareness training delivered by colleagues from Horizon.
- Godiva Festival had a “pop-up” Safe Space this year.
- Walsall are in the process of launching Safe Spaces based on the Child Friendly Cov model.





# Safe Spaces – Young Inspectors

- The Child Friendly Cov Champions have developed a Young Inspectors Programme for Safe Spaces (like mystery shoppers).
- Inspections have started to take place, using a range of scenarios to test the Safe Space response.
- These have resulted in some suggested improvements e.g. venues having more Safe Space window stickers, and Safe Space pin badges being developed so that trained staff members are easily identifiable.



# No More Knives Tour

- Child Friendly Cov supported the 'No More Knives Tour' alongside Hope Coventry, to come to four secondary schools in the city, helping to educate over 4000 young people around knife crime and carrying a knife.



be & feel  
safe



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2TdSzQ5ugSU>

**NO  
MORE  
KNIVES**

# Child Friendly Cov Summer Fest

- Summer Fest took place in August 2025 at Coventry Saracens Rugby Club who provided the venue for free.
- The day offered a free event for families in the community and was planned in partnership with the Child Friendly Cov Champions
- There were a range of activities and stalls showcasing opportunities across the city i.e. Positive Youth Foundation, Family Hubs, the Job Shop.
- Over 250 people attended across the day.

