



Building *Bridges*

Your
Journey
Starts
Today



Building Bridges PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Helping people overcome their
barriers to education and employment
across Swindon and Wiltshire

The Building Bridges Programme

Welcome to the Building Bridges programme.

Your journey towards the world of work or education starts with us today.

The Building Bridges programme supports people across Swindon and Wiltshire who are facing significant challenges in being able to develop their skills, access education or move towards the world of work.

The programme is a partnership of local organisations with extensive experience in supporting people and giving them the skills and confidence they need to move forward.

Taking part in the programme is entirely voluntary and all of the advice and support is offered completely free of charge.



PROGRAMME FUNDING

The project has received £3.9M of funding from the European Social Fund and the Big Lottery Fund as part of the 2014-2020 European Structural and Investment Fund Growth Programme in England. The Department for Work and Pensions is the Managing Authority for the England European Social Fund programme.

Established by the European Union, the European Social Fund helps local areas stimulate their economic development by investing in projects which will support skills development, employment and job creation, social inclusion and local community regenerations.

Who can take part?

Not everyone who wants to take part in the Building Bridges programme may be eligible to do so. In order to take part, you must meet all of the following criteria:



Not working

Working less than 1 hour each week or not working at all. You may be registered or unregistered unemployed or not on benefits at all.



Have the legal right to work in the United Kingdom

Either through UK citizenship, registered refugee status or other legal right. We cannot work with asylum seekers.



Live in Swindon or Wiltshire

You must live in the Swindon or Wiltshire area to take part.



Be aged 15 or over

You must be at least 15 years of age to take part.



Not in Prison

We can work with people who are on probation, however we cannot work with people who are currently in prison.



Not on a zero hours contract

Unfortunately, if you are on a zero hours contract you are not eligible to take part.



REGISTER TO TAKE PART

Register yourself or someone else to take part in the programme by visiting our website at:

www.buildingbridgessw.org.uk

UNDER 16s

If you are under the age of 16 you will need permission from a parent or legal guardian to take part in the Building Bridges programme.



LOTTERY FUNDED



European Union
European
Social Fund

Your Personalised Support Plan

Personalised help and support from our team, every step of the way.

With a support plan designed especially for you.

The programme will help you understand your barriers to skills development, education and employment and support you with a personalised plan to overcome these barriers and reach your goals.

We understand that you may have multiple challenges which could prevent you from developing the skills and qualifications you need to find work or get into education.

We will work with you to develop a personalised plan to help address your barriers and support you every step of the way, at a pace you feel comfortable with.



PERSONAL SUPPORT PLAN

Your personal support plan is created especially for you, based on your goals and ideas about where you want to be.

This plan will help you understand what barriers you face and whether you need any extra help or support. You will always be involved in the creation of your plan and you can move forward at your own pace.

YOUR KEY WORKER

Your Key Worker will help you develop your plan and meet with you to offer support. Your Key Worker will also help you to access additional support if you need it e.g. help with practical things like transport costs and childcare.

Additional Support

Specialist Help and Support

Alongside your personal support plan, you can also access a range of specialist support which offers practical tools to address the barriers you face. Your Key Worker will help you identify which help and support is right for you.

PRACTICAL HELP TO ADDRESS YOUR BARRIERS

-  Mental health & wellbeing
-  Debt & financial advice
-  Financial training & support
-  Help with transport costs
-  Help with childcare costs

HELP TO IMPROVE YOUR EMPLOYABILITY

-  Volunteering support
-  Sponsored employment
-  In-work support & guidance
-  Employer liaison support



SUPPORT FROM PARTNERS

Once you have met with your Key Worker they will arrange the help you need, based on the plan you created together. Because the help we offer is based on your needs, you may be offered support from different partners involved in the programme. You can see a list of these partners on our website:

www.buildingbridgesw.org.uk



LOTTERY FUNDED



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Programme Journey

STEP 1



Register for the programme and sign the agreement

Once you have registered we will contact you for an informal chat about your needs and ask you to sign a participant agreement

STEP 2



Meet your Key Worker and agree how often you will meet-up

You agree when and where to meet with your Key Worker. Your Key Worker will use these meetings to discuss opportunities, help you realise your goals and offer support and advice

STEP 3



Your personalised help and support plan is in place

After meeting with you and talking about your individual needs, your Key Worker will work with you to create a plan and offer you the help and support you need to address any barriers you might face

STEP 4



Start putting your personalised plan into action

Your Key Worker will arrange the help and support agreed in your plan. You will continue to meet-up to discuss how things are going, adjust your plan and help you make progress towards your goals.

STEP 5



Move towards employment or education

When you do move towards employment or education, your Key Worker will continue to support you to finally meet and sustain your goals.

Useful Information

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

Is this a voluntary programme?

Yes. Taking part in the Building Bridges programme is entirely voluntary. If you register you can also withdraw at any time.

Is there a cost to take part?

No, all of our advice and support is offered free of charge. The programme is jointly funded by the Big Lottery Fund and the European Social Fund.

Who can take part?

To take part you must be at least 15 years of age, living in Wiltshire or Swindon, not currently working or working less than 1 hour per week. You also need to have the legal right to work in the United Kingdom (this includes registered refugees). We **cannot** work with asylum seekers, people who are currently in prison or people on zero hours contracts.

I have a disability, what help is available for me?

Our partners have experience working with people who have additional needs and your disability will always be taken into account.

Will taking part in the programme affect my benefit payments?

Unless your circumstances change (e.g. you start working) your benefits payments shouldn't be affected by taking part in the programme.

Should I tell my Work Coach that I am taking part in the programme?

Yes, if you are accepted into the programme you should let your Work Coach know. Your Key Worker will give you a letter to share with your Work Coach to confirm you are taking part.

Will I be paid to take part?

No you will not be paid, however we can offer support towards the cost of transport as well as advice and support with childcare costs.

Will my information be kept confidential?

Information about you will never be shared outside of the programme without your permission. Your information will be kept in a secure database and only members of our team will have access to it. We will not tell anyone else that you are taking part, but we can work with other people who are giving you support, if you give us permission to.



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Your journey starts today




To register for the programme visit our website or give us a call. Once you have registered we will arrange for you to meet your Key Worker so you can get started on your journey towards employment or education.

KEY WORKER INFORMATION



My Key Worker is:



CONTACT INFORMATION:

-  01380 732821
-  hello@buildingbridgessw.org.uk
-  www.buildingbridgessw.org.uk

Find us on social media:

-  @BBridgesSW
-  @BuildingBridgesSW

Led by Managing Partner:



Postal Address:
Building Bridges
C/O Community First
Unit C2 Beacon Business
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