



CHESTERFIELD FOODBANK NEWSLETTER

**AUTUMN 2025** 



Autumn has not long since arrived upon us, ushering in a season of renewed generosity, gratitude and community spirit at Chesterfield Foodbank. Time has moved quickly for our staff and volunteers as we keep up with demand and seasonal preparations. From Harvest celebrations to Christmas plans, we've been busy connecting, sharing and preparing for the months ahead. Everything we achieve is possible because of you, our incredible volunteers, donors, partners and supporters.





#### Harvest 2025

We'd like to say a huge thank you to the many churches, schools and community groups who gave so generously during this year's Harvest season. From beautifully decorated displays and mountains of tinned goods to inspiring school assemblies on social justice and poignant church services of thanksgiving, your kindness keeps our shelves stocked and our community supported. A bumper crop of donations since September weighed in at a record **5,159kg**, the equivalent of around **12,300 meals!** 

Our hearts are full knowing that your generosity and care have culminated in such an extraordinary achievement, helping to fill hungry tummies right across Chesterfield. We'd also like to thank our incredible volunteers who have been sorting and packing so diligently in the warehouse, our volunteer drivers who have been out collecting donations, and our centre volunteers who welcome clients, offer support and receive donations to send back to the warehouse. No stone is left unturned; your commitment and teamwork are truly commendable.



#### Special mentions go to:

- St Thomas' Church, Chesterfield Baptist Church, Our Lady Queen of Peace, Littlemoor Gospel Chapel, Hasland Baptist Church, Central Methodist Church, St Anne's Church and School Baslow, St John's Walton, Mount Tabor Methodist Church, St Andrew's URC, Central Pentecostal Church, Storrs Road Methodist Church, Whittington Moor Methodist Church, Derby Road Methodist Church, Brimington Methodist Church, Christadelphian Hall, St Barnabas Bradwell, Hasland Methodist Church, St Peter's Church Calow, St Michael and All Angels Brimington, Calow United Reformed Church, New Life Church, St Helen's Church, Ragged School, St Peter's Holymoorside, St Peter & St Paul's Church Old Brampton, St John's Church Bamford, Loundsley Green Local Ecumenical Partnership (Methodist & Anglican), St Mary's Sutton Scarsdale, Curbar Wesleyan Reform Chapel, Church of St Mary and All Saints, St Leonard's Spital
- Gorseybrigg Primary School, Cutthorpe School, Hasland Infant School, Wigley Primary School, St Peter and St Paul's Nursery, Dronfield Infant School, Hady Hill Primary, Lenthall Nursery and Infant School, St Mary's Primary, Whittington Green School, Newbold C of E Primary School, Christ Church Primary, Whittington Moor Nursery and Infants Academy, Brampton Primary School, Barlow C of E Primary School, Old Hall Junior School, Children 1st Nursery Royal Hospital, Brockwell Infant School, St Joseph's Little Scholars, Unstone St Mary's Infant School, Unstone Junior School, Kids Planet Chesterfield

Thank you also to all the schools, churches and organisations still collecting; every tin, packet and penny makes a difference. Thank you for helping us make sure no one in Chesterfield goes hungry over the coming months.









Guest Agencies at Chesterfield Foodbank

Day	Venue	1st of the month	2nd of the month	3rd of the month	4th of the month	5th of the month
Monday	Brimington 12-2pm	Live Life Better Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Blood Pressure Checks, Quit Smoking	CBC Housing and Neighbourhoods team Housing and Tenancy Support (from May)		Derbyshire Carers Support for unpaid Carers	
Monday	Hasland 5-6:30pm		Live Life Better Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Blood Pressure Checks, Quit Smoking			
Tuesday	Compass @Blend 1-3pm	P3 - Homelessness Prevention	P3 - Homelessness Prevention	P3 - Homelessness Prevention	P3 - Homelessness Prevention	
Wednesday	Compass @Blend 12-2pm			WORTH Women on the Road to Healing Support for survivors of Domestic Abuse		
Thursday	Whitt' Moar 2-4pm	Live Life Better Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Blood Pressure Checks, Quit Smoking	Safe Haven & P3 Mental Health and Homelessness prevention	Compassionate Voices CIC Wellbeing, mental health, empowerment for women and girls	WORTH Women on the Road to Healing Support for survivors of Domestic Abuse	NACRO Support for people in the Justice System
		CBC Housing and Neighbourhoods team Housing and Tenancy Support	Elm Foundation (Sept) CoinJar Talking about Money (October)		Derbyshire Addiction and Advice Service	
		Credit Union Community Bank Affordable Loans, Savings schemes, Budgeting advice	Reed – Employment Skills, training, and help with CVs (from Sept)	Rethink Mental Illness starting Sept 2025	Marches Energy Agency (from Sept)	
		Safe Haven & P3 Mental Health and Homelessness prevention	Free School Meals	Mindscapes / DVA	Safe Haven & P3 Mental Health and Homelessness prevention	
Friday	Loundsley Green 1-3pm	CBC Housing and Neighbourhoods team Housing and Tenancy Support	Credit Union Community Bank Affordable Loads, Savings schemes, Budgeting advice	WORTH Women on the Road to Healing Support for survivors of Domestic Abuse	NEF BHBH Energy Bill Help	Compassionate Voices CIC Wellbeing, mental health, empowerment for women and girls

# Ways to Give

Every donation of food, funds or time helps us continue our work. There are now even more ways to give:

- **Crowdfunder:** our Christmas campaign is live: https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/chesterfieldfoodbankchrist mas2025 double donations until 23rd Dec thanks to Aviva!
- Stewardship: now available for regular or oneoff giving
- JustGiving, PayPal, bank transfer, cheque or cash donations welcome
- **Card machine** available at our events and at the Grindleford Community Shop for quick onsite giving

Thank you to everyone who stands with us and supports our vision of a hunger-free Chesterfield.

#### **Guest Agency Update**

We are proud to be working with an amazing network of organisations who offer advice, guidance and earlyintervention support to our guests. Alongside our Financial Inclusion Partner Service, Citizens Advice, which provides income maximisation and dedicated support with benefits, debt and housing, our Guest Agency Rota continues to grow with a range of pro-bono services offering expertise in budgeting, energy and wellbeing at each of our daytime foodbank centres.

You can find full details and visiting schedules on our website: www.chesterfield.foodbank.org.uk/guestagencies

# **Pre Foodbank Support Hub Pilot**

September 2025 saw the launch of our Pre-Foodbank Support Hub at Whittington Moor Methodist Church Hall, and the pilot is now well underway. The hub offers early-intervention support for people who may be struggling but haven't yet needed to use the foodbank, as well as onward support for foodbank clients.

Running on Thursdays, 2-4pm, the hub brings together local organisations to support people with a variety of issues known to contribute to food insecurity. Our aim is to help people access the right support at the right time, reducing the need for emergency food and building long-term stability.

So far, we've welcomed Citizens Advice, Live Life Better Derbyshire, Chesterfield Borough Council Housing and Neighbourhoods team, Safe Haven, Compassionate Voices, WORTH, Derbyshire Addictions Advice Service, Marches Energy Agency, Derbyshire Community Bank, Reed in Partnership, DCC Free School Meals, Mindscapes and Derbyshire Voluntary Action, with more joining the rota each month.

Thanks to everyone involved. Special thanks to the UKSPF Community Fund for funding the pilot. We're already seeing the difference this joinedup approach can make for local people. Access the Pre-Foodbank Support Hub here: https://chesterfield.foodbank.org.uk/pre-foodbanksupport-hub-voucher/



# Christmas is Coming! 🎄



Plans are already underway for another busy festive season. Our Christmas Appeal is online now! https://chesterfield.foodbank.org.uk/christmas-2025/

Tesco Winter Food Drive - Come and say hello to our volunteers and help us collect vital donations at Tesco Extra from 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> November, we'll be at the top of the escalators!

Christmas Wrapping Stations – Foodbank clients with children will be able to choose and wrap gifts from 17<sup>th</sup> November until Christmas Eve, thanks to generous donations of toys and books.

We are collating details of free local Christmas meals to ensure our foodbank clients know what is available over the festive period. Lunch on Jesus, 25th Dec, 1.30pm - 6pm at Whittington Moor Methodist Church Hall, Scarsdale Road, S41 8NA. Call Mydudu on 01246 948401 to book. If you know of other events, please get in touch on the contact details below. We are also very pleased to announce a new collaboration with Compassionate Voices for Christmas 2026, building wellbeing and connection across our community.





# **Tesco Winter Food Drive**

Thurs 27th Nov to Sat 29th Nov

# 9am-5pm

Tesco Chesterfield Lockoford Lane Chesterfield S417JB



#### **Corporate and Community Support**

We would like to say a big thank you to Rosewood Wealth Management and Tilbury Douglas for choosing to support us with their Christmas promotions this year. Your teams' generosity helps us keep vital services running through the winter months.



#### Keep up to date with News & Updates

Our Online Notice Board includes the following sections and more: What's On Calendar for free events and activities, Signposting and Support, and Alternative Food Provision https://chesterfield.foodbank.org.uk/onlinenotice-board-main/ Don't forget to follow us on Social Media too! Subscribe to our Newsletter You can subscribe <u>here</u> to have our newsletters delivered to your inbox.



#### Welcome to new volunteers

We're delighted to welcome Debbie and Joy to our volunteer leadership team as Deputy Centre Managers. Both bring a wealth of experience, compassion and enthusiasm to their roles, and we are thrilled to have them supporting our centres and volunteers.

We're also incredibly proud to celebrate our very own volunteer Deputy Manager, Clair, from Whittington Moor Foodbank Centre, who has won the Tilbury Douglas Award for Community Impact in the Inspiring People Awards 2025. This recognition reflects her outstanding contributions to Chesterfield Foodbank since joining us in summer 2024. Well done, and huge congratulations to Clair and to all the inspiring people who were recognised on the night!

### **Volunteer Bowling Night**

In September, our volunteers swapped tins for ten-pins at our Bowling Social Evening, a fantastic night of laughter, friendly competition and well-deserved fun, with volunteers from all our centres coming together. A big thank you to our Trustee Alan for organising this self-funded event, and to our brilliant teams who make Chesterfield Foodbank such a positive community to be part of. Thanks as well to Chesterfield Bowl staff and customers for raising £43 for the foodbank on the night!



#### Stats January - October 2025

So far this year, you have helped Chesterfield Foodbank to provide food for 8161 people, (6297 adults and 1864 children) fulfilling 4647 vouchers. Thanks to each and every one who has supported us to make this possible, including our teams of committed volunteers, our donors, partners, referral agencies and supporters. More detailed statistics are available here:

https://chesterfield.foodbank.org.uk/stats/

# Signposting Toolkit Updated

Our Signposting Toolkit has been updated to include the latest information, such as the new Formula Milk Pathway and the Better Homes, Better Health scheme from the National Energy Foundation. This scheme enables our foodbank volunteers to make referrals for anyone experiencing fuel poverty, high energy bills, or living in homes affected by damp, condensation or mould.

https://chesterfield.foodbank.org.uk/si gnposting-toolkit/

#### Safeguarding Update

As part of our ongoing commitment to safeguarding and safer recruitment, Anna and Jacq have completed the latest Safer Recruitment Training. This ensures that everyone working with the Foodbank is appropriately supported and vetted, keeping our people and guests safe at all times.

#### **Thank You**

Your kindness makes a real difference. Whether you donate food, volunteer time, share our posts or fundraise for us, you are part of the story. Together we can make sure that no one in Chesterfield faces crisis alone. With warmest wishes

Chesterfield Foodbank

The Chesterfield Foodbank Team