



I'm in school Mondays to Wednesdays and you can email me on fcarrick-davies@ssq.org.uk for an appointment. Please see below for information - I will be updating this page regularly.

The government has recently passed a new housing act called "Awaab's Law". Awaab's Law is a new rule for social landlords (like the council or housing associations). It was created after the tragic death of a two-year-old boy, Awaab Ishak, who died because of severe mould in his home that his landlord ignored. The main point of the law is to force landlords to fix serious problems in your home very quickly and stop them from ignoring dangerous issues like persistent damp and mould. If you report an emergency, like a leak, the landlord has 24 hours to investigate and start fixing the issue. If you report a significant hazard like severe damp and mould, they have to begin the repair within 5 working days and investigate within 10 working days. If you are experiencing any of these issues, please email repairs@southwark.gov.uk or dampandmould@southwark.gov.uk mentioning Awaab's Law - feel free to copy me in fcarrick-davies@ssq.org.uk

Certain families in Southwark with a child who is under 5 years of age until August 2026 can apply for Rose Vouchers, giving them access to free fruit and veg. You have to be on certain benefits, or have No Recourse to Public Funds or if you are seeking asylum. Please use this link to register <https://www.1stplace.uk.com/rosevouchers>

More information here <https://www.1stplace.uk.com/rosevouchers>

I've been made aware that some Health Care companies are having their licenses to sponsor overseas workers revoked, which means that people in the care sector on sponsorships might lose their jobs. If this applies to you, please see this website <https://hub.goodworkselondon.co.uk/international-recruitment> and let me know if you'd like to discuss this further. The government also has this website for support <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/support-offer-to-international-asc-workers-whose-employers-sponsor-licence-has-been-revoked/support-offer-to-international-asc-workers-whose-employers-sponsor-licence-has-been-revoked>

London South Bank University (LSBU) provides a free legal advice service for a range of issues. Please see this website for more information about how to access support

<https://www.lsbu.ac.uk/our-colleges/law-and-education/study/subjects/law/legal-advice-clinic>

Please can you let me know if you currently live on the Aylesbury Estate. We know that conditions in some of these blocks are very poor right now, and we would like to support you if possible.

Please do remember to let me know if you are in Temporary Accommodation or are renting privately, and would like support with any housing problems. We have a great partnership with a housing advocacy organisation called Kineara, who can support our parents with questions they might have about living in TA or in the private-rented sector. Please come and collect a referral form from me if you would like to book an appointment.

Housing Support and Advocacy

- We have a housing expert coming in once a month, specialising in supporting people in **Temporary Accommodation**. If you would like an appointment for the next drop-in session, please let me know asap, so I can give you the self-referral form to complete. If you're not in TA but would like some advice about your housing situation, please do get in touch with me.
- If you are renting privately and need support, please visit this website <https://southwarkprivaterenters.org.uk/> and click on "Get support".
- Volunteering with a charity can give you the chance to apply for a Volunteering Star with the council to give you a higher housing priority. There are opportunities available with a Housing charity called Kineara, with Spring Community Hub and with Parent Action, all local organisations we work closely with - let me know if you are interested and she'll put you in touch.
- If you live in Temporary Accommodation please make sure that a Homeless Star has been added to your housing application - ask your housing officer if you're not sure.

- Don't forget our drop in sessions for those living in temporary accommodation in collaboration with Kineara.



Are you living in temporary accommodation?

GET SUPPORT NOW!

Drop In Housing Advice Service for Families

Our housing advice appointments can give you specialised support for housing issues you may have. These appointments are conducted in partnership with the Law Centre and your child's school.

Issues we cover:	Support we provide:
• Disrepairs • Mould & condensation • Unsuitable housing • Rent Arrears • Eviction Notice • Financial Burdens	• Help engaging with the council on your behalf • Identifying support & services for health/financial assistance • Information and guidance on council tax, thames water reductions

To get an appointment, ask for a referral at the school's reception desk.
Or you can contact us with the details below:

Queenie Rushton:
qrushton@kineara.co.uk

07483115201

Cost of Living

- Child Trust Fund - If you have a child born between 1st September 2002 and 2nd January 2011, they may have money in a Child Trust Fund set up by the government that you don't necessarily know about. Please check this website for more information. Feel free to share this with other friends who have children that age.

- If you have **No Recourse to Public Funds** and I don't already know about it, please let me know by emailing me as there may be some additional support we can help you with.
- If you are having difficulties with managing debt of any kind, such as council tax or rent arrears, or any other sort of debt, please see this website for a charity called Step Change, where you can get free advice and support: <https://www.stepchange.org/> They are very helpful either over the phone to start off with, (0800 138 1111, Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm and Saturday 9am to 2pm) or if you need more in-depth advice, you can complete a self-referral. They will give you advice about how to start repaying your debt, and how to deal with bailiffs who might be involved with reclaiming your debt, which can be a very worrying and frightening experience. Please get in touch if you would like to talk about this.
- Free School Meals - The council are now responsible for issuing Free School Meals vouchers during school holidays, and we're aware that there have been problems for some of our families. Please email Maxx on mwalker@ssq.org.uk if this applies to you.
- If you would like a referral to a food bank, please let me know.
- Benefits - If you think you might be entitled to benefits that you're not already receiving, there is a local team that supports people to apply for them. Please see this link for more information <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/other-welfare-benefits>
- Southwark Food Action Alliance have launched their new food map which you can access using this link. This map shows food banks and pantries, community fridges, community meals and more. You can find out more here <https://www.southwarkfoodactionalliance.co.uk/>

Employment and training Opportunities

- Several of our parents have recently asked me about employment opportunities at school - these are always advertised on our website. One of our partner organisations, Pecan (based in Peckham) offers employment preparation support, CV writing and other programmes to help people get back into work. Please go to this website for more information <https://www.pecan.org.uk/employment-support/>
- Please also go to this website for more information about local jobs <https://southwarkworks.com/>

- If you are interested in training courses, the **Thomas Calton Centre** in Peckham runs a wide range, including academic subjects like maths, English and IT, but also practical courses like fashion, pottery, mindfulness and textiles. Lots of the courses have already started, but there are some that begin this week. There is a new range of courses starting this month, so do check their website
<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/schools-and-education/adult-learning-0>

Support for Parents

- Baby Bank - Please see this link for information about Camberwell Baby Bank
<https://www.parentaction.org.uk/whats-on-offer-parent-action/baby-bank/>
- Parent Action - Please see information about our partner organisation Parent Action, which provides mother and baby/toddler groups called MumSpace
<https://www.parentaction.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do/>
- Southwark runs various parenting courses, which are now registering for the summer term. See here for more information
<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/children-young-people-and-families/parenting/help-parenting>
- If you are interested in English classes, here is information about our friends at English for Action <https://efalondon.org/join-a-class/>

Food Banks

Southwark Food Action Alliance have launched their new food map which you can access using this link. This map shows food banks and pantries, community fridges, community meals and more. You can find out more here
<https://www.southwarkfoodactionalliance.co.uk/>

If you are interested in **English classes**, here is information about our friends at English for Action <https://efalondon.org/>