

Out of School Activities

There's plenty going on in the lead up to Christmas! Visit Santa at the Friends of Frank Wise Christmas Bazaar or at Thomley Hall. GC students will be out and about selling their Christmas cards, bath salts, wax melts and other goodies - catch them at Lock29 in the town centre. Coming up soon is a SEND Theatre workshop, see page 3 for a link to the full details on our school website.

Christmas is an expensive time and the cost of living crisis is hitting many people hard. At the end of the newsletter is information on the Oxfordshire Residents Support scheme which offers financial support for those in need.

Best wishes, Natalie



SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER
12 NOON TILL 4 PM

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

£1 ENTRY Under 14s FREE

COME AND JOIN IN THE FESTIVE FUN!

- VISIT SANTA IN HIS GROTTTO
- CRAFT STALLS
- TOMBOLA • RAFFLE
- REFRESHMENTS AND MUCH MORE...

THE FRANK WISE SCHOOL
Hornbeam Close, Banbury OX169RL

All proceeds to the school minibus replacement fund.

FREE PARKING on site.

Fundraiser organised by Friends of Frank Wise Special School, please visit; frankwise.oxon.sch.uk/friends-of-fws

SCAN THE QR CODE to visit our website



The Banbury Community Fridge which is housed in Banbury Mosque car park has food available to families in need of support.

The fridge is open

9-4pm Mon to Fri and
10 - 4pm on Sat & Sun

The Lunch Box Project Banbury

can be found on Facebook. If you are finding it difficult to buy food due to the cost of living crisis contact them on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/thelunchboxprojectbanbury>



See the Short Breaks Newsletter with activities and information for those with SEND at -

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/shortbreaks

For more information on out of school activities please contact
Natalie Dayer . Out of School Liaison Officer . Frank Wise School
Tel: 07545 934 951 . Email: nataliedayer@frankwise.oxon.sch.uk
Twitter: OSLO@OSLOFrankwise


 Tis the season to be jolly

GC ENTERPRISE CHRISTMAS SALE

Student Designed Christmas Cards
 Wax Melts
 Candles
 Handmade Soap
 Bath Salts
 Bubble Bath Dust

The students look forward to serving you on...

Thursday 23rd Nov - Lock 29, Castle Quay
 Sunday 26th Nov - FrankWise School Christmas Bazaar
 Thursday 30th Nov - Lock 29, Castle Quay

GC COFFEE MORNINGS


 COFFEE
MORNINGS

£2
 entry for unlimited hot
 drinks and home baked
 treats!

9:45 - 11:45
 19th October
 21st December
 8th February
 28th March
 23rd May
 18th July

We look
 forward to
 serving you
 soon!

Bacon Roll
£2



REAL CHRISTMAS TREES FOR SALE!

Saturday 2 & Sunday 3 December
 10am - 2pm

WE'RE SELLING NETTED SPRUCE CHRISTMAS TREES IN A VARIETY OF SIZES.
 All proceeds go towards new minibuses for Frank Wise Special School
 Minimum suggested donation from £5.00 per foot (30.48 cm)
TO PRE ORDER
 please email dougseymour.cmpc@gmail.com
REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE TOO!
 Cash preferably. We also accept card payment.

FIND US
 GL56 9NP off Todenham Road
 What.3.Words: groups.jaundice.lifestyle
 Fundraiser organised by Friends of Frank Wise Special School, please visit: frankwise.oxon.sch.uk/friends-of-fws

SCAN THE QR CODE to visit our website


Zoom out


 Do you have any time to spare?
**AMAZING
VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITY**

Join us in supporting and improving
 Frank Wise School for the benefit of the pupils.

It's the little things we do that make the biggest difference.

The Friends are ideally looking for individuals with previous experience in either marketing, admin or grant applications, although we would welcome anyone who can actively contribute a few hours a month.

We would also like to have a register of volunteers who could be called on to help at any fundraising functions, bingo, quiz evenings etc.

If this isn't for you, please share as it might be perfect for someone you know.

Friends of Frank Wise School is a charitable group, registered with the Charity Commission, (800362) with the aim of increasing the provision of specialised resources, facilities and equipment in order to support the work of The Frank Wise School.

We also raise awareness of the work of the school within the wider community. We currently have a two main fundraising priorities, the replacement of the school's Minibuses, and the enhancement of the pupils' playgrounds, all of which are in need of updating in order to ensure that we can provide the best learning opportunities and experiences possible for our pupils.

Any funds raised or donated to the school go to the Friends of Frank Wise

Our aims are:

- To raise funds to provide additional equipment, facilities and amenities for the benefit of the pupils at the school.
- To promote awareness in the local community of the pupils who attend Frank Wise School.

If you are interested or want to know more, please get in touch.
Email: dougseymour7@btinternet.com
 For further details about the Friends of Frank Wise please visit:
frankwise.oxon.sch.uk/friends-of-fws

SCAN THE QR CODE to visit our website




AVOCET THEATRE COMPANY
PRESENTS

An orange line-art icon depicting three stylized human figures standing side-by-side with their arms raised and hands open, as if holding or supporting something. This icon is positioned directly above the main title.

EMBRACE THE STAGE

A SEND Theatre Workshop

An exciting workshop catered to students aged 8 to 19 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Join us as we dive into the world of theatre in a welcoming, no-pressure environment. Our experienced volunteers will guide you through a series of fun activities, embracing diversity and celebrating every talent.

Saturday 9th December 2023 at 1.00pm
Wykham Theatre, Wykham Park Academy, Banbury, OX16 9HY

Secure Your Place at

www.AvocetTheatre.co.uk

Part of ATC's TheatreFest Banbury.
Enjoy More, Pay Less! Save 20% when you book 2 or more TheatreFest Banbury Events!

Avocet Theatre Company is a registered charity (1186908)

FIND US ON:



For full details please see the school website using this link:-

<https://frankwise.oxon.sch.uk/embrace-the-stage-send-drama-workshop/>



The Multi-Award-Winning [RAF Association Banbury Branch & Branch Club](#) will be holding its Annual Christmas Bazaar & Craft Fayre at Newland House on Broad Street on Saturday 2nd December 2023 from 10:00 onwards. If you are a Crafter, there is still footfall available, so do please get in touch if you are interested.

This year, after many letters to-and-fro to the North Pole, I am delighted to be able to confirm that Santa has agreed to join us this year in our Grotto from 10am until 4pm. Santa has been working hard during the Summer and has learned from his Reindeers how to speak to children hard-of-hearing through Makaton and British Sign Language. A very special Santa we have this year, I'm sure you will agree. Christmas Craft Activities for the Children will also be available.

There is no charge, but a donation to our Charity's Wings Appeal would be greatly appreciated.

Breakfast with Father Christmas

Saturday 16th, Sunday 17th, Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd December, 8am - 10am

Booking essential

Breakfast with Father Christmas is an incredibly popular way to see Father Christmas at Thomley, with the added bonus of activities, a lovely breakfast and maybe even some snow! Limited tables available.



An accessible and fun way to celebrate Christmas for all abilities.

Full English breakfast, tea, coffee or juice included for both the adults and children.

The event will be hosted in the pavilion and you will be allocated a table. There will be Christmas activities to do on your table.

After breakfast and the activities Father Christmas will enter the room to deliver presents (also included in the price).

£ 10 for parents or carers
£ 15 for children
(£ 10 for members)

Please book your places on our online calendar: <https://thomley.org.uk/calendar>

*Please note only the pavilion is open for this event

Thomley, Menmarsh Road,
Worminghall, HP189JZ



Thomley



DITTO aims to offer all vulnerable people regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or ability a place to meet up, socialise and have fun.

**WEDNESDAYS AT
LANGDALE HALL, WITNEY OX28 6AB**

Last date for 2023 - 29th November

☎ 01993 846240

✉ dittowitney@outlook.com

🐦 @dittowitney

📺 @dittowitney

theicecentre
Inclusive care education



Moving into Adulthood

 **HANDBOOK**



oxfrn Oxfordshire family
SUPPORT NETWORK

DITTO meets from 10am-12noon once a month. For more info, call 01993 846240 or email dittowitney@outlook.com



You can view the lights at no extra charge if you visit us in the day, or buy a discounted evening ticket. We also have an Illuminations + Supper Deal, with all-in farm visit, supper and a walk through our magical illuminations when they switch on at dusk.

For more information and to buy tickets, please go to the website - <https://www.fairytalefarm.co.uk/.../illuminated-evenings.../>



LOCAL OFFER

Where to go to find out what's available locally for children and young people with SEND* and their families

*SEND - Special Educational Needs or Disabilities

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/localoffer







Support and services available for children and young people with SEND

JOIN US FOR COFFEE AND A CHAT THIS AUTUMN

A CHANCE TO MEET OTHER CARERS AND A Q & A SESSION WITH THE TEAM

Dates for the coffee and chat mornings are:

- 2nd November 10am - 12.30pm - Witney Children and Family Centre
- 9th November 10am - 12.30pm - All Saint's Room, Didcot Civic Centre
- 16th November - 10am - 12.00pm - Bicester Library*
- 23rd November - 10am - 12.30pm - Dean Court Community Centre, Botley
- 28th November - 10am - 12.30pm - Northcourt Centre, Abingdon

*All venues have parking apart from Bicester Library which is the Sainsbury's car park (2hrs)

If you would like to come along, please email Oona.Bannister@oxfsn.org.uk, or scan the QR code with your phone

SCAN ME

oxfsn Oxfordshire family SUPPORT NETWORK

GO KIDS GO

WHEELCHAIR SKILLS TRAINING

Free, fun and inclusive sessions for 2-18 year olds. Extra wheelchairs provided so the whole family can join in!

Sunday 12th November
10am-2pm
Oxford
Sandhills Community Primary, Terrett Avenue, Sandhills, Headington, Oxford, OX3 8FN
To book a free place email:

Manual or powered wheelchairs
Propulsion & manoeuvring
Slopes and rough ground,
Back wheel balancing,
Road safety
Emergency evacuation techniques
Wheelchair sports & Dance

aspens Charity no: 1171446 aspens.org.uk

Autism Central For parents and carers

Autism Central is here to help!

Sometimes, talking to people who share similar experiences to yours means you're more likely to feel understood and get the support you need.

The Autism Central Peer Education programme is for parents, carers and personal assistants of autistic people. Support is provided by parents and carers of autistic people who are happy to share their knowledge and experience with others.

- We are here to listen, offer guidance and tell you about services that are available in your local area
- Navigate you to services that can make a difference and empower you
- Increase your knowledge, understanding and provide you with skills to last

Request for Support by scanning the QR code or emailing autismcentralsoutheast.org.uk

Camp Mohawk

The Woodland Centre Trust

For children and young people with special needs

Camp Mohawk is a day centre for children with special needs and their families, set in 5 acres of beautiful countryside, just outside Wargrave, Berkshire. Throughout the year the centre provides a range of activities, facilities and natural space to encourage children with a variety of special needs to play, socialise and learn in a secure and caring environment. Our facilities include adventure playgrounds, swings, sensory garden, play village, soft play and sensory rooms, art / craft room, music room, play lounge and, in the summer months, an outdoor, heated play pool. All this is set in approximately 5 acres of natural woodland.

What we offer:

- **Family Days** in school holidays and on Saturdays in term time – children / young people need to be accompanied by a parent / carer but we have a team of staff and volunteers on hand to provide support and assistance
- **Short Breaks** activities for children / young people aged 8 to 25 who have High Functioning Autism / Asperger's Syndrome
- **Special events** including sensory sensitive fireworks displays and Christmas parties
- **Group sessions** / days for SEND support groups, schools and groups of families

Registration is mandatory for all services and advance booking is necessary for all sessions. Fees / charges for families are all voluntary but contributions from our service users are an important source of income so we do have suggested contribution levels. Please visit our website or get in touch for more information:

Web: www.campmohawk.org.uk
Email: info@campmohawk.org.uk
Tel: 0118 940 4045

THE WOODLAND CENTRE TRUST, Highfield Lane, Crazies Hill, Wargrave, Berks. RG10 8PU. Registered Charity No. 1202580

TIP 4



<https://everybodymoves.org.uk/>

Every Body Moves has resources for people with disabilities

Every Body Moves is the award-winning inclusive activity finder and online community hub from ParalympicsGB, designed to champion inclusion and empower people with disabilities to become more active. With more than 8000 adaptive and inclusive sessions, including a range of virtual workouts, hints and tips, search your postcode to discover what's available in your area or in the comfort of your own home.

[Check out your local area](#)

Universal Credit migration notices

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has started sending out notice letters to people on **legacy benefits** - a benefit which is being replaced by Universal Credit - to move on to Universal Credit. It is important to note that you don't need to claim Universal Credit if you've only received a leaflet from DWP telling you to get ready for Universal Credit. Wait until you receive a letter with a deadline.

If you have received a notice letter, make sure you read what is in the letter. You shouldn't ignore this letter as it will have a deadline. The deadlines are normally three months after the date the notice letter was sent. Your legacy benefits will stop after this deadline.

It is important to make a successful claim for Universal Credit by the deadline, but the timing of that claim can be important so that you can prevent gaps between claims.

We recommend you read our **Universal Credit migration notice** guide. You can also use our website to **search for an adviser** from other charities and organisations, who can help you with more information or advice.

For young adults, 18 years and over

Do you enjoy coming to workshops at the museums, gardens and libraries in Oxford?

We are here to welcome you to explore, learn and have fun!

There are 6 different venues for you to enjoy:

We have creative and fun workshops. All workshops are free and you can be sure of a warm welcome.

Find out more about these workshops here: <https://www.glam.ox.ac.uk/workshops-adults-learning-disabilities> 3 or get in touch with Hayleigh at outreach@glam.ox.ac.uk to have a brochure sent to you.

If you have any questions about the workshops, please call/ text or Whatsapp Hayleigh on our dedicated ALD number: 07704601999, or email outreach@glam.ox.ac.uk. If we can't answer, please leave a message and a phone number to call you back on.

Once you have made your booking, we will send you an email with your booking confirmation form and all you need to know about the workshops.

The Oxford University Museum of Natural History and Pitt Rivers Museum offer relaxed morning openings for families with members on the Autism spectrum, to explore the museums in a quiet environment. This is a joint event, allowing you to visit both museums during the openings. Although these relaxed openings are aimed at families, all ages are welcome.

Autism-Friendly Opening dates and times:

Saturday 5th August, 9am -10am, Friday 25th August, 9am -10am, Saturday 7th October, 9am - 10am and More dates coming soon.

To book your place, please email education@oum.ox.ac.uk

If you need any help getting to one of our workshops, we have teamed up with My Life My Choice who run a Travel Buddy scheme, offering travel support for people with learning disabilities.

The Oxfordshire Family Information Service has a directory of information and services for those with disabilities and additional needs and their parents and carers. To see what's on offer visit

<https://fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/oxfordshire/directory/disabilities.page?disabilitieschannel=0>

Categories include activities, health, moving into adulthood, education and specialist childcare.



Nothing Without Us is a co-produced gallery trail that shares the lived experiences of disabled people, their stories revealed by objects in the Pitt Rivers Museum.

In the summer of 2023, the Museum's Curating for Change Fellow, Kyle Lewis Jordan, led a group of co-producers in researching disability across multiple times and spaces. Their questions grew from asking how disabled people lived throughout time, to interrogating how the objects capture the experience of disability itself. Their ideas covered themes of Form and Function, Precarity and Violence, and Care.

We invite you to reflect on how such experiences have not only shaped their lives, but have a deeper connection and meaning that matters for all of us.

Download the [A5 Nothing Without Us trail booklet \(pdf\)](#) or pick up a printed copy at the museum during your visit.

Download the [A4 larger print version \(44 page pdf\)](#) that includes all the text on display alongside pictures of the exhibits. (Downloadable word file coming soon too.)

All the content on the trail webpages below are also available to view on [NaviLens](#) app and NaviLens go app. Navilens codes are available each trail stop, including the introduction panels found on each floor. Scan these codes through the NaviLens apps to access the display information via this platform.



<https://www.prm.ox.ac.uk/event/late-night-after-dark>

Friday 24 November, 19.00 - 22.00

Free but booking required.

Book your free ticket [here](#).

Level access entrance: Robinson Close, South Parks Road, OX1 3PP

Experience the Pitt Rivers Museum and Natural History Museum after dark with an evening packed with exciting activities hosted by researchers, creatives, community groups and staff. Join us in the Pitt Rivers Museum for a programme of activities to mark Disability History Month and the new Curating for Change trail* in the Museum.

This event has been programmed with [Curating for Change](#) Fellow Kyle Jordan and a team of local co-producers.

All welcome!

Accessibility Information

For general access information for our site, please see: www.accessguide.ox.ac.uk/pitt-rivers-museum

Event access information:

The following sessions will have **BSL interpretation for d/Deaf and hearing-impaired people:**

- Curator-led tour of *Nothing Without Us: Experiences of Disability* trail
- BSL Hand Choir Workshops
- Behind the scenes sharing sessions

Touch-tour elements for blind and partially-sighted people:

- Curator-led tour of *Nothing Without Us: Experiences of Disability* trail

All activities are accessible for wheelchair users but please consider signing up to activities with limited space in advance.

There will be low-level music playing in the museum. During performances of the Hand Choir, the music will be at a normal level.

We expect the busiest period in the museum to be 8-9pm.

There will be signs up to help you locate the areas and activities. If you need additional support, please ask a staff member who will be visible by their lanyard.

There will be a quiet area in the Lecture Room with lower lighting, bean bags, chairs and books. This area will be regularly checked by a staff member. There will also be a quiet area in the Natural History Museum in the Annex, which will be clearly signposted.

If you have any queries regarding access for this event, please email prm@prm.ox.ac.uk or call us on +44 (0)1865 613 000.

Local Support Groups for Parents and Carers



£2 per Family!

Family Drop In Session for Children with SEN
Every Wednesday
6-8pm

The Hill Community Centre
 Dover Avenue, Bretch Hill, OX16 0JJ

All Children must be accompanied by an Adult.



HILL VIEW COMMUNITY HUB

Neurodiversity
 We All Think Differently

ALL THINGS SEND

Family SEND Support Group

You are an amazing bunch who are working incredibly hard, day in day out, to support and nurture your children despite their challenges. You deserve an hour to yourselves to chat about your experiences over a cuppa and a biscuit!

Grab the time and opportunity to **chat freely** to each other in a **non-judgemental** space. There is no formal agenda, just the chance to talk about **what works well** and **what is tricky**.

WHEN: Friday mornings, drop in between 8:45am and 11am
WHERE: Hill View School Community Bungalow, OX16 1DN

If you would like to come along, just turn up!
 To find out more please contact Emma Ford at eford@hillview-school.co.uk or Emma Jeavons at ajeavons@hillview-school.co.uk

Bicester Autism/ADHD

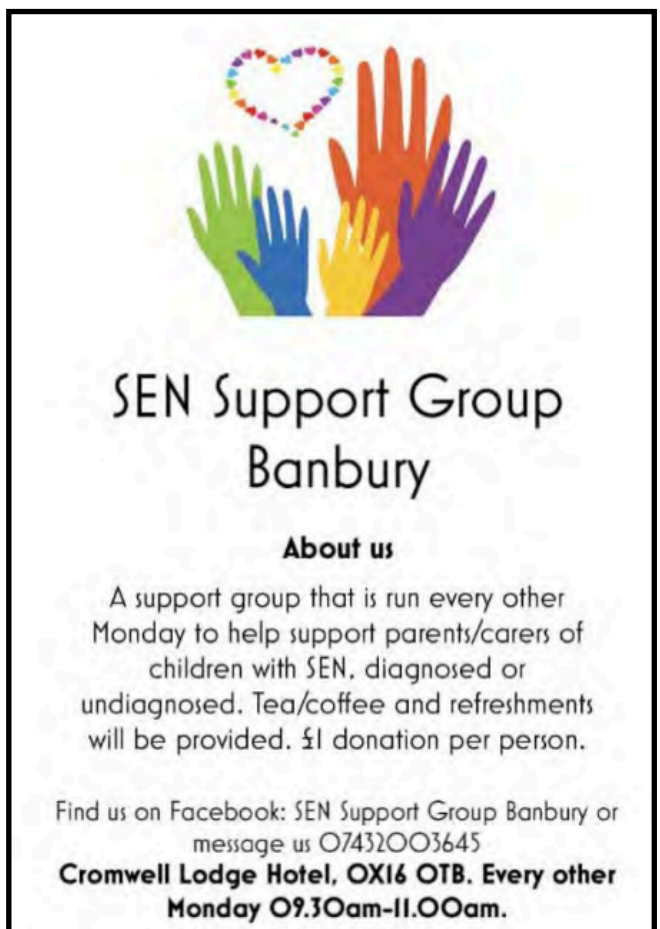
No diagnosis is needed to join
 Weekly informal events such as:

- Morning Coffee and Chats (fortnightly on a Friday morning)
- Pub Nights (Tuesdays)
- Family Sessions (Tuesdays)
- Night Off Sessions for parent/carers

There are two Facebook accounts.

An open page Bicester Autism/ADHD that provides information to non-members and the general community about events and articles of interest.

The second group (Bicester Autism/ADHD Chat group) is a closed chat group for members only.



SEN Support Group Banbury

About us

A support group that is run every other Monday to help support parents/carers of children with SEN, diagnosed or undiagnosed. Tea/coffee and refreshments will be provided. £1 donation per person.

Find us on Facebook: SEN Support Group Banbury or message us 07432003645
Cromwell Lodge Hotel, OX16 OTB. Every other Monday 09.30am-11.00am.

Oxfordshire Residents Support Scheme

Details of how to apply to the Oxfordshire Resident Support Scheme, our local hardship fund

A new scheme has been launched to support residents who are either in, or at risk of being in crisis, are in need of immediate help and have no other source of financial support available to them.

What kind of support can you get?

The Resident Support Scheme will help with short-term basic living costs such as food and credit for gas/electric prepayment meters. It can also help in some circumstances with white goods, furniture and clothing. It is intended to meet one-off crisis or emergency need and is not designed to meet any type of ongoing expenses.

Cash will not usually be awarded, but a pay point voucher (which can be redeemed for cash) or bank transfer can be supplied where necessary.

Items required, such as furniture, ovens or fridges will be purchased through the scheme and the delivery will be arranged with the resident directly to their home.

If approved, delivery of these items will be arranged within five working days. The old item will be removed, where applicable, and the new item will be installed.

The scheme will also signpost residents to other sources of support that are available to ensure that they can get the maximum level of help.

There may also be the opportunity for referral for advice/assistance with financial, debt and/or welfare benefits to try and address the resident's long-term needs.

Who does the scheme help?

All residents aged 16 years or over are eligible to apply but the council has identified the following groups as a priority to support:

- those experiencing or at risk of domestic abuse
- families with young children
- older people
- people with longer-term illnesses
- people with disabilities
- people with mental health needs
- households with a pregnant person

What will not be awarded?

Not every application will be awarded. The scheme will not award:

- any application made that is assessed to be 'not an immediate need' or where alternative means of support is available
- applications from those with sufficient income or savings
- clothing (except in exceptional circumstances where someone is fleeing their home e.g. flood, fire, domestic violence)
- minor structural repairs where these are the responsibility of the landlord or the owner.
- furniture and household items where living in private rented furnished accommodation or furnished temporary accommodation, where this is the responsibility of the landlord
- specialist disability equipment or adaptations, recliner chairs, wheelchairs and mobility scooters
- personal debts – we will refer to appropriate agencies for support.
- phone costs or associated expenses

How do you apply?

You can make your application to the scheme online at any time. You will need to provide information about:

- where you live
- who you live with
- your circumstances
- your income
- your health
- what help you are applying for

Apply now

[click here to apply now](#)

If you are unable to get online, you can use the free Wi-Fi or the free-to-access PCs in one of our 44 [libraries](#), where staff will be happy to help.

Alternatively, you can apply by telephone on 01865 804171, Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm excluding bank holidays.

If you are finding it difficult to apply online, or if you have a query about a new or existing application, please email RSSOxfordshire@necsws.com or call 01865 804171

.How long will it take for a decision to be made?

Decisions will be made for 'cash awards' applications within one working day and for household goods within five working days. Cash applications will be paid via pay point voucher and where the code will be sent by text message or email, which will be received within 24 hours of the decision being made.

If an item is awarded, you will either receive an email or a phone call for delivery to be arranged at a time that suits the resident.

Can I appeal a decision?

If an application is unsuccessful there is an opportunity to make an appeal. You will have 10 working days from the date of your decision letter to register your appeal. You can appeal by emailing RSSOxfordshire@necsws.com or writing to:

Residents' Support Scheme
PO Box 352
Hartlepool
TS24 4FH