



Bonny Downs Community Support Community Food Club Q&A

In addition to our weekly [Trussell Trust Foodbank](#), BDCA is launching a Community Food Club, every **Thursday 11am to 1pm from 22 September 2022**, at [Bonny Downs Church 18 Darwell Close E6 6BT](#).

How is a Community Food Club different from a Food Bank? Like a food bank, the purpose of a food club is to support people who are struggling to afford the essentials they need. But while food banks are intended to provide short-term crisis support, food clubs provide a more regular support network. Clubs are designed to be part of a longer-term solution that empowers people and helps them to get their finances back on track.

Who can use the Community Food Club? The CFC is open to anyone who lives in E6. You do not need a referral voucher and can come any week when it would help you.

How does it work? You pay £5 each time you attend to exchange for the food and household items you want most at a low, discounted price. You get to choose which items you wish to take home, and you can browse as you would in a shop. The items available will vary from week to week but there will always be a range of staple foods and household items, with some more expensive items being restricted.

What documentation will I need? We ask that you provide proof of your address in E6. We also ask that you complete a short registration form on your first visit, for data and monitoring purposes. We do not ask you to prove your income or need.

Where does the food come from? Some items, especially perishable items, will be saved from food waste or have a short shelf life. Some items are donated. Some items are purchased using club members' fees. All the money collected by the CFC goes back into the CFC.

What would be the reason for someone using the Community Food Club? The reasons will vary from person to person. We don't ask a lot of questions. We know that life can be tough at times, and we hope that the food club can help you through. We also believe that food waste is a tragedy, and we seek to provide ways to reduce food landfill.

Do you deliver? Unfortunately, we are unable to do deliveries.

What else does the Club offer? Our Community Food Club offers 'more than food'. We have qualified onsite advisors who can help with a range of relevant issues. These include how to make a household budget, tips on managing money, and debt advice. We can also refer you to a range of other specialist advisors, including the Citizens Advice Bureau, immigration advice, Shelter and other housing advice, and welfare benefits advice. We hope to run English classes too.

Can I volunteer? – we are recruiting a skilled team of volunteers. Please read more and apply at bonnydowns.org/volunteer. We look forward to hearing from you!

Can I support you in other ways? – donations of non-perishable items are welcome at Bonny Downs Church on Wednesdays or Thursdays from 9am to 2pm. You can also donate money quickly and securely on [our Localgiving page](#). The CFC has a committee who will meet regularly to decide on issues such as spending membership fees, updating the stock, and expanding the 'more than food' offer. Please contact support@bonnydowns.org if you would like to be involved.