

Newent Leisure Facility - Change to Opening Hours

Frequently Asked Questions

Number	Question	Answer
1	Why has this decision been taken?	One of the main considerations for Newent is that access to the leisure facility and school facilities are difficult to segregate. The school and provider (Freedom Leisure) regularly review their safeguarding and site access security. The recent implementation of Martyn's law in April 2025, places greater emphasis on the need to protect public spaces and ensure robust security measures. The decision has been made jointly by Newent Community School, Forest of Dean District Council and Freedom Leisure, who manage and operate the site in partnership. View Press Release
2	Is the leisure centre going to continue to operate for the community?	Yes, Freedom Leisure is contracted to provide leisure provision at four sites in the district (Newent, Cinderford, Lydney and Sedbury). They are contracted at Newent and will continue to provide community access, outside of the school hours.
3	Are there any alternative facilities or activities the public can access?	Swimming and leisure options for Freedom leisure members are available at GLI and Cinderford. Local exercise classes and activities are available in several community venues in and around Newent and as part of our Active Wellbeing strategy, we will be focussing on additional local options. See further information on community exercise/ activities, including our Exercise on Referral scheme here: Communities, health and leisure - Forest of Dean District Council
4	Can I use my Freedom Leisure membership at other locations?	Yes, there are Freedom memberships that allow use across the Forest of Dean sites, and a Gloucestershire connected membership for all sites across the county. Speak to your leisure centre team about membership options and access at different centres.
5	What if I can't get to another Freedom	We appreciate that the public transport system is challenging or that people may not have access to their own vehicle. If you need support in exploring alternative transport or local options,

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	leisure or there is no public transport?	please contact the Community Wellbeing team or discuss with the Freedom leisure team.

Contact

Community Wellbeing Team: community.wellbeing@fdean.gov.uk or call 01594 810000 and customer service will connect you.

For general enquiries [Contact us - Forest of Dean District Council](#)