

STFITC Host Fantastic Special Schools Disability Festival

On Thursday 14th October 2010 Special Schools from all over Wiltshire travelled to Devizes Leisure Centre where Swindon Town Football in the Community Trust and Nationwide Building Society organised a Football Festival for children with learning and physical disabilities.

The festival witnessed over 110 young people participate in this fantastic event. This year STFC Community Trust was fortunate enough to have sponsorship from Nationwide as well as a number of volunteers from the Swindon-based Building Society, which enabled the Trust to deliver a bigger and better Festival and create more playing opportunities for these young people.

During the six week programme, STFC Community Coaches delivered a five week coaching programme in all nine Special Schools across Wiltshire which prepared the players and teams for the festival. The Festival put the players through their paces in a variety of football skills in the morning with small sided games in the afternoon.

Adam Greaney, STFC Football in the Community Disability Officer commented, "It was a superb event and as you can see all the players thoroughly enjoyed the day. They have all put in so much effort over the past five weeks and this festival is a massive reward for all of the schools involved. I would like to thank Nationwide for all of their support with the event and it was great to see their employees give up their time to come down and be part of such a memorable day for everyone involved."

Nationwide's Corporate Responsibility Manager, Dion Alday, said: "Supporting our local communities is at the centre of Nationwide's ethos as a mutual organisation. We have recently launched a volunteering programme for our employees which offers two days paid leave per year to dedicate to volunteering activities and we are delighted that we could help the festival from both a sponsorship and volunteering perspective."

At the end of the event all players received a goody bag and a medal for their hard work and efforts, which were presented by all of the Nationwide volunteers and the Chairman of STFC Football in the Community Trust, Mike Spearman.

