Found a Bird?
before you pick it up, please read carefully

START

Does it have feathers?

NO
Yes it is a hatchling

YES

Can you see the nest?

NO

Make a nest out of a cardboard box, lined with dried grass and leaves. Secure it to a nearby tree and place the bird inside. Do not take the bird home.

YES

Is it small, black with pointy wings?

NO

It is likely a swift

YES

Is it larger than 10cm?

NO

Is it a sparrow fledgling?

YES

They don’t fly well at this stage, and still require parental care. If it’s in danger of cats or cars, then move it to a safe place nearby. If not, it’s best to leave the bird alone.

NO

Is it a pigeon?

NO

Does it have a ring?

YES

It’s a racing pigeon. Please read the 2-digit number on the leg ring which denotes the pigeon club number. Go to http://maltafederationofracingpigeons.com/#/clubs and contact the responsible club directly.

NO

Is it injured?

NO

Please take the bird to the attention of your local vet

YES

Is it a duck?

NO

It is likely an escaped pet. If it’s in danger or causing a danger, call Animal Welfare, 1717.

YES

Take a photo and call BirdLife Malta

+356 21347645
or
+356 79255697

Is it a seabird?

NO

Is it a swift?

YES

It is likely a seabird

NO

Is it a pigeon?

YES

Is it injured?

NO

Young pigeons still rely on their parents for food. It is best for the bird to be left alone.

YES

Does it have webbed feet?

NO

It is likely a duck

YES

Is it injured?

NO

Return the bird safely back to the nest. The parents won’t be able to ‘smell’ you.