

it's about me

Derbyshire's Holiday Activity and
Food Programme

DERBYSHIRE
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES
AND FOOD PROGRAMME

IMPACT REPORT
SPRING 26



OUR IMPACT



134

holiday clubs
provided a range of
enriching activities
across the county

4,916

**children and young
people attended a
holiday club**
at no additional cost
to their families

61

organisations
took part in the
It's About Me
programme

15,593

**nutritious meals
served**
while providing fun,
engaging nutritional
education

£441,734

**Invested into local
holiday clubs**

guaranteeing funding
for organisations
during the holidays

84%

**Free School Meal
Attendance**

18% SEND
attendances

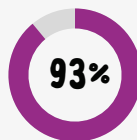
1,050

**children and young
people to access remote
activity**

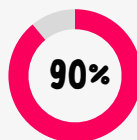
ensuring equal access for
those unable to attend
in-person holiday clubs

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE FEEDBACK

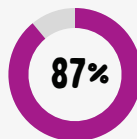
267 Responses



of children and young people said their holiday club made them feel **more positive**



of children and young people rated their holiday club as **'Very Good'** or **'Good'** overall



of children and young people said the holiday club made them feel **ready for school**

“WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT YOUR HOLIDAY CLUB?”

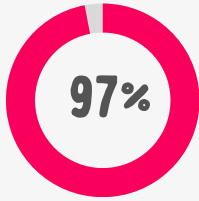
“Learn lots of new things. Learn lots of skills.
Free play.”

“Really fun, so many games and you can make
really good friends.”

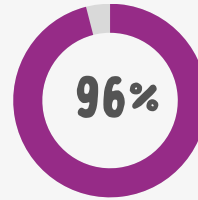
“Because there were loads of things to do and
I got entertained the whole time, it was very
fun.”

“When I started I was scared, but then I
realised it was really fun.”

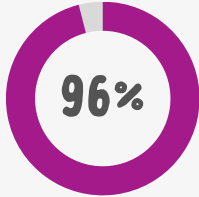
“WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING DO FEEL YOU DO YOU DO AT YOUR HOLIDAY CLUB?”



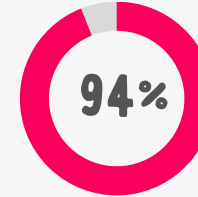
say they did fun activities that they enjoyed



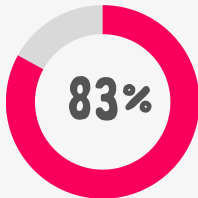
say they take part in sport, fitness and physical activity



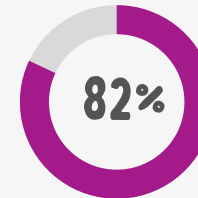
say they made new friends or socialised



say they eat healthy, nutritious meals



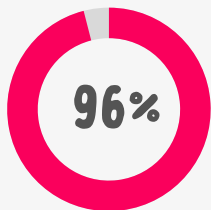
say they try out new experiences



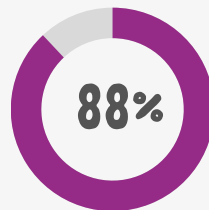
say they increased their awareness of healthy eating, lifestyles & positive behaviours

PARENT & GUARDIAN SURVEY RESULTS

189 Responses



of parents & guardians would recommend their local holiday club to other families



of parents & guardians rated their holiday club as 'Very Good' or 'Good' overall

TESTIMONIALS

“Fantastic volunteers, welcoming environment, great activities. My children love going to the holiday club, they're safe and feel welcome. They make new friends and always go home with a smile on their face. The activities always cater for each age group. We enjoy going so much”

“The staff are so lovely and so inclusive for my daughter who has autism and adhd. They keep all the sessions so interesting too!”

“My child thoroughly loves the club. All the activities are great and they always ask to do as many days.”

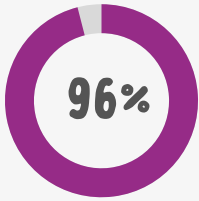
“My child always says that have had lots fun and played lots of different activities and staff are always friendly and helpful.”

“Very nice team and we managed to learn so much together and cook things that we had never done before. Nice weather and a walk, a train ride. Very nice time spent together. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, everyone for this opportunity! We want more!”

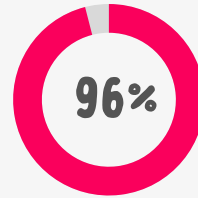
“I am a local foster carer and have taken different children who have been with me at the time. The clubs are such fun and the children gain positive experiences that they would not normally experience.”

“Absolutely amazing, daughters thoroughly enjoyed making their lunch, pies, crumbles, doing crafts, a guided walk & train ride!”

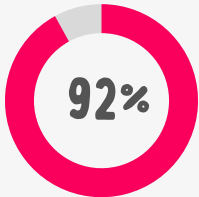
“Which of the following do feel your children do at their holiday club?”



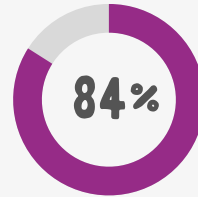
say they take part in sport, fitness and physical activity



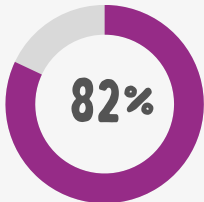
say they participated in fun, engaging activities



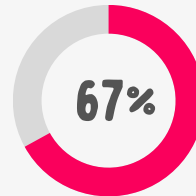
say they socialise and make new friends



say they eat healthy, nutritious meals



say the holiday club made them feel ready for school



say they increased their awareness of healthy eating, lifestyles & positive behaviours

SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS

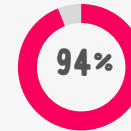
HOLIDAY CLUB PROVIDERS

18 Responses

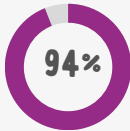
What benefits has It's About Me had on the children and young people?



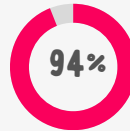
Providing engaging activities that support their development and well-being



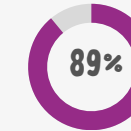
Increase socialisation



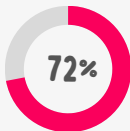
Creating a safe space for young people



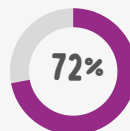
Providing healthy and nutritious meals



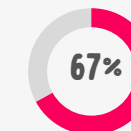
Maintaining physical activity levels



Helping to develop greater understanding of food, nutrition and other health related issues



Connecting young people and their families with support services



Preparing young people for their return to school

TESTIMONIALS

“Our HAF programmes take place in the most deprived areas of our district and supports children and families who need the support the most.”

“Without this funding we wouldn't be able to deliver this fantastic provision. We had over 100 children attending each day so the need is there.”

“It means we can reach children that wouldn't ordinarily get this kind of opportunity, especially the SEND provision we offer.”

“It allows us to offer an incredible range of activities to children who might not otherwise have the opportunity to participate. Without the funding, we would have to charge the families, which would most likely mean the children in receipt of free school meals would no longer be able to attend due to the cost.”

“We have been using the funding for over 5+years and children love the Holiday Camps we provide.”

“Communities and residents are at the heart of everything we do. HAF funding allows us to provide fun experiences and healthy food to vulnerable children and families.”

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

As part of the It's About Me spring training programme, we delivered the core HAF training offer across four courses, with **14** learners attending in total.

- Youth Mental Health First Aid
- Safeguarding
- SEN inclusion
- Emergency First Aid at Work

We also worked with organisations to identify the additional training they would find most useful. In response, we delivered four further courses tailored to provider demand.

- Paediatric First Aid Course
- Boxing Activator
- Activator Essentials
- Inclusion Activator

These additional courses were attended by **43** learners. This suggests that the existing core HAF offer has largely been exhausted, with many providers having already completed that training.

By shaping a bespoke programme around providers' identified needs and interests, we increased engagement and achieved full in-person delivery. Although Derbyshire's geography can make attendance difficult, providers were willing to travel when the training matched their priorities.

57

learners
accessed
training

We received a higher level of learner feedback than in previous holiday periods, with **52%** of learners completing the feedback survey.

- **90%** of Learners either agreed or strongly agreed that they had learnt something new that they will put into practice.
- **93%** of learners either agreed or strongly agreed that the course developed my skills.
- **100%** of learners thought that the tutors knowledge of the topic was good or very good.
- **97%** of learners agreed or strongly agreed that the tutor responded well to their needs.

"Tutor - very engaging and very good knowledge in the area."

"The teacher went into great more understandable detail."

"I liked the interactive participation of course delegates. It made the course fun and learning enjoyable. It's possibly the most enjoyable course I've ever been on."

FOOD WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING

As part of the continuous development for holiday clubs, we offer a series of food-based training courses. This Spring, these included **Let's Talk About Food** and **Food Standards** training, the latter being mandatory for all new holiday club providers.

30

Let's Talk
About Food

15

Food Standards
Training

BUILDING CONFIDENCE THROUGH CREATIVITY: INCLUSIVE HOLIDAY THEATRE IN ACTION

PIPE DREAM PRODUCTIONS

Pipe Dream Productions delivers theatre workshops during the Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays as part of the It's About Me programme.

Children attending the programme take part in a range of theatre-based activities, including dance, acting and singing. Over the course of each week, they work collaboratively to develop a 20-minute performance, which is then showcased to parents and carers at the end of the holidays.

In addition to creative activities, participants are provided with a nutritious, home-cooked meal prepared on-site, supporting both their wellbeing and engagement.

The provision caters for a wide age range, supporting children and young people aged 5 to 16. It is fully inclusive, with adaptations made to performances and backstage roles to ensure that young people with SEND can participate in a way that suits their individual needs.

The programme has built strong relationships with families who attend regularly. Some children return each holiday period, demonstrating high levels of engagement and enjoyment. For example, one child expressed a strong desire to attend every holiday provision due to the opportunity to creatively express themselves. Another participant chose to attend despite knowing they would be unable to take part in the final performance, highlighting the value they place on the experience itself.



The inclusive nature of the provision is particularly evident in its support for children with SEND. One child, who finds broader participation challenging, takes on a specific role introducing the performance before transitioning to a quieter backstage space. This approach ensures they remain an important part of the production while being supported in a way that meets their individual needs.

Overall, the programme provides a safe, engaging and inclusive environment where children can build confidence, develop social skills and express themselves creatively.

SUPPORTING FAMILIES THROUGH INCLUSIVE HOLIDAY PROVISION

CHESTERFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB

Camp Inspire is a vibrant holiday club based in Chesterfield, welcoming over 80 children aged 4 to 11 during the school holidays. The provision offers an inclusive environment for children of all abilities, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Through a varied programme of sporting activities, team-building games and access to a healthy meal, Camp Inspire promotes physical wellbeing, social development and positive engagement.

The club has become a vital source of support for many families, particularly those with children who benefit from routine and structure. One parent shared their experience of how the provision has transformed the school holiday period for their family. Their child, thrives on consistency and attending Camp Inspire has provided them with a familiar and dependable environment outside of term time. What was once a challenging and overwhelming period has become something they look forward to with excitement.

This child now associates school holidays with attending what they call "holiday club," and their enthusiasm reflects the sense of belonging they feel there. Their growing independence is evident—they confidently enters the setting on their own, viewing it as a space that is uniquely theirs. This highlights the level of comfort, trust and security the environment provides.

Prior to accessing Camp Inspire, school holidays were described as extremely difficult for the family, with limited support available. Discovering the provision marked a turning point, alleviating pressure and offering much-needed reassurance. The parent described the club as a "godsend," emphasising the significant positive impact it has had on their family life.



A key strength of Camp Inspire lies in its dedicated and understanding staff. Practitioners provide tailored one-to-one support where needed, demonstrating patience, kindness and a strong awareness of individual needs. This personalised approach ensures that children feel safe, supported and able to engage in a way that suits them.

Although this child may not always be able to articulate their experience directly, their enjoyment is clear through their enthusiasm and willingness to attend. The freedom they experience within a safe and nurturing environment enables them to build confidence, develop independence and simply enjoy being a child.

Overall, Camp Inspire exemplifies the importance of inclusive, high-quality holiday provision. By creating a safe, structured and engaging space, it not only supports children's development and wellbeing but also provides invaluable relief and reassurance to families.

WITH THANKS TO



Department
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