

Hartlepool Holiday Fun

Hartlepool Holiday Fun is funded by the Department for Education as part of their Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme.

This holiday provision is for school aged children from reception to year 11 (inclusive) who receive benefits-related free school meals. Local authorities also have the discretion to use up to 15% of their funding to provide free or subsidised holiday club places to other children who schools and the local authority believe could benefit from HAF provision.

Benefits-related free school meals (FSM) are available to pupils if their parents are in receipt of qualifying benefits, and have their claim verified by their school or local authority. For more information regarding eligibility for FSM please follow the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

The aims of the HAF programme are for children to:

- eat healthily over the school holidays
- be active during the school holidays
- take part in engaging and enriching activities which support the development of resilience, character and wellbeing along with their wider educational attainment
- be safe and not be socially isolated
- have greater knowledge of health and nutrition
- be more engaged with school and other local services

We also want to ensure that the families who participate in this programme:

- develop their understanding of nutrition and food budgeting
- are signposted towards other information and support, for example, health, employment, and education

For the full guidance on the Holiday Activities and Food programme please follow the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/holiday-activities-and-food-programme/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-2021>

Due to the growth of the programme, and requirements of the Department for Education, we have taken the decision to move to a new booking system for Christmas 2023. To book your child onto provision at Christmas 2023 you will be required to have a Hartlepool Holiday Fun voucher code. If your child's school has indicated that you are eligible for the programme, you will have received a voucher by either email or text message using the contact information stored by school. You will need to follow the link and create an account, you can link multiple children to the same account provided they each have codes. This account will then allow you 4 vouchers to book onto activities per child.

If you have not received a voucher for your child and believe that you should have, please contact haf@hartlepool.gov.uk or your child's school.