



# Holiday Activities and Food Newsletter

## Welcome!

Welcome to the first Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme newsletter.



Creative sessions with Warrington TAGS

HAF is funded by the Department for Education and offers vulnerable children, and children who are eligible for benefit-related free school meals, to take part in holiday clubs. It offers a multitude of activities alongside healthy meals. This summer, we had 2040 places on offer, with 1179 children and young people taking up places.

The funding covers Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays, and [providers are required to go through the council's procurement platform](#) to be considered to provide for children and young people in Warrington.



The "curious minds" HAF programme

We had 35 HAF programmes across Warrington over summer, provided by 14 organisations with a host of activities including sports, forest school, music, arts and crafts, family days, cooking and much more. We had specialist provisions for complex targeted children, and provisions for all children with SEND. We try our utmost to accommodate all needs. All children are welcome regardless of status. Visit [warrington.gov.uk/HAF](http://warrington.gov.uk/HAF) for more information.

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## Feedback from Parents/Carers and Children

- “My child has extra needs (as yet undiagnosed) and school holidays are difficult for us as a family...The HAF programme gave my child some structure to each day, at a place she was comfortable with, doing things she enjoyed.”
- “The children enjoyed time out of the house with friends. It made what can be a long and difficult holiday due to lack of funds.”
- “Everything there is lots to do, I like trying different foods that I’ve not tasted before. I like that we all go together and have lots of fun.”
- “HAF is something to look forward to”



**COVID safe:**

All providers have undertaken COVID awareness training and provided the local authority with their COVID risk assessments and contingency COVID plans. We are reassured that all providers are able to manage safe COVID restricted environments to safeguard themselves as well as children/young people and their families. These can be shared upon request.

**FOOD:**

Good, nutritious food and nutritional education are key elements of the HAF programme, following the school food standards.

The HAF is a real opportunity to make a difference, to open children and young people up to different foods, to engage

them in interesting activities to widen their tastes, improve their health and to get them excited about food

Engaging children with vegetables tip: Place some vegetables in a bag (e.g. pillow slip). Ask children to feel inside the bag and guess which vegetables are there. As a variation, blindfold children and place a vegetable in their hands. Ask them to guess what the vegetable is by feeling, smelling and even tasting it.

You could also get the children to make their own rainbow fruit skewer with their favourite fruits. Offer different kinds of foods to try on a special theme day. For example, on apple day offer green apples, red apples, dried apples, pureed apple and canned apples to show them how one ingredient can be used in multiple ways and taste different ways!



**Croft Primary School**

**Early help East HAF provision**

**Waps Link Club**



**Warrington Youth**



**Rosebank**



**Score Creative**



**Funky Friends**