



Derby HAF Annual Report 2023-24

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Funded by



The Holiday Activities & Food Programme (HAF) is funded by the Department for Education to provide free healthy meals and enriching activities to children from low-income families. Derby has over 14,500 children who receive benefits related free school meals and Derby Poverty Commission's data suggests that 38.3% of children are living in poverty, and the numbers are rising.

Poverty has been shown to manifest itself in numerous ways, and children in a household experiencing poverty will be more prone to experience a household with mental illness, domestic violence, neglect, parental separation, and forms of abuse which serve to further compound the detrimental effects that children in poverty experience daily.

Research has shown that the school holidays can be pressure points for some low-income families. For some children that can lead to a holiday experience gap. Children from low-income households are:

- less likely to access organised out-of-school activities
- more likely to experience 'unhealthy holidays' in terms of nutrition and physical health
- more likely to experience social isolation

There are many benefits for children who attend the HAF programme. We want to encourage all HAF providers to ensure a high-quality experience that will result in children:

- receiving healthy and nutritious meals
- maintaining a healthy level of physical activity
- being happy, having fun and meeting new friends
- developing a greater understanding of food, nutrition and other health related issues
- taking part in fun and engaging activities that support their development and well-being feeling safe and secure
- getting access to the right support services
- returning to school feeling engaged and ready to learn

"The HAF programme is an important part of Derby City Council's offer to support children and young people in Derby to have fun, active and healthy school holidays. **We have a wonderful range of organisations providing opportunities** to take part in a rich variety of activities and enjoy a healthy meal.

"It's fantastic to see the programme growing and more families coming along for the first time. During this cost of living crisis, the free holiday club provision has helped ensure that children and young people still continue to have access to positive and enriching opportunities."



**Councillor
John Whitby**
Cabinet Member for
Children's Social Care,
Learning and Skills

HAF Programme Board

The HAF Programme Board meets quarterly and is responsible for steering and monitoring the work of the HAF programme for Derby.



**HAF Strategic Lead /
Professional Advocate
for Children in Education**
Derby City Council (Chair)



HAF Co-ordinator
Derby City Council



Deputy Chief Executive
Community Action Derby



**Community Services
Manager**
Community Action Derby



**Communications and
Marketing Officer**
Derby City Council



Group Accountant
Derby City Council



**Childcare and Families
Information Service
Manager**
Derby City Council



**Physical Activity & Sport
Strategic Manager**
Derby City Council



Public Health Manager
Derby City Council



SEND Project Manager
Derby City Council



**Children and Young People's
Strategic Lead**
Active Derbyshire



**Secondary School
Headteacher**

Partnership with Community Action Derby

Our partnership with Community Action Derby (CAD) enabled the HAF programme to work closely with Derby's local Voluntary and Community organisations. These providers were already embedded in their communities, meaning parents could access provision local and familiar to them. This partnership ensured the programme was varied, accessible, culturally appropriate and linked in with a wider network of non-statutory support. CAD also provide a city wide 'cost of living' website and phone line, giving providers a 'one stop shop' to signpost families to additional statutory and voluntary sector support.

During 2023 – 2024, more than £1 million was invested in the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector, keeping that money within Derby's communities and creating employment and volunteering opportunities for local people. Through the wider support available via the HAF programme, VCSE organisations were able to build their capacity, accessing training for staff development and achieving accreditations such as OFSTED and Food Business registration.

HAF provider 'Vox Feminarium' addresses community needs by offering assistance on critical issues such as housing, education, environmental concerns, and overall well-being. More immediate community needs are addressed through their food and clothing bank and community shop provision.

"HAF has notably bolstered our capacity to support local children and families. This funding facilitates team training, local employment and volunteering and has significantly expanded our reach and within the community."



"We are really pleased to have been able to support the HAF programme. **It's a great example of successful partnership working which has led to thousands of children in Derby city being supported through school holiday periods.**

I'd especially like to thank all those in our communities who have volunteered their time to deliver so many enriching experiences.

Many voluntary sector groups work hard to provide support and the fact that they have been able to access additional funding to do their work through the HAF programme has enabled them to extend their offer and support local families who are in need."



Kim Harper,
CEO of Community Action Derby

Derby City Council receives funding for the HAF programme from the Department for Education. The Department of Education has invested over £200 million each year nationally for the three years of the HAF programme. The funding is allocated to local authorities based on the number of children who receive benefits-related free school meals.

For the 2023-24 financial year, Derby was awarded

£1,394,370

Direct grants to HAF providers	Administration - Derby City Council (HAF Strategic Lead and Co-ordinator)	Administration - Community Action Derby (Managing application process, funding and monitoring)
£1,208,320	£69,718	£69,718
Marketing and communications	Other costs - transport, training, booking systems	Total
£19,895	£26,084	£1,393,735

Impact

5,127	4,044	947	21%
children reached	primary aged	secondary aged	of which were SEND
41	136	professional referrals, to support children in care, children with child protection plans, refugees and asylum seekers and children with additional needs	
providers funded			

Working closely with Derby City Council's Communications and Marketing Team, Derby's HAF programme has been promoted widely across the city, including:

- Lamppost banners in three key areas of the city, on main traffic and footfall routes
- Digital advertising on bus stops
- A targeted local radio campaign
- Posters, flyers and postcards issued to schools and community settings
- Advertising banners outside schools and HAF venues

HAF has received positive press coverage during the year. A visit from the Department for Education's social media team to Baby People resulted in national online coverage, and Radio Derby featured Community One in an extended interview celebrating their work supporting the local community.



HAF Providers for 2023-24

We are proud to work with such a diverse range of providers in the city, from small community organisations to schools, leisure providers and the football club. It ensures that children can access a club that suits their interests and sparks their imagination.

AM Sports

Aspire
Community &
WrestlingAlvaston
AchieversBaby
PeopleThe Bemrose
SchoolBramblebrook
Holiday ClubBridge
the GapChaddesden
Park Primary
SchoolCommunity
OneDerby
ArenaDerby
County
Community
TrustDerby
TheatreDerwent
Stepping
StonesEndorphins
(SEND)Engineered
Learning

Enthusiasm

Evergreen
CollectiveEveryone
Active

Fiit for Life

Freedom
FoundationFusion
ScapeGenius
TuitionInspiritive
Arts (SEND)Imbue
VenturesNadia Jane
Performing
ArtsOpen Doors
ForumPeartree
PlayschemePremier
EducationProgressive
SportsRCCG Solid
RockSafe and
SoundSchools Out
ClubShining Stars
NurserySoccerstars
UKSpirit & Soul
(SEND)Sporting
CommunitiesSt. James
Centre
(SEND)St.
Werburgh's
ChurchUmbrella
(SEND)Vox
FeminarumYMCA
Derbyshire

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Supporting children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

We have seen a significant increase in the number of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities accessing the HAF programme. Most of the professional referrals received were to support children with additional needs.

We were proud to work with some of Derby's specialist providers in 2023/24 who specialise in supporting children with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities.

- **Endorphins** – dance, drama, arts & crafts, gaming and other activities in safe, supportive and inclusive sessions
- **Freedom Foundation** – street dance and hip hop techniques, dance routines, and keeping fit
- **Inspiritive Arts** – providing arts therapies (art, drama, dance, music therapies) and well-being arts
- **Spirit and Soul** – equine therapy in an outdoor, farm-based setting
- **St. James Centre Funabili8y** - activities, games and trips, helping disabled young people live life to the max!
- **Umbrella** – games, sports, arts and crafts



Photo courtesy of Freedom Foundation



“This scheme was fantastic. For my children to be around other children just like them was brilliant. In a kid’s club on holiday they were bullied and teased. **At Umbrella, the kids are all the same, nice and friendly.**”



“It’s been lovely seeing her enjoying something new and meeting new friends. **Her confidence has grown.**”



“I think you all are so amazing, you learnt very quickly about K’s needs and made provisions for her needs to be met. **I’m so happy we found you** and can’t wait for her to come back.”

Professional referral scheme

Though most of our funding is for supporting children and young people who receive free school meals, a small amount of discretionary funding is available for others who may benefit from the HAF programme.

By working with professional partners across the city, including social workers, family support workers and schools SEND teams, during 2023 we have supported an additional 136 children and young people who may otherwise have been isolated or at risk during the holidays.



“At home she just sits and does nothing. I’m so glad I could get her booked on and **she is enjoying it.**” (Family Support worker)



“**Thank you for putting in the time and effort to support my foster child.** He really is much calmer at home with the advice you’ve given him.”



“My son suffers with making friends and gets bullied at school. **I could have cried when he came out and said he had made a friend.**”



“**This provision has provided Mum with the time she really needed.** Thank you for working with us.” (Social Worker)



Quality assurance and training

Ensuring that our HAF provision is of high quality and is meeting the needs of Derby's children and young people is key to the programme.

During 2023, all our HAF providers were visited at least once by members of the HAF team. The visits are a chance to see the clubs in action, speak to staff, volunteers and children and sometimes to join in and have fun!

The visits are to ensure that all the HAF standards are being met, but also offer a chance to support providers in any areas where they may need advice or guidance.

In order to ensure standards remain high, a programme of training was delivered. During 2023/24 Derby HAF has supported:

- 9 new Ofsted registrations
- 22 newly trained Paediatric First Aiders
- 96 staff and volunteers qualified Level 2 Food Hygiene training
- All providers attended mandatory safeguarding training
- Access to Trauma and Attachment training
- Behaviour Management & Conflict Resolution training



"I am delighted that our HAF course at Derby Rugby Club is now OFSTED registered. Before we became a HAF provider, we did not explore this option, and **HAF has challenged us positively** as a business to ensure we reach every professional standard/kitemark as possible to ensure we offer an outstanding service to our local community. We also feel this helps to make our service more sustainable during challenging financial times for business in Derby and look forward to increasing the number of OFSTED registered venues in 2024."

SoccerStars UK



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Every child attending a HAF club received a meal during their day. HAF providers worked with a range of community-based food providers and many cook on site, allowing the flexibility to adapt to children's needs and giving the children opportunities to get involved in the food preparation.

HAF providers had access to free Level 2 Food Hygiene training during the year, enabling staff and volunteers to achieve a qualification and ensuring the highest possible standards.

Derby's HAF providers respond well to the needs of our communities. Young people fasting during Ramadan were supported with food packages that could be taken home to be eaten later in the evening.



**33,582 meals served
during 2023-24**



"I loved trying different fruits, the pineapple was so juicy."



"The pizza making was a great idea, **the children have been so excited.**"



"I learnt new things and I will try to eat a bit better because before I would just eat stuff like crisps when I am hungry. **I am going to try and eat some of the different colours of the rainbow.**"



"A massive thank you for arranging a Iftar pack for my son. **This allowed him to fast whilst at the club without feeling left out.** I appreciate everything you guys do."



"**Thank you very much for arranging another amazing club.** F loved attending every day and got on really well with Nabeela who understood his needs and challenges. Also a massive thank you for allowing him to bring extra food home for Iftar."

Nutrition and healthy lifestyles

HAF providers delivered support and guidance on nutrition and healthy lifestyles in a variety of creative ways, including:

- Cooking and baking sessions
- Blindfolded taste tests
- Making fruit and vegetable animals
- Using inspirational sports people as healthy role models
- Creating online video clips sharing cookery demonstrations

Younger children enjoyed play based sessions to learn about nutrition, including vegetable printing and creating fruit and vegetable animals, and running their own pretend pizza restaurant.

Many of our providers working with older children were able to deliver wellbeing sessions to address topics including managing anxiety and depression, drugs and alcohol, managing use of digital technology and social media, managing sleep issues and dental care.



“She’s become a little chef after those cooking classes. **She’s so proud** of her culinary creations, and we’re enjoying healthier meals at home too.”



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Physical activity

Physical activity is a key element of the HAF programme and during the year children and young people had the chance to try out some fantastic sports and activities, including:

- Football
- Cricket
- Basketball
- Dodgeball
- Wrestling
- Circus skills
- Dance
- Orienteering
- Yoga
- Fencing
- Archery
- Touch Rugby
- Athletics
- Boccia
- Rollerskating
- Ice skating



“I can’t believe **I got to skate on my own!**”



“We actually got to wrestle **it was so cool!**”



photos courtesy of Everyone Active at Moorways Stadium

The HAF programme has provided children and young people across Derby with a huge range of exciting and enriching activities, including:

- Go-kart building
- Graffiti art
- Music production
- Yoga
- Swimming
- Guitar and drumming lessons
- Indoor climbing
- Escape rooms
- Theatre trips
- Small animal handling
- Wildlife walks
- Theme Park trips
- Ten pin bowling
- Science experiments



“This is my first time bringing the kids here and I feel gutted that I didn’t bring them before, what an amazing, exciting holiday club with so much to do. **My kids go home buzzing every night** and excited to go the next day!”



“The activities Enthusiasm provided were excellent, I couldn’t afford to take my kids to Lazer Quest, swimming and Rollerworld, **well done Enthusiasm.**”



“My children attending LightZone HAF have been able to **learn to play musical instruments like drums** which I wouldn’t be able to afford if I had to pay for music lessons.”

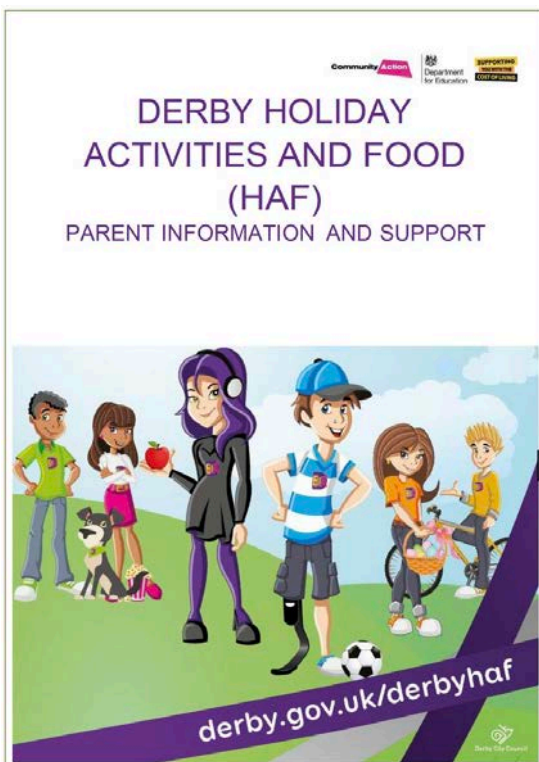


Signposting

The strong partnership between Derby City Council and Community Action Derby ensures that HAF providers have access to a wide range of information and support. All HAF providers are given a pack containing contact details for support organisations in the city, including cost of living support, benefits advice, housing, and mental health support.

HAF providers have shared with us some of the feedback from families who have expressed their appreciation for their children being able to access food and activities during this challenging cost of living crisis.

HAF providers have key roles in their local communities and have offered support to families with referrals to agencies such as Social Services, Speech and Language and to help parents begin the process of getting a diagnosis for children with undiagnosed additional needs.



“Aspire has very strong links within our community. We run warm hubs and food banks as well as our wrestling school which is heavily geared towards supporting those struggling with mental health issues. We really do recognise the sheer volume of support needed and how without HAF provision many families would have a really hard time coping during the school holidays. The support we offer also doesn’t end with HAF. We have strong links in terms of signposting and we always make sure the children and parents are well supported following the provision.”

Aspire Community and Wrestling



“Feeding my children over HAF helped me so much...I am really struggling financially at the moment, so **all help is very appreciated.**”



Community One and National Trust Hardwick Hall

Groups of children from Community One's HAF club in Normanton, spent one day a week of the summer holidays experiencing the stunning National Trust Hardwick Hall's 2000 acres of woodland and lakes as well as exploring the Tudor mansion. The children took part in a Junior Rangers programme, including pond dipping, bug hunting, nature walks and the chance to see wildlife up close and personal. The sessions received positive feedback from children and parents.

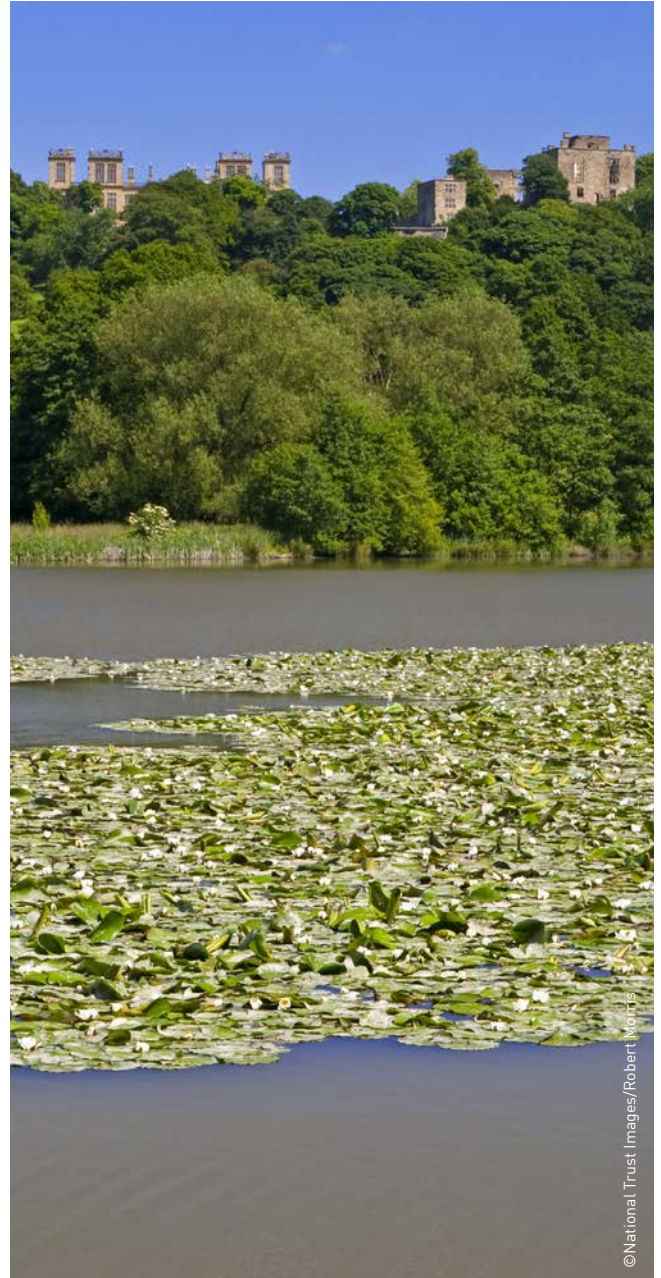


"We were delighted to host children from Community One at Hardwick Hall over the summer. It was a chance for us to share the beauty of Hardwick's landscape and inspire a new generation of nature lovers through our Junior Ranger project. **We loved seeing the children's excitement** as they explored the parkland and would love to welcome them back in the future."

Helen Cashin,
Volunteering and Community Manager
at Hardwick



"The range of exciting physical activities at Hardwick Hall and the Peak District has encouraged us as parents to **be more active, walk more and enjoy the great outdoors.**"



©National Trust Images/Robert Morris



"I'm thrilled with the experience R had in your programme. He embraced nature, learned about wildlife, and formed friendships with fellow nature enthusiasts. **You've nurtured his love for the environment** beautifully."

FusionScape

Community based provider FusionScape worked with a group of refugee and asylum seeker families living in hotel accommodation in the centre of Derby. Children from countries including Afghanistan, Eritrea and Columbia attended the club, taking part in music lessons, sports and dance.

Involvement in the club has gone from strength to strength, with some family members gaining qualifications to enable them to volunteer at the club, running football and basketball sessions for young people.



“It’s really exciting that out of the HAF, several children and young people have agreed to set up new clubs. This to include a girls’ only football club. The exciting thing about this is that **several refugee and asylum-seeking girls are taking the lead** on this which is amazing.”

Edward Nkwelle,
FusionScape



“In my country we don’t have so many activities to do, I am very happy that I come here every day.”



Plans for our 2024-25 HAF programme

2024 offers the opportunity to build on the success of the HAF programme so far, with plans in place for:

- Supporting 9 new providers in Derby, broadening the HAF offer for young people.
- Increasing the range and number of places for older teens, with offers including a BMX based club and free gym passes.
- Embedding the unique code system, ensuring that the HAF programme is for those families most in need.
- Ensuring that all HAF providers are registered with Derby City Council as Food Businesses, ensuring the highest standards.
- Working closely with partners from Active Derbyshire to develop a training programme to improve the inclusion of young people with special educational needs and disabilities in physical activity.
- Creating stronger links with the wider childcare offer in Derby, including Wraparound Provision to ensure more support to families.
- Reviewing the three-year HAF Programme to ensure Derby is in the best possible position to deliver a future HAF programme if funding is confirmed.



We can give you this information in any other way, style or language that will help you access it. Please contact us on **01332 956839** or **derby.gov.uk/signing-service**

Punjabi

ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਅਸੀਂ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਹੋਰ ਤਰੀਕੇ ਨਾਲ, ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਬੋਲੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਦੇ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਾਂ, ਜਿਹੜੀ ਇਸ ਤੱਕ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਕਰਨ ਵਿੱਚ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੋਵੇ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਇੱਥੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ: **01332 956839** ਜਾਂ **derby.gov.uk/signing-service**

Polish

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Slovak

Túto informáciu vám môžeme poskytnúť iným spôsobom, štýlom alebo v inom jazyku, ktorý vám pomôže k jej sprístupneniu. Prosím, kontaktujte nás na tel. č.: **01332 956839** alebo na stránke **derby.gov.uk/signing-service**

Urdu

یہ معلومات ہم آپ کو کسی دیگر ایسے طریقے، انداز اور زبان میں مہیا کر سکتے ہیں جو اس تک رسائی میں آپ کی مدد کرے۔ براہ کرم **01332 956839** یا **derby.gov.uk/signing-service** پر ہم سے رابطہ کریں

