

HAF NORTH SOMERSET Holiday Activities & Food



HAF 2023-24 Annual Report

1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

Contents:

Welcome

- Introduction from the North Somerset HAF Coordinators
- Aims of the HAF programme

Information

- Funding
- Reach of the programme
- Provision for children with SEND
- Food provision
- The North Somerset Steering Group
- The provision
- Data for North Somerset by postcode
- Provider information
- Play in the Park days
- Parent/Carer feedback
- Provision in 2024-25

Welcome and introduction from

Shelly Smith and Tracy Humphris

HAF Coordinators at North Somerset County Council

We are delighted to share with you our report for the year 2023-24. Since 2021, the HAF programme has provided support to children and young people aged 5 - 16 years who are in receipt of benefits-related free school meals.

The North Somerset HAF programme was developed to provide support for families during Easter, Summer and Winter (Christmas) holidays. We can confirm that more children than ever benefitted from enriching activities and food during their school holidays during the year 2023-24. We think they also had a lot of fun!

What our report cannot show is all the fun, laughter and enjoyment that all children who attended gained from their amazing experiences (and parents and carers too).

Should you have any queries at all then please do not hesitate to email us: HAF@n-somerset.gov.uk

#HAF2024



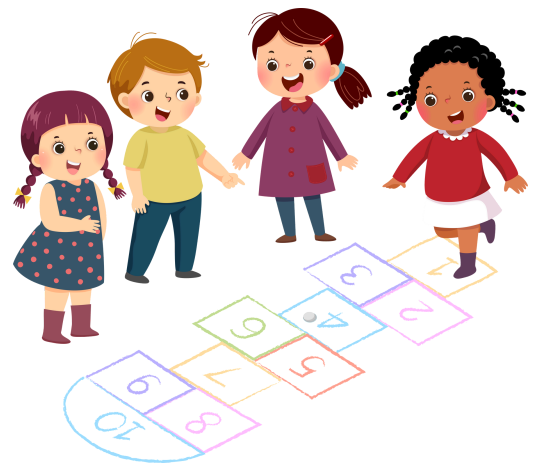
***The aims of the HAF programme:**

There are many benefits for children who attend the HAF programme, these include:

- 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
- feeling safe and secure
- getting access to the right support services
- returning to school feeling engaged and ready to learn

*extract from www.gov.uk

Our providers open their clubs to all children and not just children who are on benefits-related free school meals.



Funding

For the year 2023-24, North Somerset received £518,036 to be used exclusively for the provision of HAF activities.

This funding was used, as follows:

- Programme expenditure: £453,243.20
- Administration of the programme: £50,522.50
- Capital expenditure: £4,000
- Other expenditure: £5,196.26
- Underspend **£5,074 ** (Grant conditions: return to the Department for Education)

Reach of the programme

There are in excess of 5,000 children in North Somerset who are receiving benefits-related free school meals. After each delivery period, we summarised the number of unique children that had accessed a HAF provision. The numbers were as follows:

- Easter: 616 (556 primary aged children, 60 secondary aged young people)
- Summer: 4,271 (4,031 primary aged children, 240 secondary aged young people)
- Winter (Christmas): 803 (622 primary aged children, 181 secondary aged young people)

Provision for children with SEND

The number of children who participated in the North Somerset HAF Programme who had SEND during 2023-24 was:

- Easter: 4.1% (all primary aged children)
- Summer: 19% (primary and secondary)
- Winter 20% (primary and secondary)



Food provision

All children who attend a HAF provision are provided with a healthy meal and snacks throughout the day. Most receive a hot, cooked meal, although some are provided with a healthy lunchbox, especially if they are involved in a trip.

All providers follow the government guide for healthy foods in schools:

<https://www.gov.uk/school-meals-food-standards>

Dietary requirements are met for children as our providers ask all parents to confirm their child's dietary needs and preferences in advance.

We also ran workshops with both parents and carers in attendance. These workshops, led by a qualified chef, were to teach families where to shop locally for cheaper produce, how to use the "food left at the bottom of the fridge" to make healthy and nutritious meals, "1 pot meals" and low cost cooking.

The North Somerset Steering Group

Local authorities have discretion to use up to 15% of their funding to provide free or subsidised holiday club places for children who are not in receipt of benefits-related free school meals, but who the local authority believe could benefit from HAF.

At North Somerset, the priorities for this use are agreed by a steering group, which is made up of members of staff from North Somerset Council (Children's Services and Public Health) and Voluntary Action North Somerset.

Key priorities for 2023-24 included but are not limited to:

- Families living in financial hardship and poverty.
- Children who have a EHCP
- Children In Care.
- Children of veterans or serving personnel
- Children referred by Children's services.



The provision

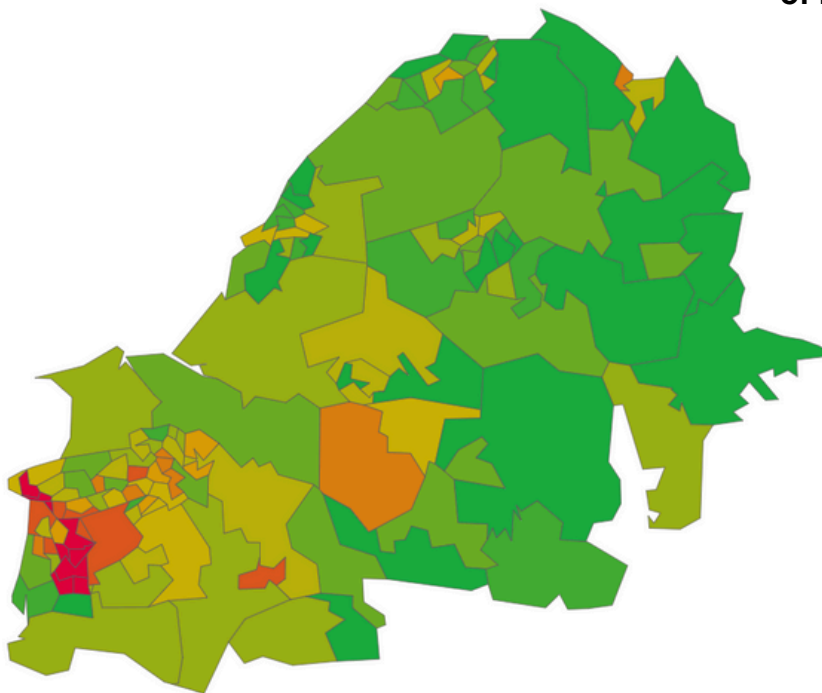
To ensure that the areas with the most need, (we call this mapping of service provision) North Somerset Council HAF referred to the English Indices of Deprivation 2019 (see below for map) which shows the areas of financial hardship in North Somerset where children are affected the most.

From the information provided by the map we were able ensure that the several areas in the county of North Somerset which had the greatest need had a 'within walking distance' provision for children to attend.

We tried to reach all areas of North Somerset, but due to several limitations including the amount of grant provision, there were areas of the county where we were unable to secure venues for HAF.

Decile 1 ● 2 ● 3 ● 4 ● 5 ● 6 ● 7 ● 8 ● 9 ● 10

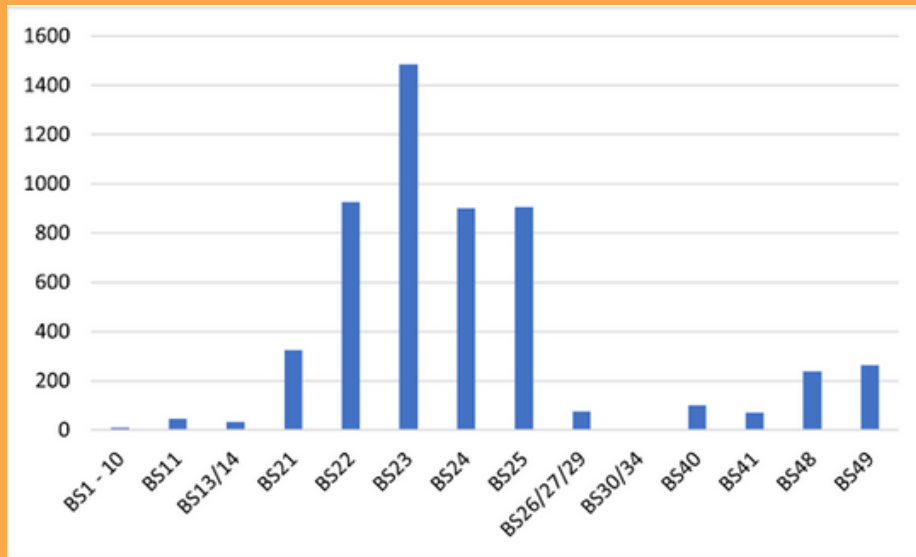
Map showing the English Indices of Deprivation 2019



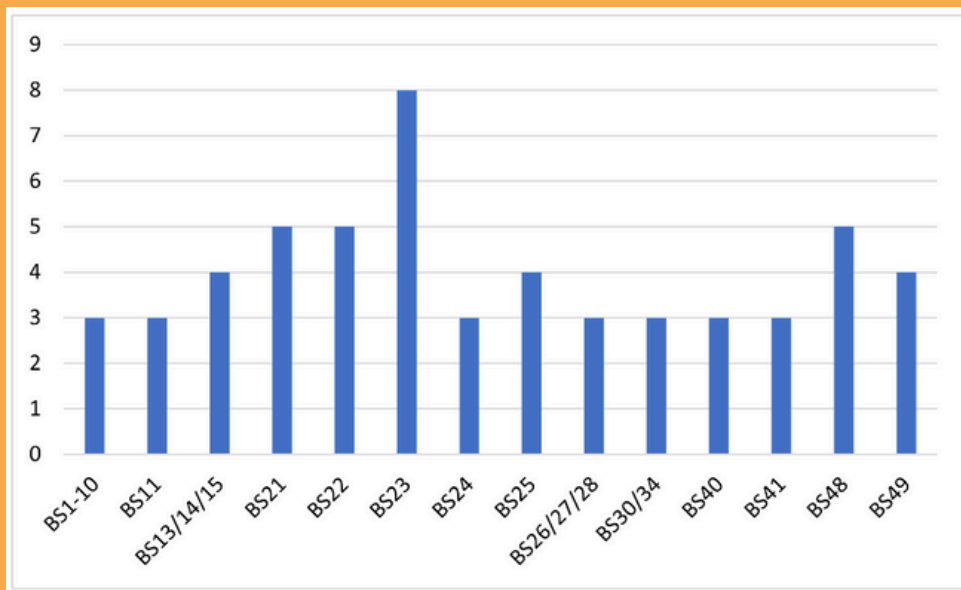
Decile 1 (in red) is showing where the need is greatest, with dark green being decile 10, where there is little or no need.



Children receiving free school meals by home postcode



2023/2024 Number of HAF provisions near to home postcodes



Enriching activities

As part of the advice and guidance provided by the Department for Education HAF's activities must provide enriching activities for the children, young people and families attending, for 2023/2024, these came in different designs and included amongst many other activities : Sport, Art, Music workshops, Drumming, Cooking and independence skills such as budgeting, and whole family free events. Also as part of the advice and guidance for running HAF provisions signposting to community services and Health and nutritional information should be available, one of our providers produced the flyer below, our signposting from all provisions included information on: [Fridge of free stuff](#) - Sovereign Centre, [The Stables food Shop](#) Wadham Street, [Portishead Community Fridge](#) and [Nailsea Community Larder](#) , as well as foodbank information and offers that each supermarket makes available.

HEALTHY EATING

BUDGET FRIENDLY, QUICK, EASY & HEALTHY IDEAS TO PUT SMILES ON FACES AT THE DINNER TABLE

Please turn over for links and resources supported by North Somerset Council & Marcus Rashford

Use your smart phone to scan/photo any QR code to take you straight to the website

- Food in the community map. Food groups, food banks and lots of details for local resources.
- Eat Well from Better Health, North Somerset. Practical advice on maintaining a healthy diet.
- Budget recipes, lunch boxes and snack ideas - with links to practical tips from celebrity chefs
- Healthy swaps - ideas from the NHS to help cut down on sugar, salt and fat

or visit: www.betterhealthns.co.uk for further ideas and resources

Department for Education | Better Health North Somerset | #HAF2024 North Somerset Council | PUPP | FUTURE STARS COACHING



Our providers and their venues for 2023-24 were:

Activate Camps:

- Kingshill School Pound Lane, Nailsea.
- Hornets Rugby Club Hutton Moor Road (for an Active Leaders course)
- Trips to Thorpe park, Cotswold Aqua Park, Go Ape and Porthcawl for surfing

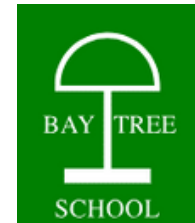


Art in Action Southwest Ltd:

- Chestnut Park Primary School, Yatton,

Baytree School

- Highlands Way, Weston-super-Mare.



Beacon Heights Consultancy Ltd (Healthy Appetite and Activities)

- Windwhistle Primary School. Weston-s-Mare.
- The Campus, Weston-super-Mare.
- Haywood Airfield Leisure Enterprise, Weston-super-Mare.
- Bournville Primary School, Weston-super-Mare.



Clip n Climb Weston-super-Mare

- Central Walk, Dolphin Square, Weston-super-Mare



Future Stars Coaching

- Herons Moor Primary School, Weston-super-Mare.
- Crockerne Primary School, Pill.
- Mary Elton Primary school, Clevedon.
- Trinity Anglican Methodist Primary, Portishead.



Icescape Tropicana

- Marine Parade, Weston-super-Mare



Our providers for 2023-24 (continued) were:

Keepers Gate Forest School

- Wentwood Drive, Weston-super-Mare



Little Farm Childcare Ltd

- Hewish, Weston-super-Mare



Mendip Activity Centre Ltd

- Lyncombe Drive, Churchill.



Primary Sports & Education

- Bishops Road, Claverham.



Priority Football Ltd

- Nailsea School, Nailsea.



Reset WSM CiC

- 63 Meadow Street, Weston-super-Mare.



School Sports Teaching & behaviour Management Ltd

- St Martin's Primary School, Worle, Weston-super-Mare.



The Stable - Free School Meals family cooking sessions



North Somerset organised provision:



The HAF Team ran two very successful and well-attended parties in our parks in the summer of 2023.

One was held at Clarence Park on Friday 4th August and the other at the Portishead Lake Grounds on Friday 11th August 2023.

There were so many different activities for families to enjoy, including:

- A magician
- Face painting and temporary tattoos
- A “smoothie bike” (showing how pedal-power can create a delicious and nutritious drink)
- Games including an interactive recycling game
- Painting and craft activities
- Puppet shows
- Circus workshops
- Lots of fun activities including football, tennis, cricket, rounders and archery
- Free Healthy snacks and drinks provided by the Café
- Yummy ice-creams



At the event, leaflets were provided to the families about community facilities in the local area. Signposting them to organisations such as local foodbanks, Debt advice, Public health and questions and queries about safety for attending PCSO's who came along to ensure everyone stayed safe.

We were delighted to receive support from our local **Asda superstore**, who provided us with tubes of toothpaste and toothbrushes free of charge to give to the children attending.



It was great for the children to do fun activities with their friends and others. It really helps with their social skills. Also helps my daughter with routine.



This is such a blessing as I wouldn't be able to provide these activities for my children. Thank you.

Feedback we received from the parents and carers

After each holiday, we sought parent and carer feedback by way of an online survey.

89% of those parents who responded said that they would rate the activities as good or excellent, with a 93% total satisfaction rating.

Shown in quotes are some of the things that the parents said to us with their feedback.

She loved it so much and would love to do it again!

I am always extremely happy with the provider and their activities



My daughter had an amazing experience at the holiday club ...

... a wonderful day ...

The staff are very friendly, and the activities they put on are really good

My son had a great time at the holiday club ...

... he loved the animal sensory session best of all ...





I would like to do swimming

We asked the children attending the activities what they thought of HAF.

80% said didn't think anything should be changed.

15% suggested activities they would like to do:

- Boxing
- swimming
- trampolining
- something different like gym

67% loved the lunches and snacks 33% preferred a packed lunch

The drumming is the best!

I take fruit home with me

All my friends all come here



Everyone is so nice my mum really like me coming here



We did sword fencing yesterday it was so cool



The lunches are lush! Its Fishfingers today and helped chop the veg



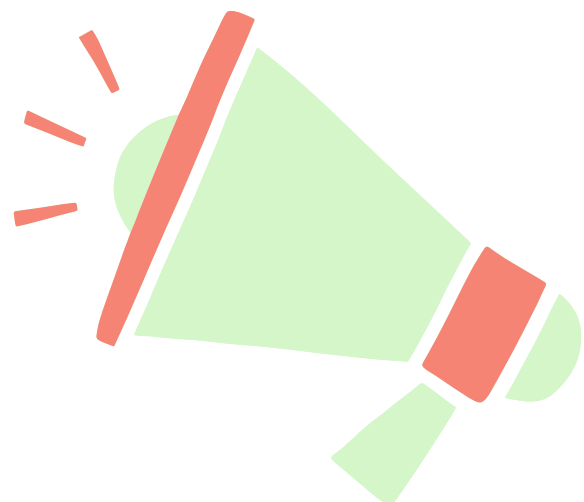
How we promoted the HAF provision in North Somerset

The HAF provision is promoted in the county by emailing all primary and secondary schools, asking them to notify their parents and carers whose children received benefits-related free school meals with details on how to book.

A flyer is sent to all departments in North Somerset Council asking teams who work with families to let them know.

We also advertised the HAF provision on the North Somerset website and on the North Somerset Facebook page.

Providers let all parents know who had previously booked with them. All our providers also have their own presence on social media which they used to promote their provision locally.



HAF 2024-25

For 2024-25, we received nineteen applications from potential providers who wished to join the North Somerset framework for HAF provision. Fifteen of the organisations met all the requirements of the procurement panel and were given a place on the framework. Of these, twelve submitted a second part of the procurement process, which were agreed and they are now offering HAF activities in many locations for 2024-25 across North Somerset.

We asked potential providers to consider how their activities could meet the needs of children with SEND and we welcomed applications from providers in alternative provision sites. We were delighted that we were able to increase the number of HAF places for 2024-25 in specialist settings for children with SEND and those who are at risk of exclusion from their schools.

There is a continuous development of the HAF service in North Somerset to meet the demands of the families who access this provision. Indeed, some of the provision this year was created after receiving feedback from children and young people in 2023 (especially teenagers) last year who requested development of hands on skills in workshops to support independence beyond school and college. Here's a link to short film about one of our new providers, The Hangar: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5O0nsmrwbmM>

We work very closely with other relevant agencies in North Somerset, including Public Health and The Food Club. We also work with the North Somerset Physical Activity Strategy Steering Group and the Children in Care team, North Somerset Parent Carers Working Together, the Climate Emergency Team and the Early Years Support Team.

Beyond 2024-25 we are hoping that HAF will continue to be funded by the Department for Education and so we are able to continue to provide these amazing opportunities for children and families in North Somerset.



Working in Partnership with your Local Authority





HAF
2023



North
Somerset
Council