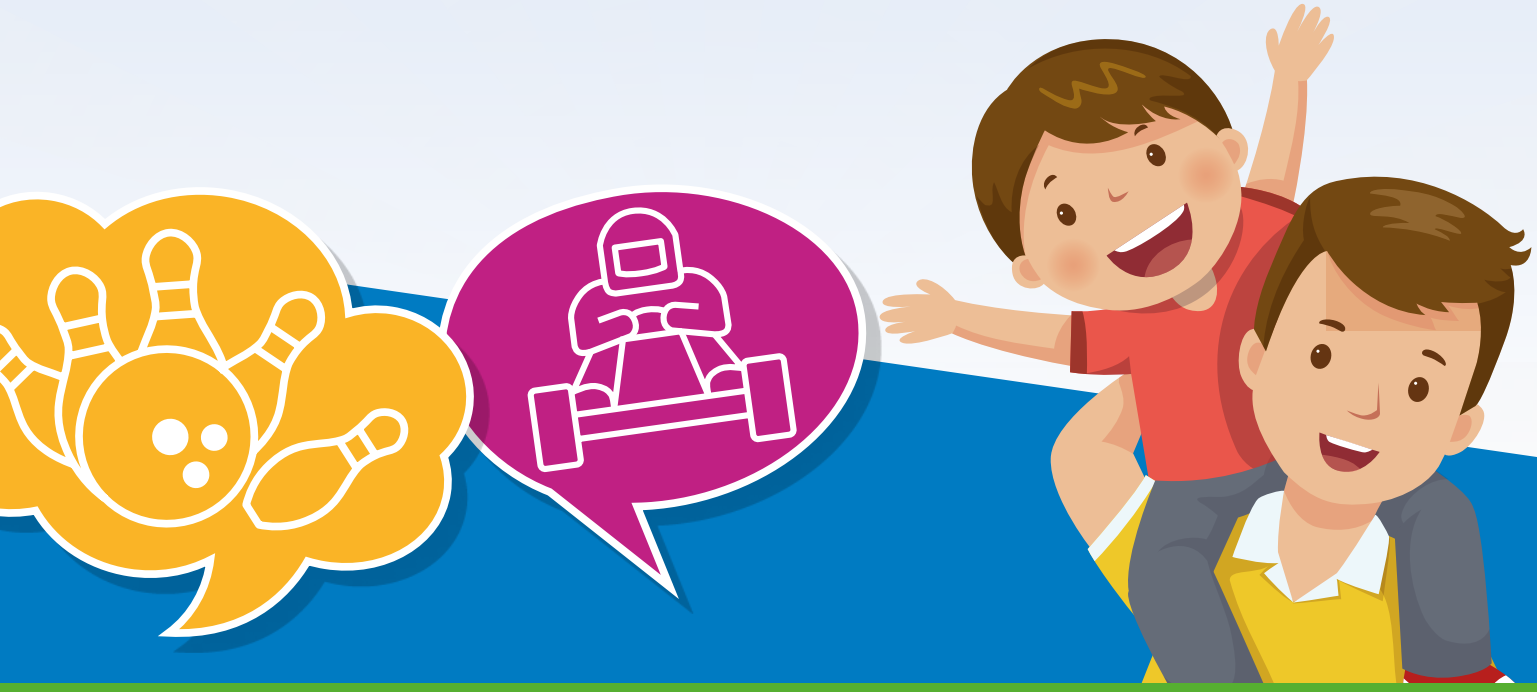
Funded by

Department for Education

Nottinghamshire Holiday Activities and Food

A guide for schools, parents and carers



Nottinghamshire County Council

Nottinghamshire
Holiday Activities and Food

What is the Holiday Activities and Food programme?

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is funded by the Department for Education. The programme aims to support the wellbeing of children aged between 5 and 16 years, focusing on physical and mental wellbeing by providing a variety of activities during school holidays.

Local activity providers run face-to-face sessions that are fully funded for children and young people receiving benefits-related free school meals. Included in each session is a meal.

The aims of the programme are:

- **to support children to eat healthily**
- **to support children to active during school holidays**
- **to support children in their understanding of health and nutrition**
- **to support families to be engaged with local support services.**

Who is eligible?

The HAF programme is open to children and young people aged between 5 and 16 years (age 4 if in reception class full-time) and receiving benefits-related free school meals. This is different from the universal infant free school meals that children receive in reception, year 1 and year 2.

If you think you are eligible for free school meals but you have not applied, you can **apply for free school meals online:**
www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

We can fund a small number of those who are not eligible for benefits-related free school meals. These places should be discussed on a one-to-one basis with a member of the HAF team. To be eligible for a discretionary place, families will need a professional referral from a support worker, social care or school team.

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Activities and venues

There are plenty of fantastic activities happening across the county as part of the Holiday Activities and Food programme. Programmes run in the spring (Easter), summer, autumn (October) and winter school holidays.

Children and young people can access the following:

- **4 days of face-to-face activity in spring (Easter)**
- **12 days of face-to-face activity in summer**
- **4 days of face-to-face activity in autumn (October half term)**
- **4 days of face-to-face activity in winter**

SEND activities

It is extremely important that providers understand if the child you are booking activities for has any additional needs. Providers aim to offer a quality programme, inclusive for all. It is therefore essential that they are aware of special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and any reasonable adjustments can be considered.

If a child attends a holiday club without full disclosure of support needs, the holiday club may not be able to offer the full support required, and this could result in the place being withdrawn.

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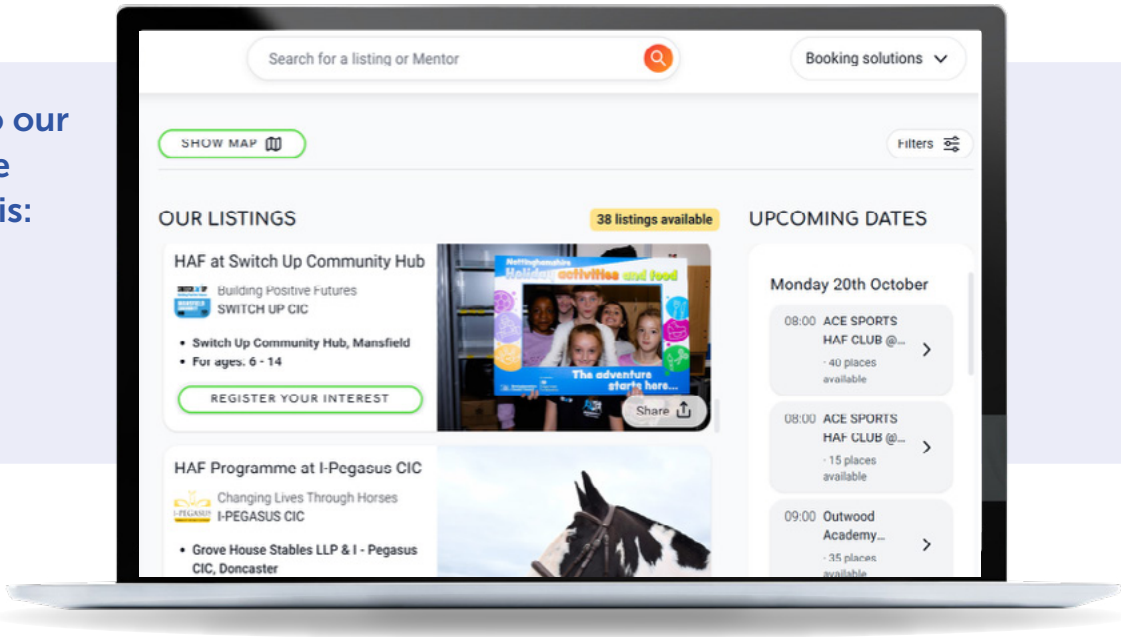
All holiday clubs can be booked through Eequ – our chosen booking system. The below steps show how to book a place.

Visit the HAF Notts website:
www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/HAF

1 Click on the **Find** an activity button:

2 This will then go to our new bookings page which looks like this:



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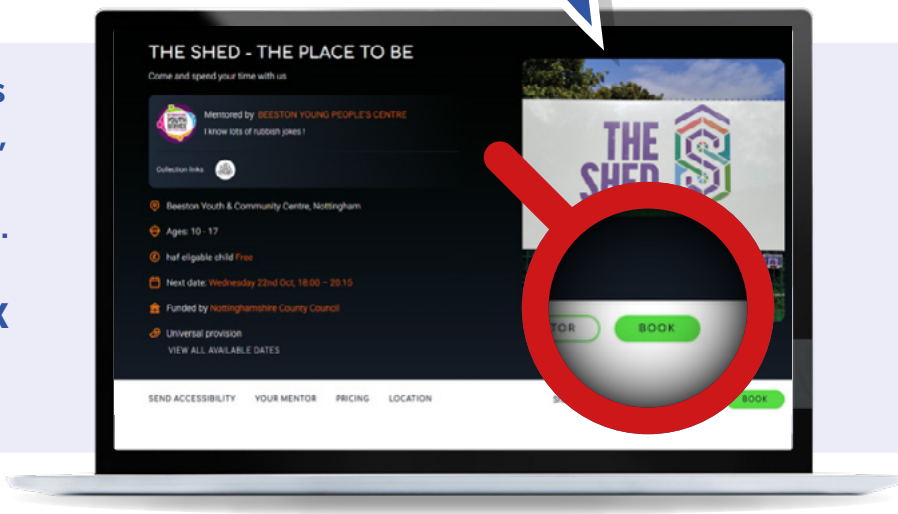
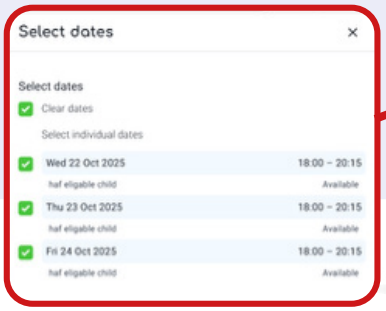
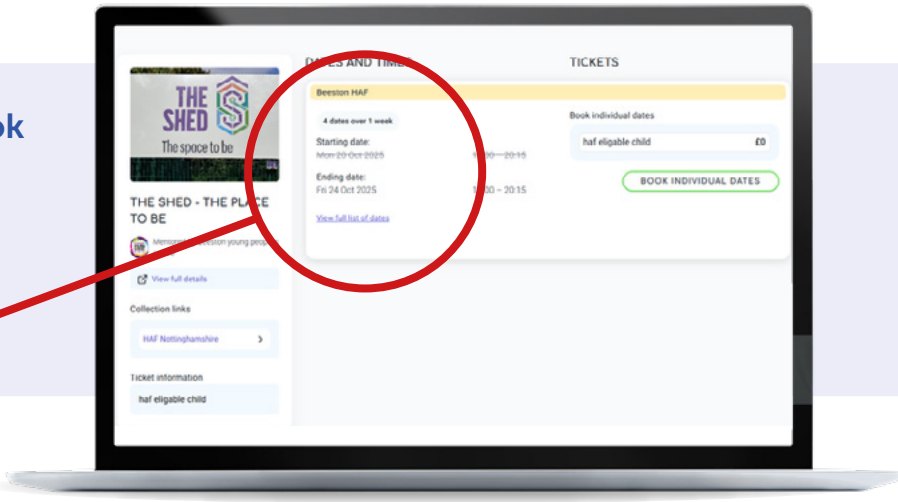
3 There will be a list of holiday clubs to choose from either by scrolling, postcode search, map search, activity specific, SEND specific etc. Parents/carers find a holiday club or clubs and click the green **BOOK** button, or register your interest if bookings are not yet open.



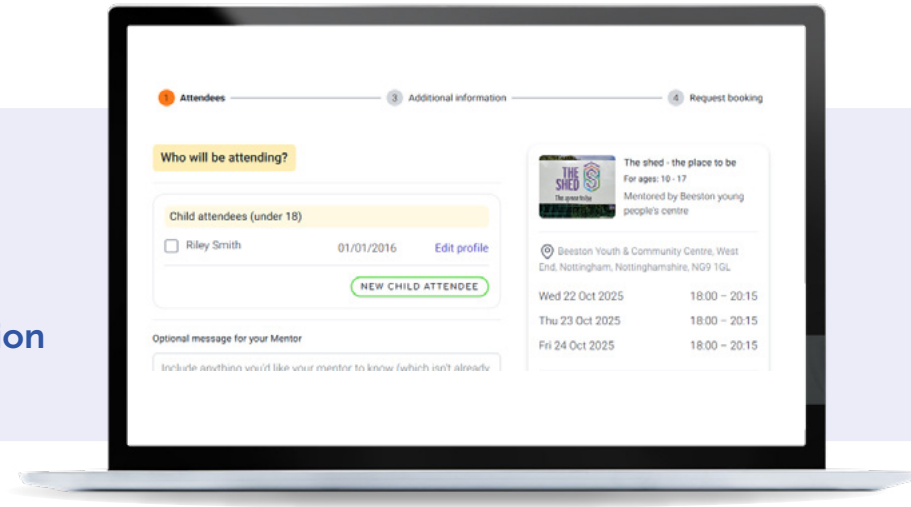
4 Choose the dates you want to book





5 Add the details for each child – such as name and date of birth

6 You will then receive a confirmation email for your places booked.



You can also watch a useful video by Eequ, which is also linked on our 'find an activity' page.

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Frequently asked questions:

What's the difference between universal and benefits-related free school meals?

Universal infant free school meals (UIFSM) provides funding for all government funded schools to offer free school meals to pupils in reception, year 1, and year 2. If families are in receipt of benefits, they should still apply for 'benefits-related' free school meals for their children, if they believe they are eligible.

Free school meals are currently available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits:

- **Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)**
- **Income Support**
- **Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance**
- **Income-related Employment and Support Allowance**
- **Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**
- **The guaranteed element of Pension Credit**

Is pupil premium the same as free school meals?

Pupil premium and free school meals are not the same, but they are related. Pupil premium is extra funding for every child who's eligible for free school meals throughout their time at school. The funding goes directly to the school and pays for things like school trips, breakfast clubs, or additional teachers and assistants to provide extra support and one-to-one tutoring.

Once a child is in receipt of benefits-related free school meals, their school will receive additional funding (pupil premium) to help and support them through their education.

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What if my child has specific needs?

If your child requires assistance for the activity, please contact the provider to discuss further – you may be welcome to attend with your child or the activity provider may offer extra support for your child. We also have specific Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provision, please discuss with the provider of the activity on booking.

Is food provided?

Yes. As part of every Nottinghamshire Holiday Activities and Food programme, refreshments and a meal will be provided free to each child and young person attending.

Please mention any dietary requirements your child has when booking. We will endeavour to meet all dietary needs.

Is transport provided?

Unfortunately, we cannot offer transport to each person wanting to take part in an activity. Where residents live in a rural locality, we will aim to support travel, but this will be considered on a one-to-one basis and by application. Please contact us via **haf@nottscc.gov.uk.**

How do I know my child is safe?

All our providers are DBS checked and Ofsted registered where required (under 8 provision). There are several checks that providers must pass to be a deliverer of the programme, to ensure your child is in the safest of hands.

At the time of booking you must also supply a password for collection of your child. We also ask for an emergency contact number where an appropriate adult can be reached. Please ensure that this number is current and active whilst your child is at their chosen activity.

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Web: nottinghamshire.gov.uk/HAF
Email: haf@nottscc.gov.uk
Phone: 0115 977 4999 (10am–2pm, Mon–Fri)

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