



# HAF NEWSLETTER

04/01/2024

Our bi-weekly HAF newsletter provide important information to help support the delivery of your provision, as well as useful guidance, resources, key dates, funding opportunities and more!

## WINTER DELIVERY UPDATES

### THANK YOU

Thank you to all providers who delivered over Winter 2023. We have really enjoyed visiting the clubs and seeing the invaluable experiences children have been given.

Here are just a few of the Christmas activities that took place during our visits...

✳ Christmas Dinners ✳ Talent Shows ✳ Snowman Cookies ✳ Children helping to prepare foodbank hampers ✳ Winter Curling ✳ Christmas drawing challenges to be submitted to Thurrock libraries ✳ Giant snow globes ✳ Therapy ponies ✳ Santa grottos ✳ Making reindeer food ✳ Christmas tree maze ✳ Pass the parcel ✳ Children learning Christmas songs on piano ✳ Christmas baking

### HOLIDAY ACTIVITY REGISTERS

Please ensure all registers are marked with those that attended sessions within the Holiday Activities system. This information will be collected for the Department for Education report.

### PARENT SURVEY

We ask that you encourage parents and carers to complete our parent survey. Their valuable insights and feedback will provide us with essential information to shape improvements for future programmes. The survey closes on Monday 15th January.

[Complete the survey here.](#)

### PARTNER SURVEY & CASE STUDIES

As a provider, your feedback is valuable to us! Please complete the survey by Monday 15th January.

[Complete the survey here.](#)

We are also very keen to share some of the fantastic stories about the Essex ActivAte programme (as well as quotes from parents or children this Winter) with other HAF providers and the Department for Education.

If you have a story/case study, you would like to submit - please see attached.

### BUDGET BREAKDOWN SHEET

See attached the ActivAte Budget Breakdown sheet to populate with your Winter camps actual project expenditure, this must be completed and returned to [haf@activeessex.org](mailto:haf@activeessex.org) by Monday 15th January. Please note any funding underspend for Winter will need to be claimed back by Active Essex.

### WONDE CODES

As always, codes are imperative to booking on children to your clubs. Please ensure every place and marked on the register has a code. We understand that you may still have some outstanding codes to request, therefore we ask that you send these through by the end of the day tomorrow (Friday 5th January 2024).

### VENUES CHANGES

It was brought to our attention that a few venues pulled their provision at the last minute during the Winter holiday delivery. It is essential that you implement your contingency plan, should this happen, to ensure the children have their food parcels and online sessions delivered.





## FEBRUARY HALF TERM DELIVERY UPDATES

Those providers that were contracted for Essex ActivAte 2023-2024, your final delivery is February 2024. We are now in preparation for this half term and are in need of your confirmation of your participation. Please look out for an email from your Assistant Relationship Manager (ARM) who can finalise your delivery.

Please remind yourself and your teams that February half term is funded by Essex County Council and allows us to support working families in addition to those on benefit based free school meals. Therefore for these holidays, you are to use your own booking system and the links for these will be listed on our website landing page.

For these smaller half term breaks, we DO NOT require you to collect Holiday Activities/WONDE codes.

- The funding will need to offer places to 50% of children on Free School Meals and 50% to low income families.
- The funding will not cover the cost of food for the 50% of low income families, the funding will only cover the cost of food for the children on free school meals.
- On booking, parents must be able to tick the option of Free School Meal or Low Income. We will NOT be using WONDE Codes/HolidayActivities voucher codes for this half term.
- In order to ensure that there is no separation between the two different funded places, we ask providers to offer a hot and cold food option to all children, and the Low Income families have the option to buy (at cost).
- You will be expected to monitor your own bookings to follow this criteria.

See here some top tips to consider, when preparing for half term:

- 1) Begin preparing your booking systems
- 2) Access the Partner Hub to use flyers and posters
- 3) Share Dates, Times, Locations and Booking link with your ARM
- 4) Speak to your families and schools to ensure they are aware of your clubs

### LUNCH AND LEARN

Our Lunch and Learn sessions with Sporting People are back this month, as part of our Support, Learn, Develop programme, helping to support Essex ActivAte providers with skills and knowledge to enhance their organisations!

Learning and Development - Future Skills For People

(1) Tuesday 16th January 12:15-13:00pm

Zoom link to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81446003466?pwd=RG11QmIRS0JRVG82NzdCYkFaaDlzQT09>

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Please see current funding opportunities by clicking [here](#).



## UPCOMING KEY DATES

12th January

Deadline for booking links

15th January

Partner evaluations deadline

22nd January

Half term bookings go live

