ActiveEssex

Essex ACTIVAte

BEST START IN LIFE | UK Government

*FREE

holiday clubs, fun activities and food across Essex and Thurrock!

Essex ActivAte is the name for the exciting holiday activity and food clubs delivered by Active Essex! During school holidays, club providers across the county offer free clubs for eligible primary and secondary children, giving them the chance to get active, make friends, learn new skills, and support their wellbeing.
The programme also offers:

- **Specialist SEND, mental wellbeing and youth clubs**
- **Sports and games, arts and crafts, cooking and much more!**
- **Nutritious snacks and tasty meals**
- **Activities run by qualified, local club providers**
- **Family support, resources and guidance**
- **Discretionary paid and paid for spaces**



www.activeessex.org

@EssexActivAte

SCAN ME

**Free Essex ActivAte places are available for children eligible for Targeted Free School Meals. Please only book a place if your child will attend, as non-attendance may prevent another child from benefiting from this valuable holiday opportunity.*

Is my child eligible for a free Essex ActivAte holiday club place?

From September 2026, the Department for Education has expanded Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility, meaning more families receiving Universal Credit may now qualify for FSM. However, free Essex ActivAte holiday club places remain available only to children who meet the Targeted Free School Meals criteria.

Follow this guide to check your child's eligibility and explore further support available.

Does your child receive Free School Meals?

YES

Do you receive Universal Credit?

NO/UNSURE

Please contact your child(s) school or scan the QR code to check your eligibility below.

SCAN ME

YES

Is your household's annual earned income £7,400 or less? (excluding benefits and tax credits)

YES

Targeted Free School Meals ✓

Your child can access:

- Free School Meals
- Essex ActivAte (HAF) free places during the holidays - look out for your emailed/text HolidayActivities voucher code to book

NO

Expanded Free School Meals ✓

Your child may still be eligible for Free School Meals, but free Essex ActivAte places are only available to children who meet the Targeted Free School Meals criteria.

NO

Further resources and support available:

- Low-cost or paid holiday clubs
- Family Hub services
- Activities, clubs and opportunities through the Find Your Active, Activity Finder
- Local community services and support
- Financial, wellbeing and family support

haf@activeessex.org

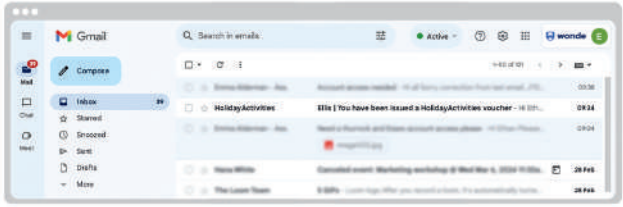
activeessex.org/children-young-people/essex-activate

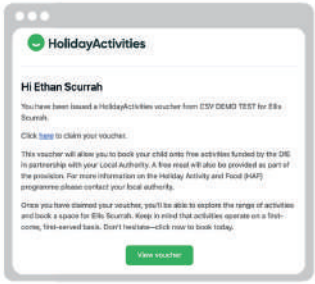
HolidayActivities

A guide on claiming your voucher and booking activities

Step 1 - Open the email and click the green button

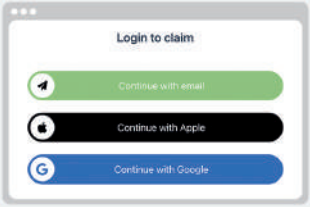
This voucher will come from hello@holidayactivities.com

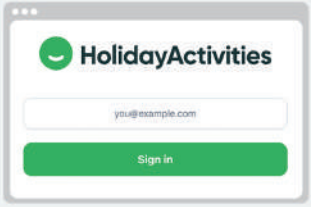


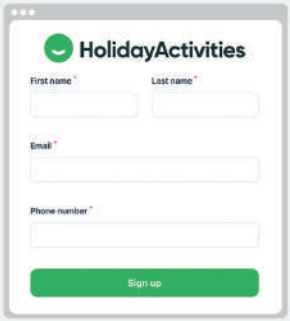


Step 2 - Select *Continue with email* and log in/sign up

After selecting Continue with email, you will be asked to enter your email address. If you do not have an acount, you will be asked to sign up

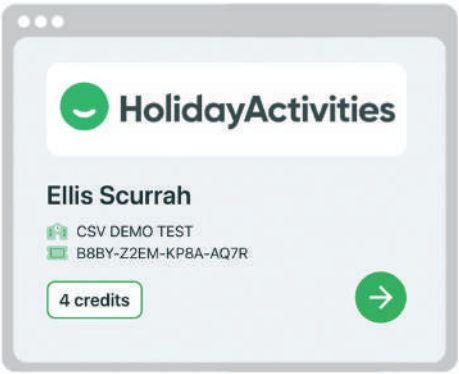


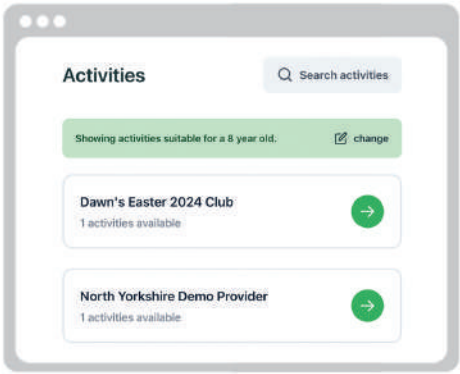




Step 3 - Making a booking

Clicking the green arrow on the voucher of your child will take you to a list of providers. From here, you can browse available activities and, once you find one suitable, you will be asked to complete a booking form.





Essex ACTIVate

Essex ActivAte is here to support your family throughout the school holidays and beyond!

The free, Essex ActivAte online hub brings together activities, advice, resources and local support to help families stay active, healthy and connected.

Whether you're looking for inspiration to keep children entertained, opportunities in your community, or extra support for your family, you'll find it all in one place.

Through the hub, you can discover:

- Low-cost and paid holiday clubs
- Family Hub services and support
- Free and low-cost activities, clubs and opportunities through the Find Your Active Activity Finder
- Local community services and organisations
- Financial, wellbeing and family support
- Healthy recipes, activity ideas and useful family resources

Scan the QR code below to explore the hub and discover more!



SCAN ME





activeessex.org/children-young-people/essex-activate

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