



# HAF NEWSLETTER

05/09/24

## SUMMER HAF PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

What a fantastic summer holidays it has been across the six week break! The HAF team visited lots of clubs this summer, and we have enjoyed seeing you share so many pictures and videos across social media. From Olympian visits to unique activities, clubs have been bursting with memorable experiences and fun for young people, so a huge thank you to all of you who delivered this summer, helping to support families across the county! Some of the key achievements of the summer holidays include:




85% of clubs reported new children attending their club sessions across the summer holidays



Food provision standards increased with providers offering salad bar and platter options due to inspiration from the summer onboarding sessions and children enjoyed it!



Extended and new collaborations showcasing the value of HAF across Essex and many organisations wanting to join the programme through new partnerships such as RNLI Water Safety



### Parent Summer Survey

In order to continually enhance the programme's effectiveness, we ask that you encourage parents and carers to complete our summer parent survey by sharing it on your social media platforms and your database.

Their insights and feedback will provide us with essential information to share with the Department for Education.

The survey can be found [here](#) and will remain open until Friday 6th September.

### Partner Summer Survey

In addition to parent feedback, we want yours! Please complete the partner survey, which can be found [here](#) by Friday 6th September.

## Essex ActivAte Easter Evaluation Report

You may have seen a few posts popping up across our social media platforms, around the Essex ActivAte evaluation report that has been published. A huge thank you to so many of you who hosted our evaluation partners across the Easter programme. We have been busy pulling all of the data together to be able to help articulate the impact of the Holiday Activity and Food programme in Essex. And what an impact we have been having.

The report highlights that an estimated £22.5 million will be generated in social value for the 2024 programme in Essex, showing the significant impact we're having socially, environmentally and economically across our county. The data and stories we have been able to share as part of this report shows the lasting impact this programme has on Essex children and their families and underscores the urgent need for continued funding and support to ensure the sustainability and expansion of this transformative programme.

As part of the comms that surrounds the publication of this report, Cllr Louise McKinlay Deputy Leader for Essex County Council has shown her support for the programme and has shared the full report with Cllr's and MP's across the county in hope that they will do the same. The report has also been shared with the Chancellor and Department for Education colleagues.

We would highly recommend you give the report a read when you can. Please amplify the messages we're circulating across our social platforms and together we will be able to outline the vital need for this programme that provides a lifeline for so many.

[Read the report here.](#)

## Essex Activity Awards

The annual Essex Activity Awards, delivered by Active Essex is set to return for its 13th year in honour of the outstanding achievements of Essex, Southend and Thurrock residents, organisations and groups. Active Essex hold these awards to celebrate those who have not only found their active but have supported others to get moving. The awards will take place in December and it's set to be an amazing night of inspiration and celebration.

**Once again, we are pleased to announce that we have our own 'Essex ActivAte Provider of the Year' category, and we hope you continue to share social media posts to help encourage as many nominations as possible!**

Other categories we recommend helping to promote include:

- Young Sports Personality of the Year
- Active Education
- Sports Club
- Physical Activity Champion

If you wish to share your own social media posts about the awards, please take a look at our Stakeholder Toolkit [here](#).

## October half term holidays

- Club bookings will launch on our website on **Monday 30th September at 12pm midday**
- Please have all booking information over to your HAF locality lead by **Tuesday 17th September**
- Smaller half term holidays are solely funded by Essex County Council and are not a part of the Department for Education HAF programme. **Please only use the hashtag #EssexActivAte.**
- Families will book children onto free club spaces directly **through our website and self-certify with the club to secure their space**
- Families **will NOT need a Holiday Activities voucher code** from their school to book children onto a half term club

