

16 June 2025

**Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF)**

Dear parent / carer

The Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF) returns this summer. HAF runs nationwide and is funded by the Department for Education (DfE), enabling statutory school aged children in receipt of benefit related free school meals, access to free clubs and activities. We want to give children the chance to have healthy, happy holidays so they can:

- be more active
- learn new skills
- meet up with friends and make new ones
- get a tasty nutritious meal
- work together and stay safe

HAF activities are delivered internally at our Family Hubs and by schools, established community groups, creative arts, sports, leisure, and youth organisations. We have several providers who offer activities for young people with additional needs, please talk to the provider about your child's needs to make sure the provision is suitable. We also have a limited number of places for those not on free school meals but have been identified by Cumberland Council as eligible through other circumstances. Some providers also offer paid spaces.

This summer we have changed the way we manage bookings; we are using a new booking service called EEQU. Booking HAF activities will now be easier, quicker and fairer for all families. On the new system you:

- do not need a HAF code to book
- can contact providers with any questions through direct messages
- will see more detailed information about each activity
- can access a more visual and user-friendly platform
- can request bookings for multiple children at the same time

To check eligibility and to see what activities are available this summer, please visit:

[Cumberland's Holiday Activities and Food Programme](#)

For advice and support on how to book a place, please visit:

[Quick guide - how to book a HAF session](#)

If you have any questions regarding the programme, please get in touch.

Yours faithfully,

Guy Thompson  
Family Help Manager – Activities and Outreach  
E: [haf@cumberland.gov.uk](mailto:haf@cumberland.gov.uk)

