

Holiday Activity & Food (HAF) Programme – Expression of Interest (EOI) Guidance Information

1. Context and Background

This document provides information for potential providers who would like to submit an EOI, to deliver the Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF) in summer 2021.

On 8 November 2020, the Government announced that HAF programme, which has provided healthy food and enriching activities to disadvantaged children since 2018, will be expanded across the whole of England in 2021.

The programme will cover the Easter, summer and Christmas holidays in 2021, and will be available to children in every local authority in England and will build on the success of the local holiday programmes that the Government have been funding since 2018.

School holidays can be particular pressure points for some families because of increased costs (such as food and childcare) and reduced incomes. For some children that can lead to a holiday experience gap - with children from disadvantaged families less likely to access organised out-of-school activities; more likely to experience 'unhealthy holidays' in terms of nutrition and physical health and are more likely to experience social isolation.

Free holiday clubs are a response to this issue and evidence suggests that they can have a positive impact on children and young people. It also shows they work best when they provide consistent and easily accessible enrichment activities, when they offer more than just breakfast or lunch, and when they involve children (and parents) in food preparation.

2. About the HAF Programme

The purpose of this funding is to provide free holiday provision, which includes healthy food and enriching activities, to school-aged children eligible for benefits related Free School Meals (FSM) for an equivalent of at least four hours a day, four days a week and for six weeks a year. It is not expected that all eligible children will participate, as the activities are voluntary, and we would encourage providers to make the holiday clubs available to any children not eligible for FSM, who can pay to attend. The provision should aim to support children, young people and families to:

- Eat more healthily
- Be more active
- Take part in engaging and enriching activities
- Be safe and not isolated
- Have greater knowledge of health and nutrition
- Be more engaged with school and other services

Funding can only be used for eligible FSM children, and activities and meals should be free for those eligible to attend. Activity which is in scope and can be funded through this fund include the following:

- Face-to-face holiday club provision, including healthy meals;
- Activity packs (sports or creative) (delivered to homes or collected by families)
- Food parcels/hampers (delivered to homes or collected by families);
- Access to online content/content via other methods (e.g. TV);

3. HAF Process in Solihull

Solihull Council will be conducting a two-stage process to distribute HAF funding to providers.

- First Stage – Expression of Interest (EOI)
- Second Stage – Full Application (FA)

At the first stage, applications will be assessed to see if applicants and projects are eligible for funding. We will also gather some additional information to steer collaboration and develop a full Solihull offer. If your EOI is approved you will be invited to the second stage, which will focus on project delivery and expected outcomes. Projects must submit an EOI within the timescales to be invited to submit a Full Application.

4. EOI

We want to gain interest from organisations which have;

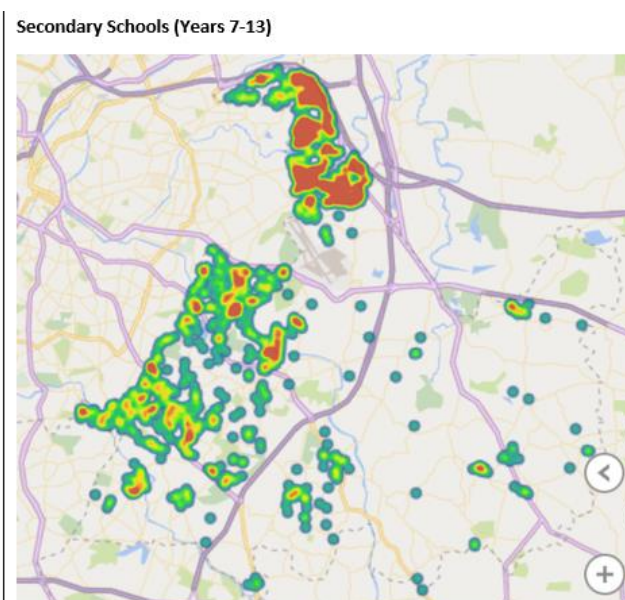
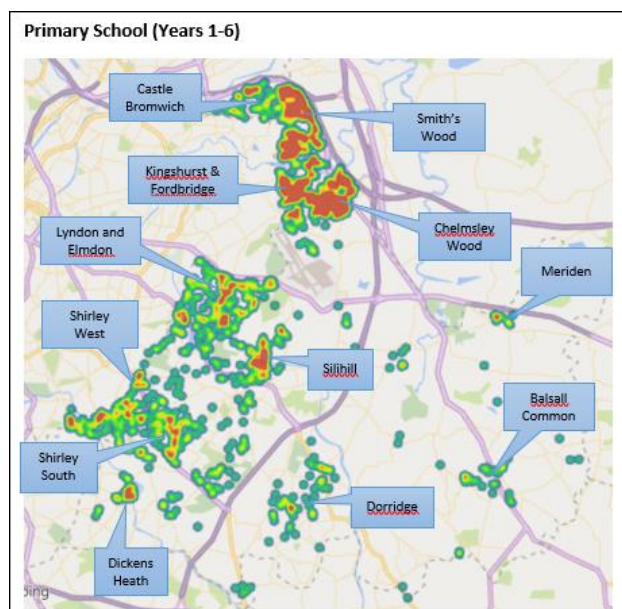
- A proven track record and history of working with children, young people and families in the Solihull Borough and;
- Can provide enriching activities and healthy meals.

Application Process	Dates
EOI open	10 th May 2021
Deadline for return of EOI	23 rd May 2021 (12am midnight)
Informed of EOI decision and invited to submit Full Application if approved	24 th May 2021 (depending on volume of applications received)
Deadline for return of Full Application	13 th June 2021 (12am midnight)
Applicants informed of final decision	16 th June 2021 (depending on volume of applications received)
Period of delivery – summer 2021 provision	17 th July to 29 th August 2021

Please note that the timescale is tight, so please ensure that you return the EOI, electronically, before the deadline **12am (midnight) on Sunday 23rd May 2021** to: HAFSolihull@solihull.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1: PRIORITY DELIVERY LOCATIONS

The following represent the areas with the highest numbers of children and young people in receipt of benefits related free school meals, where proposals are particularly welcome from.



APPENDIX 2: SCHOOL FOOD STANDARDS

Implementing the standards

A child's healthy, balanced diet should consist of:

1. **Plenty of fruit and vegetables**
 2. **Plenty of unrefined starchy foods**
 3. **Some meat, fish, eggs, beans and other non-dairy sources of protein**
 4. **Some milk and dairy foods**
- (and a small amount of food and drink high in fat, sugar and/or salt)**

Further information available via <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-food-standards-resources-for-schools>