

Holiday Childcare Scheme

Fun in May – a ‘science spectacular’

Visit our website for information about our next scheme in Summer 2024.

The Holiday Childcare Scheme brought children together from across the borough and forged many new friendships. It finished with an end of scheme party to celebrate the week.

May’s half term theme was science – it was very popular with the children.

Over the week, they:

- Conducted a variety of science experiments, testing them out with their friends
- Learned how to make catapults, and to launch them at objects
- Used their creative skills to design their own parachutes, making them from various materials and testing the weights so as to enable them to fly
- Designed and created their own aeroplanes. This was a result of the children’s interest in paper aeroplanes. They shared their



Children making parachutes out of materials from the arts and crafts room

knowledge how to make them and competed to see whose could fly the furthest.

The rain did not stop the children going on trips. They visited Spitalfields Farm, where they saw a range of animals, and Weaversfield Park, where they enjoyed walking and seeing local sites.

Daily cooking activities were also on offer. They made apple crumble, lemon drizzle sponge cake, cheese scones and jam tarts. The children learnt how to weigh, mix and bake the ingredients. The end results were shared across the scheme.

Figures from our May 2024 scheme bookings

497

sessions booked

181

children supported

139

total families supported

111

working families supported

50

LBTH schools represented in bookings

The Holiday Childcare Team is part of the Parent and Family Support Service. For more information, to leave feedback or to book places visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/hcs



Fun during the May scheme



Children's feedback

I loved making my parachute.
Hunter, age 5

I saw my friends and made me happy, we played lots
Finlay, age 6



I like mixing the butter and flour to make our cheese scones
Arian, age 4

Playing with new friends
Orla, age 3

I made a catapult with my friend and I loved going into the library to read.
Charlotte Rose, age 9

I really enjoyed helping in the early years with my friends, the little ones are really nice to play with.
Reah, age 11

My best game is football. I wanted to play all the time with my friends.
Sami, age 8

Making new friends and playing basketball was epic.
Tyler, age 13

My friends are so much fun. We always play PlayStation and pool together.
Noura, age 10

I loved going to the farm and seeing the animals. I liked the rabbits. I saw two rabbits playing.
Amira, age 5



Parents/carers feedback

My child made few friends in a short time and thoroughly enjoyed it.

This is the first time using this service and I am very impressed with the way its run. My two children in the Early Years are new to the service and I was very anxious about leaving them. They have come out every day happy which I was pleasantly surprised about.

I am happy I feel all staff are caring and kind. As usual the girls loved the scheme, knew who they could speak to for support.

Advisor on the booking line was very helpful and called me back to help with booking issues I was having.

The children particularly loved pottery; one loved map making; the other loved catapults.



You said... we did

YOU SAID...

"I did experience a bit of difficulty booking online."

WE DID...

We are continually working with the booking provider to make the booking experience as easy to navigate as possible. We review all feedback comments from parents and offer support to anyone who may need it.

YOU SAID...

"The venue was hard to get to but by looking at the facilities my children loved being there."

WE DID...

The school sites used for the schemes are carefully selected. We ensure they are located within the borough, with good transport links. We will be looking for new school sites next year.

YOU SAID...

"My child requires additional support and is always happy to attend. He loves the staff and recognises his key worker."

WE DID...

We support all children attending the scheme. If a child requires additional one-to-one support, we will, where possible, allocate the same key worker to support the child to settle and offer familiarity.

On behalf of the Holiday Childcare Team we wish you well and look forward to seeing you at the next scheme in Summer 2024.

For more information about our schemes please visit our website:

www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/hcs