



TOWER HAMLETS

September 2022

Holiday Childcare Scheme

Summer 2022 National Play Day Wednesday 3rd August 2022

Visit our website
for information
about our next
scheme.



This summer we joined children and adults across the UK to celebrate National Playday in partnership with Young Victoria and Albert (V & A) who were also celebrating their 150-year anniversary. The National playday was a great day of competitions and fun with a theme of All to Play For – Building Play Opportunities for all Children. Children competed in lots of non-competitive games and activities; all children who participated received a medal for their efforts as everyone is a winner. They also joined group activities with Young V&A in designing spaceships which were judged by the guests who attended the scheme.

The summer holiday scheme has been fun packed and very hot! Finding shade and keeping everyone cool was our priority almost every day. It was great to see children return, happy to be attending the scheme and to welcome lots of new children who quickly made friends with a 'scheme buddy' to help them find their way around, meet other children and ensure they settled in.

Arts and crafts

In addition to the usual range of crafts, children in

Continued on page 2

Figures from our summer scheme bookings

2,631

sessions booked

315

children supported

242

total families supported

199

working families supported

17

vulnerable families supported

63

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



Summer 2022 National Play Day Wednesday 3rd August 2022 continued

the main scheme and early years followed the activity programme for each week.

● Week 1

Under the sea, children created items that can be found beneath the waves.

● Week 2

Space and the planets, 3D art using plasticine and paints, early years completed a wall of space, all linked to the V&A sessions delivered.

● Week 3

Kings and Queens, the children made crowns in different styles and colours. Week 4 Jungle arts and crafts, where the children made animals using different materials.

Fitness

During the scheme children participated in bench ball and hall games such as bulldog to support the children develop their fitness, coordination and team building.

Sport

Playground sports were a great success with so many activities to choose from. Children took part in archery, lacrosse, basketball,

football, golf, and javelin to name a few.

Children also had plenty of opportunities for free play as well as joining the adult led activities. The most popular activity of the summer scheme was archery. Children loved learning how to shoot the arrows and focus on the target to claim points.

Children in the early years enjoyed a mini sports day with egg and spoon, hopscotch, and fun activities in the shade.

Cooking

Cooking is always popular and during this scheme children baked oatmeal flapjacks and blueberry muffins with everyone enjoying eating what they made.

V&A sessions

V&A sessions encouraged

children to join in large scale construction play, to problem-solve and learn about structures and shapes. Children became more and more confident to transform space, test their ideas and use their imagination to make all sorts of structures from the foam items and materials provided.

Global learning sessions

Children enjoyed well-being sessions which started with yoga-based stretching, continuing with a grounding activity about how unique we all are. The children then moved around the room and used their imaginations to think of imaginary characters and who they are. Sessions finished with children creating a mind map about what's important to them and a story to share with the group. The sessions were adapted for the early years to make it fun and enjoyable for all.

We would like to say a big thank you to all our summer scheme partners:

The Felix Project for providing 8 deliveries over the summer scheme. Families were treated to an array of fresh produce from tomatoes to aubergines, lettuce, courgettes, breakfast cereals and lots of non-perishable tinned food.

Global Learning, Shay and Triny for helping children learn how to take time to explore their health and well-being and to be mindful.

Young V&A, for joining each scheme and introducing the imagination playground to all children attending.

Children's feedback

The climbing wall is great I really enjoyed playing on it.

Kyla 6

I like the lego and you can build whatever you want to.

Devonte 9

It's fun. I like how all the areas are sorted out; I have fun with my friends

Jasper 8

Emma taught me to speak Mandarin.

Fola 6

I tried archery, play day, it was really fun.

Deshawn 6



I like the choice of activities, the archery, the art room and making stuff.

Emma W 8



I made some glitter balls; I've never done it before.

Mikaeel 9

It's super good and I think having new friends is good."

Alex 6



Parents/carers feedback

“Great communication of policies. The team at Malmesbury is incredible and the scheme is very well set up. The staff has been nothing but attentive, supportive, and caring. We are extremely thankful for this support and positive attitude with the kids. The staff and the scheme overall have been incredibly inclusive with kids from all backgrounds and needs. This is definitely, an outstanding scheme and team. Amazing!” (AAH)

“Would like to thank all staff for their dedication and caring for the children during their time, the girls had a positive experience here.” (PS)

“The staff are always approachable, attentive and we like that they are a constant.” (JF)

“This is a fantastic service run by well trained and friendly staff. My children enjoyed the activities and are well cared for.” (HJ)

“Responsive when we called to check on Benny as he was a bit upset the first few days.” (MG)

“Thanks for the hard work team.” (JH)

You said... we did

YOU SAID...

It would be good to receive an email with the list of activities for the week? (IM)

WE DID...

The scheme activity programme can be found on our webpage and in our newsletter, before the scheme opens and also on the information table in the reception areas. Please feel free to take any information you require.

YOU SAID...

This summer holiday club is ideal for us, as the school is close to where we live. I know it rotates round, and we are lucky this time, but I would request the scheme doesn't use the schools on the outskirts of Tower Hamlets i.e. on the Isle of Dogs. (MA)

WE DID...

Thank you for your feedback, we are pleased the Malmsebury School location worked well for you this summer. We work closely with schools and use various sites across the borough. This enables schools to carry out essential work on site when schools are closed and supports parents/carers who need to use the service.

YOU SAID...

I'd like to address again my frustration that I cannot use childcare voucher and the lack of willingness to set it up. The cost of the scheme is good, but still quite a lot. Huge difference paying using voucher and cash as I have available funds in the voucher account. I hope you can accommodate the request to set up paying using childcare voucher. (JY)

WE DID...

We apologise for any inconvenience caused to you. We have reviewed the vouchers currently accepted by the scheme and revised our system. You will be able to use your childcare vouchers on future schemes.

YOU SAID...

To be properly inclusive they need to provide more 1:1 place. (DB)

WE DID...

Thank you for your feedback. The number of childcare places available each scheme is based on our sessional staff capacity / availability. Places are accessed on a first come first served basis via the Magic Booking system. We aim to provide as many childcare places as possible for Tower Hamlets families and we regularly review our 1:1 provision. Should you be unable to book a place on a future scheme please look on www.localoffertowerhamlets.co.uk or

call the Family Information Service 020 7364 6495 to see what other provisions are available. Hope this helps!

YOU SAID...

My daughter had a great time at the scheme and there were no issues, but I would like to have had a bit more information about activities and staff for reassurance as she had never been. (SS)

WE DID...

We are so pleased that your daughter had a great time at the scheme. If you have any questions at any time, please email or speak to the staff when you bring and collect your daughter, they will be more than willing to let you know how your child is settling in. Activities can be found on display in the reception area and our newsletter on the information table, for you to access. If you want to have paperless copy these also could be found on our webpage www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/hcs

Our scheme booking process

We manage up to 45 bookings per day.

Our online Magic Booking process helps you to:

- Check availability of places and select a day and time which meets your needs
- Book places at a time which suits you – the booking system is available 24 hours a day
- Provide information about your child to help us understand and meet their needs

We do our best to ensure the online booking system is easy to use. If you have any difficulty, please email us holiday.childcare@towerhamlets.gov.uk or call 020 7364 0523.

On behalf of the Holiday Childcare Team we wish you well and look forward to seeing you at the next scheme. For more information about our schemes please visit our website:

www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/hcs



October 2022 Activities

EARLY YEARS

Supporting children's wellbeing

- All daily activities are planned to reflect the children's interests.
- The Early Years areas are set up with a range of activities, allowing the children to choose from sand, construction, trikes, arts, and crafts and more.
- Circle time discussions: each day children will have circle time, where they can discuss different topics. Focussing on children's wellbeing, supporting them to understand feelings and share their thoughts.
- All activities follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) – find information [here](#)
- Please note: if your child has any allergies to cooking ingredients, an alternative can be used.
- Local park trips will be announced daily, subject to weather conditions.

Below is an example of some of the main activities on offer.

Theme: Autumn is fun

AREAS	MONDAY 24 October	TUESDAY 25 October	WEDNESDAY 26 October	THURSDAY 27 October	FRIDAY 28 October
Creativity zone	Leaf art	Clay forest animals	Woodland acorn painting	Animal masks	Finger puppets Scheme Party
Young Victoria and Albert Museum		Creativity sessions			
Global learning				Wellbeing sessions	
Fitness zone	Fun run around playground	Let's skip	Obstacle run	Team races	Fun hunt
Outdoor	Mini football	Mini Basketball	Mini cricket	Mini rounders	Mini tag
Baking and cooking	Apple turnover	Blackberry and blubbery loaf	Plum and raisin bis-cuits	Pumpkin muffins	Fruit crumble

October 2022 Activities

MAIN SCHEME

Supporting children's wellbeing

- All daily activities are planned to reflect the children's interests
- Each morning the children are introduced to the staff and each other in their group through welcome games.
- The scheme areas are set up with a range of activities.
- Each day the children can choose from a variety of activities, ranging from pool, bikes, table tennis and board games.
- Each day children will have discussion time where they are introduced to the scheme rules and children within their group. The group discussions focus on their wellbeing, supporting them to understand feelings and share their thoughts.
- Local park trips will be announced daily, subject to weather conditions.
- Please note: if your child has any allergies to cooking ingredients, an alternative can be used.

The main activities for the week are listed below

Theme: Autumn is fun

AREAS	MONDAY 24 October	TUESDAY 25 October	WEDNESDAY 26 October	THURSDAY 27 October	FRIDAY 28 October
Creativity zone	Enchanted leaf art	Ghoulish animal masks	Frightful finger pup-pets	Fun cushion making	Scheme Party
Outdoor/ Indoor (weather dependant)	Dodgeball	Cricket	Baseball	Frisbee Mania	Hockey
Young Victoria and Albert museum		Creativity sessions			
Global learning				Wellbeing sessions	
Baking and cooking	Apple turnover	Blackberry and blubbery loaf	Plum and raisin bis-cuits	Pumpkin muffins	Fruit crumble