The Tower Hamlets Holiday Childcare Scheme (HCS) is Ofsted registered and provides affordable childcare for children aged 3 to 13 years old. The holiday provision takes place in Tower Hamlets schools and operates during the school holidays (excluding the Christmas break).

The scheme also supports working parents who can book extended hours from 8am-6pm, as well as the standard 9am-5pm option.

This year, the summer holiday scheme took place at St Mary and St Michael Primary School and was expanded to provide more places than ever before.

A number of places were provided for a number of places booked for children with SEND and vulnerable referrals from Children’s Social Care, schools and other partner agencies.

**Summer Holiday Childcare Scheme 2019**

455 children attended

4,075 sessions booked

**Early Years**

The early years area has been very busy this summer with lots of fun filled activities and local trips. There have been lots of new children to the scheme who have been supported to settle in through our new keyworker animal groups.

Carnival costume making and baking have been popular amongst the children. Children in the early years attended trips to Mudchute Farm and the Peter Rabbit Trail at Basildon.

Staff also supported children who will be transitioning to the main scheme.
Main Scheme

Children in the main scheme have been on the highest number of local trips ever at the 2019 summer scheme. This was organised based on feedback received from parents and children at previous schemes.

Trips included:

- Essex Country Parks
- Poplar Family Festival
- Mile End Water Festival
- Victoria Park

Other activities at the scheme included cooking, arts and crafts and sewing.

Staff also supported children with bike training to increase their confidence and skills in cycling.

Teen Space

A new pilot initiative has taken place in the teen space whereby the HCS have partnered with Limehouse Youth Hub to support a transition project for children who will be leaving the scheme at the age of 13 so they have another service to access.

Children met with youth workers, have become familiar with the youth centre and took part in a number of activities.

319 families booked sessions
230 children attended daily

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

Parents who use the scheme are encouraged to give ongoing feedback.
The Tower Hamlets Holiday Childcare Scheme (HCS) had an unannounced Ofsted inspection visit over the summer. This was on one of the busiest days of the summer with 230 children booked to attend. The scheme also had two trips taking place at Mile End Water Festival and King Edward Memorial Park. Alongside this, children in the teen space were visiting Limehouse Youth Hub.

Ofsted rated the Holiday Childcare Scheme as 'good' following the inspection.

The scheme will be reviewing the recommendations from the report and will begin implementing these for the October holiday scheme.

The HCS would like to thank all the parents and carers who took the time to speak with the inspector on the day.

To view the full copy of the Ofsted report, visit the website below and don’t forget to include the scheme’s unique reference number (URN).

https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/URN: EY349265