

Holiday Childcare Scheme

Positive feedback from Ofsted

Visit our website for information about our next scheme.

On Tuesday 4 April 2023 we welcomed a visit from Ofsted who carried out an inspection of our scheme. The inspector was overwhelmed with the range of activities on offer and how happy and engaged the children were. We had a great morning showcasing our scheme and were pleased the report reflected how hard the staff work to ensure each child has an enjoyable, fun time.

The inspector felt every child was engaged in activities and staff ensured their needs were met. There were no recommendations given to us as the inspector felt we went above and beyond what other holiday provisions offer. Highlights from the report include

“The enthusiasm and excitement displayed by children in the scheme are captivating. Children engage and are focused in a vast array of exciting and stimulating activities, such as planting, baking, constructing and mathematical investigations.”



The Holiday Childcare Scheme prides itself on offering an inclusive universal provision. To view a copy of the report and for more information about the scheme please visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/hcs



Figures from our Easter 2023 scheme bookings

967

sessions booked

199

children supported

156

total families supported

118

working families supported

56

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



Easter holiday scheme

During the Easter holiday scheme, the children took part in activities from our theme 'spring is fun.' The activities the children participated in ranged from making egg-tastic collages, mini egg decorating, planting seeds, a mini sports day and finishing the scheme with an egg hunt and fancy dress party.

The children enjoyed trips to the local farm where some children saw animals for the first time. They walked to the farm in small groups and had the opportunity to pet some of the animals. They also visited some local play parks where they could use the play equipment and have fun in a different surrounding.

The children loved playing in the sun and enjoyed the outdoors. Children had the chance to learn some archery skills and by the end of the scheme were able to hold the bow, aim and hit their target. Children as always enjoyed playing the traditional hall games which encouraged them to work together as a team and make new friends. They also had access to the schools library where they could select a book and read in a cosy corner.

We welcomed Global Learning London to hold small group sessions for the children. The sessions focussed on children's wellbeing. Children had the opportunity to work in small groups to discuss their feelings through story telling.

The Felix Project continued to provide a range of fresh produce for the children to take home. Families could opt from organic bananas



and fresh carrots. Feedback from parents and carers showed how much they valued the food given.

Cooking was available daily at the scheme. The children learnt chopping, mixing and measuring skills. The children made healthy

oat cookies, homemade cheese and vegetable pizzas, fruity muffins and much more. They took pleasure in working in small groups to bake and cook the food and taste it with their friends.



Children's feedback

I liked the cooking baking.

Iris 9

I really enjoyed the clay activities because it's something I have never done before.

Skylar 6



I was able to make new friends because there were lots of shy children.

Erica 6

Arts and craft was my best activity as I am very creative and love to learn new things.

Emilia 7

I really enjoyed archery and practising to get better at it.

Yakub 10

Archery was my best activity as I have always wanted to do it but only saw other people do it.

I really loved the Easter theme and making new friends.

Shaniya 8

There were lots of different toys to play with.

Alex 7

Golf was so much fun, the best game on earth.

Bertie B 8



Parents/carers feedback

Karen and Joe and all the staff are excellent. It is great that it is the same staff on the scheme. They are all kind, competent and helpful.

My son is usually reserved and takes time to settle in, particularly when there's a large group of kids, so I was pleasantly surprised at how much he was looking forward to go to the club. Thank you. Staff told me about my child's day. Info clearly displayed in school foyer.

Great value for money.

My daughter was very excited and she always knew what they were doing the next day. The teachers on the early years section of the scheme were amazing and friendly and my daughter really liked them.

Jayne is always very helpful with my bookings.

The twins enjoyed all of the activities, especially cooking.

The scheme is great and well managed and my daughter loves it. I like that working parents are prioritised when booking, please keep this process.

My child loves the archery and really enjoyed the trip to the farm.

You said... we did

YOU SAID...

"It would be good if there were a few venues available as it was a bit far for us but I know that's not easy to do."

If you were able to run a few in different schools dotted around Tower Hamlets, we could choose the closest to us.

The place itself was great just too far for us."

WE DID...

We appreciate that schools sites are not every parents first preference. We try to alternate them to make it fair.

We also try to select sites which have good transport links.

Currently due to funding we can only offer one school site per scheme. We will be looking for more schools to host the scheme within.

YOU SAID...

"Magic booking can be confusing. It is difficult to add a centre unless you know the exact spelling, including punctuation and spacing."

WE DID...

We are working continuously with Magic Booking to help the user experience for parent/carers booking on.

If you do have any issues please e-mail the team and we can see how we can help. holiday.childcare@towerhamlets.gov.uk



The Holiday Childcare Team look forward to seeing you at the next scheme.
For more information about our schemes, please visit our website:

www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/hcs