

City of Edinburgh Council Holiday Hub News

Newsletter 2022

533 Families were offered Holiday Support in the summer of 2022. There were loads of positive stories and some areas of improvement. Thank you to everyone who completed the feedback form. Providers have been made aware of your feedback and are already making changes.

If you know in advance you are unable to attend your provision please let your provider know. This will allow another young person and their family to be offered the space.

Moving forward

491 Families and Carers have applied for the Academic Year Holiday Support - 2022/2023. Everyone should have received their allocation letter. If not, please contact holidaysupport@edinburgh.gov.uk The application form will stay open all year for new Families and Carers to apply, however provision left is now very limited.

We had 102 young people attend the October Holiday Hub.

Thank you to everyone who paid for their session promptly, communicated quickly if they were declining and stayed connected if they had any barriers to accepting the placement.



Branch Out Together – Outdoor Education



- Branch Out Together ran a very successful holiday hub at Prospect Bank School this summer. They also offered for the first time an Outdoor Education program with Broomlee Centre. This was a fantastic opportunity for some of our 13+ young people.
- Branch Out Together ran a Make Tracks program in October and will do the same in February. Young people might be at Dynamic Earth, trying the Aquadash or visiting a Fringe show. 9 Young people were out and about in the October break and had a lovely experience.
- Huge thanks to Emma White, Robbie Stabler, Amanda Sinclair and their team!



Capability Scotland

Thank you to Lauren Stewart and the Capability Scotland team who doubled their numbers over the summer. Capability Scotland are based at Kaimes school and are now accessing two parts of the school to allow for extra provision. It was nice to see the children in the summer enjoying the outdoor spaces.





The Yard

- Thank you to Aneta Opolska who ran the summer Yard Respite. Such a fantastic space and great atmosphere! There has been a joint decision to cease having The Yard Respite sessions and instead use the skills and resources to increase Oaklands provision which is also managed through The Yard team.
 - Thank you to Justin Gould who was the manager at Oaklands Summer Hub. It was brilliant visiting the hub and seeing the young people out in the forest doing a bear hunt. Justin has now moved on from The Yard and Tricia Stewart will be the new manager. We wish Justin all the best. Tricia was at the hub in the summer along with Frances Charlton, both know the children well and they had a very successful October Holiday Hub.
 - The aim is to increase provision and I am excited to say that in Easter we will be going from 17 children per week at Oaklands to 22 children per week.
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Action Group

- Massive thank you to Paisley Deighton and Katie Lawson who ran the 2-week Summer Holiday Hub at Woodlands School. Paisley is now on maternity leave, and we wish her all the best with her new bundle of joy. Linda Matthew will be taking on the management role and The Action Group will now be based at Rowanfield School.
- Linda is very excited about the new hub and meeting all the young people who will start attending in February.

Barnardo's

- This summer Lynne Melville moved her team in to Oxbang Primary School. Lynne and her team made good use of the space. There has been great partnership between Braidburn and Barnardo's Hubs with shared use of the Sensory Bus over the summer. Barnardo's have also been able to access the pool at Braidburn and link in with the lifeguards who have been recruited.



Action for Children

- The Action for Children staff were very lucky to be able to use the new St Crispin's School. The facilities are fantastic. Kashif and his team are eager to get the most out of the new building and are hoping to access the swimming pool soon.



Braidburn Hub



Braidburn Hub is one of our biggest hubs with 40 children each week attending. The hub is run by a Seaview Managers along with their Behaviour Support team and school staff.

A massive thank you to Wendy Brown, Lesley Robertson and Karen Japp who ran the summer provision. The hub in the summer was open for 240 children which is not an easy task.

In October Lesley Robertson and Jean Cole ran the October Hub and I am pleased to say they were at full capacity with 40 young people.

Without their support and the support of David and Sophie from the Seaview behaviour team this provision would not happen.

Partnerships

- We are very lucky to have worked with Jill Coleman and the Active Schools Team. They have helped recruit 2 lifeguards to work at the Braidburn Hub over the next year. Barnardo's Hub at Oxbang Primary School will also have the opportunity to access the swimming pool at Braidburn School. Great teamwork!
- A massive thank you to Hunter's Tryst Morrisons Champion Sara who donated Swim nappies, water and snacks to the Braidburn hub.



mazars



Massive thank you to Mazars Charity who awarded £2976 to buy new resources for our holiday hub. Here are just a few of the new resources which have been purchased. Thank you to Friends of Braidburn who helped facilitate the purchasing of these items.



Findel Education

- Massive thank you to Findel who have sent lots of free resources to help our young people get crafty while they are at the hub.
- Thank you Findel!



Next steps...

- Providers are currently drafting a formal proposal for their contract. We are hoping to offer a 3 year contract to our providers to allow stability in the new system. The process has started and we would hope the contracts are in place for summer 2023.
- The way you pay will change, this is so we will be in line with the Council systems. The new system is called Pay.gov We are in the final stages of this new system and more information will come out in the new year.
- The new Holiday Support generic email address is holidaysupport@edinburgh.gov.uk we have moved away from the name Playscheme. This email address will be accessed by staff managing the Holiday Support process.
- Team United, The Yard and Edge Autism are looking to get involved in running some summer events. More information will follow.

Finally

Please get in touch if you have a question, a suggestion or a concern. This provision is put in place to support young people with a disability and their families and carers. Any barrier we would hope we can overcome. It is clear how important this provision is.

This provision to many is like gold dust. If you no longer need your provision, please send an email to holidaysupport@edinburgh.gov.uk the sooner we know the sooner we can reallocate.