



HAF 2023-24 Local Authority Annual Report

The annual report provides you with the opportunity to give an overview of the HAF 2023-24 programme in your LA.

Your report should include:

- the overall funding you have spent on the HAF programme - done
- the proportion of the funding that was spent on administration and a breakdown of how this was spent - done
- how many unique children you have reached in each holiday period – done
- the proportion of primary age and secondary age children who have participated in your programme - done
- the number of children with SEND or additional needs who have participated in your programme
- information on the families and carers they have engaged with through the food education, signposting and referrals aspect of their programme
- which organisations are represented on their steering group
- which organisations you have worked with in delivering the programme

You may also include:

- feedback from participants, their families or carers
- results of any surveys
- case studies or particular highlights
- how you have promoted the programme and celebrated it through the media and social media

The report for the 2023-2024 HAF programme should be submitted to DfE by 28 June 2024.

While LAs have flexibility in how they format and present their annual report, we have provided this document as a guide to help you structure your report. This is an optional template to use, you are welcome to produce your own report as you deem appropriate. Please complete and submit to haf.policy@education.gov.uk by 28th June 2024. When submitting your report please include a link to the relevant webpage you post it to.

Section 1 - LA details

Which local authority is this report about?

Herefordshire Council

Section 2 – Highlights

In this section, you might cover: how much funding you received and how it was spent and how many children you've worked with across the year. You might also include how many sessions you've delivered and which organisations you've worked with and provide details about who forms your HAF steering group and what the key strategies and themes have been for 2023-2024.

Herefordshire Council received £438,150.00 of funding from the Department for Education to deliver the HAF programme. Here is a breakdown of how the money was spent.

Face to face HAF provision, including, staff costs, venue hire, food/meal costs, enriching activities and any other costs directly linked with the delivery of the HAF programme.	£315,441.00
Capital costs (kit / equipment)	£4949.00
Marketing	£3466.00
Booking system	£8800.00
Training	£5203.00
Postage	£3688.00
Management and administration of the programme (including payment to grants team of £8k, remainder £42k LA staff costs)	£50,000.00
Total	£388,081.00
Returned to DfE	£51,000.00

We have worked with 48 providers throughout the year to deliver the HAF programme across the county, these include, school holiday clubs, community organisations, sports clubs, drama groups, outdoor forest schools and local farm provisions. They have offered a range of activities, including, football, rugby, dance, cheerleading, trampolining, circus skills, pottery, parkour, aerial skills, drama, cooking, farm trips, inflatable park, high ropes course, den building, outdoor cooking, animal skills, horse riding, gorge walking, paddle boarding, climbing and mountaineering.

We have a steering group that comprises of representatives from public health, education, SEND, West Mercia Police, Stride Active, HAF providers and the LA HAF team.

Our key focus areas have been:-

- To decrease the number of children that 'do not attend' sessions.
- To increase the number of young people that engage in the programme.
- To offer more provision for children with SEND.
- To offer some 'female' only sessions.
- To offer providers a wide range of training opportunities, to enable them to feel more equipped to deliver the HAF programme. (ACES training, Mental Health First Aid)

We were able to offer 14418 sessions across the county, 8418 of these sessions were attended. The average number of HAF days attended is 10.1 days for primary school children and 9.5 days for secondary school children.

Additionally we have offered two family activity taster days delivered from a secondary school in Hereford city and had over 300 children attended and there have been 750 visits to the HALO leisure activities as part of the HAF programme across the 3 HAF programmes.

HAF Programme	Number of unique children	
	Primary	Secondary
Easter 2023	494 (56 SEND)	156 (34 SEND)
Summer 2023	717 (90 SEND)	248 (44 SEND)
Christmas 2023	398 (86 SEND)	146 (28 SEND)

Section 3 – Children and families feedback

Please provide links to social media activity/videos as well as testimonials or feedback that you have received about your 2023-24 HAF Programme

EASTER 2023

[\(2\) 🎨 Free Easter activities for... - Talk Community Herefordshire | Facebook](#)

SUMMER 2023

[\(2\) Our Here for Herefordshire Holidays... - Talk Community Herefordshire | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Try something new this summer? 🎨 🎭 ... - Talk Community Herefordshire | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Children's Summer Holiday... - Talk Community Herefordshire | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Enjoy sports, games and arts &... - Talk Community Herefordshire | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) We have some good news which we... - Talk Community Herefordshire | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Congratulations to Oaks Children's... - Talk Community Herefordshire | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) If you're already booked onto the... - Talk Community Herefordshire | Facebook](#)

[As the new school term starts it's... - Talk Community Herefordshire | Facebook](#)

Winter 2023

[\(2\) Applications for funding to be part... - Talk Community Herefordshire | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) If you're already running clubs for... - Talk Community Herefordshire | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Video | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) As the leaves change colour and the... - Talk Community Herefordshire | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Do you host clubs or activities for... - Talk Community Herefordshire | Facebook](#)

[Don't miss your chance to unlock... - Talk Community Herefordshire | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Applications for the Holiday... - Talk Community Herefordshire | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Video | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Video | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Video | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Video | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Video | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Video | Facebook](#)

[HAF Drop in sessions are back this... - Talk Community Herefordshire | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Video | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Video | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Video | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Video | Facebook](#)

[\(2\) Video | Facebook](#)

TESTAMONIALS

(IN REFERENCE TO A PROVIDER) "Their commitment and growth in the past year has been amazing for the local community. Well done to you all Xxx"

(IN REFERENCE TO FAMILY ACTIVITY DAY) "It was AMAZING!!! Big, big thank you!"

(IN REFERENCE TO FAMILY ACTIVITY DAY) "Thank you so much for this event at Whitecross school! It was amazing! My kids absolutely loved all the different activities and the free food!!! It was very well run and in a great location, plenty of space and parking..."

Thank you! And we look forward to more events for families next year! Xx"

(IN REFERENCE TO FAMILY ACTIVITY DAY) This is great.

(IN REFERENCE TO FAMILY ACTIVITY DAY) It was another lovely event and it was great to meet so many families. They were all having lots of fun. Well done Talk Community Herefordshire. 😊

(IN REFERENCE TO FAMILY ACTIVITY DAY) We had some wonderful feedback from another great day. Can't wait for the next one

(IN REFERENCE TO FAMILY ACTIVITY DAY) Glad we could be there! Our team had a great time!

(IN REFERENCE TO FAMILY ACTIVITY DAY) We had a great time, thanks

(IN REFERENCE TO FAMILY ACTIVITY DAY) Great to be involved again. Thanks guys you do so much for the families.

(IN REFERENCE TO FAMILY ACTIVITY DAY) Amazing again 😊

Section 4 - Food

In this section you might cover: Did you provide children and young people with at least one nutritious meal a day? Did you work in any partnerships to provide food? What were the children and young people's attitudes to the food you provided?

We provided children and young people with at least one nutritious meal a day, some providers offered more meals depending on the length of their HAF day.

We had a range of delivery of the meals, with some providers preparing and cooking the meals on site and others with limited facilities having food delivered by local companies, such as Edisons or Create and Bake.

For children and young people that booked session at HALO leisure services they were given the option of a recipe bag that contained two meals, provided or a food shop at a Community Larder.

Providers were encouraged to make their own connections with local supermarkets, food banks and farms.

One provider used surplus food from a local Co-op to make the meals the next day. They also got the parents and ran family cooking workshop involving the whole family in preparing the food.

Another provider from Leominster visited Grange Court for a food tasting session at grange court was a highlight of the holidays. Many of the children did not realise who helpful bees were or that lots of products were made from apples. Tasting different varieties gave them a different perspective on food and an options available. In the setting they tried new foods like, mango, celery, humous and were encouraged to try more familiar foods such as broccoli which some children would not try previously.

An outdoor centre provided children with toast or a hot snack to keep them going until lunch time. A 2-course hot lunch was included served at lunch time and children were supported to prepare their own sandwich-based high tea.

An outdoor provider they had cooked lunch over the campfires, home-made pizzas, toasted sandwiches and hot dogs. They also chopped cucumber and grated carrot to go with this. The children did a great job preparing and cooking food. They enjoyed this part of the day. Comment from a parent, My boys really enjoyed playing in the woods, roasting things on the campfire

their own toppings which included lots of vegetable options.

Dessert options were 'fruit kebabs' where the children could select their own different fruits to encourage them to try different foods.

A provider in Bromyard – worked with Kids in the Kitchen and held sessions. We run our popular kids in the kitchen event during school holidays and we opened up 10 spaces for HAF children to attend. The action-packed cooking session, in our Preschool Room is a fantastic opportunity for children to explore their senses and to learn about healthy foods with the fun factor. Children will need to be supported by their parents/carers to decorate their own chef hat, preparing their own picnic- all resources will be provided, and each child will have a recipe book so that they can try cooking at home.

At the family activity day in Easter, we worked in partnership with Kids Kitchen, who made salad jars with the children, our Talk Community Healthy Lifestyle, did a fun fruit quiz and distributed fruit to children that had been donated by S & A produce and local supermarkets.

The Public Health team engaged with families using their sugar swap board and gave our free toothpaste and toothbrushes.

We were able to distribute seed growing kits to HAF providers, some chose to do these as activity sessions with the children others sent them home as an activity for children to utilise at home.

Section 5 – Enriching Activities

In this section, you might cover: What enrichment activities did you provide? And why did you focus on those? How did your programme provide opportunities for children and young people to develop and consolidate their skills and knowledge and try out new experiences? Was the impact?

We used funding from the HAF grant to buy a library of Giant Games that could be shared by clubs and organisations throughout the delivery of the programme. We noticed several requests coming through to purchase giant games and we found that by having a resource library this helped to keep the within budget. This has worked well and the distribution is co-ordinated by the HAF team.

We ask the providers to include enrichment activities in their application and for this to be part of their HAF deliver. Many have taken them on trips, some local, and some further afield. Close House, runs the programme for young people, included self-defence skills and also a trip to beach at Porthcawl.

Many providers have included trips for the children, these have been days out to farms, Gloucester Cathedral, Ludlow Castle, Inflatable parks, Queenswood, Caves and local parks. This has given the children memorable experiences that they have enjoyed talking about.

Other providers have opted to have additional activities come in, these have included the fire service, which delivered a workshop on water safety, the police, showed the children the police shared with them the work that they do. Animal encounters, science workshops and cooking sessions.

Hereford FC had visits from the mascot Edgar the Bull and first team players came in and spoke with them about their football careers.

OAKS in Leominster organised trip to Gloucester and the Cathedral during book week. The children were very excited to see some of the places where the Harry Potter films were filmed. The older children were also able to climb the tower which was a first for many, having secured tickets in advance. They also visited Beatrix potter museum which was a tight squeeze but much enjoyed by the younger children. Our second trip was to Wyre forest where the children followed trails, climbed, built dens and generally forest schooled for the day in the woods. The trips were much enjoyed by the children and we felt that several of the HAF children really gained a lot of self-confidence from the experiences. A third trip was to grange court a local historic house and venue, where we were treated not only to a costumed historic talk but a local food tasting session as well. The children learnt about the importance of apple growing to Herefordshire and tasted products made from apples grown in the orchard behind grange court. The sampled, apple chutney, juice and slices of different varieties of apples. We also learnt about the importance of bees to food production and tasted two local honeys. The children were also able to try on the beekeepers outfit and see the bees up close in a special container.

Section 6 – Physical Activities

In this section, you might cover: What range of physical activities did you incorporate into your programme? And why did you focus on these? How did you ensure the physical activities you delivered were engaging and inclusive? Did you have any particular successes or highlights?

We have a good range of activities that we have been able to incorporate into the programme. Please see a list of activities below:-

Arial Skills

Forest School skills

Horse-riding

Parkour

Dancing

Cheerleading – new to 2023 (success)

Martial Arts

Multi Sports Activities

Boxing

Circus Skills

Football

Rugby

Inflatable Park

Outdoor activities (hill walking, water sports)

Trampolining.

Tennis

Forest school

We ask on the grant application form, how providers will ensure that their activities are inclusive. We run training session for providers on how they can make reasonable adjustments to activities to ensure they are inclusive. We also ask them to include in the application, a sample of what a typical day would look like they are going to be inclusive and include a typical day.

We ensure that QA visits are carried to all new providers and with those that have not been seen within the last year. Due diligence is completed prior to delivery.

We are led by provisions in the county and them knowing their audience.

Young Boots football academy reported an increase in the number of girls who have come along and tried out the sessions, some of which have had limited exposure to football previously. They have expressed an interest in joining our weekly training sessions.

Longtown Outdoor centre - One child returned home after the first day saying he had loved his first day but definitely didn't want to go caving the next day as he was very frightened of it, but the next morning he woke up saying thought he would try it, he did and he absolutely loved it!. He pushed himself out of his comfort zone and found out he enjoyed something he had been really worried about.

Longtown Outdoor Centre - Another child that had come on a HAF course with us previously and who had often been quite unengaged and challenging to work, she grew significantly during her climbing day and became engaged, confident and encouraging and supportive to other children on the course.

Hereford City of Boxing reported - Many of the children enjoyed the boxing session so much that have they have continued to attend weekly sessions.

Section 7 – Nutritional Education and the promotion of healthy living/lifestyles

In this section, you might cover: Did your programme deliver activities to educate participants about nutrition? Did you involve parents, carers and other family members in

training and advice sessions on nutrition and eating a balanced diet? If yes how? Do the children and families you worked with now have a better understanding of nutrition and food budgeting? Did their attitudes change over the period of the programme?

The healthy lifestyle team and kids kitchen attended our family activity day, making fruit and veg fun for families whilst providing information about nutrition.

Seed packs were offered to all providers (Pot Gang) link: [Gardening Subscription Boxes | POT GANG](#) these could be used during sessions as an activity or given to children to use at home.

There are a number of providers that run family and children's cooking sessions this gives the providers opportunities to discuss food and diet during their sessions (lunchtime). Often providers will make food with the children, such as home-made pizzas, fruit kebabs, salad jars and will make food fun, whilst sharing information on nutrition.

Several of the providers reported that children had tasted foods that they had not previously tried and some had made real progress in becoming more adventurous with their foods and exploring different tastes and textures.

Some providers did quizzes and activities with children about food groups and healthy eating.

One of our Healthy Lifestyle Trainers did a session on healthy eating and nutrition with one of the school holiday clubs in Hereford City. They have a mix of children accessing through the HAF and children attending paid provision.

Feedback from the Healthy Lifestyle trainer - On Wednesday I had a really successful day at Lord Scudamore Primary School, we made over 40 healthy pizzas! We used chopping boards, knives, graters and I encouraged the children to be independent in making/preparing the ingredients for their pizzas. There were children aged from 4-10 years old, children who attended Lord Scudamore and other surrounding schools.

There were many HAF children that had also attended both the morning and afternoon sessions. One child asked me what the white board was (chopping board) and had said he hadn't seen one before, many children also didn't know how to use a grater to grate the carrot. Some children had also never seen herbs before and were unaware of what they were, so we had a little sniff/taste test!

Lots of children also began by telling me they didn't want anything other than cheese but soon added vegetables after preparing them and seeing others at the table. Success!!! 😊

When speaking to the staff they said they would usually cut everything up beforehand but could see how important it was for them to do so and will introduce this as part of the activity next time.

One little boy who was 4, the staff report he will only drink sugary drinks and will not drink any water. They said that he has never eaten any solid food during the holiday club and he just drinks from his bottle. During the pizza activity he grated and tried the carrot and cheese so they were pleased to see.

I offered the staff a few copies of our Healthy Families poster to have in the staff room and have given them paper copies of the referral form alongside our email address. I was such a positive day 😊 It was great to get out and about into the community

Section 8 – Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND)

In this section, you might cover: What provision did you offer for children with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities? Did you offer bespoke provision for these children and young people? How did you ensure that all of the providers you worked with met the needs of children and families? Do you have strong examples that you could share?

We worked with the SEND Engagement Lead from the Local Authority to increase the training offer to providers to offer them training sessions on making reasonable adjustments, working with children with autism and working with children with SEMH. Our SEND Engagement Lead was very supportive in ensuring providers had access to any extra resources they required, such as signage. She also helped us in developing the booking system to ensure that it was easy for parents of children with SEND to record the needs of the child, which would also help providers meet the needs of children.

Providers were asked if they could offer SEND spaces at the stage of application and asked to estimate how many places they could offer so as we could accommodate this in the budget.

We had two specific provisions for the children with SEND and their families, both of which were community farms, one city based and one of the Welsh border.

We request that all children that are booked on to sessions and identified as having SEND needs are contacted by the HAF providers to check that needs can be met and if there are any additional resources that are needed to be put in place. We suggest that if it is appropriate children visit the setting beforehand.

From Hereford Community Farm - The inclusion of the pottery sessions as an enrichment activity proved really popular – it brought the group together and the idea of the nature walk to forage for and collect natural materials to incorporate into the pottery activity was a really good incentive to get the children physically active.

From OAKS - being able to offer sessions which could accommodate children with SEND and their siblings worked really well – parents commented on the lack of accessible activities during holiday periods and having an opportunity for the children / family to do something fun together in a supportive environment that was safe and welcoming with the opportunity to meet other children in similar circumstances was beneficial and appreciated. For Child B – we liaised with teacher, SENDCO and one-to-one support assistant who also visited us here at the start of the summer holidays. We were able to meet his needs and provide additional support for him to attend. Along with autism and learning delay and suffers severe anxiety. He attended two of the six sessions that he was booked in to attend, not leaving the house for two of the sessions, and making it to the door before not coming in on one of them, attending the full four-hour session only twice but family and school felt this was massive progress for him as an individual.

The children that attended the sessions appeared to really enjoy the planned activities and the every-day offer that holiday club provides. Some of the children that attended have learning needs – for example anxiety and some difficulties in mainstream school. These children in particular were observed to grow in confidence. There were sessions where they wanted to choose what they wanted to do, and we listened and put their ideas in place.

From Longtown Outdoor Centre – One child who has severe Global Delay chose to go gorge walking and discovered she was capable of much more than she thought. She was delighted with what she

achieved. We delivered 6 days of adventurous activities including rock climbing, stand-up paddle boarding and gorge walking. Our activities make the most of our rural surroundings and enabled children living in urban settings to experience the benefits of getting outdoors in the natural environment.

From Longtown Outdoor Centre Parent of child with SEN talking about 'Wonderful experience last week all your staff professional and kind, spot on. We look forward to seeing you on another occasion'

"Thank you so much for this Becca, this was so helpful and reassuring and T is feeling happy after hearing this message and now really looking forward to it

We send communication to all eligible families, informing them when the booking system is opening. We ran drop in sessions to support parents that might be finding booking activities difficult.

There is a press release sent out and this has been picked up by 'Your Herefordshire'.

Information is sent to all schools, this includes a letter that can be emailed to eligible parents.

Information is sent to our Early Help Teams and Family Support teams and to our Third Party Organisations who are funded through the household support fund.

Contacts with local organisations (Young Carers, Support Agencies).

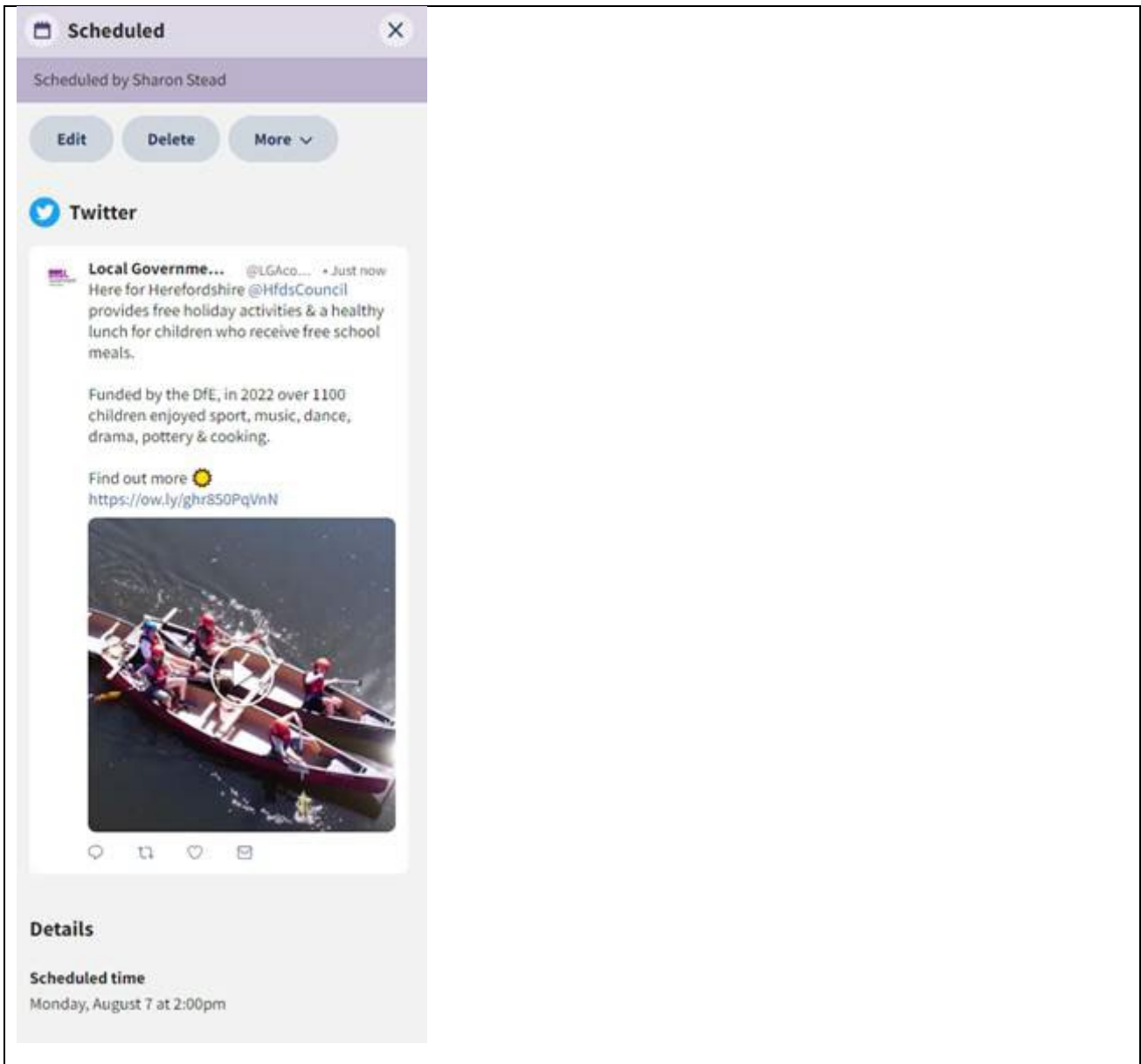
Article in education newsletter 'Spotlight' that is received by all schools.

Talk Community and Herefordshire Council Facebook page.

SEND local offer and children's centre Facebook page.

We work closely with our Talk Community Engagement to plan the communication that is required to go out and put a timetable in place, for each of the programmes.

The LGA did a promo link on twitter for us (see below)



Section 11 – Additional resources, partnerships and aligning with other priorities

In this section, you should include information about whether you received any extra funding, support, resources, food, etc to support and enhance your programme. You might also include information about how you have aligned and joined up your HAF programme with other programmes and initiatives.

We have received offers of support with food from Morrisons and have connected local HAF providers.

S & A produce have provided us with fruit for our Family activity day and also give fruit donations to two HAF providers.

We encourage providers to make contact locally with supermarkets, farms or food banks and some have formed great connections and have helped reduce food surplus.

Through the Household Support Fund we were able to offer a grant for Winter of Wellbeing (WOW) activity session. The session offered a warm space and activities for families and provided food and hot drinks, along with signposting and information to help families with the cost of living. Many of the HAF providers ran activity sessions during the half term holidays.

Local High School donated the use of their facilities for free, so as we could host the family activity day from this venue.

Section 12 – Any other information?

In this section, you should include any other information about your HAF programme that you want to share.

There have been great connections made through local organisations, through the HAF programme, not all providers can deliver the whole programme but have been able to offer enrichment activities for HAF provisions and this has helped to offer a really rich activity programme for many children and young people.

Many providers often are very resourceful in accessing food and will make connections with their local supermarkets, farms etc. Some provider donate any leftover food to local foodbanks or community larders, if appropriate.