**HAF Programme January 2025 Newsletter**

Thank you to everyone who delivered a Programme over the winter break. We enjoyed visiting some of you and appreciate the challenges that many of you faced, including the lower-than-average attendance at many sites. Many of you had allowed a significant increase in bookings which helped to mitigate against the low turnout.

**HAF 2025**

There is currently no news on whether the programme will be funded in 2025, which is as challenging for us as it is for you. We will be sending out a form for you to register your interest in Easter so that we are in a better position if a late announcement is made about funding.

Should funding be available there will be a new way of accessing the funding to run a Programme from July 2025. You should have received this email on the 18 December 2024: **This new process is for everyone who is interested in delivering the HAF Programme from July 2025, regardless of if you have previously delivered it or not.**

**Sent on behalf of Kent County Council**

Good afternoon,

As you may already be aware, the HAF procurement has now gone live on the Kent Business Portal. The link to this opportunity is below:

<https://procontract.due-north.com/Advert?advertId=f8e4fa8f-67bc-ef11-8133-005056b64545&p=8691483f-2f3d-e711-80e1-005056b64545>

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme in Kent focusses on children’s physical health and wellbeing by providing healthy food and enriching activities for children and young people during the school holidays. Families of children aged four to 16 years, who are in receipt of benefits related to Free School Meals (FSM), can access free opportunities during the Easter, summer, and Christmas holidays. This programme is funded by the Department for Education (DfE) accompanied by grant conditions set out in the Memorandum of Understanding signed by KCC.

**The closing date for applications is 12pm on 27th January 2025.**

All the information and documentation regarding the DPS can be found on the [Kent Business Portal](https://www.kentbusinessportal.org.uk/?OpenDocument&contentid=1.001). If you are interested, you can go to ‘[Supplier registration](https://procontract.due-north.com/register)’ to sign up as a provider.

Finding opportunities

To access opportunities, press [Current opportunities](https://procontract.due-north.com/Opportunities/Index?resetFilter=True&applyFilter=True&p=8691483f-2f3d-e711-80e1-005056b64545&v=1). The opportunity we are referring to is our [Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) services DPS (SC240025)](https://procontract.due-north.com/Advert?advertId=f8e4fa8f-67bc-ef11-8133-005056b64545&p=8691483f-2f3d-e711-80e1-005056b64545).

If you press the green button to submit an ‘Expression of Interest’ (EOI) you will then be able to access the information.

Accessing the information and submitting a response

Once you have submitted an EOI please [Login to ProContract](https://procontract.due-north.com/Login), after inputting your details this should bring you to your home page, depending on which widgets you have enabled this part could appear different but there should be a section which says ‘Activities’ and under that heading it should have the opportunities you have previously registered an interest in. If you then click on the blue underlined title of the relevant opportunity, you should be able to view the documents, send portal messages and when ready to do so, submit a tender response.

**If you have any technical questions regarding any documentation or bids, then those questions would need to be submitted through the messaging function on the portal.**

**The HAF Programme team followed this up with the following information:**

You will have recently been forwarded an email from us, with details of the new Kent County Council procurement process for expressing an interest to deliver the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme in Kent from July 2025. We wanted to just follow up with an email to give this a bit of context and explanation.

As you will all be aware The Education People are currently commissioned by Kent County Council to manage the HAF Programme in Kent. The current funding ends in March 2025 and therefore the last holiday within that funding is Christmas 2024. Kent County Council are putting plans in place to take forward the HAF Programme in 2025 (subject to funding) and the email you were forwarded is part of that.

We would strongly encourage you and other organisations to submit an expression of interest, review the HAF procurement documents and where appropriate, submit an application, as this will now be the system through which HAF Programme partners are contracted to deliver the programme. **Any questions relating to this new procurement system must go through the portal.**

Plans for any Easter 2025 HAF Programmes are still in discussion (subject to funding) and you will receive information about this in due course.

**Ofsted reminder:**

We do not yet know what the future looks like, but registering with Ofsted will put you in a stronger position going forwards. Can we please remind you that:

* Any Programme that is running for more than 4 hours a day cannot accept children under 5 unless they are registered.
* HAF Programmes cannot claim exemption under the tutoring for one or two of the elements, for example art and craft, because these are not the main focus of the HAF programme.

**Useful links to help you:**

[EYFS statutory framework for group and school-based providers](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/657aed70095987000d95e0e6/EYFS_statutory_framework_for_group_and_school_based_providers.pdf)

* The EYFS framework also includes [early years qualification requirements and standards](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-qualification-requirements-and-standards).

**Safeguarding**

November safeguarding newsletter

* [Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Partnership (KSCMP) Newsletter November 2024](https://sway.cloud.microsoft/nM0ZGjS8iFMOIuX4?ref=email)

**DSL updates are available here:**

[Child Protection Updates for Designated Safeguarding Leads](https://www.theeducationpeople.org/our-expertise/partner-providers/kent-county-council-providers/safeguarding/updates-for-designated-safeguarding-leads/)

This is the most recent update:

[lesas\_cp-newsletter\_term-2\_24-25.pdf](https://www.theeducationpeople.org/media/6564/lesas_cp-newsletter_term-2_24-25.pdf)

**Safeguarding reminders:**

There are a number of free courses for you to develop your knowledge further. You need to register here: [Me Learning](https://app.melearning.co.uk/auth/validate-key?registerKey=GCMBHJDQ)

Guidance on Kent processes is available here:

[Kent support level guidance - Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Partnership](https://www.kscmp.org.uk/guidance/kent-support-levels-guidance)

If you are concerned about a child, please follow the link:

[Worried about a child - Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-Agency Partnership](https://www.kscmp.org.uk/guidance/worried-about-a-child)

The contact number is 03000 419191

**Useful websites to help you develop the play in your HAF Programme**

[Managing Risk - Play Scotland](https://www.playscotland.org/learn/health-safety/managing-risk-play-provision/)

[Accidents to children - RoSPA](https://www.rospa.com/policy/home-safety/advice/accidents-to-children)

[Managing risks and risk assessment at work – Overview -HSE](https://www.hse.gov.uk/simple-health-safety/risk/index.htm)

**Support for families:**

This is a good website to signpost families to, with recipe and lunch box ideas and other fun stuff.

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/>

This may help you:

[Parents and carers with a learning disability or difficulty](https://sway.cloud.microsoft/E287BG6bSlYkM9Ad?ref=Link)

**Wellbeing:**  
Linking to the PSHE and Relationships Education curriculums, our [What to do about worry](http://links.e.phepartnerships.co.uk/els/v2/4LkXMK7jr-fP/Q05oeGZmZDczeXlSNkRTcXVGUDFMREgyRzZWQzczUXp2Q2U4L2tlTjdMVVkyV0hHZUdoQXpCUVlNclAreStUeVFxTEVsMEE2L212YW5wOW9pSy9vSnMyRzZNUlorVXcvVHZlYjBmRjhKa1U9S0/" \t "_blank) resource can help Year 6 pupils identify worry and provide them with actions they can take if they feel worried.  
  
This resource contains interactive activities featuring an engaging video and a ‘relaxation station'.   
  
Head to the School Zone to download this free resource and explore our other curriculum linked resources, including [Building connections](http://links.e.phepartnerships.co.uk/els/v2/Zzk0F09~R2Hm/Q05oeGZmZDczeXlSNkRTcXVGUDFMREgyRzZWQzczUXp2Q2U4L2tlTjdMVVkyV0hHZUdoQXpCUVlNclAreStUeVFxTEVsMEE2L212YW5wOW9pSy9vSnMyRzZNUlorVXcvVHZlYjBmRjhKa1U9S0/" \t "_blank) which can be used to help young people connect when they return to school in January.

**Support for you:**

Setting aside time for your own wellbeing can be challenging during busy term times but with the **free Every Mind Matters Mind Plan**, you can find simple ways to care for your own wellbeing at a time that suits you.  
  
To download your plan, simply head to the **[Every Mind Matters website](http://links.e.phepartnerships.co.uk/els/v2/qjmNTL_NyxH3/Q05oeGZmZDczeXlSNkRTcXVGUDFMREgyRzZWQzczUXp2Q2U4L2tlTjdMVVkyV0hHZUdoQXpCUVlNclAreStUeVFxTEVsMEE2L212YW5wOW9pSy9vSnMyRzZNUlorVXcvVHZlYjBmRjhKa1U9S0/" \t "_blank)** or use an Alexa device by saying **“Alexa, start mind plan”**.  
  
**Obesity support**

The Whole Systems Obesity Team is pleased to share our December newsletter with you. Follow the link below to have a read-

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/gLLQfUUsMcKfT7hQ?ref=Link>