



# HAF ANNUAL REPORT 2024

## CONTENTS:

What we did	PAGE 2
How we did it	PAGE 3
Meeting HAF Criteria	PAGE 4
Marketing & Comms	PAGE 6
Feedback & Reflection	PAGE 8
Partnership Working	PAGE 9
Challenges & Ambitions	PAGE 10

# What we did...

#TeamBolton's 2024 Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) programme primarily supported children & young people in receipt of benefits related **Free School Meals**. Funded by the **Department for Education**, the program provided the opportunity to participate in '**FREE**' **physical** and **enriching** activities for **4 hours** a day for **4 days** a week alongside a substantive **meal**. The funding covered a week of delivery over **Easter**, 4 weeks delivery over **Summer** and a week of delivery over the **Winter** holidays. 2024 saw an increase of children in receipt of benefits related Free School Meals in Bolton, from just over 13,000 to 14,357. Despite this, funding from the DfE was reduced in Bolton by £17,770 due to the increase in eligibility nationally.

## 2024 HAF Bytes!

52+

LOCAL  
DELIVERY  
PROVIDERS



8,291

INDIVIDUAL FSM  
CHILDREN TOOK  
PART



16,218

CHILDREN  
PARTICIPATED  
IN TOTAL



£1,435,750

ALLOCATED TO  
BOLTON'S HAF  
PROGRAMME



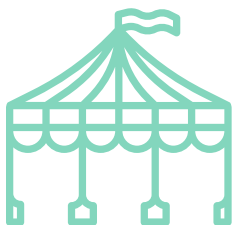
1,354

INDIVIDUAL  
CHILDREN  
WITH SEND



25

HAF HUB  
SIGNPOSTING  
EVENTS



1207

CHILDREN  
UNDER SOCIAL  
CARE



1,708

ELIGIBLE  
CHILDREN  
OVER EASTER



5,063

ELIGIBLE  
CHILDREN  
OVER SUMMER



3,171

ELIGIBLE  
CHILDREN  
OVER WINTER



78%

Participants  
attend Primary  
School



22%

Participants  
attend High  
School



#TeamBolton

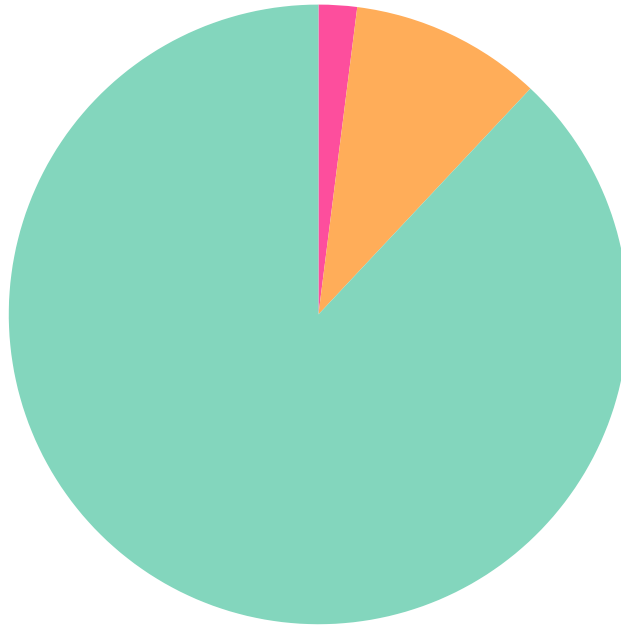
# How we did it...

## BOLTON'S HAF DELIVERY MODEL

#TeamBolton continued to adopt a **5 strand delivery model** for HAF 2024, ensuring decisions were **data driven**, within a '**Bolton**' **Context** and prioritised **local providers**. **Strand 1** focused on the Local Authority delivery from Play, Youth & library services as well as local schools. **Strand 2** utilised Bolton's strong VCSE sector. A 'grass root' grants programme through 'CVS' and a commissioned approach via the umbrella organisation 'Bolton Together' ensured local groups were able to support local communities. **Strand 3** sought the support of private out of school clubs and sports camps, often with great links to schools and the flexibility to fill gaps in provision. **Strand 4** was the partnership working between HAF and Bolton's biggest food charity - Urban Outreach. They supported the direct distribution of HAF lunches as well as liaising with local food businesses & supermarkets. The final **Strand 5** covered programme support for providers such as training and marketing, and funded areas of innovation such as our **HAF HUBS** and the **MENU OF ACTIVITIES...**



**BUDGET - Area Breakdown £1,435,750**



## PROGRAMME SPEND PER HOLIDAY PERIOD



**Click here: [#TeamBolton's Summer HAF 2024 - YouTube](#)**  
**OR scan the QR code above!**





## **PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES**

With a mixture of sports camps, forest schools and youth clubs, physical activities were at the heart of our HAF offer! The HAF team ensured that activities were varied, accessible and safe with a focus on creating as many new and unique experiences as possible! 2024 saw Bolton become the 'Town of Culture' providing additional opportunities for dance workshops, gymnastics and rhythmic music sessions all designed to keep the body moving!



## **ENRICHING ACTIVITIES**

Our '**Menu of Activities**' offered a number of unique and enriching opportunities that providers could access. These included farm visits, comedy workshops, trampoline parks and museum visits. 2024 saw #TeamBolton Create an extra special opportunity for a brave group of HAF young people.... A night in the museum! Children spent the night taking part in activities whilst roman soldiers and prehistoric predator's came to life making survival a little more challenging! Check out the video here!: [Easter HAF 24 Night at the Museum!](#)



## FOOD EDUCATION

With food education being a big part of the HAF programme providers were given the opportunity to access training with our food education provider Classroom Kitchen. As well as health and nutrition, sessions focused on HOW to positively engage young people with food. #TeamBolton continued to utilise expert chefs to deliver cooking sessions & Demos at our **HAF HUB** family event sessions throughout summer.



## FAMILY SUPPORT

#TeamBolton continued to take a 2 pronged approach to family support by digitally signposting families through our microsite as well as bringing services to local communities via our **HAF HUB** family events. We invited guest services alongside our activities and food offer to provide practical support, advice & guidance beyond HAF. Services included health, social housing, money skills, targeted early help, active lives and mental health support.

# Marketing & Communication

The Marketing strategy for 2024 continued to utilise our vibrant HAF branding across multiple fields. The branding is now easily recognised by families, professionals and partners. Our approach is the use of a central HAF microsite ([www.bolton.gov.uk/HAF](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/HAF)) that houses all sessions and HAF information and includes a translate function. Every eligible child received a VIP invitation letter providing them with a unique code that was used when booking. Leaflet & poster templates were given to providers along with banners, flags and pull ups to promote the sessions. HAF was also marketed through schools, social housing providers & social care via face to face briefings and digital channels.

W. Halliwell, Worsley, Ashton Grange	W.2. Thengs Moor, Northgate, Reddish	W.3. Street Lane, Horwath, Hales, Little Lane
W.4. W.2. Worsley, Northgate, Worsley, Worsley	W.5. Worsley, Northgate, Worsley, Worsley	W.6. Worsley, Northgate, Worsley, Worsley
W.7. Worsley, Northgate, Worsley, Worsley	W.8. Worsley, Northgate, Worsley, Worsley	W.9. Worsley, Northgate, Worsley, Worsley





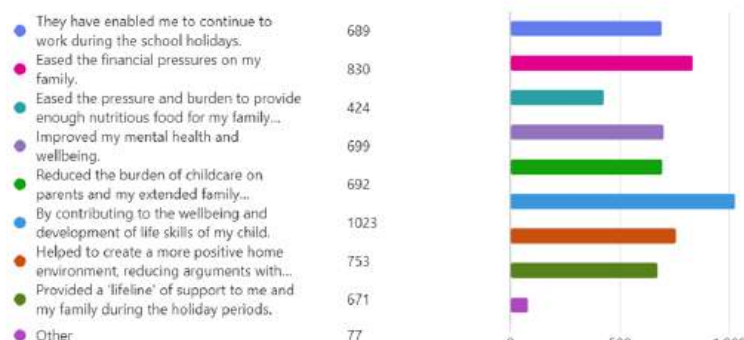
# SNAPSHOTS!



# Feedback & Reflections

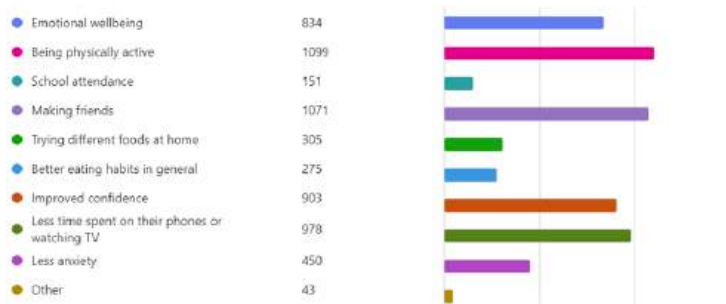
2024 saw all 10 Greater Manchester (GM) Local Authorities work together to gather the thoughts and reflections of HAF parents & carers. It allowed us to gather local feedback as well identify commonalities that we could share with the DfE. 292 Bolton parents took part in the survey, more than any other GM authority! Below is a snapshot of those results!

How have the HAF holiday clubs supported you as a parent? Select all that apply.



**“This service brings the community together and needs to remain for years to come. There so much negativity in the community this show so much positive in the community”**

Have you noticed a positive difference in your child since they've attended HAF holiday clubs? Select all that apply.

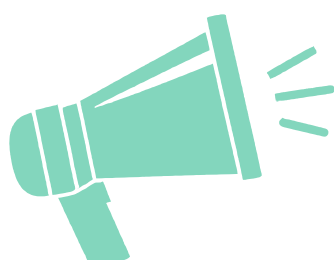


**”A fantastic service in our local community for children and families. I don’t know what we’d do without it”**

Has your child accessed opportunities or experiences they wouldn't have had without a HAF holiday club? at apply.



**“I love these HAF holiday clubs and activities. My children enjoy going there and they keep them occupied. I wish they could take more trips. I want them to continue.”**



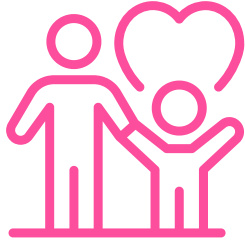


# Partnership working ...

## #TeamBolton's HAF Steering Group



Food Charity  
Urban Outreach



Early Years &  
Family Hubs



3rd Sector CVS  
Bolton Together



Social Housing  
Bolton at Home



Public Health  
Active Lives



Social Care  
Early Help



Education  
Schools



LA Marketing &  
Communication



Play & Youth  
Services



Football Club  
BWitC

## Key strategic HAF partnerships






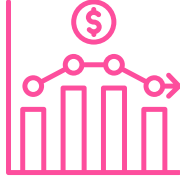

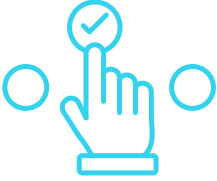
- **Family Hubs** - Events, signposting & wraparound offer
- **Social Care** - Targeted Early Help & referrals
- **Cost of Living** - Housing support fund / Urban Outreach
- **Public Health** - Active Lives, Bikeability & Healthy Eating
- **Greater Manchester** - HAF Co-Ordinator Network

## Supporting the most vulnerable

Although the HAF programme primarily focuses on Children & Young people in receipt of benefits related free school meals, the DfE do offer some small flexibility (15%) to support other vulnerable children. Such vulnerabilities included (but not limited to) SEND, Children Looked After, Children in Need, Targeted Early Help and those under Child Protection plans. Given the limited resource, rather than prioritise one singular group, #TeamBolton's approach in 2024 continued to assess these individual needs on a case by case basis via professional referrals, such as a teacher or social worker. HAF again, extended its offer to the Targeted Early Help team to identify a number of children 'at risk' that would benefit from the programme over the long summer holidays supporting school readiness and subsequent attendance. HAF 2024 also utilised additional funding from the Housing Support Fund (HSF) to support those just outside of the eligibility criteria.

# Challenges & Ambitions ...

## 2024 Continued Challenges..

			
<b>POOR WEATHER -</b> As well as effecting outdoor provision it deterred traveling parents dropping off.	<b>CANCELLATIONS -</b> Cancellations and 'No Shows' continue to affect final numbers.	<b>ELIGIBILITY -</b> Although limited, there continues to be some 'backlash' around HAFs targeted approach.	<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS -</b> Schools were particularly inconsistent over Easter & Christmas affecting HAF delivery
<b>HAF TEAM MITIGATION</b>			
			
<b>PLAN B (C&amp;D!) -</b> Providers asked to consider back-up venues & better contingencies.	<b>AVERAGE PLACES -</b> Providers to be funded based on average daily attendance to reduce wasted places.	<b>UNIVERSAL OFFER</b> Play & Youth service to deliver a universal offer alongside the HAF programme.	<b>FLEXIBILITY -</b> Providers given extended holiday periods from which they could run their HAF provision.

## 2025 Ambitions...

With 2025 only being a 1 year settlement our plan is to continue to build on the things we do well such as our partnership approach and innovative delivery. We will continue to support providers with our **Menu of Activities & HAF HUBS** as well as creating more opportunities for high school eligible young people. Our 5 strand delivery model will continue to ensure that Bolton's 2025 HAF programme is delivered **Locally**, within a **Bolton context**, and **Data Driven** in its decision making. Our focus will be better links with schools and social care ensuring that our most vulnerable children and young people are safe and supported.

#TeamBolton's hope is to create a legacy of sustainability in the sector. This will be achieved by continuing to support local providers with training opportunities as well as ensuring minimum standards of delivery via robust application processes and quality assurance visits. Providers will be supported to forge better links with local schools and each other through the local consortium 'Bolton Together' & CVS. In addition providers will be asked to actively demonstrate better value for money and proactively reduce wasted places. The HAF team will continue to explore complimentary opportunities for funding, strategic alignment and collaboration locally, regionally & nationally.