

# **SG – HOLIDAY CHILDCARE AND FOOD TEAM**

## **APSE Local Authority Holiday Provision Seminar 2022**

May 2022



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
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# Ministerial Commitments

COVID Recovery Strategy



We will build on Get Into Summer 2021 to **deliver a summer 2022 offer for children and families in low income households which provides coordinated access to food, childcare and activities during the holidays. By summer 2023 we will build on this work to make holiday childcare provision available for all children from low income families.**

Programme for Government



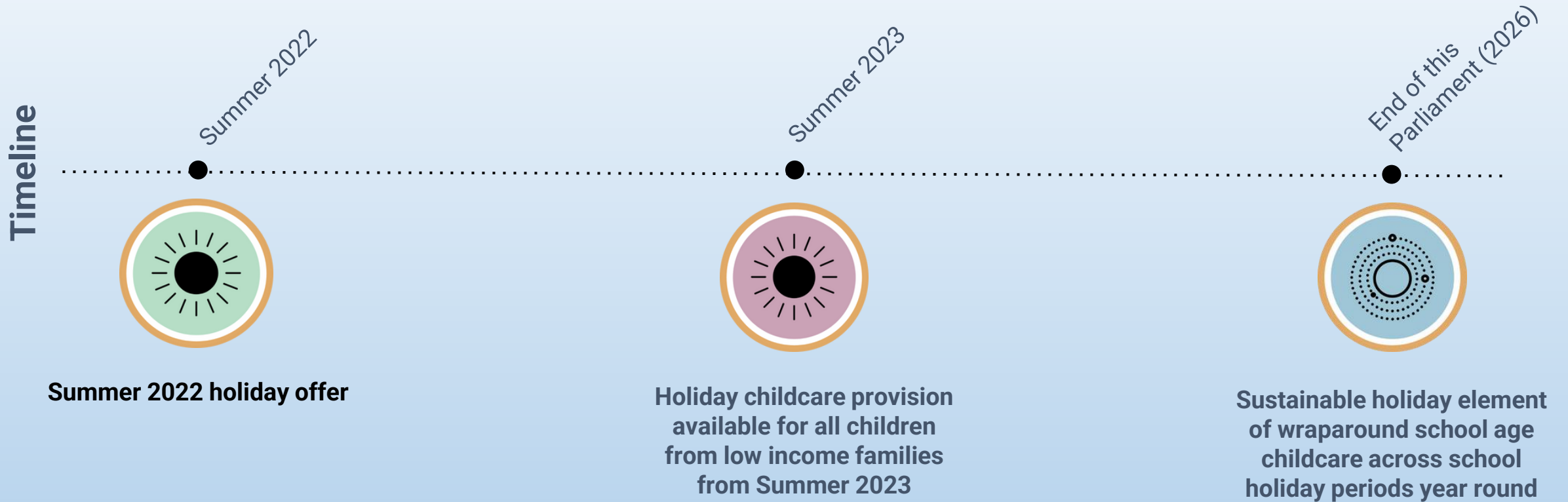
(As part of the commitment to **school meal expansion**), we will **commence the phased roll-out of a food offer during the school holidays, starting with those who will benefit the most.** As we design a system of wraparound childcare, we will integrate food and childcare provision wherever possible.



We will **build a system of wraparound school age childcare by the end of this Parliament, providing care before and after school, all year round, and supporting parents – particularly on low incomes – to have secure and stable employment.** Those on the lowest incomes will pay nothing, and others will make fair and affordable contributions.

This offer will also reduce inequalities in access to a range of activities around about the school day, particularly for those children who may benefit most.

# Holiday activities – steps in this Parliament



Test, evaluate, learn, iterate as we build to a system of wraparound school age childcare

# Get Into Summer 2021 – Key Findings

**Participation:** 32% of parents polled had a child who attended at least one free or low cost activity during summer 2021 in Scotland. Participation was highest among younger age groups (5-12). Target groups benefited most, although families across all income groups engaged with the programme.

## **Main benefits for children and young people**

- the range and choice of activities on offer for their children – some with a specialist focus
- greater opportunities for children to play and socialise after COVID and make new friends
- Improved mental and physical wellbeing
- Opportunity to get outdoors and gain new skills and experiences
- Access to nutritious food
- Supporting transitions: pre-school to primary and primary to secondary.

## **Main benefits for parents and carers**

- Improvement in mental wellbeing
- Improved relationship with their child
- Reduced anxiety around holiday finances
- Respite / Social connection
- Awareness of services through whole family support

## Barriers to accessing holiday provision identified in the evaluation to focus improvements in 2022 included:

- **Lack of awareness** by parents and carers from low income families of holiday provision linked to digital exclusion
- **Barriers around transport** (particularly in rural areas)
- **Barriers to inclusion** of children with disabilities / ASN, particularly availability of skilled staff to support children
- **Access barriers** for children from BAME backgrounds and children from larger families – linked to language of provision and location and timing of services
- **Lack of lead in time** for planning, although experiences varied depending on level of previous experience of delivering holiday provision

# Summer 22 Holiday Provision

- **Summer 2022** is a bridge to developing a scaled up system of holiday provision over the course of this parliament which is affordable for all and where those on the lowest incomes pay nothing.
- Funding is being provided is to deliver **coordinated access to holiday food, childcare and activities across Local Authority areas in a targeted, place-based manner.**
- Key objectives are to give children from low income families **equity of access to quality experiences and promote mental and physical wellbeing, tackle child poverty and food insecurity, and help parents and carers work, train, study or enjoy respite.**
- The 2022 summer offer provides a bridge to creating a scaled up system of holiday childcare over the course of this parliament by **testing key changes, building capacity for delivery and generating new learning on what works best.**

## Summer 2022 - Governing Principles

**Scottish Ministers have agreed funding for the 2022 Summer Holiday Provision will be:**

**Targeted** at low income families, aligning to Tackling Child Poverty Priority Groups with room for local discretion.

**Aligned with School Age Childcare expansion** - offer for children age 5-14 with some local discretion to flex to needs of priority groups.

**Place Based**, with funding distributed to support local authorities with high concentration of SIMD areas.

**Partnership Focused**, with an emphasis on building capacity across sectors and deepening local learning.

**Stigma-free** approaches to delivery and engaging eligible families

**Integrated**, with a focus on driving up capacity to deliver coordinated access to food in conjunction with activities or childcare.

**Any questions?**

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