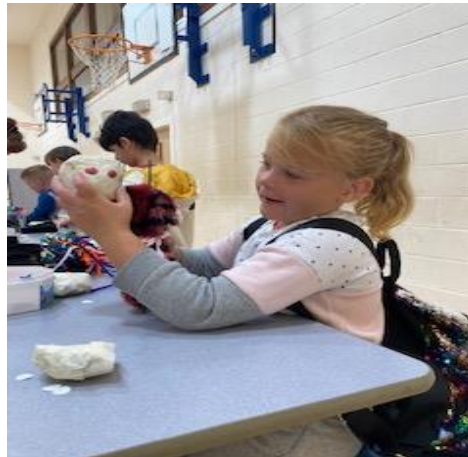


Stirling Council

Holiday Fun Club Provision





Child Poverty in Scotland

1 in 4

children in Scotland
are living in poverty

38%

of children in
lone parent
households live
in poverty

68%

of children living in poverty in Scotland are in
households where someone works

29% of children with a disabled family member are in poverty



What's the child poverty picture here?

21.3% or **3285** children in Stirling are living in poverty.

Poverty rates by ward (2018/19)

Bannockburn	(24%)	Trossachs & Teith	(12%)
Stirling East	(21%)	Forth & Endrick	(12%)
Stirling North	(20%)	Dunblane & Bridge of Allan	(6%)
Stirling West	(13%)		



Flexible model for provision

- In-house provision (aka the “Goodwill” model) - all school holidays 2017 into 2018
- Procurement framework - most school holidays 2018 and 2019
- Activity packs and school lunches delivered - Summer 2020 (Covid)
- Covid hybrid model -- core Holiday Fun Club offer from Stirling Council and Active Schools, plus grant applications as part of Scottish Government “Summer of Play” programme 2021
- Locality Action Plan area model using Active Schools as partners – Easter 2022



Things we've learned

- Link with schools - key component
- Identify young people who qualify for free school meals and those who would benefit from attending
- Support of cross party working group to help secure funding and sustainability is helpful
- Secure agreement from families so they can be contacted regarding future provision
- Use Family Link officers to liaise with parents
- Active Schools coordinators and Community Activation officers who work within schools and communities to facilitate – relationships are key



Uptake

October 2021: 65 participants

No direct provision. FSM payment made during holidays plus free access to sports facilities, swimming and visits to Wallace Monument

Summer 2021: 131 participants

6 LAP areas – Active schools team, Cultural services team, Education staff
- packed lunches via Council Catering Service

Easter 2022: 147 participants

8 LAP areas – Active Schools Team, Cultural Services team – hot meals via Council Catering service



Summer 2022 Holiday Food and Childcare programme

- FSM payment and hardship payment paid directly to all eligible families during holidays
- 8 Locality Action Plan areas given priority
- Extra focus on 6 child poverty priority groups (ages 5-14)
- Grant applications open to Council, partners and third sector, including social enterprises, charities, community interest companies and community organisations delivering eligible activities in Stirling Council area
- Funded places can be bought from existing activity or childcare schemes for children from the priority groups



Next steps:

£138k SG funding for summer provision this year. Grant application process, open to Council, partner and 3rd sector - use of established networks to widen reach

Direct payments will also continue to be made to families in receipt of free school meals

Front line worker networks in LAP areas to better support those experiencing poverty through a more coordinated approach

Better use of “experts by experience” in all of our work to tackle poverty and inequality



Key takeaway:

There is no one best way.

You need to be flexible to local and national circumstance. Partnership is key and we now also need to involve those who use the holiday fun clubs at the point of design, not just delivery.

Children's comments



"I love coming here during the holidays and I loved the Easter egg Hunt."

"It gives me something to do in my holidays."



"The food is good and I like macaroni."

Children's comments

"The pizza was really good but I didn't like the mince pie."



"Allan is really funny and the samba guy is good."



"I liked ordering my food so I could pick what I liked the best."