

The Derbyshire School Holiday Food Programme

Holiday Hunger

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Chesterfield Borough Council.



What is Holiday
Hunger?

“School holiday periods are an incredibly difficult time for parents on low incomes as limited household budgets are squeezed. Holiday meal programmes that provide a safe environment and fun activities need to be recognised and supported by government policy. No child should be hungry at any time in this country.”

Lindsay Graham, Chair of the Holiday Hunger Task Group

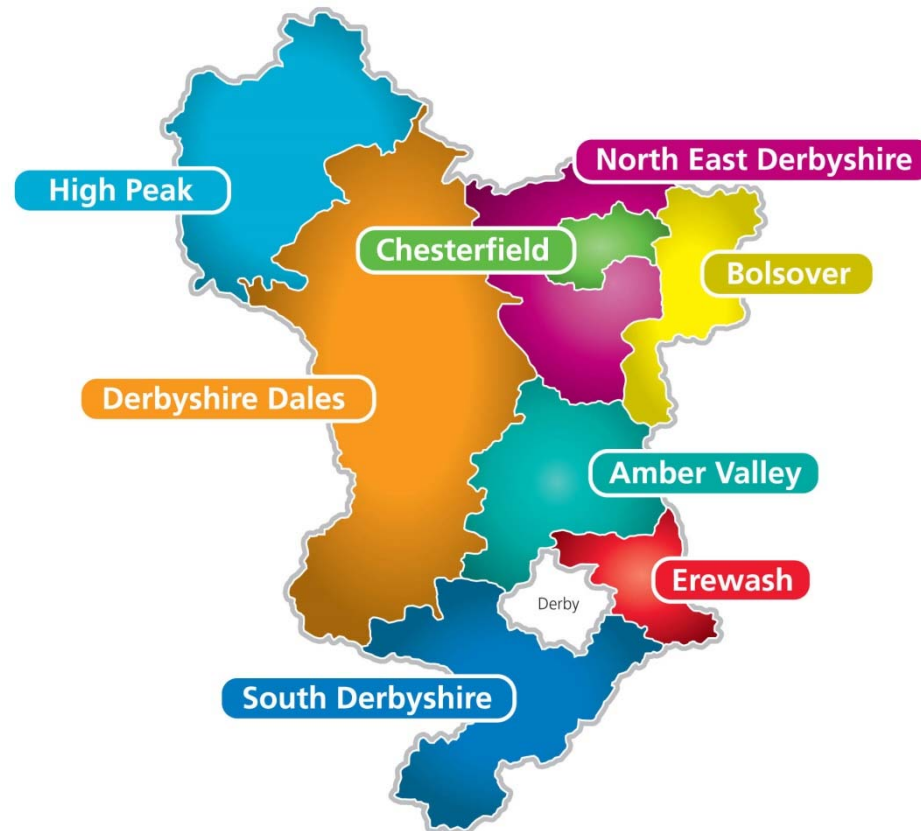
Why is there a need in Derbyshire?

Percentage of children in poverty		
Oct-Dec 2015	Before housing costs	After housing costs
Amber Valley	16.09%	25.87%
Bolsover	16.83%	27.03%
Chesterfield	15.80%	25.44%
Derbyshire Dales	10.31%	16.62%
Erewash	15.00%	24.33%
High Peak	11.26%	18.34%
North East Derbyshire	13.60%	21.96%
South Derbyshire	11.10%	18.03%

Child poverty blights childhoods. Growing up in poverty means being cold, going hungry, not being able to join in activities with friends. For example, 60 per cent of families in the bottom income quintile would like, but cannot afford, to take their children on holiday for one week a year.

Department for Work and Pensions, 2015

What we did in Derbysire?





What is Fareshare?



12,336 tonnes
of food saved from
waste last year



5,589 charities
and community groups
supported last year



25.8 million meals
provided to
vulnerable people

How does FareShare Work?



FareShare takes surplus food...

Giving food

Thousands of tonnes from the food industry – good food that would otherwise go to waste.



redistributes it around the country...

Where to find us

There are 20 FareShare Regional Centres across the UK from Aberdeen to Brighton.



Where it is used by partner charities...

Getting food

5,589 of them including breakfast clubs, homeless hostels and women's refuges.



... to help feed those who need it.

Get involved

The food provided by FareShare contributes towards 25.8 million meals per year.

Typical packaged food supplied by FareShare included: Cold lunch: fresh sliced bread (not white); cereal bars; margarine/butter; cheese; pack cooked meats; fruit yoghurt; bottled water; fresh fruit and salad products. Breakfast: cereals (low sugar), fresh sliced bread (not white), butter/margarine; fruit yoghurts, fruit, fresh fruit juice, bottled water, UHT milk (subject to availability). Snacks: fruit, cereal bars, water, fruit drinks.



Area/project	Ttl no. children	Ttl no. breakfasts	Ttl no. packed lunches	Ttl no. snacks	Ttl no. volunteers	Recorded adults
Amber Valley						
Heanor children's centre	185	185	185	0	2	101
Marlpool United Reform Church	174	174	174	0	11	45
Ironville children's centre	84	0	84	0	0	70
Bolsover						
Bolsover children's centre	67	0	67	0	1	0
Brockley Primary	376	0	376	0	10	182
Clowne Sports Centre	248	0	248	0	0	0
Doe Lea Ctr/BDC Leisure Service	28	0	28	0	1	0
St Mary Magdalene Church	449	449	449	0	36	207
Chesterfield						
Barrow Hill Methodist Church	256	256	256	0	12	0
Eastwood Park (Hasland)	2184	0	0	2184	8	0
St Augustines Church	121	0	121	0	8	0
Derbyshire Dales						
Hurst Farm Community Centre	320	0	320	0	3	12
Hurst Farm CC Youth Club	20	0	0	20	5	0
Erewash						
Cotmanhay children's centre	167	0	167	0	6	0
High Peak						
Gamesley G52	710	0	710	0	5	0
North East Derbyshire						
Grassmoor Community Centre	48	0	48	0	7	30
Big Local/Grassmoor Primary	298	0	0	298	8	0
Sharley Park Community Primary	348	0	0	348	0	0
South Derbyshire						
Woodville children's centre	183	0	164	0	4	39
Total	6266	1064	3397	2850	127	686

What we did in Chesterfield



Eastwood Park, Hasland (Grassland Hasmoor Big Local)

Delivery model - The holiday project was facilitated by Grassland Hasmoor Big Local's Children and Young People's Working Group in partnership with others and offered a range of activities for children and families and offered a range of activities for children and families.

Number of sessions/weeks – 16 sessions over 6 weeks.

Total number of children – 2,184

Total number of volunteers – 8

Total number of adults – not recorded.

Partners – Public Health, FareShare, Friends of Eastwood Park, Chesterfield Borough Council (various departments), Asian Association, Grassland Hasmoor Big Local, Chesterfield College, Community Growth CIC, Village Games, Youthinc Derbyshire, High Sheriffs fund, Nathan Geering - Yorkshire Dance/Hip Hop artist.

Food – Snacks and drinks.

Activities – Multi-sports, Laser Tag, KMX Racing, Circus Skills, Super Hero picnic, Asian Dance Workshop, National Play Day, Grow Wild eco week (different sessions in the garden), Hasland parade celebration and pollination event, Kite making, Xplorer sessions, music day, street dance, steel drums and a band, beach day various organisations attended.

Additional information – Multi-sports activities were provided by Chesterfield College, additional activities which included KMX Racing and Laser tag were also offered, funded by Youthinc Derbyshire and the High Sheriffs fund alongside Grassland Hasmoor Big Local.

St Augustine's Church - 'SHAKER' holiday programme (Summer Holiday Activities Keeping Enjoyment in Rother)

Delivery model – A multi-partnership group of organisations and volunteers planned the holiday programme titled the 'SHAKER' programme. '**S**ummer **H**oliday **A**ctivities **K**eeping **E**njoyment in **R**other'. Regular meetings took place to establish a range of activities for children and their families over the summer holiday 6 week period.

Number of sessions/weeks – 11 sessions over 6 weeks.

Partners – Public Health, FareShare, Chesterfield Borough Council, Sporting Futures, Rother Sports Action Group, Police/PCSO's/community safety partnership, Gussies Kitchen volunteers, County Councillors, Borough Councillors, Eudemonia, DCC Youth Service, St Augustine's Church, Life Church, Hunloke Community Garden.

Total number of children – 121

Total number of volunteers - 8

Total number of adults – not recorded.

Food - Packed lunch and drinks.

Activities – multi sports, dance, bowling.

Additional information – The programme ended with an additional large family event called ‘SHAKER Showtime’ that had a variety of entertainment. There was the smoothie bike, a film, bouncy castle, ice cream van and the food truck which served 70 meals. This was held tea time/early evening and finished at 8pm and was additional to the holiday programme in the summer. We used Langer Lane multi games area, St Augustine’s Church, Hunloke Garden and the Life Church.

Note: there was a period that we were unable to hold the sessions at Langer Lane as travellers occupied the site so the programme had to be suspended.

Barrow Hill Methodist Church ‘*Holiday Six Fun!*’

Delivery model – The holiday project was facilitated by the church in partnership with others and offered a range of activities for children and families.

Number of sessions/weeks – 12 sessions over 6 weeks.

Total number of children – 256

Total number of volunteers – 12

Total number of adults – not recorded.

Partners – Public Health, FareShare, DCC Library Service, Village Games, Chesterfield Borough Council, Derbyshire Environmental Studies, Chesterfield Canal Trust, Sporting Futures – multi-sport activities, Barrow Hill Primary School.

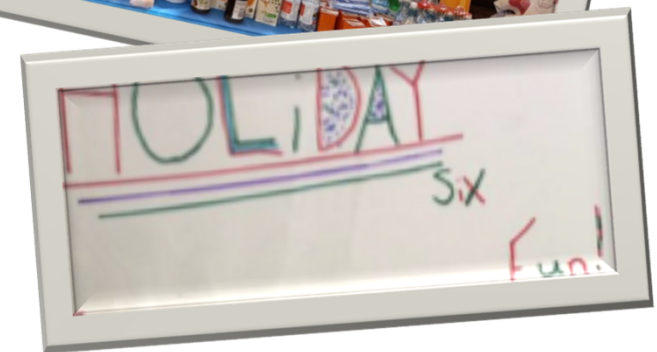
Food – Breakfast, packed lunch and drinks.

Activities – Crafts; Reading (theme: Roald Dahl), Board games, Sports (Boccia, Rounder's, etc.), Cooking, Canal Trip, Pond Dipping, 8+ multi-sport activities.

Additional information – Barrow Hill Primary School donated their fridge to the church for the 6 week period to store food.

Barrow Hill Primary School held a competition to decide on the name and logo of the holiday project – *'Holiday Six Fun!'*

Surplus food was taken out by the church into the community for families.



Questionnaires and Survey Findings

Results of the pupil/parent questionnaire

Two short questionnaires were handed out to children, young people and parent/carers attending the projects across Derbyshire to assess their views on the food and the activities offered.

Food questionnaire

Responses

- Derbyshire County Council received 869 completed and valid food questionnaires from children, young people and adults attending one of the 19 projects during the summer 2016.

Successes

Successful outcomes that emerged from the completed survey included:

- Working with vulnerable families and linking them into other services and skills training.
- Reaching isolated communities and breaking down barriers.
- Making new contacts.
- Volunteer support, skills and social interaction.
- Training in Level 2 Food Safety & Hygiene for Catering.
- Families enjoying time together.
- Prevented some children from going hungry.
- Increased awareness and greater understanding of problems facing families.
- Broad partnership working.
- Distribution of surplus food.
- Good quality food.
- Good range of activities and opportunities to try new activities and go to new locations.
- Considered as very positive in local communities.

Challenges

The main challenges that emerged from the completed surveys included:

- Lack of staff and volunteers.
- Additional stresses on some volunteers.
- Limited time frame to plan and execute.
- Reaching most vulnerable families.
- Uncertainty on numbers of children attending.
- Striking a balance between nutritious food and food children expect (e.g. white bread vs brown bread).
- FareShare communication, timely delivery and appropriate food.
- Food issues, e.g. large juice cartons, age appropriate food, lack of fruit and vegetables, lack of variety, quantity of food.
- Disposing of waste packaging and food waste.
- Completing questionnaires.
- Poor/limited promotion and advertising meant that not all families were reached.

Recommendations

- More time to plan activities, involve partners and pre-book services, e.g. Library services.
- Consider methods to target children/families that avoids stigmatisation:
 - Links via Schools (e.g. known vulnerable families, breakfast clubs), MATs, early year's settings, Family Services, Social Care, and others who work directly with vulnerable families to identify and link into projects.
- Explore the '*Pay It Forward*' model – access to existing cafes businesses, sandwich shops, etc. where families at risk of food deprivation can eat a meal without fear of stigmatisation.

- Maximising on the opportunity to engage with vulnerable families and signpost into other support services, during the projects and beyond.
- FareShare – further discussions to improve communication, timely delivery, range of food supplied and ensuring projects get suitable food to make up lunches. Some projects had to use own funds to supply bread, etc.
- Explore long term sustainability of food projects across Derbyshire. Currently FareShare is funded by the Derbyshire County Council up to July 2018.

- Providing children/family Cook & Eat sessions; *'make your own picnic'* and *'build your own sandwich'* will enable families to learn how to prepare meals and eat together.
- Develop activities for the whole family.
- Improve promotion and advertising to reach target families.
- Sharing good practice across the different projects.

- Do not use the term '*Holiday Hunger*' – risks stigmatising children and families and putting some families off attending who would benefit.
- Explore appropriate recycling of waste, some areas accumulated excessive waste from food packaging and left over food.
- Clarity on the aims and objectives of the overall programme – is it feeding, educating . . . etc.?
- Greater collaboration to increase the engagement of young volunteers, e.g. possible links with local colleges.

