

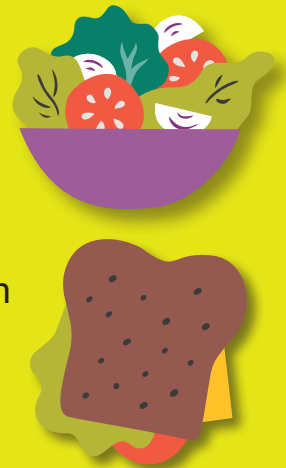
FUEL Impact Report

Kingston and Richmond's holiday activity and food programme



What is FUEL?

FUEL (which stands for 'Fuel Ur Everyday Lives') is the name for the holiday activity and food programme in the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames and the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. The purpose of the programme is to make free places at holiday clubs available during the Easter, summer and Christmas holidays for children and young people whose parents and carers receive benefits related free school meals (FSM). The programme is important as it provides fun and exciting activities for children and young people who may otherwise not be able to take part.



Who can access FUEL?

FUEL is for children and young people whose parents or carers are eligible for benefits related free school meals who are in reception up to Year 11. Those children who are eligible should have a 17 digit code that will have been given to them by their school. If you're not sure if you're eligible, contact: fuel@achievingforchildren.org.uk and we can check for you.



Who delivers FUEL?

Achieving for Children, who deliver children's services on behalf of Kingston and Richmond Councils, commission a range of different providers as part of our FUEL programme. The sessions range from cycling, to film-making, to technology camps, to rugby. There are a wide range of providers who offer activities that should appeal to all different ages and interests.



Key facts about our FUEL programme so far:

- launched in late 2020 with first delivery period at Easter 2021
- over £1.6m spent on delivering sessions for children and young people since it began
- 37,422 places have been created
- 4,403 primary school aged children and young people have attended sessions
- 1,275 secondary school aged young people have attended sessions
- 661 children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities have attended sessions
- delivered by over 40 different providers



What do children and young people think of FUEL?

“ The food was nice and the staff were very kind, funny and friendly. I liked the activities because they were fun. The staff put a lot of effort and energy into all the activities we did. The children were also friendly and I made new friends. ”

“ I enjoy it because everybody plays with me. ”

“ It was really fun and I want to go again. There was delicious food! ”

“ It was so fun! I like the long days so I don't have to go to work with mummy. ”

“ Me and my brother really enjoyed it, it's the best club we've been to and we would like to go again. It was really fun. ”

“ I loved that you can do fun stuff and I made new friends. I enjoyed it a lot. I'm sad it's finished! ”

“ We like all the people there and liked doing cooking, craft, using the gym and playing football. ”

“ It was much better than I thought it was and the staff were all really welcoming and made me feel at home. I definitely want to go back and I loved all the activities! ”



What do parents and carers think of FUEL?

“ I wish I knew of it sooner, it is a wonderful space for my child to gain different experiences and grow in confidence. The people who run the zone are friendly, fun, warm, supportive and helpful. My daughter loves going and she loves it because she can do something for herself and have space to express herself. ”

“ She had an amazing time and was very upset when it finished! She is excited to go again. The staff were amazing!!! My daughter has additional needs and they really understood her and we're extremely kind and patient with her. She felt really safe in their care. ”

“ It's great to know they had somewhere safe to go to for three weeks to keep them busy over summer holidays, as we did not have opportunities to do anything else and they would've been bored at home all day. ”

“ They both loved it, they originally only planned to go for one day but enjoyed it so much they went back a second day. They came out enthused and it definitely built up their confidence as they loved chatting about the other kids they had met and taking part in the activities as they felt very supported by staff. My disabled son can struggle in big groups, but found this small setting great and joined in with all activities. ”





“ Both my children could not express enough how much fun they had and the amount of friends they made and the great activities they tried. The club was the best part of my children’s Christmas holidays and I can not thank them enough. ”

“ I believe that the club is vital to local children’s mental, emotional and physical well-being. The children learn valuable life skills here, which are imperative in the works that they will grow up in. The club’s amazing work needs to continue. Our family love, love, love this place and its people. My son really enjoyed this club and liked the coaches, children and food! ”



“ The activities were child led and allowed for freedom of choice and individuality. My children have very different personalities and the camp allowed for them both to participate in activities which suited their preference and needs. ”

“ The staff work hard to make each day eventful and my kids have been able to take part in so many fantastic activities that I would never have thought of or had the money to take them to. ”

What do our schools think of FUEL?

“ The FUEL programme has been a great addition to the wider offer at Malden Manor Primary.

The school has run a holiday club for a long time and when the possibility of including our more vulnerable families arose, we were keen to get involved. Leading up to the longer holidays, we send emails out to all our PFSM families reminding them that the holiday club is running for free and how to book on.

We work closely with the company that runs it to see which children have booked in. If there are key families that haven't managed to book teachers, office staff and myself will grab them as they drop the children off to ask if they have seen the emails and if they want places booking. We will also fill in the forms (with their permission) for them if we know they will struggle.

All this does bring additional work to the school but for me, as a headteacher, I like the fact that these children are seen by adults working in school. In these times of food poverty I know they are going to get some quality healthy meals during the holidays - not every day, but for the days they are at the club, they will.

For some of the SEND children, it has meant that they have been less anxious about returning after the break as they are still in the habit of being in school. But mostly, because it gives the opportunity for the children to be with their friends, running around, playing, doing arts and crafts and sports, which can only be a good thing! ”

Katherine Tremain, the headteacher at Malden Manor Primary School



What have our providers said about FUEL?

“Being part of the FUEL programme has allowed us as a business to improve and grow and become more robust organisationally. We have focused on upskilling our team to ensure we have the safeguarding requirements, training and expertise in place to deliver to children from different backgrounds and with varying needs.

This has led to a growth in confidence among our camp teams, giving them wider exposure and progressing them in their knowledge, experience and qualifications. We are focused on delivering the best camps we can to support STEM learning for children, especially those who might not otherwise have access to this. The knowledge and fulfilment gained from this programme is priceless and we are continually learning from it. ”

“Over the summer holidays, we were thrilled to deliver our programme to many different children, young people and families. Our activity structure was done in a way that allowed us to deliver the physical activity, food nutrition and enrichment sessions in a fun, safe and supportive environment ”

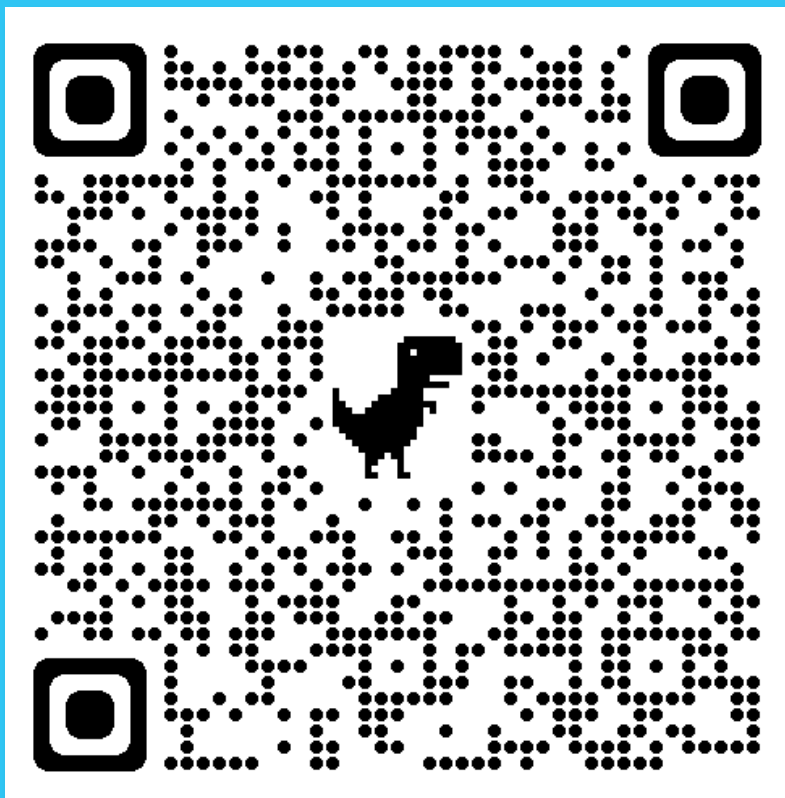
“We endeavour to be as inclusive as possible to ensure that every child that attends one of our camps has an informative, fun, and educational time. For our SEND children we put in place plans specific to each child's needs to ensure they are able to enjoy the camp the same as their peers. We hired staff that have extensive experience and training with SEND children and can accommodate a wide range of needs.

Our SEN leader was able to call parents before attending to discuss their child's needs to ensure that we had the provision in place for their child to enjoy their time with us as comfortably as possible. ”



How can you find out more?

More information can be found on our [website](#), which is accessible via the following QR code:



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