

Hackney Education Summer Holiday Scheme Information for parents and carers

At our holiday scheme, children are encouraged to engage in play without specific objectives or it feeling like a task.

Playing entails the freedom to decide how and what to play, where to play, and with whom to play. This may involve various forms of play such as creative play, role-play, imaginative play, using tools, building dens, making a mess, rough and tumble play, and getting wet and dirty! Playing provides children with a sense of control over their lives and is essential for their happiness and well-being. It holds equal importance in their development alongside curriculum-based education.

Our holiday schemes provide children with the chance to explore, learn, and have fun, fostering identity development, social relationships, confidence, independence, and self-esteem as well as acquiring new skills and facing challenges.

Our qualified and experienced play workers are dedicated to creating a stimulating play environment with diverse opportunities. They observe and supervise the physical and emotional well-being of the children, aiming to build positive relationships through a non-directive approach. This approach allows children to choose activities and play content, encouraging learning and development through their exploration of the environment and experiences.

The summer holiday scheme will take place at Benthall Primary School, Benthall Road, Hackney, London N16 7AU, from 29th July to 23rd August, for children aged 4-12 years old.

Benthall holiday scheme opening times: 8.45 am – 5.45 pm Monday to Friday

Contact Information:

Holiday Scheme: 07717 581 929 (this number is used only during the holiday scheme dates)

Senior Playworker: Kathy Ahmed

If you have any queries that cannot be addressed by the Senior Playworker please contact Anthony Greenidge at Anthony.greenidge@hackney.gov.uk, or by telephone at 07717581930.

Important Holiday Scheme Information

Play is FUN & can be MESSY!

Please make sure that your child is wearing clothes that can get messy & are also suitable for playing outdoors in all types of weather. You may wish to bring a change of clothes so that your child can enjoy playing with water, and you must supply sun cream and a hat if it's particularly hot.

Your child will need to bring a packed lunch every day to eat with the other children:

Please try to give your child healthy foods and avoid fizzy drinks, sweets, and processed foods.

Hard lunch boxes are advised. We are unable to reheat food, or put food in the fridge, if possible please put ice blocks in with your child's lunch. We provide water throughout the day, juice and healthy snacks, and an optional light breakfast from 8.45 am to 9.45 am daily.

Please do not allow your child to bring anything you or your child would be upset to lose or damage:

We cannot store valuables at the holiday scheme. All children need is suitable clothes they can play in, a warm waterproof coat for playing outside, and their lunch. The holiday scheme takes no responsibility for property that may be lost or damaged, **including mobile phones. Hand-held computer games or other electrical equipment will not be allowed at the holiday scheme.**

Non-Attendance and Refunds:

If your child is not collected by 5:45 pm at the latest there is a £2 charge for every five minutes they have to be looked after. Please help us by collecting your child on time. You must contact the holiday scheme if you are unavoidably late. If your child is unwell or does not attend the holiday scheme for any reason, we cannot refund for that day as the fees paid are for the place, not the attendance.

Outings & Trips:

We sometimes take children out locally, for example to a park in the area. You can sign your consent for your child to take part in local outings on the registration form. Other trips to natural or wildlife areas are also available and you can book your child's place and pay the additional cost at the holiday scheme. Places are allocated on a first come first served basis.

The holiday scheme is Ofsted registered for children aged 4-12 years old. However, we understand that as children grow, their needs change. When a child reaches the age of 13, they are no longer eligible to attend our holiday scheme. We appreciate the time they've spent with us and wish them all the best as they explore other exciting opportunities.