

Happy Healthy Holidays Somerset Winter 2026 Funding Guidance

Introduction

Happy Healthy Holidays Somerset (HHHS) aims to provide enriching activities and nutritious food for children eligible for benefits-related free school meals during school holidays. The winter Programme 2026 will run for 6 days, supporting children across Somerset to stay active, socially engaged, and well-nourished.

Applications for funding are now open. We invite local providers to apply for grants to deliver activities during the winter, with a payment structure of £25 per child per day for 4-hour sessions and up to £35 per child for 6-hour sessions (additional £5 per extra hour beyond the base 4-hour session).

Providers can apply for **1 - 6 days** of provision, up to **16** children per day. Providers can operate their venues with both HAF funded spaces and paid-for spaces. The funding available is intended to buy spaces in your existing provision so that more children can attend, particularly those on benefits-related free school meals. If you are open to both HAF-funded and non-HAF-funded children, it is important to ensure that all children get the same experience.

Application Window: **Wednesday 16th September - midnight on Wednesday 14th October 2026**. Late applications will not be accepted.

Applications will be prioritised based on geographic need, value for money, and demonstrated impact on vulnerable children. Providers offering a broad range of activities, dedicated support for SEND children, or a focus on secondary school-age groups will be looked upon favourably.

All grant applications will be assessed based on the information provided and their alignment with HHHS objectives. Our aim is to ensure equitable access to quality provision across Somerset, with a focus on reaching children most in need.

If you are **offering different activities for separate groups at the same venue** (and therefore applying for more than 16 places per camp, per day) applicants must clearly breakdown how the camp will operate to keep the groups separate (e.g. appropriate staff ratios per group).

There will be drop in sessions on Monday 28th September at 6-6.30pm, Tuesday 29th September at 10-10.30am, Thursday 8th October 6-6.30pm and Friday 9th October 10-10.30am. These are not mandatory. You can attend to explore the application process and to ask any questions. Please sign up [here](#).

Programme Overview

Key Dates:

The winter delivery period is across 2 weeks as follows:

- Week 1: Monday 21st December – Wednesday 23rd December 2026
- Week 2: Tuesday 29th December – Thursday 31st December 2026

Please note that these are the only dates available for funding.

Minimum Operation: Each camp must operate for a minimum of 4 hours per day and include a hot, nutritious meal.

Dates

Stage	Date
Applications open	Wednesday 16th September
Deadline for applications	Midnight Wednesday 14th October
Groups Informed of decision	w/c 26th October
Deadline for activities uploaded on booking system	Midnight Sunday 8th November
Bookings go live	w/c Monday 16th November
Activity days	Monday 21st December – Thursday 31st December 2026
Funds distributed - 50%	Date to be confirmed on Service Level Agreement. SLA and supporting documents returned triggers first payment ahead of provision starting.
Funds distributed - Final 50%	To be paid after completion of the winter programme, once evaluation and registers completed.

Funding Details:

Grant Amounts: Providers can apply for £25 per child per day for 4-hour sessions, with additional funding of £5 per hour for each hour beyond four hours, up to a maximum of £35 per child for a 6-hour session.

Eligibility & Requirements for Applicants

Who Can Apply?

Voluntary and community groups, charities, schools, and private providers that align with the programme's objectives.

Providers who offer enriching activities for school-aged children (5-16 years) and meet quality and safety standards.

Core Requirements:

- **Healthy Hot Meal:** Must be provided every day and meet or exceed school food standards.
- **Physical Activity:** Each session must include at least 1 hour of physical exercise (e.g., sports, dancing, active games).
- **Enrichment Activities:** Include at least 1 hour of engaging activities to promote creativity, education, or personal development (e.g., arts, crafts, music, cooking).
- **Healthy Eating and Healthy Lifestyles:** Providers are expected to incorporate helping children understand more about the benefits of healthy eating and nutrition as part of their programme. These do not need to be formal learning activities; examples could include:
 - Cooking or food preparation sessions where children help prepare their own meals.
 - Informal discussions about different food groups, the benefits of fruits and vegetables, or how to make balanced meals.
 - Activities like gardening or growing food that help children understand where their food comes from.
- **Health & Safety:** All activities must be safe and age-appropriate. Providers must demonstrate compliance with safeguarding and safety policies.

Application Guidance

1. Define Your Project Scope

Overview: Provide a summary of the proposed activities. Describe the services to be delivered, such as daily schedules, themes, and special activities.

Target Audience: State the age groups you will serve, including any specific focus on special needs or secondary-age children.

2. Funding Request & Budget Breakdown

Budget Details: Provide a clear breakdown of the funding requested:

- **Staff Costs:** Salaries or fees for those running activities.
- **Venue Costs:** Any rental or maintenance costs associated with the venue.
- **Food:** Include a detailed cost for food per child per day.
- **Materials and Resources:** Costs for materials (arts and crafts, sports equipment, etc.).

Cost Justification: Clearly state the duration of your sessions:

- 4-hour session: £25 per child.
- 5-hour session: £30 per child.
- 6-hour session: £35 per child.

Justify any additional costs if needed, for example, for specialist instructors or additional support for SEND children.

Selection & Evaluation Criteria

Outcomes to Achieve:

- To increase physical activity among children during the school holidays.
- To enhance healthy eating habits and nutritional awareness.

- To support engagement in enriching activities that build confidence, social skills, and resilience.
- To ensure children are safe, happy, and not socially isolated during school breaks.

Grant Prioritisation:

Applications will be prioritised based on geographic need, value for money, and demonstrated impact on vulnerable children.

Providers offering a variety of activities, a focus on SEND provision, or addressing secondary school-age children will be considered favorably.

How to Apply

Complete the Winter HHH Funding Form:

Applicants must complete the winter HHH Funding Form to apply for funding on the [SASP website](#). Schools running for their own pupils only will complete the 'For schools only' form.

Provide all requested details, including your organisation's compliance with operational standards and information specific to the venue where activities will be delivered.

Supporting Documentation

Required documents include:

- Governing Documents (e.g., constitution or registration proof)
- Safeguarding Policy and evidence of training
- Insurance Documents (Public Liability)
- Staff Certifications (e.g., First Aid, Food Hygiene)

Application Submission

Supporting documents must also be emailed to hhh@sasp.co.uk with a clear reference to the associated application.

Application Window: Applications must be submitted between 16th September – 14th October

Post-Application Process

Funding Decisions

Grants will be evaluated based on the information provided and the alignment with HHHS objectives.

We aim to ensure equitable provision across Somerset to reach children most in need.

Successful Applicants

Upon approval, providers will be required to:

- Upload Activities: All activities must be uploaded to the booking platform. This platform will manage bookings, attendance, and child details.
- Training & Support: Attend the booking system training session and/or engage with the support provided by SASP for marketing and good practice.

Monitoring & Payments

Site Visits: The SASP team will visit camps during Winter to support and assess activities.

Payment Terms:

- 50% upfront upon the signing of the Service Level Agreement (SLA).
- 50% after completion, contingent on meeting agreed targets for attendance and programme compliance.

Contact for Support

For queries or support in preparing your application, contact:

- Kevin Lang - HAF Programme Lead
- Email: klang@sasp.co.uk
- Phone: 01823 653990
- General Enquiries: hhh@sasp.co.uk

Providers are encouraged to reach out for advice prior to submitting their applications.