The Sulgrave Club



October 2020 Half Term Holiday Activity Week

Introduction

Having successfully delivered a post-lockdown Junior Summer Holiday Scheme at the end of July / beginning of August, and reintroduced Junior & Senior Club nights (albeit for significantly reduced numbers) from mid-September onwards, we were in a good position to deliver a holiday programme for children and young people during their October half term, from 26th to 30th October 2020.

Schedule of Activities

Following the National Youth Agency's "Amber Aware" guidance for the delivery of youth activities during Covid-19, we were able to offer on-site activities for up to 24 children, split in to two groups of 12, with each group accompanied by two members of staff.

To maximise the number of children and young people benefiting from this service, we decided to run a morning programme from 10.00am to 1.00pm for up to 24 children in school years 3 to 5; and an afternoon programme from 2.00pm to 5.00pm for up to 24 young people in school years 6 to 8.

The children and young people were divided into two groups of 12, with each group of 12 sub-divided into two teams of six, who competed against each other in a range of quizzes and competitive activities, including basketball, football, dodgeball, tug of war and Connect 4.



At the end of the morning session, every child was given a hot lunch, and at the end of the afternoon session every young person was given a hot dinner, with both meals prepared by our super resident chef, Eddie.

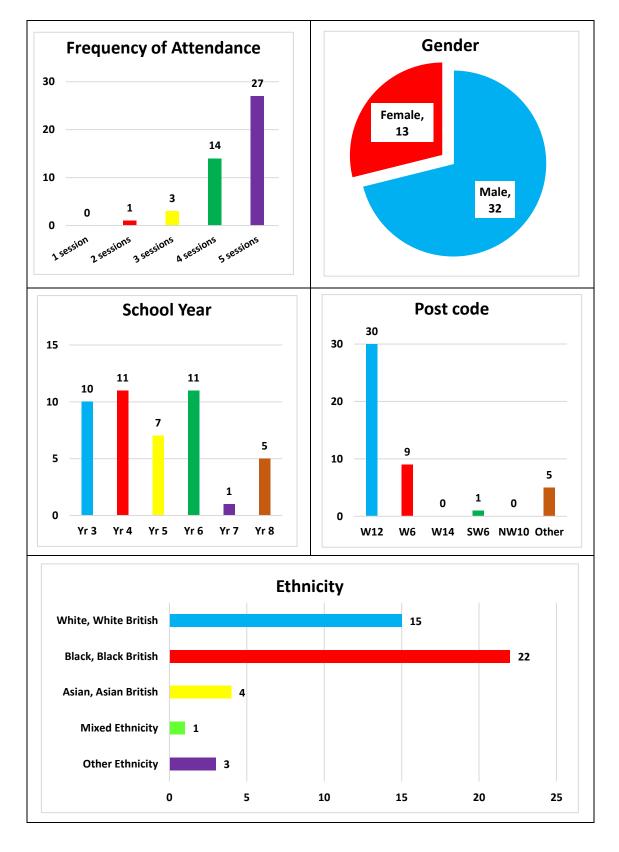
We also offered a week of off-site bike riding sessions for up to four children in the morning and up to four young people in the afternoon. However, this offer was only taken up by two children in the morning sessions.

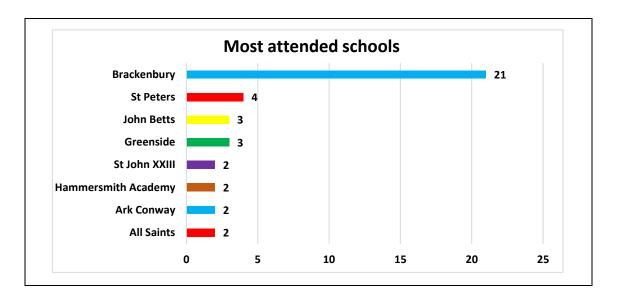
Everything was offered free of charge.

Attendance

A total of 45 different children and young people attended the Holiday Activity Week, at an average of 40.4 children and young people per day – 25.2 children in the morning (including the bike riders) and 15.2 young people in the afternoon. This represented an 80% take up of places – once again well down on our pre-Covid take-up of 95%+.

The charts below give a breakdown of the children who attended, by frequency of attendance, gender, school year, post code, ethnicity, and most attended schools.





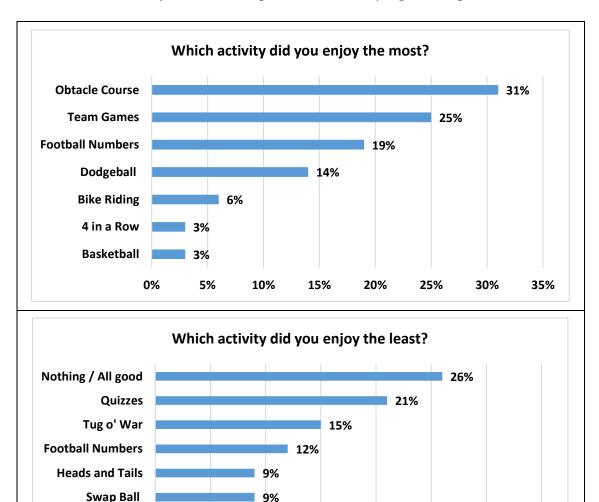
Evaluation

4 in a Row

0%

Word search

Evaluation forms were distributed at the end of the week. Children were asked to tell us which activities they enjoyed the most, which they enjoyed the least, whether they preferred whole day or half day holiday schemes, and what they thought about us providing food. We use their answers, shown below, to check whether they are happy with the activities we provide and to guide us in future programming.



6%

10%

15%

20%

25%

30%

35%

3%

5%

Do you prefer Half Days (47%)

Because I can spend time with friends and family.

Because I still want more time at home. Coz on one half of the day I get to chill and spend time with my family, and on the other half I can spend time with my friends and have fun.

So I can spend time with my family a little more.

So for a while I can learn more things. You would need to do more things. Because some stuff to do.

Because all of the activities make me tired.

Because I will get tired.

Because I would get thirsty and tired.

Because it is less tiring.

So we don't get tired.

We can sit and relax before we start playing games.

Because I can concentrate better. I will concentrate more and better to be off electronics.

Do you prefer Whole Days (53%)

Because I can be entertained.

Because it is fun.

Because it is so fun doing team games.

Because it is very fun.

Because it was so fun.

Because it's fun and good.

Because it's more fun and I want leisure trips.

Because it's very good.

Because you'd have loads of fun.

It's fun.

So I can be more active.

The games will be longer.

Because I feel like we do much activities.

Because there is more to do.

We get to play more games.

Because I want to be with my friends a lot and do fun activities.

Because it's really fun and I see my friends for longer.

Everything was challenging and every game was so intense!



Do you think it was a good idea that we provided food?

Yes (91%)

Because it was delicious.

Because it was good.

Because it was provided by the top chef.

Because it was really good but I didn't eat it all.

Because it was yummy and not make us hungry.

Because it was yummy and we don't need to eat at home.

Because it's new and it was delicious and when I get back home, I spend more time with my family.

Because the food was amazing.

Because the food was yummy and I got to taste new things.

Cause they have a master cooker.

Delicious.

Eddie's food is the best, but not better than my mum's. We have amazing food and if at home you have food that you don't want, Sulgrave will save you.

All the activities made me hungry.
Because all of the activities made me hungry.
Because all the activities make me very hungry.
Because doing all the activities makes you hungry.
Because I get hungry really quickly.
Because I'm always, always hungry.
I was hungry.
So we don't get hungry.
So we don't starve.

So we don't starve. So we get food.

Because we don't have to buy food.

Because we would have to waste food from home.

But I had a packed lunch.

Cause saving money.

We save money.

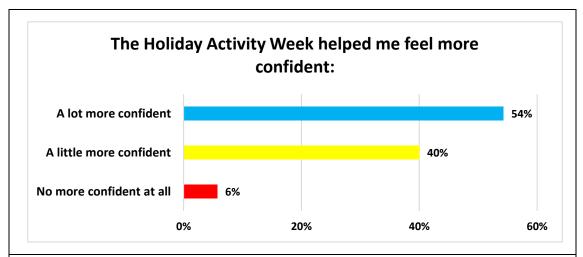
Not sure (9%)

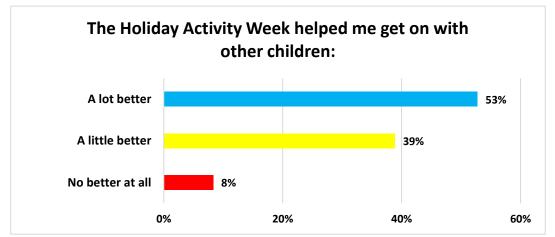
Because some foods I am allergic to.

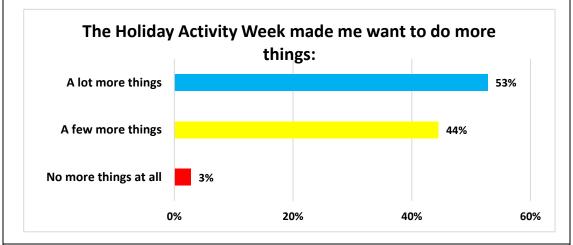
Because normally my mum gives me a lot when I get home.

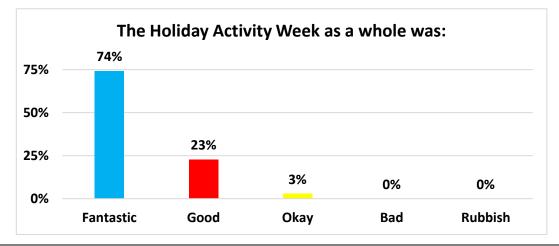
I could bring a packed lunch.

We also use the evaluation forms to assess what children gained from attending the holiday scheme and what they thought of the scheme as a whole.











Summary

The Holiday Activity Week went very well, with 94% of the children and young people saying they would definitely like to come again. While they were more or less evenly split as to their preferences for Half Day / Whole Day holiday activities, the restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 regulations mean that we will almost certainly be providing Half Day Holiday Activity Weeks for the foreseeable future.

Providing food was clearly very popular and will be something we continue into the new year. However, we have to look at the lower than usual take up of places and find out whether it is because parents / carers would prefer whole day holiday activities, or whether it is because places offered free of charge are easy to book, and just as easy to drop if something else turns up for their child to do. It may be necessary to introduce a booking deposit returnable on attendance.

However, that aside, the Holiday Activity Week was clearly very popular, much enjoyed by the children and young people, and much appreciated by their parents and carers, as the Instagram comments below make clear!

"Boys had a great time this week... thanks guys!! Also highfive to Eddie the chef. Boys didn't stop complementing his food"





Love those games!!!



"THANK YOU NICK AND ALL THE TEAM!!! The kids love attending the sessions and always have so much fun and always look forward to coming. The club is such an important resource and happy place for the kids, especially during these crazy and challenging times. I salute you."