

Barnet Active Creative Engaging Holidays

BACE

HOLIDAYS

April 2025 - March 2026



Holiday Activities and Food Programme

Annual Report 2025

Caring for people, our places and the planet

barnetyouth.uk/BACEHolidays





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Welcome

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme continues to play a vital role in supporting children and families across Barnet during school holidays. Through BACE Holidays (Barnet Active Creative Engaging), Barnet Council delivers high quality, inclusive holiday provision that ensures children and young people can access nutritious food, enriching activities and safe spaces to learn, play and connect.

In 2025, BACE Holidays supported **6,325 unique children** across Spring, Summer and Winter delivery periods. This included **834 children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)**, reflecting our continued commitment to inclusion, early intervention and ensuring that every child has the opportunity to thrive.

BACE Holidays is firmly embedded within Barnet's wider Early Help system and is delivered through close partnership working with **Early Help Hubs, schools, Family Hubs, libraries, community organisations and the voluntary sector**, alongside our strategic delivery partner, the Young Barnet Foundation. This collaborative approach enables the programme to respond flexibly to local need, target support effectively and maximise the impact of public funding.

Delivery in 2025 has also aligned closely with the development of Barnet's emerging **Youth Strategy**, strengthening our collective focus on inclusion, wellbeing, participation and early support for children and young people. BACE Holidays plays an important role within this wider strategic framework by providing safe, structured and enriching opportunities during

school holidays, particularly for those who may otherwise face barriers to access.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the dedicated **BACE team**, our delivery partners and providers, the **Young Barnet Foundation, Early Help Hub staff**, volunteers and **Parent Champions** for their continued commitment and hard work throughout the year. Their professionalism, creativity and care ensure that BACE Holidays remains a trusted and valued offer for families across the borough. I would also like to thank our schools, community partners and council colleagues for their ongoing support, and of course the children and families who take part and continue to shape the programme through their feedback.

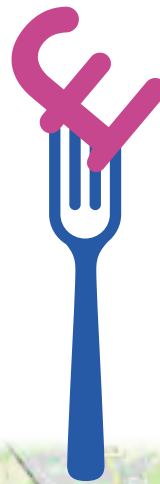
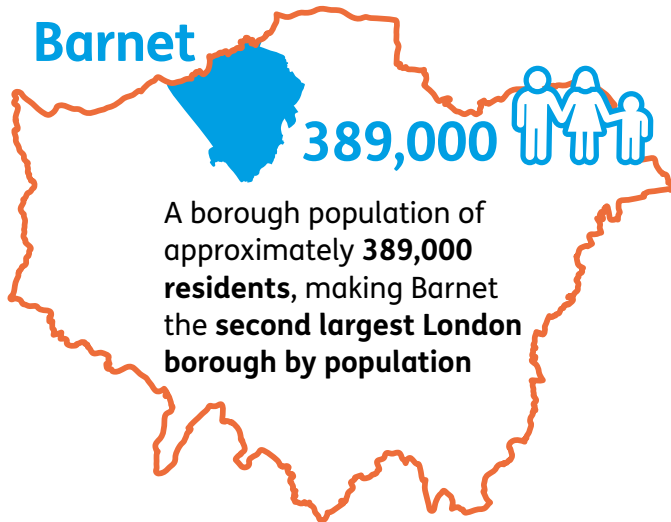
This report highlights the scale, reach and impact of BACE Holidays in 2025, and the learning that will inform how we continue to develop and strengthen the programme in the year ahead. Together, we remain committed to supporting children and families, reducing inequality and creating positive holiday experiences for every child in Barnet.

Cllr Pauline Coakley-Webb
Cabinet Member for Family Friendly Barnet
London Borough of Barnet



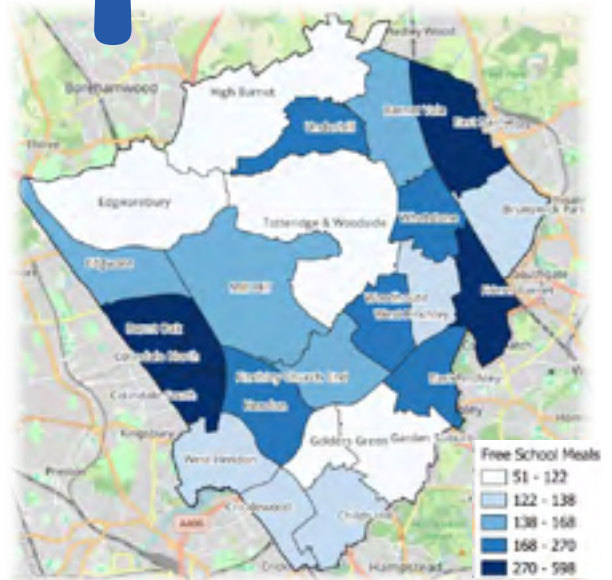
Mapping Demand and Provision

Barnet is one of the largest and most diverse London boroughs, with a growing population of children and young people and increasing pressure on families experiencing financial hardship. Key local indicators shaping demand for BACE Holidays include:



21%+

Over 21% of children attending Barnet schools eligible for benefit related Free School Meals (FSM), equating to more than **12,900 children**



17%

Approximately **17% of pupils** identified with Special Educational Needs, either through SEN Support or an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)



Ongoing **cost of living pressures**, particularly around food, transport and childcare



Consistently high demand for holiday provision, with booking pressure and waiting lists across all delivery periods

BACE Holidays responds to this demand through targeted commissioning, inclusive mainstream delivery, SEND specific provision, in house programmes and strong partnership working, ensuring resources are focused where need is greatest.



Background

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme was established to support children from low income households by providing free holiday activities, healthy meals and enriching experiences outside of term time. Since its introduction, the programme has become a vital part of the national response to tackling holiday hunger, social isolation and inequality, while supporting children's wellbeing, learning and development.

In Barnet, HAF is delivered through BACE Holidays (Barnet Active Creative Engaging) as part of the council's wider Children and Family Services and Early Help offer. The programme reflects Barnet Council's CLIP values, Caring for people, our places and the planet, and supports the council's ambition to provide high quality, inclusive services that strengthen families, reduce inequality and help every child thrive.

National guidance for HAF delivery in 2025–26 strengthened expectations around inclusive access, particularly for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND); supporting SEND children to access mainstream provision where appropriate; maintaining strong safeguarding, quality assurance and monitoring arrangements; using data to understand demand and identify gaps in provision; and maximising value for money through efficient delivery models and strong local partnerships.

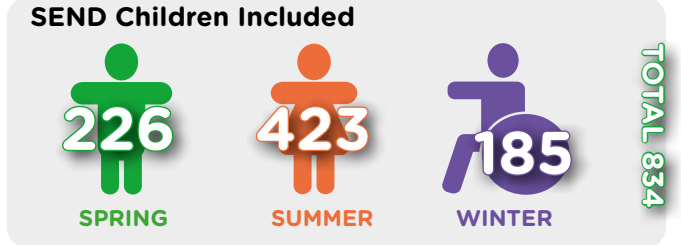
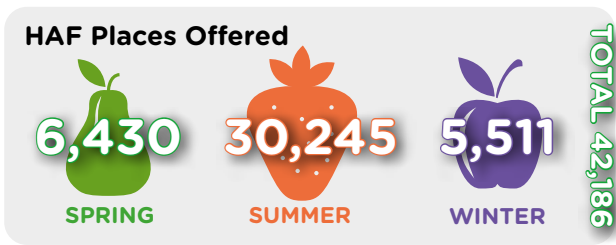
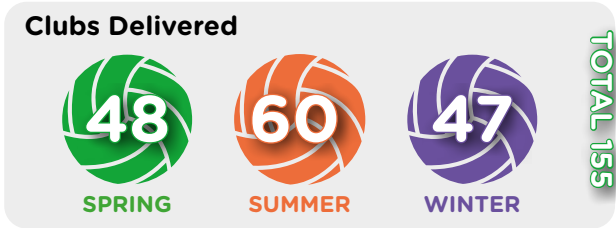
In response, BACE Holidays in 2025 expanded inclusive mainstream opportunities for SEND children alongside SEND specific provision where specialist support was required. The programme increased in house delivery using council owned venues to support value for money while maintaining high standards of quality and safeguarding. Providers were supported through strengthened quality assurance, training and monitoring, and new sensory resources were introduced to help children with SEND feel more confident, regulated and able to participate fully in activities. Booking validation and data accuracy were also improved to ensure HAF funding was targeted effectively and places were used efficiently.

These developments supported Barnet's commitment to **Caring** for children and families by reducing barriers to access, **Learning** through enriching and developmental activities, **Inclusion** by widening access for SEND children, and **Pioneering** new approaches to delivery that strengthen sustainability and impact.

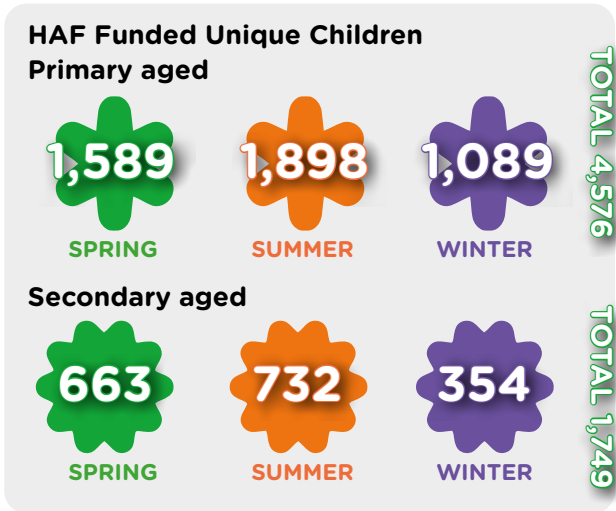
Through BACE Holidays, Barnet Council continues to demonstrate its ambition to deliver high quality, inclusive services that support children's wellbeing, strengthen families and contribute to positive outcomes for children and young people across the borough.

John Anthony
Executive Director of Children and Family Services
London Borough of Barnet

How we Delivered in 2025



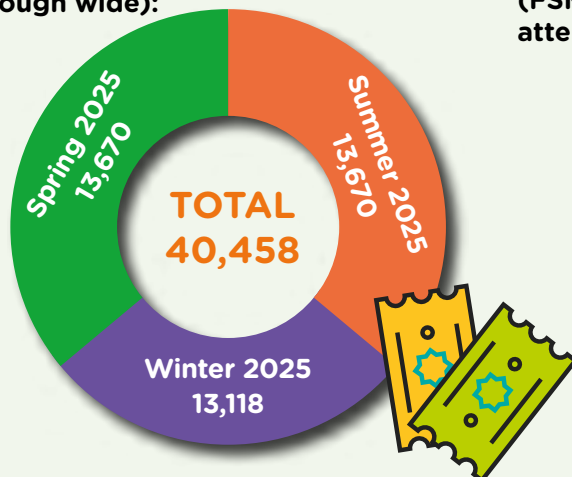
100% of commissioned providers met safeguarding, health & safety and insurance requirements across all delivery periods



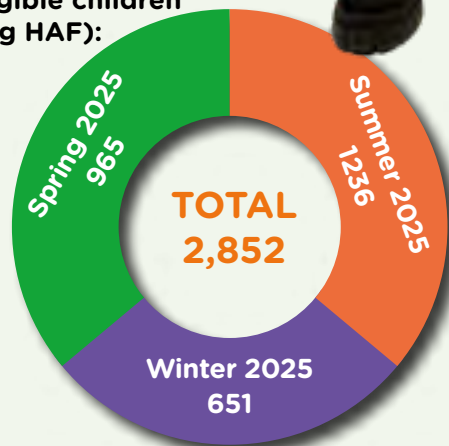
Holiday Activity Vouchers Scheme:

From Winter 2025, a valid Holiday Activity Voucher was required at the point of booking. This significantly improved booking validation, reduced speculative bookings and supported more accurate reporting of unique children attending HAF funded provision.

Total vouchers issued (borough wide):



Vouchers used (FSM eligible children attending HAF):





Steering Group

BACE Holidays is overseen by a multi-agency Steering Group that provides strategic leadership, governance and quality assurance for the delivery of the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme in Barnet. The Steering Group brings together senior representatives from across the council, public health, education, Early Help and the voluntary sector to ensure the programme remains aligned with local priorities and national guidance.

Steering Group Membership

Department or Organisation	Role
Children and Family Services, Barnet Council	Executive Director
Children’s Services Finance, Barnet Council	Finance Manager
Early Help, Children and Family Services	Assistant Head of Service
Early Help, Children and Family Services	Programme Manager (HAF / BACE)
BACE & Positive Activities, Early Help	Team Manager
Libraries & Community Services, Barnet Council	Service Development Manager
Children’s Services Commissioning	Senior Commissioning Officer
Public Health & Prevention, Barnet Council	Public Health Improvement Officer
Communications & Engagement, Barnet Council	Strategy & Communications Lead
Parks & Leisure, Barnet Council	Green Spaces / Events Manager
Strategy & Resources, Barnet Council	Digital Inclusion Coordinator
School Access, Skills & Corporate Services	Director
The Virtual School	Representative
Young Barnet Foundation	Chief Executive Officer
Young Barnet Foundation	Head of Community Services
Young Barnet Foundation	Programme & Partnerships Lead
Education & Learning Networks	Representative
Voluntary & Community Sector Providers	Representative

Role of the Steering Group

The Steering Group meets regularly to:

- Provide strategic oversight of HAF delivery
- Ensure compliance with Department for Education requirements
- Monitor performance, quality and safeguarding
- Review data on demand, capacity and inclusion
- Support partnership working and continuous improvement

- Ensure value for money and effective use of grant funding

This governance structure ensures BACE Holidays remains responsive, accountable and focused on delivering high quality, inclusive holiday provision for children and families across Barnet.



Barnet Parent Champions

Parent Champions continued to play a vital role in 2025, supporting engagement, promotion and co-delivery of family focused activities. Their peer led approach helped reduce barriers, build trust and support families who may be less confident accessing digital booking systems.

Parent Champions were particularly instrumental in:

- Promoting family days
- Supporting parents with bookings
- Encouraging engagement with Early Help services

What we will focus on more in 2026

In 2025, Parent Champions continued to play a valuable role in supporting engagement with BACE Holidays. Building on this success, we have identified key areas for further development.

In 2026, we will focus on:

- **Earlier involvement** of Parent Champions in planning and promotion, particularly ahead of booking windows
- **Stronger links with Early Help Hubs**, ensuring Parent Champions are embedded within each locality
- **Co production of activities**, with Parent Champions shaping family focused sessions and events
- **Targeted outreach**, supporting families who may be less confident accessing digital booking systems

By strengthening this peer led approach, BACE Holidays aims to improve trust, accessibility and engagement, particularly for families new to the programme or experiencing multiple challenges.



“
Being on a low income and a single parent, I am extremely grateful that this service is free. It gives me financial peace of mind during the holidays.
 Parent, Spring 2025
I felt comfortable asking questions because other parents had been through the same thing.
 Parent, HAF 2025
 ”



SEND Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

In 2025, 834 children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) accessed BACE Holidays across the Spring, Summer and Winter delivery periods. This included children attending both inclusive mainstream provision with additional support and SEND specific specialist provision, reflecting BACE Holidays' commitment to inclusive by design delivery.



SEND provision in 2025 included:

- **Inclusive mainstream holiday clubs with additional adjustments and support**
- **SEND specific specialist provision for children who require more tailored environments**
- **1:1 support workers provided through Teach Now**
- **SEND only family days and trips, offering inclusive experiences for children and their families**

Across all delivery periods, BACE Holidays saw an increase in SEND participation, alongside growing confidence from families and providers in supporting SEND children to access mainstream provision safely and positively.



"For the first time, my child felt comfortable attending a mainstream camp. The staff understood his needs and made him feel welcome."

Parent of a child with SEND, Summer 2025

"My son is a SEND child and all the teachers and teaching assistants were very patient. He could tell me exactly what he did and really liked the adults."

Parent, Summer 2025



Sensory Support and Inclusive Practice

In response to increasing SEND demand and learning from previous delivery periods, BACE Holidays placed a stronger focus in 2025 on supporting providers to meet the needs of children who experience sensory sensitivities or sensory processing differences.

BACE worked directly with providers to introduce sensory packs within both mainstream and SEND specific provision. These packs included a range of practical resources such as tactile items, visual aids, calming tools and sensory supports, which could be used flexibly throughout sessions.

The introduction of sensory packs helped to:

- Reduce anxiety for SEND children attending new or unfamiliar settings
- Support emotional regulation and sustained engagement during activities
- Increase SEND children's confidence to access mainstream provision
- Build provider confidence in delivering inclusive, responsive sessions

This approach complemented the use of trained 1:1 support workers and SEND specific provision, ensuring children were supported in a way that was dignified, flexible and responsive to individual needs.

Families reported that these adjustments made a significant difference to their children's experience of holiday provision:

Through continued learning, partnership working and targeted support, BACE Holidays remains committed to expanding inclusive opportunities for SEND children, while ensuring specialist provision is available for those who need it most.



Maximising Funding Through In House Delivery:

Expanded in house delivery in 2025 enabled BACE Holidays to:

- Increase reach without increasing cost
- Improve safeguarding and quality control
- Deliver creative, cultural and family focused activities
- Make better use of council venues

2025 Achievement

A significant achievement was the growth in SEND children accessing mainstream provision, reflecting improved provider confidence, training and inclusive practice.

Celebrating Inclusion and Growth in 2025

One of BACE Holidays' most significant achievements in 2025 was the increase in SEND children accessing both mainstream and specialist provision across all holiday periods.

In total, 834 children with SEND participated in BACE Holidays during Spring, Summer and Winter delivery. Importantly, a growing proportion of these children were supported to attend mainstream holiday clubs, with appropriate adjustments, sensory resources and 1:1 support in place.

This reflects:

- Increased provider confidence and capability
- Improved planning and training
- Stronger partnership working
- Greater parental trust in the programme

This achievement marks a key shift towards inclusive-by-design delivery, aligned with national HAF guidance and Barnet's wider commitment to inclusion and early intervention.



"My child looked forward to camp every morning. I could see a real change in their confidence."
Parent, Winter 2025

Quality of Provision

Barnet has a strong monitoring framework in place to ensure that Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) provision is of a high quality. In order to maintain high standards across all delivery, the following tools are used: quality assurance visits, case studies and feedback from children and young people.

The framework provided by the Department for Education (DfE) contains 11 sections, each focusing on a HAF standard. Providers are assessed against the following areas:

- ★ Healthy food provision (that meets the School Food Standards)
- ★ Awareness and understanding of healthy eating
- ★ Signposting and referrals
- ★ Enriching activities
- ★ Accessibility and inclusiveness
- ★ Physical activity
- ★ Environment and sustainability

The framework also includes five levels of provider performance, ranging from **Very Poor** to **Excellent**.

Looking Ahead: Quality Assurance in 2026

Building on learning from 2025, BACE Holidays will introduce a RAG (Red, Amber, Green) rating system from 2026 to strengthen oversight, consistency and early intervention.

The RAG rating will be informed by a range of data and evidence sources, including:

- Provider applications and commissioning assessments
- Due diligence checks, including safeguarding and compliance documentation
- Quality assurance visits during delivery
- Post delivery evaluation and feedback from children, families and providers

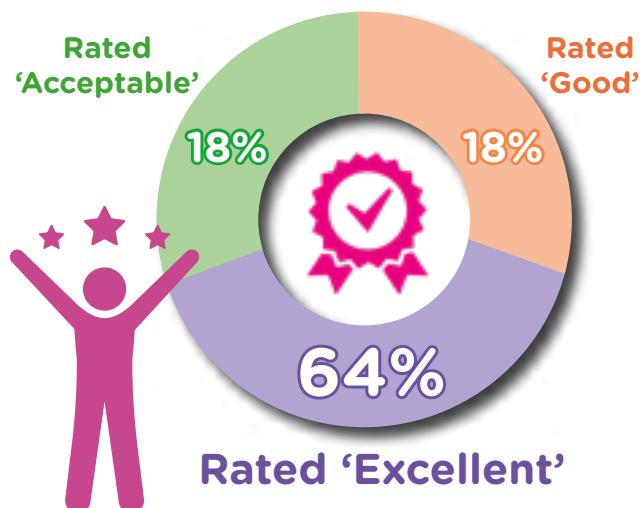
This approach will support:

- Earlier identification of risk or emerging issues
- Targeted support and improvement planning
- Clearer accountability and transparency
- Continuous improvement while maintaining high standards

The introduction of the RAG system will further strengthen the quality, safety and consistency of HAF provision across the borough.

2025 Quality Ratings:

Combined ratings across all HAF standards show that the quality of provision across Barnet has continued to improve in 2025:



This represents a positive improvement from 2024, reflecting the impact of strengthened quality assurance processes, targeted provider support and ongoing training.

Compliance and Safeguarding:

100% of providers commissioned through BACE in 2025 met the framework standards for policies and procedures in the following areas:

- Safeguarding
- Health and Safety
- Insurance

Where areas for improvement were identified, providers were supported through follow up visits, training and practical guidance to ensure standards were met and sustained.

“The activities were well organised and the staff were professional and supportive.”

Parent, HAF 2025



Partnership Working in 2025

Strong partnerships remained central to the success of BACE Holidays in 2025. By working collaboratively across council services, the voluntary sector and community organisations, BACE was able to broaden its offer and respond more effectively to local need.

Key partnerships included:

Felix Food Project

Providing donated food to support families during holiday periods, particularly during Winter delivery supporting over 200 families, helping to address food insecurity alongside activity provision.



Arts Depot & Cultural Partners

Expanding access to creative and cultural experiences, supporting confidence, self expression and enrichment. Tickets for events and shows were offered to eligible children and families.



Volunteering Barnet

Supporting recruitment and placement of volunteers, strengthening community involvement and capacity.



BICS & BOOST

Working alongside wider Early Help and wellbeing services to ensure families attending BACE Holidays were supported holistically, with clear pathways to additional help where needed.



Libraries

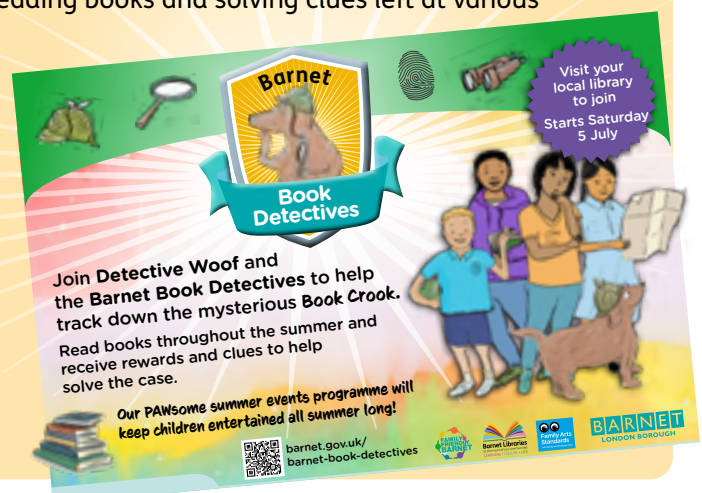
Using trusted, accessible community spaces to deliver activities and reach families who may not typically engage with holiday provisions. BACE offered the National Summer reading challenge to children.

Overview of the Programme: The Barnet Book Detectives programme invited children aged 4 to 11 to embark on a reading adventure during the summer holidays. The storyline involved a mysterious "Book Crook" who was stealing books from libraries around Barnet. Children joined Detective Woof and his team to help track down the culprit by reading books and solving clues left at various locations.

How It Worked: Reading Challenge: Participants were encouraged to read at least six books over the summer. For each book read, they received a special pawprint stamp in their Reading Journal.

Clue Collection: As children read, they gathered clues from library staff that helped them identify the Book Crook.

Rewards: Upon completing the challenge, children received a certificate and other rewards, and were entered into a special prize draw.



Phoenix Outdoor Centre

Phoenix Outdoor Centre has been a key delivery partner for BACE Holidays, providing children and families with access to outdoor and water based activities that many would not otherwise have the opportunity to experience.

Through this partnership, children and young people were able to take part in a range of water sports and outdoor activities, including kayaking and stand up paddleboarding, delivered in a safe, supportive and professionally led environment. These sessions were consistently popular and quickly became a highlight of the holiday programme for families.

The partnership with Phoenix Outdoor Centre supported children to:

- Try new and challenging activities
- Build confidence and resilience
- Develop teamwork and communication skills
- Stay active and engaged during the school holidays



Parent Champions

Supporting engagement, promotion and delivery of family days within parks and community venues, strengthening trust with families and improving access to provision.



Families valued the opportunity to access high quality outdoor provision at no cost, particularly activities that would otherwise be financially inaccessible. This partnership reflects BACE Holidays' commitment to providing enriching, memorable experiences that support both physical wellbeing and personal development.



Key Challenges

Addressing Key Challenges Identified in 2024

In response to challenges identified through delivery and monitoring in 2024, BACE Holidays implemented a number of service improvements during 2025. These included:

- Introducing mandatory voucher validation at the point of booking to improve data accuracy and reduce speculative bookings
- Expanding in house delivery models to manage rising provider and venue costs while maintaining quality
- Introducing sensory resources to strengthen inclusion for children with SEND
- Strengthening communication and partnership working with providers and stakeholders
- Increasing focus on quality assurance, monitoring and provider support

Together, these changes contributed to improved data accuracy, stronger inclusion and more effective use of HAF funded places.

Challenges Identified During 2025

Delivery data from the Spring, Summer and Winter 2025 HAF programmes highlighted a number of ongoing challenges that shaped delivery across the year.

Demand for HAF provision continued to exceed available capacity across all delivery periods, particularly during Summer delivery. This resulted in sustained booking pressure and waiting lists across both universal and SEND provision.

Non attendance and cancellations continued to impact the efficient use of funded places, particularly during earlier delivery periods before strengthened voucher validation was introduced. While mitigation measures such as overbooking and waiting lists were effective, attendance remained an area for continued focus.

Demand for SEND provision increased significantly in 2025, requiring higher staffing ratios, specialist provision and additional resources. This placed increased pressure on budgets and provider capacity, particularly during Winter delivery.

Provider staffing capacity and venue availability also presented challenges, especially during the Winter period when provider operating days and suitable venues were more limited. Rising delivery costs reinforced the need to carefully balance quality, inclusion and value for money within the HAF framework.

BACE Working with Partners

Partnership working remains at the heart of BACE Holidays. In 2025, BACE continued to work closely with a wide range of voluntary, community and specialist providers to deliver high quality, inclusive holiday provision across the borough. These partnerships play a vital role in removing barriers to access, supporting children's wellbeing and ensuring activities are responsive to local need.

Wuma Sports

Wuma Sports has been a trusted BACE Holidays provider since 2023 and continues to play a key role in delivering inclusive, high quality basketball provision across Barnet.

Wuma Sports highlighted that their partnership with BACE Holidays has been instrumental in removing barriers to participation, enabling children and young people from all backgrounds – particularly those from low income households – to access structured holiday sports provision. Through this collaboration, participants benefit from positive role models, skilled coaching and a safe, supportive environment during the school holidays.

The programme supports **both physical wellbeing and social development**, ensuring young people remain active, engaged and connected outside of term time. Wuma Sports also recognised BACE Holidays as a vital partner in supporting their wider ambition to make high quality basketball coaching accessible to all young people in Barnet.



Mothers @ Pardes

Mothers @ Pardes shared overwhelmingly positive feedback on the impact of the **Summer 2025 HAF programme** on the boys they support.

They highlighted that the programme provided a **safe, structured and nurturing environment** during the summer holidays, enabling children to remain active, engage in a wide range of enriching activities and develop meaningful friendships. The experience was reported to have a notable positive impact on participants' confidence and overall wellbeing.

Particular appreciation was expressed for the provision of **nutritious meals** and engaging daily activities, which made a significant difference during a long holiday period that can present both financial and social challenges for families.

Overall, Mothers @ Pardes described the HAF summer camp as incredibly beneficial and expressed sincere gratitude for the opportunity it provided to children and families within their community, recognising the programme as a **vital source of support and stability**.

The Value of Partnership

Partners consistently highlighted the benefits of working with BACE Holidays, particularly in reaching families who might otherwise miss out on holiday opportunities and ensuring provision remains inclusive and accessible.

"This programme allows us to reach families who would otherwise miss out on holiday opportunities."

Delivery Partner

"The support BACE provides makes a real difference to children and families."

Community Partner

Through strong partnership working, BACE Holidays continues to deliver high quality, inclusive holiday provision that supports children's wellbeing, builds confidence and strengthens communities across Barnet.

LIFT CIC

LIFT CIC continues to work in partnership with BACE Holidays to deliver engaging and inclusive activities for children and young people during school holidays. Through this partnership, LIFT CIC supports children to remain active, build confidence and develop social skills in a structured and supportive environment.

The collaboration enables LIFT CIC to extend its reach to families who may otherwise face barriers to accessing holiday provision, ensuring that opportunities are inclusive, affordable and aligned with the needs of local communities.



Feedback and Case Studies

Feedback from children, parents and providers continues to play a vital role in shaping BACE Holidays. In 2025, we continued to gather feedback through surveys, conversations and provider reporting to understand what is working well and where improvements can be made.



“I made new friends and felt happy.”

Child, Summer 2025

“I am grateful knowing my daughter has a fun, safe place to attend. She is active, learning and being provided with a meal.”

Parent, Spring 2025

“Just thank you – it’s probably the main source of enrichment in my child’s life.”

Parent, Summer 2025



“The paddle boarding was the best thing.”

Child, Summer 2025

“I had just had a baby and felt extremely vulnerable. This camp gave my children a safe, supportive experience when we needed it most.”

Parent, Winter 2025

We never dreamed that L would love daycamp, we begged her to go! She came home with a spring in her step and looked forward to go back to school when the term began.

Parent, Summer 2025

Case Study: Growing Confidence Through Opportunity

Delivery Provider:

Unitas Youth Zone

Age Group: Juniors Siblings (9 and 10 year old)

Focus: Confidence building, social development and access to enriching holiday experiences



The Provision

Unitas Youth Zone offers a wide range of activities as part of its holiday club programme, including:

- **Multi-sports and gym activities**
- **Health and wellbeing sessions**
- **Arts, music and crafts**
- **Creative and media activities**
- **Climbing and physical challenges**
- **Cooking and life skills**
- **Social and recreational games**
- **Seasonal themed sessions**



This high-quality, year-round offer is adapted for Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) delivery and runs multiple times annually.

Voices from the Project

“Seeing K and R grow and develop over Winter Holiday Club was very special. They have so much potential, but because their parents don’t always have the money to offer them opportunities, it takes something like Holiday Club to really bring them out of their shells and grow their confidence.”
Unitas, Programme Manager

“I get to play football with my new friends. I really like being coached by S. I’m getting better at football too.”
K, age 9

“I learnt to plait my own hair. I’m trying to teach my younger sister. I love being able to do my hair when I go to school.”
R, age 10



The Young People’s Journey

K and R attend Unitas through Holiday Clubs, which are vital due to limited access to paid activities.

Initially shy and interacting mainly with each other, both children gradually built confidence through regular attendance. Over time, they engaged with a wider peer group and developed trusting relationships with staff.

Parents reported improved behaviour, concentration and overall wellbeing following consistent attendance.



Why This Matters

This case study highlights the impact of HAF provision in delivering:

- **Safe, structured holiday activities**
- **Access for children who might otherwise miss out**
- **Support for working families**
- **Improved confidence, wellbeing and social development.**

www.unitasyouthzone.org

Communication & Engagement

Effective communication is central to ensuring families are aware of and able to access the BACE Holidays offer. In 2025, BACE Holidays continued to use a multi channel communication approach to reach families across the borough, with a focus on accessibility, clarity and inclusion.

The Barnet Youth website remained the main platform for information and bookings, providing families with a single, clear place to view activities and access support.

Barnet Youth Magazine

The Barnet Youth Magazine continued to play an important role in reaching families through schools, libraries, Early Help Hubs, Family Hubs and community venues, ensuring information was accessible to families who may face barriers to digital access.



SPRING 5,263
COPIES ISSUED



SUMMER 3,500
COPIES ISSUED
More schools requested digital during the summer



WINTER 4,730
COPIES ISSUED

BACE Holidays worked closely with schools, Early Help Hubs, Family Hubs and Parent Champions to support targeted promotion of the programme, particularly to families eligible for Free School Meals. Face to face support from trusted professionals and peers helped families to understand the offer and complete bookings where needed.

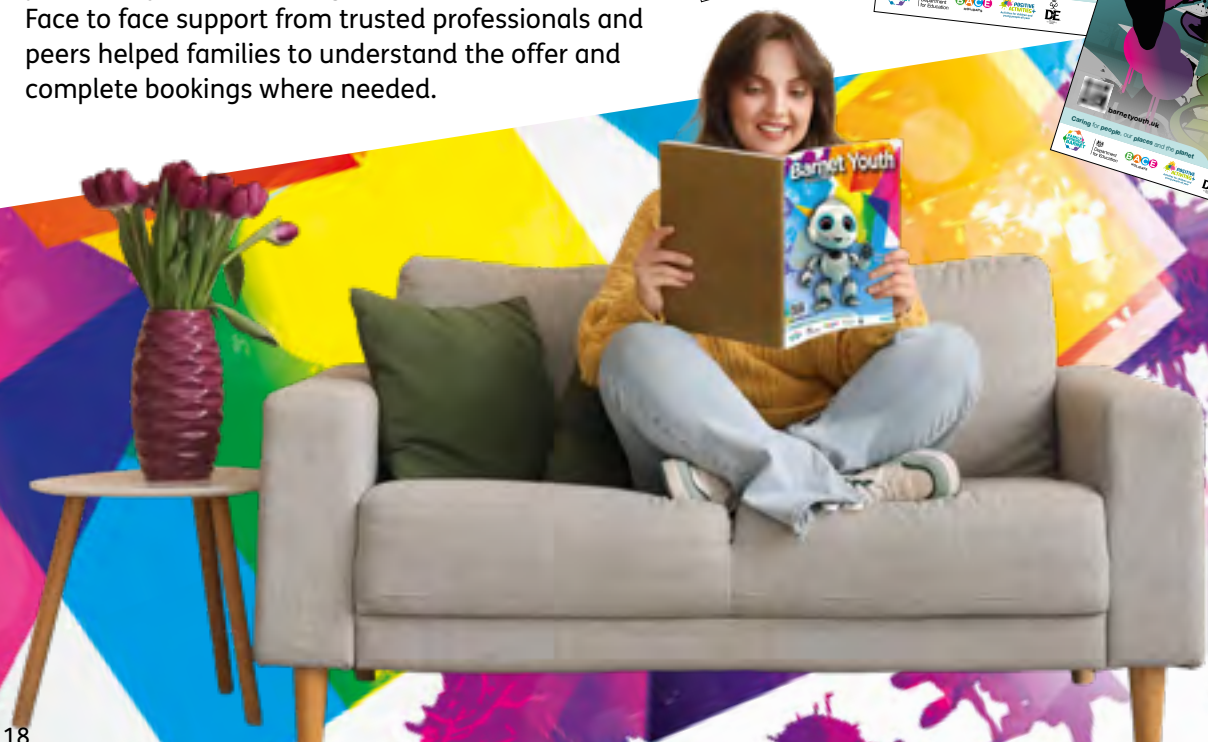
Barnet Youth First Newsletter

We have 9109 subscribers for the Barnet Youth First Newsletter in 2025, an increase of 1,762 new subscribers (19.34% increase) – 19 Newsletter issues Average open rate is 46.48%

48,000 subscribers with an opening rate of 51.1% reached via the Barnet First e-newsletter (per issues)

Campaigns 165,000 residents were reached via the Barnet First Magazine featuring BACE Holidays Offer.

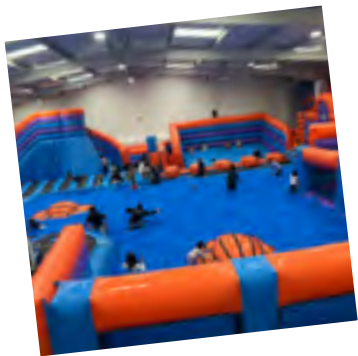
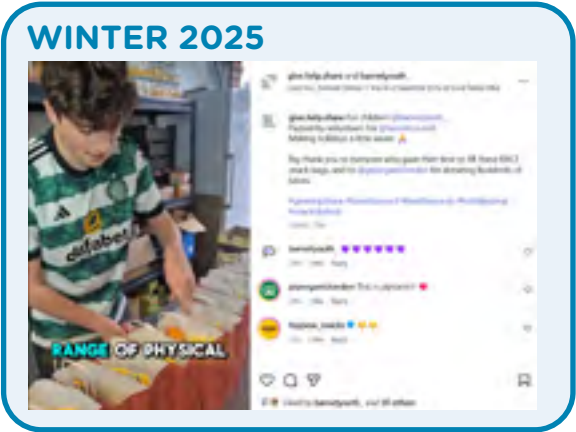
Social media and partner networks were also used to promote activities, highlight booking windows and share updates throughout the year. This combined approach helped ensure families received consistent and timely information across multiple channels.





Social Media: BACE Holidays maintains active social media via @barnetyouth_, @barnetcouncil and @youngbarnetfoundation profiles where families can find updates, photos, and event reminders.

Top performing BACE Social Media Posts for 2025:
SPRING 2025 Likes 14 and Reach 557
SUMMER 2025 Likes 31 and Reach 1384
WINTER 2025 Likes 31 and Reach 738



Improving Communication

- Families need clear, timely information to plan ahead
- Early details + reminders = better bookings and attendance
- Voucher validation (Winter 2025) reduced confusion and improved access
- We're sharing information earlier and working closer with schools
- Keeping a mix of digital and offline communication
- Result: families can access HAF confidently and easily



Budget and Expenditure

The London Borough of Barnet received grant funding from the Department for Education (DfE) to deliver the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme across the borough during the 2025–26 financial year.

This funding is calculated based on the number of children eligible for and in receipt of benefits related Free School Meals in Barnet and is provided to support:

- The provision of free holiday places that meet the HAF framework standards
- The coordination, monitoring and administration of the programme locally

The DfE recognises that there are administrative costs associated with setting up and running the HAF programme. Local authorities are permitted to use up to 10% of their total allocation for administration costs and up to 2% for capital expenditure, in line with national guidance.

HAF Funding 2025–26

For the period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026, the London Borough of Barnet was awarded a Department for Education HAF grant of £1,215,690.00.

Expenditure Breakdown

The table below sets out how the HAF grant was used to support delivery during the 2025–26 financial year:

Expenditure Type	Amount (£)
Administrative Expenditure	£10,745.00
Capital Expenditure	£0.00
Programme Expenditure	£970,174.03
Other Expenditure	£83,987.76
Booking System Cost	£57,782.86



2025 Achievements Forward Plans



6,325
children
supported

834
SEND
children
included

Expanded
inclusive
mainstream
provision

42,186
HAF
places
offered

Strong
partnership
delivery

2026 Priorities

- **Further SEND expansion for targeted provision**

Targeted SEND holiday provision will be expanded in 2026, aligned with BSIL priorities on inclusion and early help. This will strengthen continuity between term time education, school age childcare and holiday provision for families.

- **Improved teen engagement**

Teen engagement will be improved through age appropriate, co designed activities that support wellbeing and positive development. This enhances the secondary age school age childcare offer and contributes to BSIL prevention outcomes.

- **Annual provider commissioning**

Annual commissioning will improve quality, stability and alignment across holiday and school age childcare provision. This supports a more joined up childcare system in line with BSIL and sufficiency priorities.

- **Improved booking to attendance conversion**

A focus on improving booking to attendance conversion will ensure funded places are fully utilised by families most in need. This maximises impact, supports BSIL outcomes and strengthens provider planning and delivery



Thank you

Thank you to the children, families, providers, volunteers and partners who made BACE Holidays possible. Together, we continue to ensure every child in Barnet can enjoy safe, enriching and nourishing school holidays.



- Active London
- African Cultural Association
- Amplified Arts Academy
- Arts Depot Trust Ltd
- Axis Educational Trust
- Ball Out Community
- Barnet Borough Scouts
- Barnet Community Project
- Barnet District Scouts
- Barnet Educational Arts Trust (BEATS)
- Barnet Library Service
- Barnet Parent Champions
- Barnet Youth Team
- Barnfield Primary School
- Bread n Butter CIC
- Bulldogs Basketball CIC
- Camden Bouncy Castles
- Charmaine Esprit
- Chabad of Finchley
- Chaverim Youth Organisation
- Cheri Pick'D
- Chickenshed Theatre
- Child & Family Hub East Central, South & West
- Claremont Primary School
- Community Focus Inclusive Arts
- Complete Sports Ltd
- Cricklewood Boxing Club
- Drop Shot Squash
- ETC Youth
- Fixation Academy of Performing Arts Limited
- Flip Out
- Foundation Sports
- Fun Unique Social Enterprise CIC (FUSE)
- Give Help Share (GHS)
- Give Youth a Break (GYAB)
- Greentop Children Centre
- GROW (We Are Grow)
- Inspiring Teaching
- Joy Sports Academy Ltd
- Laser Quest
- Level Up Sports
- LIFT CIC
- Lingotots Barnet
- Mindcatcher Education
- Motion4Kids CIC
- Non Stop Action
- Northernland Trust
- Olayemi Williams
- Parkfield Children's Centre
- Phoenix Canoe Club & Outdoor Centre
- Planet Universe
- Pro FA FC
- Pro Touch SA CIC
- Resources for Autism
- Royal Air Force (RAF) Museum
- SAS Martial Arts Academy
- Smart Play
- Somali Bravanese Welfare Association (SBWA)
- SOTO Inspires CIC
- Sport4Kids
- Stonegrove Estates Youth Project (SEYP)
- Strength & Learning Through Horses
- Subject Support
- Sunnah Rose
- Super Star Sport NWLTeach Now
- The Boy's Clubhouse
- The Hope of Childs Hill (THOCH)
- The Whyte Bros
- Tiferes High School
- Tony Russell Music Services
- Top Sports
- Torah Vodaas
- Tzivos Hashem
- Unitas Youth Zone
- Whizkid Wonderland Holiday Camp CIC
- Wuma Sports Ltd

Barnet Active Creative Engaging holidays

