







Bring It On Boro - the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme for Middlesbrough was offered during 2024/25 to those children and young people in receipt of benefit related free school meals (FSM) and vulnerable young people.

The aims of the HAF programme were to encourage children and young people to:

-  eat healthily over the school holidays;
-  be active during the school holidays;
-  take part in engaging and enriching activities which support the development of resilience, character and well-being along with their wider educational attainment;
-  be safe and not socially isolated;
-  have a greater knowledge of health and nutrition;
-  be more engaged with school and other local services.

The HAF programme offered the equivalent of 6 weeks holiday provision for eligible children and young people during the specified holiday periods:

Easter

At least 1 week,
face to face,
minimum 4 days.

Summer

At least 4 weeks,
face to face,
minimum 16 days.

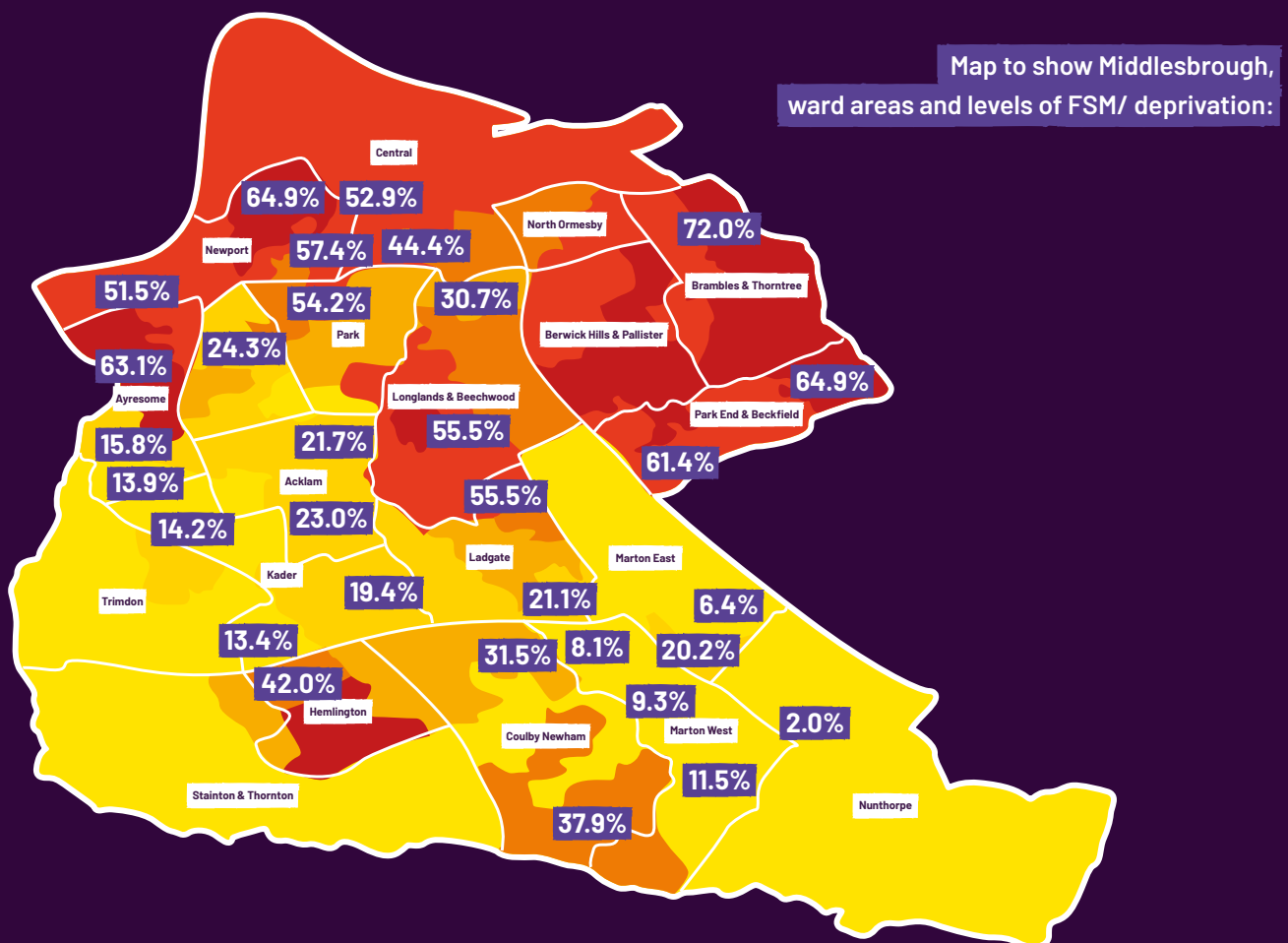
Christmas

At least 1 week of support,
face to face,
minimum 4 days



The programme offered provision to best serve the needs of children and families within the Middlesbrough area, with a rich mix of provision catering for all, over a good geographical spread.

Middlesbrough has high levels of deprivation and has some of the most deprived wards within the country. Mapping of the area indicated areas that were most in need of HAF provision, ensuring a good spread was needed and achieved across the area throughout the year.



Middlesbrough HAF programme is managed by Public Health South Tees and since Summer 2022 has a dedicated team in place to develop and deliver the programme:

HAF Programme Manager: **Karen Deen**

HAF Coordinator: **Lauren Flood**

HAF Administrator: **Bethany Sill**

HAF Steering Group established January 2023. The Steering Group currently consists of members from Public Health South Tees, Middlesbrough Voluntary Development Agency, You've Got This – South Tees, Culture and Tourism – Redcar and Cleveland Council, Middlesbrough Council – Voluntary Sector Liaison & Grants Team and Redcar & Eston School Sport Partnership.

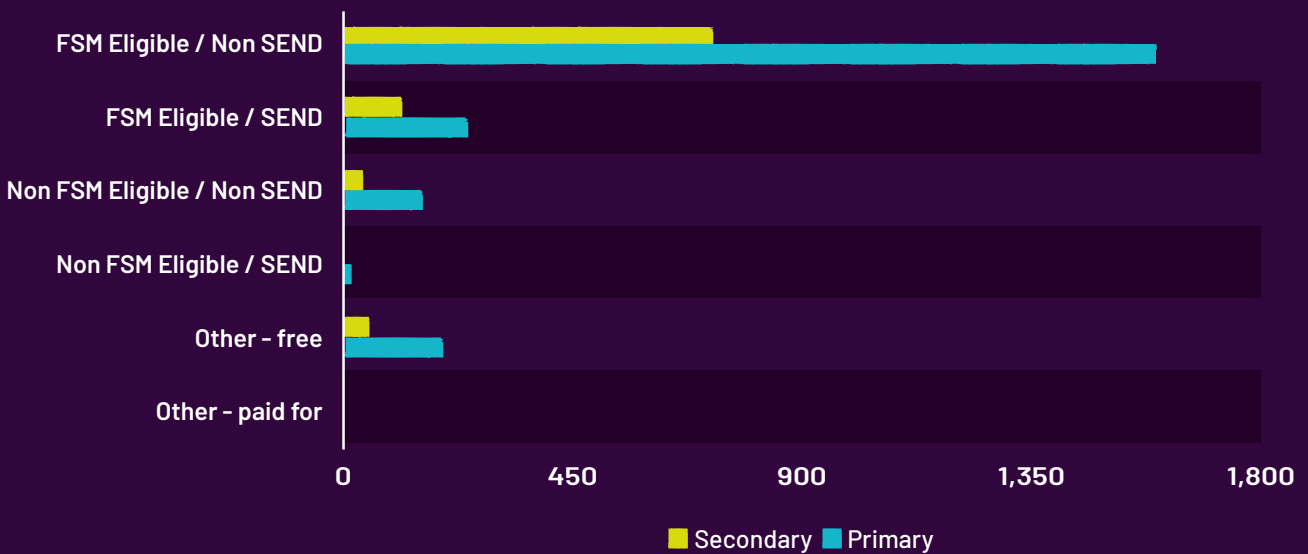
Highlights / Key data

10,058 children and young people within Middlesbrough were eligible for benefit related free school meals within 2024/25.

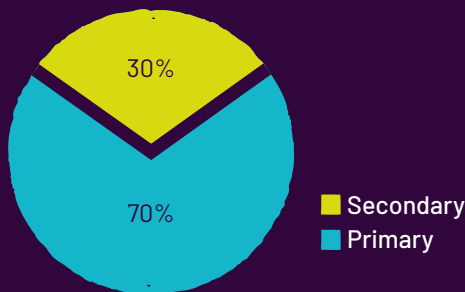
The HAF provision successfully achieved the following:

Easter 2024

Attendance

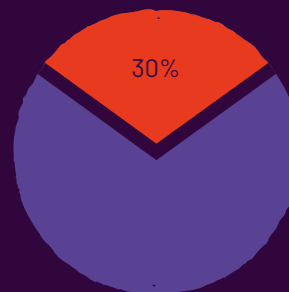


Age



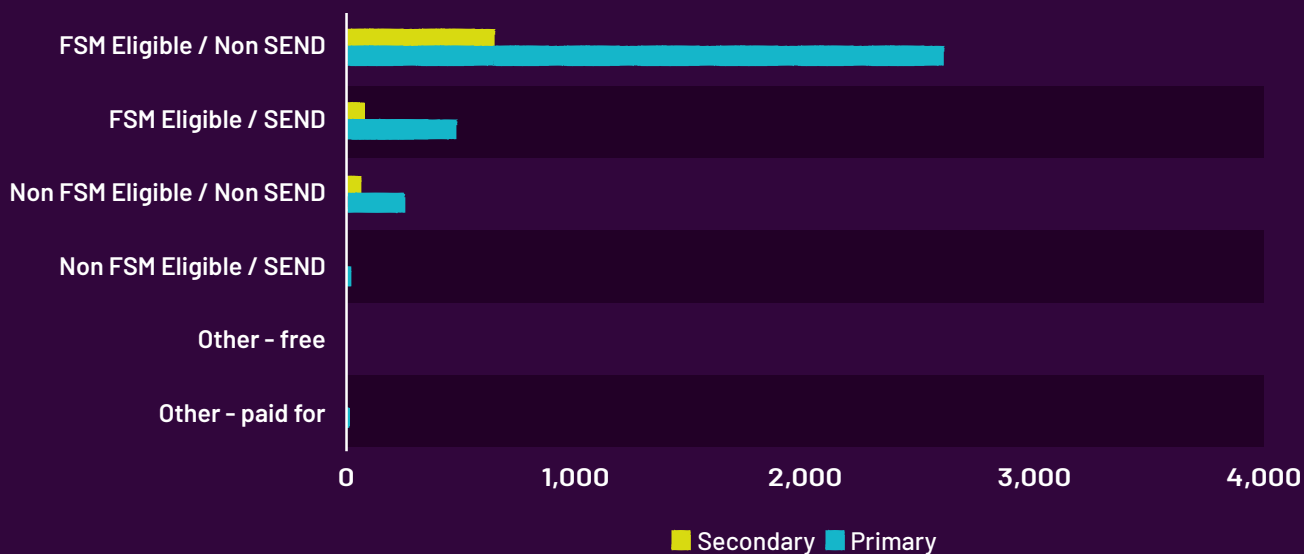
Out of the HAF funded attendees 70% were Primary and 30% Secondary.

FSM Reach

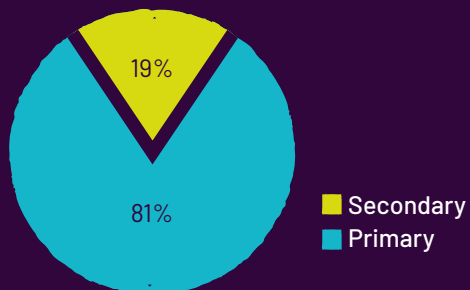


The total number of FSM children and young people in Middlesbrough in 2024 was 10,058, so the HAF project reached 30% of these eligible FSM children and young people in Easter 2024.

Attendance

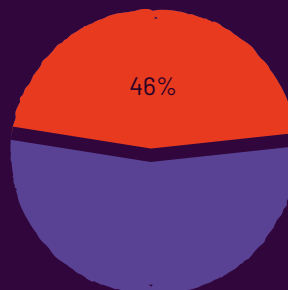


Age



Out of the HAF funded attendees 81% were Primary and 19% Secondary.

FSM Reach

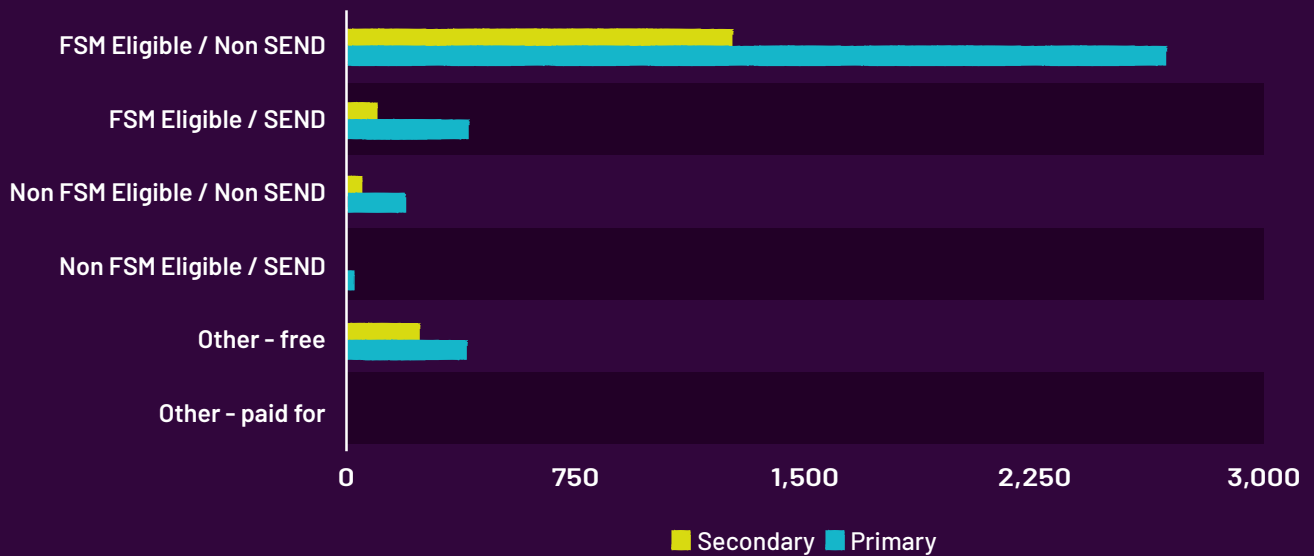


The total number of FSM children and young people in Middlesbrough in 2024 was 10,058, so the HAF project reached 46% of these eligible FSM children and young people in Summer 2024.

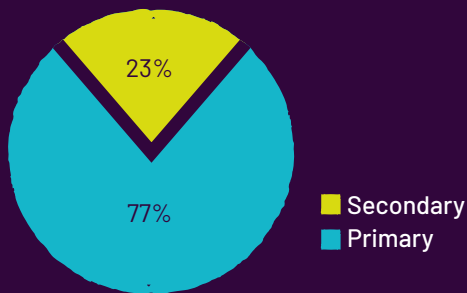


Christmas 2024

Attendance

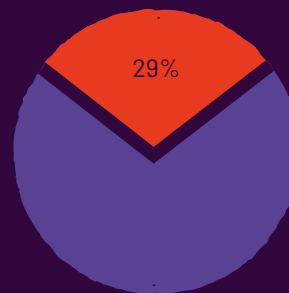


Age



Out of the HAF funded attendees 77% were Primary and 23% Secondary.

FSM Reach



The total number of FSM children and young people in Middlesbrough in 2024 was 10,058, so the HAF project reached 29% of these eligible FSM children and young people in Christmas 2024.



Providers

Middlesbrough had the following number of providers delivering at each HAF delivery period:

Easter 2024

51

Summer 2024

57

Christmas 2024

51

These providers were schools, charities, social enterprises, commercial companies, and other types of organisations.

All providers achieved their intended outcomes and delivered overall excellent quality HAF programmes to those children and young people who attended. Quality Assurance visits were carried out on each provider who delivered to ensure those children and young people who attended the HAF programme accessed quality provision in line with the DfE requirements.

Young Inspectors

In 2024 the Bring It On Boro engaged with a team of Young Inspectors to conduct quality assurance visits of the HAF programme to allow the young person's voice to be heard – in order to ensure that the programme is not only meeting the requirements set out by the DfE but is developing in the right direction for those children, young people and their families that access the provision. The Young Inspectors programme also allows the young people who train in this role to develop skills and experience opportunities that can be carried forward into their future.

The Young Inspectors visited several HAF provisions throughout the year, produced good quality reports and identified areas of development. They provided each programme that they visited with individual areas of improvements. They also identified improvements in the physical Activity offer within the individual programmes, following the implementation of mandatory training in this area.

Physical Activity, Enrichment & Food



Each provider who delivered a HAF programme at Easter, Summer and Christmas delivered a programme that offered a minimum of 60 minutes physical activity daily, a wide enrichment offer and a school standard nutritious meal.

Providers undertook mandatory training on school food standards and menu reviews were performed on each, where feedback and recommendations were given, to ensure each child received the best possible meal daily. External food caterers that provided food to those providers not registered as food businesses also undertook the same training.

Each provider delivered nutritional education to those attending and many provided the families with this information to take home. Children and young people developed cookery skills and participated in food workshops within their HAF clubs.

All providers who delivered HAF programmes within 2024 also ensured signposting and referrals were made for families and their children and young people where applicable. Information was targeted at specific areas within Middlesbrough to link in with local priorities.

Marketing & Reach




Since Summer 2022 Coordinate Sport, provides the booking platform for parents / carers to use to book their child onto available HAF provision. Providers upload their offer, and this is promoted via schools, organisations, council departments, providers, social media and the council website (a detailed marketing plan has been produced). This has increased reach and has allowed providers to use a secure system to manage their HAF provision.


The link for the booking system is

 <https://middlesbroughredcar council.coordinate.cloud>


Key Findings & Challenges




Throughout the year, the programme has seen an increase in eligible children and young people accessing provision, specifically the Summer holiday period. This suggests that the provision that was available was of excellent quality and variety. Those attending experienced new opportunities - many life changing. The marketing of the programme was good - reaching further than previously achieved.




More Primary School aged children attended HAF programmes than secondary aged young people. However, the secondary figures still need to continue to rise. The programme needs to ensure that the provision on offer still meets the needs of those young people attending and develop to attract more to attend. Young Inspectors are crucial in this area.




SEND attendance still remains low overall - although this has improved as more SEND specific provisions have been offered. This area needs to continue to improve and develop with the right partners, so all eligible children and young people can attend the HAF programme.



The Christmas delivery period was again difficult to engage with eligible children and young people. Due to the dates of the Christmas holidays provisions were offered over weekends to try and increase engagement.



Additional funding was awarded through the Household Support Fund - to open up places to those children and young people not in receipt of free school meals. Thousands of places were created and attended.



The HAF programmes throughout the year have seen an increase in attendance of those eligible for FSM. The partners involved within the programme are delivering well and the offer for the eligible children and young people is progressing well. However, this needs to continue, and the voice of the children and young people will continue to ensure this continues.

Funding

Middlesbrough were allocated £1,060,030.00 for 2024/25.

The following details the breakdown of the actual spend of the funding:

Expenditure Type	£
Administrative Expenditure (this includes all of the costs incurred carrying out the administrative functions of the HAF coordination within Middlesbrough)	£106,003
Capital Expenditure (this includes any equipment purchased to support the programme that meets the definition for capital expenditure, as set out in the HAF guidance on gov.uk)	£0
Programme Expenditure (this includes all of the costs of providing free HAF places, including payments to providers and third parties for services provided)	£954,027
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (for 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025)	£1,060,030

Redcar and Cleveland was awarded Household Support Funding during 2024/25 to offer additional spaces for those children and young people not in receipt of benefit related free school meals.

The following details the breakdown of the actual spend of the funding:

Delivery Period	£
Easter 2024	£13,500
SUMMER 2024	£46,346
Christmas 2024	£7,248
TOTAL HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUNDING FOR 2024/25	£67,094

Quotes

It is the best club in the world. I love being here.

I loved helping the smaller children learn games like Hop Scotch.

Today has been good and we have played some fun games and mini golf.

I'm so proud of what I made and happy that I learned to sew today. I made a monster and called him Jake.

My children have just said to me - we love it mam why does it have to be over can't we go all the time.

Plans

Plans for the 2025/26 Middlesbrough HAF Programme

- ✦ Continue to develop the HAF programme;
- 👁️ Develop the SEND offer further;
- ✦ Increase the number of eligible children and young people attending the HAF programme;
- 👁️ Continue to develop and implement the programme of Young Inspectors that act as a voice of the children and young people within the programme;
- ✦ Ensure the HAF programme addresses and supports the wider outcomes and priorities within Middlesbrough;
- 👁️ Continue to offer those children and young people not in receipt of FSM, but in need of support, places (free or paid) within the HAF programme, via Household Support Funding;
- ✦ Through the work funded by Sport England looking at Physical Activity, further support providers by offering a train the trainer package for providers to upskill their workforce specifically in physical activity and literacy;
- 👁️ Introduce half term holiday provision funded by the Middlesbrough Council;
- ✦ Develop links with the Wraparound Service;
- 👁️ Plan for sustainability and ensure legacy of the programme.