If your child is in receipt of free school meals they have the opportunity to join in on some great holiday activities. Details can be found below in the email from North Somerset Council holiday, activities and food (HAF) programme.

The programme is only available to children who are in receipt **benefits related free school meals** and does not apply to children who have universal free school meals in reception, year 1 and Year 2 unless you have applied and qualified for benefits related free school meals.

If you haven't applied for benefits related free school meals, please take a few minutes to apply on-line. It doesn't take long and you will know the outcome as soon as the application process has finished: <a href="https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals">www.n-somerset.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals</a>.

You can apply for FSM for any child regardless of their school year group but please DO NOT reapply if your child is currently in receipt of benefits related FSM. Assessments are based on current household circumstances and you may lose your entitlement.

If your application is successful your child will receive free schools whilst they are in primary school, you can also access the wonderful FREE activities on offer from the HAF programme and you will also be entitled to receive any future household support grant vouchers. Details can be found here: <a href="https://n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/benefits-support/other-benefits-support/household-support-fund#:~:text=If%20you%20are%20struggling%20with,provide%20us%20with%20some%20d etails.">https://n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/benefits-support/household-support-fund#:~:text=If%20you%20are%20struggling%20with,provide%20us%20with%20some%20d etails.</a>

## Please remember:

This programme does not apply to children receiving universal free school meals in key stage one unless they would qualify for free school meals outside of that scheme.

## (Email from HAF) Dear Parents and Carers

North Somerset Council run FREE HAF activities (holiday activities and food) for children who are in receipt of benefits-related free school meals and there is an exciting programme of activities planned for the forthcoming summer holidays. The range of activities has grown this year and includes water sports, a gymnastics club, football, multi-sports, art and much, much more!

You can find out more about what's on offer and book places here: <u>Search learning experiences</u> · <u>Eequ</u>

Please note for children aged 10 – 16 years we are in the process of arranging an additional setting at Priory Community School Academy in Worle, with Procoaching, soon.

All you need to book on is your child's name and date of birth. You can book 4 days of activities each week from 29th July to the 23rd August 2024 (so 16 days in total). Your child's day includes the provision of lunch and snacks.

More information about the HAF programme in North Somerset can be found here: <u>HAF activities | North Somerset Council (n-somerset.gov.uk)</u>

Kind regards
The HAF Team

Holiday, Activities and Food Programme Strategy & Policy Team – Town Hall – Weston-super-Mare – BS23 1UJ

## https://n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-06/SEND%20Council%20Newsletter%20June%202024.pdf

**FSM applications:** If you think you could be eligible for free school meals please apply online at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals.

Where does a parent get a HAF code? (Holiday Activity Fund code) - They need to request a code via email from the HAF Team at <a href="https://example.com/HAF@n-somerset.gov.uk">HAF@n-somerset.gov.uk</a> Please note the FSM application code is not a HAF code.

**Do parent's need to reapply?-** Not at this time. Currently eligible children should not reapply for free school meals as any new application results in a new assessment based on current household circumstances. This means they could lose their entitlement as the DfE checker only assesses current circumstances and cannot track transitional protection.