

## Jess Philips MP praises Happy Healthy Holidays programme



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A free community programme that aims to give children great summer holiday experiences with tasty food, crafts and activities has been praised by a Birmingham MP.

Jess Philips MP for Birmingham Yardley visited one of the Happy Healthy Holidays activity clubs in Hobmoor Oasis last week to see first-hand how itâs supporting children in her constituency.

She said: âHappy Healthy Holidays is a great initiative that helps children and families, who find the summer months particularly challenging, access fun activities and nutritious healthy food for free.

âI was very grateful to the staff at Hobmoor who welcomed me, and let me see first-hand some of the amazing work that goes into this programme, and how it really is helping families and children across Birmingham.â

The programme, which is led by Accord Housing Association, secured Â£2million funding from the Department for Education earlier this year, and will be running activity days across all of Birminghamâs ten districts aiming to help 18,000 children.

Happy Healthy Holidays is being run by quality assured providers, across 191 venues in Birmingham and aims to help more families access free fun activities with healthy meals, meet friends, learn new things and get active during the school holidays.

The initiative forms the largest of the Department for Educationâs Holiday Activity and Food Pilot Programmes this summer, and builds on Accordâs experience of taking action in this area over the last six years.

The Accord led consortium includes Birmingham Playcare Network, the Active Wellbeing Society, and Sport Birmingham. The Happy Healthy Holidays programme is also supported by a wider network of partners including, Fareshare, Brakes Meals & More, Birmingham City Council, Severn Trent, Travis Perkins, Birmingham Education

## Partnership and the Let's Cook Project.

There are still spaces available across the city, despite some programmes having waiting lists. If you are interested in the programme and want to join, visit: [www.sportbirmingham.org/hhh](http://www.sportbirmingham.org/hhh) or register directly with the club providers. More details on the different providers can also be found online.

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