

**AfC Virtual School**  
'Together we can achieve!'

# SUMMER ACTIVITIES WEEK 2023 EVALUATION REPORT



## GENERAL EVENT OVERVIEW

- EVENT NAME:** Summer Activities Week
- VENUE:** Various across Richmond, Kingston and RBWM
- DATES:** 24<sup>th</sup> July – 28<sup>th</sup> July 2022
- COSTS:** Richmond & Kingston: £3,858  
RBWM: £2,481.45
- EEF:** 2+ months, moderate cost
- EVENT TEAM:** Tav Juttla, AfC Virtual School Business Manager  
Tavana Young-Thomas, Business Support Assistant  
Job Pimental, VS Outreach Learning Mentor (R&K)  
Karen Summer-Ireland, VS Outreach Learning Mentor (RBWM)  
Jill Hunter, Supporting Responsible Adult  
Gemma Holmes, QTS R&K  
Soumaya Belhadj, QTS RBWM
- SAFEGUARDING:** Tav Juttla, AfC Virtual School Business Manager

## SUMMER ACTIVITIES WEEK PROJECT OUTLINE

- Primary aim is to improve learning needs with an academic component.
- Collaborative (or co-operative) learning approach involving pupils working together on activities or learning tasks in a group small enough for everyone to participate on a collective task.
- Target social and emotional learning (SEL) seek to improve pupils' interaction with others and self-management of emotions etc.

## EVENT PURPOSE

- Experience performing and public speaking by a variety of instructors / hosts.
- Develop young people's self-confidence and social skills.
- Promote team building skills and self-esteem in a fun, safe environment.
- Introduce young people to different types of activities and interactions.
- Promote peer relationships and develop trust and understanding of each other.
- To enrich young people's lives and encourage, nurture and support their creative aspirations and opportunities.
- To help young people develop their creative side so they feel more confident and engage with others in a positive way.
- To encourage open-mindedness and promote health and well-being.
- To stretch young people's imaginations, overcome challenges and realise their own potential.
- To instil confidence, respect of others and a positive outlook.

# SUMMER ACTIVITIES WEEK EVENT BROCHURE



The cover features a vibrant pink and purple background with a pattern of palm leaves. At the top left is a circular logo with the text 'Hello Summer' and a sunburst. The top right corner contains the AFC Virtual School logo with the tagline 'Together we can achieve!'. The main title 'AFC Virtual School Summer activities week' is prominently displayed in white and yellow. Below it, the dates 'Monday 24 to Friday 28 2023' are written in white. At the bottom right, the 'achieving for children' logo is visible. The bottom right corner of the cover has a decorative border with illustrations of bees, flowers, and butterflies.

**Hello Summer**

**AFC Virtual School**  
Together we can achieve!

**AFC Virtual School**  
**Summer activities week**  
Monday 24 to Friday 28 2023

**achieving for children**

## It's arrived!

Welcome to AFC Virtual School's 2023 Summer Activities Brochure.

Please join us for a fun-filled week of complimentary activities for our children and young people in care and previously looked after children who are registered in any of our three cohorts: Kingston, Richmond, and Windsor and Maidenhead boroughs.

All activities will take place in person, and we are super excited to see as many of you as possible, after such a long time.

Please can we ask all children to bring plenty of water, lunch and snacks with them each day \*apart from the Smart Raspberry Cookery School sessions. Please can we ask you to be mindful of allergies, please do not provide any nut based items in packed lunches.

More detail is provided beside each activity throughout the brochure, as there are some specific requirements depending on which activity you are participating in.

For any outdoor activities, please also ensure the children have applied sunscreen before they arrive, and have brought some along with them in their bags, should they need to re-apply during the day - also provide a sun hat if the weather is good!

## RICHMOND and KINGSTON

### Monday 24 July

#### **Albany Outdoors multi-activity adventure and water activity fun day** (8+ years must be confident in water)

Drop off 9am | Collection 5pm

Venue address: Albany Outdoors, Albany Mews, off Albany Park Road, Kingston KT2 5SL

#### **Do you love the outdoors, especially being in the water?**

Come and join us at Albany Outdoors and take part in some fun activities on the water, these will include activities such as kayaking, canoeing, paddleboarding, archery, challenge course and team building.

NB: We are unable to confirm exactly which two activities you will be participating in until the day, as this will depend on what is appropriate for the weather that day.

All carers and parents must complete an albany outdoors declaration and medical consent form for each child, which is to be completed in full prior to the activity. Failure to complete this may mean participants cannot take part - the online link for this will be issued by AFC Virtual School upon registration.

Please wear comfortable clothes and trainers, dress according to the weather, nothing new!

Also bring a full change of clothes and spare shoes, a water bottle which can be refilled on site, as well as a packed lunch and snacks. If the weather is hot, bring a hat and sun lotion.

Allocated on a first come, first served basis - we have a maximum allocation of 10 children.

### Tuesday 25 July

#### **Pottery, craft and games workshop** (5 years +)

Drop off 12.30pm | Collection 3pm

The Pottery and Craft Studio, Rectory Lane, Long Ditton KT6 5HW

#### **How creative and arty are you?**

Come and join us for some super creative pottery painting, you'll be able to create your own personalised plate or bowl plus paint a cute animal of your choice - you will also be taking part in some enjoyable and exciting craft activities and games!

Please wear comfortable clothes and trainers, dress according to the weather, nothing new!

Allocated on a first come, first served basis - we have a maximum allocation of 10 children.

NB: Pottery items painted during the session have to be left at the studio to be fired - this will transform the surface into a glass coating, which is waterproof and food safe. Items will be ready for collection within a couple of weeks.

### Wednesday 26 July

#### **Smart Raspberry Cookery School** (5years +)

Drop off 2.30pm | Collection 5.15pm

Kingston Methodist Church, Methodist Church Hall, 13 Fairfield, Kingston KT1 2UJ

Would you like to learn how to be a cooking connoisseur and rustle up some culinary delights?

Then look no further, come and join us for an exciting afternoon of fun in the kitchen, where you will receive a cooking masterclass whilst creating two recipes of your own.

One savoury and one sweet. Yum!

Followed by the very best part, you'll then be able to sit together and enjoy eating your marvellous creations before you head off home for the evening.

You'll be in the kitchen with the experienced and dedicated Smart Raspberry Team and will be creating the following two dishes.

- Creamy bacon pasta and garlic bread
- Cupcakes with buttercream



Please be rest assured, we can cater for most allergies and dietary requirements, so please do make the AfC Virtual School team aware of any requests when you register, and we will ensure the ingredients are tweaked for your needs, this could be gluten free, dairy free, vegetarian, etc.

## Thursday 27 July

### Fun Fest, Kingston (3 to 12 years)

Drop off 8am to 9am | Collection 5pm  
St Paul's CofE Primary School, Kingston Hill, Kingston KT2 6AZ

Come and join us for a fantastic fun-filled day of exciting activities and adventures, there are a whole range of exciting activities available from dodgeball to jewellery making, 'mad about science' scavenger hunt to beauty school, Harry Potter Experience to sublime slime and so much more.

Activities will be age specific and allocated for each child on the day.

All carers must complete the Fun Fest, Kingston medical and consent form for each child, which is to be completed prior to the event day to meet their regulatory requirements. Failure to complete this may mean participants cannot take part - these will be issued by AfC Virtual School upon registration.

Children will need to bring packed lunches, drinks, snacks, appropriate clothing for their activities, sun hat and sun cream (if we're lucky enough to need it). We operate a no nut policy on site, so please be mindful when packing lunches.

Please wear comfortable clothes and trainers, dress according to the weather, nothing new. Allocated on a first come, first served basis.



## Friday 27 July

### River Thames boat trip and activities fun day (5 years +)

Drop off 10.30am | Collection 3pm  
Thames Discoverer, The Barge Dock, Downhall Road, Kingston KT1 1PS

Join us for some exciting fun and games on board the Thames Discoverer - we have a day of interactive activities lined up for you throughout the day, to be enjoyed whilst you cruise up and down the River Thames.

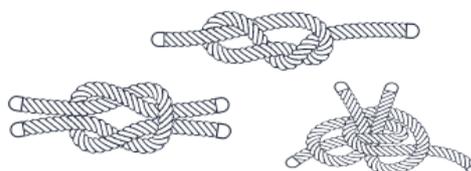
You will be taking part in fun activities, such as fruit kebab making, time with the skipper learning how to steer the boat, stop at Teddington Lock island to watch the lock in action, air dry clay or scrap model making, rope skills and knots, river bingo and games but most exciting of all you will enjoy a beautiful cruise on the Thames.

There will also be binoculars and ID charts available if you are interested in birdwatching. Should time allow, there will be a chance to run around in Canbury Park, where you will learn how to throw the ropes, just like the crew.

Please wear comfortable old clothes and trainers, dress according to the weather, nothing new!

If the weather is hot, bring a hat and sun lotion.

Allocated on a first come, first served basis - we have a maximum allocation of 10 children.



## WINDSOR and MAIDENHEAD

## Monday 24 July

### Engage watersports activities and fun day (8+ years must be confident in water)

Drop off 10.45am | Collection 3pm  
Engage Watersports, Taplow Lake, Amerden Lane, Taplow SL6 0EA  
Directions: <http://www.engagewatersports.com/contactus>

Do you love the outdoors, especially being in the water?

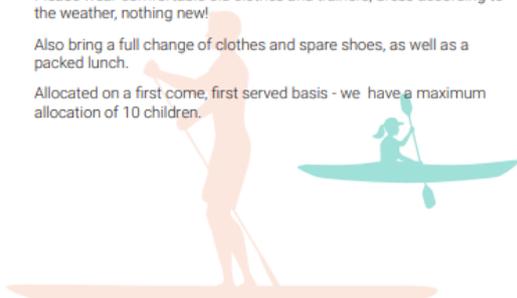
Come and join us at Taplow Lake and take part in some fun activities on the water, these will include kayaking on the Jubilee River and stand up paddleboarding on the lake.

All carers and parents must complete an Engage Watersports medical and consent form for each child, which is to be completed in full prior to the activity. Failure to complete this may mean participants cannot take part. These will be issued by AfC Virtual School upon registration.

Please wear comfortable old clothes and trainers, dress according to the weather, nothing new!

Also bring a full change of clothes and spare shoes, as well as a packed lunch.

Allocated on a first come, first served basis - we have a maximum allocation of 10 children.



## Tuesday 25 July

### Smart Raspberry Cookery School (5years +)

Drop off 2.30pm | Collection 5.15pm  
Woodlands Park Children's Centre, Manifold Way, Waltham Road, Maidenhead SL6 3GW

Would you like to learn how to be a cooking connoisseur and rustle up some culinary delights?

Then look no further, come and join us for an exciting afternoon of fun in the kitchen, where you will receive a cooking masterclass whilst creating two recipes of your own.

One savoury and one sweet. Yum!

Followed by the very best part, you'll then be able to sit together and enjoy eating your marvellous creations before you head off home for the evening.

You'll be in the kitchen with the experienced and dedicated Smart Raspberry Team and will be creating the following two dishes.

- Creamy bacon pasta and garlic bread
- Cupcakes with buttercream

Please be rest assured, we can cater for most allergies and dietary requirements, so please do make the AfC Virtual School team aware of any requests when you register, and we will ensure the ingredients are tweaked for your needs, this could be gluten free, dairy free, vegetarian, etc.



## Wednesday 26 July

### Norden Farm Centre for the Arts (5 years +)

Drop off 9.45am | Collection 12.30pm  
Norden Farm Centre for the Arts, Altwood Road, Maidenhead SL6 4PF

Come along to our creative arts and crafts event and experience your own fantastic design animations and original clay modelling with our expert artists - it's guaranteed to be a great day. You'll be participating in the two crafty workshops below - register now.

#### Stop motion animation with Shannel

Using tablets to create their designs, all children play a special role in the making process to bring the animation to life. After each exciting workshop, their wonderful animations will be presented to them and uploaded to Norden Farm's social media. A fantastic memory to be shared with the family and friends to watch over and over again.

#### Clay monsters with Helen

Let your fictional characters come to life! Children can choose to make a specific character from their favourite book. Clay monsters or animals can be based on fictional characters or created from their own imagination. The choices are limitless. You will be given the opportunity to draw and make your character out of clay. Work will be fired and then returned to you, ready to be painted.



## Thursday 27 July

### The 'Stupendous Sports' and 'Monster Max' series, plus the summer reading challenge at Cookham Library (4-5 years +)

Drop off 9.45am | Collection 3pm  
Cookham Library, High Road, Cookham SL6 9JF

We're excited to introduce you to 'Stupendous Sports', which is a new series of sports books for kids by Robin Bennett, which aims to do for PE what Horrible Histories did for Year 7 history with Mr Simkin.

Our session with Robin will be full of facts, jokes, interactive games, quizzes, ability led writing exercises and great stories about your favourite sports - and ones you'd like to try.

Don't you worry, the session is inclusive to everyone and a great time will be had by all.

Robin will be focusing on 'CRACKING CRICKET' out just in time for the ICC World Cup 2023.

You'll also receive a book each from the wonderful Stupendous Sports series and also some other fab goodies to take home.

The foreword in the book is by international cricketer, Simon Jones MBE. Further information on the book series can be found here: <http://www.stupendoussports.com/>

For our younger readers, Robin will be doing a session on his Monster 'Max Series'. Max is an unusual 9 year old. He can turn himself into a huge, bin-eating monster by BURPING. Being a monster is brilliant, unless he sneezes (which turns him back) and he finds himself far from home in just his pants.

Further book information: <https://fireflypress.co.uk/books/monster-max/>



#### Summer reading challenge

You'll also be excited to hear the children will learn about RBWM's summer reading challenge and they will be able to sign up for this on the day, which this year is themed as 'Ready, Set, Read'. Click for further details: [Summer reading challenge](#).



As part of the challenge, the children are all encouraged to borrow any books of interest, set a reading goal and read anything they like. Each time they finish a book, they should visit the library and they will collect special stickers and rewards for reading books! It's a great way to encourage the children to continue reading throughout the summer break.

## Friday 28 July

### LEGOLand Windsor Resort - It's LEGO time! (7 years +)

Drop off 10.45am | Collection 3.30pm  
Legoland Windsor Resort, Winkfield Road, Windsor SL4 4AY

Come and experience two of wonderful LEGO workshops and experience fun, hands-on and engaging sessions hosted by Legoland's trained experienced facilitators - we have carefully curated and chosen two exciting and interactive workshops for you, which we know you'll love.

Then the really fun part, and most exciting, you'll also be able to experience the park and hopefully go on a couple of the rides before you head home.

#### LEGO®, Camera, Action!

Students will collaborate and create their very own LEGO® Movie.

Using unique 'stop motion' software, students will collaborate and create their very own LEGO movie through a process of photography and animation - using LEGO Bricks, LEGO minifigures, iPads and a LEGO movie application to make this wonderful creation come to life.



#### LEGO® Robotics

Using our very own LEGO® Education SPIKE™ essential kits, students will build and program their own interactive model. Covering key computing topics such as coding, repetition in programs, debugging, inputs and outputs and algorithms.



#### To register

All activities are complimentary, however, places are limited, and booking in advance is required.

Bookings will be made on a first come, first served basis.

Please can foster carers and parents ensure they register their children for each activity they wish to participate in asap, and we ask that you kindly drop off and collect your children at the correct times noted on the booking details.

Depending on which activities you register for, you will be asked to complete the respective booking, health and medical forms, plus an AfC Virtual School Permission Slip. Snacks, water and lunch must be provided each day apart from the Smart Raspberry Cookery School sessions. Please can we ask you to be mindful of allergies, please do not provide any nut based items in packed lunches.

Please sign up to the activities by emailing [Tavana Young-Thomas](mailto:Tavana.Young-Thomas@achievingforchildren.org.uk)  
E: [Tavana.Young-Thomas@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:Tavana.Young-Thomas@achievingforchildren.org.uk)

## EVENT RESEARCH

Based on the EEF Toolkit, AfC Virtual School provided their 8<sup>th</sup> Summer Activities Week in July 2023. Various elements from the EEF toolkit strand were researched and based on the most effective and recommended areas were included in this year's activity week. The aim of these activities was to raise attainment, develop essential life skills as well as prepare our young people in care for the future ahead.

Additionally, these activities provided an opportunity for our young people to meet and develop positive friendships and interactions with like-minded children, who they may not normally have the opportunity to meet otherwise. AfC Virtual School Summer Activities Week also included academic components which were associated with learning gains from the following areas:

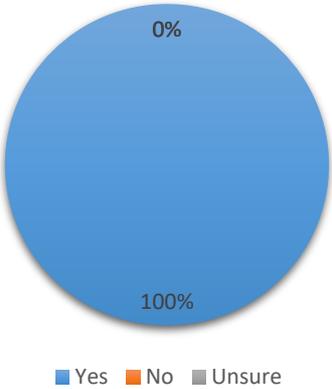
- Arts Participation
- Aspiration Interventions
- Behaviour Interventions / Carer Engagement
- Collaborative Learning and Thinking
- Digital Technology
- Social and Emotional Learning

## EVENT SUMMARY

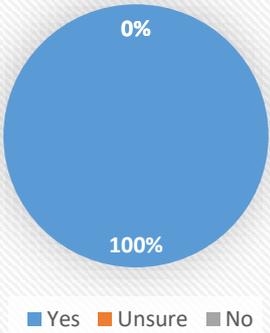
- Our Richmond, Kingston and RBWM summer activities had an overall attendance of 66 young people in total.
- 100% of young people enjoyed the activities they took part in.
- 100% of young people would like to attend similar activities in person, in future.
- All of the activities proved extremely popular with the children, specifically so as they were based outdoors, which the children loved.
- This information suggests our young people are most interested in in person outdoor group activities, where they are working as a team and learning together.
- Fun activities like the Watersports, Legoland Workshops/Rides, Pottery and Cookery Workshops were ranked the most popular.

# EVALUATION EVIDENCE

**My child enjoyed the Summer Activities Week.**



**Would your young person like to do more activities like this in the future?**



**What % of children attended each individual activity.**



## CARERS / GUARDIAN / CHILDREN'S FEEDBACK

*The girls thoroughly enjoyed the events and enjoyed meeting others that were fostered or adopted. Their favourite event was paddle boarding.*

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*Just to say a big thank you to you and the team! Pupil X and Y had a brilliant time at all the different activities they attended and liked them all for different reasons. From what I could gauge all the events were well attended which was good to see. Certainly as a foster carer we saw the week being promoted well albeit it was our adopted children who attended! Keep up the good work.*

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*Pupil X had an amazing week! He already can't wait to meet his new friend Pupil Y next year! Thanks for your hard work.*

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*My young person absolutely loved all the sessions but Albany outdoor day was her favourite. I think the mix of people along with the staff and volunteers just made it such a memorable experience. All the days were run really well and communication was fantastic from yourself. Thank you so much for giving young people the opportunities.*

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*A had a great time. Giving 46 out of 50, he said his least favourite was Norden Farm when I asked, but he still really enjoyed it. He just liked the other activities more. His favourite activity was Water Sports. Thank you so much for putting the program on. It was a great selection.*

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*Thank you so much for another great session! L loved it and was so happy to see her new friend from Monday, Pupil X - I also made friends with Pupil X's Mum! So happy we signed up for these days as they are so good. Thank you so much!*

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*I couldn't talk to you all properly because I was in hurry but I am so grateful you arranged such nice activities for the children. Pupil X will not be stop talking and sharing her nice experience. Thank you all.*

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*Just to say thank you to you and your colleagues for the activities that were provided last week, I know you must have all been exhausted by the end of the week... I found it particularly useful as there was time for Pupil X to be involved with us and join in when she did the shorter days. She also enjoyed herself too. Many thanks again.*

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*Thank you so much for the wonderful opportunities on offer for a 10 year old. There was a real variety. I think it's so important for children in care to have the chance to connect with other children who share some of their life experiences. A has been in care for 5 years but had never been to so many activities in a week. She said it's been the best start to the holidays, something different each day and I feel so much calmer.*

*As a carer the scheme has been really fab and we are very grateful for the enrichment opportunities she has had with you. Thank you! I think it's fantastic, we really valued you.*

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*Just wanted to say Pupil X has had the MOST amazing week - made friends with other adopted children (one particularly she has bonded with – Pupil Y) and generally had a fab time - thank you so much to you and your team for all your hard work. Thank again for an amazing week.*

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*Thank you for the Virtual school activities. Pupil X really enjoyed all the activities. Her favourite was the cookery club. Pupil X enjoyed all the activities on all the days.*

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*Thanks again for a lovely week. It really gives me a break too. Pupil X, aged 12 really loved the cooking and the pottery. Pottery was his favourite, he would love to do the pottery again.*

*Thank you again!*

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*I think the best thing is the variety of activities to get involved with. It was great for him to try lots of different things so he could explore avenues of interest and help him form an idea of what he most enjoys doing.*

*The specific activity he enjoyed the most was the boat cruise. It was really a unique experience that would rarely happen and he spoke enthusiastically about so many different parts of it – especially driving the boat! From a practical perspective as a parent, it is difficult to organise something like that that includes crafts, driving the boat, having a professional answer all his questions about how it works etc. Whilst he also really loved the pottery/crafts, cooking class, and Fun Fest (the quality of all of them was top notch), I wouldn't know where to start with recreating the same experience as the boat cruise, there were so many different facets to it!*

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*To be honest, what you organised was perfect!*

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*The best part for Pupil X is making friends – friends who he would love to see at future events.*

*Pottery painting was a big hit – and having the souvenir to keep is something he has never had before. Legoland, the chance to go with new friends was awesome! Fun Fest, he would definitely go again – he was so busy on the day he didn't have “time” to eat his lunch!*

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*Pupil X enjoyed the variety. Always enjoys cooking. Seemed to enjoy modelling. He even enjoyed the library day which he wasn't naturally looking forward to! Was great to have really good staff and workshop leads with specialities involved. Felt like a real treat for him, e.g. my children couldn't go...*

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