



# Andover Town Council

To **consider** a grant application from: Youth Options

Item No.

**11**

<b>Produced for:</b> Community & Events Committee	<b>By:</b> Communication and Events Manager	<b>Date of Report:</b> 15 January 2025
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<b>Name of applicant organisation:</b>	Youth Options
<b>Amount requested:</b>	£960.00
<b>Subject of application:</b>	Holiday Club Support for Andover Families.

## Summary:

<b>Location of Project / Event:</b>	The Scotts Centre, Mead Hedges, Andover
<b>Date of project / event / purchase of asset:</b>	February 2025 onwards
<b>Project description:</b>	<p>The Scott Centre has been a cornerstone for families in Andover for over 30 years, providing affordable, high-quality childcare. This includes holiday clubs, and a preschool program that prepares young children for school and builds foundational skills. The Centre also runs breakfast and after-school clubs, providing a supportive environment for children from multiple local schools. This grant will enable us to provide 45 holiday club places, helping children from disadvantaged backgrounds by offering them enriching opportunities during school holidays and supporting families by reducing the financial strain of childcare. The Scott Centre Holiday Club runs during every school holiday, including half terms, providing children in the Andover area with a safe, engaging, and enriching environment, while supporting working families with trusted and affordable childcare provision. This Ofsted-registered club combines fun and learning, ensuring children enjoy their time while participating in activities that develop their social, emotional, and educational skills. Sessions run Monday to Friday and include a range of arts and crafts, sports, social time, computer activities, and outdoor play, all guided by our highly skilled playworkers. Our staff are trained to Level 3 in Playwork or Early Years, with additional certifications in paediatric first aid, safeguarding, Prevent, and other relevant qualifications. Activities are planned to align with current government guidelines, ensuring that we not only provide engaging experiences but also a safe and supportive environment for all children. At present, places are available for £28.50 for a standard day (8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.) or £37.50 for an extended day (8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.). We are requesting £ 960 to part-fund 45 holiday places across the year, starting from the February half term. The remaining cost will be covered through contributions from our own reserves. To ensure we reach those most in need, we will work closely with local Schools, who will refer children on a place-by-place basis, sourcing children ourselves. This targeted approach allows us to address the specific needs of each referred child, while ensuring that as many children as possible can benefit from the program. By supporting the Scott Centre Holiday Clubs, we aim to continue offering a vital support</p>

	network that positively impacts both the children and their families, helping to alleviate some of the barriers and hardships they face.	
<b>Information supplied on the application form.</b>		
<b>Which groups of people will benefit</b>	Youth Options supports vulnerable young people in Hampshire, particularly those facing adverse childhood experiences, social and/or economic disadvantage, special educational needs, reduced educational engagement, exclusion from education, and children in care or care leavers. Many of these young people experience chaotic home lives, engage in risk-taking behaviors, and are at risk of educational or social exclusion, exploitation, or involvement in criminal activity. They often struggle with low self-esteem, poor mental health, limited educational achievement, and low aspirations. This project will specifically benefit children aged 4 to 13 from disadvantaged families in Andover, primarily from low-income backgrounds who typically would not be able to afford our services. All referrals will come from local schools, focusing on children identified as vulnerable by the Department for Education or known to social care services (e.g., CP, CIN, Early Help, or young carers). Additionally, a few families already engaged with our services may be referred by us based on their demonstrated need. Both children and their families will benefit from this project. For young people, our goals are to; - Keep them engaged in learning. - Help them build positive relationships with trusted adults and peers. - Engage them in fun, meaningful activities that enhance social and emotional skills. - Provide a reliable support network throughout the holidays, helping to safeguard them during this time. For parents and carers, we aim to: - Enable them to work during the holidays without childcare concerns. - Offer them regular break, which can help improve their own mental health.	
<b>How many people will benefit</b>	An estimated 20 children aged 4 to 13, and 20 parents will benefit directly from funding to support 45 holiday club places throughout the year. In total, more than 200 children are expected to benefit from our holiday provision over the year. Additionally, this project will provide valuable support to over 100 families.	
<b>What evidence of need for the project, activity, event, equipment or service can you provide us with?</b>	We will part fund 45 holiday club spaces with this funding. Usually, children book on for more than one day, which is why we believe that this will support 20 young people. It will also support their families; a large majority of the children we support are from single parent families so we have included 1 parent per young person who will also benefit from this funding.	
<b>Total project amount</b>	£1,282.50	
<b>Amount applied for and as a percentage of total</b>	£960	<b>74.8%</b>

<b>Financial breakdown of costs</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Total</b>
	Holiday places – 45 x standard day places @ £28.50	£1,282.50	n/a	£1,282.50
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,282.50</b>		<b>£1,282.50</b>
<b>Have previous grants been awarded by ATC?</b>	Yes, but in previous financial years.			
<b>Have all previous grant reports been received?</b>	Yes.			
<b>Other Funding applied for:</b>	Not currently.			
<b>Are financial reserves and expenditure in line with ATC policy?</b>	Yes			
<b>Have all the other documents been received?</b>	Yes			
<b>Has insurance been checked?</b>	Yes			
<b>Has a Risk Assessment been received?</b>	N/A			
<b>Are other licenses / permissions required?</b>	No			
<b>Are other licenses / permissions obtained?</b>	N/A			