

---

<b>Report To:</b>	<b>Education and Communities Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>31 October 2017</b>
<b>Report By:</b>	<b>Wilma Bain, Corporate Director, Education, Communities and Organisational Development</b>	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>EDUCOM/85/17/RB</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Ruth Binks Head of Education Louise McVey Improvement Programme Manager</b>	<b>Contact No:</b>	<b>(01475) 712891 (01475) 715714</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Inverclyde Summer Lunch Clubs 2017</b>		

---

## **1.0 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Education and Communities Committee with the outcomes, changes and progress update on the Holiday Provision - Summer Lunch Clubs 2017.

## **2.0 SUMMARY**

- 2.1 Inverclyde Attainment Challenge has completed the second year of providing children and families with food and learning opportunities during the summer holiday period.
- 2.2 This is the fourth holiday lunch provision Inverclyde has offered to children and their parents/carers, albeit the Spring and Autumn provisions are offered on a reduced scale.
- 2.3 During Summer 2017, families were offered a service that would provide food, education, safety and play during the school holiday period. This has resulted in the delivery of 1,632 lunches to 176 families, of which 76% of families were from SIMD 1 or 2, across 7 communities. This is an increase from the initial 3 communities in 2016.
- 2.4 In addition, to providing food, the holiday lunch clubs provided a range of family education, learning and support services to encourage parents/carers to engage in their children's learning. This includes Pop Up Library Services, Family Cooking, Bookbug Sessions, Arts, Crafts and Music, Adult Learning and Support and child led physical activity sessions.
- 2.5 More than four thousand (4,415) healthy lunches were provided to children and young people attending the local community playschemes in Auchmountain, Branchton and Craigend and those that attended I Youth Zones or Youth Connections to reduce the financial stress for families during the school holiday periods.

## **3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Committee:
- a) Notes the content of this report.
  - b) Supports the continued development of providing lunches and family learning sessions during the school holiday period.

**Wilma Bain**  
**Corporate Director**  
**Education, Communities and Organisational Development**

## 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Summer Lunch clubs were built on good local practice that the Early Years Family Support Workers were offering in 3 venues Rainbow Family Centre, Blairmore Children's Nursery and Larkfield Children's Centre during the holiday period.
- 4.2 Inverclyde Attainment Challenge Team recognised the impact of holiday provision for families living in communities with high poverty and deprivation. Qualitative evidence taken from families in October 2016 advised that parents/carers benefited from the holiday services because it provided access to food, they liked learning and playing with their children, they enjoyed the social interaction with other parents that was often missing during the holiday period, and they recognised that having somewhere safe and free to access a range of fun activities reduced the financial and family stress associated with school holidays.
- 4.3 Building on learning and evidence from the information collected throughout 2016, it was agreed to expand the lunch clubs to include new venues within the attainment challenge communities. The Attainment Challenge Community Learning and Development Team established provision at St John's Primary School in Spring Session 2017 to attract children and families in the lower Port Glasgow area including some families from the refugee community. This provision was expanded further by Community Learning and Development to include Newark Primary School and Whinhill Primary School for Summer 2017.
- 4.4 Bluebird Family Centre at St Joseph's Primary School provided lunch for the parents who attended their family sessions during the Summer Holiday Period 2017; this increased the provision across Inverclyde to 7 venues.
- 4.5 It is recognised that some families require access to food during this period especially families with children who would normally receive school meals. Therefore, funding was available for the local community playschemes in Auchmountain, Branchton and Craighend, to provide food to children and young people who accessed their provision during the holiday period. Young people who accessed the I Youth Zones and Youth Connections also received access to food at lunch time. Through this provision, an additional 4,415 lunches were provided during the summer holiday period.

## 5.0 CURRENT POSITION

- 5.1 Improvements from Lunch Clubs from Summer 2016 to Summer 2017  
The Summer Lunch Clubs are the largest and longest of all the holiday lunch clubs and the number of lunches provided increased from 1,200 to 1,632, the number of families that have benefited from the holiday provision has increased from 142 to 176, the number of children attending has increased from 264 to 347.
- 5.2 Larkfield Children's Centre through consultation with the families and the service providers decided to move the lunch club provision from the Larkfield Community Centre to Aileymill Primary School, this would provide a better facility for the families, it was spacious, had break out rooms available and easy access for families. This has resulted in: Aileymill Lunch Club having the biggest population with 110 children 84% from SIMD 1 or 2. More children from Aileymill Primary School attended the provision than any other school. Blairmore Lunch Club provided the service to 83 children 85% from SIMD 1 or 2.
- 5.3 The success of Summer Lunch Club provision is not only to deliver lunch to families living in poverty or deprivation, but also to provide community and family learning, safeguarding for children, reduce social isolation, reduce financial and family stress during the holiday period. Collaboration between Community Learning and Development, Library Services, Education Services, Facilities Services, Barnardo's and other third sector organisations including the Food Bank contribute to making the Summer Lunch clubs successful.

#### 5.4 Review of learning at the Summer Lunch Clubs 2017

- Families enjoy the flexibility of learning across the holiday lunch clubs, they were able to access table top games, arts and crafts stations, story and song time, outdoor team games and free time together.
- Community Learning and Development (CLD) supported the Summer Lunch Clubs with sessional tutors for music, outdoor physical activities, parental focus group time, family cooking, arts, crafts and board games.
- The CLD Family Support workers affiliated to each of the attainment challenge school promoted the holiday lunch clubs to families leading up to the holiday period. They engaged families that they knew would benefit from attending and consulted with parents and children on what activities they would like at the holiday lunch clubs; this provided the basis of the programme.
- Barnardo's Family Support Workers encouraged the families that they are providing intensive family support to attend and provided support for them throughout the sessions.
- Pop up Libraries were installed in the 7 Holiday Lunch Club venues and supported by the Library Outreach Officer, in 28 of the 43 available sessions across Inverclyde communities.
- 82 children signed up for the Summer Reading Challenge specifically through the pop up libraries at the Holiday Lunch Clubs and 46 have completed the challenge, compared to 47 signing up and 20 completing the challenge in 2016.
- 142 new library memberships were open by children over the holiday period because of the engagement with the outreach officer and the access to the pop up libraries.
- 88 adults joined the library for the first time and 56 lapsed members were renewed.
- 388 books were borrowed based on honesty from the pop up libraries across the 7 venues between 3 July and 3 August 2017.

#### 6.0 REFLECTIONS AND NEXT STEPS

6.1 When considering options for the future of the Summer Lunch Clubs the following factors could be considered:

- Improved communication with targeted children and families who would benefit from additional holiday support.
- Universal registration forms that all families complete at the beginning of the sessions.
- Explore other methods that will increase the number of families accessing the service (e.g. bring a friend)
- Additional staff may be required if this project should continue during the holiday period for the next year because of the long term pressure on core staff.
- Work collaboratively with community and third sector organisations to build on good practice in local communities to support families in need.

#### 7.0 IMPLICATIONS

##### 7.1 Finance

The projected spend for the 2017/18 Summer Lunch clubs was £14,326.03. This allocated budget was established within the Attainment Challenge Budget to provide and pay for the lunches, the janitorial and cleaning services, purchase resources for the families to use either at family cooking or arts and crafts. There was no funding allocated this time for additional members of staff, this was met by core budgets and in-kind funding from the collaborative services.

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report £000	Virement From	Other Comments

N/A					
-----	--	--	--	--	--

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

<b>Cost Centre</b>	<b>Budget Heading</b>	<b>With Effect from</b>	<b>Annual Net Impact £000</b>	<b>Virement From (If Applicable)</b>	<b>Other Comments</b>
N/A					

7.2 **Legal**  
None

7.3 **Human Resources**

Additional staff may need to be considered if the Summer Lunch Club provision will be continued again, especially if there is an increase in the number of families attending and the range of services that they require to meet their needs is increased.

7.4 **Equalities**

The project is a universal service, however the most vulnerable families are engaged and encouraged by family support workers to attend, to impact on equality of service for all.

7.5 **Repopulation**  
None.

**8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

8.1 None