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Dear Parents and Carers,

The Easter holidays are fast-approaching! We know the school holidays can be challenging for some families because of increased costs (like food and childcare) and it can be tricky keeping the kids occupied. But there's plenty for them to do in Barking and Dagenham this Easter.

We would like to draw your attention to the **Barking and Dagenham's Easter Holiday Activity and Food (HFA) Programme**, funded by the Department for Education.

If your child is eligible for free school meals, you can get them involved in the Holiday Activities and Food Programme. Children and young people aged 5 to 16 can choose from a range of free exciting activities with healthy meals included. Find out more about the opportunities on offer [here](#).

School's Out, Get Active is a programme that offers free and affordable activities for 5 to 17-year-olds. Head to Barking and Dagenham Council's [website](#) to read more about the programme and other ways to keep your child healthy and active this Easter.

In addition to this, the borough's libraries and children's centres offer a range of activities for the whole family. From baby massage to bingo, and arts and crafts to salsa, there really is something for everyone! Read more [here](#).

Remember, Tax-Free Childcare is also available for pre-school aged children attending nurseries, childminders or other childcare providers. Childcare costs are generally higher for younger children – so signing up really can help you save money. Find out more [here](#).

HAF is an inclusive programme, and children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) are warmly welcomed to join in the fun.

Free nutritious hot meals will be provided each day. Spaces are limited, so please click below to find out how to book.

If you have any questions please contact us at [HAFprogramme@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:HAFprogramme@lbbd.gov.uk). For wider activities available for all families please visit our [What's on](#) page.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Cabero

Deputy Head Teacher

