

Julie Earp

From: Pete <pete.may@alsyouth.org.uk>
Sent: 16 April 2021 16:54
To: Mark Tredwin; Julie Earp
Subject: SSDC Play Days - 2021

Hi Hayley / Julie

In these strange times with seemingly ever-changing landscapes & circumstances, I hope you are well & are still the best person for me to contact re proposed SSDC Play Days in the School Summer Holidays this year. If you're not the best contact, please could you forward this to whoever is best-placed or let me know & I'll follow up / try to find an alternative.

In line with (& following) 'Roadmap' developments & announcements from the Government in recent weeks, we are delighted to have been asked by SSDC to arrange a programme of Summer Play Days for children & families, again (as we have done over the past 7/8 years – with the exception, of course of last summer).

Obviously, all planning at this stage is subject to: circumstance, any restrictions that may be in place (local or national), the satisfaction of ourselves & SSDC in our Covid-Secure risk assessments & measures, 'public benefit' and, of course, permission / satisfaction of local town & parish councils to use local venues & facilities.

I appreciate that we are in strange and changing times & that we don't know what Government timescales, regulations & restrictions will be in place, by the time we get to the School Summer Holidays. However, we really do need to start firming up basic plans & agreeing (albeit provisionally) venues & locations for events, in the coming weeks (and identifying any local factors & considerations that may affect our thinking & Risk Assessments).

Therefore, within our provisional, overall programme of 10-12 events from 26th July – 20th August, we would ideally like to deliver 2-3 events in Ilminster, at The Rec (off Canal Road), and are looking for initial permission from The Council for the use of local facilities (subject to further confirmation & mutual agreement nearer the time).

The format of the events is still to be finalised, but our starting point is (as for previous summers' successful programmes), to have events open to children/families with structured activities in morning & afternoon sessions and an informal 'Sunshine BBQ' / picnic and Lunch break' in between the 2 sessions.

Our insurance, Risk Assessment, DBS & other policy, practice & safety measures will be the same as in previous years – plus we have / will have specific, new/updated Risk Assessment & safety / control measures, relating to Covid-19 (which are kept under ongoing review). These will reflect & comply with Public Health England, SSDC Environmental Health & Government advice & restrictions in place at the time of events.

As there are additional considerations & tasks in the safe preparation, running & supervision of events for this year, our programme & events may well have to be lessened in range / content from previous years - in terms of activities / hours provided (due to safety / budget / staffing implications). We'd therefore be keen to know if The Council might be able to offer any help in overcoming the impact of this, which could be either through:

- A donation towards additional activity providers, that we can buy in (we usually bring in 1 or 2 per day, with the 'going rate' for providers being +/- £100 for a morning or afternoon. Buying in additional providers, can help free-up our staff & volunteers to supervise / support / manage the smooth & safe running of the events (space, litter, sanitising & '101 other little jobs'). Additionally, there are some activities delivered previously by our team, which we anticipate might not be possible this year (due to Covid &/or staffing issues), which would want to find alternatives for.

- Other possible contributions in-kind – we're looking at the logistics (incl safety) and implications / benefits if, for example, Councils have &/or could provide (DBS-checked) Covid-Marshalls / staff / volunteers to help with 'stewarding' or pre/post-event tasks.

Thanks for your consideration of this long email.

It would be very helpful & much appreciated if you are able to reply by 10th May with:

- An indication of whether / when The Council can give provisional permission (as outlined above)
- Whether The Council might / would be able to make a contribution (financial or in-kind)
- When a firm commitment / reply might be possible (if not by 10th May).
- Any specific local factors that might need consideration (such as; at venues, availability / cleaning of toilets, litter issues etc)

Many thanks again

Regards

Pete

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