

# Summary Report



Holidays, for most of us, offer an escape to new horizons, fun and adventure. For many families holidays are out of reach. In 2019/20 around 32% of children in Glasgow were living in poverty which is around 32,480 children\*. This has been increasing over the past 6 years with the biggest increase per local authority being seen in Glasgow. Many of these children may never have had a family holiday. A break can help improve mental health, broaden experiences and promote wellbeing for the whole family.

For more than 60 years Glasgow Children's Holiday Scheme has provided holidays for thousands of disadvantaged children and their families from across the Greater Glasgow area, providing an opportunity to break the routine, have fun and build positive memories and experiences.

In 2022 we saw a welcome return to being able to provide a full season of family holidays and breaks after Covid curtailed much of our activities in the previous 2 years. The long-term impacts of Covid were still very much in evidence with mental health issues, bereavement, social isolation and rising costs of living affecting those we support.

We welcomed families to caravan holidays at Wemyss Bay, youth groups on weekend breaks, assisted with a weekend retreat for women and children affected by domestic violence and supported families to have a day out. The feedback we received has been overwhelmingly positive, with noted beneficial short term and long term impacts.

In 2022, we enabled

**209 families** to get a holiday, including **429 children** and young people and

382 adults.



This included:

**19 children** with a physical disability,

38 children

with a learning disability

**27 children** with multiple care needs

**22 children** with sensory impairment

**65 children** on the autism spectrum

**27 children** identified as having school behavioural issues

**50 children** with additional educational needs

**35 children** affected by domestic violence

**40 families** affected by bereavement

102 adults/young people

affected by mental health issues

**29 families** affected by drug/alcohol/substance misuse

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**46 adults** with a disability (physical and/or learning)

### **86 pre-5**

aged children

**89 single parent/ carer** families

**25 young** carers

42 kinship carers

**15** asylum seeker **families** 

#### 29 families

from minority ethnic groups



#### 73 families

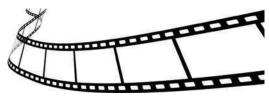
including

**175 children** and **young people** supported through our annual

Christmas Gift Scheme.

40 families and more than 80 children had a day out including cinema trips and bowling.





We supported youth groups to have **4 weekends** away with **33 young people** benefiting, and we facilitated a weekend retreat for women and children affected by domestic violence across all 5 of our caravans.

We helped individual groups to organise **5 separate group days** out with over **100 children** participating.







Please go to our website www.glasgowchildrensholidayscheme.org.uk to find out more about the Holiday Scheme and access Making Memories, the Story of Glasgow Children's Holiday Scheme.

### What Children and families said

This was our granddaughter's first holiday. She loved it and played with every toy you have. We can't thank you enough. Elizabeth.

The boys really enjoyed the holiday, we took them to the beach and the ferry. It's a very calming place, great for kids with autism. Danielle.

My little boy has
Asperger's and was
going through a
really hard time
before coming here.
It's helped him so
much he's loved it.
Thank you for giving
us this opportunity
as a family.
Chelsea

My girls had a ball, it made me so happy to see them happy. Wee girl is non-verbal and she was just like a different kid. Leanne

We honestly needed that week away as a family and couldn't have done it without your help. Thank you so much! Christine.

The caravan and site were brilliant,

the staff were all friendly and

everything was great. Josephine

We had a fantastic weekend. It was so nice for us to spend quality time together away from home and the norm. Sad to leave, but we left with brilliant memories. Stephanie Massive thanks to your scheme. It gave us a wonderful holiday of adventure and fun and time to feel special. Lorina

The family had a fantastic week in your warm and comfortable caravan. It made lots of happy memories. Shannon.

The kids had a blast. It really cheered them up getting away. Katie We had the best time - the view from the caravan was amazing, the entertainment was so good. Ten out of ten for the whole weekend.

E, S and H

Have been having a hard time at school recently and really enjoyed the stadium visit, it was fun and helped me to switch off for a bit. I got to chat to the staff about what I am going through. (13 year old boy, Day Out)

How you can help: The Holiday Scheme relies entirely on grant funding and donations. £10 can provide toys for a caravan, £50 can help enable a family to go on one of our caravan holidays and £5,000 can pay for the siting and maintenance of 1 of our caravans for a full year enabling 80-90 children to get a holiday. We also rely on volunteers to help clean our caravans, undertake fundraising as well as support our Christmas gift scheme and practical caravan donations such as toys, outdoor games and kitchen supplies.