



# Glasgow Children's Holiday Scheme



Making Memories  
Performance and  
feedback summary  
report for 2023

# Summary Report



Holidays, for most of us, offer an escape to somewhere new, somewhere different. The chance to get away from the day to day, have fun and make memories. For many families across greater Glasgow, however, that opportunity is out of reach. Around one-third of children living in Glasgow are living in poverty. Many of those children and young people have never or rarely had the chance of a break. A break that can help improve mental health, broaden experiences and promote wellbeing for the whole family. It can be such a lifeline for parents and carers and their children.

For nearly 70 years Glasgow Children's Holiday Scheme has provided holidays to thousands of disadvantaged children and their families. The chance to break the routine, enjoy some relaxation, have fun and build positive memories.

In 2023, we enjoyed another fabulous year providing holidays and breaks from March to November. Families enjoyed a holiday at our 5 caravans at Wemyss Bay Holiday Park with additional caravan capacity purchased at the peak school holiday periods. Young people enjoyed a break at our caravans with their youth groups. Families enjoyed days out they otherwise would not have been able to manage and groups enjoyed day trips. The feedback we received was hugely positive with short and long term benefits.

We thank funders, supporters and volunteers for helping us to make such a difference to people's lives.

In 2023, we enabled:

**218 families, 375 adults and 448 children and young people** to enjoy a caravan holiday.

This included:

**34 families** affected by alcohol or drug/substance misuse



**44 families** affected by bereavement  
**113 adults/ children** with mental health issues

**39 families** affected by domestic violence  
**74 children** on the autism spectrum

**36 adults** with a physical/ learning disability

**4 adults** with sensory impairment

**39 families** who were/are victims of abuse/harassment

**35 children** with school behavioural issues

**56 children** with additional educational needs

**30 children** with a physical disability

**48 children** with a learning disability

**31 children** with sensory impairment

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**43 children** with multiple care needs  
**79 pre-5 children**  
**27 young carers**  
**37 kinship carers**  
**101 single parent carers**, of which **91** were **female**  
**8 asylum seeker/refugee families**  
**21 families** from an ethnic minority group



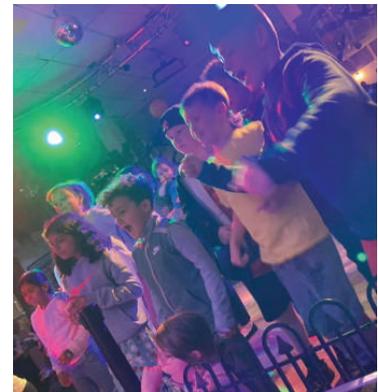
We supported youth groups to have **5** short breaks away with over **40 young people** benefitting and facilitated a weekend retreat for **women** and **children** impacted by domestic abuse.

We helped individual groups to organise over a **dozen** separate day trips with over **150 children** and **young people** participating. Trips included Blair Drummond, Heads of Ayr and the David Livingstone Centre.

**85 families** and **232 children** and **young people** supported through our **annual Christmas Gift Scheme**.



Over **40 families** and **85 children** and **young people** had a day out including trips to the seaside, farm park and sports events as well as bowling, soft play and enjoying a meal out.



# What Children and families said

The caravan was beautiful. Thank you very much for all your help. We wouldn't have known what to do without you. Dorothy

It means a lot to us as it was first ever holiday. We've been impressed with adaptations for wheelchair users. Thank you so much. Lucja

It's just been one tough struggle after another this year. On the holiday the children visited the beach and the boat to Millport, danced, made friends, played at parks, experienced outdoors. It's been amazing to just get away with the family and I owe you a massive thank you. Ashleigh

Couldn't have done this without your generosity. My mum hasn't been out of the house for a year after a stroke. My boys loved it. Thank you.

Thank you for an amazing time away it has really helped my mood and lifted it and I think the wee yin was the entertainment lol. The holiday really lifted my spirits, many thanks again. Janette

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for giving my family this well deserved holiday after the most horrendous year. This holiday has been relaxing and stress free. A lovely time away to chill out and have family time. Elaine

The family had such a good time last week, they really loved it. Thanks so much for making it happen.

Just wanted to tell you we had the most amazing time at Wemyss Bay. Lots to do and go and see. Thanks for the amazing opportunity and making memories with my family. Can't thank you enough. Michelle

We had a fun-filled weekend away to the caravans! Thank you GCHS for supporting our young people! Youth Group Leader

Words can't describe how happy and grateful we are. We had the most amazing stay, it's unforgettable. Can't thank you enough. Hasna

Every single person who has been on a trip thoroughly enjoyed it and has said that they felt that it benefited them in a positive way and that it made them happy.

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** covers the siting of one of our caravans for one year enabling **30** families and **90** kids to get a holiday. Please speak to us about sponsoring a caravan. We also rely on volunteers. We also rely on volunteers to help clean our caravans, undertake fundraising as well as support our Christmas gift scheme. To donate or for more information visit: [www.glasgowchildrensholidayscheme.org.uk](http://www.glasgowchildrensholidayscheme.org.uk) or contact us at: [admin@glasgowchildrensholidayscheme.org.uk](mailto:admin@glasgowchildrensholidayscheme.org.uk)

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