



Fusion Camps

Summer 2021



Doncaster
Council



activefusion.org.uk

Table of Contents

- 01** - Directors Foreword
- 02** - Our Impact
- 03 - 11** - Camp insights & Case studies
- 12 - 13** - Partners



Welcome

Ask one of our 1200 children what they experienced this summer but be prepared for a long answer. With over 20 different sports, physical activities, elite athlete master classes, first aid, cooking, nutrition, literacy, drama, music, arts and crafts, inflatables, fishing and dance making up the programme.

Dig a little deeper and you will hear about the new relationships and lasting friendships they have made. How they have improved their confidence and self-esteem by being taken out of their comfort zone, all with the safety net of our coaches.

What do you want to be when you get older? We asked a young boy. "I want to be like Tom" he said. One of our many exceptional coaches who are positive role models for each and every child we support.

We know we are stronger together and this extends beyond the Fusion Family. Thank you to everyone who made camp a magical experience for so many children. To our funders and commissioners, Doncaster Council and the Department for Education. The schools, who opened up their facilities to the community and the immeasurable number of partners from the voluntary and community sector who enriched our Fusion Camp programme with a diverse range of creative and cultural opportunities.

To the parents, who trust in us to safeguard their children and provide a positive experience to all. To the children and young people, who never fail to keep us on our toes and help us to stay grounded. However, the glue that holds all of this together are our heroes in red, the Active Fusion coaching team who bring their energy every day delivering with passion, pride and a positive mindset to make a difference to young lives.

To you all – we Thank You for a fantastic Fusion Summer 2021!

Join us on a journey to improve the physical health and wellbeing of the next generation.

What are you waiting for?

Lindsay James

Active Fusion Director

Our impact

2021 Summer Fusion Camps



Total attendances

4,185



Children engaged

1,200



Locations

12



Active Hours

898



Schools represented

112



Volunteers

16

Camp Insight

Bentley High Street



My 2 children have been to the camps for the past couple of years and they love it! They look forward to it and seeing the coaches. Highly recommend

Bentley Parent



4.88

star average rating from parents

5

star average rating from the participants

100%

of parents said that their children had made new friends on camp

272

children attended

150:122

male : female

180

active hours

743

total attendance

24

schools represented



Camp Insight

Bessacar



These camps are brilliant not only for the safety and fun they give to the kids. But enabling them to meet and express themselves the holidays are a long time to be home, so splitting it with these club helps parents as well as kids.

Bessacar Parent

4.85

star average rating from parents

4.66

star average rating from the participants

95%

of parents said that their children had made new friends on camp

80

children attended

44:36

male : female

60

active hours

264

total attendance

16

schools represented

Camp Case Study

Bentley High Street



Lilly-Ann's story

Lilly-Ann is 6-years-old and accessed over 210 hours of Fusion Camp provision at Bentley High Street Primary School in Doncaster. Lilly-Ann's parents applied to Active Fusion to access support so that they could continue to work during the summer break.

Lily-Ann shared that in the past, her parents were unable to access suitable support during holidays. As a result, Lilly-Ann would be limited to activity in and around the home, often on her own. She was therefore unable to play

with her friends and could only use the resources she had at home.

With a range of physical and creative activities across the camp programme, Lily-Ann shared why camp was important to her. She said, "Making friends is my favourite part of camp". Sharing how she has grown in confidence, not just in making new friends but in trying new things every week.

"I loved learning about food and why it's important to eat healthy food. I tried so many new things and would definitely like to try making the food at home with my Mum and Dad."

Lily-Ann also enjoyed the Creative Writing workshops led by the Literacy Trust. She took delight in sharing how excited she was to take home one of the books and to keep it! "My Mum and I sat down to read it together when I got home. That was great too".

Coaches on camp saw Lily-Ann grow in confidence and resilience to keep trying with physical activities she was less familiar with at the start of the summer. Her growing independence and freedom to enjoy camp with friends led to her developing new skills and work more as a team.

She is one of over 1200 children that attended camp provision across Doncaster funded through the Department for Education Holiday Activity Fund. Children in need, like Lily-Ann, were able to take part in positive activities led by our specialist Coaching team in order to keep them safe, fit and fed when parents need us the most.



I tried so many new things and will definitely like to try making the food at home.

Camp Insight

Carcroft



These camps are amazing for the kids. Not a day has my son come home unhappy. The coaches are amazing with him and these camps make him want to engage in sports much more than he would normally. I cannot thank them enough

Carcroft Parent



5

star average rating from parents

5

star average rating from the participants

95%

of parents said that their children had made new friends on camp

88

children attended

48:40

male : female

90

active hours

316

total attendance

9

schools represented



Camp Insight

Edlington



My sons are delighted with the summer camp. They are looking forward to it each morning. They are playing together with other children.

Edlington Parent

4.74

star average rating from parents

4.85

star average rating from the participants

78%

of parents said that their children had made new friends on camp

123

children attended

68:55

male : female

90

active hours

425

total attendance

8

schools represented

Camp Insight Ivanhoe



Nola is very shy and doesn't like sports camps. The varied activities have kept Nola interested and happy and she loves attending. The staff have been great with her and she has made new friends.

Ivanhoe Parent



5

star average rating
from parents

5

star average rating
from the participants

75%

of parents said that their
children had made new friends
on camp

171

children attended

94:77

male : female

120

active hours

655

total attendance

12

schools represented



Camp Insight

Kirk Sandall Infants



My child had a great time at camp and having a safe space for them to attend, allowed us to continue with work over this period - assured he was safe and enjoying himself.

Kirk Sandall Parent

4.83

star average rating
from parents

4.85

star average rating
from the participants

100%

of parents said that their
children had made new friends
on camp

40

children attended

20:18

male : female

30

active hours

139

total attendance

1

schools represented

Camp Case Study

Ivanhoe

Parents and Carers Stories



William has so much energy. It is hard finding things to keep him busy, especially with the lack of structure of the holidays at home. William loves sport. We have seen a real difference in his confidence and ability to relate to other children from other schools.

Brett, Uncle of William



Camp for the girls has just been fantastic. I have very little energy to match their needs. Camp is full of a range of activities I simply don't know how to do. So having specialist support to meet their needs is great for me and obviously for their Mum and Dad who have to work during holidays.

Grandma of Isla and Megan



George has really grown in confidence over the summer. He loves working with the coaches and trying new activities and learning new skills. It has been so much help to me too. Not having to worry about my mum having to look after them all. George needs to be entertained and is always on the go, so this has been an amazing experience for him.

Sophie, Mother of George



Camp has been so good for Jack. He loves working with the Coaches on Camp, especially Bailey. Jack is a really active kid and needs activities like this to burn off all his energy. I cannot always support what he needs at home with Fred as well. He has made so many friends and seems so much happier coming here and learning new things.

Carl, Father of Jack and his Brother Fred

Camp Insight

Long Toft

☞ My daughters first time and she was a bit nervous but the staff made her feel safe. She loved all the activities and made lots of friends. Everyday was different and she was always excited to go.

Long Toft Parent



5

star average rating from parents

4.8

star average rating from the participants

75%

of parents said that their children want to eat more healthy following camp

35

children attended

19:16

male : female

30

active hours

84

total attendance

7

schools represented



Camp Insight

Mallard

☞ I've never heard of Active Fusion before but It's an excellent service and as a single, low income parent, it has been a life saver.

Mallard Parent

4.73

star average rating from parents

4.79

star average rating from the participants

75%

of participants rated having fun, learning new skills and making new friends as the top 3 reasons for attending camp

137

children attended

75:62

male : female

78

active hours

363

total attendance

10

schools represented

Camp Insight

Travis

Ⓞ We like coming to the camps as it is a mixture of different activities and not just sport. We have plenty of food and get to take some home and we do lots of physical activity.
 Travis Parent



5

star average rating from parents

5

star average rating from the participants

100%

of parents said that their children are more healthy and active on camp

78

children attended

43:35

male : female

60

active hours

166

total attendance

13

schools represented



Camp Insight

West Road

Ⓞ Active fusion is brilliant! My children absolutely love coming, they love the coaches an really enjoy getting up an ready to go!
 West Road Parent

5

star average rating from parents

4

star average rating from the participants

90%

of pupils said they were going to be more active as a result of camp

72

children attended

40:32

male : female

70

active hours

208

total attendance

5

schools represented

Camp Case Study

Mallard



Layla-Mae's story

Layla Mae attended Mallard Camp during the holidays. Layla is a very social person and enjoys making new friends and interacting with others, however, due to lock down she was unable to do so.

Throughout lock down, many children's social skills have suffered. Losing out on the essential role of socialising and physical activity, has impacted on the mental well-being of children.

"I get to learn how to make new friends and do things that I wouldn't do when I'm at home" says eight-year-old Layla-Mae. Active Fusions Holiday camps have brought a sense of normality back into their lives.

Layla said "at home I wouldn't be doing exercise, I don't really like it, but at camps it's fun". Trying out new activities that she thought she would never do and learning that she is actually really good.

"Skateboarding was my favourite part, it is something that I have never done before. I never thought that I would be able to ride it with both my feet on the board without falling off."

It is no secret that children faced different struggles through the COVID-19 Pandemic. Layla- Mae was no stranger to the struggles. "It was bad because I couldn't see my best friend, I couldn't see her at school which made me feel really sad. "

Layla-Mae continues to look back on the experience with happy memories and continues to be friends with the people she met on camp.

When we asked her if she would come back to camps in the future, Layla instantly knew the answer. "Yes!, there is always something new happening and it makes exercise fun!"



I get to learn how to make new friends and do things that I wouldn't normally do when I'm at home

Camp Insight Windhill

☞ The kids were happy, engaged and enthusiastic about the camps and loved the staff that were working with them, giving them a sense of safety and positive physical and mental health
Windhill Parent



4.85

star average rating from parents

4.9

star average rating from the participants

90%

of participants felt inspired to become more active following camps

64

children attended

35:29

male : female

60

active hours

246

total attendance

4

schools represented



Camp Insight Woodfield

☞ Because my girls really enjoyed it. They had so much fun with their friends. Active fusion coaches are very friendly and kept all kids busy with many games. Also kids had lot's of food at the camp, they had options from different choices.
Woodfield Parent

5

star average rating from parents

4.9

star average rating from the participants

95%

of parents said that they believe that camp is a safe place for their children

40

children attended

22:18

male : female

30

active hours

151

total attendance

3

schools represented



Partners

Together Stronger

Simon's Story (90 minute music)

This Summer, Active Fusion has seen over 3,500 attendances to our Fusion Camps, funded by the Department for Education's Holiday Activity Fund (HAF).

Children and young people participating in the 2021 summer programme will remember this holiday for a summer of fun and friendships, with coaches inspiring them to be more active, healthy and joyful in life.

We have seen first-hand the difference Camp activity makes to the children in need accessing our charitable support. Not only have they grown in confidence, they have developed skills for life inspired by the incredibly positive role models that have surrounded them for six weeks.

A positive role model

One of these role models is Simon Flynn, from 90 Minute Music. Working with the children at Camp, he has elevated their confidence to be creative and to find their creative voice through music production. Simon fell into DJing and music production inspired by someone "just giving him an opportunity" to be creative, now he is doing the same for others.

Lindsay James, Director of Active Fusion went along to Camp to see a 90 Minute Music session in action. "As I watch Simon in action, I see how he captures the children's imagination within seconds". "Rule number one" he says to the children. They reply "We don't waste any time!"

We live in a world where we want instant results, experiences and feelings of success, after all there is no right or wrong in expressing yourself creatively. Simon creates this space for them instantly. "I watch Simon as he weaves in subtle life lessons such as communication skills. Getting children and young people to communicate through a range of musical instruments, whilst locking in techniques such as observation for timing and direct eye contact to engage them all in his session".



Lindsay asked Simon what he has learned through working on the Active Fusion holiday programme. “I’ve not worked much with the younger children. They come out with some crazy things but I like to be surprised and be tested so it’s been a great experience. I’ve also learned from watching your team. How they manage behaviour and talk to young people. You have an incredible young team around you”.

Lindsay recalled how this remark certainly made her feel warm inside, after all she could only see the amazing work Simon was achieving, doing the very same thing, mentoring young potential musicians of the future, to achieve their potential during sessions and to hopefully aspire to a career themselves in music one day.

While Active Fusion specialises in sport, physical activity, dance and wellbeing we wanted to make sure the summer was truly wholesome, meeting the diverse interests of all children and young people. We could not have achieved this alone. Working in partnership with Simon and 15 other local organisations has enabled us to be stronger together, changing lives forever.

Summer Fusion Camp Partners

**Literacy
trust**



Fareshare

**Thank you to all our
Partners for bringing joy
and contributing to our
Fusion Camps this year.**