

# Services for Young Children

## Parents/ Carers Update – July 2021

**Included this month:** Connect4communities Summer Activities, Watch out for ticks!  
Hampshire Cultural Trust, Hampshire Libraries Summer Reading Challenge

### Connect4communities – Summer Activities Programme



Summer schemes with free activity and meals for thousands for children from families on low incomes across Hampshire are being supported with £2million from the [Connect4communities](#) programme. [Cllr Roz Chadd](#) explains more about the Government funded scheme.

Parents and carers can find out what is on offer locally through the Family Information and Services Hub. <https://fish.hants.gov.uk/kb5/hampshire/directory/home.page>

### Summer weather ... watch out, ticks are about!

Ticks are becoming much more common now across large parts of England, particularly in woodlands and the countryside. Ticks are blood sucking members of the spider family, and we have about 20 species in the UK.



Always check your body for any signs of ticks at the end of a day in the countryside, and if you do find any ticks feeding, remove the tick promptly with tweezers, clean the bite site with an antiseptic wipe. Also watch for any symptoms of Lyme disease, remembering to consult your GP if you feel unwell. The infection can be serious if not treated. This [three-minute video](#) will give you details on how to remove the tick and things to look out for.

NHS [Lyme disease](#) information.

### Hampshire Cultural Trust



Hampshire Cultural Trust was established as an independent charity in 2014 to promote Hampshire as a county that offers outstanding cultural experiences to both its residents and visitors. They run a huge variety of workshops, classes, events and projects for both young and old, in schools and in communities, with particular emphasis on reaching people who are vulnerable or disadvantaged and would not normally be able to access arts and culture.

See their [film](#) and visit their website to find out [what's on](#) now.

### Hampshire Libraries – Summer Reading Challenge

The theme of the 2021 Summer Reading Challenge is 'Wild World Heroes' which inspires children to explore ways of helping to save the planet. Hampshire children, aged between 4 and 11, can sign up online or in their local library to read any six books of their choice, and in any format they like before Saturday 18 September. Throughout the challenge, library staff and volunteers will help children of all reading abilities as they progress. Children who sign-up for the challenge will receive a poster, stickers after each book read, and a special medal once they cross the finish line. Children can sign up for free online – via the special [Kid's Zone webpage](#) - or at their local Hampshire library from Saturday 3 July.

