



Building a HAF Case Study

Brief

We are very keen to hear and share some of the great stories about HAF provision over the summer from a range of categories. Case studies are also a great mechanism for sharing best practice amongst LAs and providers.

The case studies are generally around 400-600 words, and the tone can be fairly relaxed and informal, as if you are speaking to other colleagues. Take a look at some examples we have used on our Teaching [blog](#) to give you an idea of style.

Questions to structure cast study:

- *Intro – set the context for your organisation and your position.*
- *What is the opportunity or issue.*
- *How have you capitalised on the opportunity and/ or overcome the issue (briefly)*
- *What has been the impact?*
- *How do you plan to continue to build on this for future HAF periods.*
- *Clear and concise advice for providers (e.g., five top tips)*

Themes

We are particularly interested in case studies which cover or include the following themes:

- *SEND children – either SEND specific HAF provision or integrating SEND children into HAF Provision*
- *Supporting/sign posting families – i.e., finding work, support from other agencies*
- *Partnership working – i.e., engagement with local supermarkets, businesses, food suppliers, sports and/ or cultural organisations to enhance the offer.*
- *Provision in rural areas – how to plan and deliver provision in rural areas.*
- *Working with 12–16-year-olds*
- *Anti-social behaviour/crime reduction*
- *School engagement*
- *Match funding – working with an organisation to match fund an element of HAF funding to provide additional places/improved offer.*

Photo/video request (optional)

In order to bring your case study to life if you have 2/3 photos or a link to a video for the case study itself and for promotion on social media (where applicable) it would be great to include.

Photos need to be sent to us in their original file format i.e., JPEG, JPG, PNG. Ideally, we want a photo of you (the author) you in your day-to-day setting. If any images include children, please ensure you adhere to your settings permissions policy.

HAF Case Study – [Coaching Me](#)

Local Authority - Hertfordshire

Theme - Supporting/sign posting families.

Introduction

Chris and Sean are the Directors of Coaching Me and took over the business last summer. They have been friends for more than 10 years and are both PE teachers in special needs schools. They deliver multi-sport camps during the holidays as well as an after-school club, making it a very family orientated business which always tries to help the local community where possible.

What is the opportunity or issue?

During happy camps, no meals go to waste as we over order extra meals for certain children. During the most recent delivery phase we provided food goodie bags for a group of children that had just been made homeless and that included Chris giving them an oven to cook their meals.

How have you capitalised on the opportunity and/ or overcome the issue (briefly)

We have close relationships with our schools and are always in contact with the wider staffing team. We work closely with the local family support worker and between us we can identify certain families that need the extra support. Coaching Me has a positive reputation in the community and we are known now to be a local family supportive business.

What has been the impact?

A parent once stated how we are like a big family, and they know their children are safe with us when they get dropped off. Although we are seeing the same children come through the doors every camp which shows we are running a well-structured camp, we are also seeing new children who have attended other providers for years finally make the switch and join us.

How do you plan to continue to build on this for future HAF periods?

We will always go above and beyond other providers. We always offer plenty of places for children and will always take extra if parents are struggling. We never say no to children with SEND as we feel we have enough experience as a coaching team to help those children access provisions like ours. We will continue to apply for HAPpy funding as we know the positive impact our provision has on our local communities.

We always try to follow five key points:

- ❖ Enjoyment
- ❖ Communication
- ❖ Safe space
- ❖ Growth mindset
- ❖ Positive relationships

Photos: n/a

HAF Case Study – [Get Golfing](#)

Local Authority - Hertfordshire

Theme – Individual development

Introduction

Get Golfing is a golf charity that operates ten sites across England. Their mission is to save golf courses that are earmarked for closure or re-development and turn them into great community used space where the golf course is for the golfers and the clubhouses are for everyone. Stuart Williams is one of the Community Development Officer for the charity and is based in Hertfordshire.

What is the opportunity or issue?

We are a provider who is passionate that golf is for everyone. It is an amazing individual activity where it is just you the club and the ball. This works well for a wide range of children and adults but also offers an amazing opportunity for SEND, ADHD, autistic or children with any neurodiversity. Some struggle with sport and physical activity that is reliant upon others or how you may be perceived during a game. We believe the challenge of learning golf delivers resilience, problem solving, discipline, control and a challenge that becomes addictive. It is also great exercise, good for your mental health and creates fun outdoor social interactions.

A variety of children have attended the camps since HAF started and it is a real pleasure to see them improve as golfers as well as grow as individuals. We provide a safe supportive space where being nice, polite, and helping others is rewarded. They get to spend time with motivated and caring staff in our amazing spaces, eat great food and learn golf. We are proud to build confidence and self-esteem whilst creating positive memories for the children who visit our sites.

How have you capitalised on the opportunity and/ or overcome the issue (briefly)

Being part of HAF when it started allowed us to prove how our golf clubs could make a difference in our local communities. We have introduced The Monday Club where selected children attend a golf session at 4pm and then receive a hot meal at 5pm during term time. It aims to create an exciting start to the week and take pressure off families having to provide food on a Monday.

What has been the impact?

We are happy to have delivered a massive amount of golf and food for the children of Welwyn Hatfield both through HAF and our own Get Golfing initiatives. Feedback has been excellent, and the numbers and data speak for themselves. We are a high-quality provider, committed to using golf and our spaces to improve the wellbeing and opportunities for those in our local communities. We do not offer any paid for places on our camps and believe we are meeting the challenge of social isolation, holiday hunger and physical inactivity through our program successfully. All our staff create a positive and welcoming environment for participants to be children, make new friends and spend time with adults who care about both their behaviour, success, and wellbeing. Get Golfing has a clear pathway for children to follow and those who engage and show an interest in golf and are then invited to attend other free junior skills sessions, which is often followed by more opportunities such as equipment and club membership.

How do you plan to continue to build on this for future HAF periods?

Get Golfing is constantly evolving their community offer and now deliver girls only sessions as well as a HAF camp targeting local secondary school pupils, both of which were successful at during the Spring 2023

delivery phase. Additionally, the team are proud to be developing their own spin off provision, which is funded by Get Golfing.

Top tips:

- ❖ Staff are the key.
- ❖ Morning briefings are essential.
- ❖ Being flexible on groupings and setting high expectations and going through code of conduct every morning,
- ❖ Clear lines of communication and giving ownership of sessions to staff.
- ❖ Create a safe space to make some memories.

Photos:



Stuart Williams (middle) with the Get Golfing team in Welwyn Hatfield

HAF Case Study – [Hertford Gymnastics](#)

Local Authority - Hertfordshire

Theme – Individual development

Introduction

We are a gymnastics club in Hertford that has been a HAPpy camp provider for nearly 3 year – [HAPpy](#) is the name of the HAF programme in Hertfordshire. Although gymnastics is our main activity offer – from beginner to the more accomplished gymnast - our HAF camps also include an arts and crafts enrichment offer, to encourage the children’s creative skills and help them express their ideas.

What is the opportunity or issue?

Our aim when working with the HAF camp programme is individual progression. We look at each child individually to see how we can best support them. We work on behavioural skills such as listening, taking turns, and sharing. During the Easter 2023 delivery phase, we supported two siblings who are home schooled and do not have English as their first language. They do not attend regular clubs so get very little interaction with others, but they attended all every day, so staff were able to support them with developing their social skills in a positive and welcoming setting.

How have you capitalised on the opportunity and/ or overcome the issue (briefly)

Our camps give staff the opportunity to educate young people about healthy eating, and how they can develop a positive relationship with food. By combining discussions and activities around this topic with a delicious hot lunch, staff can support participants with their health and wellbeing and are also happy to share advice with parents about healthy eating as well.

What has been the impact?

As a HAPpy Camp provider, we are constantly evolving our programme. Having the opportunity to make gymnastics provision more accessible has allowed us to see improvements in individual fitness levels, coordination, and stamina. The young people are given the opportunity to use a huge variety of equipment such as the beam, bars and trampoline, which some may not have used before, allowing them to learn new skills in a safe environment.

How do you plan to continue to build on this for future HAF periods?

We try to get to know all our children and their individual needs as this then helps us group and support them. We have seen many children return to our camps as they look forward to using the equipment and seeing the same staff, so it is important to maintain a routine. We find that our HAF camps run well if our staff can get to know each individual child and family, as this helps with attendance rates and gives the young people a sense of belonging, so this is something we will continue to encourage in future delivery phases.

Top tips:

- ❖ Keep the food simple. No fancy sauces and lots of fresh fruits and salad.
- ❖ Get to know your families.
- ❖ Offer a well-structured day with a variety of activities planned.
- ❖ Engage with parents at the end of camps, sharing feedback about the young people.
- ❖ Do not be afraid to amend your programme, depending what children have booked on.

Photos: n/a

HAF Case Study – [FK Dance Academy](#)

Local Authority - Hertfordshire

Theme – Partnership working.

Introduction

We are FK Dance Academy, a dance and drama academy that has been running for 15 years, creating opportunities for young children from all backgrounds through the arts. Our academy has had children who have been finalists on BBC1's The Greatest Dancer, performed in West End shows, and are part of the new Matilda film. We have also been the X4 Street Dance Champions and were the Special Guest Act on Flawless's UK tour. We encourage children from all backgrounds and create a family environment, fostering long-lasting friendships and memories.

What is the opportunity or issue?

Through HAPpy Camp funding we were able to secure financial support for three children to attend the school full time for a year. This has created opportunities for them to pursue their talents and education through the arts, providing them with the chance to express themselves and grow in confidence.

How have you capitalised on the opportunity and/ or overcome the issue (briefly)

We worked closely with The Hive, a community hub in Hatfield, to ensure that the funding was used effectively and efficiently. We made sure that the children attending the HAPpy Camp through the funding had access to the best education possible and the opportunity to collaborate with inspiring teachers. We are proud to deliver high quality provision so that children come back time and time again.

What has been the impact?

Our partnership with The Hive has had a significant impact on the lives of the children we serve. The three children who received funding to attend the school for a year were able to pursue their education and talents; two of them had recently come to Hertfordshire from Ukraine. Additionally, children have performed as part of DanceMania at the Grove Theatre in Dunstable. Having access to opportunities like this is testament to the positive impact that HAF is having on the lives of children, and many children have joined the academy since attending the camps to continue engaging with the arts.

How do you plan to continue to build on this for future HAF periods?

We plan to continue to build on this partnership for future HAPpy Camp phases by continuing to work closely with The Hive and identifying new opportunities for collaboration. We have learned that having a solid plan and being open to parents who have any concerns is key to the success of our programs. We now have a formula that works, but we are always open to change depending on the children who attend to constantly ensure they have positive experiences.

Top tips:

Our advice for other providers looking to establish good working relationships with new partners on the HAF programme is to ensure that they have a clear plan and are open to feedback from parents to ensure continued improvement. Collaboration between organisations is key to success, and we encourage others to seek out partnerships that can benefit their local communities.

Photos: n/a