

7. SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME REPORT

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Corporate Plan Output: Recreation Programmes and Promotion	

The purpose of this report is to inform the Community Board of school holiday programmes delivered by the Christchurch City Council Leisure Recreation and Arts Team of the Leisure Unit in the Shirley/Papanui Community Board area over the December 2000/January 2001 school holidays.

BENEFITS OF SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

School holiday programmes provide quality, safe recreation experiences for children and youth and an opportunity to relax and enjoy themselves after the long school term. Longer term, school holiday programmes teach children good leisure habits and help them to learn about the activities and groups in their local communities. Holiday programmes are also an important community service to Christchurch families, particularly working families who require care for their children.

NAMES, VENUES AND DATES OF PROGRAMMES

The Christchurch City Council Leisure Recreation and Arts Team delivered four programmes in the January school holidays. Two of the four holiday programmes were funded by Board Project Funds (Youth and Tweenagers) with the remaining two programmes funded by the Recreation and Arts Team. One further programme was subsidised by a small grant from Board Project Funds. Details of all programmes are as follows:

➤ **'The North Zone'**

Based at Casebrook Intermediate School.

One week adventure programme catering for 11 children aged 11-13 years.

All children attending came from the local community, with the majority of children coming from Casebrook Intermediate School.

The North Zone was contracted to the YMCA and subsidised by the Shirley/Papanui Community Board. The YMCA had full responsibility for the management and planning of the programme in consultation with the Community Recreation Adviser.

The Shirley/Papanui Community Board contributed \$1,786 towards the staging of this programme.

➤ **'The Youth Zone'**

Based from St Albans Community Resource Centre, with pick-ups at Shirley Community Centre.

A five day programme, held during December and January and catering for a total of 192 children aged 11-18 years.

All children attending came from the local community, with the highest percentage of children coming from St Albans (approx 70 %). The Youth Zone was contracted to St Albans Residents Association and was led by the St Albans Youth Worker. The Residents Association had full responsibility for the management of the programme which was planned by the Youth Worker in consultation with the Community Recreation Adviser.

The Shirley/Papanui Community Board contributed \$2,000 towards the staging of this programme.

➤ **'Northcote Non-Stop Fun'**

Northcote School - A one week programme for children aged 5-10 years. Due to a lack of enrolments this programme was combined with "Sockburn Supersonics" with 25 children enrolled (see "Comments" section at the end of this report). Seven of those enrolled came from Northcote school. This programme was planned and managed by the Recreation and Arts Team's Holiday Programme Manager, Vanessa Taylor.

➤ **'Belfast Bonanza'**

Belfast School - A one week programme for children aged 5-10 years.

This programme was combined with "Papanui Pirates" with 33 children enrolled. A bus was hired to transport the children from St Joseph's School in Papanui to Belfast School. All of the children came from the Shirley/Papanui area, with the majority coming from the following schools: Belfast, Papanui Primary, St Joseph's Papanui and Mairehau. This programme was planned and managed by the Recreation and Arts Team's Holiday Programme Manager, Vanessa Taylor.

➤ **'Christmas Holiday Programme'**

Kulcha Trust, Shirley. Eight day holiday programme for children 6-12 years, with 19 children enrolled. All but two of the children came from the local area. The majority of the children came from Shirley Intermediate School (7) and Hammersley Park School (6). This programme was planned and managed by Kulcha Trust in consultation with the Community Recreation Adviser. A grant of \$500 came from Board Project Funds. This was to ensure a programme in the Emmett Street area following the closure of the regular holiday programme based at St Aidan's Church Hall.

COMMENTS FROM PARENTS AND CHILDREN

Evaluation forms were distributed to parents and children on the holiday programmes, with overwhelmingly positive feedback. Parents were especially positive regarding the programme supervisors, staff, the activities provided for their children and the excellent care which their children received.

Some examples of the many comments received from parents are as follows:

"My child loves the programme."

"These programmes are just what my children need to keep them from getting bored in the holidays."

"I think the holiday programmes are excellent!"

" Please keep the prices just as they are!"

COMMENTS

The Christchurch City Council Leisure summer holiday programmes throughout the city did not show their normal high demand in terms of the number of enrolments and the short timeframe in which the programmes usually fill up. Normally some programmes are full within hours of registrations opening. However in January there were still a number places available which led to some programmes being combined, as with the with the Northcote Programme and the Belfast programme. This may be due to the long break with parents seeking alternative care or activities during this time.

All parents enrolled for the Papanui Pirates programme were informed of this change of programme and were happy with the procedure of transporting children from St Joseph's School to Belfast School each morning and returning in the afternoon. The Recreation and Arts Team is currently examining the need to provide the current number of summer holiday programmes in 2002. As a result, funding may

be diverted to providing additional programmes in the April, July and September school holiday periods.

Recommendation: That the information be received.

**Chairperson's
Recommendation:** That the officer's recommendation be adopted.