

Easter Sports Taster Sessions

Basketball 10am-12pm 10th April at Maple Drive Multisport Court and 17th April at St John's Park
Tennis 2pm-4pm 9th and 16th April at St John's Park

Budget: £600 **Breakdown:** £120 -two tennis sessions
£120 -two basketball sessions
Spent: £300 Plus 2-hour basketball session at Rock Up and Ride from separate budget

Aim: To provide free taster sport sessions to children in Burgess Hill, during the Easter holidays.

Number of waivers completed: 83

Publicity:

The event was advertised:

- An article in the Mid Sussex Times, as part of the Easter Activity PR
- On the Easter banner at the Triangle roundabout and Keymer parade
- Poster in the Help Point Window
- Event calendar
- Press release in advance
- Shared with all local schools
- All noticeboards in the town
- On the Town Council website
- Event notification via Mailchimp
- Several posts on the Town Council Facebook
- Graphic in the March About Town
- Nationwide noticeboard

Event breakdown: Parents/carers were asked to complete a waiver ahead of attending the sessions, via our website, which asked for photo permission and if the child had any medical or special educational needs, as well as their age. The sessions were 2 hours long but the length of time children played for was managed on the day, depending on how many children attended.

Basketball took place twice at Maple Drive multisport court and once at St John's Park, both tennis sessions took place at St John's Park tennis court.

Feedback:

We created a QR code which is available at the events to scan as well as in notice boards afterwards. The code is linked to a Google form which we can keep adding events to without changing the code itself. The form simply asks what event you have attended, *'what went well'*, *'it would be even better if...'* and *'if the event you attended required you to book in advance, how did you find the process?'*

Here are some of the responses received for this event;

What went well?

- Inclusion of the children, my son was particularly nervous without a friend but the team were happy for parental joining in too :-)
- Daughter enjoyed the session. Easy to get involved, fun activities and well run by the coaches. Good to have something put on for free for child to get active.
- My two boys really enjoyed both sessions. They were well run and fun.
- Really enjoyable session. My daughter has done a bit of basketball at our local park, but never had any coaching before. This was a great tester for her, which she really enjoyed.
- Fantastic basketball sessions for the children. Brilliant coach, Zaire, had the children all joining in and having fun while learning. Well organised and my son thoroughly enjoyed himself. Thank you.

- How it was organised.
- Kids loved the tennis
- Team games
- Great coach really welcoming boys enjoyed it
- Everything! My little boy loved both sessions.

It would be even better if..

- This was our first event and it worked really well, the information re the waiver made sense and we were happy to swap in / out if needed
- N/a- great session from a fun coach
- To run the basketball again
- A larger area for basketball
- Very happy with format of coaching session
- Don't think there was anything else you could found do better.
- more bouncing
- N/A
- It lasted for longer!
- N/A

If the event you attended required you to book in advance, how did you find the process?

- No booking as such, just the waiver. Really easy and relaxed way of booking it as I was worried my son wouldn't want to join in and another child would miss out if that had been the case.
- Signed waiver in advance, but it was based on attendance in the day
- Very easy
- The booking process was easy.
- Signing up via the waiver was easy enough
- Easy and simple to book
- N/a
- no problems
- Easy
- Easy and simple

Evaluation:

We had an issue with our basketball provider cancelling at last minute but Valentina managed to find a replacement quickly, which meant the sessions could still go ahead.

Both providers were easy to work with and people commented on how good they though the sessions were. We will be looking to book both for the summer holidays.

The waiver proved a good way of taking 'bookings' as we did have a large number of no shows, it allowed other children to make use of the time, rather than having half empty sessions as we did in the summer. For example, we had 48 who completed the waiver and only 20 turned up, this is a clear demonstration that the waiver works.

Last Easter it was just drop in and this meant we had no photo permissions ahead of time, or an idea of how many people were even interested in coming. The waiver meant we had information in advance, including photo permissions, and therefore the sessions did not need two members of staff to attend and oversee.

In regards to no shows; this is always expected with free events and I would surmise that many people made use of the unseasonably good weather and headed for longer days out. The sessions were still busy though, as we used the waiver rather than bookings. There is little we can do to make sure people show up as we send out reminders, minus making people pay for sessions but then people who can not to afford to pay (our target audience) will likely not be able to take part.

Overall, the sessions were busy, everyone had a great time, and it is clearly a better system using the waiver then people just showing up or making actual bookings. The waiver also was completed by people themselves and didn't majorly increase the work load for the Help Point.

Kayleigh Elliott-Davidson
Events, Communication and Administration Officer
24/4/2025

Photos of sessions



Easter fun events in Burgess Hill keep children and young people busy

By Julie Holden
Contributor

Children and young people were kept busy this Easter holidays with free events in Burgess Hill!

The Easter Trail proved popular with nearly 300 children completing the trail across the holiday period. 22 local businesses got involved displaying items from Bunny's lost items, for the children to find. All the children received a book when they returned their map and three children, Niamh, Sebastian and Nakshatra, won the main prize of a soft toy (Framble and his two friends) and an Easter egg!

There were taster sport sessions to join with qualified coach, Zaire Taylor, from Worthing Thunder teaching basketball skills and Jimmy Smith and his team, from Exocore Tennis teaching tennis skills. A large number of children attended the 5 sessions over the holidays and picked up new skills!

Over 50 Children visited the Kiln for Easter bonnet making with the Burgess Hill Creative Community on Monday 14th. The children then paraded from the Kiln and headed on a loop around Church Walk, so the children could show off their wonderful creations! After all the hard work the children tucked into a yummy picnic back at the Kiln!

On Tuesday 8 coach Niki, from Gosport BMX had children and young people (even the teenagers!!) fully engaged during the Rock Up and Ride coaching sessions. They learnt how to use the track better and make their jumps higher, whilst DJ Matt blared out the best tunes!

38 families attended the Family Fun Sessions, for families of children with SEND on Monday 7. Children enjoyed a whole range of activities including graffiti art with Tom on inflatable assault course and the Hot Wheel tracks from WOW Sussex. They also enjoyed story time with author Julie Aileen McDonald and learnt sign language with Makaton Jenny. There were also several organisations attending with information for families.

If you attended, we would love to hear your feedback as it helps us plan future



Coach Niki at the Rock Up and Ride event. SUBMITTED



Children at the tennis session at St. John's Park. SUBMITTED



Children enjoying the track at Rock Up and Ride event. SUBMITTED



Coach Jenny with children at the tennis session at St. John's Park. SUBMITTED



Graffiti art at the family fun sessions. SUBMITTED

event. Please complete the Google form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/FAIpQLSeNFLkvwLIVhy6Xu6V4LnZWzW0UkCxbAbbqzMIpKLIQYLQ/viewform> Missed out on all the wonderful events!! Sign up

our mailing list and you will be emailed directly about events organised by us: <https://www.burgesshill.gov.uk/town-community/town-events/events-mailing-list/> The Family Fun Sessions were sponsored by The Bud-

ding Foundation and co-organised by Burgess Hill Town Council and The King's Church. Rock up and Ride was funded by The Mid Sussex Partnership, and organised by Burgess Hill Town Council in coordination with

Gosport BMX and Respect Youth Club. The Easter bonnet making was planned and run in association with The Burgess Hill Creative Community, Burgess Hill Town Council and Central Sussex Rotary, with donations from

Burgess Hill Yambombers and sandwiches donated by The Mustard Seed Cafe. The sports sessions and Easter trail were funded and organized by Burgess Hill Town Council. Our thanks goes to the



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