

Manchester Communication Academy

Summer Holiday Programme Report 2021



with you, for you, about you.

Summary

During the summer of 2021 we ran a successful holiday programme for 4 weeks which engaged over 400 different children, with an average of 151 attendees per day. The ages of students ranged from 8 years old up to 14 years old, with 25% of the children being incoming Year 7 students.

A wide range of activities was offered to children, delivered by a diverse delivery team of highly skilled MCA staff and external providers, including Mad Theatre (a local theatre company), multi-sports coaches including from local Boxing and football clubs and arts and crafts specialist staff/volunteers from Audacious Church. MCA staff provided fun educational based sessions in literacy, numeracy, STEM and food. These sessions were ably supported by our summer programme assistants that were made up of 6 MCA school leavers from 2015-2018.

The programme was designed to ensure all students took part in a different activity each morning and afternoon. Each session lasted 1 hour 20 minutes. We split the students up in three different main groups which were years 3/4/5 students, year 6 students and year 7 and above students and then we split each main group into smaller groups for sessions. The year 6 students (incoming year 7) were therefore able to secure friendships that continue right the way through their upcoming MCA journey.

All students were offered a free breakfast from 9:30am-10:00am and also a free hot/cold lunch every day. The cold meal option was made up of a sandwich, snack, fruit and juice. This was provided by Audacious Church. The hot meal option was provided by our catering team and was a nutritional option including a variety of pasta and rice dishes.

Week 1

We began the start of the summer programme by welcoming an average of 180 students each day. 90 children were a mix of year 3/4/5 students, 62 were incoming year 7 students and 28 students were from year 7 and above. One of our main focuses during the summer was to have as many incoming year 7 students attend as possible as due to covid-19 restrictions they did not have a normal transition experience. During the first week 62 Incoming year 7 students came to the programme.

We started the week off with a range of activities and each student took part in every activity at least once. We completed the first week with every single student receiving a free ice cream and also with our first summer programme awards afternoon where Councillor Pat Karney and Councillor Green came and awarded medals to every single students and also helped to present trophies to our 11 superstars of the week.



Week 2

We kick started week two with fresh faces whether that be students or members of staff. On average 166 students attended the programme each day and the range of activities continued. During this week, staff from Metrolink came in to speak to students from year 6 and above and ran interactive sessions on the positives of using the metrolink and the importance of being safe whilst using the services provided by Metrolink.

All students took part in many other activities throughout the week which included cooking curry and rice, playing various types of sports in physical activity sessions and taking part in English lessons which involved the students designing their own comic books. During science lessons the students took part in a zombie themed activity.

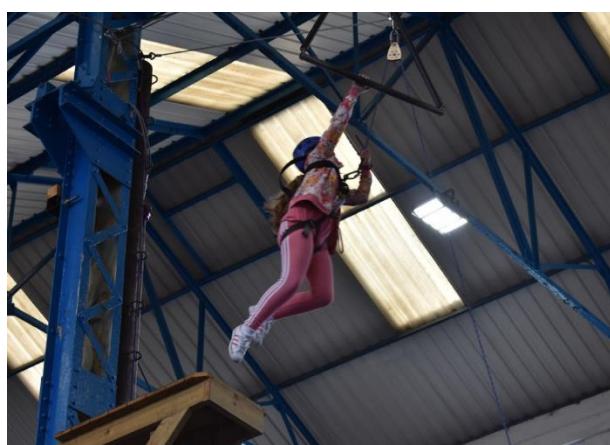
The week ended in an awards afternoon and free ice cream for all students.



Week 3

During Week 3 we welcomed an average of 138 students for the week. The weather wasn't on our side during this week so we had to improvise and use different parts of the building to keep children engaged and active during our physical activity sessions. On Friday, 61 students from year 6 and above were rewarded with a trip to Challenge 4 Change for 100% attendance across the first 2 weeks of the summer programme. Challenge 4 Change is an activity centre where students go and put their skills to the test by trying activities such as wall climbing, tyre pit games and completing the leap of faith of high beams.

Back at school, the younger students who stayed on site took part in a sports day where they completed 10 different activities in teams to see who came out on top in our very first summer programme sports day.



Week 4

On our final week of the summer programme we welcomed an average of 120 students each day. The range of activities continued to vary from baking cakes in cooking, script writing in English and exciting number challenges in Maths. With it being our final week we gave out numerous prizes including amazon gift cards to students as well as our weekly medals and trophies to our superstars of the week.

On Friday another 55 students from year 6 and above went to Challenge 4 Change whilst our younger students had another chance at competing in teams against each other at our MCA sports day.

To close our summer programme, we had a children's entertainer in to help celebrate with lots of fun games, singing and dancing.

Overall, it was an incredibly successful 4 week summer programme and all students and parents/carers went home happy and well prepared for their return to school in September.



Numbers and demographic information

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Y3/4/5 - 90	Y3/4/5 - 71	Y3/4/5 - 68	Y3/4/5 - 51
Y6 - 62	Y6 - 70	Y6 - 50	Y6 - 49
Y7 and above - 28	Y7 and above - 25	Y7 and above - 20	Y7 and above - 20
180	166	138	120

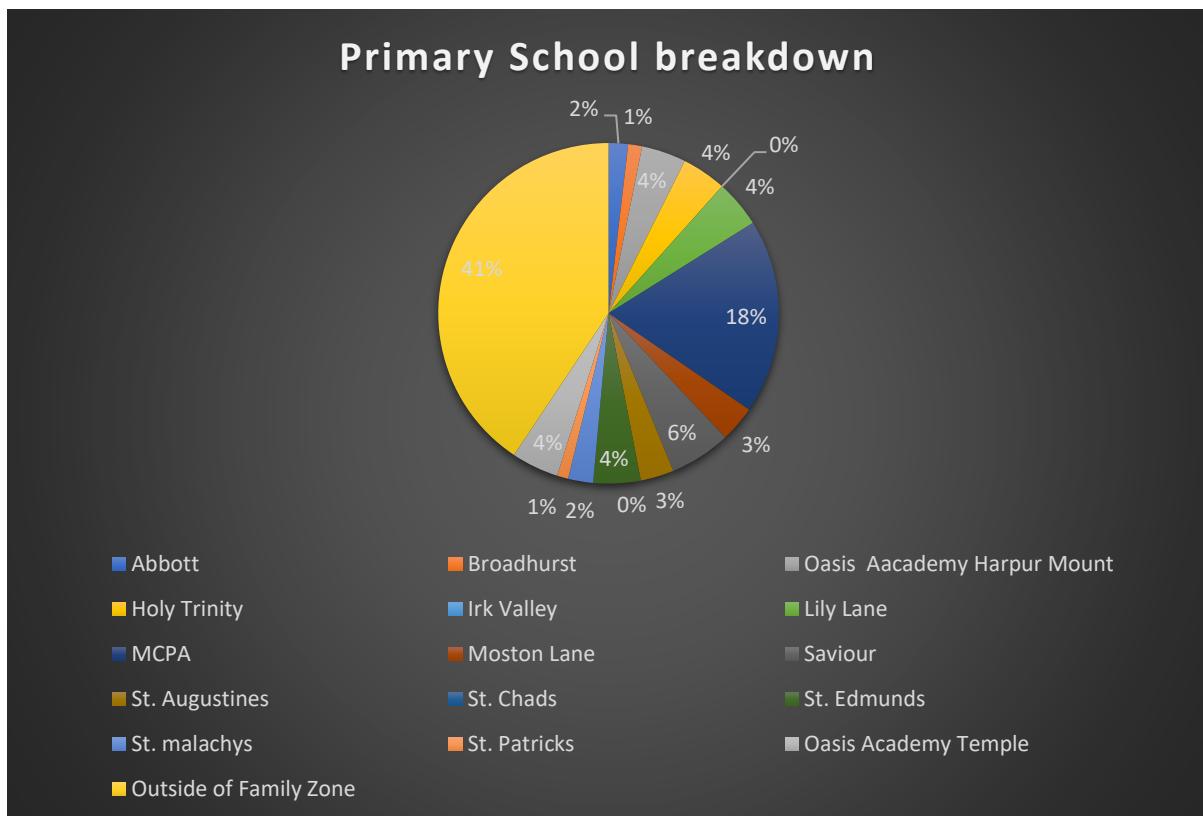
Total number of unique participants across the 4 weeks – 379

Total number of participants eligible for free school meals – 330

Gender	Number
Female	208
Male	171

Ethnicity	Number
White	169
Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups	75
Asian/Asian British	58
Black/African/Caribbean/Black British	62
Other ethnic group	15

Primary School breakdown



Key points

- Our highest cohort of children came from outside our family zone schools.
- 18% which was our second highest cohort came from MCBA.
- A mix of all other participants came from other family zone schools.

Parent/Child feedback

'This programme has made my child come out of her shell and has joined the drama club there on Saturday morning'

'I think we all really appreciate and enjoyed the holiday programme because my son was very happy as they do lots of activities and it gave me more flexibility to do a lot of things as well Yes it was a great experience and I will love to do it again. Thank you.'

'My child really enjoyed this camp - came home every day telling me about cooking and sports etc. He smiled and it kept him active and away from his Xbox. It made a working mums life that little bit easier and I can't thank you enough. I never got chance to personally drop off or collect due to working but thank you - giving up your summer is amazing! Axon spoke about Anthony a lot so thank you to you - keep being amazing'

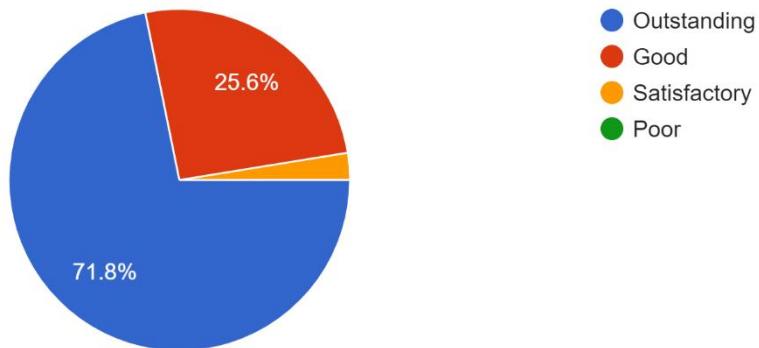
'Many families rely on MCA and the affordability is a God send.'

'The summer programme was fantastic! My little girl loved it! She didn't know anyone before she attended and she was made to feel very welcome. The staff were fantastic! Anthony was brilliant - his communication was fantastic with parents and students and the children were made to feel comfortable and proud of themselves at the end of the week. My little girl came home each day buzzing - excited to go the following day! Thanks so much for making her summer amazing! She really loved it and hopefully she will be able to attend future holiday camps! As a result, she wants to go to MCA high school!'

Please give your thoughts of the whole holiday club?

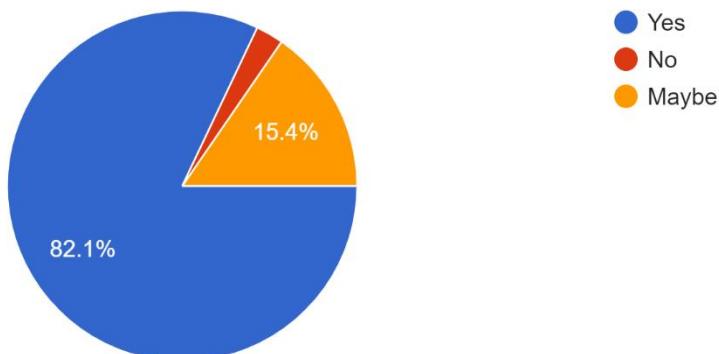
How would you rate your child's enjoyment on MCA holiday programme?

78 responses



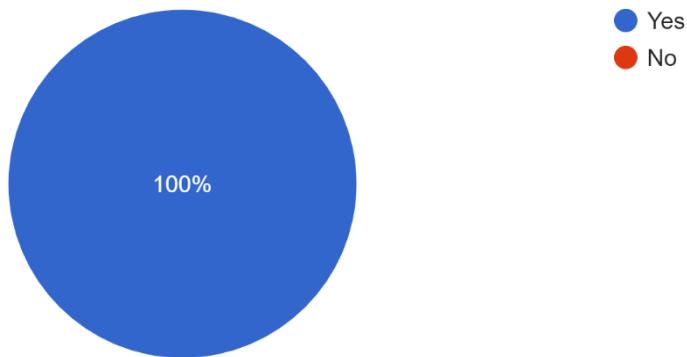
Did your child/children feel that there was enough variety within their club?

78 responses



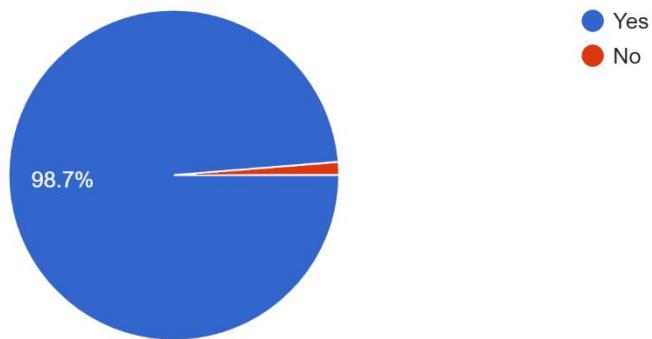
Would you recommend the holiday programme to friends and family?

78 responses



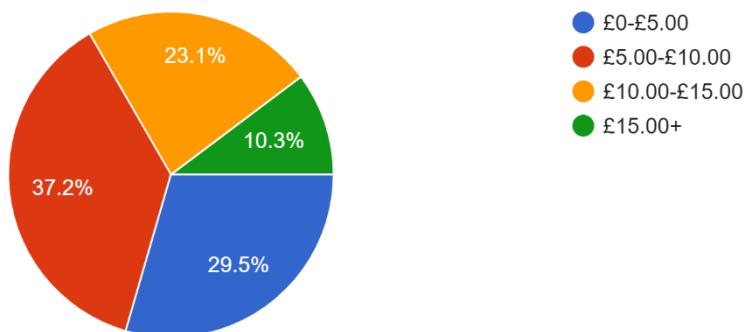
Would you send your child again to the next holiday programme?

78 responses



This year, the summer programme was free of charge. If there was a cost to future holiday programmes, how much would you be willing to pay per week?

78 responses



This programme was made possible thanks to;

Funding from;

Department for Education – Summer School Funding

Manchester City Council – HAF Funding

Sponsorship from;

Hilary Vaughan Associates LTD