Out of School Care
What is an out of school club?

An out of school club offers care and play for school aged children at times when school is closed.

A typical club opens from 3.30pm -6.00pm during term-time. A ‘breakfast club’ provides care before school starts. Some open all day during school holidays.

Clubs take place in settings such as schools, community centres and day nurseries. Children attend out of school clubs for many reasons – their parents are at work or college, or they may go just for fun.

What is a holiday playscheme?

Holiday playschemes offer play, activities and outings for children during the school holidays. Some will be open from 8.00am- 6.00pm and others will offer part-time hours.

Do out of school clubs and holiday playschemes have to register?

Some will be registered with Ofsted and some will be exempt from registration. Contact the Children and Families Information Service to find out more. Registered clubs are visited by the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted). An inspector will make sure it is a suitable environment for children and checks are carried out on the people who work there.
How much do they charge?

Charges vary – contact the Children and Families Information Service or speak to the provider.

How do I find an out of school club or holiday playscheme?

Contact the Children and Families Information Service.

How do I choose?

Telephone the club to find out if they have any places. Visit them to speak to staff and discuss your circumstances. Consider the following:

- Do they collect from your child’s school if they are not based there?
- Are entrances and exits secure?
- What activities are available?
- Does each child fill in a registration form on arrival?
- Is a snack provided?
- What happens if you are late picking up your child?
- Are the staff trained in first aid?
- Is there a quiet area where children can chill out?

You can download their most recent Ofsted Inspection Report from the Ofsted website at www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report

What if there are no holiday playschemes or out of school clubs in my area?

A registered childminder may offer before and after school care and some will look after children during school holidays. You could also employ a nanny or parent’s help.
For more information please contact:

Children and Families Information Service,
Children and Families Services, Cumbria House,
117 Botchergate, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA1 1RD

T: 03457 125 737
E: childrens.information@cumbria.gov.uk
www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/childrenandfamilies/cfis.asp

If you require this document in another format (eg CD, audio cassette, Braille or large type) or in another language, please telephone 01228 606060.

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Se quiser aceder a esta informação na sua língua, telefone para o 01228 606060

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