

TOWNER

ROLE: Artist (HAF) – Freelance

PROGRAMME: Holiday Activities and Food

ABOUT HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD

The Holiday Activities and Food programme is a government-funded initiative to provide enriching activities and nutritious meals for children and young people on benefits-related free school meals.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

Following the success of Towner's 2022, 2024 and 2025 artist-led HAF programmes; [Sewing the Seed](#), [A World We Can Live In](#) and [Tide Tables](#) which supported over 350 young people with artist-led activities, we are aiming to provide sessions for participants eligible for free school meals this Summer in a safe, supported, and creative environment. The programme offers participants (age 7 – 14 years) the opportunity to develop creative confidence alongside a nutritional meal outside of the school term.

Sessions will be led by an experienced artist with an interest in the ecological and heritage themes around Sussex, inclusive practice and the intergenerational, social bonds that develop through creative play and non-outcome focused making. The artist will also work with biodegradable, natural or reused materials where possible, in line with Towner's approach as an Active Member of the Gallery Climate Coalition.

These themes respond to Towner's Learning Strategy and will feed into the future programme of our new site on the South Downs.

This year Towner will host four open sessions and two specialist SEN sessions with higher adult to child ratios. Our studio will open over weekend to showcase the collaboration between artist and participants inviting visitors to learn more about the programme.

ABOUT THE ROLE

Towner Eastbourne is seeking an experienced artist to develop our next HAF Summer offer. The artist will lead in designing and delivering creative engagement for children eligible for free school meals. Their caregivers and siblings also have the option to join sessions.*

Through this three-week project, the artist will co-develop workshops, drawing on their socially engaged practice to provide creative sessions that interpret the themes outlined above and promote curiosity, play and inclusion. The artist will be invited to explore the gallery's arts store and eclectic heritage collection as part of the research and planning process.

The project will support participants in engaging with new creative experiences in Towner's ground floor studio and outdoor spaces.

The artist will be invited to co-design an open-studio space with participants. The space will be open to the public over the weekends across August, introducing the project to a wider audience.

The artist will be supported by Towner's Learning team, and two Play Workers in sessions.

Delivery will take place in August 2026.

RATES OF PAY

- Full-day Planning, Preparation and Research - £150 per session
- Full-day Delivery - £300 per session

Total fee: £2,700 (6 x Full Days Planning + 6 x Full Days Delivery)

ACCESS BUDGET

Towner Eastbourne has a budget to cover access support for artists and audiences we work with. The artist invited to take part in the programme will be able to indicate whether they have access needs, and discuss their support over the course of this project.

ABOUT YOU

- Work in response to the needs and interests of the people you work with

- Have experience of developing activities for young people with additional support needs and groups who traditionally do not engage with or visit the gallery
- Have experience of creating a welcoming, friendly, safe and playful environment and activities for participants and support staff
- Have the ability to adapt sessions to meet the needs of participants
- Are able to support children and caregivers to engage in activities which develop their creative confidence, bringing in new materials, references, techniques and ideas
- Uses or is able to adapt to environmentally conscious materials and processes
- Have experience of working/delivering in studio and outdoor settings
- Are based in Sussex or able to commute to Eastbourne regularly
- Are available on Wednesdays and Thursdays 5 - 21 August 2026
- Have a knowledge of safeguarding best practice
- Have an Enhanced DBS certificate or are willing to obtain one

Towner is committed to promoting a diverse and inclusive workplace, we strive to ensure that opportunities to work at Towner are open to all. We particularly encourage applications from backgrounds currently underrepresented in galleries and museums including those from Global Majority heritage, working class backgrounds, and those who identify as disabled.

CONTACT

Mollie Howells, Learning Curator: Children and Young People

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HOW TO APPLY

Fill in our online form or submit an audio/film application via wetransfer to the email above answering the questions in the application (no more than 5 minutes).

Please contact Mollie if you have any issues accessing the form or have any questions about the programme or role.

[APPLICATION FORM](#)

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Monday 25 May, 5pm

INTERVIEWS

Week commencing Monday 1 June, please indicate your availability on the application form.

* The HAF Programme does not mandate that caregivers must be present during workshops. While we encourage caregivers and families to attend workshops, Towner will only insist that they do so if it is of marked benefit to the young person and/or wider group.