

Cannock Chase Can

KIDS CLUB



Summer Festival | 2026



FREE FUN
ACROSS CANNOCK CHASE

Cannock
Chase



The Cannock Chase Can team is hitting the road this summer - bringing **six weeks of free activities**, creativity, movement, and family fun to communities across the district. Every week, you'll find us in a different location with **arts and crafts, sporting games, gardening, nature activities, family challenges**, and special appearances from **Pep the Poet**.

There are lots of great activities right on your doorstep. Why not get out and give them a go?



As well as all the fun happening at our festival events, families can enjoy lots more feel-good challenges on the **Cannock Chase Can App** - from tasty cooking ideas and fun movement activities to calming mindfulness moments and outdoor nature adventures.



Explore more on the Cannock Chase Can App. The festival is just the beginning.

Cannock Chase Can is a district wide health and wellbeing initiative designed to help people of all ages feel healthier, happier, and more connected. It brings together **local activities, community support**, and **fun wellbeing challenges** that families can complete at home, outdoors, or while exploring Cannock Chase.



The app is free to use and helps families:

- Discover local events and activities
- Complete fun wellbeing challenges
- Earn badges and rewards
- Track progress as a family
- Learn new skills in cooking, movement, creativity, nature, and mindfulness
- Connect with local services

It's a simple, positive way to build healthy habits together - one small step at a time.



Family challenges to try on the App...

Alongside the Summer Festival events, the Cannock Chase Can App is packed with family friendly challenges you can enjoy throughout the holidays.

Try challenges like:

- **Family Nature Bingo** - explore your local green spaces
- **5 Minute Gardeners** - quick planting and growing tasks
- **Kitchen Creations** - cook simple meals together
- **Mindful Moments** - calm, creative wellbeing activities
- **Mini Movers** - fun movement challenges for all ages
- **Chase Creatures Trail** - an outdoor adventure to find the hidden creatures living on Cannock Chase.



Download the app to unlock badges, track your progress, and discover even more ways to feel good as a family.

Cannock Chase Can Kids Festival Programme

WEEK 1

 **Wed 22 July**

 **Cannock Community Allotments & Wright's Avenue Play Area**

 **1pm - 4pm**

A double location day full of gardening, nature, and outdoor play.

- Grow you own corner
- Outdoor arts and crafts
- Play park games
- Pep the Poet performing among the allotments

 **Thu 23 July** |  **Brereton Library** |  **1pm - 4pm**

A celebration of stories, imagination, and creativity.

- Storytime adventures
- Make your own bookmark
- Quiet craft corner
- Pep the Poet hosting a mini poetry workshop

WEEK 2

 **Wed 29 July** |  **Norton Canes Community Centre**

 **1pm - 4pm**

A pop up creative afternoon packed with hands on activities.

- Big summer craft table and family challenge games
- Nature activities
- Pep the Poet bringing laughter and rhyme

WEEK 3

 **Wed 5 Aug** |  **Oxford Rd Play Area, Rumer Hill** |  **1pm - 4pm**

A lively afternoon of movement, games, and outdoor fun.

- Sports and skills zone
- Playground arts and crafts
- Nature adventures
- Pep the Poet with his poetry workshop

WEEK 4

 **Wed 12 Aug** |  **Laburnum Avenue Play Area** |  **1pm - 4pm**

A nature themed afternoon perfect for curious explorers.

- Bug hunt explorers and leaf / bark rubbing art
- Tales of Laburnum Avenue AR Trail
- Pep the Poet sharing outdoor poetry

WEEK 5

 **Wed 19 Aug** |  **Holyoake Place, Rugeley** |  **1pm - 4pm**

A summer celebration packed with creativity, movement and family fun.

- Craft and create zone
- Team games
- Nature scavenger hunt
- Pep the Poet performing live

WEEK 6

 **Wed 26 Aug** |  **Cannock Stadium** |  **1pm - 4pm**

The big summer finale! A celebration of creativity and community.

- Sports
- Festival arts and crafts table
- Learn to ride challenges
- Pep the Poet with a special performance



Summer activities across Cannock Chase

Alongside the Cannock Chase Can Kids Club Summer Festival, there are lots of brilliant activities taking place across the district. Use this section to discover what's happening locally. These activities are perfect for families looking to explore, play, learn, and enjoy time together.

Staffordshire Reading Challenge Launch Party

 **Sat 4 July** |  **Cannock Library** |  **10.30am - 4pm** |  **FREE**

Celebrate the start of the Summer Reading Challenge 2026! They'll be crafts, games and Lego all day as well as a story time at 10.30am. Find out more about this challenge on page 16

Organiser: **Cannock Library**

Jungle Boogie

 **Sat 11 July** |  **Cannock Library** |  **10.30am - 11.30am**

 **£1 per child**

Read to the beat at Cannock Library. Suitable for ages 2+. Booking essential.

Organiser: **Cannock Library**

Interactive Story Time

 **Sat 14 July** |  **Cannock Library** |  **10.30am - 11.30am**

 **FREE**

Interactive Story Time is a FREE story session with interactive and sensory elements, best suited for children aged 3+ however, younger children are welcome.

Organiser: **Cannock Library**

Launch of Cannock Park Heritage Trail

 Mon 20 July |  Cannock Park |  1pm - 3pm |  FREE

Organiser: Cannock Chase Council

Heath Hayes Fun Day

 Mon 20 July |  Heath Hayes Park |  11am - 2pm |  FREE

Organiser: Friends of Heath Hayes Park

Clay Crafts

 Wed 22 July |  Cannock Library |  10.30am - 11.30am
 FREE

Get stuck into some FREE clay crafts at Cannock Library! Suitable for ages 6+. Booking essential.

Organiser: Cannock Library

Butterfly Survey & Walk

 Thurs 23 July |  Mill Green Local Nature Reserve
 10am - 12noon |  FREE

Organiser: Cannock Chase Council

Love Parks Week

 Fri 24 July - Sun 2 Aug |   Range of times & locations |  FREE

See further information on page 14

Organiser: Cannock Chase Council & Keep Britain Tidy

Robot Junk Modelling

 Mon 27 July |  Cannock Library |  10.30am - 11.30am
 £1 per child

Put your making skills to the test and create your very own robot using recycled materials. Use what the library has or bring your own recycling from home! Suitable for ages 6+. Booking essential.

Organiser: Cannock Library

Heath Hayes Fun Day

 Mon 27 July |  Heath Hayes Park |  11am - 2pm |  FREE

Organiser: Friends of Heath Hayes Park

Heath Week - Drop In Day

 Fri 31 July |  Cannock Chase Visitors Centre - Marquis Drive
 11am - 3pm |  FREE

A fun day for people of all ages, celebrating Heathlands. There will be a range of stands and activities all related to Heathland. Try your hand at catching a Chase Creature, listen to heathland stories, face painting and much more!

Organiser: Cannock Chase SAC Partnership

Butterfly Survey & Walk

 Tue 4 Aug |  Mill Green Local Nature Reserve |  1pm - 2pm
 FREE

Organiser: Cannock Chase Council

I Can Only Draw Worms

📅 Fri 7 Aug | 📍 Cannock Library | ⌚ 10.30am - 11.30am

£ £1 per child

A special interactive story and craft session all about wiggly worms! Suitable for 3+. Booking essential.

Organiser: **Cannock Library**

Hednesford Festival

📅 Sat 8 Aug | 📍 Hednesford Park | ⌚ 11am - 4pm | £ FREE

Organiser: **Hednesford in Partnership**

Hoglets

📅 Fri 14 Aug | 📍 Cannock Library | ⌚ 10.30am - 11.30am

£ FREE

Andy from Hoglets Wildlife Education will be visiting us with a very special guest! A perfect session for young animal lovers. Booking essential.

Organiser: **Cannock Library**

Interactive Story Time

📅 Sat 15 Aug | 📍 Cannock Library | ⌚ 10.30am - 11.30am

£ FREE

Interactive Story Time is a FREE story session with interactive and sensory elements, best suited for children aged 3+ however, younger children are welcome. No booking needed, just drop in!

Organiser: **Cannock Library**

Summer Fair

📅 Sun 16 Aug | 📍 Cannock Chase Visitors Centre, Marquis Drive

⌚ 10am - 3pm | £ FREE

Organiser: **Cannock Chase SAC Partnership**

Heath Hayes Fun Day

📅 Mon 17 Aug | 📍 Heath Hayes Park | ⌚ 11am - 2pm | £ FREE

Organiser: **Friends of Heath Hayes Park**

Summer Fun Day

📅 Tue 18 Aug | 📍 Heath Hayes Park | ⌚ 10am - 1pm | £ FREE

Come along to this summer fun day, where children can enjoy a variety of games and activities, and parents/carers can access useful information and support.

Organiser: **Cannock Chase Family Hub**

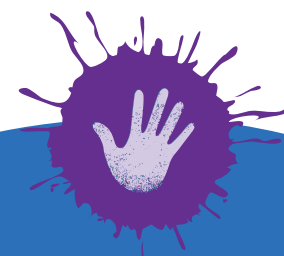
Clay Crafts

📅 Wed 19 Aug | 📍 Cannock Library | ⌚ 10.30am - 11.30am

£ FREE

Get stuck into some FREE clay crafts at Cannock Library! Suitable for ages 6+. Booking essential.

Organiser: **Cannock Library**



Summer Baby Bounce and Rhyme

 Thu 20 Aug |  Cannock Library |  10.30am - 11.30am

 FREE

A special summer edition of Baby Bounce and Rhyme! Join us for our singing and nursery rhyme session. No need to book.

Organiser: **Cannock Library**

Heath Hayes Fun Day

 Mon 24 Aug |  Heath Hayes Park |  11am - 2pm |  FREE

Organiser: **Friends of Heath Hayes Park**

Music in Nature

 Tue 25 Aug |  Cannock Library |  10am - 12.30pm |  FREE

Party activities in Hednesford Park

Wildlife activity walk from Hednesford Library to Hednesford Park.

Organiser: **Cannock Chase Council & Hednesford Library**

Summer Craft & Chat

 Thu 27 Aug |  Cannock Library |  10am - 1pm |  FREE

Cannock Chase Family Hub

Come along for some fun crafts like weaving a pot, sow and grow, breathing wands, mindfulness colouring and making a sunshine dream catcher.

Organiser: **MPFT - NHS**

Chase Creature Trail Summer Event

 Fri 28 Aug |  Marquis Drive John O'Leary Centre

 1pm - 3pm |  FREE

Organiser: **Cannock Chase Council & Cannock Chase SAC Partnership**

Beach Party

 Sat 29 Aug |  Cannock Library |  10.30am - 11.30am

 £1 per child

Bringing the beach to Cannock! Visit Cannock Library for a fun and sensory beach party filled with stories, games and crafts. Booking essential. Suitable for ages 3+.

Organiser: **Cannock Library**





Event Programme | 24 Jul - 2 Aug 2026

Bee Walk & Activities

Fri 24 July | 10am - 2pm

Elmore Park, (by Pets Corner), Crossley Stone WS12 2DQ

Launch of Heath Week Activities

Mon 27 July | 11am - 2pm

Heath Hayes Park, Wimblebury Road WS12 2EW (car park end)

Heath Week Activities

Tue 28 July | 11am - 2pm

Cannock Park, Park Road WS11 1 NZ (meet at the Pavillion)

Hednesford Hills Heath Week Walk

Thu 30 July & Sat 1 Aug | 10am - 11.30am

Hednesford Hills. Limited spaces - booking essential.

Visit www.cannockchasedc.gov.uk/heathweek to find out more

Heath Week Activities

Thu 30 July & Sat 1 Aug | 1 - 4pm

Hednesford Park Pavilion, Hednesford Park, Rugeley Road WS12 1TB

Nature Activities/ Bee Walk

Fri 31 July | 10am - 2pm

Ravenhill Park, Main Road, Brereton WS15 1 DU (next to parish council building)



Other Useful Information

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme enables local authorities in England to deliver inclusive, enriching activities including a hot meal (where possible) over the school holidays. Eligible children and young people can book up to 16 free places throughout the summer holidays. The Staffordshire HAF programme will run at various locations in local areas starting from **Monday 20 July** until **Monday 31 August 2026**.

It is funded for children and young people aged **5 - 16 years** who receive benefit related free school meals.



How do parents/carers book?

All eligible parents and carers will receive an email or letter from Staffordshire County Council containing their child's individual HAF code.

Booking steps

- 1 Browse activities in advance:** Activities are visible online before bookings open: www.staffordshire.gov.uk/holidayactivities
- 2 Book online:** When bookings open, a 'Book Now' button will appear on the HAF booking page of the county council website.
- 3 Create an account:** Parents/carers will need to register an account via the booking platform on the website.
- 4 Have your HAF code ready:** They will need their child's HAF code to book their chosen activities.

HAF Teen Offer

A range of activities exclusively for young people aged 11 to 16 who are eligible for benefit-related free school meals are also available on our HAF programme. As well as fun activities, teenagers can also take part in development opportunities such as football coaching.*

The Summer Reading Challenge is here!

Get ready for Summer Reading Challenge 2026, 'Read to the Beat', delivered by The Reading Agency in partnership with public libraries and powered by Universal Music Group UK.

The theme inspires children to explore the connection between stories and songs, discovering how reading and music both ignite imagination and creativity.

This year's challenge is brought to life with illustrations by award-winning author and illustrator, Harry Woodgate.

Children aged 4-11 are invited to set a reading goal and collect rewards for their reading.

In addition, we will also be offering the **Mini-Challenge** for pre-school aged children from our libraries. The Mini Challenge is a bite sized version of the Summer Reading Challenge for our youngest readers. Children collect stickers on a special collector card for the books they borrow and read.



Staffordshire Libraries

This summer, the voluntary-led libraries across Cannock Chase District - including **Hednesford Library, Rugeley Library, Heath Hayes Library, Norton Canes Library, and Brereton Library** - are offering a welcoming space for the community to learn, read, and take part in a variety of activities. From children's story sessions and reading challenges to craft activities and community groups, there's something for all ages to enjoy during the holidays.

These libraries play an important role in bringing people together and providing access to books, resources, and friendly support.



To find out more about what's on, opening times, and how to get involved, visit your local library or check their social media pages and community websites for the latest updates.

SPACE Programme

The SPACE programme (Staffordshire Parents and Carers Empowerment) offers a wide range of support, activities, and short breaks for children and young people with additional needs and their families.

Designed to help families stay active, build confidence, and connect with others, the programme provides a varied summer offer including fun activities, trips, and opportunities to try something new in a supportive environment. It's a great way for families to access inclusive experiences and make the most of the school holidays.



To find out more about what's on this summer across Cannock Chase District and how to access the programme, visit the website at <https://staffordshirespace.uk>

Tanglewood

Tanglewood will be running **5 FREE Wild Wednesday Family Fun sessions** for children 4 to 11 at Marquis Drive from 10.30am to 12noon from Wednesday 29 July and every Wednesday after.

Each session will focus on a different theme each week including survival, fairies and dragons and animal antics.

Contact: **Carol** on **07752655137** or **Tanglewood Days** on **Facebook** for more details or to book.

West Chadsmoor Family Centre

West Chadsmoor Family Centre is a welcoming community hub dedicated to supporting families with a range of activities, advice, and opportunities to connect. This summer, the centre is offering a fun-filled programme of activities for children and parents alike, designed to bring the community together.

Whether you're looking to keep the kids active or meet other local families, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

To find out more about upcoming activities and how to get involved, visit the **West Chadsmoor Family Centre Facebook page**, or contact the centre directly on **01543 571698** for further information.

Vysions Youth Service

Vysions Youth Service offers a vibrant programme of activities for children and young people, based at Brereton Community Hub and Lea Hall Social Club. Their summer programme is packed with exciting opportunities, including a toddler group and youth group, creating inclusive spaces for different age groups to connect and enjoy activities together.

Sessions take place at various times, please enquire for details. To find out more or register your interest, email **vysionsyouthservices@gmail.com**.

Local Parks

There's so much to explore - from story walks and sports to arts and crafts and more! Why not check out some of our fantastic new and improved play areas, including Flaxley Road, Laburnum Avenue, Wellington Drive, and Barnard Way - perfect for sunny days and active adventures!

Exciting activities will also be popping up in Cannock Park, Hednesford Park and Heath Hayes Park over the summer holidays.

- Plus, don't miss the new skate park and learn to ride area at Cannock Stadium Park - great for kids (and grown-ups!) to test out their wheels.

Everyone Active - Local Leisure Offer

This summer, Everyone Active is offering a wide range of leisure activities across Cannock Chase District, giving residents plenty of ways to stay active and have fun. At venues including Chase Leisure Centre and Rugeley Leisure Centre, families and individuals can enjoy swimming sessions, gym access, fitness classes, and holiday activities designed especially for children and young people. From casual family swims to structured sessions and fitness opportunities, there's something for all ages and abilities to enjoy throughout the holidays.

To find out more about what's on, session times, and how to book, visit **www.everyoneactive.com** or contact your local leisure centre directly.

The Rose Theatre

The Rose Theatre in Rugeley offers a varied programme of shows, from musical theatre and live performances to interactive children's productions, there's something for all ages to enjoy.

Over the summer holidays, families can look out for fun activities such as youth theatre workshops and engaging live performances, giving children the chance to experience the magic of theatre both on and off the stage.

For more information please contact the theatre on **01889 584036** or visit **www.rugeley-rose-theatre.co.uk**

Rugeley Community Church & Centre

Rugeley Community Church & Centre is a friendly and welcoming hub at the heart of the local community.

Throughout the year, and especially over the summer holidays, families can enjoy activities such as children's groups, play sessions and family-focused events, alongside access to valuable support services including wellbeing advice and community drop-ins.

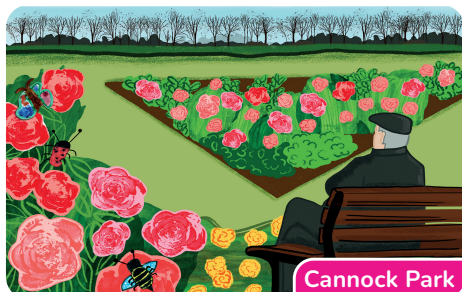
Please contact the centre on **01889 579341** or visit **www.rugeleycc.org.uk**

Creative Chase and Heritage Walks

Did you know the area around you is packed with amazing stories and hidden history? Head to **[creativechase.co.uk](https://www.creativechase.co.uk)** to discover brilliant heritage trails you can explore with your family!

CREATIVE CHASE

Choose from three trails - the **Chase Heritage Trail** linking Rugeley and Cannock, the **Bridgtown Heritage Trail** uncovering the fascinating story of Bridgtown, and the brand new **Cannock Park Heritage Trail** exploring the history of Cannock Park right on your doorstep! Every trail has been brought to life by local artists and community groups, with fun animations and poetry to make history feel totally exciting.



Even better, if you take part in these trails you can earn **points and rewards** by logging your progress on the **Cannock Chase Can App** - making your adventure even more fun for the whole family!

So, lace up your shoes and get exploring - your adventure starts at **creativechase.co.uk!**



Summer Events Calendar

Use this blank calendar to help you plan your summer holiday!



Summer of fun -
Family Planner



WEEK 1

[illegible]

WEEK 2

[illegible]

WEEK 3

Cannock Chase Can Kids Festival Events	Local Activities	Cannock Chase Can Challenges	Notes

WEEK 5

Cannock Chase Can Kids Festival Events	Local Activities	Cannock Chase Can Challenges	Notes

WEEK 4

Cannock Chase Can Kids Festival Events	Local Activities	Cannock Chase Can Challenges	Notes

WEEK 6

Cannock Chase Can Kids Festival Events	Local Activities	Cannock Chase Can Challenges	Notes





For more information about **Cannock Chase Can**
visit **www.cannockchasecan.co.uk**
or email **cannockchasecan@cannockchasedc.gov.uk**

