

May Half Term Activities 2026

School holiday arts and sports activities
for Dorset children who need additional support



**Booking closes on
Wednesday 6 May**



Artz+ Sportz+ is funded and organised by Dorset Council
dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/artz-sportz



Booking closes on Wednesday 6 May

Forest Fun – create your own woodland world!



Tuesday 26 May

10am to 2pm

Ages 5 to 16 years

**Discovery Area, Thorner's School and LATCH (Community Hall),
School Lane, Litton Cheney, Dorchester, DT2 9AU**

Create your own woodland world and let your imagination run wild making natural homes (mini or full size!) and enjoy small world play. Craft your own pencil or jewellery from natural materials, or simply explore, spot wildlife, or just have fun swinging in a hammock! Finish the day off with music making melody around the campfire or simply enjoying quiet sensory play in our wonderful willow dome. Indoor venue if wet.

Bring snacks, drink and lunch.



Sports and Swim Sensory



Wednesday 27 May

10am to 1pm

Ages 5 to 17 years

**St Michael's Middle School, Colehill Lane,
Wimborne, BH21 7AB**

Join in some fun sports and games with the friendly Action Van team and jump around on the fabulous bouncy castle. Next take a refreshing dip in the pool and have a gentle splash around with lots of new-found friends.

Bring snacks, drink and lunch.



Booking closes on Wednesday 6 May

Hairy Cow Cuddles and Craft

Thursday 28 May

10am to 12.30pm

Ages 5 to 17 years

**Redlands Coppice, Piddletrenthide,
Dorchester DT2 7RB**

Spend a magical morning down on the farm as we say hello to some very special, cuddly, gentle giants. Meet Redlands' wonderful herd of Highland Cows – or Coos as they like to call them! Stroke and groom these friendly animals and get to know their names. Then get crafty and create your very own Highland Cow image to take home as a souvenir of your time on the farm.

Bring snacks and a drink.



Sensory Swim and Play



Thursday 28 May

2.30pm to 5pm

Ages 5 to 17 years

**Prince of Wales School,
Maiden Castle Rd, Dorchester DT1 2HH**

Fun and games in the soft-play and sensory rooms with activities in the hall and garden alongside our friendly Artz+ Sportz+ staff. Bring your swimmers for some splashing good fun in the water as you enjoy the lovely warm pool.

Bring snacks and a drink.



Booking closes on Wednesday 6 May

Hands-on History Day

Friday 29 May

10am to 3pm

Ages 7 to 17 years

Ancient Technology Centre,
Damerham Road, Cranborne,
Dorset, BH21 5RP

Step back in time at the amazing Ancient Technology Centre. Have a go at being an ancient archer – bows and arrows supplied! – under the expert eye of the centre's friendly staff. Next bring out your inner Viking fighting spirit by joining in and playing some specially themed games.

Then try your hand at making cob bricks and natural dyes – it's a bit messy but loads of fun! Experience this wonderful venue and create your own hands-on history.


Bring snacks, a drink and lunch.



Information for parents/carers



Our tutors, coaches and support team will always do their utmost to support each child, including providing 1:1 support or greater, where required. If they wish parents/carers may stay at any session, but we ask that **new parents/carers stay on site for your child's first session** whilst we get to know you both. A member of our support team will be allocated to you. At future sessions your child may be left in the care of our team, where we are able to meet his/her needs. For sessions that include swimming we may ask you to attend if your child cannot change in/out of swimwear without assistance.

 We can adapt many sports sessions to include wheelchair users. All indoor and some outdoor venues are accessible.

Our Team Leaders are Safeguarding Level 3 trained, and we have a team of Designated Safeguarding Leads. Staff trained in emergency first aid are present at all events. We also have staff trained in buccal midazolam to support children with epilepsy and in the use of EpiPens/ adrenalin auto-injectors in the management of anaphylaxis. **Parents/carers must be available on an emergency telephone number.** If you would like to find out more, or discuss any concerns, please email; leisure@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

For more information: dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/sport-leisure/artz-sportz

Dorset Short Breaks Care Passports

Please complete a Care Passport at: dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/short-breaks-care-passport

Booking and helpful information

Booking

Places must be booked in advance. If demand is high, we will allocate places. We can supply details of how we do this fairly on request. Unless otherwise stated, activities cost **£7.90** per child for 2-3 hours, **£10.50** for 4 hours and **£13.25** for 5 hours or more. **Please note:** Our prices for activities have remained at the same low level for a number of years, with increasing costs we have now had to increase or prices by a small amount. There is a 20% subsidy for those on income-based benefits.

To book email leisure@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk stating your name, address, telephone number, chosen workshop(s), number of spaces and child name(s).

Bookings close on **Wednesday 6 May** and allocation will take place on **Thursday 7 May**. After allocation, any remaining places will be advertised on www.facebook.com/ArtzSportz

Direct Payments

You can pay for your child's place with Direct Payments.

You can provide your own carer to accompany your child paid with Direct Payments.

Please inform the admin team when your place is confirmed if you would prefer to bring your own carer.

Artz+ Sportz+ have a strong team of Support Staff but may not be able to provide certain specialist medical or care needs.

Cancellations

Refunds can only be made if you cancel more than two weeks before an event, or if we have to cancel an event. Please let us know as early as possible, if you need to cancel a session. This enables us to offer the place to another child and adjust staffing levels.

Information for parents/carers



Artz+ Sportz+ Sensory

These sessions are designed for children with more complex needs who may be supported by our team, where possible, or by their own personal assistant.



Wheelchair Symbol Indicates a wheelchair friendly event.

Holiday Activities & Food Programme (HAF)

Activities including a hot meal are free to those who have a HAF passcode on indicated sessions.

If you qualify for benefit-related free school meals email the HAF team to get your passcode; holidayactivities@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

The Xchange

The Xchange provides news, information and a listing of events/activities for families with children who are disabled.

To join visit: dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/about-the-xchange

Join our mailing list

Send your name, address and email address to Artz+ Sportz+, Leisure Service, Dorset Council, County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ.

Email: leisure@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Join us on Facebook or follow us on Instagram

Keep up to date on news and events, 'Like' or 'Follow' us to receive updates and to keep in touch with us:



facebook.com/ArtzSportz



instagram.com/ArtzSportz

