

Family Holiday Grants

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Family Holiday Association

- The Family Holiday Association is the only national charity dedicated to providing British seaside breaks and day trips for families struggling with some of the toughest challenge's life can bring.
- Many of the families they help have never been on holiday before.
- A simple break from a stressful situation can create precious memories, strengthen bonds and develop a new sense of optimism.



What they Offer

- Most of the breaks the Family Holiday Association provide are short trips to a seaside holiday parks in the UK, but they also provide stays at city hotels and quieter cottages (subject to availability).
- They also work with a range of attractions and travel companies up and down the country who regularly donate tickets to them.
- The Family Holiday Association provide families with their holiday accommodation and can sometimes contribute towards travel costs. Normally, up to £50 for fuel if travelling by car or £30 per person if travelling by train. Many breaks take place between Easter and the end of October.



What's the Criteria?

- Families cannot apply for a break directly. They must be referred by someone working with them in a supporting role.
- They help families with a child or children under the age of 18 and those who care for them - be they parents, kinship carers, carers or older siblings.
- Families must be on a low income (household income must be less than £24,000 or relevant means tested benefits).
- Families must not have had a holiday in the last four years.



All breaks are offered in term time.

- Before a break is made, families are encouraged to approach the school to discuss the application.
- If the family are offered a break and the school does not authorise absence, then we will need this to be in writing from the school (email is fine) then a peak time break <u>may</u> be offered (subject to availability). We can provide a letter with most offers that may help a family to approach their school to make this request for leave.
- Many of our short breaks can be taken Friday-Monday so a child would only miss one day of school.



What about families with a disabled child?

- There are a number of charities and organisations set up to help families with a disabled child get a break. One of the largest of these is the <u>Family Fund</u>.
- More information on their eligibility criteria is available on their website at www.familyfund.org.uk, or contact them for more information at info@familyfund.org.uk or 01904 550 055.
- FHA will only be able to consider an application for a short break if a family is not eligible for a grant from the Family Fund.

Kinship

COVID Restrictions

- Taking everything into account and subject to lockdown restrictions lifting as planned by the government, FHA plan to start operating breaks for this season from Friday 28th May onwards.
- FHA have a large number of families that had breaks booked for 2020 that were unfortunately cancelled. Therefore, they are focusing and proritising on transferring those bookings over.
- We will let our KC's know when the breaks become available via social media and newsletter.



For further information and support please contact our Kinship Advice Service:

Visit us at - https://kinship.org.uk/for-kinship-carers/advice-and-support/
Email us at - advice@kinship.org.uk
Call our advice line - on 0300 123 7015



Questions?

