

Make Lunch – Feeding Children during the School Holidays

Free school meals make a huge difference to over 1.5 million children in the UK but when schools are closed so are the kitchens... Make Lunch is a network of churches working to fill the holiday hunger gap.

We have all heard about the rising demand on foodbanks and the expansion of that network. One thing that foodbanks tell us is that school holidays are a time of particular difficulty for many families as children who would have free school meals in term time go hungry in the holidays.

Running a Lunch Kitchen means gathering a team of volunteers, preparing a venue, choosing a menu, shopping, chopping, cooking, serving, cleaning, talking, listening and having fun. And probably one or two other things too.

Under this scheme Lunch Kitchens are officially registered and you can be sure that anyone using the name and logo has got all their paperwork in order and has been suitably approved. It helps maintain a high standard of delivery and keeps the whole thing safe for everyone.

So, does your church have a good kitchen that could be used to Make Lunch for children in your area who might otherwise go hungry in the school holidays? Do you run a holiday club anyway and see that Make Lunch would add something valuable? Can you think of people who would volunteer and are enthusiastic about good food? More information about [Make Lunch is available here.](#)

Other approaches to dealing with holiday hunger might be more appropriate for your local setting. Blandford Forum parish has been running their Community Kitchen for a few holidays now and it has been very successful, offering a meal to anyone who would like to participate.

Diocese of Salisbury Social Justice Programme

colin.brady@salisbury.anglican.org

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