# Information for parents and carers on what to expect and how to prepare their child or children for joining holiday play provision.

## Things to think about

Think about whether you need to access holiday care/play provision for your child and how many days you need. The Government’s current advice is that parents should only use one holiday care provider where possible to help minimise contact.

If you have used holiday care before make contact with your previous provider to see if they are opening. Not everyone is going to be open this summer so you may need to start looking at other providers. The Torbay Family Information Service is a good place to look for holiday and childcare provision in the Bay <http://fis.torbay.gov.uk>

Your holiday provider will be operating differently this summer so that they can keep everyone safe. For example, they may be open less days or working shorter hours as well as taking fewer children. Drop offs and collections may also be carried out differently on site.

Find out whether they can offer the childcare/holiday provision that you are looking for so that you don’t have to use two different providers.

Every childcare or play provider should carry out a written risk assessment to ensure that they are complying with Government guidance, you can ask to see this if you wish. It will be displayed in the setting or posted on their website.

Providers may have to ask you whether your child has accessed care from another provider. This is because if a child falls ill they can find out who they have been in contact with. You will also have to let them know if your child becomes ill and keep them at home.

When you contact your play provider to book your sessions make sure you know how to contact them should your child be ill.

Note: If your child develops any symptoms of Covid-19, which is a fever or temperature, new persistent cough, change in or loss of sense of taste of smell, they will need to stay at home. Inform the holiday club straight away and arrange for a test either online - [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-an-antigen-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-an-antigen-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/) or by calling 119.

You should be given clear instructions regarding dropping your child off and collecting them from the site. They may set staggered times to avoid parents all arriving together; safe distances must be kept during these times. Arrive at the time you are asked to attend and don’t arrive early or linger later. Social distancing is really important.

Make sure that you keep your provider up to date with any changes to your contact details so that they can contact you should they need to.

Ask about the provision of food and snacks and whether packed lunches can still be brought in if this is your preference. Make your child aware of any changes.

Children often like to bring things in from home to show their friends. This may not be able to happen and you should explain the reasons for this to your child before they start.

Explain to your child that some things may be different, for example, they may not be allowed to leave the site or visit other places.

Talk to your child about the importance of hygiene and regularly washing their hands and how to practice any safe distancing advice given by your provider.

If you are unsure about something or have any queries please speak to your provider.