

Spring



What's on For Families in South West Edinburgh

Free or Low-Cost Activities and
Support for Families during the Holidays

Family Activities in the South West

Science Festival

Wester Hailes Library will be holding the second Wester Hailes Science Festival during the upcoming April holidays! They will be running a week of science-based activities, all activities start at 2pm. You can pop in to speak with a member of the library team as well or call/email. Free event. Tuesday 2nd April – Friday 5th April, various times

Wester Hailes Library
1 Westside Plaza,
EH14 2ST

Tel: 0131 529 5667

Email: westerhailes.library@edinburgh.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.digitalsentinel.net/2024/03/wester-hailes-science-festival/>

Digital Skills Support

WHALE Arts Digital Skills Support Sessions will return as normal from Monday 22 April, taking place on Mondays 1.00pm to 3.00pm and Thursdays 10.00am to 12.00pm at WHALE Arts and Fridays 10.00am to 12.00pm at Clovenstone Community Centre. No need to book, pop along whenever you want and stay as long as you feel able. Equipment is provided but you are welcome to bring your own device. Free event!

Whale Arts
30 Westburn Grove,
Edinburgh
EH14 2SA

Tel: 0131 458 3267

Email: info@whalearts.co.uk

Website: <http://www.digitalsentinel.net/2024/03/whale-arts-digital-skills-easter-break/>

Lend and Mend Hub

Wester Hailes library will be offering sewing classes for kids over the April holidays as part of their Lend and Mend Hub. During this time, kids/teens will be able to work on any project they want and have help from a sewing teacher. Contact the library for more information.

For beginners: Monday 8 April 2024, 1.00pm to 3.30pm. Spaces must book your spot in advance.

Experience sewing, they have 2 Makerspaces: Saturday 6 April 2024 from 12.00pm to 2.00pm and Thursday 11 April 2024 from 11.00am to 1.00pm.

Wester Hailes Library



1 Westside Plaza,
EH14 2ST

Tel: 0131 529 5667

Email: westerhailes.library@edinburgh.gov.uk.

Website: <http://www.digitalsentinel.net/2024/03/wester-hailes-library-kids-sewing-classes/>

Baby Studio

Baby Studio is a space for babies and their grown-ups to play together, for local families in Westside Plaza to explore together. Just a normal delivery of this service (every Saturday) from second week of Easter holidays. Closed on 11th April (Saturday)

Starcatcher's
WHALE Arts Agency,
30 Westburn Grove,
Edinburgh
EH14 2SA

Tel: 07723541628

Email: expectingsomething@starcatchers.org.uk

Website: <https://starcatchers.org.uk/work/the-baby-studio/>

Sighthill library

Sighthill Library are offering fun and free activities. All events are drop-in and there is no need to book. They will be closed on Friday 7th & Monday 10th April, but open on Saturday 8th.

Sighthill Library,
55 Sighthill Road,
EH11 4PB

Tel: 0131 529 5566

Website: <http://www.digitalsentinel.net/2023/04/easter-at-sighthill-library/>

Easter Fun Day

Join the annual Easter Event including Bouncy castle (with 50p entry charge) and Easter egg hunt. All children of age groups welcome. Sunday 14th April: 12 to 2pm.

Oxgangs Neighbourhood Centre,
71 Firrhill Drive,
Edinburgh,
EH13 9EU

Tel: 0131 466 0678

Email: oxgangsneighbourhoodcentre@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/Oxgangsneighbourhoodcentreorg/>



'Open Hearts' Open Mic and Sharing Day

There is an open mic and sharing day including House band 'Scott' on Saturday, 30th March from 2pm to 4pm. It is a drop in event and free for all.

Community Wellbeing Space,
Westside Plaza Shopping Centre,
Wester Hailes Road,
EH14 2SW

Email: communitywellbeingcollective@gmail.com

Sunny Sunday Walks outside Planting Sunflowers

In partnership with Wester Hailes Community Action, there is a sunny Sunday walks planned on Sunday 31st March from 1pm (meet at Community wellbeing space).

Community Wellbeing Space,
Westside Plaza Shopping Centre,
Wester Hailes Road,
EH14 2SW

Email: communitywellbeingcollective@gmail.com

Wellbeing Activities

Pop in to the Community Wellbeing Space for different wellbeing activities to learn, exercise, relax and built community together. No need to book ahead. Free, and open to everyone.

Drop-in opening times: Friday 5pm to 7pm, Saturday 1pm to 4pm*, *Last Saturday of the month 12pm to 7pm.

Community Wellbeing Space
Westside Plaza Shopping Centre,
Wester Hailes Road,
EH14 2SW

Email: communitywellbeingcollective@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.watchthisspace.online/>

Easter Elevation Event

Easter Elevation event for a special session of inspiring music, exciting celebrations, and extended time of worship to mark the eternal hope and victory. This free event is primed to be a fantastic evening for entire family and friends! Saturday 6th April, 6:30pm to 9:30pm.

Gorgie Dalry Stenhouse Church - Diadem
537-539 Gorgie Road
EH14 1TA

Tel: 0131 337 7936

Email: contactus@gdschurch.org.uk Website: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/easter-elevation-2024-tickets-8462678188274>



School's Out

School's Out is Big Hearts' holiday club (Monday 1st-5th April) designed to help children and young people facing social isolation to build social connections with others and learn new skills. It is free of charge to all participants and includes hot lunch. The following times depending on their age:

Age 4-8 years Monday- Friday 10am to 12:30pm

Age 9-12 years Monday-Friday 12:30pm to 3pm

Participants must be dropped off and collected at following times and places:

10am drop off and 3pm pickup:

The Community Gate, Bottom of Wheatfield Street,
Tynecastle Park
EH11 2NZ

12:30pm pickup (morning session) and 12:30pm drop off (afternoon session)

Gorgie Suite
McLeod Street
EH11 2NL

Please fill in the school out participant form if you would like your child/young people to attend and return by 27th March.

Big Hearts Foundation
Tynecastle Stadium
Gorgie Road
EH11 2NL

Tel: 07824 637 460

Email: heather.brown@bighearts.org.uk

Website: <https://www.bighearts.org.uk/programmes/schools-out/>

Easter Event

The Welcoming Association in partnership with the Water of Leith Conservation Trust (24 Lanark Rd, Edinburgh EH14 1TQ), is organising an easter event for members. It is a free event on 3rd April for members only. Members of the Welcoming are asked to meet in the office at 12:45pm. become a member of the Welcoming by registering at

https://www.thewelcoming.org/get-involved/register/?doing_wp_cron=1710758539.2850871086120605468750

The Welcoming Association
20/1, Westfield Ave
EH11 2TT

Tel: 0131 346 8577

Email: Chiara@thewelcoming.org

info@thewelcoming.org



Scotland for Newcomers

The Welcoming Association is offering free weekly outing every Saturday afternoon from 2pm to 5pm to explore different parts of Edinburgh. They are closed on Friday 29th March & Monday 1st April. There will be no activities on these days. The office will reopen on Tuesday 2nd April.

The Welcoming Association
20/1, Westfield Ave
EH112TT

Tel: 0131 346 857
Email: info@thewelcoming.org

Spring Fling in the Park

Easter fun from egg rolling to egg painting, easter crafts, plus home baking, and live music at the Pit Shop Cafe on Sunday March 31st from 2pm to 5pm.

The Spylaw park
Colinton

Easter Egg Hunt

Come and join at the Craiglockhart Terrace entrance to the Nature Reserve at 11am on 31st March Easter Sunday, bring a collecting container. Open to under 12s and accompanying adults only. This event is free but open to donations.

The Friends of Easter
Craiglockhart Hill
2 Lockharton Crescent
EH14 1AX

Email: friends@eastercraiglockharthill.org
Website: www.eastercraiglockharthill.org

Easter Messy Church

Join Easter Sunday at 3pm for easter crafts and game to hunt for the Easter Bible Story and share a simple meal. Free and all ages welcome.

This event is part of Messy Church (i.e., in Gorgie Church next to Hearts Stadium) which takes at 3pm on the last Sunday of every month.

Gorgie Dalry Stenhouse Church - Diadem
537-539 Gorgie Road
EH14 1TA

To find out more, contact Rueben: 07867915022 or Jessica: 07591206901.
Email: contactus@gdschurch.org.uk



Family Activities for Everyone

Easter at Dynamic Earth

This Easter holiday, hunt down eggs from creatures both living and from the past and stay up late with the Planetarium team to take a journey across the Solar System. Families and adults will explore more than ever before at Dynamic Earth. From free drop-in activities to outdoor workshops, art workshops for adults, Planetarium Lates, family coding sessions, new mini exhibitions, Lots of opportunities to meet real scientists. Events running between 30th of March to 15th of April 2024

Holyrood Rd,
Edinburgh
EH8 8AS

Website: <https://dynamicearth.org.uk/easter-at-dynamic-earth/>

Easter egg hunt

Join in at Waterstones for our Easter Egg Hunt - with prizes! There will be lots of fun activities all weekend in the kid's area on the first floor. on Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st of March 10am to 2pm.

Waterstones
West End
128 Princes Street,
EH2 4AD

Museum of Edinburgh

Come and have fun in the family area in the heart of Museum of Edinburgh. The activity area is packed full of art materials and worksheets relating to the galleries and amazing objects relating to the history of Edinburgh. This is a warm and welcoming space for family groups to work creatively together and to stay as long as you like. Just drop in. Open Daily 10am to 5pm

142-146 Canongate,
EH8 8DD

Website: <https://www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/whats-on/family-activity-area-museum-edinburgh>

RUTS - Easter Holiday Mountain Bike course - Two courses over the Easter school holidays.

14-17 years take part in instructor led mountain bike rides and complete a personal development award. Course start date: Monday 8th of April for 5 days 10am to 3pm Monday to Friday

15-17 years learn off road riding skills complete the ride-bike moto-learn programme and complete and SQA personal development award. Course start date: Monday 1st of April for 5 days 10am to 3pm Monday to Friday



Penicuik Youth Hub
58 Queensway
EH26 0JJ

Tel: 0131 663 5736
Email: iaib@ruts.org.uk
Website: <https://www.ruts.org.uk/about>

Mini Yoga and Mindfulness Easter event

fun session of Mini yoga and mindfulness at Drumbrae library! stretch and move as well as be still and quiet. this event is for children aged 7-10. Children under 8 MUST be accompanied by an adult. book one ticket per child attending. There is no need to bring a mat. Starts on Wednesday, 10th of April at 2.30pm to 3pm.

Drumbrae Library Hub
81 Drum Brae Drive
EH4 7FE

Website: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mini-yoga-and-mindfulness-easter-event-tickets-861705493327?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Tailor Ed – easter holiday activities

A range of activities, organised by various organisations, taking place in Edinburgh over the Easter Break for children with ASN. Booking for activities is required at:

Website: <https://tailoredfoundation.co.uk/easter-holiday-activities-for-children-with-disabilities/>

Edinburgh Zoo

Free Science Festival session 'Wild Learning' – booking required. Please note this does not provide entry into the Zoo 10th & 11th April 2024, 11am, 12pm and 2pm

134 Corstorphine Road,
EH12 6TS

<https://www.edinburghzoo.org.uk/events/edinburgh-science-festival-wild-learning/>

Community Food for People in South West

The Trussell Trust

Edinburgh Southwest Foodbank: foodbank is open Monday-1pm-3pm, Wednesday-11am-1pm, Friday-10am-12pm. The food bank is situated in the white building next to the main building. it is called the 'Napier Hall'.

Salvation Army,
431 Gorgie Road,
EH11 2RB

Tel: 0131 346 2875
Email: Edinburgh.Gorgie@salvationarmy.org.uk



Warm Winter lunch Club Big Hearts Foundation at the 1874 café (left of the clubstore),

In Partnership with Cyrenians, the Wednesday lunch club is open from 12-2pm to anyone living, working, or learning in the Gorgie and Dalry area. No advance booking required.

Tynecastle Park
Mcleod Street
EH11 2NL

Tel: 0131 200 7225/ 0871 663 1874

Empty Kitchen, Full Hearts

Service users must go through a registration process and then it will be up to 7-10 days before deliveries will commence. Referrals can be made through their website. They deliver on either Tues/Thurs or Wed /Fri (depending on postcode area). They do not deliver on Mondays. The Community Hubs are supported with food in the same way as our residential addresses. They cover postcode areas EH1 to EH17 (EH14 1, 2 and 3)

Tel: 07895 347 157
Email: hello@emptykitchens.co.uk

Broomhouse pantry

Membership only. Closed on Mondays. Working days are Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10:00-14:00pm. On Fridays, they operate from 9:30-11:30am. Covers Edinburgh South-West area and Broomhouse. Closed on 29th march & 1st April for public holidays. Reopen as usual from 2nd April.

1, Broomhouse Mkt,
EH11 3UU
Tel: 0131 4436223

Broomhouse Foodbank

It is open to all. Regular timings are 9:30am to 14:30pm from Mondays- Thursdays. On Fridays, it is open from 9:30am to 12:45pm. Closed on March 29th and 1st April for public holidays. Reopen as usual from 2nd April.

3, Broomhouse Mkt,
EH11 3UU
Tel: 0131 4436223

SCORE Community Fridge

Come to the centre, get a token number, and take food from the community fridge on following days: Mondays 12:00 to 13:00 at Whale Arts Agency
Thursdays 10.30 to 11.30 at St. Nicholas Church, 124 Sighthill Loan, Edinburgh EH11 4NT

SCORE Scotland
30, Westburn Grove



Edinburgh
EH14 2SA

Tel: 0131 442 2341 (Score Scotland) 0131 458 3267 (Whale Arts Agency) 0131 442 3978 (St Nicholas Church)

Email: madhavi@scorescotland.org.uk info@scorescotland.org.uk

Community Meal

Community Wellbeing Space
Saturday, 30th April, 1pm to 2pm

Westside Plaza Shopping Centre,
Wester Hailes Road
Edinburgh
EH14 2SW

Email: communitywellbeingcollective@gmail.com

SCORE Scotland

In partnership with Whale Arts Agency, SCORE Scotland provides hot meal every Friday from 13:00pm to 14:40pm

Whale Arts Agency,
30, Westburn Grove,
Edinburgh
EH14 2SA

Tel: 0131 442 2341 (Score Scotland) 0131 458 3267 (Whale Arts Agency)

Email: info@scorescotland.org.uk info@whalearts.co.uk

Community Food for Everyone

The Edinburgh City Mission

The Edinburgh City mission is in partnership with the Bethany Trust to support people in crisis. If in need without referral there is a list of drop-in services where people can receive some hot soup and a sandwich.

Website: <https://edinburghcitymission.org.uk/ministry/care-van/>

Free Food without a Referral

Edinburgh City Mission, on this webpage you will find locations and times for 'Soul Food', Offering a free meal, a safe space & a warm welcome.

Website: <https://edinburghcitymission.org.uk/ministry/soul-food/>



Foodbank+

The Edinburgh city mission provide foodbank+ in 7 locations across Edinburgh. A referral from a professional is required to use foodbank+.

Tel: 0131 225 9445

Website: <https://edinburghcitymission.org.uk/ministry/foodbank/>

Support and Information for Parents and Carers

Parentline

Children 1st Edinburgh Together has free helpline and web-chat service offering advice and support for parents and carers. Mon-Fri: 9am to 9pm Sat & Sun: 9am to 12 pm

Tel: 0800 28 22 23

Website: <https://www.children1st.org.uk/help-for-families/parentline-scotland/>
parentlinescotland@children1st.org.uk

One Parent families Scotland

Lone Parent helpline is closed for public holidays: 29th March & 1st April. Parents can leave a message and they will get back on Tues 2nd April.

Open- 9:30am to 4pm

Tel: 0333 256 5123

Website: <https://opfs.org.uk/support-and-advice/>

Southwest Thrive Welcome Team Drop ins.

Two drop ins: same as usual delivery of service:

When: Every Friday between 9.30am to 3pm (last conversation starts at 14.15pm)

Where: Space Broomhouse Hub, Broomhouse Crescent, EH11 3RH

When: Every Tuesday 1.30pm to 4.30pm (last conversation starts at 16:00pm)

Where: Oxfangs Library, 343 Oxfangs Road North, Edinburgh EH13 9LY

All drop ins are closed on bank holidays.

Tel: 0131 455 7731

Email: admin@spacescot.org

Parenting Programmes

A range of parenting programmes and courses are available for parents and carers of children aged 0 to 16 years. The courses are free for parents of children living or attending school in Edinburgh.

Website: www.edinburgh.gov.uk/supportforfamilies



Solihull Online Courses for Parents

The Scottish Government is funding access to online courses for parents and carers. To access these courses for free, families need to use the code TARTAN.

Website: <https://inourplace.heiapply.com/online-learning>

Family and Household Support Easter Holiday Drop ins/Phone Support

Support and advice from Housing and Family Support staff on benefits, budgeting, and debt. Help with tenancies or housing bids.

Southwest Family & Household Support,
10 Westside Plaza,
Edinburgh
EH14 2ST

Tel: 0131 469 5150

Email: southwest.familyandhouseholdsupport@edinburgh.gov.uk

Social Care Direct- Children and Families

Social Work Request help or advice about a child or vulnerable adult requiring support due to illness, disability or at risk or harm. Office hours (8:30am-5pm).

Tel:0131 200 2324 and out of hours: 0800 731 6969

Domestic Abuse Freephone 24 hr Helpline

Support for Women experiencing domestic abuse and their friends and family. Translation facilities available for callers whose first language is not English.

Tel: 0808 200 247

Mindroom

Family advice and outreach specialists in ASN, will listen to the difficulties you are experiencing and will support you to work through these challenges. You will be supported, informed, and empowered.

Tel: 0131 370 6730 **Text:** 07990618 231 **Email:** directhelp@mindroom.org

Financial Advice/Energy Advice

The Advice Shop

Provide assistance with all aspects of welfare rights including income maximisation through welfare benefits, tax credits and grants as well as debt advice to resolve personal debt including credit cards, bank loans, rent arrears, personal loans, store cards, catalogues and mortgage arrears. Open Monday to Friday: 9am to 1pm except Tuesdays 10am to 1pm. Closed for public holidays: 29th March & 1st April.

249 High Street,
Edinburgh,
EH1 1YJ
Tel: 0131 200 2360



CHAI (Community Help & Advice Initiative)

Provides benefits, debt, housing advice and some support services via multiple outreach/embedded services inc. Maximise! for families and GP practices.

28 Westfield Avenue,
Edinburgh,
EH11 2QH
Tel: 0131 442 2100

Website: maximise@children1st.org.uk

Change Works

Provides help to be energy efficient and to tackle fuel poverty.
Open Mon to Friday: 9am to 5pm.
Closed for public holidays: 29th March & 1st April.

Orchard Brae House
30 Queensferry Road
Edinburgh
EH4 2HS
Tel: 0800 870 8800

Website: www.changeworks.org.uk



Fun Activities to do at home

Activities do not need to cost a lot of money (or sometimes any money at all) to be meaningful and memorable. Some of the best memories are made by doing simple things at home or around the community. Enjoying the time, you have together is what is most important. Below are some very low cost or free activities that require no/minimal resources, most of which you will have around the house already. Enjoy!

Egg rolling

Boil up some eggs and either keep them plain and simple or decorate with paint, stickers, pens whatever you have in the art box. Find the best hill in the local park and have an egg rolling race. Which egg makes it to the bottom first? How many rolls can the egg do before it cracks? Endless fun on the hill!

Decorating chalk eggs

Decorate the garden path with chalk easter eggs. Turn it into a competition if you like, who can make the best design? Who can do the biggest egg design?

Potato/sponge Stamping

Cut designs into potatoes or sponges, dip in paint and create some exciting pictures!

Outdoor treasure hunt

Wherever you decide to go (beach, park, your own garden) pick a base. It can be a particular tree, or it can be a bench. Have a leader who calls out what the group need to find for example, 3 green leaves, 2 large stones, 4 sticks. This can be turned into a race, first person back to base with the correct items is the new leader.

Balloon tennis

Can you keep up with the balloon? Your hand is the bat, and you need to bat the balloon back and forth. Don't let it hit the ground!

Spring walk

Get a 'spring' in your step and enjoy a walk around one of Edinburgh's well-known spots. Arthur's Seat, Portobello Promenade, Colinton Tunnel, Water of Leith, Calton Hill, Dalkeith Country Park, Figgate Park, The Meadows or Cramond Beach. Remember you can apply for a free travel card (bus and tram) for children. Pop into your local library for help to apply.

Easter Bunny Bunting

Decorate the walls and window frames with these bright little bunnies. To make: buy a variety of patterned card, place a basic bunny template on top of each piece of card and draw around it. Cut this out and glue on a small ball of cotton wool for a tail. To finish, attach each bunny to a natural piece of string using mini wooden pegs.

Eggy Lambs

These funky-looking lambs will look a treat perched on a mantelpiece or sideboard. Plus, they're so easy to create – simply roll small pieces of cotton wool into balls and glue these to the surface of the egg. Cover the whole egg with cotton wool, leaving a space at the front where you can add a funny face!

If you would like to add activities to a future
What's On for Families in South West Edinburgh list or if any
information in this list is incorrect please email
wholefamilywellbeing@edinburgh.gov.uk



◆ EDINBURGH ◆
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL