

# SUMMER 2026

## Free & Low Cost Activities in Mid Essex

*Find activities & events in Braintree | Chelmsford | Maldon*



A practical guide to some of the **low cost & no cost** activities for **children, young people** and **families** this summer

Events are designed for different age groups - please check each listing for age guidance

Developed by the:

**MID ESSEX CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP**

*Working together to ensure all children & young people in Mid Essex get the best start in life*

In partnership with:



# SUMMER 2026 Highlights in

# BRAINTREE

18th July  
-  
31st  
August

## BRAINTREE MUSEUM TRAILS AND ACTIVITIES

**Suitable for all ages**

Braintree Museum are offering a variety of trails that can be completed outdoors. These are **free to collect** from the Museum Shop during opening hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10am–4pm. For more information, call **01376 328868**.



19th Jul  
1-4pm

## KINETIX ACADEMY - FAMILY MOVEMENT & WELLBEING DAY

**Suitable for ages 3+ yrs**

This free event for families includes parkour, obstacle courses and more. The indoor venue offers toilets, baby changing, and free parking. A local food van will sell refreshments. Please wear comfortable clothing and bring a refillable water bottle. To book visit [www.teamkinetix.co.uk/the-academy](http://www.teamkinetix.co.uk/the-academy)



5th Aug  
11am-3pm

## TEDDY BEAR PICNIC

**Suitable for all ages**

Join at **Zero 2 Bus Museum (CO9 4HP)** in **Great Yeldham** for a fun-filled community day! Bring your 'favourite Teddy Bear' and a picnic to enjoy games and activities. For more information contact Jayne Laken [jayne.laken@ceessex.org.uk](mailto:jayne.laken@ceessex.org.uk) or call **07458 300903**

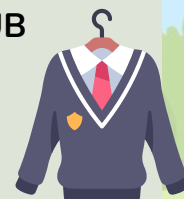


14th Aug  
10.30am-  
12:30pm

## FREE SCHOOL UNIFORM EVENT AT CAROUSEL FAMILY HUB

**Suitable for families with school-aged children ages 4-16 yrs**

You are invited to pick up free pre-loved school uniform (subject to availability). Local organisations will also be on hand offering information, advice, and support. Please bring a bag. Location **Chapel Hill, Braintree, Essex, CM7 3QZ**



28th Aug  
12-5pm

## BRAINTREE DISTRICT YOUTH FESTIVAL

**Suitable for young people aged 13-19 yrs**

A free event at Weavers Park, designed and led by young people in collaboration with Essex Youth Service and Braintree District Council offering fun, creativity, music, DJ workshops and live bands.



Find more events and information online visit:

[www.activeessex.org/mid-essex-summer-events](http://www.activeessex.org/mid-essex-summer-events)

# SUMMER 2026 Highlights in CHELMSFORD

**20th &  
21<sup>st</sup> Jul**  
10am-5pm

## MARSH FARM SEND FEST

**Suitable for aged all ages**

Festival for children and young people with SEND and their families, with activities, animals, and entertainment. Tickets from £10. Free tickets also available for eligible Essex residents benefit-related FSM or Universal Credit. Contact [kerry@independenceproject.co.uk](mailto:kerry@independenceproject.co.uk) for more details



**27th -  
31st Jul**  
10am-12pm  
and 1-3pm

## PICNIC IN THE PARK

**Suitable for 3-11 yrs**

Free themed activity days at Melbourne Park. Activities include; sports, games, crafts and food demonstrations. A free lunch is available for anyone accessing benefit-based free school meals. Please book a space via [www.chelmsford.gov.uk/picnicinthepark](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/picnicinthepark)



**22nd Jul  
-  
21st Aug**  
10am-12pm  
and 1-3pm

## PLAY IN THE PARK

**Suitable for 3-11 yrs**

A series of free 2 hour play sessions in parks and parish venues around the Chelmsford District. Activities include; sports, games and crafts. Some sessions have additional 'Extras' including inflatables, petting zoos and more. Please book a space via [www.chelmsford.gov.uk/play](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/play)



**6th Aug**  
10.30am-  
1pm

## FREE SCHOOL UNIFORM EVENT AT CHRIST CHURCH

**Suitable for families with school-aged children ages 4-16 yrs**

You are invited to pick up free pre-loved school uniform (subject to availability). Local organisations will also be on hand offering information, advice, and support. Location: **Christ Church Chelmsford, 164 New London Road, CM2 0AW**



**24th Jul-  
28th Aug**

## ESSEX YOUTH SERVICE SUMMER SESSIONS

**Suitable 11-16yrs**

Weekly Gaming Sessions at **Chelmergate Youth Centre CM2 0LG**. These sessions run every Friday from 1pm-4pm during the holidays starting the 24th July. SEND sessions are also running from Galleywood Youth Centre, Contact [youthwork@essex.gov.uk](mailto:youthwork@essex.gov.uk) for more details.



### Need more support?

You can find information relating to advice, services and support for children, young people and families at:

[www.essex.gov.uk/children-young-people-and-families/support-children-young-people-and-families](http://www.essex.gov.uk/children-young-people-and-families/support-children-young-people-and-families)

# SUMMER 2026 Highlights in MALDON



27th Jul  
-  
24th Aug

## GREEN SPACE GAMES

Suitable for 3-11 yrs

Free outdoor sessions with games and activities across the Maldon District utilising green spaces and local parks. Over 20 dates to choose from. Please visit [www.maldoncvcs.org.uk/activities-projects](http://www.maldoncvcs.org.uk/activities-projects) for more information

Fridays  
and  
1st & 3rd  
Tuesdays

## COMMUNITY GAMING INITIATIVE

Ages 11-18 (Fridays 5-7pm) Ages 8+ (1st & 3rd Tuesdays 5-7pm)

Aimed at young people who love gaming, these sessions offer a fun, social space to connect with like-minded peers. Sessions are free, new participants need to be registered before entry. Contact [gaming@maldoncvcs.org.uk](mailto:gaming@maldoncvcs.org.uk) or visit [www.maldoncvcs.org.uk/activities-projects](http://www.maldoncvcs.org.uk/activities-projects) for more information

31st Jul  
1-3pm

## FREE SCHOOL UNIFORM EVENT AT PLANTATION HALL

Suitable for families with school-aged children ages 4-16 yrs

You are invited to pick up free pre-loved school uniform (subject to availability). Local organisations will also be on hand offering information, advice, and support. Location: **Plantation Hall, Colchester Rd, Heybridge, Maldon CM9 4AL**

14th Aug  
11am-4pm

## U FEST - MALDON PROMENADE PARK

Suitable for all ages.

This free all-day community festival celebrates everything that makes life worth living. Held in the picturesque surroundings of **Maldon's Promenade Park**, U Fest brings local people together in the Maldon District for a day of joy, connection, and wellbeing.

5th, 12th  
& 26th  
Aug  
10am-5pm

## ESSEX YOUTH SERVICE SUMMER SESSIONS

Suitable for 11-19 yrs

Maldon Youth Club are hosting a number of summer sessions at **Maldon Activity Centre** during August. Contact [youthwork@essex.gov.uk](mailto:youthwork@essex.gov.uk) for more details.

This guide highlights local activities, support and welcoming spaces — *but it's just a starting point.*

Scan here for more events, activities and local support or visit our website.

[www.activeessex.org/mid-essex-summer-events](http://www.activeessex.org/mid-essex-summer-events)

**Please note:** Event details are provided by organisers and may be subject to change. Contact organisers directly for the most up-to-date information, including accessibility.

SCAN HERE

