

# National Trust Press Release

17 July 2024

## Summer of Play Has Arrived at The Children's Country House at Sudbury

Sponsored by Starling Bank, Summer of Play has arrived at The National Trust property, The Children's Country House at Sudbury. Until 2 September 2024, the property is open seven days a week, 10:00-17:00, as visitors are welcomed through the gates to take part in sports day races, playground games and an array of workshops and crafts.

Throughout this period, Sudbury Hall and the Museum of Childhood remain open, providing visitors with the chance to explore and learn about the late 17<sup>th</sup> century home of the Vernon family as well as venture through childhood's gone by in the museum.

Designed for families and children, each day at the property will focus on a different activity to take part in. Mondays will feature storytelling, Tuesdays and Saturday's visitors can make their own free craft to take home, Wednesdays are focused on led workshops, Thursdays and Sundays are for garden trails and Fridays will see facepainting and guest creatives leading on-property sessions.

David Longford, Programming and Partnerships Manager at The Children's Country House at Sudbury said, "We hope that this year's Summer of Play contains something for everyone when they visit the property, from relaxing trails and crafting to more energetic games and workshops. There are also regular days with our own company of storytellers, plus the launch of our outdoor Woodland Theatre with children's shows and workshops. It promises to be varied and exciting".

From the 27 July to 4 August, the Bluebell Wood located in the gardens transforms into a Woodland Theatre as Buxton-based Babbling Vagabonds hit the stage with their performance of 'Here Be Dragons' on 27-28 July. Followed by Nottingham's HandMade Theatre's puppet-tastic show 'Flying the Nest' from 1-4 August. Aimed at families and children, tickets for these performances can be purchased via the [National Trust website](#).

Mark Hornsey, Creative Director for Babbling Vagabonds commented, "Since my children were young, we have visited The Children's Country House at Sudbury. It's a great place for families and such a treat to be performing there this summer. 'Here Be Dragons' is a fabulous story full of adventure and wonder, it will sit perfectly at Sudbury, and I know it will entertain children of all ages!".

Whether you're a big kid at heart, or visiting with children, there's something for everyone at The Children's Country House at Sudbury this summer. To plan your visit, head over to <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/peak-district-derbyshire/the-childrens-country-house-at-sudbury>.

– ENDS –

**For further media information please contact:**

Caitlin Wood – [caitlin.wood@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:caitlin.wood@nationaltrust.org.uk)

**For images:**

Either Dropbox link or contact to arrange attending press call

**Notes to editors**

**About the National Trust**

The National Trust is an independent conservation charity founded in 1895 by three people: Octavia Hill, Sir Robert Hunter and Hardwicke Rawnsley, who saw the importance of the nation's heritage and open spaces and wanted to preserve them for everyone to enjoy. Today, across England, Wales and Northern Ireland, we continue to look after places so people and nature can thrive.

We care for more than 250,000 hectares of countryside, 780 miles of coastline, 1 million collection items and 500 historic properties, gardens and nature reserves. In 2022/23 we received 24 million visitors to our pay for entry sites. The National Trust is for everyone - we were founded for the benefit of the whole nation, and our 5.7 million members, funders and donors, and tens of thousands of volunteers support our work to care for nature, beauty, history for everyone, for ever.