





COMMUNITIES
that can







CREDITON COOKERY HUBS

March 2026

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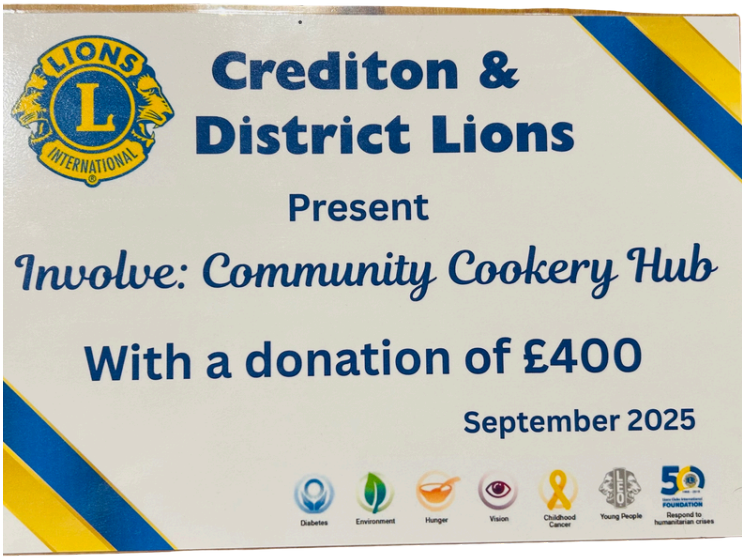
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CREDITON COOKERY HUBS

Involve has been awarded funding as one of five groups in Devon to establish a Community Cookery Hub, in partnership with QE Secondary School, Crediton.

The Hub initially opened its doors in September 2025, offering a welcoming space where people came together to cook, connect, and learn. After a huge success with the youth group, QE students and adults it opened its doors a fourth time in March for a new group of people - primary school children and their parents.

It was designed to support:
skills-based learning for all ages and develop stronger community connections. The findings will now feed in to County-wide insight into food, health, and wellbeing.



WEEK ONE
PIZZA

WEEK TWO
LASAGNE

WEEK THREE
CHICKEN GOUJONS

WEEK FOUR
CHICKEN CURRY

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QUOTES AND FEEDBACK

What are your main reasons for joining this course?
'To have fun cooking'

What dishes would you like to learn?
'Dinner dishes'

What dishes would you like to learn?
'Fried chicken'



What are your main reasons for joining?
'Enjoy cooking together'

'[I enjoyed] cooking with the family'

'We got to put loads of toppings on our pizza!'

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MESSAGE FROM KATH, CREDITON COMMUNITY BUILDER

In March, we opened the Cookery Hubs doors again but this time, to primary school children from Haywards Primary School.

11 children and their responsible adults joined us across four cookery sessions led by Mr Wilf Richer at QECC, Barnfield site in Crediton. Everyone enjoyed the hands on, practical fun of food preparation and cooking. They also told us that they liked connecting with others families at Haywards school.

Over the four sessions they cooked pizza, lasagne, chicken goujons and chicken curry and were able to take home supper after each session. Feedback from all participants (and other family members) was glowing!

The Lions in Crediton kindly supported us by shopping for all the ingredients each week and they bought a large covered casserole dish and pizza tray for each student to use, take home and keep. This was really appreciated by them all and meant individuals could make recipes again at home.

We were so pleased to also work collaboratively with QECC in this venture as it helped students that would be moving to QE in September to experience going to the school. We are all looking forward to the next block of workshops that start on 28 April with familes of Landscore school.



Thank you to the Devon Community Foundation for awarding us a grant that has enabled us to bring the Community Cookery Hub to Crediton. We're so grateful for your support in helping us make this project a reality for our community

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SURVEYS

We asked all participants to complete two surveys, one before the course and one after completing the course. This enabled us to compare answers and learn how helpful the course was, whether new skills have been learnt and new confidence found. We can clearly see favourite meals, feedback for future courses and recipes that participants would like to learn.



IMPACT SNAPSHOT

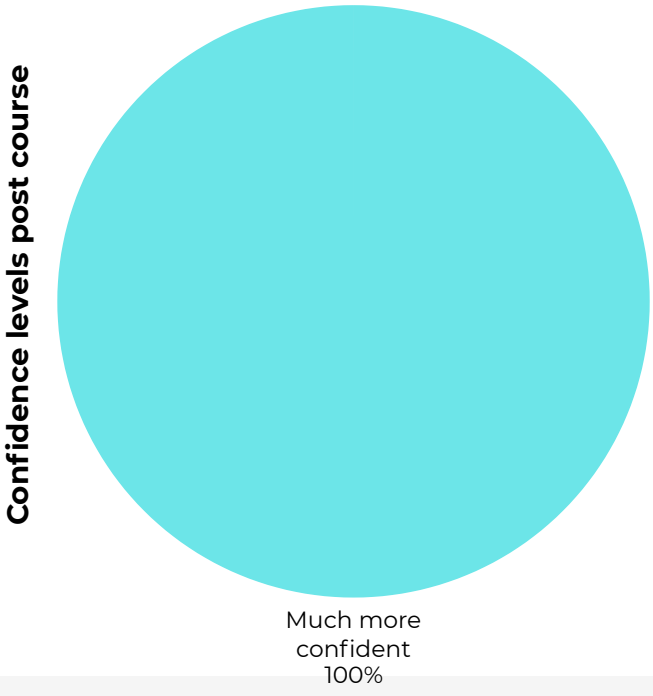
6
Families and 11 children signed up and attended the course

100%
Of individuals who completed a post course survey felt more confident in cooking than before the course.

100%
Of individuals who completed a post course survey felt the course met their expectations.



FAVOURITE RECIPE - LASAGNE



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WHAT NEXT

We plan to hold one more block of cookery sessions with Landscore Primary School group. After reviewing the third course, there are some points for us to take away and learn from.

- We provided drink and snacks - Even though nervous to begin with the group appreciated being able to have a snack during the sessions. They were very grateful for a snack to keep them going until they could eat their delicious meals. This time the parents requested tea and coffee so we will make this available to adults for the next sessions.

- As part of the course, The Lions Club gifted each participant a lidded casserole dish and they added a pizza tray for them to take home. We felt this was a great idea and it was well received by the recipients. They reported that it made them feel valued and it encouraged them to repeat the recipes and practice more at home.

- Recipe cards were produced and each participant took one home so that they have the recipe at to practice more. All participants that completed the course received a certificate.

- Other people from Haywards contacted the Crediton Community Builder to say that their family would be interested in taking part in future sessions.

- Although 6 adults and 11 children signed up we did see a small drop off on attendance. That could have been timing of the last session as it approached the end of term. We could consider incentives for completing the course eg supermarket vouchers or family food hamper? (if budget allows)

- Having specific groups filling the spaces rather than open access session was a positive decision. It meant that we were aware of any needs and able to better plan for risk assessment and adhere to safeguarding policies when we knew in advance what groups and vulnerabilities there would be in advance.

- All participants would have welcomed more sessions.

- The planning and preparation for these sessions was slightly different than prevous sessions as the School liased directly with families to sign up. This seemed to work well and we will repeat this for the sessions with Landscore School.

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