

StPeter'sSummerProject

Summer2022-Report



StPeter'sChildrenandYoungPeople'sActivitiesGroup

Registeredcharitynumber1182872

Introduction

This was the fourth year of our summer project, organised by the St. Peter's Children and Young People's Activities Group and known locally as St. Peter's Summer Project. It caters for Year 5 and 6 children aged 9-11, with the occasional younger sibling, who come from the four primary schools in what was the St Peter's Ward of Islington South and Finsbury. In 2022, the ward was reorganised into two enlarged wards - "St Mary's and St James" and "St Peter's and Canalside".

Background to the project

Children in our primary schools come from vastly different backgrounds in terms of wealth and advantage. The huge disparity in Islington, and especially in the project's local area, led to the establishment of the St Peter's Children and Young People's Activities Group as a charity in 2019. The charity has run the St Peter's Summer Project over 4 weeks in August since 2019. For our first three years we were based in the ARC Community Centre. In 2022, due to increased community use of the centre, it was not possible for ARC to lease the space needed for the project. We were fortunate that New North Academy, one of our partner schools, was happy to lease us accommodation.

New North Academy is a modern, well-equipped school with good indoor and excellent outdoor facilities. The outdoor space, including a multi-use sports enclosed pitch and a climbing frame along with outdoor classrooms, was very welcome in the hot summer of 2022. We had the use of two good-sized classrooms which are used as rooms for before and after school clubs during term time and which open directly to the outdoor space. A large hall provided space for our lead teacher who is a qualified yoga practitioner to run sessions for all the children at the beginning of the day. We also had use of the school's large, well-equipped kitchen.



New North Academy main hall

Food has always been an important part of our project. Although the Angel area in Islington is generally wealthy, levels of child poverty are very high (and this is also the case for poverty in the elderly population). In 2022 child poverty continued to increase across the UK including London where the percentage is now 20%. Islington, contrary to public perception, is home to some of London's poorest children with child poverty at more than double the London average at 42%. A combination of factors, including high housing costs, the impact of years of austerity on family incomes and the additional pressures arising from the pandemic, has meant that demand has grown for food banks and holiday projects such as ours. In Islington, 36% of primary school children are eligible for free school meals - in England we are fourth highest of local authority areas with eligible children. An additional issue for Islington is the wealth gap which renders the borough as one of the most unequal places for children to grow up in.

The primary schools with which we work have a higher percentage of children eligible for free school meals than the average in Islington. Indeed, two schools are the highest and third highest in the borough on this measure, with over 50% of children qualifying for free school meals. Islington Council was a pioneer in introducing free school meals for all primary school children and for its holiday hunger schemes. We work closely with Islington's holiday activities and food programme (HAF) who provide funding and cooked meals on request. In

2022, we took up the HAF cooked meals two to three days a week, provided sandwiches on days out and volunteers and trustees cooked meals on other days.

This year, as in previous years, our cohort included children with special needs and children in receipt of free school meals, as well as children where family circumstances meant that a holiday project was likely to be particularly helpful. We aimed to make them feel valued, to have fun and to learn, especially in the core programme of sport, yoga and mindfulness, cookery, arts and crafts, literacy, numeracy and speaking skills. And we hoped to build their self-

confidence to enable them to fulfil their potential. Our aim was that they should start the new school year without the fall-off in basic skills that can occur when children don't have the chance to reinforce them over the long summer break. And of course, the impact of Covid-19 shutdowns has had a disproportionate impact on children who are already disadvantaged.

These are big ambitions, and we are only able to report the judgements of all of those involved. This year as in previous years, we asked parents of project feedback reports. and children and parents

and children to complete end Children enjoyed the activities thought that the four weeks of learning together with sports and arts helped with confidence and back to school readiness. This was reinforced on the last day of the project when over 20 parents joined the children for an end of project celebration. However, we are aware that we should more rigorously evaluate academic outcomes. As a consequence, we are making changes for 2023 which are described later in this report.



Making Jewellery



Stained Glass Design



Clay Initials drying



One of the strengths of the project is our mix of staff and volunteers which means that we can accommodate a wide range of children's needs. This has included children who require additional help up to and including one-to-one support from trained teaching assistants.

One major change following the relaxation of Covid restrictions this year has been the increase in opportunities to take trips outside the immediate area. As well as benefitting from the generosity of Arsenal football club who welcomed our children for an exciting stadium tour, we also took the Year 6 children to the Wonder Room at the Science Museum and Year 5s to London Zoo.



London Zoo viewing penguins underwater

yoga and exercise session, children went to their classrooms for lessons aimed at developing academic skills and confidence. There was, as in previous years, a strong emphasis on reading and the project provided age-appropriate books which children were encouraged to choose and take home. Literacy was also encouraged through children's writing about their experiences during the four weeks including trips and other activities. For example, at the end of project celebration on the last day, children gave oral presentations to the group of parents about the work they had undertaken and showed them examples of their written and art work displayed in the classrooms. In addition, the Year 5 group took part in a HAF -supported project on healthy food that linked their reactions to looking at, tasting and touching different foods and developing their vocabulary to describe these experiences.



Visit to Arsenal Football Club



The programme

The 2022 project ran for 5 days a week for four weeks. Programmed activities took place from 10am until 2.30 pm but staff and volunteers were available from 9.30 to meet and greet parents and children before the day starts. Breakfast was available for any child who wanted it and on most days there were at least five children who had something to eat before the programme started.

Children were divided into two separate year groups for most of the activities. After the brief morning



Science Museum Wonder Lab

Notes on Food Tasting

Cooking has always been popular and in 2022 we had the benefit of cooking facilities in the classrooms. With a focus on sustainability, the children sourced local blackberries and apples to make crumble.

Numeracy skills were encouraged and developed through maths games and challenges as well as more formal input. There were also science experiments. This year, the younger group focused on the impact of oil spills on wildlife. Year 6 children greatly enjoyed their day at the Science Museum, especially the Wonder Lab with its exciting hands-on experiments and experiences.



Making Crumble with foraged foods

Our catchment area includes a stretch of the Regent's Canal and every year the project commissions kayaking sessions where children learn to enjoy being on the water while keeping safe. These sessions were very popular again this year and featured as a highlight when children told us what they liked best about the project. For many children, this was a totally new experience and it was heart-warming to see children grow in confidence as they



Lining up for a kayaking Adventure



learned to steer the boats more competently as the day

progressed.

TRIPS

If kayaking was the most popular activity, the Arsenal stadium visits were a close second in popularity. Children were thrilled by the whole experience from seeing the dressing rooms to the hospitality suites and the vast expanse of the pitch. The visits were led by Arsenal in the Community's development officer, Samir Singh, who was an excellent guide to the history of the club and stadium and ensured the trip was informative and enjoyable.

This was the first year that we were able to take the children to trips outside Islington and both the Zoo and the Science Museum Wonder Lab were good choices for the respective age groups. Both visits were followed up with quizzes and research work by the children on what they had learned and what they had liked best.

Our cohort

Altogether 40 children took part in the project which was a small increase on the previous year. While most children attended most



Samir Singh and the Arsenal trophy cabinet

days, there were some exceptions. Mostly this was due to families going away during the period which was less of an issue previously as Covid restrictions had made this difficult. In some cases children had days out to go to other HAF funded activities including coding workshops.

Further development

This year as in previous years, we undertook a review of our project, taking into account feedback from children and families, teachers, volunteers, trustees and local funders. The consensus was that the programme had met many of its objectives in that it provided safe care, good food, new and worthwhile experiences for children and had assisted families with childcare and providing healthy meals and a good holiday experience for their children. However, while it was likely that the teaching input which included reading, writing up experiences and maths games/challenges enhanced children's skills and at least partially addressed any dips in attainment during the holiday, we had no evidence beyond some self-reporting that the project had met its educational objectives.



We have sought specialist advice from a secondary school teacher with a specialism in literacy and Year 7 children and from a recently retired head teacher of an Ofsted-judged 'Outstanding' school in Islington. Both our advisers work in schools in deprived, multi-cultural areas close to our neighbourhood and have good experience in helping children in disadvantaged families to achieve well in education.

As a result of our internal review and the advice we have received we are planning significant changes

this year. Instead of planning to work Easter Booster

of a four-week summer project, we are with our schools on supporting an programme of academic teaching for a week in the Easter holiday along with a two-week summer project with a mix of academic input and some external trips. The Easter sessions should enable our partner schools and ourselves to evaluate the impact of the additional teaching and also to tailor any individual help for the more disadvantaged children who attend the summer project.

Designing a Board Game

Our thanks

We are enormously grateful to all those organisations who helped us, financially and in kind:

Take list of donors from Income plus volunteers and "in kind" providers

Ellis David for insurance, Popham's for treats during the morning breaks, and the many individuals who donated so generously.

Many thanks, too, to our many brilliant volunteers:

Feedback

Do we have feedback from young people/staff/parents?

Who we are

The Trustees

- Prof Sue Richards, Chair. Sue was an academic in the field of public policy and management and latterly a senior civil servant in the Cabinet Office.
- Helen Schofield, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. Helen is a retired community administrator and adult tutor with wide experience in Camden and Islington boroughs.
- Linda Shaughnessy, Trustee. Linda worked as a literary agent until she retired in 2016. Since then she has worked in the voluntary sector on a part-time basis.
- Kathy Bundred, Trustee. Kathy has worked in children's services, in local government as a social worker and has managed the Children's Fund, a programme for children in need.

Senior Education Adviser

- Vivien Cutler was the Senior Education Adviser throughout 2022 and previous years. This was her last year as Education Adviser as she has enrolled at SOAS on a full-time history degree. Vivien has been an invaluable member of the team with her experience as a headteacher, Director of Schools roles and as a local councillor in the ward. As well as advising the trustees, Vivien has led the project each year, liaising with schools, teachers and families and managing the activities over the four weeks.

Finance / donations

Our costs for the 2022 project come to ???. We do have some reserves for the 2023 project but need to raise more to cover total costs. We hope to be able to invite more children to take part so we will have a need for additional funds. All new donations will be very gratefully received. These can be by cheque made payable to St Peter's Children and Young People's Activities Group and sent to 4 Union Square, London N1 7DH, or via BACS into our account, as follows:

- Sort code: 23-05-80
- Account number: 33070251
- Account name: SPAG (short version of St Peter's Children and Young People's Activities Group)
- Reference: your surname

Please then send an email to our Treasurer Helen Schofield (stpeterscayg@gmail.com) and she will send you a Gift Aid form to sign, which will enable us to claim a further 25% from public funds.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

St Peter's Children & Young People's Activities Group	1182872
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 2/1/2022	To	Period end date 1/31/2023
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £
A1 Receipts				
Local Authority	15,700	-	-	15,700
Grants	10,000	-	-	10,000
Donations	4,300	-	-	4,300
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	30,000	-	-	30,000
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	30,000	-	-	30,000
A3 Payments				
Admin & Setting up costs	-	-	-	-
Hire of Premises	6,000	-	-	6,000
Staffing	24,720	-	-	24,720
Project Costs	2,081	-	-	2,081
Additional materials	776	-	-	776
Project Food	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	33,577	-	-	33,577
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total payments	33,577	-	-	33,577
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 3,577	-	-	- 3,577
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	32,412	-	-	32,412
Cash funds this year end	28,835	-	-	28,835

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank cash balance	11,835	-
	Retained as reserves for 2023 Project	17,000	-
		-	-
	Total cash funds	28,835	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
B3 Investment assets			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
B5 Liabilities			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	
		Prof Sue Richards Ms Linda Shaughnessy	

CC16a



Last year
to the nearest £

10,600
18,000
8,950
-
-
-
-
-
37,550

-
-

37,550

239
6,000
12,830
2,550
361
228
-
-
-
22,208

-

22,208

15,342
-
-
15,342



**Endowment
funds**

to nearest £

-
-
-
-

OK

**Endowment
funds**

to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

**Current value
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-

**Current value
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

**When due
(optional)**

**Date of
approval**

21-Apr-23
21-Apr-23



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name

St Peter's Children and Young Peoples Activity Group

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 January 2023

**Charity no
(if any)**

1182872

Set out on pages

1

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/01/2023**.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

21 / 4 / 23

Name:

Ian Sparham-Souter

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Address:

15 Clock Tower Mews

London

N1 7BB

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.