



Earls Court Youth Club Annual Report 2024-2025





ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



Table of Contents

Message from the CEO.....	3
QUARTER 4 - Inspiring futures, one experience at a time. Jun – Aug 2024	5
V&A ART WORKSHOP @ BROMPTON LIBRARY.....	6
NIGHT AT THE MUSICALS 2 - AN EARL'S COURTIERS PRODUCTION.....	6
SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME	7
PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT AT THE PHYSIC GARDEN	7
ARTS & CRAFTS	8
A DAY IN YOUR LIFE WORKSHOPS.....	9
FOOTBALL	9
BAKING WORKSHOP.....	10
KAYAKING.....	11
ECYC FUN DAY: A CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY, INCLUSIVITY AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT	11
CONCLUSION.....	12
QUARTER 1 - A journey snapshot from Under 8s to Senior Club at ECYC. Sept – Nov 2024	14
UNDER 8s	14
YOGA FOR KIDS: CHANNELLING ENERGY, INSPIRING YOUNG MINDS.....	15
JUNIOR CLUB (9-13 YEARS)	16
URBAN ART	16
TABLE TENNIS CLUB	17
FRIDAY QUIZZES	17
FOOTBALL	17
SENIOR CLUB (13-19)	18
BOXERCISE	19
1:1 TUTORING	20
FUTURE AMBITIONS (NEXT STEPS AND BUSINESS COACHING)	20
STUDY SPACE	21
GIRLS' NIGHT WELLNESS FROM WITHIN PROJECT	21
CONCLUSION.....	22
QUARTER 2 - inspiring growth, fostering ambition and celebrating success. Dec – Mar 2025.....	24
JUNIOR CLUB.....	24
RBKC YOUNG LEADERS AWARDS 13TH DECEMBER 2024	25
25TH MAYOR'S AWARDS CEREMONY - THURSDAY 27 MARCH 2025	26
V&A WORKSHOPS 6TH DECEMBER 2024, 24TH JANUARY 2025.....	26
A DAY IN YOUR LIFE AWARDS NIGHT – 27TH JANUARY 2025	27
'IN BLOOM' DAKU COFFEE EXHIBITION (12TH DEC 2024 – 24TH FEB 2025).....	28
FUTURE CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME	29
Wellness From Within Project – July 2024 to March 2025	29
GIRLS' NIGHT IFTAR DINNERS - RAMADAN 2025	30
STAFF TEAM DINNER: EID 2025	31
CONCLUSION.....	31
Quarter 3 - Invested today to build tomorrow's opportunities. Apr 2025 – Jun 2025	32
EASTER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.....	34
GIRLS' WELLNESS: MASSAGE AND AROMATHERAPY SESSIONS.....	36
BOXFIT CLASSES	36
CV WORKSHOPS.....	37
YOUNG K&C: A STRATEGIC ANCHOR FOR YOUTH WORK IN RBKC.....	38
SCHOOL EXCLUSION FOCUS GROUPS	39
CONCLUSION.....	40
Reflections from the Chair	41
Our Thanks	42
In Loving Memory of Tianna Dagher 1979-2025	44



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

It is with immense pride that I present this year's Annual Report for Earls Court Youth Club. Over the past year, we have continued to grow, adapt and deliver on our vision and mission: to provide a safe, inclusive and inspiring environment where children and young people can thrive.

This has been a year of remarkable progress and resilience. From our youngest members in the Under 8s club to those preparing to take their next steps into higher education or work, we have supported every stage of their journey. Our educational attainment programme has gone from strength to strength, offering tailored tutoring, study spaces and one-to-one mentoring. Alongside this, our wellbeing initiatives, from Boxercise and Yoga for Kids to our Wellness From Within project, have ensured that mental health remains at the heart of our work.

We have celebrated our young people achieving extraordinary things. Their artwork, photography, performances and leadership have not only inspired the ECYC community but have been recognised more widely across the borough. From award-winning young leaders to public exhibitions and showcases, our members have consistently shown what is possible when talent is nurtured in the right environment.

The year also marked an important milestone in our relationship with the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, with a substantial new grant allowing us to expand provision for both our Junior and Senior Clubs. This recognition underscores the critical role we play as one of two dedicated youth clubs in the south of the borough, relied upon by so many families.

Looking ahead, our ambition is clear: we want to deepen and expand our educational attainment programme, ensuring that every young person who walks through our doors has the support, confidence and skills they need to succeed academically. Alongside this, we will continue to grow our cultural, creative and wellbeing programmes, embedding opportunities that broaden horizons and prepare young people for the future.

Our objectives for the coming year are centred on three priorities:

- **Expanding academic support** through structured tutoring, revision zones and targeted mentoring.
- **Strengthening wellbeing programmes**, promoting resilience, positive mental health and self-expression.
- **Growing youth leadership and voice**, ensuring young people co-create the future of ECYC.

Through every programme and initiative, we want to help young people build the confidence, resilience and skills to shape their own futures. I would like to extend my thanks to our staff, trustees, funders, volunteers, partners and, above all, our young people, whose energy, creativity and determination are the true heartbeat of ECYC. Together, we have achieved so much and together we will continue to build a future where every young person in our community feels supported, inspired and able to achieve their full potential.

Abdi Aden, Chief Executive Officer, Earls Court Youth Club.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



2024-2025 Quarter 4 Report

Inspiring futures, one experience at a time.

June 2024– August 2024





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



QUARTER 4 - Inspiring futures, one experience at a time. Jun – Aug 2024

This quarter at Earls Court Youth Club has been one of growth, resilience, and collective achievement, as we navigated both the operational demands of the club and the diverse challenges faced by our members.

As the academic year came to a close, our staff team was pivotal in supporting members preparing for their GCSE and A-level exams all the way through to receiving their results. We provided not only weekly tutoring sessions and revision spaces but also much-needed outlets for stress relief and mental wellbeing throughout the whole period as we saw increased anxiety leading up to the results being released. During this high-pressure period, young people had access to an array of activities designed to maintain balance and foster holistic development. These included three weekly boxercise sessions, four football sessions, art therapy, a debate club, themed quiz nights, and cooking classes, culminating in shared meals each evening. These initiatives were not just recreational but served as vital coping mechanisms during an intense academic stretch.

Our efforts went beyond immediate academic support; we placed a strong focus on future aspirations through workshops on higher education, career pathways, employment, apprenticeships and entrepreneurship. One of the quarter's standout moments came when we hosted industry experts from a tech start-up. Their insights into emerging job markets, such as roles in AI and technological innovation, like AI engineers proved eye-opening for our young people. The discussion extended to the jobs predicted to become obsolete by 2035, prompting our members to embark on a journey of self-reflection, encouraging them to envision their place in the future job market 10 to 15 years from now.

"I always wanted to work as bank teller, but now I realise that this job may no longer be there in the future, I have stopped focusing on just one job opportunity and this workshop has made me think about keeping my options open" AR (age 14)

As the summer holiday programme concluded, it was clear that our young people had made significant strides, not just those preparing for exams, but also those transitioning from primary to secondary school or adjusting to new year groups. The programme itself, co-created with our young members, was both innovative and exciting, introducing fresh ideas and unique trips that had never been undertaken at the youth club before.

Discover the exciting highlights of this quarter's activities, showcasing just a glimpse of what we have to offer. Beyond these special events, we continue to run our regular favourites, including table tennis club, chess club, the Under 8's Club, Junior and Senior clubs, and, of course, Girls' Night. There's always something for everyone at the youth club!





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025

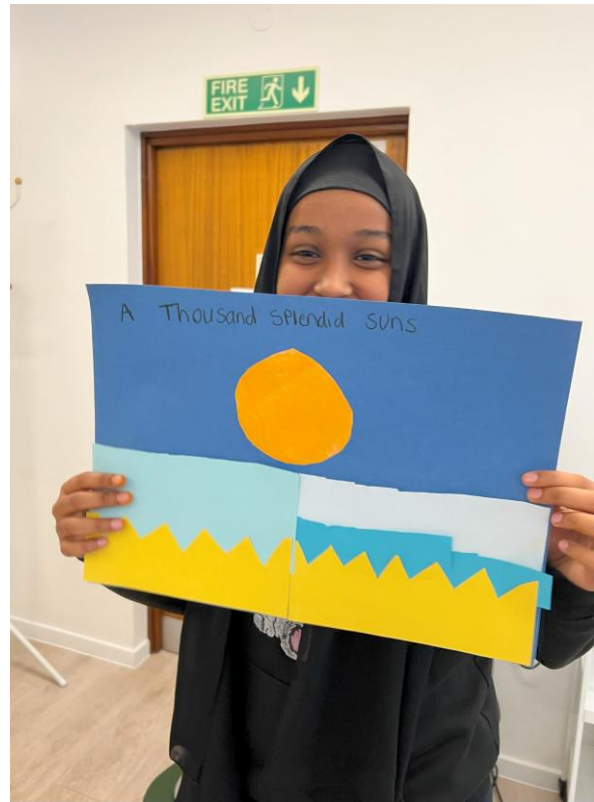


V&A ART WORKSHOP @ BROMPTON LIBRARY

On the 6th of June, we had the pleasure of taking eighteen enthusiastic young individuals from the Earls Court Youth Club to Brompton Library. The young people participated in an inspiring workshop organised by the V&A, offering them the unique opportunity to redesign the covers of their favourite books. This engaging activity allowed them to delve deeply into the art of illustration and explore the nuances of visual storytelling. The feedback from the young participants was overwhelmingly positive; they expressed that they had gained substantial knowledge and insights into the world of illustration.

The workshop was led by Mireille, a distinguished lecturer at the Royal College of Art in London and the commissioning illustration editor of Ambit Magazine. Mireille's approach was particularly engaging, captivating the young artists with her expertise and passion for the craft.

The remarkable artwork created by these talented young individuals is currently on display at Brompton Library. We encourage you to visit and appreciate their creative efforts the next time you find yourself in the vicinity.



NIGHT AT THE MUSICALS 2 - AN EARL'S COURTIER'S PRODUCTION

ECYC attended the Earl's Courtiers Production of "Night at the Musicals 2" on Friday 28th June 2024. The show featured talented young actors and actresses who captivated the audience with their performances from start to finish. A special thank you to Toby @ TLC for the invite.

It was an electrifying evening of musical theatre leaving our members inspired and now eager to step into the spotlight themselves. There was a variety of food and drinks including burgers and hot dogs, straight off the BBQ and we certainly took advantage of this!



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



SUMMER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Our Summer Holiday Programme commenced on 25th July and concluded 25th August. While this report seeks to capture the spirit of the most popular activities, it is important to acknowledge the breadth of additional thoughtfully crafted activities that were on offer had the same care and intention as those featured and they include including ice lolly making, volleyball, movie marathons, handball, musical workshops, smoothie making and slime making.

Our aims for the summer programme went beyond mere entertainment and lasting memories. We are committed to creating a space where children and young people can learn valuable life skills, form meaningful relationships, and explore their creative potential in a safe and supportive environment. These activities were designed to foster resilience, teamwork and self-expression, qualities that are vital for children and young people growing up in urban settings.

Youth work requires a nuanced approach where every session is an opportunity to positively shape the lives of children and young people, helping them navigate the challenges they face in today's society.

PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT AT THE PHYSIC GARDEN

The photography project, led by the renowned local photographer Alison Jackson, took place over three days at the Physic Garden. The project offered young people the opportunity to explore photography in a natural setting.

The variety of subjects; flowers, wildlife, rare plants and candid moments with peers, provided a rich learning experience. The successes included engagement with nature which they thoroughly enjoyed, particularly as none



of them were aware of the Physic Garden's existence before the project and the chance to explore a new environment was met with enthusiasm. Participants were able to immerse themselves in the project, taking photographs that showcased their creativity.

The daily debrief sessions with Alison Jackson were a highlight. Young people were eager to see their work displayed and appreciated the feedback and recognition from a professional photographer. Alison's selection of her favourite images motivated the participants and added a competitive yet supportive element to the project. Lastly, the trips were well attended on all days, indicating strong interest and commitment from the children and young people. Their excitement about the project was evident throughout. There were 90 unique users that participated in this three day immersive experience, with a total of 120 children and young people taking part.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



ARTS & CRAFTS



This session was introduced to broaden the creative horizons of our members by providing them with the tools to allow their artistic direction to develop. We used pipe cleaners to create flower bouquets and experimented with various colours and flower arrangements. From the onset, we were able to gauge a positive reception from the young people who were eager to keep engaging in the activity even after they had had an initial try.

Arts and Crafts has often been used to reach more reserved individuals, who are more likely require a supportive and encouraging environment to come out of their shell and subsequently grow in confidence.

'Art therapy' is a method that is proven to heighten confidence and empower those who engage with it, leaving them feeling more positive than beforehand. Research by Girija Kaimal and Kendra Ray presented that "73% of the participants showed a beneficial increase in their feelings of self-efficacy after completing their art". When relating this crucial information to children and young people and the depth of issues that may limit their self-confidence and heighten insecurities, particularly in social settings, it is essential to apply methods of reversing said behaviours and leave them with a lasting impact that will positively shape their choices in terms of self-development.

We saw the impact of the confidence built in these sessions reach beyond the room, and certain participants were able to venture out into other areas and try new activities. Had it not been for the relaxed and supportive environment cultivated by staff in the session, the engagement would have been low and limited to the activity on hand.



"My daughter was known to be shy and always found it difficult to make friends. Since doing art at ECYC in the summer she has found her passion and is now more confident than ever before" - Parent of CT age 8.



A DAY IN YOUR LIFE WORKSHOPS

Alison Jackson facilitated a series of workshops to enhance the photography skills of children and young people at ECYC. She led ten sessions in total with a minimum of 15 participants for each one, tailoring them to the relevant needs of the group.



They were able to demonstrate strong self-confidence by taking the initiative to not only capture an image but also direct it. The pre-thought was integral to helping them understand that they can create the perfect image rather than simply waiting for it to arrive.

The outcomes of these workshops not only develop the young people in terms of technical skills but also in tangible results. These

images will be collected to bolster their personal portfolios and shortlisted to enter the Day in your life competition, whereby winners will be rewarded for their camera skills. These images could potentially be displayed in the Saatchi Gallery or Cadogan Hall. The overarching goal being to develop their profiles as artists by professionally exhibiting their work in world class venues.

FOOTBALL

ECYC ran football sessions led by UEFA and FA-qualified coach Steve, a long-time friend of the club and a respected figure in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. These sessions were carefully designed to balance fun with meaningful engagement.



At ECYC, positive and constructive feedback was a cornerstone of the sessions. This approach boosted players' confidence, morale and overall performance. The sessions aimed to foster a love for the game while developing the mental toughness and motivation necessary for success in sport and life.

The outcomes of ECYC's summer football sessions were significant: participants developed teamwork skills, engaged in a physically active sport, made new friends and built relationships with community members they might not have otherwise encountered. They also improved their technical football skills and had valuable time away from digital devices, all while having fun.



ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



"I had never played football before and I have never been interested in sports until I came to ECYC. Everyone has been really nice and that has made me want to join in and improve. I now come to football once a week and I really like it" – AO age 11. "Football at ECYC is really fun, I like doing the tournaments in the summer, everyone tries their best and wants to win and Coach Steve helps us to improve" - SE age 14.

BAKING WORKSHOP



The ECYC baking workshop offered young people a fantastic opportunity to combine the joy of cooking with valuable life skills. This hands-on experience allowed participants to explore food technology and the culinary arts while working together in a fun, engaging environment.

Under the guidance of trained chefs and volunteers, young bakers were introduced to essential baking techniques, including how to measure, mix, and bake ingredients step by step. For some, baking is a hobby or a way to satisfy sweet cravings, but it also offers a potential platform for entrepreneurship, social change and mental wellbeing. Baking requires focus and precision as even slight variations in ingredients can dramatically affect the outcome.

Feedback from the participants highlighted their appreciation for the tactile nature of the workshop, from handling kitchen utensils to working directly with ingredients, which enhanced their satisfaction in creating and later indulging in their baked goods.

The workshop also promoted personal responsibility, independence, and confidence, as many attendees valued the opportunity to collaborate, bond and learn from one another.

In summary, the ECYC baking workshop went far beyond just teaching young people how to bake. It provided a space for them to make mistakes, learn from them, and take pride in the simple yet fulfilling task of creating something from scratch – and, of course, enjoy eating it too.



"I loved the baking class because it's like art but with food. And we got to eat everything after which was the best part!" – MM age 11. "I didn't think baking could be so fun. I learned how to make cupcakes, and they actually tasted amazing. I'm going to bake at home now!" – CT age 14.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



KAYAKING

Kayaking presented a perfect blend of physical challenge and outdoor fun.



In a community where football dominates, thanks to the presence of Chelsea and Fulham football clubs, kayaking offered many participants a completely new experience. Taking place on the iconic River the young people set off, learning skills that emphasised balance, coordination and teamwork.

Research shows that kayaking improves cardiovascular health, builds strength and enhances overall fitness. In addition to the physical advantages, nature-based activities like kayaking are known to reduce stress and boost mental

wellbeing. This was certainly true for the participants as feedback revealed the outings were not only fun but also therapeutic. Many young people expressed a newfound appreciation for the River Thames and the often-overlooked nature-based opportunities available in their community.

We would like to thank London Sports Trust for making this opportunity available to our members.

ECYC FUN DAY: A CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY, INCLUSIVITY AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

The ECYC Fun Day was a vibrant event that opened the doors of the youth club to the local community. Designed to celebrate the diversity of the area and the young people who regularly attend, it also provided an opportunity for families and neighbours to connect with the youth club that has long been a positive influence in their lives and community.

With an open-door policy, the fun day allowed local families to become familiar with ECYC and the range of opportunities it provides for young people. It showcased the youth club's ongoing commitment to fostering positive relationships between young people, their families and the wider community in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

Families were treated to many activities, candy floss, slushies and other sweet delights throughout the sunny day, while parents were offered a moment of relaxation with soothing massages to help them unwind after the day's excitement. One of the highlights was a hot savoury meal and dessert prepared by ECYC's resident chef. This meal not only provided nourishment but also created a shared dining experience, where families could bond and connect with their community over a delicious, freshly made meal. The chef's





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



dedication to creating a memorable culinary experience added a special touch to the festivities, leaving a lasting impression on everyone who attended.



made us feel more connected to our neighbours and for this we have to thank ECYC for organising this brilliant day"- Grandparent of MR.

CONCLUSION

This quarter has been a remarkable success, filled with vibrant energy and positive strides. From hosting engaging workshops that sparked creativity, to introducing initiatives that reduced anxiety and boosted confidence, the club has truly shone as a hub of development. Our various activity workshops and one-on-one support for those tackling GCSEs and A-Levels have made a tangible difference, empowering our young people to express themselves and take ownership of their futures. We've seen friendships blossom, skills sharpen and a renewed sense of belonging take root.



The day demonstrated ECYC's dedication to the power of coming together to celebrate, connecting local families, involving them in the youth club's mission and reinforcing its role as a positive force in the community.

"We have lived on the same road as the youth club for 40 years and this was the first event of its kind. Seeing the local community come together was really something beautiful. It

To conclude, this quarter has been a testament to the club's role as both a sanctuary and a launchpad, providing essential services that support the personal and academic growth of our young people while also preparing them for the evolving challenges ahead. With each passing week, we are reminded of the importance of community and the bright potential of those we serve.

Here's to many more successes as we continue this meaningful journey together.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



2024-2025 Quarter 1 Report

A journey snapshot from Under 8s to Senior Club at ECYC
September 2024 – November 2024





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



QUARTER 1 - A journey snapshot from Under 8s to Senior Club at ECYC. Sept – Nov 2024

This quarter at Earls Court Youth Club (ECYC) has been one of **purposeful development**, where young people have been supported through **key transitions in their academic and personal lives**. As the year unfolds, we remain committed to **youth voice, inclusion and skills for life**, ensuring that every member feels valued and empowered. From sports sessions to wellness initiatives and community service projects, our co-created programmes have been designed to foster confidence, resilience and self-awareness- equipping young people with the tools they need to navigate their futures.

Transition is a fundamental aspect of youth work, shaping a young person's journey through education, personal development and preparation for adulthood. Whether moving from our Under-8s club to junior sessions, stepping up to senior activities, or leaving the youth club as a well-rounded individual ready for further education, employment or entrepreneurship, we provide the guidance and opportunities to support these milestones. Similarly, the transition from the first to second year of GCSEs or A-Levels presents crucial decision-making moments. To alleviate academic pressures and enhance achievement, our staff have offered dedicated study spaces, one-to-one tuition and tailored academic support.



We continue to champion **youth-led opportunities** that enable personal and social development. Young people have participated in urban art, themed film nights, career development workshops and shared community meals, fostering a strong sense of belonging and agency.

UNDER 8s



ECYC's Under 8s club serves as a vital foundation, providing young children with their first structured experiences in a youth work setting. As the only **reliable and consistent** youth club in the South of the borough, our Under 8s provision is more than just a starting point- it is a key part of a **holistic journey** that extends through our junior and senior clubs, offering a **seamless and trusted pathway** for young people as they grow.

The emphasis is on **play-based learning**, helping children develop core skills that will support their future

engagement. Early exposure to positive social environments lays the groundwork for their transition into our **junior club**, where they will continue to expand their experiences in a safe, inclusive and familiar setting.

FOOTBALL



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



At ECYC, our **Under 8s football sessions** have become a firm favourite, providing young children with an engaging and structured introduction to the sport.

Our holistic approach nurtures not only **physical** ability but also **social and psychological** growth, helping even the shyest participants gain confidence and self-esteem.

The sessions are specifically adapted to the skill level of participants, even complete beginners who have never played the sport before. Designed with fun at the forefront, we feel it is important for children to learn that sport and physical activities are enjoyable and that they **start building healthy habits from a young age**.



With **limited green spaces in the South of the borough**, access to free, high-quality football sessions for this age group is rare, making ECYC the only youth organisation in the area offering such a programme. The demand is so high that we now operate a waiting list, demonstrating the pressing need for accessible sports activities.

In a country where **childhood obesity is on the rise**, instilling a love for movement and play from an early age is crucial. Thanks to **three years of funding from the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund**, we are proud to ensure that these football sessions will continue, providing a much-needed service for local families and helping young children build lifelong healthy habits.

YOGA FOR KIDS: CHANNELLING ENERGY, INSPIRING YOUNG MINDS



This quarter, we introduced **Yoga for Kids** for the very first time and it has been a **joyful, energetic and transformative** addition to our Under 8s programme.

Young children are **bundles of energy, full of curiosity and excitement**, ready to leap, climb and explore the world around them. But just as movement is essential to their growth, so too is the ability to **pause, focus and tune into their emotions**. Yoga offers them the **best of both worlds**, blending **playful physical activity with moments of stillness and self-awareness**.

Our sessions are **anything but quiet and serious**- they are filled with **animal poses, storytelling and laughter**, turning each class into an adventure. Children **roar like lions, stretch like cats and balance like flamingos**, all while unknowingly strengthening their **coordination, flexibility and focus**. And the results have been undeniable- **timid children have found their voices, restless ones have discovered calm and all have grown in confidence**.

Parents have shared how their children have brought yoga techniques home, using breathing exercises to **calm themselves before bed or regain focus after a busy day**. Many have noticed an increased **awareness of their bodies** and a newfound **enthusiasm for movement and new experiences**.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



"AM is one of these kids who was excitable about everything and bored within 5 mins, I have seen how he can now focus on activities for longer and when it comes to bedtime he now knows how to get himself into the right mood for bed " AM's mother.

JUNIOR CLUB (9-13 YEARS)



The Junior club is a bright and engaging space aimed at children aged 9 to 13. It offers a range of activities like Urban Art, Football Fun and Table Tennis club. As children **progress from the Under 8s club to the Junior club**, they are supported in their **continual development with an emphasis on independence, responsibility and honing their interests**. For those who have not progressed from the Under 8s, the Junior club assimilates them into a culture where the **development of their social and emotional resilience** is prioritised and where there is ample opportunity to engage with structured activities aimed at supplementing their academic and developmental needs.

URBAN ART

As part of our **Cultural Capital programme** which aims to enhance and widen the cultural awareness of our members by exposing them to as much Arts and Culture as possible.

In these sessions participants have demonstrated significant progress in techniques such as **graffiti-inspired designs**, street art and mixed-media creations. Participants have **experimented with colours, shapes, textures and different tools** such as spray paint, powdered pigments, acrylic paint and felt tip marker pens.

Members have been encouraged to think about the message behind their artwork leading them to think on a deeper level. Not only have the sessions **encouraged self-expression but a chance to articulate their identities**. Much of the art work has been displayed across the club, giving the artists a sense of pride and the recognition they deserve.





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



TABLE TENNIS CLUB



The Table Tennis Club, as part of the Junior Club, has demonstrated **significant progress** in recent months. It has provided young people with a platform to **develop their hand eye co-ordination**, learn different serving techniques, mastering the forehand and backhand whilst maintaining accuracy and precision.

Notably, **two members are now training to represent the borough in the London Youth Games**. This achievement reflects the effectiveness of the club in nurturing talent and its ability to **motivate participants to reach competitive standards**. The progress made by these members has been a source of inspiration for their peers and underscores the club's value in offering meaningful opportunities for personal and athletic development.

FRIDAY QUIZZES

Friday Quizzes have become a **highlight of ECYC's weekly activities**, offering a chance for young people to come together and test their knowledge. The **Quizzes are not just educational** – they are also designed to be fun, with engaging themes. The quizzes **foster a sense**

of community with friendly competition and a **focus on learning**, encouraging **curiosity and teamwork**. Participants are able to discover new information and share what they have learned.

The quiz sessions sparked lively discussions about race, identity and cultural appreciation, with team-based activities that allowed members to collaborate, share knowledge and support each other. It was **inspiring** to see young people from **all backgrounds coming together** to learn about **Black history** and **celebrate the achievements and contributions of Black communities**.

The Junior Club's participation in the Black History Month quizzes was especially **impactful** with many young people reporting that they had learned something new. For the girls' night, quizzes prompted discussions regarding the unique challenges at the **intersection of being classed as a POC and also being a woman**. The quizzes served as a **springboard for deeper conversations** about the **importance of diversity, inclusion** and understanding of **different cultures**.

FOOTBALL





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



Football sessions are focused on **building resilience, inner strength and teamwork**. Football is the ideal vehicle for developing these qualities as it teaches young people how to **communicate effectively, collaborate with others, persist in the face of challenges**, how to **deal with a loss** and also how to **win gracefully**. Through both practice and play, participants learn the value of working together towards a common goal - **skills that are transferable** to every aspect of their lives, from school to social settings.



A highlight of the football sessions this quarter amongst the junior cohort is the weekly tournaments which give the participants something to strive towards and foster a healthy sense of competition. The winners and runners-up are celebrated for their achievements which not only provides motivation but also teaches young people about handling success and failure. The experience of winning or coming close encourages a sense of pride, while losing teaches resilience and the importance of trying again. These lessons go beyond football, helping young people develop a growth mindset and a positive approach to adversity.

The focus remains on fair play, respect for teammates and opponents, and enjoying the game itself. While the competitive element is important, it is equally about personal growth - learning to push oneself, stay focused and perform under pressure and develop behaviour and social skills. The sport encourages discipline, respect and teamwork as they engage with their peers in a team-based activity, they also learn to resolve conflicts, collaborate, be leaders and support one another - skills that are invaluable in every area of life.

For many, football is a vital part of their routine - a time to focus on something positive and connect with others. The opportunity to step away from screens and engage in physical activity also supports their overall physical and mental health.

SENIOR CLUB (13-19)

The Senior Club is designed to equip young people with the knowledge and skills they need to navigate the **transition into adulthood**. Open to individuals aged 13-19, the club offers a dynamic space for exploring further **education pathways, entrepreneurship, apprenticeships and job opportunities**. Its purpose is to prepare members for **life beyond school, sixth form, or college**, empowering them to enter the real world with **confidence and clarity**.



The club also focuses on personal growth, fostering a strong sense of self, accountability and the tools to positively contribute to society and their communities. Activities such as Careers Development workshops, Boxercise and the Wellness From Within programme are thoughtfully designed to help members **build self-awareness, develop new skills and broaden their understanding of the world around them**.

Leadership opportunities are a cornerstone of the Senior Club, enabling young people to serve as role models for



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



the younger cohorts. By the time Junior Club members transition to the Senior Club or new members join, they become active contributors to the club's culture and success. This aligns with ECYC's mission of offering long-term support and fostering the holistic development of young people.

BOXERCISE

Over the past quarter, the youth club's boxercise sessions have been successful in promoting **fitness, concentration, discipline and teamwork**. We have a **diverse group of participants** ranging over age, gender and ability.



Attendees have shown profound improvement in their boxing techniques, including **footwork, balance, agility and defensive skills**. Each session is structured to allow for gradual progression with new aims each week and members are encouraged to learn at their own pace whilst having their limits challenged on a weekly basis. Moreover, the physical benefits of our boxercise sessions have exceeded our expectations. It is rare to see a group of young people arriving early and enthusiastic to do a set of burpees. Nevertheless, the young people have demonstrated a commitment to these sessions which has been the result of a yearlong effort of cultivating a culture of

mutual and personal accountability, long-term development and discipline.

We aim to fully incorporate plyometric training into our boxercise sessions as we have been slowly introducing this through discussions with our member and as a means of warming up. Plyometric training is designed to mimic the demands of an actual fight. Research has shown that it can increase reactive strength which can improve rate of force development and fast twitch muscle fibres, thereby facilitating improved performance during athletic tasks such as jumping, sprinting and changing direction.

There are no other boxing clubs nearby and the monthly membership is too costly for the families for our members to afford. We are making boxing more accessible and giving young people the opportunity to do something they wouldn't normally be able to do.





1:1 TUTORING

ECYC has made significant strides in enhancing our members' **access to educational support** by providing one-to-one tuition sessions in English, Mathematics and Science. These **tailored sessions** are designed to provide **personalised academic assistance** to our young members, meeting their **individual learning needs** thus helping them **reach their full academic potential**.

1:1 tuition at ECYC aims to **bridge the educational gap** for students who require additional support outside of classroom hours. We have been able to identify specific learning challenges and create action plans tailored to the individual.

This quarter we witnessed a notable increase of interest following the success of our tuition services in the last quarter. Feedback from both tutees and parents has been overwhelmingly positive. Many students have reported an increase in their confidence when it comes to their academic ability. This has also been met with a greater enthusiasm and love for learning. For instance, one student who initially struggled with their mathematics A-level has reported that

"with the extra help in Maths at ECYC, I feel a lot more confident in getting the grade that I need for university and I enjoy maths a lot more now". Stories like this underscore the impact of tailored attention and support.

FUTURE AMBITIONS (NEXT STEPS AND BUSINESS COACHING)



'A New Year, a fresh start' is a saying that often embodies a **spirit of opportunity** and refresh. However, for older youth 'a new year, a fresh start' can evoke a wave of stress and anxiety. The looming reality of forfeiting the comfort of the classroom and stepping into the adult world can leave them feeling nervous, stuck and overwhelmed by uncertainty.

ECYC's **Future Ambitions** service was founded on the idea that each and every young person deserves the opportunity to **explore their passions and prepare for their future**. Our Future Ambitions service is designed to empower our members by **listening to their wants**, providing them

with **essential resources, guidance and help** build the right connections and attain hands-on work experience to get a feel for working life. From CV workshops, to mock interviews, to support in UCAS applications, we have been able to equip young people with the skills and confidence they need to navigate their career paths. By fostering an environment of support and exploration, we help our young members to discover their potential and make **well-informed decisions about their futures**, ensuring that they are best prepared to take the first steps in their careers.

This quarter alone we have helped 15 young people get work experience opportunities and 25 young people apply to higher education. Opportunity is buzzing during the teenage years and we at ECYC believe that by harnessing the individual potential of our young members we can help them become more equipped, experienced and knowledgeable for the life ahead.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

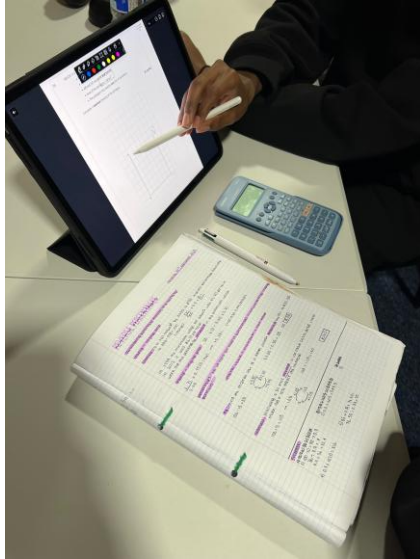
June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



STUDY SPACE

study space at ECYC is offered to students who would like to make use of their hours outside of the classroom. It is particularly beneficial as many of our members have diverse needs with many not having access to facilities such as a good internet connection, a computer and a quiet space to air their thoughts. The space has been well thought out to provide an environment that is conducive with long-term memory retention and motivation. Starting with the environment, studies have found that students learning in naturally lit spaces achieve grades 25% higher than those in dimly lit spaces. This is why at ECYC the study spaces make full use of the natural light coming through the windows taking advantage of all the natural light possible and placing seating near the windows.



We also appreciate that noise is crucial to effective studying: some people prefer low level noise, whilst others work best in silence and there are times where both can be used to your advantage. Our upstairs study area benefits from sound proofing meaning that outside noise from the activities of the youth club does not hinder students' academic progress. Healthy snacks are also offered to students in between breaks to boost productivity and focus, and ensure that they are energised before resuming revision.

Looking into the next quarter the Study Space remains a vital resource for our members to focus on their studies, sharpen their revision techniques and **build greater academic confidence**. The continued use of this space and its popularity highlights the importance of it to our members. We are passionate about enhancing the Study Space in the coming quarter, exploring new ways to foster a love of learning, encourage academic focus and ensure that every young person has the tools and support they need to **thrive in and outside of the classroom**.

GIRLS' NIGHT WELLNESS FROM WITHIN PROJECT

ECYC's *Wellness from Within* project is offered to girls between the ages of 14 to 19. The Project is aimed at **empowering girls** and the sessions explore important **topics affecting young females** such as social media, body image, dieting and eating disorders, self-esteem, personal hygiene, friendship dynamics and the pressures to conform to sociocultural ideals. The project explores these topics through different mediums, including role playing and drama workshops, massage therapy and self-care workshops.



These sessions provide a safe and creative space to navigate complex issues. By fostering dialogue and offering interventions, *Wellness from Within* aims to prevent issues such as eating disorders and build resilience among participants. By providing support through **culturally and racially sensitive approaches**, *Wellness from Within* ensures that the **girls' needs are met holistically**, empowering them to thrive in their personal and social lives.

ECYC takes pride in its partnerships with Tie-Dye Drama and Nikita Williams, a paediatric Eating Disorder Nurse,



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



working in the NHS. The structure of the workshops is fourfold:

1. The cultivation of a group agreement and rules that our young members are responsible for upholding. These rules are gone over at the beginning of every session to ensure that the rights, responsibilities, feelings and opinions of each member are respected;
2. The workshop moves into games targeted at warming up the participants. This gives everyone the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the space, feel comfortable and have some fun in preparation for the activities and discussions after;
3. The workshop moves into the main session which is either a group or independent activity. The main activity involves rehearsing and sharing back to the group the drama pieces that our young people have worked on. The wider group are encouraged to offer constructive and uplifting commentary, and ask questions to further the drama where appropriate;
4. Finally, the workshop assumes a calmer pace. Members are given the space to cool down by taking part in mindfulness and breathing activities. Then they are given the opportunity to reflect on the workshop session and celebrate their individual achievements, other members' accomplishments and those of the group as a whole.

Engaging in the arts has long been shown to have many benefits for wellbeing. By taking part in drama activities, young people at our girls' nights are given a safe space for self-expression through improvisation and role-playing; an avenue for developing communication and social skills by encouraging interaction between different cliques and friendship circles. The young members engage in acting as a form of catharsis and are given the space to act out their emotions and develop a greater sense of empathy as they role play different characters. This allows them to **explore different perspectives** which makes way for a greater understanding of others and themselves.

CONCLUSION

The successes of this quarter have been the **result of at least 12 months of planning, partnership and collaboration**, and commitment and dedication to the comprehensive and specific needs of young people. We are starting to see the tangible outcomes of the hard work and thoughtful consideration that has gone into creating a fun, safe, inclusive and supportive environment for all who interact with and attend ECYC.

At the core of this quarter's successes is our commitment to empowering young people, helping them to unlock and develop confidence, link them with resources and opportunities to envision better futures for themselves, supporting them in launching their aspirations and navigating new challenges and journeys at whichever stage they are at.

ECYC continues to provide a structured yet flexible framework for young people to grow. This journey is not just about moving from one stage to the next- it's about fostering resilience, self-belief, and a sense of belonging that carries them through life's key transitions.

As we move forward, we remain committed to building on this foundation, ensuring that each and every young person who interacts with ECYC is given the opportunity to explore, grow and thrive.



ECYC AGM 24 September 2024

We are proud of the progress we have made this quarter and are excited to continue investing in the futures of the young people who make this youth club precisely what it is – a bright and inspiring place to be.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



A DAY IN YOUR LIFE **PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS**



2024-2025 Quarter 2 Report

inspiring growth, fostering ambition and celebrating success

December 2024 – March 2025





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



QUARTER 2 - inspiring growth, fostering ambition and celebrating success. Dec – Mar 2025

Each quarter brings new opportunities to deepen our impact, expand our offerings, and support the growth and development of the children and young people we work with. In the past few months, we have celebrated a wealth of achievements that highlight the incredible potential of our young members. A key highlight was the photography exhibition, which not only showcased the creative talents of our children and young people but also served as a celebration of self-expression and a powerful reminder of the diverse perspectives they bring to the world.



We are also immensely proud of the young people who have been nominated for or won prestigious awards, recognising their dedication, hard work, and leadership qualities, which have inspired both the club and the wider community.

Alongside these accomplishments, our Career Development Programme has made a significant impact, providing many young individuals with invaluable opportunities to gain work experience and secure apprenticeships, thus enhancing their career prospects and equipping them with the practical skills needed for future success.

Moreover, our collaborations with respected organisations such as the Victoria & Albert Museum have further enriched our members' development, offering exciting learning experiences and broadening their horizons by introducing them to new ideas, cultures, and career pathways.

JUNIOR CLUB

We continue to play a vital role in supporting children and young people aged 9 to 13 through our Junior Club. We provide a structured, inclusive, and engaging environment that promotes emotional regulation, enjoyment, and personal growth.



Each session begins with a group check-in, encouraging active listening and open dialogue. This not only builds interpersonal skills but also sets a respectful and focused tone for the activities that follow.



Our rich and diverse programme, including creative pursuits like photography and film making; culinary activities such as baking, fruit salad preparation and chocolate apple decorating; and physical challenges like football, badminton, cricket, dodgeball and table tennis. These sessions are designed to foster

fine motor skills, creativity, and physical wellbeing, while ensuring that all members feel included and able to contribute ideas for future activities.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



ECYC maintains strong engagement with parents and carers, regularly sharing activity itineraries and updates on closures. This transparency helps build trust and encourages a wider sense of community ownership and involvement.

The Junior Club's approach also reflects wider youth work priorities across London, echoing the values of organisations like London Youth, which champion structured, youth-led programmes that empower young people and nurture their development. In summary, the Junior Club exemplifies high-quality, inclusive youth provision, offering a consistent, developmental space that meets the needs of local children and young people while aligning with both national standards and community priorities.



RBKC YOUNG LEADERS AWARDS 13TH DECEMBER 2024



The RBKC Young Leaders' Awards provided an inspiring opportunity to recognise and celebrate the outstanding achievements of young people across our community. UA, MF, MH, KK, BA, and ST were all nominated, with many of them having nominations by the wider community and peers in several categories, and we are proud to share that three of them received awards. During the award ceremony, the speeches given about each of the winners highlighted the significant work and impact they had made in RBKC and beyond, much of which was directly tied to the opportunities and support

provided through ECYC. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of both our young members and the team at ECYC.

In addition to the awards, we were also delighted to connect some of our members with paid opportunities such as youth fund assessors, allowing them to contribute to important decision-making processes that directly affect their peers. The event also featured a special mention for our very own Abdi Aden, who was recognised for his outstanding leadership and dedication as CEO of Earls Court Youth Club, further underscoring the impact that our youth club has had on the personal development of those involved.

The Young Leaders' Awards event was a truly remarkable day, filled with celebration, inspiration, and a sense of pride for all involved. The day highlighted the importance of believing in oneself and pursuing goals with determination, showing that with the right support and mindset, anything is possible. It was a day that not only honoured the achievements of our young people but also inspired others to make a difference in their own communities.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



25TH MAYOR'S AWARDS CEREMONY - THURSDAY 27 MARCH 2025



Fifteen winners of Mayor's Awards were announced on Thursday 27th March 2025 in a ceremony hosted by the Mayor of Kensington and Chelsea, Cllr Will Lane. The recipients were put forward by members of the community and chosen by a judging panel to receive an award due to their extraordinary commitment to improving the lives of those who live, work, study and visit the borough.

Karim (see photo), our member was the first person to win two back-to-back prestigious awards - winning Volunteer Champion in 2024 awarded by RBKC Youth

Participation and winning Young Achiever in 2025 in the RBKC Mayor's Awards. Other notable nominees:

- Resilience Award (MF, Winner)
- Rising Leader Award (ST, Winner)
- Children & Young People's Plan Champion (UA & MH, Shortlisted)
- Voice of the Future Award (MH & ST, Shortlisted)
- Personal Breakthrough Award (BA, Shortlisted)

"I'm winning the Sports Excellence Award next year. I may not have won this year, but next year I'll definitely be walking up on that stage. From now on, I'm going to work extremely hard and earn that award. I'm going to help run female basketball sessions at Kensington Leisure Centre as a volunteer, for young girls who might be interested in the sport. I'm also going to start running 5 to 10km for charities in the borough - from Chelsea and Westminster Hospital to organisations that support kids with special needs. On top of that, I'll be volunteering at ECYC to run female-only boxing sessions." MH

V&A WORKSHOPS 6TH DECEMBER 2024, 24TH JANUARY 2025

As part of an exciting new collaboration between Earls Court Youth Club and the Victoria and Albert Museum's Young People's Programme, young people took part in hands-on creative workshops led by emerging artist and designer Uma Shah. Delivered at ECYC, the sessions introduced participants to the world of fashion design through an engaging tote bag-making activity that combined basic embroidery and appliqué techniques.

Uma opened each workshop by sharing her inspiring personal journey into the design world, including her experiences working with high-profile brands and creatives. Her openness





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025

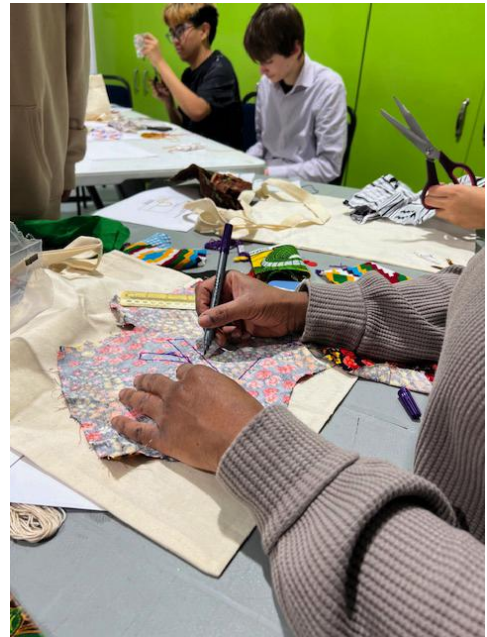


and authenticity resonated deeply with the groups, encouraging young people to explore their own creative paths.

Across the sessions, the V&A provided a wide range of materials and Uma taught participants different sewing techniques and knots. Each session welcomed ten different young people, and every participant was able to take home a personalised tote bag they had created themselves - a proud and tangible result of their creativity.

We are particularly proud that one young person has since decided to begin designing her own tote bags during her university gap year, inspired directly from the experience.

We are deeply grateful to Uma for leading such inspiring sessions, and to Virginia Gallego (Learning Coordinator: Families and Young People), Catherine Nicholson (Senior Producer: Young People), and the wider V&A team for their partnership and continued belief in the creative potential of our young people and offering a meaningful springboard to launch their creative careers.



A DAY IN YOUR LIFE AWARDS NIGHT – 27TH JANUARY 2025



photography as an art form, their first opportunity to express their perspective through a creative medium and their first brush with the possibilities of a career in the arts.

On 27th January 2025, 60 children and young people from ECYC were proudly shortlisted and 22 won awards at the *A Day In Your Life* Photography Awards Ceremony- a celebration of creativity, storytelling, and emerging talent and a powerful moment of recognition for our young participants.

To learn more about the project, visit: www.dayinyourlife.co.uk

Over 180 children and young people from Earls Court Youth Club took part in the 'A Day In Your Life' project during our Easter and summer holiday programmes. The workshops also open the door to wider opportunities- from modelling experiences and gallery exposure to prizes such as receiving a professional Canon camera and receiving photography courses delivered by world-renowned institutions like the University of the Arts London. For many of our young people, this is more than just a competition - it is their first time engaging with



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



'IN BLOOM' DAKU COFFEE EXHIBITION (12TH DEC 2024 – 24TH FEB 2025)

In Bloom was an exceptional opportunity for our young members to express their creativity through the powerful medium of photography. Hosted at DAKU Coffee shop on Kensington High Street, the exhibition ran from 12th December 2024 to February 2025, transforming the café into a vibrant gallery space that celebrated both the artistic talents of our youth and the spirit of local partnerships. This exhibition provided a professional platform for our members to share their work, giving them the rare opportunity to showcase their creativity to the wider community.

The exhibition, themed "In Bloom", showcased deeply personal photographs that used flowers as symbols of growth, resilience and transformation. Through their lenses, young photographers explored identity, emotion, and connection to nature- finding beauty in both the ordinary and extraordinary.

Some works captured the quiet elegance of flowers in bloom, while others used them more abstractly to express fragility, hope or strength. Together, the collection revealed diverse creative voices and offered young people a means to articulate feelings that might otherwise remain unspoken.



In addition to the emotional power of the photographs, *In Bloom* served as a catalyst for community engagement. The collaboration with DAKU Coffee helped amplify the reach of the exhibition, attracting a diverse audience of local residents and visitors. Many patrons of the café, who might not otherwise have encountered the work of our young members, were introduced to the exhibition and invited into a dialogue about youth identity, resilience, and the importance of creative expression. This created an invaluable opportunity for the community to connect with the young people's experiences in a meaningful way.

The exhibition also had a profound impact on the young photographers themselves. Many expressed a deep sense of pride and accomplishment in having their work publicly displayed. For some, it was the first time they had shared their art in such a visible setting, providing them with a powerful sense of validation and recognition.





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025

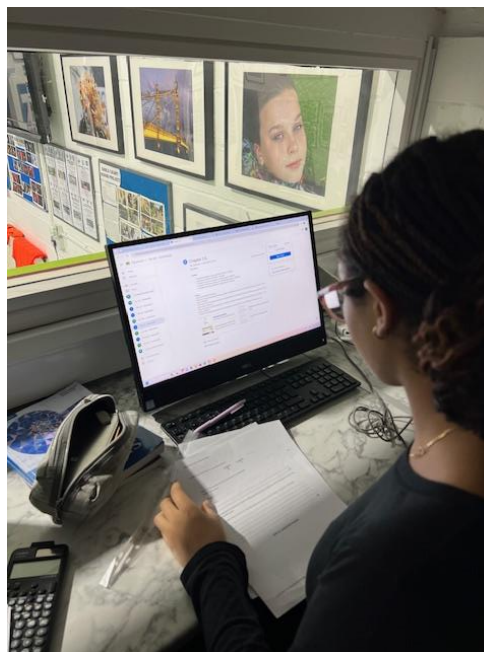


FUTURE CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Career Development Programme at Earls Court Youth Club is designed to help our young people envision a future for themselves and equip them with the tools, resources, and connections to work towards it. The programme is built around the idea that career development is not a one-size-fits-all process. Whether young people are navigating their next steps in education, seeking work experience, or exploring career paths, we offer personalised support to guide them through the different stages of their journey.

For some, like AS, the programme provides critical assistance with practical tasks such as applying for apprenticeships. For others, like SZ, who is taking a gap year, we focus on helping them build meaningful connections and gain relevant experience in the field they are passionate about. In SZ's case, we helped them connect with the V&A, where they secured an apprenticeship opportunity and the experience has proved instrumental in setting her on her entrepreneurial path.

The programme also extends to higher education support. We have helped young people navigate the complexities of UCAS applications, guiding them through the process of applying to some of the world's most prestigious universities,



and offering advice on crafting standout personal statements. Our team delivers practical workshops on a wide range of career-building skills, including developing a personal brand, mastering interview techniques, writing professional emails and conducting mock interviews. These sessions are designed not only to refine our young people's professional skills but also to empower them to recognise and articulate what makes them unique in a competitive landscape.

Wellness From Within Project – July 2024 to March 2025

The *Wellness From Within* project was introduced at Earls Court Youth Clubs' Night sessions to address the growing concerns surrounding young people's mental health and wellbeing, with a particular focus on increasing awareness and understanding of eating disorders.

The sessions were delivered in partnership with three external providers who worked alongside our team. Together we offered a diverse and engaging programme, including drama-based workshops, a skincare and wellness corner,



massage and essential oil-making activities, and inclusive sports challenges.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



This variety allowed young people to engage in different activities that supported their wellbeing in both physical and emotional ways. Throughout the project, participants were encouraged to reflect on their experiences, share their thoughts, and learn how to recognise signs of mental health difficulties in themselves and their peers.

Through partnership with healthcare professionals, the project strengthened links with the National Health Service STRIDES service, enabling timely referrals for specialist support when needed.

To conclude, the *Wellness From Within* project has made a lasting difference both to young people and the organisation itself. It has increased confidence and awareness amongst participants and youth workers, equipping them with the



knowledge and support networks necessary to seek help and support others. This project has certainly set a foundation for future youth-consulted wellbeing initiatives at ECYC, ensuring that mental health awareness and support remain at the heart of everything we do. Looking ahead, we hope *Wellness From Within* can grow beyond our Girls Night sessions, as the meaningful conversations and positive sentiment as a result of the project and the impact of it, is clear to see.

GIRLS' NIGHT IFTAR DINNERS - RAMADAN 2025



During the month of Ramadan, ECYC hosted a special series of Iftar dinners during the Girls' Night. Each week, our Girls' Night members opted to choose a local restaurant to share a meal and enjoy each other's company in a relaxed and festive atmosphere. This series brought warmth, conversation, togetherness, diversity and community to our youth club outside of our usual setting all whilst supporting local businesses.

These evenings proved to be more than just dinners – they were a chance for our girls to celebrate the holy month in a way that was either personal to them or meaningful to their peers, whilst also creating an inclusive atmosphere for them all to connect and learn. It felt special to see the girls take initiative and ownership of the experience - from choosing the restaurants to shaping the tone of the evenings. These dinners reinforced the value of offering activities that are co-designed with the young people who benefit from our services. A reminder of the value in meeting

young people where they are - this is with respect and the space and encouragement to be their authentic selves.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



STAFF TEAM DINNER: EID 2025

To mark the end of ECYC's successful Ramadan activity rotation, the entire ECYC staff team enjoyed a comforting meal out for Eid. Indeed, our Girls' Night members were not the only ones to celebrate the festive period; ECYC staff connected over food, drinks and dessert at Gloucester Road's five star rated Baba Ghanouj, a beloved local restaurant just a stone's throw away from ECYC.

An opportunity for camaraderie and building bridges across all levels and positions. From trustees to senior youth workers, to junior staff, to young leaders and volunteers. As the conversation flowed our team could put faces to the key figures that make ECYC and reflect on the importance of the month of Ramadan and what it means to the young people, staff team, parents and neighbours. ECYC is not just a place of work, but a community built on diversity, collaboration and care.



Creating intentional spaces for connection- not just for the children and young people that we serve, but within our team as well. If there is anything that this dinner taught us it is that ECYC staff team dinners need to happen more frequently - at least once quarterly!

CONCLUSION



This quarter has been a meaningful and inspiring period of growth for ECYC. From member and staff dinner outings which took us outside of the ECYC walls allowing us to explore different cultures and celebrate inclusivity, to our collaborations with the V&A which provided a space to explore new interests and career opportunities; this quarter has been marked by continuity, learning and growth.

From the last quarter to this, we have seen and enjoyed the fruit of our co-created labour. We have seen an increase in engagement in activities as well as a boldness from our young people in articulating how ECYC can continue to fill the gaps in the voluntary sector with regards to youth services.

Looking ahead, we remain dedicated to creating spaces that nurture the individual needs, personalities, dreams and futures of the children and young people we serve.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



2024-2025 Quarter 3 Report

Invested today to build tomorrow's opportunities.

April 2025 – June 2025



Young Leader teaching Under 8s



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



Quarter 3 - Invested today to build tomorrow's opportunities. Apr 2025 – Jun 2025

This quarter marks an exciting milestone in ECYC's journey. For the first time ever, we have transitioned from being recognised by Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC) for our work with the Senior Club to now include our Junior Club. This change comes as part of the most substantial grant we have received from RBKC since 2015 and it is a powerful reflection of the standard of work we have achieved and continue to achieve during these times of government cuts.



The increased funding also recognises the threefold rise in demand for our services, as well as the critical role we play as the only functioning youth club in the south of the borough. Sustained investment in high-performing organisations like ours directly strengthens the fabric of the borough.

Whilst this grant is for an initial period of at least 3 years and at most 5 years, we can be confident that outstanding service providers should receive the full 5 years and therefore we can finally plan our services in a more sustainable and strategic way. By supporting children and young people to thrive, we are not only fostering a safer, more engaged community, we are also doing vital groundwork on behalf of the Council. Our efforts reflect and amplify RBKC's commitment to future generations, ensuring that local funding is going where it matters most.

Rather than putting on short-term or one-off activities, we now prioritise building long term, structured programmes that respond to the everchanging needs of the children and young people we serve

All activities are led by experienced and skilled staff who do more than just deliver sessions. They build trusted relationships and act as positive role models. Through their support, we nurture young people to become self-starters- confident, well-rounded individuals equipped with the skills, mindset and drive to thrive beyond the youth club. The social return of this work is clear: empowered young people, stronger families and a more resilient community.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



EASTER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

This quarter kicked off with the Easter Holiday Programme, which was one of the busiest we have had yet, running across four days of the Easter break. Curated in consultation with our members, the programme was designed to cater for all three age groups, the Under 8s, Junior Club, and the Senior Club, delivering activities which promote personal and social development, physical wellbeing, creativity and fun.



Brimming with excitement, the programme began with a highly anticipated Easter Extravaganza. In the Easter egg hunts members worked together to search for hidden treasure and solve riddles and clues, building their teamwork and problem-solving skills. Egg and spoon races were another hit which invited in an atmosphere of friendly competition.

Creativity and self-expression were also a central theme throughout the holiday programme, and were nurtured through hands-on activities such as baking, slime making, arts and crafts and bracelet making.

In the baking sessions, Under 8 and Junior Club members worked together to measure, mix and create their own Easter themed treats to take home to share with their families, some decorated with mini eggs, edible bunnies and gardens made of buttercream. In the bracelet making workshops, they designed personalised jewellery demonstrating their artistic talents and tuning their fine motor skills, whilst creating something to be proud of!

Our Senior club advanced programme was tailored to meet the evolving emotional, physical and social needs of our older cohort.

Sports activities played an important role. Our football tournaments drew a lot of attention and enthusiastic participation. These sessions were fully booked prior to even starting. Matches struck a perfect balance of competitiveness and friendly sportsmanship, allowing our Senior members to develop teamwork, leadership skills and technical ability.



Boxercise was another way that physical wellbeing was prioritised and included not only boxing technique but aerobic exercise in the form of HIIT training to improve physical fitness. These sessions were catered to varying ability levels and were filled with energy, promoting self-confidence, resilience and enhanced focus and provided our young people with a healthy physical outlet.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



Academic support was woven into the heart of the programme, illustrating ECYC's dedication to supporting the educational journeys of our members. In addition, personalised one-to-one tutoring was offered to our members and further guidance was provided through our Future Ambitions and UCAS Masterclass workshops.

In addition, young people with an interest in creative expression and music were able to take part in our DJ workshops, learning the basics of mixing, beat matching and performing. It was inspiring to have our members become live DJs mixing beats for our boxercise members to sweat it out to, adding a new dimension to the atmosphere. The young DJs worked intentionally to select and mix tracks that matched the intensity of the workouts, elevating the pace with

motivating beats during high energy moments and shifting the tone to more calm and rhythmic beats in times of recovery. The result was music and fitness working in perfect harmony.



"The only thing I thought I could do in life was boxing but then I discovered DJing and now I love it even more than boxing" JL, aged 17.

ECYC's Easter holiday programme was a success in and of itself, but an even better way to commence this new quarter. It served as a demonstration of ECYC's unwavering commitment to giving a holistic service that puts the development and growth of young people at the forefront.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



GIRLS' WELLNESS: MASSAGE AND AROMATHERAPY SESSIONS

ECYC introduced the mother and daughter duo, Debbie and Asha, to deliver sessions for girls on Fridays that promote relaxation, self-care and self-expression through massage, the creation of homemade beauty products and various self-care treatments.



Debbie, the mother of the duo, provided the girls with weekly chair massages, introducing them to a means of reducing stress and anxiety that they might not otherwise have accessed or felt comfortable exploring. Initially, some girls were eager to participate while others were more sceptical. However, thanks to Debbie's ability to educate, reassure and engage the girls, within three weeks all participants would rush to be among the first to receive these treatments.

Asha, the daughter of the duo, became a trusted sounding board for discussions on education, friendships, self-expression, body positivity, online safety, values and community life. Debbie's presence offered an impartial, non-judgemental adult figure, creating a safe and supportive space for the girls to share their thoughts and concerns. A mutual trust has developed between the girls and the mother and daughter duo, flourishing since their collaboration with ECYC. Notably, 100% of the girls reported that they enjoyed the programme more than they had initially anticipated, and 100% agreed they felt they were in a safe

space to discuss any topic.

Asha has also taught the girls how to create their own body oils and scrubs. The feedback on these body scrubs was outstanding; the girls used them daily, shared them with their families and repeatedly requested opportunities to create more. Through this programme, the girls have learnt the importance of taking time for themselves or "Wellness from Within" as we call it, practising mindfulness and understanding the benefits of aromatherapy. It has been truly inspiring to witness even the most reserved young women grow in confidence and self-expression week after week.

"I didn't want to do the massage at first, but I'm glad I tried it, it is so relaxing. And I love making oils and soaps to share with my family."
MF, aged 16

BOXFIT CLASSES

Driven by our young members' passion for boxing and martial arts, we launched an exciting new programme led by one of our talented team members who brings over 12 years of boxing experience. Designed to build both foundational skills and personal growth, the sessions focus on discipline, confidence and technique- consistently attracting 10 dedicated participants since launching.

Through structured training, participants have not only learned boxing but have also improved their physical fitness and well-being, using this session as a stress outlet. The sessions have inspired members to push beyond their limits, while also fostering a strong sense of camaraderie, contributing to a supportive and uplifting atmosphere within the club. Over the 12-week period, we have observed significant improvements in participants' confidence and social skills.





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



Formerly timid individuals have grown into more confident and outgoing personalities, while those with disruptive tendencies have shown significant improvements in discipline. For many, boxing has become a powerful tool for personal growth, fostering self-control and respect in a setting where disruptive behaviour is not tolerated.



As a youth club, we recognise the link between exercise and mental well-being*, and we aim to instil positive habits early on in our members, encouraging them to look after their physical health and use it as a tool to navigate personal and professional obstacles.

*According to the Move Your Mental Health Report by the John W. Brick Foundation, which reviewed over 1,100 studies from 1990 to 2022, 89% found a positive association between physical activity/exercise and mental health.

"I think that the boxing sessions are very good for my health, while also being great to relieve stress. We have a very nice and professional coach who helps us a lot. I have noticed big improvements since I started attending the sessions. The coach pays attention and helps us improve our technique. The sessions are never boring, and we all enjoy them because we are always working hard and encouraging each other." LF, aged 16.

CV WORKSHOPS

The CV workshops were developed to challenge "poverty of imagination".

The first issue we have identified is the stifling of young people's potential by their surroundings and the lack of ambition in their environment. It is crucial for them to aim higher than they believe they can achieve, despite their circumstances.



The second issue we have identified is a lack of research skills. While some members have clear aspirations, they often struggle to take the first step, not due to a lack of ambition, but because they lack the ability to navigate the vast information available to them.

The third consideration is that our work with young people isn't about completing tasks but about building long-term skills. We aim to guide them to discover answers themselves rather than simply providing answers, echoing the wisdom of "Give a man a fish, and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime."

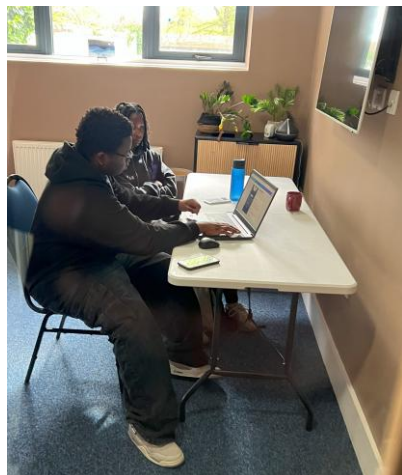


www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



The CV Workshops were designed with these three ideas in mind. Participants were able to identify areas for improvement within their CVs and understand what elements they needed to include to stand out in job applications or college admissions. Young people motivated and encouraged each other through peer-to-peer development, where participants could share experiences, offer advice and learn from one another's journeys.

One of the key aspects of the workshops was helping young individuals envision their future aspirations and map out the steps needed to achieve them and identify the type of person they wanted to become to fulfil those aspirations. From there, we collaboratively explored what kind of CV would best reflect their skills, experiences and ambitions, whether it be securing an apprenticeship or gaining a place at their desired place of study.

"During my time with Danielle I was able to build the perfect CV. Danielle helped me gather all my accomplishments, and she helped me to word my CV to impress employers and correct mistakes I made and realise the different skills I actually have" BB, 17.

YOUNG K&C: A STRATEGIC ANCHOR FOR YOUTH WORK IN RBKC

As part of this quarter's activities, we were pleased to welcome Young K&C to ECYC for a filming session capturing the impact of youth organisations across the borough. This visit included a half-hour interview with our CEO, reflecting on how Young K&C has supported ECYC's growth, development and wider contribution to the youth sector.

Since the closure of Epic CIC, the borough's former mutualised youth service, youth organisations were left without a central support network or coordinated strategy. The emergence of Young K&C has fundamentally reshaped this landscape. Young K&C now fulfils a vital role by providing the infrastructure, leadership and connectivity that would traditionally be expected of a local authority youth service. Through policy guidance, safeguarding and governance support, and a wide range of professional development opportunities, Young K&C has helped shape and strengthen our internal systems and practices. Most of our team have benefitted from the training they provide which has helped raise the quality and consistency of our delivery.



Just as significantly, Young K&C has fostered a sense of shared purpose across the borough. Their regular forums, partnership events and funding opportunities have enabled us to build meaningful relationships with local youth organisations, schools and other stakeholders. This has led to joint projects, improved referral pathways and a deeper understanding of the complex needs facing young people in RBKC.

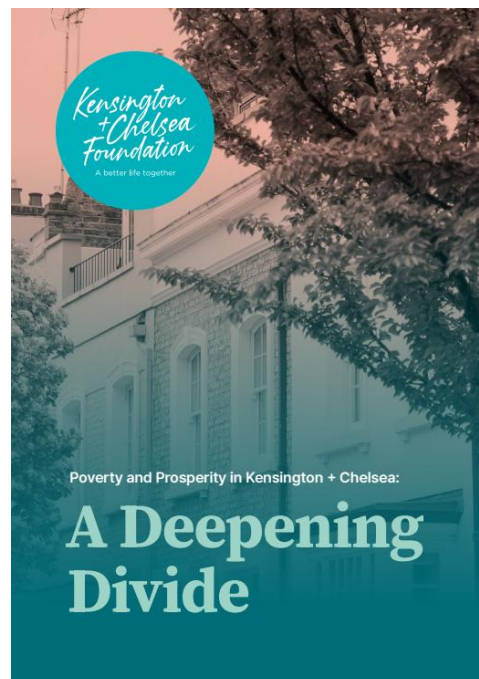
Crucially, Young K&C has also amplified our voice. Through their advocacy, ECYC has been able to contribute to borough-wide discussions and ensure that the experiences and needs of our members are represented at strategic levels. Thanks to their continued support, we no longer feel isolated in our work. We feel part of a wider, coordinated youth service effort that is collaborative, strategic and impactful.



SCHOOL EXCLUSION FOCUS GROUPS

Kensington & Chelsea Foundation conducted focus groups and interviews on School Exclusions which brought together practitioners from diverse professional backgrounds working within the Royal Borough - particularly those supporting children and young people who have either been excluded from school or are at serious risk of exclusion. It was a timely and important opportunity for ECYC team to participate and reflect on our ongoing work with some of the borough's most vulnerable young people by providing valuable insights from our first hand experiences.

At ECYC we see the damage school exclusion has on a young person and their family. Exclusions often lead to emotional distress, anxiety and social isolation, and is something that strips a young person of their identity and confidence at a critical developmental stage in their life. This trauma is often compounded when they are left without access to mental health services or trusted adult relationships in the aftermath. In some cases, exclusion is the starting point of wider disengagement from society, increasing the risk of involvement in antisocial behaviour or exploitation, especially when alternatives are scarce and uncoordinated.



From our everyday work, we also know that there are amazing possibilities for transformation when young people are met with compassion, structure and support. What emerged from the focus groups was a shared understanding that exclusion is not just an educational matter- it is a systemic issue that intersects with social inequality, mental health, safeguarding and opportunity.

Multiple practitioners in the focus group identified several persistent and deeply troubling trends:

- the disproportionate exclusion of students from Black and Mixed heritage backgrounds.
- Students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) also face significantly higher exclusion rates.
- Students who are from Global Majority backgrounds and have SEND experience have the highest rate of exclusions.
- There is a lack of transparency and accountability in how exclusions are recorded and understood

This reflects a deeper, systemic issue: many families from Global Majority communities come from low-income and low-education backgrounds, which often limits their ability to navigate the complexities of the school system or advocate effectively for their children.

Hidden exclusions such as off-rolling or informal removals were also raised as a serious concern, often escaping scrutiny. Whilst not labelled as “excluded” they have similar consequences for the child involved. Failure to have culturally competent staff or reintegrate excluded students effectively, leaving them without consistent access to education, support, a sense of belonging all lead to a cycle of exclusion that stigmatises, marginalises and increasingly detaches young people from their own futures.

The panel discussed a number of approaches that have shown promise in both local and national contexts. There was strong agreement on the need for early intervention, with some participants emphasising the importance of identifying potential difficulties as early as primary school. This preventative approach would involve schools working more closely with link-workers and youth organisations to respond to behavioural concerns with care rather than punishment. Equipping educators and community practitioners with the skills to de-escalate situations and understand trauma-related behaviour was seen as critical to reducing avoidable exclusions,



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

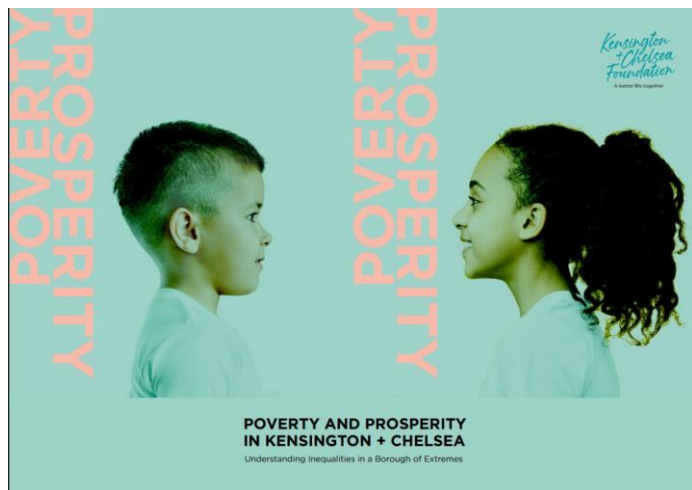
ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



especially with regards to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Grenfell Tower incidents. At the same time, the focus group stressed the importance of working more closely with SEND professionals to ensure that support plans are in place early and are personalised and responsive to individual needs, rather than relying on last-resort measures like exclusion or referral to Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) and Alternative Provisions (APs).



The focus group called for better collection and analysis of data to improve transparency and accountability to ensure that interventions are grounded in reality and that hidden exclusions are brought to light. Several practitioners, including ourselves, spoke about the importance of building inclusive, community-rooted approaches that involve families and the young people themselves in designing solutions, putting families in the same rooms as SEND advocates and ensuring that families know the appropriate channels that they can mobilise to better advocate for the children and young people that they love.

The focus group recognised that school exclusion in RBKC is part of a wider crisis. Youth clubs like ECYC play a vital role in this landscape, offering not just after-school programmes, but essential social, emotional and practical support that helps young people stay connected to education, feel valued and develop their potential irrespective of their start in life. Our work is rooted in lived experience and aimed at making long-term change.

We remain committed to playing our part in raising awareness and advocating for children and young people who are affected by exclusion. We will keep listening to the voices of young people and their families, and work alongside schools, local authorities and community partners to co-create better pathways for inclusion and begin to reverse the damage of exclusion and create a borough where every child and young person is supported to thrive. This is a topic we feel very strongly about at ECYC and we would like to thank Kensington + Chelsea Foundation for spearheading this important initiative.

Victoria Steward Todd, Director, K+C Foundation: *"The K+C Foundation is committed to understanding the underlying issues behind school exclusions in K+C so that we can support the development of effective interventions. We were delighted to have so many practitioners involved in the first focus group in our research exploring the emotional and mental health impacts of exclusions on young people in our community. The voices of young people and their families are so often missing from this discussion and local partners like ECYC have been critical in ensuring we capture their testimony and learn from their experiences."*

CONCLUSION

This quarter, we set out to do more, and we did! From an epic Easter Holiday Programme to confidence-boosting CV workshops, wellness sessions, and BoxFit classes, we kept things fresh, focused and full of energy. With new long-term funding and stronger partnerships in place, we are expanding our reach and increasing our impact. The young people of ECYC deserve the best, and that is exactly what we are building, one brilliant session at a time.





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



REFLECTIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Every year at Earls Court Youth Club tells its own story. Some years are about laying foundations, others about holding steady. This year has been about lift-off.

What has struck me most is not just the number of programmes we have delivered, nor even the awards and recognition our young people have achieved- though there have been many. What stands out is the sense of momentum, the feeling that ECYC has become a place where possibility is alive, where children and young people are not only supported but are daring to dream bigger.

You see it in the eight-year-old who builds confidence and makes friends through sports sessions, in the teenager who picks up a camera and suddenly imagines a career in the arts, in the group of girls who start with curiosity in a wellness session and leave with resilience and self-belief. These sparks of discovery are what ECYC does best, they are the quiet revolutions that change futures.

This year also reminded us that resilience is built not just in individuals but in institutions. With demand for our services at an all-time high, the multi-year grant secured from the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea could not have come at a more important moment. It gives us breathing space, but more importantly, it affirms the borough's trust in us to nurture the next generation.

For me as Chair, the joy lies in the people who make all this possible. Abdi's leadership has been outstanding- bold, compassionate and unwavering. Our staff bring energy and dedication that would rival any professional team in the country. Our trustees, volunteers, partners and supporters continue to back us with wisdom and generosity. And then, of course, there are the young people, who keep surprising us, challenging us and reminding us why we do this work.

Looking ahead, the club is poised for even greater things. Expanding educational support, deepening wellbeing programmes and amplifying youth leadership are exciting goals. But my hope goes beyond targets. My hope is that ECYC continues to be a place of belonging, a club where young people can walk in with uncertainty and walk out with possibility.

As we approach our 50th anniversary, I am reminded that ECYC's story is not just about survival but about vision, creativity and courage. Here's to the next chapter and to the extraordinary young people who will write it with us.

Daisy Gili
Chair of Trustees
Earls Court Youth Club



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



OUR THANKS

We begin this New Year with heartfelt gratitude to all who stand with us. Your generosity and advocacy enable us to deliver vital services, respond to emerging challenges, and strengthen the communities we serve.

TO OUR FUNDERS

Your commitment provides the resources that sustain and grow our work:

- BBC Children in Need
- Earl's Court Community Trust
- Earls Court Development Company
- Earls Court Development Fund
- Foyle Foundation
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- John Lyon's Charity
- Julia Rausing Trust
- Million Hours Fund
- RBKC City Living Local Life Fund
- RBKC Voluntary Sector Support Fund
- The Kensington and Chelsea Foundation
- The Lightbulb Trust
- The Linbury Trust
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Youth Commission
- Young K&C
- St Mary The Boltons

TO OUR SUPPORTERS AND ADVOCATES

We are grateful for your time, encouragement, and collaboration which help in amplifying our mission:

- Redcliffe Ward Councillors
- Alison Jackson,
- London Film Academy
- London Youth
- St Mary The Boltons
- The Feathers Association
- The Mosaic Rooms
- Chelsea Football Club Foundation
- Young K&C
- Together, funders, supporters, and advocates create the foundation on which we can continue to grow and thrive.

Thank you for believing in us and for helping us make a lasting difference.



www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025





www.earlscourtyouthclub.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2024 – June 2025

Compiled by CEO, Abdi Aden, 19/08/2025



IN LOVING MEMORY OF TIANNA DAGHER 1979-2025

We remember Tianna with deep affection and profound respect. She founded A Space Between during the pandemic, guided by her belief in the power of art to connect people of all ages across the world. Although she was taken from us far too soon, her work continues to leave a lasting mark our community and far beyond.

Tianna was not only a visionary but also a mother, a wife and a friend. She gave freely of her time, her energy and her warmth, even when her own health was failing. Her kindness was instinctive and her generosity without condition. She believed in the potential of others and dedicated herself to creating opportunities where people, especially young people, could discover their own voices. Those who worked with her remember not only her creativity but also the quiet strength and humility with which she lived her life.

Every Thursday for almost two years, Tianna gave her time to run workshops for elderly members at the youth club. From this steady commitment grew projects that connected young people with older generations, and even built bridges between those in hospital and those living in the community. What stands out most is that in all this time she never asked for anything in return. Week after week she gave freely of her energy and resources,



often at great financial cost to herself. She carried that burden quietly, without complaint or expectation, motivated only by the good she could do for others. For this selflessness, and for the generosity that defined her life and work, we will forever cherish her.

Her partnership with Earl's Court Youth Club brought lasting change. During the pandemic, she helped us reach families and elderly members through Art Therapy kits that lifted spirits and created moments of joy at a time of great isolation. Later, in 2022, she returned to the club with A Space Between to run a series of Creative Wellbeing Workshops. Sixteen young women from our Friday evening sessions took part, aged between 12 and 20. Over four weeks they explored how creativity could give back, how it could heal, and how it could be shared as a gift. The young women produced their own colouring book, designed to be donated to patients at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital and to local elderly groups for use in therapy sessions.

The culmination of this project was a visit to Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, where the young women saw their

designs on display. They also saw them coloured in by elderly members of our community, bringing to life the exchange that Tianna so passionately championed. For our members, it was a moment of pride and joy to witness their work in a public setting and to share it with their families. One member reflected, "I was really proud to see my work not only coloured by the elderly but on show at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital where my family were able to see it on public display." It was a moment that captured the essence of Tianna's vision: art as a bridge between generations, a means of healing, and a lasting connector of lives.

Her absence is deeply felt, but her influence is everywhere: in the smiles of the young people she inspired, in the pride of families who saw their children's art displayed in hospital corridors, and in the countless acts of generosity she modelled through her own life. Tianna was loved by all who met her, and she will remain forever in our hearts. We are grateful beyond words for all that she gave us, and as a youth club we are committed to carrying forward her vision of art as a bond between generations, communities and lives.

Earls Court Youth Club would like to thank Tianna and her family for all that they gave to our community. Though she is no longer with us, she will always remain part of ECYC family, indefinitely and with love.

The Earls Court Youth Club
Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended
31 March 2025

The Earls Court Youth Club

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Company number CE032518

Charity number 1203387

Registered office and operational address
120 Ifield Road
London
SW10 9AF

Trustees Trustees are the people responsible for controlling the work, management and administration of the charity on behalf of its beneficiaries, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Roy Amlot KC

The Lady Emma Arbuthnot

Daisy Gill (Chair)

Michael Rambaut

Cllr Marie-Therese Anne Rossi

Mohamed Salih (Appointed 14 July 2025)

Key management personnel Abdi Aden (CEO)

Accountants Haggards Crowther
Independent Examiner
Heathmans Hosue
19 Heathmans Road
London
SW6 4TJ

The Earls Court Youth Club

Accountants' Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 and set out on pages 4 to 12

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charities Commission (under section 145 (5b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charities Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

2) to which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Date: 29/09/2025



Andrew Haggard FCA
Haggards Crowther
Independent Examiner

Heathmans House
19 Heathmans Road
London
SW6 4TJ

The Earls Court Youth Club

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Restricted	Unrestricted	2025 (12 months) Total	2024 (Restated - 8 months) Total
		£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations, gifts and fund raising	4	67,865	212,989	280,854	122,635
Government and local authority grants	5	152,563	7,164	159,727	88,746
Investment income		-	2,232	2,232	8
Total income		220,428	222,385	442,813	211,390
Expenditure on:					
Direct charitable expenditure	6	145,386	162,719	308,104	208,642
Management and administrative	7	14,499	16,227	30,726	28,834
Total expenditure		159,884	178,946	338,830	237,476
Net income / (expenditure)		60,544	43,439	103,983	(26,086)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		63,141	37,521	100,662	126,748
Total funds carried forward		123,685	80,960	204,645	100,662

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

The Earls Court Youth Club

Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2025

		2025 (12 months) £	2024 (Restated - 8 months) £
	Note		
Current assets:			
Accrued income	11	47,210	30,082
Cash at bank		305,415	76,682
Petty cash		200	200
Total current assets		352,825	106,964
Current liabilities:			
Deferred income	12	137,905	-
Accruals		9,945	5,972
Pensions		330	330
Total current liabilities		148,180	6,302
Net assets		204,645	100,662
Funds			
Restricted funds		123,685	63,141
Unrestricted funds		80,960	37,521
Total charity funds		204,645	100,662

The Earls Court Youth Club

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 March 2025

		2025 (12 months) £	2024 (Restated - 8 months) £
	Note		
Cash used for operating activities:			
Net movement in funds		134,064	(26,086)
<i>Adjustments for:</i>			
Decrease / (Increase) in deferred income		(47,210)	(30,082)
Increase / (decrease) in deferred income		137,905	-
Increase / (decrease) in creditors		3,974	6,302
		<u>228,733</u>	<u>(49,866)</u>
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities		228,733	(49,866)
Increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year		228,733	(49,866)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<u>76,882</u>	<u>127,748</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		<u><u>305,615</u></u>	<u><u>76,882</u></u>

The charity has not provided an analysis of changes in net debt as it does not have any long-term financing arrangements.

The Earls Court Youth Club

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and UK Generally Accepted Practice (effective 1 January 2019) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Earls Court Youth Club meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s) to these accounts.

2 Charity Details

The Earls Court Youth Club is registered with the Charities Commission under the registered number 1203387

3 Accounting policies

a) Transition to financial reporting standards

These statements comply with FRS 102 and have been prepared on the accruals basis to give a true and fair view in the current year as gross income exceeded £250,000. All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is probable (more likely than not) that the resources will be received, and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Where there are terms or conditions attached to incoming resources, particularly grants, then these terms or conditions must be met before the income is recognised as the entitlement condition will not be satisfied until that point. Where terms or conditions have not been met or uncertainty exists as to whether they can be met then the relevant income is not recognised in the year but deferred and shown on the balance sheet as deferred income.

b) Government grants

The charity has received government grants in the reporting period.

c) Income from interest, royalties and dividends

All income from interest, royalties or dividends are included in the accounts.

d) Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts, less any trade discounts.

The Earls Court Youth Club

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

4 Income from donations, gifts and fund raising

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2025 Total (12 months)
	£	£	£
Income from current period:			
Children in Need	22,166	-	22,166
Donation	-	3,215	3,215
Earls Court Development Company Community Fund	-	7,500	7,500
Foyle Foundation	8,301	-	8,301
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	15,014	15,014
JD Tooley	-	-	-
John Lyon's Charity	-	16,566	16,566
Julia Rausing Trust	37,397	-	37,397
Lightbulb Trust	-	-	-
Million Hours Fund	-	48,957	48,957
The Linbury Trust	-	14,265	14,265
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	85,473	85,473
Young K&C	-	22,000	22,000
West London Zone	-	-	-
Total Income	67,865	212,989	280,854

Prior period comparative

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2024 Total (Restated – 8 months)
	£	£	£
Income from prior period:			
Children in Need	-	-	-
Donation	-	100	100
Earls Court Development Company Community Fund	-	10,000	10,000
Foyle Foundation	849	-	849
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	-	-
JD Tooley	-	675	675
John Lyon's Charity	-	-	-
Julia Rausing Trust	8,000	-	8,000
Lightbulb Trust	35,000	-	35,000
Million Hours Fund	-	22,862	22,862
The Linbury Trust	-	31,364	31,364
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-
Young K&C	-	12,000	12,000
West London Zone	-	1,785	1,785
Total Income	43,849	78,786	122,635

The Earls Court Youth Club

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

5 Income from government and local authority grants

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2025 (12 months) Total £
	£	£	£
Income from current period:			
DfE Holiday Activity and Food Program	18,263	-	18,263
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC)	60,420	-	60,420
RBKC City Living Local Life	30,000	-	30,000
RBKC Rental Income	-	7,164	7,164
RBKC Voluntary Sector Support Fund	43,880	-	43,880
Total Income	152,563	7,164	159,727

Prior period comparative

	Restricted	Unrestricted	2024 (Restated – 8 months) Total £
	£	£	£
Income from prior period:			
DfE Holiday Activity and Food Program	1,868	-	1,868
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC)	86,878	-	86,878
RBKC City Living Local Life	-	-	-
RBKC Rental Income	-	-	-
RBKC Voluntary Sector Support Fund	-	-	-
Total Income	88,746	-	88,746

The Earls Court Youth Club

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

6 Direct charitable expenditure

	2025 (12 months)	2024 (Restated - 8 months)
	£	£
Subcontractors	141,131	98,748
Salaries, wages, and related expenses	80,652	53,887
Food for sessions	48,194	27,197
Volunteers	12,865	1,580
Consumables for sessions	12,412	17,465
Summer program	4,608	-
Employer's national insurance contribution	3,925	3,925
Employer's pension contribution	2,201	1,519
Transport and travel	1,816	4,321
Staff training	300	-
Total expenditure	308,104	208,642

The charity employed one member of staff with a salary over £ 60,000 in the period.

7 Management and administrative expenditure

	2025 (12 months)	2024 (Restated - 8 months)
	£	£
Professional fees	8,296	3,873
Rates and Utilities	6,492	5,225
Repair and maintenance	5,263	4,179
Audit and accounting fees	3,848	2,994
Printing and stationery	2,269	2,762
Insurance	2,040	2,029
Equipment and IT	1,884	7,180
Subscription	628	589
Bank	6	2
Total expenditure	30,726	28,834

8 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporate tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

The Earls Court Youth Club

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

9 Fixed assets

- a) The cost of the club building, amounting to £ 49,996, has not been capitalised nor shown on the face of the balance sheet. The land on which the building stands is leased from the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea via a 20-year license agreement currently charged at a peppercorn rent of £1 per annum.
- b) Since 1 April 1989, the charity's policy has been to expense fully fixtures and fittings at their cost and in the period in which they were purchased.

10 Affiliated charity or clubs

The charity is not affiliated with any other charity or club.

11 Accrued income

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2025 Total (12 months) £
Children in Need	3,686	-	3,686
Million Hours Fund	-	3,358	3,358
DfE Holiday Activity and Food Programme	1,689	-	1,689
RBKC City Living Local Life	30,000	-	30,000
The Linbery Trust	-	1,628	1,628
Young K&C	-	6,850	6,850
At 31 March 2025	35,375	11,836	47,210

Prior period comparative

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2024 Total (Restated – 8 months) £
At 1 July 2023	-	-	-
DfE Holiday Activity and Food Programme	1,868	-	1,868
Foyle Foundation	849	-	849
The Linbury Trust	-	27,364	27,364
At 31 March 2024	2,718	27,364	30,082

Accrued income relates to funds granted for the period but were not yet received by the end of the period.

The Earls Court Youth Club

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

12 Deferred income

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2025 Total (12 months) £
At 1 April 2024	-	-	-
Foyle Foundation	849	-	849
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	4,986	4,986
John Lyon's Charity	-	33,434	33,434
Julia Rausing Trust	37,603	-	37,603
RBKC	19,334	-	19,334
RBKC Voluntary Sector Support Fund	10,970	-	10,970
The National Lottery (Community Fund)	-	30,729	30,729
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2025	68,756	69,149	137,905
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Deferred income relates to monies received which have been allotted to cover a future period which has not yet occurred.

The Earls Court Youth Club

Accountants' Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 and set out on pages 4 to 12

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charities Commission (under section 145 (5b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charities Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

2) to which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Date: 29/09/2025



Andrew Haggard FCA
Haggards Crowther
Independent Examiner

Heathmans House
19 Heathmans Road
London
SW6 4TJ