



# Annual Report 2016-17





# Services for parents and carers

**Our family support services empower parents and carers to understand and advocate for their rights, access services, build mutual support, and participate in decision making.**

The family support services are run both from the Markfield centre and outreach to community venues such as schools, and are funded by: the Big Lottery, Haringey Council, Department for Education, Bloomfield Trust and Family Action. These services were used by more than a thousand people during the year:

We run the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities **Information, Advice & Support Service** (SENDIASS) for Haringey. This service offers independent advice and support for parents/carers of children with SEND, as well as advice and support to children and young people about their rights.

Through our **telephone helpline**, **advice surgeries**, and **casework** and **information hub** drop-in we help families with a range of issues, including disability benefits, behaviour management, transition & adulthood as well as helping them to access other services.

Our free **training workshops** for parents and carers cover a variety of topics including: 'Understanding the SEN system', 'Positive behaviour management', 'Makaton' and 'Understanding Autism'. We have also run our

training course 'Stepping Stones' (see below), and a 12 -week parenting course: 'Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities'.



**'Stepping stones':** We have continued to deliver our 10-week training course in language and sensory play for children under 5 who have additional needs in language, communication and social skills. This course equips parents/carers with knowledge and skills to interact more confidently with their children through play and music, and also trains parents to become facilitators of the programme.

●● **Now I understand the system I feel more empowered to support my child** ●●  
parent

**Parents groups:** We have run two support groups each week in term time; a Turkish-speaking group, and a group for all parents/

carers. These support families to build support networks and share skills and experiences, access information and resources, and have a chance to relax. Over 120 parents have attended these drop-ins over the year.

**Parent participation:** Our 'Transition & Adulthood forum' for parent carers of disabled young people and adults has organised talks from local professionals, and weekly mutual support/relaxation sessions. We have also continued to facilitate the borough-wide parent/carer forum that aims to give parents of children with SEND a voice in the development of local policy.



**Family befriending volunteer project:** Our Family Befriending Volunteer project offers training to volunteers, and matches them with families who have a disabled member. The volunteers spend time at home with families, providing activities for children, and giving parents a break.

# Services for children and families

**We have maintained our year-round programme of after school clubs and playschemes for disabled children and young people and siblings.**

We cater for children with a wide range of needs: autism, learning disabilities, wheelchair users and those with behaviour support needs. Our sessions have offered a wide range of activities making use of the fantastic facilities at the Markfield centre – including a huge accessible adventure playground, indoor soft play room and sensory room.



## **After school and evening clubs:**

We have continued to run five clubs a week in term-time this year: two after school clubs each week for disabled children and siblings aged 5-12 years, and three youth clubs, one of which includes 16-25 year olds in response to growing need for services for the older age group. These clubs have been funded by a combination of individual short breaks personal budgets, with additional funding from Tottenham Grammar School Foundation, Mercer's Company and the Childwick Trust. The additional funding has enabled us to offer places to siblings,

young carers, and those who have difficulties accessing other services, including those who are just outside the threshold for qualifying for local authority support.

**Playschemes:** We have run a busy programme of holiday playschemes for disabled children. We also ran a playscheme specifically for the siblings of disabled children, to which we welcomed many new siblings offering a chance to make friends, try new experiences and have a break.

We completed the **'Playworks'** project with London Play. This has supported us to build links with other adventure playgrounds across London, and to develop our evaluation framework to improve the ways in which we measure the difference our services make for children and young people.

**Our three regular family drop-in sessions have been visited by a total of over 700 children and families during the year:**

**Family Club** has run monthly on Saturdays, enabling parents to meet and socialise together, and enabling families with children with special needs to access advice, information and support in a friendly inclusive

play environment, with a range of activities available for children.



## **Under 5s 'stay and play' drop**

**in:** We have continued to run our popular weekly stay and play session for under 5s & parents and carers. It enables families from the local community and beyond to access inclusive indoor and outdoor play, music sessions and to meet other families.

Our **Saturday adventure playground drop-in sessions**, funded by BBC Children in Need were attended by over 400 children over the year. The play activities support children to have fun and the project also includes work experience placements for 16-18 year olds, to help them build playwork skills and experience as well as general employment skills.

●● **My child is SO happy there. I wish I could turn back time and have gone to Markfield earlier** ●●  
parent

# Services for

# young people and adults

**Our daytime and evening social clubs for young people and adults with learning disabilities and autism have continued to be very popular, with an ongoing focus on club members participating in running the sessions.**

This year we started a new **Tuesday evening club** for young people aged 16 to 25 years, and we have also established a new Saturday information drop-in specifically for young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). 'Info Chill' is a place to socialise, relax, access information online, and get advice about SEND issues.

**'All for One Club'** is a Monday evening club for young adults with autism / Asperger's Syndrome, who do not meet the eligibility criteria for local authority funding. The club enables members to build social skills, discuss issues which affect their well being in a safe and supportive group, participate in arts and sports activities as well as enjoy trips to local amenities.

**'Markfield@Nite'** is a Friday evening social session run by an elected service user committee that manages the club budget. The committee supports the group members to decide on activities. Music is an important part of the session, and club members have developed their DJ skills, participated in yoga sessions, craft sessions and men's and women's groups as well as enjoyed restaurant and café outings.

**'Art Engine'** is a daytime session which gives adults the chance to develop and showcase new arts based skills. The group have continued to work in a range of art media and worked with Bow Arts and Euroart. They exhibited at Park Studios artists' co-operative again this year. They have enjoyed walks to amenities in the local area, regular trips to art galleries, and also invited visiting artists to provide workshops.

**'Cosmos Club'** is a new daytime club which started in March 2017. The focus of this group is to access activities and facilities in the community as well as gardening, well-being and relaxation sessions. The group allows those who attend to explore their interests as well as develop social skills. The club is seeking to recruit new members over the coming months.

**Travel Training:** The Haringey Smarter Travel grant has enabled us to continue to offer travel training to adults with learning disabilities to increase their confidence in using public transport.



Our **youth steering group**, the 'Independent Young Advisors' helps guide the SENDIASS (see page 2). The IYA group has done some work this year to feed into a Local Authority consultation about issues facing young people growing up in Haringey.

## Our Volunteers

We benefit greatly from the contribution of volunteers in helping to deliver services across all our projects: including our children's after school clubs and playschemes, adults' social clubs, family drop-ins and advice & information services. We run a Volunteer Befriending scheme that matches trained volunteers to help individual families through weekly visits. Also, volunteers contribute to the work at Markfield – such as maintenance and administration. This year over two thousand hours were given by volunteers to support the work of the charity.



# Who we are and what we do

**Markfield is an inclusive community hub where people can play, socialise and get information & support.**

We provide a range of services for disabled children, young people, adults and their families. Our purpose is:

- To enable disabled, Deaf and Autistic people to be themselves, take risks and live life to the full
- To focus on the needs of the whole family and break down isolation
- To promote respect of disabled, Deaf and Autistic people and support their full participation in society.

**The core values that underpin our work are:**

- **Inclusive** - We are for disabled and non-disabled people
- **Innovative** - We explore new ideas
- **Empowering** - We enable participation
- **Connected** - We are part of our community

**This report shows the highlights of our work during the year April 2016 to March 2017. We are very grateful to all our funders who make this work possible – see back page for details of our funders.**



Our centre – a Grade II listed former Victorian pump house – is within the award winning Markfield Park in south Tottenham.

Walking access is either through the park or via Markfield Road, or along the River Lea towpath. Driving – come via Markfield Road. Parking is available next to the centre.

You can hire Markfield's amazing building and playground for your party or event. We have a huge double height hall, a large split level soft play room, outdoor adventure playground, kitchen facilities, and much more.



## Contact details

**Markfield, Markfield Road,  
London N15 4RB**



**020 8800 4134**



**enquiries@markfield.org.uk**



**www.markfield.org.uk**



**Twitter@MarkfieldProj**

# Statement of financial activities (summary income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2017

Unrestricted Funds				
	General Funds	Restricted Funds	2017 Total	2016 Total
	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>				
Grants, donations and legacies	3,697	131,240	134,937	16,434
Income from charitable activities	192,567	303,879	496,446	577,774
Income from other trading activities	18,036	-	18,036	16,244
Investment income	599	-	599	598
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>214,899</b>	<b>435,119</b>	<b>650,018</b>	<b>611,050</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Cost of raising funds	7,738		7,738	9,915
Expenditure on charitable activities	201,250	395,988	597,238	576,174
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>208,988</b>	<b>395,988</b>	<b>604,976</b>	<b>586,089</b>
<b>Net income and net movement in funds for the year</b>	<b>5,911</b>	<b>39,131</b>	<b>45,042</b>	<b>24,961</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>				
Total funds, brought forward	161,169	78,698	239,867	214,906
<b>Total funds, carried forward</b>	<b>167,080</b>	<b>117,829</b>	<b>284,909</b>	<b>239,867</b>

## Members of the Executive Committee

Markfield is governed by an Executive Committee which is made up of volunteers, service users, parents and carers, who are elected by members at the Annual General Meeting. The following people served as members of the Executive Committee during the year 2016-17:

Michelle Abdin	Claire Bendall
Clare Croft-White	Frederick Guobadia
Warren Hoskins	Dee Kushlick-Williams
(Treasurer)	(Chair)
John Larkin	Melian Mansfield
Charity Omungu	Jeremy Spooner
Councillor Makbule Gunes	& Councillor Felicia Opoku
Company Secretary: Claudia Rawlinson.	

## Auditors

Ramon Lee and Partners  
Eagle House, 167 City Road,  
LONDON EC1V 1AW

## Bankers

The Co-operative Bank  
PO Box 250, Delf House  
Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT

**Our funders during 2016-17 were:** Haringey Council, BBC Children In Need, Big Lottery Fund, Bloomfield Trust, Childwick Trust, City Bridge Trust, Clothworkers' Foundation, Department for Education, Family Action, Garfield Weston Foundation, Jack Petchey Foundation, London Play, The Mercers' Company, Mike Davies, Park Studios, Tottenham Grammar School Foundation, and other individual donors.

## Opinion

In our opinion the summarised financial statement is consistent with the full financial statements and the Executive Committee's Annual Report of the Markfield Project for the year ended 31 March 2017. Ramon Lee and Partners September 2017.

Registered charity no. 289904  
Company Limited by Guarantee 1693876

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