



Annual Report

2019-20

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 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 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 2019 to March 2020. 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. 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

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Children and families

Our afterschool clubs and holiday playschemes for disabled children and siblings, and our play drop-in sessions for families offer a fantastic range of activities, and include children with a wide range of needs.

The Markfield centre has a large accessible adventure playground with climbing structures, zip wire, bonfire pit, swings, slide, and indoors a large hall, soft play room, sensory room and music equipment. Activities include: arts & crafts, messy play, water play, football, basketball, music, table football, pool, den building, accessible bikes, cooking, drama and nature walks.



Our children's clubs and family sessions have been funded this year by BBC Children in Need, the National Lottery Community Fund, the Tottenham Grammar School Foundation, the Mayor's Fund, The Jack Petchey Foundation and individual short breaks personal budgets.

Our Saturday adventure playground family drop-in sessions were attended by more than 200 children over the year. We have offered work experience placements for 16-18 year olds, to help them build skills and experience for working in an inclusive play setting.

Our monthly Family Club offers families with children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) the opportunity to drop in and socialise together, and to access advice, information and support in a friendly and inclusive play

"She is a lot happier when she comes home from Markfield".

Parent

environment. Family Club has welcomed a total of 347 children with their parents over the year.

We have run our five **after school and evening clubs each week** in term-time. Children and young people develop friendships in the clubs and have the chance to try out new experiences. This year we have taken children out on trips to a local rock climbing centre – a new experience for most. We run a 'Kitchen Social' project during holiday playschemes – to prepare healthy meals for children and involve them in cooking activities.

Our popular weekly **under fives stay and play drop-in** for pre-school children and parents/carers enables families to enjoy inclusive indoor and outdoor play activities and meet other local families. Some 75 children attended the play drop-in over the year.



Play sessions in lockdown: The end of the year, March 2020, coincided with the start of the Covid-19 lockdown which resulted in the closure of Markfield's group sessions lasting several months. During the lockdown we ran innovative Covid-safe free play sessions for 'one family at a time' in our adventure playground - cleaning all play equipment before each family arrived. The service was described by families as a 'lifeline'.

Young people and adults

Our daytime and evening social clubs and travel training scheme for adults with learning disabilities have been funded by The Leathersellers' Company, a Haringey Active Travel grant, and session fees from social care personal budgets. Additional activities on the sessions have been funded by a Laureus Sport for Good grant.



Art Engine is a daytime session which gives adults with learning disabilities the chance to develop and showcase new arts-based skills. Over the year the club members have worked in a range of art media. The group has worked with four different artists from Park Studios, although sadly the annual exhibition had to be cancelled due to Covid-19. The group maintain links with Bow Arts, and visited their gallery as well as enjoying a trip to Tate Britain. Regular yoga sessions have become a popular addition to the club.

Markfield@Nite is a weekly Friday evening social session with music and dancing where club members can develop their DJ skills, or choose to join a quieter art group. The session activities also include film screenings and cooking activities. This year a dance tutor has worked with groups to rehearse dance routines, and the art group designed T-shirts for the dance performers. The club members have enjoyed outings to pubs and cafés, with venues chosen by the elected MK@N service user committee. The club sessions at the Markfield centre had to be suspended in March 2020 due to covid-19 – but the sessions continued throughout the lockdown in a different form – as an online ‘Friday dance along’ via zoom.

All for One Club is a Monday evening club for young adults with autism or Asperger’s Syndrome, most of whom fall outside the eligibility criteria for Local Authority social care funding. Sessions which enable them to build social skills,

participate in arts and sports activities and enjoy trips to local social amenities in relaxed and supportive sessions. The club members also discuss issues which affect their well-being in a safe and supportive group, where diversity is celebrated. The group now holds regular music jam sessions with a Music Therapist.

Cosmos Club is a daytime club with a focus on accessing activities and facilities in the community as well as participating in art, gardening, well-being activities, and relaxation sessions. The group enables club members to explore their interests and develop social skills in a relaxed and individual way. The group have increased their physical activity through regular walking trips and yoga sessions.

We have continued to offer **travel training** to adults with learning disabilities to increase their knowledge of and confidence in using public transport, which increases life experience and supports our club members to learn to travel independently on public transport.



Parents and carers

We offer a wide range of family support services at the Markfield centre and also outreach services from other local venues around Haringey. These services have been used by almost a thousand people over the year. They have been funded by the National Lottery Community Fund, Haringey Council, the Bloomfield Trust and the Baily Thomas Charitable Fund.

- The **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice & Support Service (SENDIASS)** for Haringey provides independent advice and support for parents/carers of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), and also to children and young people, about their rights under the SEND legislation. We offer advice surgeries, individual casework support, a telephone helpline, and training workshops for parents. Over the year parents of 414 families accessed these services.
- **Advice surgeries** run several times a week to help families with Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and Personal Independence Payment (PIP) claims and appeals. We also offer help with other issues including advice on behaviour management, transition & adulthood and support in accessing other services. As well as booked appointments we also run a weekly drop-in 'Info Hub' for families, facilitated by volunteers, designed to allow parents to access information and resources online, and access help with form filling from volunteers.
- **Training workshops:** our programme of workshops for parents and carers covers a variety of topics including: 'Understanding the SEND system', 'Positive behaviour management', 'Makaton', 'Understanding autism', 'Communication and developmental play', 'Communication and visual aids'. The sessions have supported parents and carers to understand their rights and feel more confident in working with professionals.
- As well as one-day workshops we also provide courses for parents: our structured ten-week course for parents of children under five (see below), and a 12-week parenting training course 'Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities'.
- **'Stepping stones'** is our popular specialist language and sensory play training programme for children under five who have additional needs in language, communication and social skills. This course equips parents/carers with knowledge and skills to interact confidently with their children through play and music.
- **Parents support groups:** We have run three groups each week in term time: a general group for parents/carers, a Turkish-speaking parents group, and a Transition & Adulthood group (for carers of young adults). The groups aim to support parents & carers to build support networks and share skills and experiences, improve access to information, services and resources, and have fun and relax.



Our Volunteers

Volunteers are vital to the work of our charity. They help deliver our front-line services and contribute to the behind-the-scenes work – such as publicity, maintenance and administration. During the year April 2019 to March 2020 over 1,800 hours were given by volunteers to support Markfield's work.

Statement of financial activities (summary income and expenditure account) for the year ending 31st March 2020

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2020 Total	2019 Total
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Grants, donations and legacies	18,096	19,644	37,740	113,035
Income from charitable activities	227,853	282,114	509,967	427,003
Income from other trading activities	18,435	-	18,435	20,504
Investment income	926	-	926	573
Total Income				
Expenditure				
Cost of raising funds	16,949	-	16,949	15,523
Expenditure on charitable activities	253,170	328,260	581,430	536,628
Total Expenditure	270,120	328,260	598,380	552,151
Net income and net movement in funds for the year	(4,810)	(26,502)	(31,312)	8,964
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds, brought forward	165,398	128,161	293,559	284,595
Total funds, carried forward	160,588	101,659	262,247	293,559

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 2019-20: Claire Bendall, Clare Croft-White, Warren Hoskins (Treasurer), Dee Kushlick-Williams (Chair), John Larkin, Melian Mansfield, Charity Omungu, Michelle Simmons

Safo, Jeremy Spooner. Haringey Council representatives without voting rights: Councillor Barbara Blake, Councillor Felicia Opoku. Company Secretary: Keith Fair

Our funders during 2019-20 were:

Haringey Council, BBC Children In Need, National Lottery Community Fund, Bloomfield Trust, Haringey Autism, Jack Petchey Foundation, Laureus Sport for Good, Leathersellers' Company, Mayor's Fund for London, Council for Disabled Children, St James's Place

Foundation, Sir Jules Thorne Charitable Trust, The Percy Bilton Charity, Tottenham Grammar School Foundation, UK Youth 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 2020.

**Ramon Lee and Partners,
September 2020**



Charity number: 289904 Company Number: 1693876

Auditors

Ramon Lee and Partners,
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Bankers

The Co-operative Bank
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