

Annual Report

2021



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

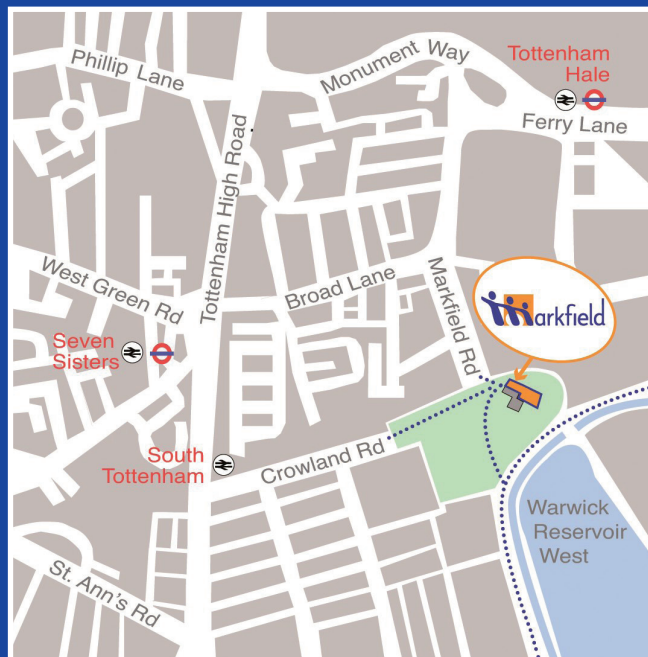
This report demonstrates the highlights of our work during the year April 2020 to March 2021.

We are very grateful to all our funders who make this work possible – see back page for details of funding.



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. If driving approach 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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Photos in this Annual Report were taken by Magpie Eye Photography

Children and families

Our clubs and playschemes for disabled children and their siblings, and drop-in sessions for all families in the community, offer an amazing range of inclusive play activities at our centre and playground.



Eighty children & young people over the year attended our **term-time after-school clubs and holiday play schemes**, which are funded by the Tottenham Grammar School Foundation, BBC Children in Need and Short Breaks personal budgets. Our huge accessible adventure playground with swings, climbing structures and a zip wire, enables nature and sensory play, bonfire making, water play, football and den building. Funding from the Mayor of London's Kitchen Social project enabled us to offer healthy, nutritious meals to children and young people attending playschemes. During the Covid-19 lockdowns, when group sessions at Markfield were not possible, we kept in touch with families by phone, and sent activity play packs for children stuck at home.

Our adventure playground open access drop-in sessions, funded by BBC Children in Need and the National Lottery, support children to develop their physical and social skills, and also enable families to connect with Markfield's support services.

In addition to our long-standing **Saturday session** we also launched a new **after-school drop-in** on Mondays. During the Covid-19 lockdowns we provided 'one family at a time' sessions in the Markfield playground for disabled children.

Under fives stay and play: Our weekly drop-in session for children under five and their parents and carers, funded by the National Lottery Community Fund, enables families to access a range of inclusive play activities and connect with others in the community.

Our monthly **Saturday Family Club** is part of the SENDIAS service – see opposite. The session offers families with children who have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) the opportunity to meet and socialise together, and enables parents to access advice, information and support around SEND issues.



Young people and adults

Our daytime and evening social clubs for young people and adults with learning disabilities or autism are highly popular, with emphasis on service users participating in running the sessions.



Markfield@Nite is a weekly Friday evening social session run by an elected committee of club members. Music and dancing are an important part of the club, where members develop their DJ skills. The session also provides a quieter art activities group, as well as a 'mocktail' bar, and cooking activities. A dance tutor works with club members to rehearse dance routines, and there are also trips out, film screenings, and men's and women's discussion groups.

In the Covid-19 lockdowns, the Friday club adapted into a different form - as an online 'dance along' session via zoom.

Art Engine, our Monday daytime club, gives adults with learning disabilities the chance to develop arts-based skills. Members have worked on a range of art media as well as enjoying regular yoga sessions, and working with visiting artists. During lockdowns we provided art packs for club members offering a range of craft activities, and also ran a weekly walking group in local parks.

Coming to Markfield is like being with family

All for One Club is a Monday evening club for young adults with autism or Asperger's Syndrome who do not qualify for Local Authority social care funding. Many members require support around their mental health. The sessions enable them to build social skills and enjoy music, arts, sports activities and trips. The club members can discuss issues which affect their well-being in a safe and supportive group, where diversity is enjoyed and celebrated.



Cosmos Club is a daytime club which focuses on accessing activities in the community, as well as participating in art-making, gardening, well-being activities, yoga and relaxation sessions. The group allows attendees to explore their interests and develop social skills in a relaxed and individualised way.

The Independent Young Advisors (IYA) is our participation group of young people with disabilities and siblings. The group decides their own projects, which have included creating and delivering training for other young people and staff, and designing consultation resources.

Travel Training: we offer travel training to adults with learning disabilities to increase their confidence in using public transport and to learn to travel independently.

Our Volunteers

Volunteers make a vital contribution to the work of our charity, both working behind-the-scenes on administration and maintenance, as well as helping to deliver our frontline services. During 2020-2021 a total of over 1,850 hours were given by volunteers to support the work of Markfield.

Parents and carers

We provide a range of family support services, both face-to-face and by telephone and online. The following services benefitted a total of 570 families over the year, and have been funded by The National Lottery, Comic Relief, Baily Thomas Fund and Haringey Council.

The **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice & Support Service (SENDIASS)**, funded by Haringey Council, offers Independent Advice and Support for parents/carers of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) as well as advice and support to children and young people about their rights under the SEND legislation. Our Advice workers offer surgeries, outreach, individual casework support, a telephone helpline and training workshops for parents.

Advice surgeries: We offer surgeries to help families with Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and Personal Independence Payment (PIP) claims and appeals, funded by the National Lottery Community Fund. We also help with other issues including behaviour management, transition & adulthood and support in accessing other services.

Training workshops: We have adapted all our training workshops to be delivered online. Topics include: 'Understanding the SEND system', 'Positive behaviour management', 'Makaton', 'Communication and developmental play', 'Understanding autism' and 'Communication and visual aids'.

The trainings support parents and carers to understand their rights and to feel more confident in working positively and productively with health, education and social care professionals.



'Stepping stones' is our specialist language and sensory play programme for children under 5 years old who have additional needs in language, communication and social skills. Parents attend the 10-week course with their children – and it equips them with knowledge and skills to interact more confidently with their children through play and music.

Parent/carer support groups: Our parents support drop-ins enable families to build local support networks, share skills and experiences, improve access to information, and also give opportunities to relax and have fun. During the Covid-19 lockdowns we kept in touch with families by phone, and organised an online support group – giving an opportunity for parents to chat and support each other.



Statement of financial activities (summary income and expenditure account) for the year ending 31st March 2021

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Grants, donations and legacies	98,970	11,902	110,872	37,740
Income from charitable activities	140,018	408,865	548,883	509,967
Income from other trading activities	11,090	-	11,090	18,435
Investment income	290	-	290	290
Total Income	250,368	420,767	671,135	567,068
Expenditure				
Cost of raising funds	11,943	-	11,943	16,949
Expenditure on charitable activities	196,312	370,500	566,812	581,430
Total Expenditure	208,255	370,500	578,755	598,380
Net income and net movement in funds for the year	42,113	50,267	92,380	(31,312)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds, brought forward	160,588	101,659	262,247	293,559
Total funds, carried forward	160,588	101,659	354,627	262,247

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 2020-21: Claire Bendall, Clare Croft-White, Warren Hoskins (Treasurer), Dee Kushlick-Williams (Chair), John Larkin, Melian Mansfield, Charity Omungu, Michelle Simmons Safo and Jeremy Spooner. Haringey Council representatives without

voting rights: Councillor Barbara Blake, Councillor Felicia Opoku. Company Secretary: Keith Fair.

Our funders during 2020-21 were:

Haringey Council, BBC Children In Need, National Lottery Community Fund, Bloomfield Trust, Comic Relief, Henry Smith Charity, Baily Thomas Charitable Fund, Jack Petchey Foundation, Laureus Sport for Good, The Leathersellers' Company, The Mayor's Fund for London, London Play, Council for Disabled Children, St James's Place Foundation, Tottenham Grammar School Foundation,

Mike Davies and other individual donors, including donations given in memory of Nick Jackson (our former trustee, who sadly passed away in 2020), and donations in memory of Bob Samworth.

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 2021.

**Ramon Lee and Partners,
September 2021**



Charity number: 289904 Company Number: 1693876

Auditors

Ramon Lee and Partners,
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LONDON EC2A 4BA

Bankers

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