



Together For Inclusion

Annual Report

2023



Children and families

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

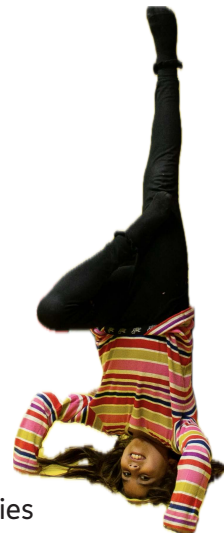


One hundred and sixteen children & young people have attended our **term-time after-school clubs and holiday play schemes**, which are funded by the Tottenham Grammar School Foundation, Charles S French, the Mayor's Fund, the Holiday Activities and Food Programme and local authority short breaks personal budgets. Our accessible adventure playground with swings, trampoline, climbing structures and a zip wire enables nature and sensory play, bonfire making, water play, football and den building. Food donations from The Felix Project have widened the range of quality meals we can offer and has given children the opportunity to do cooking activities during sessions. Funding from the Mayor of London's Kitchen Social project has helped alleviate the growing issue of food insecurity and social isolation during school holidays.

Our **adventure playground** drop-in sessions funded by BBC Children in Need support children to develop their physical and social and emotional skills. The sessions have a loyal core of users and have also drawn in new people that pass by in the park, enabling more families to connect with Markfield's support services.

Under fives stay and play: Our weekly drop-in session for children under five and their parents and carers, funded by Comic Relief, 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. The session offers families with children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) the opportunity to meet and socialise together, and for parents an opportunity to access advice, information and support in a friendly and inclusive play environment, with indoor and outdoor activities organised for children as well as a hot lunch.



We have started the **Autism Support Project** this year. It is funded by the Integrated Care Board, and it aims to support families with a child who has been recently diagnosed with autism, or is waiting for assessment. The project includes advice sessions, parents' groups (online and in person) training, family days and a monthly club for young people.

Young people and adults

Our daytime and evening social clubs for young people and adults with learning disabilities or autism are highly popular and successful, 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 session, while other club members develop their DJ skills. The session also provides a quieter art group, as well as movie nights and cooking activities.

Art Engine, is a daytime session which gives adults with learning disabilities the chance to develop and showcase arts-based skills. Club members have worked on a range of art media, with several workshops delivered by local artist Alison Lam and the longstanding relationship with Park Studios. Themes this year included science and weather, making a range of sculptures and painting related to the theme



All for One Club is a Monday evening club for young adults with places funded by The Bloomfield Trust. The club is for young adults with autism who do not meet the eligibility criteria for Local Authority social care funding. Many members of this group require support around their mental health. Sessions enable them to build social skills, participate in arts and sports activities. The club members also discuss issues which affect their well-being in a safe and supportive group.



Cosmos Club is a smaller daytime club which focuses on accessing activities and facilities in the community as well as participating in art-making, gardening, well-being and relaxation sessions. The group allows members to explore their interests and develop social skills in a relaxed and individual way. They enjoy regular walking trips to local parks, city farms, and shopping centres.

Coming to Markfield is like being with family

The **Independent Young Advisors (IYA)** is our youth participation group consisting of a mix of young people with disabilities and their siblings, who meet monthly and for a holiday scheme. The IYA group design their own projects, including fundraising for Markfield, creating and delivering training for other young people, staff and volunteers, and holding regular consultation sessions with our service users. This project is funded by the local authority through SENDIASS and St James Place Foundation.

Our Volunteers

Volunteers make a huge contribution to the work of our charity, both working behind the scenes on administration tasks and the maintenance of our building and playground, as well as helping to deliver our frontline services: children's after-school clubs and playschemes, adult social clubs, family drop-ins, carers groups, and advice and information services. During the year to the end of March 2023 a total of over 1,250 hours of time were given by volunteers to support the work of Markfield.

Parents and carers

We provide a range of family support services, both online and face-to-face. The following services have benefitted a total of 1221 families over the year, and have been funded by Comic Relief, Henry Smith, the Charity of Sir Richard Whittington, and Haringey Council.

The **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice & Support Service (SENDIASS)**, commissioned 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 SENDIASS workers offer advice surgeries, outreach, individual casework support, a telephone helpline, training workshops for parents and a drop-in session, and monthly surgeries with Haringey Council SEND Team managers. We continue to offer consultations via telephone and zoom when requested. We have a partnership with the Haringey Educational Psychology (EP) service to offer free consultations to parents at Markfield.

Advice surgeries: We have provided advice surgeries to help families with Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and Personal Independence Payment (PIP) claims and appeals, funded by the Henry Smith Charity and London catalyst.

Training workshops: We offer training workshops online and in person at Markfield. Topics include: 'Positive behaviour management', 'Communication and developmental play', 'Understanding autism', 'Communication and visual aids', in addition to the SENDIASS topics. 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' - parents for play and talk is a specialist language and sensory play programme for children under 5 who have additional needs in language, communication, and social skills. This course, held at Markfield and in outreach venues, equips parents/carers with knowledge and skills to interact confidently with their children through play and music.

Parent/carer support groups

Our weekly support group for parents/carers funded by Henry Smith aims to support families, enabling them to build support networks and share skills and experiences, improve access to information, services, and resources, alongside opportunities for fun and relaxation.

Volunteers befrienders

Thanks to funding from Henry Smith Charity, we have been able to run our befriender scheme, and 28 families have been matched with a volunteer over the year. Befriender volunteers receive a five-day training and meet families two hours each week over a period of 6 months, supporting families in a personalised way.



Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities (SFSC)

The Charity of Sir Richard Whittington funds three SFSC programmes a year. SFSC is a structured 13-week parenting programme, which helps parents with children aged up to 18 years to think about how their actions and experiences may influence their parenting style. The programme is accredited by the Race Equalities Foundation and has a strong evidence base built over several decades for being particularly effective in reaching and benefitting parents from marginalised black and minority ethnic parents, and those parents, and those facing extra parenting challenges.

Markfield delivers the course with additional content tailored to the needs of parents of disabled children.

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

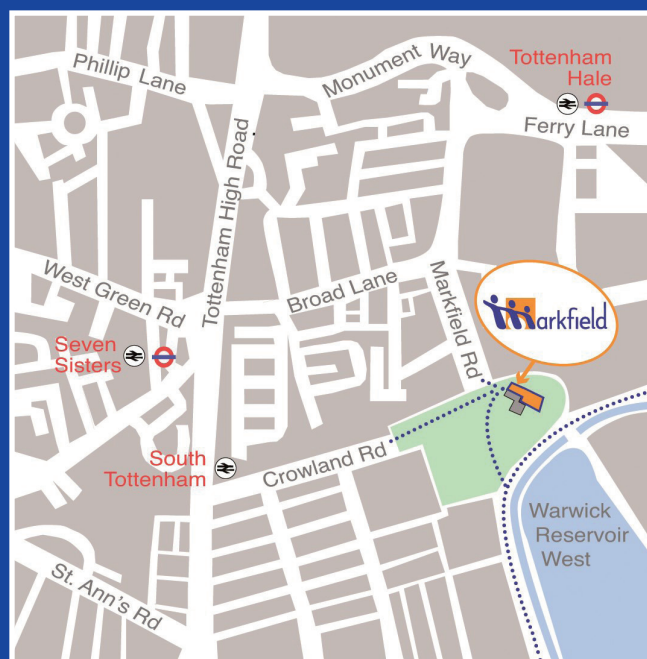
This report shows the highlights of our work during the year April 2022 to March 2023.

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. 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

The Markfield Project, Markfield Road, N15 4RB

☎ 020 8800 4134

@ enquiries@markfield.org.uk

💻 www.markfield.org.uk

🐦 @MarkfieldProj

📷 @themarkfieldproject

Photo above by Magpie Eye Photography

Statement of financial activities (summary income and expenditure account) for the year ending 31st March 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Grants, donations and legacies	13,442	15,000	28,442	40,937
Income from charitable activities	375,780	208,861	584,641	534,426
Income from other trading activities	22,570	-	22,570	20,966
Investment income	2,090	-	2,090	79
Total Income	413,882	223,861	637,743	596,408
Expenditure				
Cost of raising funds	11,831	-	11,831	11,909
Expenditure on charitable activities	370,172	233,323	603,495	631,700
Total Expenditure	382,003	233,323	615,326	643,609
Net income and net movement in funds for the year	31,879	(9,462)	22,417	(47,201)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds, brought forward	222,191	68,131	307,426	354,627
Total funds, carried forward	254,070	58,669	329,843	307,426

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 2022-23: Claire Bendall, Clare Croft-White, Warren Hoskins (Treasurer), Dee Kushlick-Williams (Chair), Melian Mansfield, Michelle Simmons-Safo, Natalie Sutherland. Haringey Council representatives without voting rights:

Councillor Barbara Blake, Councillor Adja Ovat.

Company Secretary: Keith Fair.

Our funders during 2022-23 were:

Haringey Council, BBC Children In Need, Bloomfield Trust, Comic Relief, Henry Smith Charity, Jack Petchey Foundation, The Mayor's Fund for London, the Charity of Sir Richard Whittington, St James's Place Foundation, Tottenham Grammar School Foundation, Charles S

French, Screwfix, Edward Gostling, Home Cooked, London Community Foundation, Groundwork, Bridge Renewal Trust, London Catalyst, 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 2023.

Ramon Lee and Partners, September 2023



Charity number: 289904 Company Number: 1693876

Auditors

Ramon Lee and Partners,
93 Tabernacle Street,
LONDON EC2A 4BA

Bankers

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

CCLA Management Ltd
80 Cheapside London
EC2V 6DZ