



Annual Report

2024/2025



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.

Under 5's 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. **84 families** accessed the service this year

Our monthly **Saturday Family Club** is part of the **SENDIASS service**. The session offers families with children with **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)** the opportunity to meet and socialise together. For parents, it is 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 welcomed a total of **178 children** with their parents over the year.

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 had 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. This year **165 children** have attended our drop-in play sessions.

We continue to receive food donations from **The Felix Project**, which have widened the range of quality meals we have offered children and young people attending after school clubs and playschemes. It has also given children the opportunity to do cooking activities during sessions.



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, featuring climbing structures, a zip wire, bonfire pit, trampoline, swings, and slides. Indoors, we offer a large hall, soft playroom, sensory room, and music equipment—providing a rich environment for exploration and creativity. A variety of activities are available, designed to suit a wide range of ages and abilities.

Play brings the world to life for children—it allows them to explore their abilities, build confidence, and develop self-awareness, all of which help prepare them for the future.



Partnership with Step-By-Step: provides culturally specific services for the large Orthodox Jewish community in the local area. Step-by-Step's weekly club for teenage boys with learning disabilities takes place every Sunday in the **Markfield centre**.

Playschemes: **70 children and young people** have attended our programme of play schemes for disabled children and young people in virtually every school holiday over the year: Summer, Easter, Christmas and half terms.

We received funding from the **Mayor of London's Kitchen Social project**, and the **Holiday Activities and Food programme**, which has helped alleviate the growing issue of food insecurity and social isolation during school holidays.

After school and evening clubs: This year, we have continued to run five clubs each week during term time: two after-school clubs for disabled children and their siblings, and three youth clubs. These sessions have been funded through a combination of individual short break personal budgets and additional support from the **Tottenham Grammar School Foundation**. The clubs provide opportunities for children to build friendships, gain confidence, and try new activities in a supportive environment. Over the year, **38 children and young people** have attended our after-school clubs.

The **Jack Petchey awards** scheme has enabled us to recognise outstanding contributions to Markfield by young people, and has enabled award winners to choose how to spend the award money for the benefit of all young people who come to **Markfield**, and to celebrate the contributions and progress of the young people we work with.

Volunteer and placement opportunities: We have offered a range of volunteering and placement opportunities at our centre and also working remotely, to support local people to develop their skills and share our knowledge and experience in promoting the rights and needs of disabled people. Students from **Riverside school** come every week to cook for the parents attending **Stepping Stones** as part of their work experience.

Young people and adults

We place strong emphasis on service users being actively involved in the running and planning of sessions, ensuring activities reflect their interests and promote independence. This year, the services were funded through grants from The Bloomfield Trust and London Sport, alongside session fees paid through local authority social care personal budgets, which remain our main source of income for adult sessions.

Markfield@Nite is our weekly Friday evening social club, run by an elected committee of members. Over the year, **28 adults** have attended the sessions. Music and dancing are a central part of the club, with some members developing their DJ skills, while others enjoy a quieter art group, movie nights, or cooking activities. The art activity group has grown particularly popular this year, offering members an additional creative outlet.

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. Over the year **13 young people** have attended sessions which 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. The group also enjoyed a workshop using fantasy film with community artist **Alison Lam**.

Cosmos Club is a smaller daytime club. The focus for this group is to access activities and facilities in the community as well as participating in art, gardening, well-being and relaxation sessions. The group supports **8 members** to explore their interests and develop social skills in a relaxed and individual way. This year they had a workshop in stress management. Most places are funded using Local Authority social care personal budgets and several of the group have profound disabilities. Members enjoy regular walking trips to local parks, city farms, and shopping centres.

Art Engine is a daytime session which gives adults with learning disabilities the chance to develop and showcase arts-based skills. This session is funded by members using their Local Authority social care personal budgets. Over the year, we have worked with **17 club members**. The groups 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.



Transition to Adulthood is a programmed funded by **City Bridge** aimed at supporting young people with additional needs to successfully transition to adulthood. The project will offer advice on a range of topics directed by the young people as well as matching them with **volunteer mentors** and socializing opportunities. We have supported **15 young adults** this year.

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, the Charity of Sir Richard Whittington, and Haringey Council.

Support Service (SENDIASS) commissioned by **Haringey Council**. This service offers independent advice and support for parents and 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. Over the year **parents of 802 children and young people** accessed **SENDIASS**.

As part of the SENDIASS offer we now run services to support children and families that have been recently diagnosed or are on the waiting list. The project includes advice sessions, parents groups training, family days and a monthly group for young people.



Parents support groups: We run a group for parents/carers each week in term time. The groups aim to support families to build support networks and share skills and experiences, improve access to information, services and resources, alongside opportunities for fun and relaxation. We have reached **76 parents** through our parents support groups this year.

‘Stepping stones’ - parents for play and talk funded by **Comic Relief** is a specialist language and sensory play programme 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 confidently with their children through play and music. We have delivered courses at **Markfield** and in **children centres**. **23 families** have benefitted this year.



Parents and carers

Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities (SFSC) funded by the **charity of Sir Richard Whittington**. During this year we have run three SFSC courses. 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 communities, including black and minority ethnic parents, and those facing extra parenting challenges. **Markfield** delivers the course with additional content tailored to the needs of parents of disabled children. This year **40 parents** participated in the programme.

Educational Psychologists: Markfield continues to facilitate appointments with **Haringey Council educational psychologists** at Markfield and via telephone conference each month. Parents who are worried about their child's development, learning, emotional well-being or behaviour are offered a **free 40 minute one-to-one appointment** to discuss their concerns and receive support and advice.

School Home Support: We have continued our partnership with the charity **School Home Support** who have a family support worker who visits Markfield during our **Parent Support Group** to provide support with housing matters and other issues are barriers to children attending and succeeding at school.



Parent participation: we have continued to work in partnership with parents to facilitate their participation in local authority consultations - to support them to voice their views on policy and developments in relation to local services for disabled children. Markfield works closely with the **Haringey Parent Carer forum**.

We have continued to participate in a range of **local planning forums**, to advocate for disabled people's rights and needs, and to support the development of best practice in providing services for disabled people. Forums we have participated in this year include: the **SEND Executive Board**, the **SEND Health reference group**, the **Haringey Voluntary Sector Forum**, and **Friends of Markfield Park**.

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

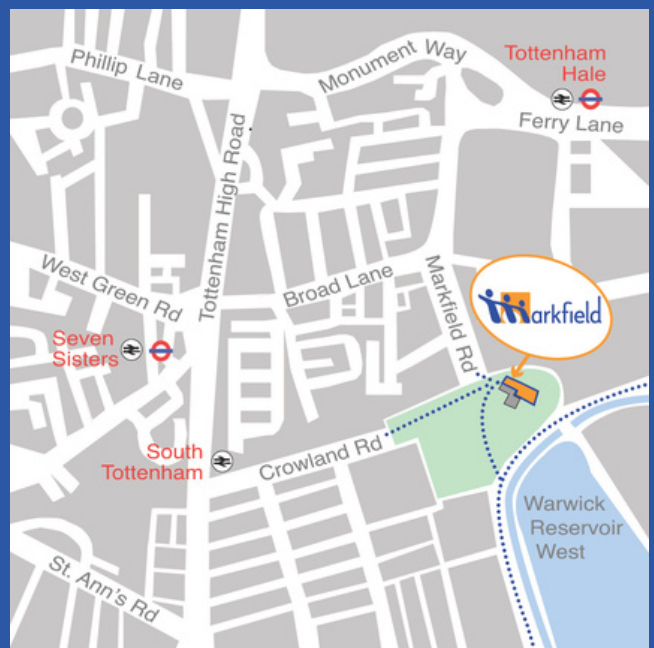
This report shows the highlights of our work during the year April 2024 to March 2025.

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



[@themarkfieldproject](https://www.instagram.com/themarkfieldproject)



[@TheMarkfieldProject](https://www.facebook.com/TheMarkfieldProject)



[@markfieldproject.bsky.social](https://www.bsky.social/markfieldproject)

Statement of financial activities (summary income and expenditure account)
for the year ending 31st March 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	2025 Total	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Income					
Grants, donations and legacies	41,600	-	12,500	54,100	31,985
Income from charitable activities	198,489	-	298,206	496,695	494,679
Income from other trading activities	29,252 -	-	-	29,252	23,238
Investment income	7,700	-	-	7,700	6,924
Total Income	277,041	-	310,706	587,747	556,826
Expenditure					
Cost of raising funds	22,493	-	-	22,493	16,294
Expenditure on charitable activities	258,802	-	345,034	603,836	646,856
Total Expenditure	281,295	-	345,034	626,329	663,150
Net expenditure for the year/Net Movement in funds	(4,254)	-	- (34,328)	(38,582)	(106,324)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds, brought forward	149,519	12,000	62,000	223,519	329,843
Total funds, carried forward	145,265	12,000	27,672	184,937	223,519

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 2024-25: Malgoratza Dymerska (Chair), Claire Bendall, Melian Mansfield, Clare Croft-White, Warren Hoskins (Treasurer), Michelle Simmons- Safo, Natalie Sutherland, Philip Naylor.

Haringey Council representatives without voting rights: Councillor Sean O'Donovan, Councillor Barbara Blake.

Company Secretary: Keith Fair.

Our funders during 2024-25 were:

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

City Bridge, Garfield Weston 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 2025.

Ramon Lee and Partners,
October 2025



Charity number: 289904

Company Number: 01693876

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