MITCHAM TOWN COMMUNITY TRUST
INSPIRES LEARNING FOR LIFE

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ANNUAL REVIEW 2021

THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022

Mitcham Town Community Trust has been a registered company limited by guarantee since 20TH August 2013 and consists of eleven schools and one community group from Mitcham Town. Trust membership covers eight primaries, two special schools (SEN and SEMH), St Marks Academy and the Jeremiah Project. Working in partnership with one another and a variety of other agencies for many years, the Trust is offering wider community access to facilities and varied activities within and beyond the school day.

Our mission is to support all young people and families from Mitcham Town in reaching their full potential. We aim to create ongoing learning opportunities for the whole community through collaboration, creativity and innovation. Our objectives are focused around continuous professional development, curriculum innovation and raising already high standards of teaching and learning.

'Onwards and upwards' Celia Dawson, MTCT Chair

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INSPIRES LEARNING FOR LIFE

UP AND COMING

- Daily Mile Track at Cranmer Primary
- Green Kitchen at Cricket Green School
- Immersive Learning Centre at Liberty Primary

PUPIL QUOTES

'All the activities are FUN and there is nothing I want to change'

'There is nothing else I would rather do on Saturdays'

'Shine Merton is a fantastic Saturday school and I love it; making friends is really easy as I usually struggle with that at my school.'

PARENT QUOTES

'Shine has encouraged both my son and daughter to be more independent, make new friends, and be more confident'

'I love seeing my daughter's smile when I pick her up from Shine and her telling me how great her day was'

'My daughter has grown in confidence, self-esteem and is now socializing more. She would love to be a Peer Mentor.'

JOINT PROJECTS AND MAJOR SUCCESSES:

SHINE ON SATURDAY

Having been successful in its bid to BBC Children in Need, Reaching Communities Big Lottery, and with generous support from Wimbledon Foundation, Lehman Brothers Foundation and Clarion Futures, we continue to deliver learning opportunities on Saturdays. Shine offers 50 9-10 yr. old pupils (approx.10 per Cluster school) to take part in enrichment activities aimed at raising attainment. Shine Saturday School was successfully delivered online during academic 2020-21 and has returned to face to face delivery from Sept 21. We focused on connectivity, health and wellbeing and study catch up (creative writing and language development) as most children didn't achieve expected academic progress second year in a row due to isolation caused by school closures during national lockdowns. We are currently running a number of enrichment activities such as trips out, Shine Camera Club, Sports and outdoor club, Drama and Mindfulness. We have even bigger plans for the Summer 22 and hope to run an arts festival style programme with many renown visitors. Our Camera club's young photographers are due to exhibit their works at Elys Wimbledon in June and we are planning a grand garden party and arts fest for the Queen's Jubilee!

SUMMER SCHOOL AND HOLIDAY PROVISION

Mitcham Town Cluster, Wimbledon FC Foundation, HAF Merton and Attic Theatre partnered to deliver a blended summer holiday content. In total, over 300 places were offered to our Mitcham youth across 4 school sites. We offered theatre school and multi-sports courses during 5 weeks of summer holidays and a week during October half term. The holiday programme also covered team building, literacy sessions, problem solving, multi-sports and acting. Each week escalated into a drama showcase on the final day with guests including families and teachers. The feedback we received from stakeholders and sponsors was very positive. We have also offered our graduates a chance to come back and work on their confidence skills using drama to help them settle into secondary school as well as a mentoring programme to help with transition to secondary.

AFTER SCHOOL STUDY SUPPORT CLUBS

The Study Support provision is a joint project, creating a partnership amongst all schools from Mitcham Town Cluster. During the pandemic we offered a mix of online revision programme and after school study support face to face sessions. Since Sept 22 the provision is offered in-house and hosted by our partner schools. All sessions are led by a fully qualified Tutor and run from school IT suites in order to provide stimulating, modern high-tech teaching and learning environment. The high ratio of tutors to young people enables development of confidence-boosting relationships between students and mentors ensuring rapid progress and key skills development. The programme is currently working on school referral basis and focusing on offering specially tailored study support and enrichment courses. We use cutting edge technology such as Oculus Rift, Lego-We Do coding and game creation activities. Use of iPads and artificial intelligence is encouraged to tease out and encourage independent learning.

THE SANCTUARY ART AND PLAY THERAPY SPACE

Our stunning Play Therapy Space continued to support children and adults in need this year. Our aim was to provide the emergency response and support for those families struggling with emotional wellbeing and effects of Covid pandemic. The Art Space remained open for most of the pandemic offering art, play and talking therapy. This specially tailored intervention helps over 40 pupils each year to deal positively with emotions which might affect their education and wellbeing, and enables them to fully engage in school and at all costs, avoid exclusion. Our Principal Play Therapist worked tirelessly to support and inform wider community and has produced a number of information booklets and continues to do so. We were also able to offer a phone helpline and 1-2-1 interventions. Thanks to tireless efforts of our Principal Therapist, each one of our member schools now benefits from PT student placements. The project is funded by The Taylor Family Foundation and will also be supported by Wimbledon Foundation from Sept 22.

GREEN ARTS CENTRE - "THE ARTS WHERE YOU ARE"

MTCT is very proud of its recent development, a state-of-the-art eco-friendly Green Arts Centre. GAC is a flexible and inclusive 150 seat venue offering a rich and exciting programme of arts activities and events across a wide range of disciplines such as music, theatre, film and dance. The focus is on creative opportunities for local young people and Rehearsal for Life - professional teacher training and development programme. Upon completion of capital works (April '21) we created a fantastic summer and Oct half term holiday offer for over 40 young people. We also hosted local arts organisations' events and have launched a Green Arts Youth Theatre school.

MENTORING AND WORK EXPERIENCE

SHINE Merton offered mentoring training to students and graduates in transition to secondary school and college. Some also had an opportunity for work experience as dance coaches and Peer Mentors. Mentoring training was designed by our Shine tutor and Mindfulness coach to support pupils in transition and offer a library of wellbeing techniques and a safe space to talk. We had a fantastic response from students and parents which was excellent to see.

HEALTHY SCHOOLS - WELLBEING4ALL

We are fully committed to improving health of our local community and making a positive difference. We have successfully delivered a number of emergency intervention programmes such as Mindfulness and talking therapy for staff and parents. We are looking forward to newly re-established partnership with One You Merton local health and wellbeing service. OYM will provide regular monthly sessions and health checks in our schools and our community projects.

PARTNERS & SPONSORS

- Attic Theatre Company
- Awards4All Big Lottery
- Bailey Thomas Charitable Fund
- BBC Children in Need
- Canons Heritage Lottery Fund
- Clarion Community Fund
- Clarion Futures - Bounce Back
- Clarion Youth Fund
- Digital Drama
- Don's Action, Keep kids connected
- European Metal Recylcing
- Lehman Brothers Foundation
- London Borough of Merton (HAF)
- Merton Giving
- Merton Neighbourhood grant
- One You Merton
- Paul Hamlin Foundation
- Reaching Communities, Big Lottery
- The Taylor Family Foundation
- Vivienne Westwood Ltd.
- Wimbledon FC Foundation
- Wimbledon Foundation

FRIENDS & SUPPORTERS

- 2KickStartU
- British Museum
- BY Innovations
- Christmas Lunch on Jesus
- Foray Films
- London Museum
- London Youth
- Merton College
- Merton Voluntary Service Council
- Mousetrap Theatre Company
- Polka Theatre
- Project Search
- Salvation Army
- SHINE Trust
- Sustainable Merton
- Unique Talent
- Wimbledon Civic Theatre Trust

MEMBERSHIPS

- ATTAIN Merton Education Partnership
- Canons HLF steering group
- Healthy Schools Steering Group
- Holiday Provision and Food Prog.
- London Tenders Portal
- Merton Youth Partnership
- Polka Theatre Comm' Steering Group
- Wilson Hospital Site Steering Group

PARTNER QUOTES

'Shine Project is a wonderful local initiative for disadvantaged young people. It provides much needed opportunity for early development, nurture and talent discovery. I am delighted to be able to give back by teaching photography to such a delightful group of young people and with support from enthusiastic educators'

Cindy Sasha, photographer and activist for Vivienne Westwood

'Mitcham Town Community Trust is the most proactive group of schools in Merton. Thanks to their cooperative spirit they were able to make a big difference to Canons re-development and create fun and exciting places and art for everyone to enjoy'

Amy Keen,
Canons House Community Officer

AWARDS AND COMMENDATIONS

Rochelle Rajan - Play Therapist, Highly commended by National Mental Health and Wellbeing Awards 2021.

Chelsea Irvin - Shine volunteer, accepted to the Clarion National Youth Ambassador Programme 2022.

Mitcham Town Community Trust members: Bond Primary School, Cranmer Primary School, Cricket Green School, Haslemere Primary School, Liberty Primary School, Melbury College, SS Peter & Paul RC Primary School, St Thomas of Canterbury RC Primary School and St Marks Primary.

Associate members: Benedict Primary School, Date Valley Primary, Jeremiah Project and St Marks C of E Academy.

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PARENT SUPPORT ADVISOR NETWORK

The Cluster Development Manager regularly meets with the school PSA's offering them support and guidance. These meetings proved to be a fantastic hub for networking, fundraising and introduction to a number of work professionals and partner agencies.

JOINT TRAINING

The Cluster is committed to sharing resources and good practice by putting on a series of twilights and shorter training courses for teaching and support staff. The Inset has been postponed due to Covid and will now take place on Monday 6th June 22.

ADULT AND FAMILY LEARNING

We have partnered for the 10th year with Merton Adult Education to deliver adult and family learning sessions in-schools. First Aid, Passport to work and ESOL courses are all due to take place in Summer 22.

CONSULTANCY

Our team of highly experienced Headteachers and partners continues to offer specially tailored support in the areas of business administration, coaching, behaviour management, leadership, innovation, and child, adolescent and adult mental health.

DEVELOPMENT WORK

Our development work is based on creative leadership approaches and innovation. We are dedicated to meeting community needs in financially sustainable ways. Our team of educational and business experts is very open to new ideas and building partnerships.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

1,000 FAMILIES INVOLVED

500 TEACHING STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS

OVER 35 ACTIVE PARTNERSHIPS

500 CHILDREN RECEIVED ADDITIONAL STUDY SUPPORT

40 CHILDREN RECEIVED ART AND PLAY THERAPY

100 PARENTS DIRECTLY PARTICIPATED IN ADULT AND FAMILY LEARNING

GRANTS AND OTHER INCOME
13 APPROVED GRANTS
301K ADDITIONAL INCOME RAISED
60K IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

DELIVERED

160 HOURS EXTRA STUDY SUPPORT

90 HOURS ART AND PLAY THERAPY

1,000 HOURS STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEV.

20 HOURS EXTRA ADULT LEARNING

With Special Thanks to:

THE TAYLOR FAMILY FOUNDATION