



Transforming Lives Through Interactive Theatre

At our charity, we are dedicated to enriching the lives of children and young people with profound and multiple learning difficulties, acquired brain injuries, and sensory impairments. Our interactive theatre experiences are designed to break down barriers and create inclusive environments where everyone can thrive.

Empowering Through Engagement

Many of the young people we support face exclusion due to their disabilities. We provide them and their families with opportunities to engage in a variety of interactive educational shows and workshops tailored to their unique needs. Our goal is to create safe spaces where they can build confidence, develop independence, and connect with others.

Building Life Skills and Confidence

We focus on helping our beneficiaries develop essential life skills such as managing stress, feeling good about themselves, working in teams, and enjoying activities with their families. By involving children and young people in planning and decision-making, we empower them to take control of their experiences and futures.

Supporting Families

Having a child with a physical disability can be isolating. We aim to alleviate this by offering support, solidarity, and friendship through regular events at our community hub. Many families describe us as a lifeline, especially in the early stages, when connecting with other parents who understand their journey can make all the difference.

Celebrating Diversity and Inclusion

████████████████████ is proud to create unique, life-enhancing experiences for participants with special and additional needs. We celebrate diversity and strive to increase skills, confidence, and well-being through fun and engaging activities. Our work raises awareness and opens up new opportunities for children and young people with learning disabilities.

Looking Ahead

We are ambitious and committed to building on our achievements over the past [REDACTED] With [REDACTED] nearing completion, we are excited to expand our services. Our next project is [REDACTED]

Our Trustees

Administration	Percentage
Current Administration	85%
Previous Administration	15%

Our New Home, [REDACTED]: A Journey of Transformation and Hope



[REDACTED] Their unwavering support has been instrumental in our journey, recognizing our potential and even creating a film about us. . [LINK](#).

The original building was energy inefficient and badly in need of updating. With funding from [REDACTED] we installed double-glazed windows and suspended ceilings. We replaced oil-fired heaters with Green, energy-efficient heating & cooling systems and are proud that, thanks to our new energy-saving solar panels, on a sunny day we are exporting to the National Grid.

Creating Inclusive Spaces

The Hygiene Room

With equipment funded by the Wooden Spoon and Closomat, we created a state-of-the-art Hygiene Room. It is now listed on [REDACTED]

The first wheelchair user's reaction was simply, "Wow!"

[REDACTED] ensuring wheelchair users in the area can access our facilities with dignity and comfort.



[pictured [REDACTED]]

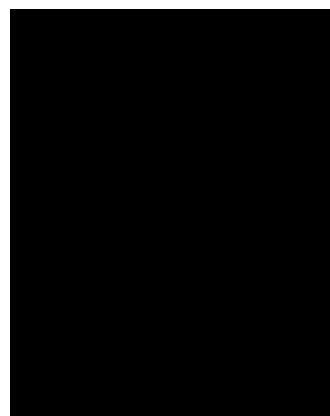
The Sensory Room

Supported by [REDACTED] allowing wheelchair users to enjoy the electronic stimuli on padded platforms. The room features fidget wall boards, [REDACTED] which took five months to arrive!

Our Fully Accessible [REDACTED]

Our [REDACTED] now proudly offers:

- Studio Theatre
- Sensory Room
- Hygiene Room
- Wardrobe & Changing Area
- Café
- Library (with our own volunteer Librarian!)
- On-site parking



In addition to being a home for our charity, the [REDACTED] provides:

- Meeting space for health & wellbeing groups
- Performance space for disability groups
- Drop-in Centre for families of children with disabilities
- [REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

Our Dedicated Staff

Charity run on the equivalent of 1.3 full-time paid staff

Despite the current cost of living crisis and the shortage of candidates since the pandemic, our charity thrives thanks to the loyalty of our staff. [REDACTED] is a shining example of a cost-saving charity, achieving so much with just a few part-time professional staff supporting our loyal band of volunteers. Their dedication and energy have been pivotal in progressing the work of the Charity extending its reach and expanding its services to children and young people with special needs and their families. and supporting our loyal band of volunteers.

"It is so exciting to be a part of the wonderful things that are happening here at [REDACTED]. This is an incredible space and has so much to offer people. The energy and commitment of those responsible for this development is quite awe-inspiring, and the ethos of inclusivity and empowerment is inspiring." [REDACTED], Administrator]

Volunteers: The Heart of Our Charity

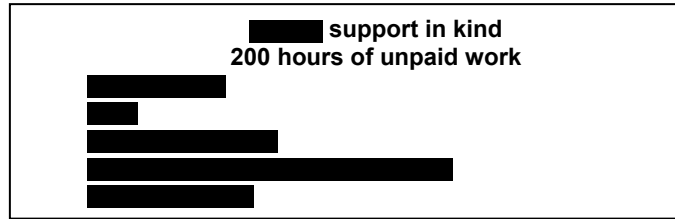
██████████ support-in-kind
3,000 hours of unpaid work

Our charity is led by passionate volunteers who are committed to making theatre accessible to all. ██████████, we remain volunteer-led, with Chief Executive duties undertaken by our Founder. Eighteen regular volunteers support our part-time staff, providing invaluable skilled hours.

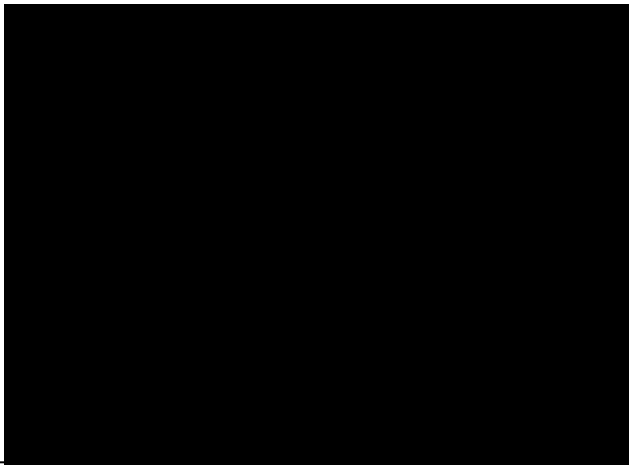
Our charity is led by a team of volunteers who are committed to making theatre accessible to all. ██████████, we remain volunteer-led with Chief Executive duties undertaken by our charity's Founder. Eighteen regular volunteers support our part-time staff providing invaluable skilled hours.

"I have always been committed to giving back and making a difference for something I believe in. Equity, diversity and inclusion are at the heart of everything I do." ██████████ ██████████, Financial Controller since 2021]

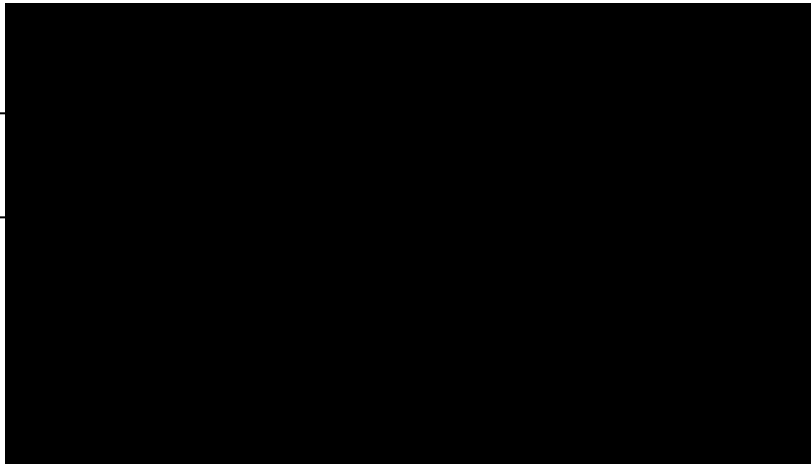
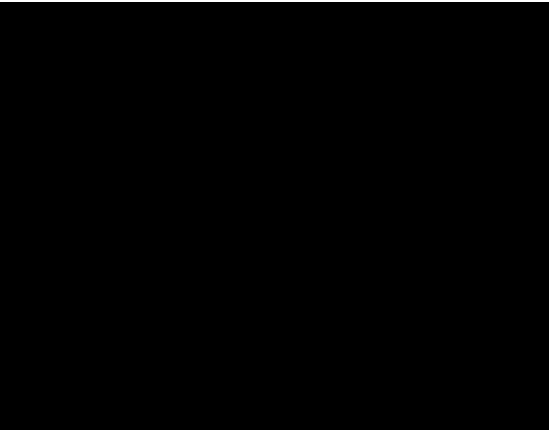
Corporate Volunteers:



We are grateful for the support of corporate volunteers from [Redacted]. These 30 corporate volunteers have carried out a wide range of tasks, including administration, gardening, DIY, cleaning, and sorting of props.



[Redacted]
"It was a really rewarding day and to see the progress been made with the building was incredible!"



"Great to help a small charity"

[Redacted]

70% of participants tried something new and challenging.
Over 58% of families said our events reduce social isolation
Over 85% shared an inclusive activity as a family
99% of participants felt happier and had a greater sense of wellbeing.



Touring Productions

Activities: 655



Our new Creative Team continues to plan, produce, and direct our content, ensuring our shows are accessible and engaging for all. Our performances are tailored to the needs of our audiences with a mixture of simple narrative, Makaton signing, and pre-recorded Voice Output Communication Aids, making them accessible to all.

Touring 138 venues throughout Surrey, Sussex, Kent, London, Norfolk, Bucks, Beds, Berks, Cambs, Suffolk and Sussex (East and West)

Show: [REDACTED] (48 sessions, 24 venues)

During 2023 we re-produced this show in honour of our former patron [REDACTED]. Adapted from a children's story [REDACTED], the show retains much of [REDACTED] Monty Python humour with a fox training chickens to be circus performers. The show was shortlisted for an award at the [REDACTED] and performed to capacity audiences.

"The actors and the company really understood the needs of our children." [REDACTED]

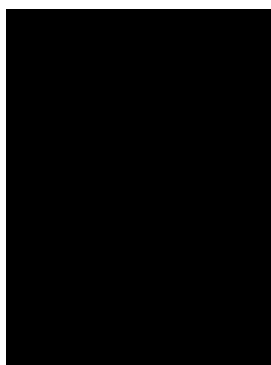
"Great!! Cluck, cluck.
Brilliant!" [Parent]



Pantomime:

Beauty & the Beast (60 sessions, 34 venues). This pantomime, toured London and the Home Counties, Christmas 2023. For the first time children's hospices were included.

With [REDACTED] providing the voice of the Magic Mirror



"All of the children absolutely LOVED the day and the Pantomimes! Some of our children have never experienced anything like that before so it was amazing to see them interacting and some even taking part in this sensory show. We will be recommending to all who ask!" [REDACTED]

"Absolutely fabulous for the kids and, as a parent, first time I've felt relaxed at a public event in a long time." [parent]

"Such a lovely show with great ways to get my daughter involved when she usually doesn't participate in similar things" [Parent]

Storytelling

Squish Space at the Barbican

12 sessions for Inner London's Special School pupils

We continued our collaboration with the Barbican Performing Arts Centre, London, devising sensory storytelling for their 'Squish Space' school parties:

"Your thoughtfulness and delivery was perfect. Our pupils responded to you. No tears, no behaviours, just joy"

Wizard of Oz

44 sessions, 11 venues

"Fun and engaging and you really think about how to integrate the audience. We love how you take into account their differences and work with"

Captain Crabsticks

12 sessions, 3 venues

Amazing Tales

114 sessions, 19 venues

"It was really lovely to see all the students so engaged, focused and reacting so well to the story and props."

"Such a lovely show with great ways to get my daughter involved when she usually doesn't participate in similar things" [Parent]

The Charity's learning department, under the direction of , continues to develop our products that are set within the school curriculum.

Beachcombers & Mudlarking (40 sessions, 10 venues)

Beachcombers & Mudlarking: "You are such a precious resource!" [Parent]

Ocean & Shore (64 sessions, 16 venues)

Rainforest (44 sessions, 11 venues)

Ocean & Shore: "This special theatre company allows us to do an activity as a family. It forces us out and is a safe environment to explore. The team are always supportive, kind and incredibly friendly." [Parent]
"Really enjoyable and fun, with lots of opportunities to participate while telling a serious message about litter" [Parent]
"So inclusive and we loved the interactive elements of it." [Parent]

The Romans: "Our group very much enjoyed your performance and it is so well suited for our group of children with disabilities. It was so great to see them all so engaged and having an enjoyable time! Your staff/performers are so fantastic, friendly and accommodating – it was a real pleasure working with you!"

Rainforest: "a lovely and well thought out workshop"
"The event was really wonderful, and our students had such a wonderful time. Fantastic. A wonderful interactive experience. Students were able to freely explore. All the students were acknowledged, and the leaders knew how to interact with them. Students appreciated the sensory aspect – the smells and sounds. Students who struggle with behaviour managed so well and came into the hall where they would normally struggle. We all felt that you interacted and managed our students beautifully. Thank you. We will be booking you again soon."

The Romans (life in Roman Londinium 400AD) - launched Summer 2024

The Tudors (with a choice of virtual or live workshops to underpin our charity's docu-film,

Workshops

Sing-sign Workshops

*"Loved the social side of workshops.
Improved his Makaton signing."* [Parent]

Drama Workshops

Accessible workshops for a wide range of ages. These include Drama, Arts & Crafts and, to be launched in August 2024, Lego Brick Building Therapy.

*"An enormous 'thank you' for the wonderful family day today.
Wow! It's one of the few times, if not the only time, that I've been able to sit with my son and enjoy something with him, rather than be on red alert the whole time. It's one of the best things we've ever been to, and we will definitely be back."* [Parent]

YouTube Learning Channel

Listings: 127

Viewings: 90,000+

Through this channel our charity reaches children throughout the UK who have Social Anxieties and/or Physical Disabilities that prevent them from attending live productions.

All our films include online resources supporting families to create a multi-sensory, interactive experience for their children while watching at home. A pause symbol encourages them to gather together their costumes and props to make the ensuing scene an interactive and sensory experience for their child. Makaton signing and close captioning assist those who have Hearing Impairments or Speech, Language & Communication Needs.

Robin Hood: Christmas 2023

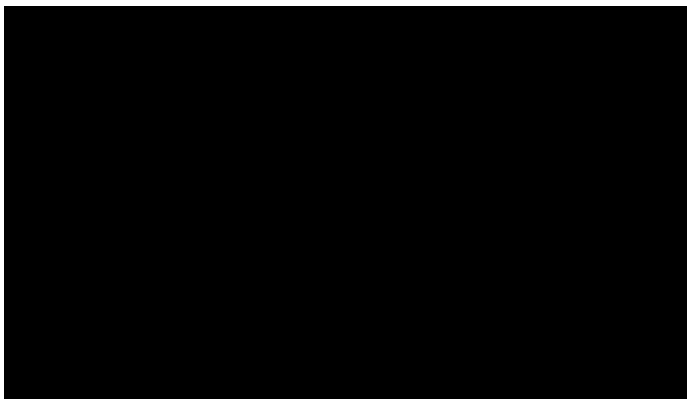
Beauty & the Beast: Christmas 2024

Filmed in January 2024 to be made available for families during the Christmas 2024 period.

██████████ kindly agreed to voice the mirror.

Odie's Odd Odyssey: Summer 2023

Sensory Squad: This series was created and developed for children and young people who are socially anxious meaning that simple visits to public places can often be unsettling and confusing. Our Sensory Squad series provides familiarisation through exploring and understanding a new experience before undertaking a real life adventure outside familiar surroundings.



"Thank you so much for providing Sensory Squad. My children are autistic and worry about new experiences but after watching, our family were able to visit a local farm because the YouTube video gave them the confidence to try out a new experience" [Parent]

Episode 2, 'Silly at the Circus', June 2023: filmed in association with Hikapee Circus Theatre,

Episode 3, 'A Dinosaur Tour', October 2023: filmed on location and in association with the Friends of Crystal Palace Dinosaurs.

Episode 4, 'Playtime at the Palace' will be filmed in Spring 2025 in collaboration with The Historic Royal Palaces' Learning & Schools Content Team at Hampton Court Palace.

Programmes for Students Transitioning from Special Schools

Work Experience:

We provide experiences in all aspects of theatre craft: videography, stage management, directing, performance, front-of-house, merchandising and hospitality. We work with students transitioning from Special Schools and presenting with a wide variety of learning difficulties and disabilities.

20 students pass through this programme annually

"I enjoy all of it! So far I have been writing down the time and having lots of fun. [REDACTED] is one of the first journey towards film making"

"It was very interesting, I have seen people working Front of House at the theatres and cinemas so it was a great opportunity to try it out. I really enjoyed the fixing back stage- set building and working with my hands is what I really enjoy. I fixed an oven prop for them. I really liked helping the get in and get out , setting up and packing away."

Professional Placement Scheme

This scheme employs disabled young people to work alongside our professional actors on film sets. They receive parity pay while receiving mentoring and guidance.

This scheme is being expanded into a Transitions into Employment Programme, supporting NEET disabled young people to find employment or permanent volunteer placements.

"It was exciting to hear my own voice on the recording and the cast introduced me as Athena which I was very proud"

?? ADDITIONAL WORDING

██████████ creates unique and wonderful work that has a life-enhancing impact on participants with special and additional needs, and their families.

We celebrate diversity. We increase participants' skills, confidence, and well-being, promoting such learning as fun. We raise awareness and increase opportunities for children and young people who are learning disabled. We build confidence and increase independence in our participants.

We are ambitious and wish to build on what we have achieved over the past [REDACTED], continuing to produce and promote opportunities within the arts for children and young people with a wide range and varied levels of disabilities.

With [REDACTED] nearing completion we are ready to expand our services and our reach. Next on the agenda is a [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

Our charity supports children and young people with profound and multiple learning difficulties, acquired brain injuries, and those with sensory impairments to enjoy interactive theatre experiences. Many of the young people who access our performances face exclusion because of their disabilities. We provide opportunities for them and their families to engage with a wide range of interactive educational shows and educational workshops designed around their needs.

We aim to enable our beneficiaries to feel safe, build their confidence, and strengthen their independence through trying out new things and making connections through social interaction; to develop life skills (managing stress and feelings, feeling good about themselves, using money, working in a team and to go to places and enjoy activities with their family. We wish to enable children and young people to be involved in planning and decision-making of activities; to improve support and information to families; to help promote self-supporting groups and the empowerment of families, their well-being, knowledge, and understanding and to support their access to professional advice.

Having a child with a physical disability can be an isolating experience. Not only are there so many medical issues to learn about but so many activities become difficult to access and inappropriate for the disabled child. We aim to help parents feel less isolated, providing support, solidarity, and friendship to families through regular events at our community hub.

Many families have described us as a lifeline, especially in the early stages, describing how talking to other parents who genuinely understand how they feel has helped them to get through some tough times. Often parents will get advice from fellow parents that they could never get anywhere else – those little tips to get through normal everyday life that no one else can teach you.