

Supporter Newsletter 2019

Early Years' Appeal

Our Early Years project (for children aged 18months - 5 years) became a permanent service in June 2018 with thanks to a grant from a generous anonymous Trust. The service has since been lucky enough to have received funding from The National Lottery Community Fund, Children in Need and The Edward Gostling Foundation. These grants contribute towards the cost of running the service and enable us to keep it free to all the families who attend.

Early professional guidance and support networks formed at this critical development age will have the most profound impact on development over the course of the young person's life. Progress for our children might be the transition from being 'non-verbal' to using three-word sentences, or from not being able to tolerate being in a room with other noisy children to playing a turn-taking game with another child. These achievements are monumental and deserve to be celebrated.

There is substantial demand for specialist support, and we're determined to secure the long-term future of our provision so we can continue to empower families and help set children on a path to achieving their full potential. It costs £2,552 to deliver an intensive six-week programme per family and we're dedicated to ensuring it remains free to those that need it most and have therefore launched an appeal in support of this service.

In our Early Years' Service, families are empowered to support their child's cognitive, emotional, and social development and to gain confidence in their, and their child's abilities. We would be grateful if you would consider supporting our service in any way you can. You can donate through our website or by texting the numbers here:

DONATE

To donate £5
text EARLY to 70970

To donate £10
text EARLY to 70191*

What's in this Issue

- Early Years' achievements
- Updates from the Services
- How you've helped us
- Upcoming events
- Challenge events 2020
- Your impact
- Future projects



Early Years: Achievements



"Bucket time" (an approach by Gina Davies) is one of the techniques that we use in Early Years to promote communication and develop attention.

Through fun and engaging activities which use a variety of exciting (and messy!) toys like water and paint, we work on the children's ability to copy actions modelled by adults, take turns and ultimately to complete tasks independently.



At the start of the 2019 summer term, some of our children's attention lasted for 0-10 seconds. Others fluctuated between 1-3 minutes with lots of support to stay engaged.

By the end of term, 96% of our children had doubled the length of time that they were able to maintain their focus on a task... and many tripled it! One child increased their longest session by over 7 minutes.



Marta Martin Perteguer
Speech Language & Communication Needs Teacher

Celebrating Success

At BeyondAutism, we understand that progress looks different for each child. Before starting at Early Years, parents often compare their child's skills to their siblings' particularly when neurotypical milestones are not reached. Celebrating progress is at the heart of our Early Years' service and the 'achievement tree' is the focal point of the classroom. Take a look at some examples of progress from this term.



Harry's journey with Early Years



1 Harry joined our Early Years' service in April 2018 aged 3 years and 8 months.



2 He was non-verbal and displayed some difficult behaviours that were affecting his learning.



3 The team worked on providing Harry with an effective means of communication.



6 Simultaneously, the team worked on enhancing his play skills. Initially, he held onto multiple items and found it difficult to cope if they were taken away.



5 With time, Harry learnt how to say a number of sounds to tell us what he wanted. Such as 'guh' for go, 'bubba' for bubbles and 'wawa' for water.



4 He learnt how to ask a variety of people for the things he wanted/needed using PECS (Picture Exchange Communication System).



7 Gradually, Harry learnt to tolerate swapping toys, and is now able to play with a range of toys appropriately (including his favourites - water play and cars).



8 Mum tells us that she is more confident in taking Harry out into the local community and is reassured that he now has the tools to continue progressing his communication and learning.



BeyondAutism continues to support Harry and his family with his transition into school.



What's been happening?

We've had an exceptionally good start to the academic year - here are some of our favourite moments:

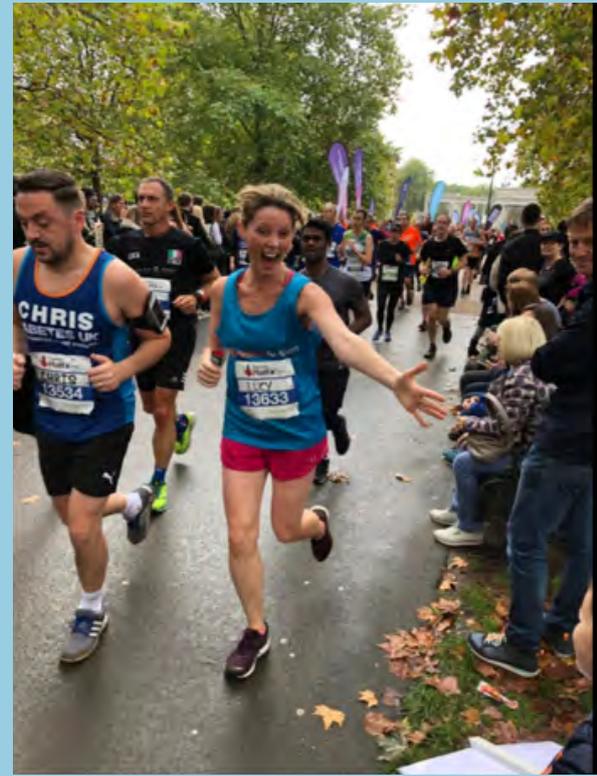
In October, Dennis Wise and fellow Trustees from Dennis Wise in the Community came to Park House School for the official handover of a minibus, kindly donated to BeyondAutism. We're delighted to receive this fully accessible 17-seater minibus from the Trust. The minibus will provide access to a wider choice of activities and save us a significant amount of money on transport costs.

The minibus will be used across our two Wandsworth-based schools (Park House School and Tram House School), helping our pupils to become active citizens through opportunities to participate and engage in the community.

It will enable us to take pupils to the library, shops and work placements; to access a number of sporting activities including the gym, trampolining and swimming; to take part in social activities beyond the school; and to go on outings and participate in outside learning.

"We are so grateful to Dennis Wise in the Community for their generous donation of a minibus. With this bus we will be able to further our pupils' learning and extend community opportunities. I am certain that all our pupils will benefit from this and they are all very excited to see what adventures lie ahead!"

Kieran Bird, Head of Park House School.



Royal Parks Half Marathon 2019

Congratulations to all of our runners who took part in the Royal Parks Half Marathon in October. Despite the mud and the rain it was a fantastic morning and the team all finished with smiles on their faces.

The team of 12 have so far raised an incredible £9,000. Thank you to everyone who has supported the runners and of course to the runners themselves for all of their hard work.



Corporate Support

We're so thankful for all the corporate support we receive.

Having been chosen as Rebound Gaming Hall's Charity of the Year in March, we have formed a great relationship with the local business. Rebound generously agreed that every item on their menu that ends in 50p will see that 50p sent to BeyondAutism in order to help pay for support, resources and equipment in our schools and services.

Rebound managing director Paul Reynolds said: "Autism is something that impacts lots of families in lots of different ways and I felt lots of people can relate to it either directly or indirectly. I'm really enjoying working with BeyondAutism, they've been very supportive of us. We've benefited from their employees coming in, engaging with us as a social space and they're great people to work with."



Volunteer with us!

We are so grateful to our Corporate Partners for providing wonderful and enthusiastic volunteers at all our special events where we need an extra pair of hands.

Thanks go to Octopus volunteers for their unrivalled reliability and commitment to BeyondAutism; along with the team at Octopus Giving for their continued advocacy of our charity. We'd also like to thank Sally Glancy, for winning 'Volunteer of the Month' and donating her £500 prize money to BeyondAutism.

This term, we'd also like to thank our fantastic volunteers from SAP who helped with maintenance in the school holidays as part of their 'Month of Service'. You are wonderful and we look forward to welcoming more volunteers in the future.



THANKYOU



Pro-Bono PR training

We also owe a big thank you to the PR team at Octopus Group for hosting a free-of-charge Public Relations training afternoon for our Marketing Team. Octopus shared their expertise around how the wider objectives of the organisation can be translated into an engaging and effective PR plan that conveys the right message to the right audience and importantly in the right way. From practical tips of how to develop stronger partnerships with the press, to advice around having the right expectations from our communications, the team learned so much at the meeting that they're already putting into practice.



Fundraising events 2020

We have a range of very exciting range of challenges and events coming up for all abilities. If you want to know more, please get in touch - we'd love to hear from you!

We are incredibly appreciative of all our supporters willing to go the extra mile to raise vital funds for our services. Please get in touch for more details about each event or register your interest through our website - it's never too early! <https://www.beyondautism.org.uk/support-us/challenge-events/>

Hikes/treks

Isle of Wight Challenge - Monday 4th May

London to Brighton 100k - Saturday 23rd May

16 Bridges Trek (25km) - Saturday 12th September

Runs

Vitality 10k - Monday 25th May (Bank Holiday)

Royal Parks Half Marathon - Sunday 11th October

Cycling events

Prudential Ride London-Surrey 100 - Tuesday 4th August



We are extremely grateful to have secured places in the coveted Prudential Ride London-Surrey for the first time this year; please get in touch if you're interested in taking this on in support of BeyondAutism. Hurry-places are limited and will book up quickly.

A promotional banner for a charity quiz night. The banner features a central purple vertical bar with white text. On either side of the bar are images of a large indoor event with many people seated at tables, decorated with colorful balloons. The background of the entire banner is yellow with scattered colorful geometric shapes like stars, circles, and triangles. The text on the purple bar reads: 'Save the date: 30 04 20 BeyondAutism Charity Quiz Night Details released January 2020'.

Save the date:

**30
04
20**

BeyondAutism
Charity Quiz Night

Details released
January 2020

How your generosity has helped us

With thanks to our much-valued supporters, some fantastic projects have taken place this term.

Liam was struggling with his communication. He found signing difficult and would struggle to share his wants and needs. Seeing the issues he was having, Park House School introduced Proloquo2Go (a symbol-based Augmentative and Alternative Communication app) to Liam and has since seen dramatic improvements.

Liam's learning had stalled. He had around thirty signs for different objects but found it hard choosing the right sign for what he wanted to say. Due to difficulties with his fine motor skills, learning intricate signs was tough for Liam. Because of these issues, he found it a challenge to communicate effectively with others. Liam's mother, Sarah, believes that he was becoming frustrated with not being able to communicate properly:

“Learning new signs was quite difficult for him... people wouldn't be quite sure what he meant. This frustration would lead to him sometimes having undesirable behaviour such as grabbing at people and flopping to the floor.”

The school decided to try something different and introduce Proloquo2Go with Liam to improve his communication. Liam took to the app incredibly quickly and the results were almost immediate. His Speech and Language Therapist, with assistance from Liam's Tutor, started using the programme in school with some of his favourite objects and activities. Once he had mastered using the app and selecting the different items, staff went home with Liam and explained the process to his parents and showed them how it could be used in the home environment

“He can take it everywhere and it's quite easy for people to understand what he wants, he just presses a button, whereas with sign language you're relying on the other people to know what that sign means.”



We would like to thank Embassy of Man and Eaton House the Manor Pre-Prep School for their respective grants and fundraising events that meant we could purchase critical communication software and tools for our pupils.



How your business can support us: A Reminder

From motivating staff and helping boost your brand, to supporting a vital cause and raising awareness, there are plenty of reasons to put BeyondAutism forward as your company's chosen charity.

Our corporate volunteers read to students on World Book Day, run half-marathons, sponsor events, run raffles and provide much-needed funding, skill-sharing and in-kind support. We feel extremely fortunate to be partnered with a number of organisations who generously support our work with young people with autism.

Whether through your corporate social responsibility policy or staff philanthropy, there are a multitude of ways our corporate partners can help us (including some things you may not have thought of):

- Donations or grants
- Charity of the Year partnerships
- Pro bono professional work
- Sponsorship of events
- Cause-related marketing campaigns
- Donating physical items (surplus office equipment, office space, printing facilities)
- Staff secondments to work in the charity
- Providing professional expertise, management, or training
- Volunteering
- Organising a fundraising campaign amongst employees
- Engaging in payroll giving
- Advertising/promoting us in publications

Payroll Giving

The most tax effective/ cost-effective way to donate!

Payroll giving donations are taken before tax, which means BeyondAutism receives more of your donation and it costs you less. For every £1.00 that you give it will only cost you 80p, and if you're a higher rate tax payer it will only cost you or your employer 60p.

Your Donation	As a 20% Tax Payer you pay:	As a 40% Tax Payer you pay:	Beyond-Autism receives
£10	£8	£6	£10
£15	£12	£9	£15
£25	£20	£15	£25

Ask your HR or Payroll Manager whether your company has signed up to a payroll giving scheme or please get in touch if you'd like to know more.

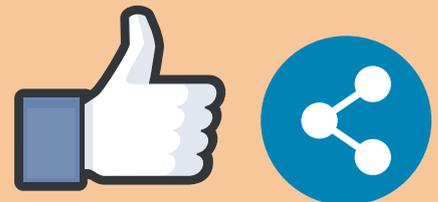
Amazon Smile

BeyondAutism is now on Amazon Smile. This means that you can raise money for BeyondAutism at no extra cost to yourself, simply go to smile.amazon.co.uk, login using your existing amazon account and shop as usual. (This also includes business accounts). We receive a 0.5% donation per product.



Engage with us digitally

Engagement such as liking, commenting or sharing posts across social media platforms not only enables us to raise awareness of our charity; but more importantly helps us to spread practical information and ideas, encourage new support and ultimately reach more people and have a larger impact on people with autism and their families. All just with a few clicks!



Facebook birthday fundraisers

We receive 100% of the donations made through Facebook since they do not charge a transaction fee. Birthday fundraisers/ Facebook campaigns are a wonderfully easy way to raise vital funds for BeyondAutism.

