

SOLIDARITY SPORTS



SUMMER REPORT 2022

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Dear friends,

I am delighted to share our Summer 2022 Project Report with you. For 5 weeks, children across Kensington & Chelsea and Hammersmith & Fulham, joined us every day for fun, stimulating and healthy activities.

In the midst of our families experiencing acute hardship, with your support we were able to offer them temporary crucial relief. The cost of living crisis will undoubtedly have an impact on all of us, but for the families we work with, the months ahead will be crippling.

Despite the world slowly recovering from the pandemic, we still receive a constant stream of referrals from Social Services. Thanks to the belief our funders and partnerships have in our work, we have been able to accept more children than ever, witnessing a 120% increase since 2020. It is important to remember this figure reflects the negative implications the past two years has had on our community.

Right now, thousands of families are just about surviving but at Solidarity Sports, we want every single child we work with to be able to thrive. This summer, we had the privilege of being a part of 123 children's stories, helping build their confidence, social skills and resilience.

I am incredibly proud of what our team achieved this summer. However, I would like to express deep gratitude to our funders, partners and supporters who made our big summer plans a reality. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sean Mendez', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sean Mendez
Founder & CEO

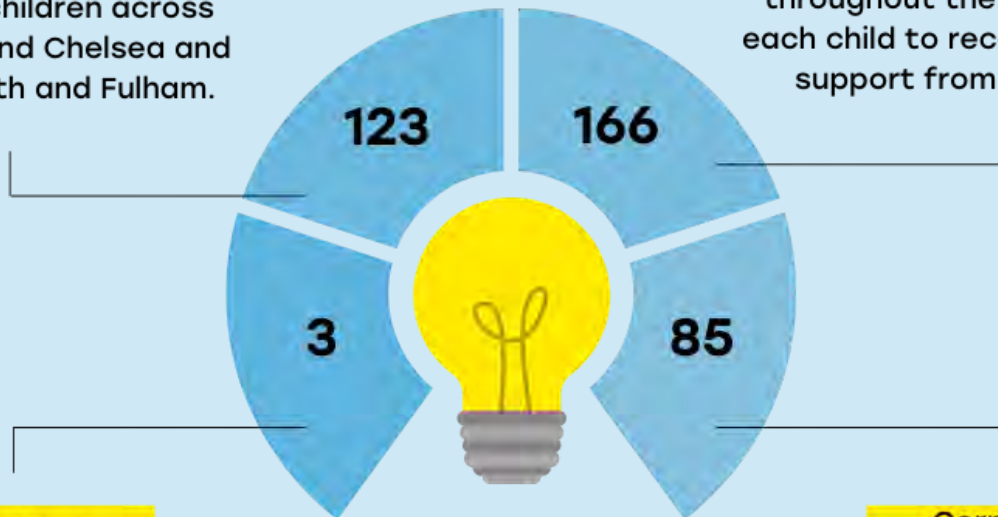
SUMMER 2022 OVERVIEW

Children

A record-breaking 123 children joined us this summer. We supported children across Kensington and Chelsea and Hammersmith and Fulham.

Staff/Volunteers

We maintained an average daily ratio of 1 adult for every 2 children throughout the project, allowing each child to receive much-needed support from a caring adult.



Locations

We built excellent partnerships in our community and had access to the amazing facilities at Westway Sports Centre, Latymer Upper School, and Holland Park School.

Corporate Volunteers

In total, 85 corporate volunteers from 4 different organisations dedicated their time to helping our children make happy memories.



Our teenage group with Staff Member Amel in PGL, Isle of Wight.

WEEK 1

WESTWAY SPORTS CENTRE



Staff Member Lucas, with boy aged 10

“My time with Solidarity Sports has been so much more than I could have ever asked for. The team's generosity, kindness and care are incomparable. Being able to work with and make a difference to children filled with enthusiasm, kindness, and excitement is a rewarding privilege that I am grateful for each day.”

Nura, Sessional Staff Member

Children took part in football, tennis, ball games and arts and crafts sessions

Thanks to the beautiful sunny weather, we spent as much time as possible embracing the outdoors!

We ate lunch together outside every day and enjoyed special moments in nature, searching for snails in the colourful WestWay playground.

Thanks to the generosity of The Invention Rooms, children received their own science pack filled with stimulating educational activities, such as building their own stethoscope!



Girl aged 9,
playing football at WestWay Sports Centre.

WEEKS 2-4

HOLLAND PARK SCHOOL & LATYMER UPPER SCHOOL



Girl aged 5,
playing with parachute in Holland Park School.

For 3 weeks, we were based at Holland Park School, having access to their incredible facilities, including:

- 4 tennis courts
- 3 large football pitches
- 2 classrooms
- 1 MUGA playground
- Indoor hall
- Spacious dining hall

We used the space to its full potential! Each week we used the dining hall for smoothie making class, educating children on healthy eating.

To finish the week off on a high, we packed up a football, suncream and water bottles and embarked on a short 7-minute walk to the Adventure Playground at Holland Park.

Every Friday, whilst the majority of children were at the park, 20 children took the coach to Latymer Upper School, for weekly swimming lessons and fun splash time. Gaining access to a swimming pool has been very difficult in the past, so we were delighted to have use of the olympic size pool and friendly swimming coaches.

Unfortunately many of our children cannot swim or feel uncomfortable in the water but through these sessions, children gained confidence and loved the water polo!

We hope to secure funding this year to run swimming classes for our children, to help them gain crucial skills.



Volunteer and child painting together during arts crafts.

WEEK 5

ADVENTURE HOLIDAY IN THE ISLE OF WIGHT & EXCURSIONS AROUND LONDON

Our 5-day trip to PGL's Little Canada in the Isle of Wight was incredibly magic. For most children, this is their first time away from home, a time in which they conquer fears, share a room with friends and create memories that will last a lifetime.

During the week, children took part in a variety of thrilling activities including: rock climbing, abseiling, kayaking, archery, zip wire and much more!

We took full advantage of being away from the polluted streets of London and enjoyed most evenings at the beach playing games, learning to skim rocks and burying our feet in the sand!

TELL ME A MOMENT WHEN YOU'VE FELT REALLY HAPPY.

"The giant swing was so high! I was a little scared but mostly excited. It made me so happy because it was something I'd never tried before, and it gave me a rush."

Girl aged 9



Boy aged 10, trying archery for the first time.

Those who stayed in London had an exciting week with excursions around the city. Our children created memories in:

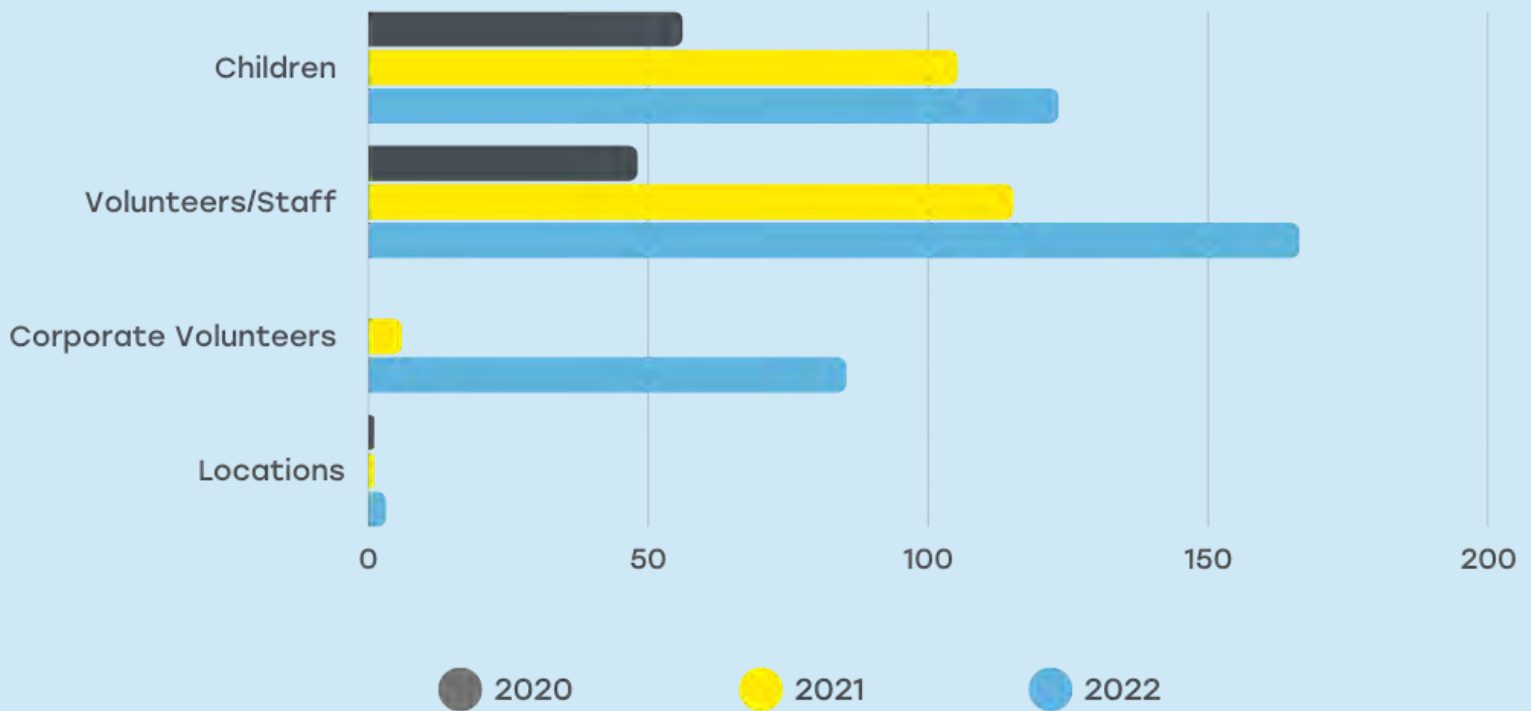
- Oxygen-Free Jumping
- Gambado's
- Princess Diana's Playground
- Holland Park Adventure Playground



Girl aged 8, conquering her fear of heights during zip wire.

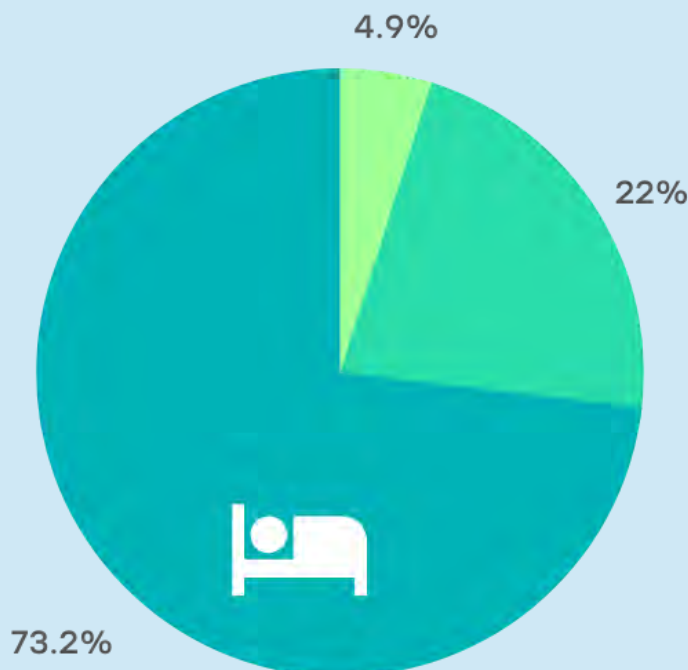
SUMMER ATTENDANCE

The chart below compares data from our last 3 Summer Holiday projects.



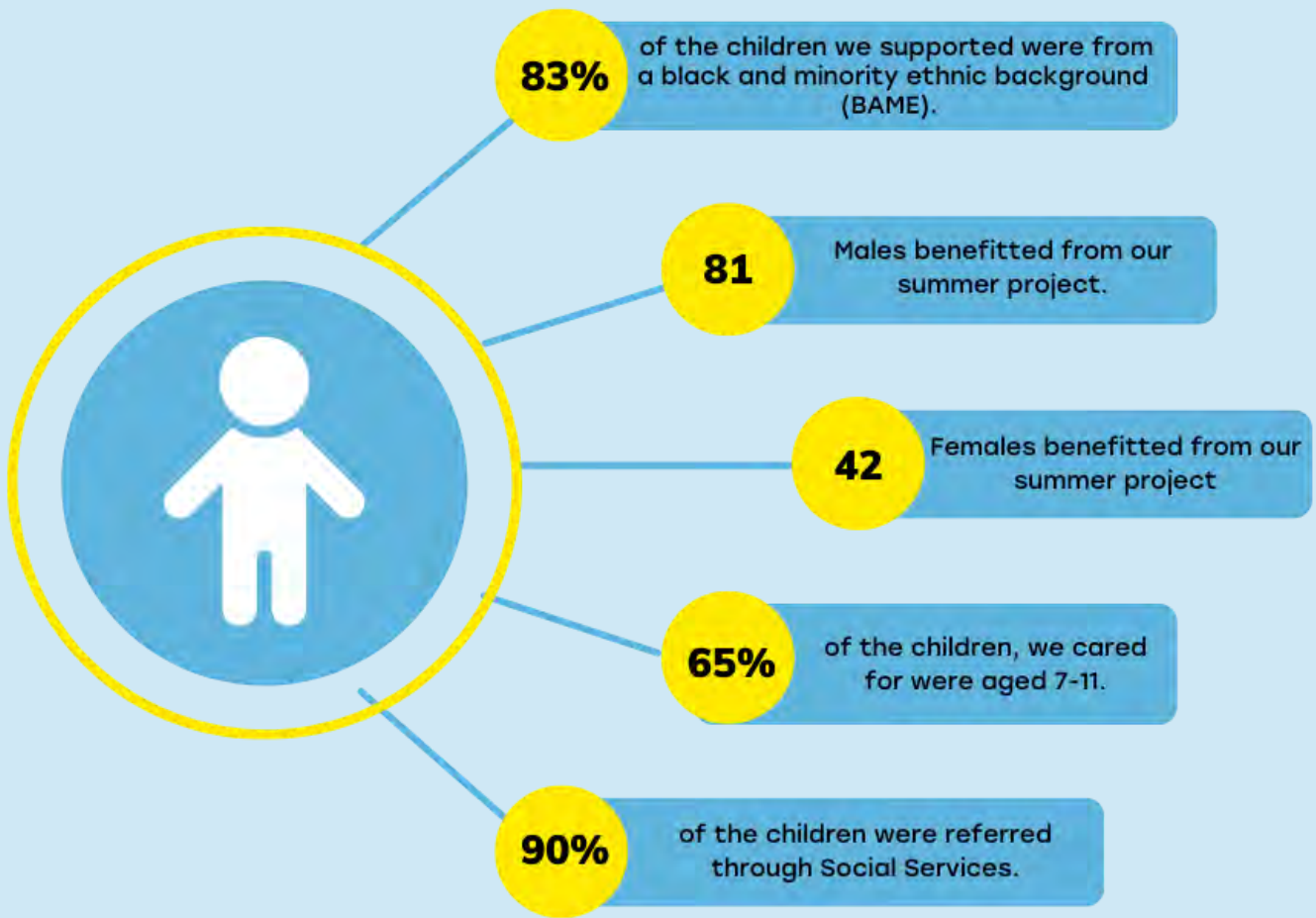
HOUSING

A breakdown of the housing background of the families we supported this summer.



- Private Tenant**
6 children this summer live in private tenant accommodation.
- Temporary/Refuge**
27 children live in temporary accommodation or in a refuge. This figure includes children living in hostels/hotels.
- Social Housing**
90 of our children live in social housing.

OUR CHILDREN THIS SUMMER



Staff and children at PGL adventure centre in the Isle of Wight.

CASE STUDY



Our wonderful chef Jomana.

IN TOTAL JOMANA MADE 1,200 MEALS FOR OUR CHILDREN.



Child age 5 enjoying Jomana's food.

Food insecurity is a growing issue many of our children and families face. With the cost of living rising at an unsustainable rate, having a healthy, nutritious meal for some of our families has become a real struggle.

We first met Jomana through one of our charity partners, Dad's House at their local food bank. Jomana would come in weekly for food for herself and her family. As a thank you, Jomana came in one day and brought freshly made chicken shawarmas. The entire team loved Jomana's wraps, and before we knew it, Jomana would bring in a hot meal or snack to thank us every week.

Jomana became very popular within the team, so we spoke to her about providing food for the children over summer. We supported Jomana in funding a Food Safety Qualification, along with purchasing the equipment she needed.

Jomana's 4 children joined us this summer, her youngest as a participant and her 3 older children as volunteers.

"The main thing I loved while cooking for the amazing children at Solidarity Sport is all the love I put in and the feeling of knowing that the children will not get sick and knowing they loved the food. The feedback that I received makes me feel good about myself."
-Jomana

FEEDBACK

WHAT OUR VOLUNTEERS THOUGHT

“On behalf of our team at BNPP, we would like to say thank a big thank you for giving us such a rewarding opportunity to volunteer with your charity yesterday. It was an eye-opening and humbling experience. All of us really enjoyed being a part of your wonderful efforts in playing with the children and seeing them happy. It was also a great pleasure to get to meet the staff and other volunteers.”

- Seung, Rupert and Raphaela
BNP Paribas.



WHAT OUR CHILDREN THOUGHT

98%
of our children
felt safe with us.

60%
of our children said
they wouldn't
change anything.

78%
of our children
rated our summer
project 5 *

WHAT OUR PARENTS THOUGHT

“I can't believe what happens today! I'm so grateful that we are somewhere warm, with no leaks, and now the kids are having a peaceful sleep. I'm thankful beyond words I feel like my nightmare is, at last, coming to an end. I can't thank you enough. Solidarity Sports are more than a charity you are more like family to us. We love you all, Sean, Miriam, and Idris you went far and beyond to make us feel safe and settled. You mean the world to us...”

- Parent, mother of 2.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

We would not have been able to deliver such an incredible 5-week summer project for our children without the generosity of the following organisations:

OCTAVIA 

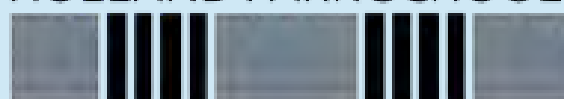
 LMP GROUP

 The
ChildhoodTrust
Alleviating the impact of child poverty

 JOHN LYON'S CHARITY

 THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA

 LATYMER
UPPER SCHOOL

HOLLAND PARK SCHOOL


everyone
ACTIVE

**WEST
WAY**
SPORTS &
FITNESS

Promoting healthy active communities

SOLIDARITY SPORTS



THANK YOU

Your support allowed us to transform children's lives this summer and give each of them what they deserve: happiness.

solidaritysports.org

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



Registered Charity No: 1123589