



# LONDON YOUTH GAMES FOUNDATION

## IMPACT REPORT 2023

The charity that creates life-changing opportunities through the power of competitive sport for all young Londoners.

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# Introduction

Our Impact Report shares the progress and success we've achieved with the help of our members, partners, and supporters. We extend our huge thanks to our member Boroughs, our sponsors Nike, the GLA, Sport England and all of those who have contributed to our cause and helped us make a difference. This report is a testament to the power of collaboration and the impact we can create when we work together towards a common goal. Join us as we reflect on our beliefs, celebrate our collective achievements, and look forward to an exciting future creating life changing opportunities for all young Londoners. We especially look forward to returning to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park to deliver our Finals Festival in this Olympic and Paralympic year.



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# London Youth Games Foundation

OUR BELIEFS	OUR PURPOSE	OUR LEGACY
<p>We believe sport is a right for all.</p> <p>We believe sport boosts physical and mental health.</p> <p>We believe sport builds friendships and connects young people with their communities</p> <p>"Sport is a fundamental right for All. This report demonstrates how the Games plays a hugely positive part in young Londoner's lives. Especially helping young people who face disadvantage to become healthier, safer and more successful. – Geoff Thompson MBE FRSA DL QP JM, LYG Chair</p>	<p>Those who face the greatest inequalities are most likely to be inactive.</p> <p>Thanks to your support, you're helping us in our mission to create a youth games that's accessible to young Londoners of all:</p> <p>Genders Ethnicities Beliefs Disabilities Backgrounds</p> <p>Reaching young people from 32 Boroughs of London and the City of London.</p>	<p>London Youth Games has reached 1,900,000 participants since 1977.</p> <p>92% of London Youth Games participants are inspired to continue with their sport(s)*</p> <p>82% of London Youth Games participants enjoy exercising or playing sports, compared to 44% of similar aged Londoners*</p> <p>Pat Andrews, a 1979 LYG participant said:</p> <p>"My journey with LYG has gone from participating in squash in 1979. Since then, I've continued to be involved, as a Team Manager, BTO, official and now as a Games Referee.</p> <p>The games was a launch pad for my love of sport and I took the core values of the games into my International athletics careers, as a javelin thrower. The games have a special place in my heart."</p> <p>*Open Games survey carried out by Trust Impact Report 2023</p>



# Open Games

Europe's largest community youth sporting competition enabling young Londoners from all backgrounds to represent their borough and compete in 30 sports. The 32 boroughs of London and the City of London are our members.

**66%**

of London Youth Games participants are lonely never or hardly ever

\*Open games survey carried out by Trust Impact (Feb - Sept 2023)

**46%**

young people took part from the 1st-5th most deprived areas of London (IMD 1-5)

**43%**

of last year's Open Games participants are from Ethnically Diverse communities

**49%**

female participants took part last year

**900**

young Londoners with special educational needs and disability took part last year

**8,400**

young people took part in London Youth Games Finals and Qualifier events each year

# Chidera's Story

"I found it tough when I started. I was the only one on a balance bike, while my friends were already around me riding two-wheeled bikes."

Read  
Chidera's  
Story.





# Open Games

Over 25,5000 young people with special educational needs and disabilities benefited from the Games since 1977



4130

female participants took part (49%)

9

Open para games competitions

40

events organized across 38 sports

32

boroughs of London (6 more than 2022)

2

inclusive sports Trampolining and Kayaking added in 2023

8362

young people took part





"London Youth Games was the most special day of the year, being able to represent Ealing. It made me love football and being part of a team even more than I already did. It's great to see girls who are just like I was following in my footsteps."

Chloe Kelly, England Women's Football Team



# Open Games

## LYG Finals Festival

For the first time, through a collaborative effort, we delivered a special 2012 legacy opportunity through our Finals Festival creating opportunity and celebrating all young Londoners on the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

At venues across Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, we achieved more than ever before, creating an amazing weekend of sport, culture and art in an atmosphere and spirit not seen since the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games on the Park. 3,972 participants and spectators engaged with the LYG Finals Festival across the weekend of July 1-2, 2023.

We partnered with key stakeholders to create a special and enhanced experience for London Youth Games participants and Londoners.

The event ran alongside the 'Great Get Together' creating a community festival spanning the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park on Saturday 1 July.



Christine Ohuruogu



Lutalo Muhammad



Shanice Beckford- Norton



Jordan Thompson



Marcus Adam



Tess Howard



Omar Beckles

The young people participating in the weekend were cheered on by Olympic champions and sports stars.

# Open Games

## LYG Finals Festival



“The Finals Festival was a great chance to showcase squash to a brand new audience. All of the young people who had a go had never come across squash - it was very well received and we had a lot of re-visits!”

CHRIS VINE, SQUASH PROVIDER



“The Finals Festival made me feel a part of my community and a part of something good. It doesn’t matter if you’re good at the sports, it just matters that you’re taking part!”

ELISA,  
RICHMOND TABLE TENNIS PLAYER



"It was inspirational to see the children together in the Finals Festival, delivering excellent pieces of Dance. Having a collaboration between London Youth Games and Rambert Grades has elevated the experience for all involved."

KAREN LITTLEWOOD, DANCE PROVIDER,  
RAMBERT



# School Games

Working with the School Games Organiser and schools network across London to provide competition and festival opportunities. Particularly targeting young Londoners who face the greatest barriers to being active.

We worked with partners to create a special and enhanced experience for London Youth Games participants and Londoners.

**49%**

of our  
participants  
took part from  
the 1st-5th most  
deprived areas  
of London (IMD  
1-5)

**23%**

more young  
people  
took part in the  
2023 School  
Games  
compared to last  
year

**9,800**

young  
Londoners with  
special  
educational  
needs and  
disability took  
part last year

**48%**

ethnically-  
diverse young  
people took part  
last year

**57%**

female  
participants  
took part last  
year

**151,0**

young Londoners  
participated in local  
pathway  
opportunities and  
London wide finals  
and festival  
activities through  
the School Games

# Eve's Story

"It's such a joy to see the kids learn new skills, feel more confident and most importantly, have fun!"

[Read Eve's Story.](#)

# School Games

**2**

NEW INCLUSIVE  
SPORTS  
were introduced to  
School Games in  
2023: Dance and  
Handball, as part of  
the Inspire Festival.

**8**

INCLUSIVE EVENTS  
were taken part in  
by young people  
with special  
educational needs  
and disability

**81,179**

FEMALES  
took part (that's  
54%)

**651**

SCHOOLS  
took part in the  
School Games

**43**

EVENTS  
were delivered  
as part of the  
School Games

**35**

COMPETITIONS  
were organised  
as part of the  
School Games

**17**

SPORTS  
were offered as  
part of the  
School Games



# LYG 33

LYG33 is a youth voice activation and leadership programme that empowers 14–21-year-olds from London to develop themselves and influence the future of London Youth Games and youth sport in London.

"Where before I only dreamt of a more accepting world, thanks to LYG33 I now feel I can genuinely help to create it!"



[Read  
Micha's  
Story.](#)



[Read  
Belendas's  
Story.](#)



[Read  
Elliot's  
Story.](#)

# LYG 33

LYG33 have highlighted the key issues facing young people in London with the aim of using sport as a tool to tackle these.

Cost of Living

Mental Health

Knife Crime

Accessible  
Physical Activity

Gender Bias

**93%**

of LYG33 members  
said the programme  
increased  
confidence in  
themselves and in  
their ambitions

**86%**

of LYG33 members  
said they were able  
to contribute to the  
future of London  
Youth Games

**100%**

of LYG33 members  
said the programme  
improved their  
confidence in using  
their voice to tackle  
issues they care  
about



# LYG 33



**65%**

female  
LYG33 members

**20**

members of LYG33

**15**

boroughs  
represented by  
LYG33 members

**55%**

ethnically diverse  
members of LYG33

**75%**

members from the 1st-  
5th most deprived  
areas of London (IMD  
1-5)

**10%**

with special  
educational  
needs and



# Inclusive Coaches

Inclusive Coaches is a programme supported by our sponsors Nike providing opportunities to upskill individuals through officiating, coaching, leadership and sport development training and mentoring.

This programme was created in response to the need of our network to provide more inclusive coaching to young people in boroughs across London.

Inclusive Coaches not only builds individuals' technical knowledge, but also provides the skills and confidence to coach young people with special educational needs and disability (SEND).

**12**

new coaches trained to offer specialist support and opportunities specially for young people with special educational needs and disability (SEND)

**6**

Coaches with special educational needs and disability (SEND) trained

**100%**

Gained Level 1 coaching badge in either Athletics or Football

**100%**

went on to coach or volunteer within LYG's para athletics and para football events

# Inclusive Coaches



**Aiden**

"I didn't want to let Asperger's stop me from fulfilling my coaching dream."

*Read  
Aiden's  
Story.*



**Amelie**

Find out how Inclusive Coaching helped Amelie

*Read  
Amelie's  
Story.*



# Gamesforce

Championing volunteering as a way of connecting people and communities to improve life chances for young Londoners.

The power of volunteers builds stronger communities and enables everyone to thrive. Volunteers make a real difference to society as a whole.

516

young leader  
volunteers were  
upskilled to support  
London Youth  
Games events.

58%

female young leader  
volunteers

47%

ethnically  
diverse young  
leader  
volunteers

6%

young leader  
volunteers with  
special  
educational  
needs and  
disability  
(SEND)

More Than

20,000

volunteers have  
been supported  
to develop their  
skills and  
confidence since  
1977

1,009

volunteers  
generously  
donated their  
time at a LYG  
event in 2023

85

volunteers with  
special  
educational  
needs and  
disability  
donated their  
time at a LYG  
event in 2023

# Gamesforce



"The satisfaction I get from helping out the kids is stuff that's good for my soul."

Read  
Lou's  
Story.



# Gamesforce

Sense supports and empowers people who are deafblind, or have complex disabilities to fulfil their potential.

5

from sense volunteered at our para-games football event, as pitch runners and assistant supervisors

“The young people truly enjoyed their day and left the event full of energy and excitement. It was heart-warming to see them grow their confidence and work independently, which speaks volumes about the organisation of the event as a whole.”

Jane, Head Support

# Your Support

We have some big ambitions for the year ahead.

With your help we will

create an Organising Committee to support the organisation of our Finals Festival

- Develop new partnerships, as well as building partnerships with NGB's
- Develop a Community Campus on the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in partnership with Youth Charter
- Deliver a larger and more inclusive Finals Festival, collaborating with community partners and sponsors across Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

- Introduce 3 Adapted Inspire Festivals aimed at young people with special educational needs and disability and their friends and families.
- Introduce new Para Sport Events for 2024 including cricket, netball, badminton & basketball.
- Develop youth engagement strategies to ensure young peoples' voices are listened to and actioned at all levels.





# Your Support

We are very grateful to the amazing supporters who have helped us so far.

Could you help us continue to create life-changing opportunities in 2024 and beyond, ensuring sport is a right for all?

It's only by working together in collaborative partnerships that we can support more young people facing inequalities to access sport, when they need it most.

**Become a Headline Sponsor**

**Become a Sports Sponsor**

**Become an Athlete Supporter**

**Spread the word**

Thanks to



MAYOR OF LONDON



and the 32 boroughs of London and the City of London