



Intrepidus Trust

# Our Impact



# 2021- 22

# Introduction



Established in the wake of Grenfell, the KAA Intrepidus Trust (KIT) funds a range of exciting and ambitious enrichment programmes which aim to broaden the horizons of students at Kensington Aldridge Academy (KAA) and, in so doing, narrow the attainment and social mobility gap with their more privileged peers.

We open doors to a rich variety of educational enrichments in performing and creative arts, life skills, wellbeing and sport, and forge links with the community to further support these programmes. Our role, through KIT, is to complement the school's core provision with opportunities and resources that would not otherwise be accessible.

Despite the school's location within one of the richest boroughs in the country, the school's catchment area is in the top 10% most deprived in the UK. This is reflected in the fact that last year, 54% of our students claimed Free School Meals. This is double the national average rate, and the number continues to rise. Our Principal, David Benson says:

*"Schools like KAA, which serve disadvantaged communities, are going through unprecedented pressures at present. The cost of living crisis is hurting students and families, and comes on top of the lost learning and social development we saw during the pandemic. The Intrepidus Trust is like the antidote to this - their programmes build confidence and help re-socialise students, prising them away from their screens and into something enriching. We are very fortunate to have their support, and need it now more than ever."*

We are quite simply unable to deliver our mission without support from our donors, along with the extraordinary commitment shown every day by our teachers and support staff.

With thanks,

Lucy Morris  
Chair, KAA Intrepidus Trust

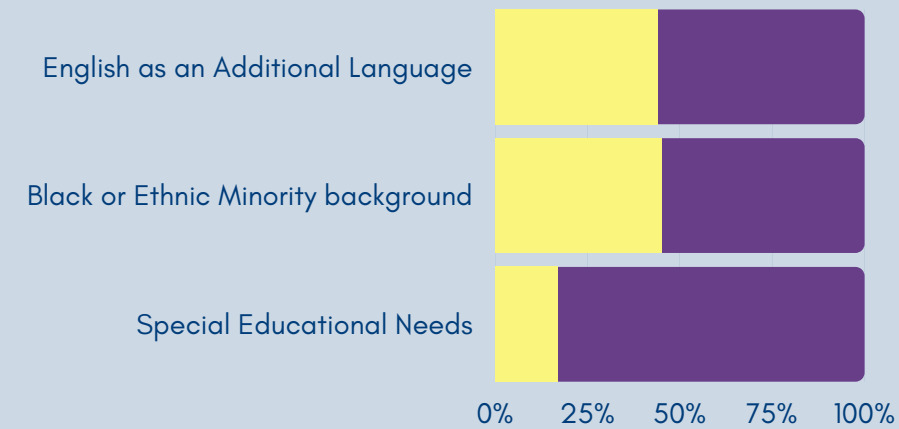


# Our Numbers in 2021-22

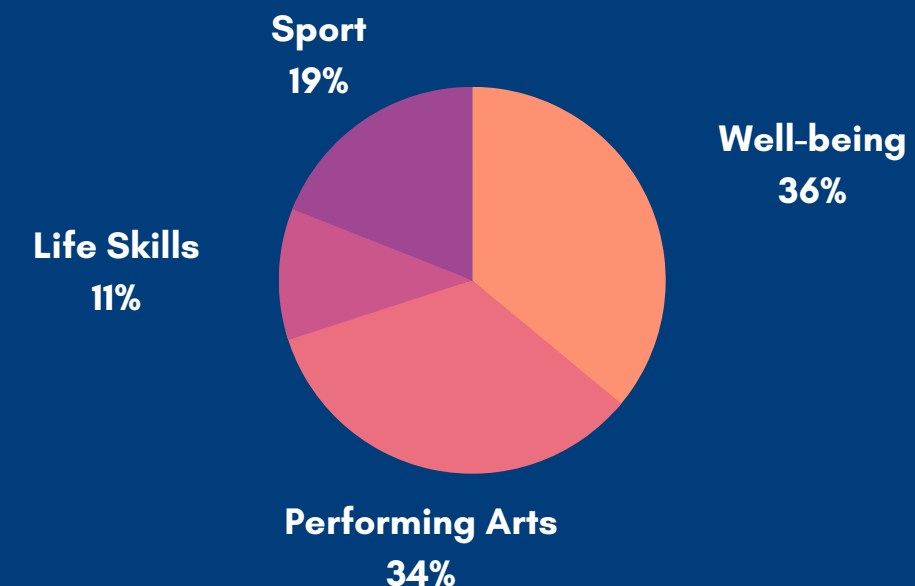
**698** (two thirds of) pupils took part in at least one KIT programme



54% eligible for Free School Meals (over double the national average)



- 93% of students made a positive gain in their academic attainment or engagement with their learning
- 79% reported positive changes in their wellbeing
- 86% reported that they had developed life skills



**£154k** invested in **29** programmes

# Sports for all

## Swimming

## Indigo's Story

Year 9 student Indigo is an exceptionally talented swimmer with aspirations to reach the Olympics. The school approached the Intrepidus Trust for a grant to cover the costs of a five day swim camp in July 2022, which would ready her for the Nationals and British Swimming Championships taking place over the summer. Indigo has also been a role model through her volunteering with younger children's swimming classes at the local leisure centre.

*Since receiving funding from the Intrepidus Trust to go on a training camp in Tenerife, I have achieved so much I am proud of and hope to continue on my journey to achieve my aspirations to become an Olympic swimmer. Since the camp I have competed in British nationals and finaled in the 50 and 100 fly, swimming Personal Bests in both; I placed 6th in the British final of the 100 fly. I competed at the English nationals and finaled in two of my events; 100 free and 200 fly. I am currently ranked 4th short course in Britain for my age in the 100 fly and 3rd in the 50 fly. I have recently been invited on the Swim England Event Gap Project, which plans and prepares swimmers for Victoria 2026 and LA 2028. I am so grateful for all the support I have received and hope to continue progressing at this rate into the future to achieve my goals.*

Indigo, Year 9



Support from the Intrepidus Trust is aimed at ensuring that all Year 7 pupils at the school can swim safely and confidently. This year, over 250 KAA pupils completed a six-week swimming course at the adjacent Kensington Leisure Centre.

The children were extremely grateful for the opportunity, reflected in a feedback survey of 54 students in which 94% said that they enjoyed swimming and 87% felt more confident in the water after completing the course.

*Indigo at swimming camp, front row, third from the right.*



# Sports for all

## Rowing

Donations to the Intrepidus Trust have enabled the establishment of a growing rowing programme at the school, in partnership with Fulham Reach Boat Club (FRBC).

240 Year 10 students completed a 6 week Learn to Row course. It was the first time in a small boat on the water for 85% of students, and students reported they had gained in teamwork, communication and confidence.

The school's 30 strong rowing squad trained twice weekly on land and on the river. The Fulham Reach coaches have been very impressed with their growth in technical skills and confidence, progressing to fine boats and singles and learning to cox. This progress saw a number of our students picked for Fulham Reach's Junior programme, and competing in a regatta against Chelsea Academy with KAA house teams taking the top four places!

In addition, several students used rowing towards their GCSE, A-level and Duke of Edinburgh qualifications.

Year 12 student Tashi (*pictured right*) is one of our rowing programmes's rising stars. First exposed to rowing through the Year 10 programme, Tashi subsequently joined the school squad in which she trained every week both on and off the water. Her talent and promise were quickly spotted by Fulham Reach and she was invited to join their Junior programme. Tashi entered the Ball Cup South Regatta at Dorney Lake in May 2022, where, competing against 16 others, she came in a fabulous third, winning a bronze.

Very excitingly, Tashi is currently competing in the trials for the Great Britain Junior Rowing team, so her rowing adventure is just beginning!

Tashi was subsequently awarded Young Ambassador of the Year by Hammersmith & Fulham Council for her support and encouragement of other young people into rowing. She has also served as an inspiration to the hundreds of students at KAA who were introduced to rowing this year, showing what is possible with grit, passion and a spark of talent!

*I was so scared to go rowing as I am not a good swimmer. I didn't think I would be able to get onto the water but after six weeks I was rowing up and down the river. I am hoping I get to go rowing again next year as I want to do it more often.*

*I have felt more motivated to do other sports such as taking up running every morning with a fellow student. I have also felt an improvement in my rowing performance as the year progressed.*

## Tashi's Story



# Performing Arts

## 1:1 Instrumental Tuition

Funding from the Intrepidus Trust has been dedicated to developing music provision at the school, and specifically affordable, high quality 1:1 instrumental tuition. This year 103 students were able to receive tuition in piano, guitar, drum kit, violin/viola, saxophone/flute and singing. Donations enable tuition to be highly subsidised or free of charge to low-income and vulnerable students, and to extend lesson time from 20 to 30 minutes.

As well as being a source of pleasure, learning a musical instrument has been proven to bring with it wider benefits including concentration, memory, attendance, identity, wellbeing and self-esteem. These are all powerful transferable skills, which support the students in their learning across the curriculum and which will stand them in good stead for future life challenges.

*I was scared to do my exam but it was really fun and I am glad that I have achieved this and want to do my Grade 2 next year.*

Arthur, Year 7

## Performing Arts Scholars

Each year 18 students gain a place at the school via Performing & Creative Arts aptitude test and receive a specialised programme of study to develop their passion and excellence across the three performing arts disciplines. Funding from the Intrepidus Trust enabled Scholars to receive subsidised weekly drama and dance coaching from trained LAMDA and Rambert Dance coaches, working towards grades in both. They are also entitled to a subsidised weekly 1:1 music lesson.

This year, in Rambert Dance, 12 Year 7 students took their Grade 1 exam with a 100% pass rate, 67% merit and one distinction! LAMDA examinations have been postponed to 2022-23. 82% of all PCA Scholars took music lessons with attendance close to 100%.

a clip of Year 7 Candice's Rambert Dance exam performance which earned a distinction.

Watch



## Ensembles

Thanks to donations we have been able to pay for coaching for two school ensembles: a school rock band and 'Upper Voices' - a Glee-style choir, led by professional musicians and vocal coaches.

During the year, the band learned to play nine songs from 1940 to the present day ranging from Dizzie Gillespie and Aretha Franklin to ACDC and Amy Winehouse. They performed at school concerts and at the Battle of the Bands where they received the Star Performance Award!

Upper Voices performed at school events and received a standing ovation at our School Dinner with a Difference in May 2022.

*Band is always something I look forward to every week and want to keep attending without fail. I love going because I get to play together with other talented musicians and all different genres of music. All the band members are very supportive and hardworking and can't wait for another year of music.*



# Performing Arts

## Dance

Funding from the Intrepidus Trust has been supporting the development of dance at Kensington Aldridge Academy, from subsidising the costs of Rambert Dance exams for our Performing Arts Scholars to dance workshops and competitions. In May our dance department took dancers in Years 7 to 13 to the The Beck Theatre, Hayes, for the Great Big Dance Off London heats, paid for by the Trust.

The Great Big Dance Off is a national dance competition open to schools all across England & Wales. We were thrilled for the return of live group competitions and the opportunity for our students to perform on a professional stage.

We're delighted to announce that our Key Stage 3 dancers were placed second in their competition, and the Key Stage 4 & 5 students won their category! We're extremely proud of every performer for the hard work they put into rehearsals to prepare for the competition.



## Drama

Donations supported the costs of two productions - the Christmas pantomime and the Summer production, involving 143 students. Students developed their skillsets in singing, dancing and acting, coming a long way in their technique and confidence. We also had a number of students involved in the band and the technical team, particularly the sound department. Funding enabled the acquisition of professional standard lighting, sound and set which inspired students to elevate their performance and to develop their aspirations towards entering the performing arts industry.

50 Year 7 and Year 8 students were also able to take part in a musical theatre and vocal workshop provided by an external company (Hereospa). Aimed at encouraging participation and a love of drama and performing, all students involved thoroughly enjoyed the workshops. Our Performing Arts Scholars had valuable feedback on audition technique with a casting agency, and this has also prompted the school to look into the possibility of linking with casting agencies so that the children have the opportunity of professional work.

Watch



[Intrepidus Dance Company's performance 'Hero'](#)



# Well-being

## Gardening for students with ASD

Donations funded the creation of a new gardening enrichment benefiting students with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Eight young people attended the club each week, and have drawn a real sense of achievement from helping with the planting and maintenance and the space is also used for outdoor learning. We also had four students attend from mainstream school, one of whom struggles with his behaviour in class but thrived in the gardening club and encouraged interaction and engagement from other students.

*I really like red roses. I like what they represent especially love and I like so many metaphors for example thorns and beauty as well.*

Nour, Grandin Gardening Project

## Holiday camps

Three week-long camps in Performing Arts, Sport and Wellbeing were held during the summer holidays at the school run by KAA teachers. The

Performing Arts camps were attended by 90 students culminating in a brilliant performance of Bugsy Malone. The Wellbeing camp was attended by 23 students with the greatest need for support, especially over the long summer holidays. Led by our School Within School team who support students at risk of exclusion, students enjoyed Capoeira, rounders, street safety sessions and art based activities but most importantly benefited from a safe space for students to share and get support, both as a group and one-to-one.



## Breakfast Club

With the number of students claiming Free School Meals higher than ever before (and double the national average rate), due to the cost of living crisis, our Breakfast Club has been vital in ensuring students start the day with a proper meal and support if they need it. A free hot or cold nutritional breakfast including porridge, eggs, homemade yoghurt, fruit and cereals plus a host of fun activities were enjoyed by up to 120 students each morning. In a feedback survey, 65% of students attending Breakfast Club said that they would not eat breakfast if they didn't attend. 78% said Breakfast Club had a positive effect on their concentration and academic achievement.

## At-risk students

Vulnerable students including those at risk of being excluded from mainstream education at our *School Within School*, are supported through a range of activities including residentials and mentoring. Speaker and recording artist Emmanuel Jal shared his life story, which began as a child soldier and refugee from war-torn South Sudan, and the tools and methods he practices in his own life. Two 5-day residentials to Jamie's Farm in July and August 2022, supported 24 students through a unique farm-based therapy and support programme.

Donations also funded a powerful programme delivered by the charity 12 Rounds, using boxing and virtual reality technology to bring home the realities of knife crime.

## Watch



[Our short film from Jamie's Farm](#)

## Mauro's Story

Mauro\* who has an autism diagnosis, had been getting involved in some worrying street activity. He took part in the knife crime prevention programme at school where he was able to learn about street safety and reflect on his own actions. He put his heart and soul into the sessions, and his Learning Mentor was able to follow this up in their one-to-ones. The Head of *School Within School* monitored Mauro as part of additional work he does in the community and was able to observe that he was staying safe and behaving well. We know that this is partly due to Mauro having this session each week because at the very minimum it offers a meaningful check in, as well as its other benefits.

*\*Name changed to protect student's anonymity*



# Life Skills

## Duke of Edinburgh Award

Through their participation in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, students – many of whom had not set foot outside London – were able to broaden horizons, develop resilience, confidence and teamwork skills. 68 students took part in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award and 56% had fully completed all aspects within 12 months. In a feedback survey of DukofE participants, 69% said that their confidence had improved, 91% said they had become more resilient and 80% felt they were more willing to try new things.

*DofE is an excellent way to meet new people and make new friends. Working together in the wilderness on your expedition forms new bonds and great memories. Through volunteering, you meet many different people in a working environment, which prepares you for the working world. Completing your DofE Award is a great attainment, with a self-satisfying "I did it!"*

## Supporting Early Learners of English

The Intrepidus Trust supported the creation of a new specialist post at the school dedicated to providing additional academic support to Early Learners of English, who are often at an academic disadvantage due to language barriers. With clear evidence of the impact this has had on students' progress and attainment, this role has now been absorbed into the core school budget. The Intrepidus Trust has continued supporting extra-curricular support for this group in the form of language camps over the holidays. This summer, six students who were new to the country (four refugees from Ukraine and two from Syria) attended a camp which included visits to the British Museum and the Museum of London, helping to develop their language and presentation skills

## Academic trips abroad

By subsidising the costs of a trip to Paris by students, including those studying GCSE and A-level French, we were able to ensure that there were no financial barriers to inclusion. Most of the students had never been to France to practise their French in real life or had the opportunity to see the artwork in Paris' museums. This experience was invaluable to enriching their appreciation and practice of French.

*I'm ever so grateful for the opportunities this trip has given me and the motivation it's given me to stay focused and strive in my French lessons.*







## Safya's, Hassan's and Halima's Stories

Siblings Safya, Hassan and Halima (names altered for anonymity) started at KAA in October 2021. They had been evacuated from Afghanistan a few months previously, and had no previous schooling. The siblings initially did not want to be separated and so were taught together in a small group by the specialist teacher. They had clearly experienced trauma in relation to their evacuation from Afghanistan and found the noise and cognitive demands of the school environment to be extremely challenging to cope with.

The focus was initially on giving them opportunities to talk about their experiences, and developing basic functional vocabulary in English. As the students appeared more at ease they began to attend lessons and to integrate socially and develop friendships.

By May 2022, the students were attending lessons independently, no longer displayed anxiety around separation and had formed friendships. Their language developed and they were able to communicate their basic needs effectively and understand basic instructions and requests.

Without the support of this grant the students would have been by necessity placed into lessons with a full timetable from day one, and we would not have been able to put together such a rigorous programme, meaning their progress and our ability to track it would have been significantly lessened.



# Life Skills

## Careers and Work Experience

Many of our students lack the professional networks and links to employers enjoyed by their more privileged peers, putting them at a significant disadvantage when they leave school and enter further education and employment. By partnering with top employers we can offer opportunities for our students to access work experience, build networks and learn about career pathways as well as building aspirations and developing vital transferrable skills.

This year, leading holiday and residential park operator Lovat Parks and biotechnology company Touchlight offered work experience to two Sixth form students at Kensington Aldridge Academy:

*My work experience at Lovat Parks was 3 weeks long. I was attracted to this company as I was interested in marketing so I saw this as a great opportunity to gain a wider understanding of what marketing careers are like. Day-to-day tasks involved researching competing companies, finding new social media strategies to boost popularity, and even visiting one of the holiday parks. Everyone was extremely friendly so I knew I could ask for advice/help with any tasks ; knowing they were all willing to help made me feel much more comfortable in that environment. This opportunity benefited me in multiple ways ranging from gaining skills on extensive research to developing my communication skills. Ultimately, exposure to this industry has made me look forward to starting my career, not just in marketing, but also the work force in general. I think the skills I've developed will definitely make it easier for me to begin future work in such industries .*

Falak, Year 12

*I found my work experience at Touchlight so enlightening. Being exposed to a completely different lab setting compared to the ones at school made the experience all the more enjoyable. Using apparatus which I've never seen or heard of before or only seen in textbooks to carry out experiments was probably the highlight of my experience. The staff from every department were so welcoming, enthusiastic and shared an abundance of knowledge, inspiring me to conduct further research and add my experience to my personal statement. I am so grateful to have been given the opportunity to have my work experience at touchlight. Thank you.*

Manar, Year 12

If you would like to discuss offering a work experience opportunity to a student at KAA please get in touch with Eleni: [eleni.goulandris@kaatrust.org.uk](mailto:eleni.goulandris@kaatrust.org.uk)



# The KIT Endowment Fund

We launched the KIT Endowment Appeal in September 2018, in commemoration of the Grenfell fire tragedy, which deeply affected the school community. The purpose of the KIT Endowment Fund is to invest the capital to produce income. Over a long-term period, the income is granted annually, in part or in full, to support the Trust's purpose, with any undistributed earnings reinvested to grow the fund. In this way, our endowment fund will provide an annual income for ongoing delivery of educational enrichment programmes at Kensington Aldridge Academy, and will enable donors to create a longstanding legacy.

We are delighted to report that as of 31st August 2022, we have reached our original target of £2 million. This is a huge milestone, made possible thanks to the incredible generosity of our donors, and in particular those who attended and supported our School Dinners with a Difference in 2019 and 2022. These events, with generous match funding from the CHK Foundation, raised over £700,000 towards our target.

The Endowment is currently invested with local firm Whitley Asset Management, with oversight by Intrepidus Trust trustees. Our goal is to create the maximum income without jeopardising the capital value, taking a long-term view, in accordance with our [ethical investment strategy](#).

Thanks to this generous support, future generations of students at Kensington Aldridge Academy will be able to count on educational enrichments of the highest quality.

We have come a long way, but further investment in the Endowment Fund would be greatly appreciated. To discuss any aspect of endowment gifts, please [get in touch](#).



# Thank you

We are grateful to all our donors for their support of our work this year! A particularly big thank you to the following individuals and organisations, whose exceptional generosity is greatly appreciated:

Sir Rod and Lady Carol Aldridge

Max Alexander

Asli and William Arah

Adam and Rebecca Balon

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Christopher Braden

Rory Bremner

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CHK Foundation

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Louisa Cottrell

Henrietta Currey

Dancing Ledge Productions

Harry Dalmeny



John Dodd

Tara Douglas-Home

Justin and Emma Dowley

Arabella Duffield

Earls Court Development Fund

Mark Ellingham

Brian Eno

Edwin Fox Foundation

Mark Esiri

Roey Eyal

Esmee Fairbairn Foundation

James Fauset

Andrew Feldman Associates

Rhodri Ferrier

Tom Fetherstonhaugh

Christopher and Shannon Fidyk

Dani and David Fitzsimons

Paul Fletcher

Clementine Fraser

Frestonian Gallery

Girdlers Company

Golden Bottle Trust

Leigh Gorton

Susan Greco

Louis Greig

Tim Henman

Mark Hix

Flora Hood

Pippa and Johnny Hornby

Quintin Ing-Chambers

Georgia Irwin

Dominic Johnson

Sonia Jones

Braimah Kanneh-Mason

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Annabel Lea

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Lovat Parks

Ned Mackay

John Mackay

Peter and Elisabetta Mallinson

Cerys Matthews



Chiara Mediolì

Kip Meek

Melt Chocolates

Laura Montgomery

Lucy Morris

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NDL Foundation

Richard and Rogie Nelson

Charles Noell

Jonny Ohlson

Bruno Paulson

Edward and Camilla Peake

River Cafe

Rosanna Peel

Jayne Pickering

Pinboard

Richard Pollitzer

Rank Foundation

Nicola Reed

Reel Poster Gallery

RKT Trust

Ed Robinson

Andrew and Lara Robson

James Sainsbury



Poppy and Charlie Scott Plummer

Ivan Shenkman

Jet Shenkman

Carol and Charles Skinner

Sky Group

Hugh and Kate Sloane

Pippa Small

Warren Smith

Spiers Family Foundation

St. James's Place Foundation

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Troy Asset Management

Max Von Hurter

Annabel White

Whitley Asset Management

John Williams

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David Benson and the teachers, governors and support staff at Kensington Aldridge Academy





Intrepidus Trust