



Intrepidus Trust



# IMPACT REPORT

2019-20



# Contents

Introduction	3
Lockdown Provision	4
Performing & Creative Arts	5
Life Skills	7
Sport	10
How We Work	11
Numbers	12

# Introduction

The KAA Intrepidus Trust was set up by governors of Kensington Aldridge Academy in the wake of the Grenfell Tower fire in 2017, with the intent of broadening horizons and raising the aspirations of students at the school. We do this through the development and funding of arts, life skills and sports enrichments which take place outside the classroom, the costs of which cannot be met by the school budget.

One third of the 1,300 students aged 11-18 who attend the school live below the poverty line, and a further third are 'Pupil Premium' (registered for free school meals at some time over the last six years). We want to open doors to opportunities that their peers have ready access to, and in this way, help them to flourish as individuals and as members of their communities.



We have a dual goal: nurturing excellence, for example through the school's elite rowing squad or by supporting a student through the highly challenging Gold DofE Award. But we are also committed to including the most vulnerable students – those at risk of exclusion from school or of dropping out of university, children with special educational needs (17 percent of project participants) and those with English as an Additional Language (over 50 per cent of project participants). Seventy five per cent of pupils at the school participated in at least one KIT programme this year.

The last six months have been very challenging, with the pandemic causing considerable harm to the most disadvantaged children at the school. Our teachers are working tirelessly to engage these children but there is a great risk of them slipping through the net. This is why the Intrepidus Trust funded a fantastic 'Summer School', which was attended by 375 of our students over the summer holidays. The activities on offer were a huge hit with students, with no other schools in the borough delivering anything on this scale, as the Evening Standard recently [reported](#).

As we move into the new academic year, we continue to address the long tail of impact caused by the pandemic, whilst working within permitted parameters to develop and fund a rich programme of educational enrichments with some exciting new initiatives planned! These really are needed more than ever and we continue to rely on your generosity to bring them to life.

The report overleaf highlights the fantastic outcomes achieved through our programmes over the financial period 1st April 2019 - 31st August 2020, with our Year End extended to align with the school year. All of these opportunities have been fully funded by donations and would not be possible without support from the Intrepidus Trust, and from you. We are so grateful for your continued love and support.

With  
thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lucy Morris'.

Lucy Morris  
Chairman  
Intrepidus Trust

# Lockdown provision

*“L’Oreal came home beaming yesterday – she loved the camp and was very excited about receiving her award”*

Having experienced little in the way of creative, sports or social activities for three months, our students loved taking part in the Summer School programme paid for with your donations. We also helped the school to secure a grant from John Lyon’s Charity to meet the remaining costs of the camps. Led by our committed team of teachers, these camps provided a much-needed dose of familiarity and continuity for our students who were so excited to be back at school.

Students attending the ‘English as an Additional Language’ camp were supported in the research and delivery of a presentation to their peers on the broad theme of cultural identity. This brought about interesting discussions about traditions, food and rites of passage, and students were genuinely interested to learn about the similarities and differences between their cultures.

The ‘School Within School’ team, who run an on-site programme for students at risk of permanent exclusion from education, held a ‘Well-being’ camp aimed at at-risk students. The camp was co-delivered by partners including Place 2 Be and Future Men, with sessions around therapeutic reflection, physical well-being, youth-led work, spoken word and community action, performance & film-making, and creativity & entrepreneurship.

In the Performing Arts camp students participated in three sessions a day focusing on dance, drama and music culminating in a mini show of Matilda the Musical at the end of the week. A third of attendees at the Performing Arts Camp reported that they had not done any performing arts at their primary school, so this was an exciting beginning to their KAA journey.

At the Sports & Arts camp, students enjoyed a wide range of activities including football, frisbee golf, indoor athletics, trampolining, hockey, badminton, cricket, and kickball rounders. In the art workshops, they learned to use textiles techniques to create bunting for display representing the core values of the academy.



*English as an Additional Learner, Hussein, delivers a presentation at the EAL Camp*



- 375 students attended five KIT-funded summer camps
- 100 per cent of those attending the ‘English as an Additional Language’ camp agreed that they were more prepared to return to school.
- 74 per cent of students gave the Performing Camps a 5/5 rating.
- Over 80% of attendees of the Well-being Camp said they felt happier by the end of the programme than when they had started

# Performing & Creative Arts

## Music

Beginning in September 2018, with funding from KIT donors, a programme of 1:1 tuition in piano, singing, drums, guitar, violin, flute and saxophone has been rolled out at the school. By subsidising tuition we have ensured that the opportunity to learn an instrument is accessible to all students. This funding has also enabled us to increase lesson time from 20 to 30 minutes, allowing greater depth of learning. All students in tuition are strongly encouraged to take Music GCSE and do a grade each year and to join the growing number of musical ensembles at the school.

Through lockdown, we were able to continue tuition remotely with only a small drop-off in numbers. One third of participants were Pupil Premium students, with instruments distributed and free tuition offered according to circumstance.



**WATCH:** Agatha *speaks* about how much she values being able to learn piano at school



Above: *Hairspray*, July 2019, Below: Year 9 are treated to a talk by best-selling author Sam Angus at the Literary Festival in February 2020.



## Drama

Budding thespians had plenty of opportunities to take to the stage, thanks to our donors, whose donations met the costs of staging, costume, rights and music, helping to make these extra-special events.

Last year's summer production was a take on the musical '*Hairspray*', involving students across dance, drama and music disciplines, and seven months of rehearsals, this was the first musical back in our building since Grenfell and we wanted it to be an event that would be remembered and celebrated. The professional set, costumes and props, generously funded by a KIT donor, set off the fantastic comic delivery, superb choreography and singing, not to mention the Baltimore accents!

In February, the school drama company 'KADA' performed their debut performance of '*Alice*' by Laura Wade, to a packed audience of family and friends, including Intrepidus Trust supporters.

## Annual Literary Festival

Your donations paid for the second annual literary festival at the school - a magnificent week-long celebration of literature and the written word in all its forms, designed to open minds and inspire.

Eight authors and journalists: Sam Angus, Anthony McGowan, Katherine Rundell, Non Pratt, Adam Kammerling, Andy Mulligan, and Lindsey Barraclough delivered engaging workshops about the creative process, their own personal experiences and the themes explored in their writing.

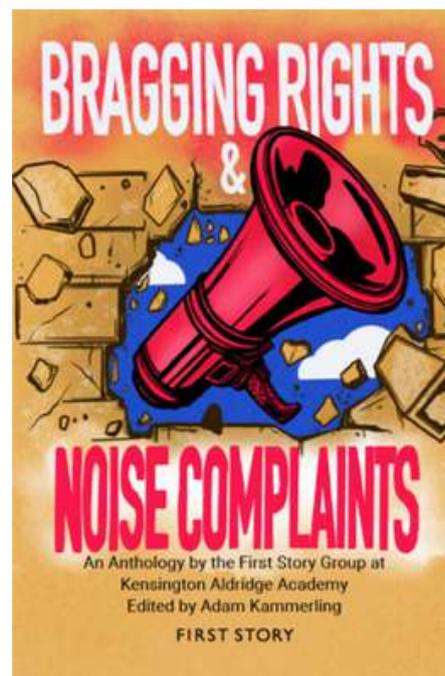
*"It reminded me of the importance of reading - I can't wait for next year's literary festival!"*

# Creative Writing

Your donations have funded a new creative writing enrichment, run by the charity First Story. Since January, weekly workshops delivered by spoken word author Adam Kammerling have supported a group of aspiring writers to write and perform from their own experiences. The students have published an anthology of the writing they produced during the programme (curiously entitled '*Bragging Rights & Noise Complaints*'), with a launch event to follow. The pride that students had in their work when we came round to the process of editing was obvious, and the way in which everyone worked together to create the title and front cover was exemplary.

Extract from *Opposite Things*, by Rumaiza Mohamed, aged 12:

*Dreams always occur,  
Whether you are being swallowed by a  
beam of light,  
Just when you wake up,  
They clear away everything,  
always have something new*



## Shukraan, Abhara, Gracias, and Thank You!

Funding from KIT has supported a weekly crafts workshop led by parents of students at the school. This year the group made beautiful bunting made from African fabric, spelling out the values of the school, which was displayed at our fundraising dinner in May 2019. Its latest project is '*The Cushion Factory*' which celebrates the diverse community at KAA through the use of the 59 home languages spoken by students.



Parents across the year groups have come together again, and combining striking fabrics and applique, are handcrafting a series of colourful cushions. Each cushion features the word THANKS in one of the community languages and will be gifted to supporters of the school

Lisa, one of the parents leading the project says:

*"We enjoy creating together, sharing stories about raising teenagers, and getting to know other parent/carers in the school - an opportunity that is usually lacking in secondary school. Thank you KIT for supporting this parent initiative."*

- 97 students now taking subsidised instrumental tuition (up from 63 in 2017-18), with lesson duration extended from 20 to 30 minutes.
- 66 students benefited from taking part in KIT-sponsored drama & musical performances
  - Two thirds of 243 students surveyed were inspired to read more after attending the literary festival.
  - 14 students who took part in the First Story Creative Writing programme gained in confidence, creativity and writing ability.

# Life Skills

## Inspiring Role Models



*John Lewis Chairman Sharon White talks to our Sixth form about her path to success*

At least 40 per cent of our students are from Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups, and can be disadvantaged by the significant lack of BAME and female role models in senior professional roles. The Intrepidus Trust organised for Sharon White- ex-CEO of Ofcom and new Chairman of John Lewis plc - to come to KAA to address the Sixth Form. Her story, making her way as a child of immigrant parents via an East London comprehensive and then Cambridge University, resonated with many of our students, with several students telling their head of year that it was inspiring and *'the best talk we've had.'*

Also sharing her personal journey in the world of journalism and film was *Newsnight* and BBC producer Helen Bart. She talked about her experiences, and the challenges she has faced as a Black woman along the way, and about her work on *Small Axe*, the much-anticipated upcoming BBC series by Steve McQueen about London's West-Indian community in the 1970s and 80s.

## Supporting vulnerable KAA Alumni at university

*The Bridging Project* is a new venture, receiving support from the Intrepidus Trust, which aims to ensure that students' success at university is not determined by their socio-economic background. Its founder, Phoebe Prail, is a teacher at Kensington Aldridge Academy, who started the project to address the difficulties faced by pupils who had gained places at top universities only to face significant problems when they got there. Research shows that this is not unique - students from low income backgrounds are twice as likely to drop out.



*WATCH: Arbesa, in her first year at UCL, [explaining](#) how mentoring through the Bridging Project has helped her.*

*"The Bridging Project has enabled me to organise my priorities and helped me maintain financial stability. The coaching sessions have enabled me to rationalise difficulties in my home life which were impacting my studies. This has hugely reduced the anxiety of transitioning from sixth form to university."*

Classical Studies Student, King's College

Whilst universities have many support services in place, students most in need of this support are the least likely to reach out for it. Phoebe matches students with professional coaches to ensure that all young people can make the most of their university experience and gain meaningful employment. They have worked at Oxford University, Queen Mary's London, King's College London, St Mary's Twickenham and UCL and are looking to expand into more universities next year

This year the project won both a Shackleton Leadership Award and a Fair Education Alliance Award, providing strategic support and funding to increase the scope of their work. With many students starting university in quite unsettling circumstances, this work will continue to be really important.

# Supporting the most vulnerable students

School Within a School (or SWS) is an innovative 6-week programme at Kensington Aldridge Academy, designed to help pupils at risk of permanent exclusion address the root cause of their behaviour before supporting them back into mainstream classrooms.

In recent years it has become recognised as a best practice model in West London. To date, nearly 100 students have benefited from the SWS programme. In all cases the impact has been positive, and in many it has led to a transformation in student outlook and attitude



With your donations, the Intrepidus Trust funds a series of workshops benefiting children on the SWS programme. This year, we supported sessions in stress-management and confidence-building, led by the Clement James Centre.

This year's cohort was a particularly complex group; only one pupil lived with their father, the others all having strained, difficult relationships with theirs and one had lost a parent the previous year. Five were struggling with attendance and confidence in and outside of school for a range of reasons. By the end of the programme, all were speaking confidently to the group, all had improved attendance, all were able to do presentations to larger groups and all felt they have more people they can speak to in school now.

## Jamie's Farm

We love Jamie's Farm at Kensington Aldridge Academy, because it really turns the dial for some of our most vulnerable students. At their farms in the countryside, 12 students at a time benefit from a 5-day stay in which 'farming, family and therapy' are uniquely combined. Graduates then receive follow-up support from their teachers and from Jamie's Farm staff.

This year KIT funding supported two residentials benefiting 24 of our students. Watch a film about our their experience at Jamie's Farm [here](#).

*"I think that Jamie's Farm has been particularly positive for T and G, to remove themselves from their everyday environment has been a breath of fresh air for both. Considering their difficult past, they have grown more into independence and happiness and seem more relaxed to go back into school life and complete it successfully." Lead Teacher*



# Duke of Edinburgh Award

The DofE Award Programme at the school in the aftermath of Grenfell with support from the Intrepidus Trust.

Programmes such as these were so important at this time, helping provide a positive diversion and outlet to pupils at the school, as well as helping push personal boundaries and gain new skills. The DofE experience truly broadens horizons and for a significant minority, the expeditions are a first venture outside the city.

Funding from the Trust subsidises registration and equipment costs, without which the great majority of students would not be able to participate.

During lockdown, many students pursued the permitted Physical, Skill and Volunteering aspects at home: getting into running, tutoring their younger siblings or learning to code, and donating 182 hours in voluntary service to their local communities!



*"Our DofE practice expedition was an incredible week, filled with excitement and incredible team spirit. I made good friends with individuals who I had never really been friends with before and we taught each other skills that will last beyond the final expedition. The biggest highlight of the trip was going swimming in the beautiful lake Coniston after a gruelling walking day."* Gold Award Participant



## Breakfast Club

The free Breakfast Club at Kensington Aldridge Academy is fully funded by the Intrepidus Trust and is now an integral part of everyone's day. Last year saw the introduction of lots of new developments, such as mindfulness drawing and board games.

'Breakfast buddies' were introduced in the Autumn, and we had three boys helping with the smooth running and promotion of breakfast club. One of these students had been in trouble for his behaviour around school, and we are hopeful that the responsibility they have been given will help to improve their general behaviour.

Breakfast Club also continues to serve as a valuable opportunity for teachers to talk to and mentor students. Food continues to be of a high quality with home-made yoghurt, granola and porridge, bran flakes, fruit, eggs, toast and beans all on offer.

- 100% of alumni being mentored in the Bridging Project remained at university, and 86% participated in an extra-curricular activity or society.
- 78 students participated in the DofE Award this year, including 14 on the challenging Gold programme.
- Of the 24 young people who attended Jamie's Farm Residentials, 83% reported better self-esteem and 100% demonstrated better behaviour.
- Over 100 students per day benefited from a healthy start at Breakfast Club.

*"It's good because I wouldn't have breakfast at home and also it is a chance to talk to Mr Levin before school starts"*  
Travis, Yr 10

# Sport

## Swimming



Your donations have enabled the introduction of swimming into the curriculum at Kensington Aldridge Academy. A feedback survey carried out last year revealed that a third of our Year 7 and Year 8 students (aged 11-13 years old) did not consider themselves to be proficient swimmers and a significant minority were not able to swim at all.

Although there is a top class facility on the school's doorstep in the form of Kensington Leisure Centre, the costs of swimming tuition are not feasible via the school budget, and out of reach of many of our students' families.

Beginning in September 2019, each and every one of our 380 Year 7 and Year 8 students took part in a six-week swimming tuition programme with the aim of strengthening their swimming skills, with nearly all students demonstrating significant progress in this area. We celebrated the introduction of swimming into the PE curriculum this year with an end-of-term swimming gala. The PE department were overwhelmed at the enthusiasm and commitment of the competitors.

## Rowing

Each year, funding from the Intrepidus Trust enables a whole year group to experience rowing on the Thames, delivered by Fulham Reach Boat Club (FRBC). This is a hugely popular programme, and those students who are serious about rowing are able to join the squad, which over 2019-20 has grown from 8 to 18 members – 13 girls and 5 boys.

The squad trains every Thursday at 7:15 am come rain or shine, without any moans or groans, as well as weekly erg training. The coaches have been very impressed with the progress the rowers have made and as a result have moved some rowers from tubs to fine boats and opportunities to cox. As a result, one member of the squad now attends training with the FRBC squad.

During the spring term, the squad participated in several competitive 'friendly' races against other schools with established rowing clubs. Considering their opponents were far more experienced, our squad competed very well, and this experience really galvanised them to train and work harder. Some of the rowers would be keen to progress their rowing if opportunities were made available. It was news to them that rowing clubs at universities are very common and many have said they would look to join.

*"Thank you to everyone who has made this happen. I really appreciate it because I know how to swim now."*



- Prior to the swimming programme, 35% of children could not swim with confidence. 92% of children reported that they had progressed in their swimming thanks to the programme.
- The rowing squad has over doubled in size, and have demonstrated progress in their teamwork, leadership through coxing, and confidence on the water.

The Intrepidus Trust will be supporting the continued development of rowing in the form of an annual regatta, more competitive fixtures, weekend schools and rowing qualifications.

## How we work

Our two part-time Trust Administrators, Eleni Goulandris and Sophie Weitzman draw on over 20 years' experience in non-profit and education sectors to develop, monitor & evaluate programmes in close partnership with the school. Alongside our core programmes, we run a 'Teachers' Pot' allowing teachers to bid for smaller grants for specific projects. In addition, we are responsible for all fundraising, financial, fundraising and administrative activity. In addition to monetary grants, we add value by forging new partnerships in the community that enrich our programmes in a myriad of ways. We are governed by a board of six Trustees – Lucy Morris, John Brown, Adam Balon, Shona Nichols, Ryan Bernard and Jane Cameron, who meet at least quarterly and bring a wealth of experience in education, non-profit, business and entrepreneurship.

*"In a short space of time KIT has raised funds and, working alongside our staff, developed programmes that are already making a real difference to students' education. This is particularly true for our most vulnerable students, who would not be able to access these opportunities independently. They have not taken a piecemeal approach but instead worked on such a scale that they have stretched the curriculum in all kinds of exciting and inspirational directions."* David Benson, KAA Principal

## The KIT Endowment Fund

The Intrepidus Trust was set up in the aftermath of the Grenfell Tower fire in June 2017. Five of our students lost their lives in the fire, with many other families uprooted from their homes and community. In September 2018, we launched an appeal to establish a £2 million expendable Endowment Fund, that would commemorate the tragedy and the extraordinary resilience of the school and its community, which was so deeply affected by the events surrounding Grenfell.

Thanks to the incredible support of our donors, including attendees of our 'School Dinner with a Difference' in May 2019, we have now raised over £1.2 million towards this target.

Looking ahead, we will be working hard to close the gap on our target, and in this way provide a stable and lasting source of income so that future generations of KAA students can benefit from the highest-quality enrichment opportunities.





# Our Numbers

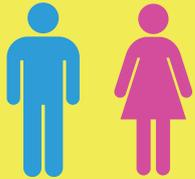
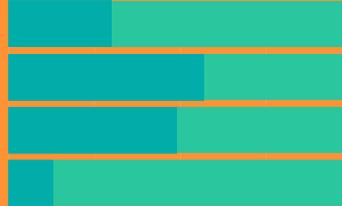
## IN 2019-20\*:

### 914 (3 in 4) PUPILS

took part in at least one KIT programme

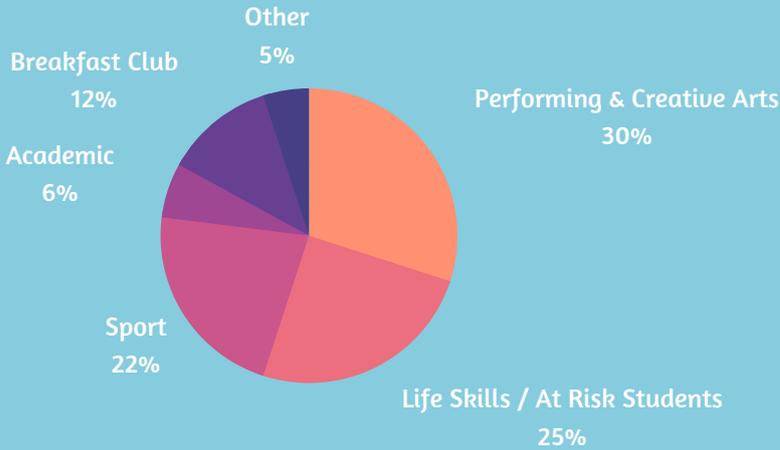


- 30% on Free School Meals
- 57% Pupil Premium
- 49% English as an Additional Language
- 13% Special Educational Needs



53% boys 43% girls

49% from BAME groups

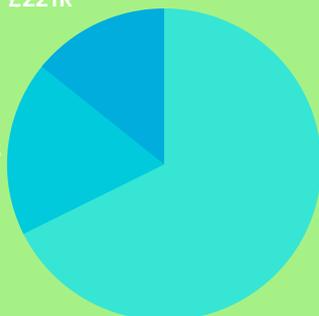


## £206k invested in 28 programmes

## £1,218k Income

Restricted funds  
£221k

Unrestricted funds  
£173k



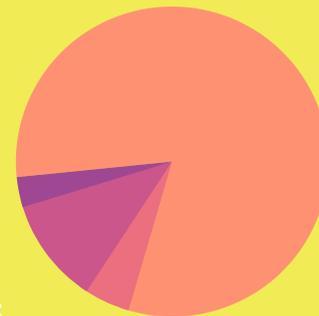
Endowment funds  
£824k\*\*

## £266k In-Year Expenditure

Governance & Admin  
£8k

Fundraising  
Dinner £28k

Fundraising, & Comms  
£12k



Grants & Project Support  
£206k

\*\*Income raised in support of our Endowment Fund, to safeguard future charitable activities. Investment of funds raised to date has taken place in 2020-21



Intrepidus Trust

[www.kaatrust.org.uk](http://www.kaatrust.org.uk)

e: [info@kaatrust.org.uk](mailto:info@kaatrust.org.uk)



[Kaa\\_Trust](https://twitter.com/Kaa_Trust)

UK registered charity 1175920