



**CAMPS AND CONFERENCES**

**SUMMER CAMP 2022**  
**REPORT**





# OVERVIEW

**The Us Charitable Trust Summer Camp looks to enrich the lives of disadvantaged young people in North West London throughout their school holidays. We provide enriching educational activities, a space to socialise and make new friends, and healthy, nutritional meals for young people and their families.**

This year, we teamed up with the Syria Summer Camp in Newman Catholic College to provide for more than thirty young people aged 10 to 15. The camp is deeply embedded in local communities, with over 80 disadvantaged, recently arrived or refugee attendees aged between 4 and 18. Our collaboration ensured we were reaching the young people who needed our services most while still offering a jam-packed programme of activities.

Across two weeks in July and August, we facilitated a curated series of activities which enriched our participants lives and help them build confidence living in and travelling around London. We mixed museums with sightseeing and exciting attractions all based in or around London to help improve participants confidence, social skills and knowledge whilst having a great time with their friends. Every day, all young people had a healthy, home-cooked meal which introduced them to foods and ingredients they hadn't tried before and providing portions to take home to their families.

**Trust.**

The **Us Charitable Trust** is a registered charity founded in 2012 (CN 1147089). We are based in Harlesden, London and work with 220 marginalised 11-18 year olds per year. We run in-school and holiday programmes to enrich our participants lives while at school, improve educational attainment and make sure they are prepared and supported to leave school. Our activities focus on personal development, cultural experiences and introduction to employment/education possibilities and provide responsive, tailored support to individuals.

# ITINERARY

Monday:



Natural History Museum

Tuesday:



Kew Gardens

Wednesday:



Trampoline Park

Tuesday:



London Zoo

Monday:



Animal Encounters

Friday:



Restaurant Meal and Cinema Trip

Thursday:



The London Dungeon

Wednesday:



Aqua Park

Thursday:



Science Museum

Friday:



Buckingham Palace

**100%** OF ATTENDEES SAID THEY ENJOYED OR REALLY ENJOYED THE CAMP

“I really enjoyed the summer camp because we got to be with friends all day and go and visit new places and always have a laugh. I don’t want summer camp to end, I want to do everything again and make more friends and have fun.”

“I loved the summer camp. It was extremely fun. I loved the trips and all the help from the teachers. Thank you so much and I look forward to next year.”

“I enjoyed the camp because there was lots of trips which made me experience new things. I’m looking forward to travelling more, I like to travel now. I liked the IMAX and the Science Museum, it was so fun! I want to go again and again. It made me more excited about the stars in the sky and the world.”

Summer Camp Attendees, aged 10 to 12

# OUTCOMES AND DATA

## The outcomes for the summer camp include:

- providing enriching activity out of school time to act as a constructive deterrent to crime or antisocial behaviour and act as childcare where needed
- providing a safe, inclusive space for vital post-lockdown social opportunities
- educating young people on how to safely travel around London
- educating young people on nutrition and healthy eating
- providing a healthy hearty meal every day for every young child which introduces young people to new foods as well as providing extra to take home to their families
- introducing recently arrived young people to London to enable them to feel more at home in the city
- improving mental health and wellbeing
- building confidence and social skills
- uncovering interests and passions to inform their studies in education moving forward

At the end of the two weeks, all attendees completed a survey to assess the success of the camp:

**32** disadvantaged young people aged 10 to 15 attended the summer camp

**97%** of young people said the camp improved their wellbeing

**100%** of young people said they enjoyed spending time with their friends

**100%** of young people said they would like to come back next year

**100%** of young people said they enjoyed or really enjoyed the summer camp

Their favourite activities were:

**the London Dungeons**

“The best trip was London Dungeons because it was so scary, but we all had so much fun”

**ZSL LONDON ZOO**

“I really liked London Zoo and the animals. I want to go back and see more. I like nature a lot”

**SCIENCE MUSEUM**

“I loved the Science Museum because I got to see a big meteor. I really want to help the world one day”

# STAFF TESTIMONIALS

Working with Tiffany and Matt from The Us Charitable Trust has given us an enriching and memorable experience at the Syria Summer Camp. During the camp, the charity engaged my class on various experiential learning trips including Kew Gardens, Science Museum, Buckingham Palace and much more. Tiffany and Matt ensured the children learn and engage in a fun, encouraging and safe environment, allowing them to immerse themselves in activities they resonate with. Throughout the process they were extremely mindful about the needs of all children. I believe this camp has been an invaluable learning opportunity as they experienced the history and culture of London first-hand. The activities strengthened their day-to-day social and interpersonal skills that will allow them to thrive in new surroundings and situations. Overall, these experiences have built essential knowledge and skills for children, which they may not have gained otherwise.

## Syria Summer Camp Class Leader (ages 13 to 15)

Nature Class (aged 10 to 12) were very lucky to have Tiffany and Matt from The Us Charitable Trust to organise and guide them on these trips. Many of the outings were to locations that many had not visited before, particularly the Wonderlab session in the Science Museum where they could actively participate in all sorts of experiments involving electricity, forces and astronomy. By the end of the camp, children were more confident in asking questions, more courteous with members of the public, more aware when travelling on public transport and more secure in their newfound friendships with their class peers. In the near future, we hope that The Us Charitable Trust and Syria Summer Camp continue to join forces to champion these young people, by introducing them to seemingly ordinary but, in fact, incredibly significant adventures.

## Syria Summer Camp Class Leader (ages 10 to 12)



*A thank you card made by camp attendees*

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