



Yorkshire
Children's
Charity
We make things better

THE DIFFERENCE YOU MADE 2023

E: hello@yorkshirechildrenscharity.org

Registered Charity No. 1196738

1/3

OF YORKSHIRE'S
CHILDREN LIVE IN
POVERTY.

WE EXIST TO **MAKE THINGS
BETTER** FOR CHILDREN AND
YOUNG PEOPLE LIVING AT A
DISADVANTAGE, NOW
AND FOR THEIR FUTURE.

THE IMPACT OF OUR WORK
IS **HAPPIER, HEALTHIER AND
MORE INDEPENDENT CHILDREN
AND YOUNG PEOPLE**, WHO ARE
EMPOWERED TO MEET THEIR
UNIQUE POTENTIAL AND HAVE
THE MOST FULFILLING FUTURE
POSSIBLE.

NEARLY

HALF

OF EVERYONE IN
POVERTY IS EITHER
A DISABLED PERSON
OR LIVES WITH A
DISABLED PERSON.

CONTENTS

- 4 Team Welcome**
- 6 Impact Headline Data**
- 8 Our Programmes 2023**
- 9 Grants**
- 12 Great Yorkshire Build**
- 16 Schools Out**
- 18 The School Network**
- 20 Winter Campaign**
- 22 Our Volunteers**
- 24 Corporate Partners & Supporters**
- 31 Looking Ahead**

TEAM WELCOME

To our friends across Yorkshire,

There's no other place I can start than thank you. It's only with your generous and unwavering support and passion for our cause that we've been able to continue making things better for vulnerable children across our region in 2023. Reflecting on our second year, it's been nothing short of incredible. We've seen huge progress on our first ever Great Yorkshire Build, grown both our Schools Out and Grants programmes and delivered a Winter Campaign for over 1000 children and young people, and these are just a few! We remain a small team, with a very big purpose – working hands on to deliver the best we can against our beneficiaries needs.

As is the culture of Yorkshire Children's Charity, it only feels right that you hear about Year 2 from the very people who've been in the thick of delivering it, and critically, in the voices of the children, families and teachers on the receiving end. I hope our Annual Impact Report helps you better understand the sheer size, scope, and reach of the difference you made in 2023.

With my deepest thanks,

– Charlotte - CEO & Founder

"It's been another incredible year delivering industry-leading fundraising events which really break the mould in our sector.

I'm so proud of the Events Team for everything achieved this year, and more than anything, continuously humbled by our loyal supporter base. At every single event you show up to listen to the needs of our beneficiaries, and you put your hand up time and time again to help.

It's only through this generosity and kindness that we've been able to deliver the impact you'll read about now."

– Annabel, Head of Events

"What a privilege it's been to work with more and more of Yorkshire's strong, resilient and inspiring children this year.

Having such a clear and tangible mission means the impact we made is measurable, quantifiable, and genuinely meaningful for our beneficiaries. Most importantly, it is wholeheartedly needs-led.

Whether it's our short-term objective of taking the pressure off here and now through grant-giving, or longer term breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty through experiences, skills and education – we've made things better for children in Yorkshire this year."

– Programmes Team

"We only started delivering on our Trusts and Foundations strategy nearer the end of 2023 and I'm already blown away by the commitment, passion and generosity of the Trusts and Foundation's we've met.

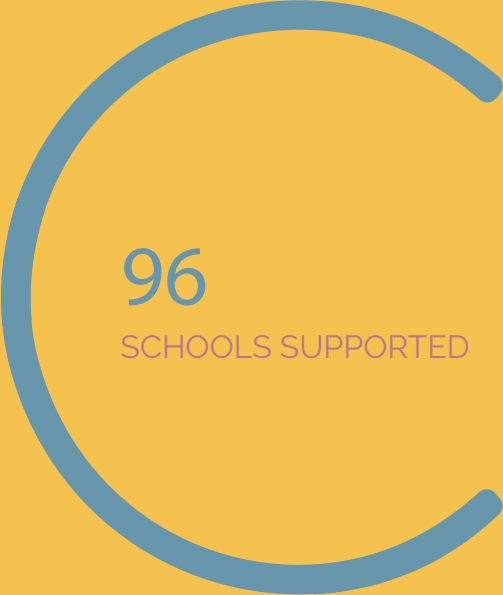
The funding provided in 2023 has played a vital role in the delivery of our Cannon Hall Farm event, Christmas Parties and Winter Campaign.

Thank you so much."

– Georgia, Trusts and Foundations Manager



2023: THE HEADLINES





HOW WE HELP

GRANTS

Our Grants programme aligns with our short-term objectives. **They're all about taking the pressure off.** We fund various needs, improving the immediate happiness, health, comfort and independence of a child or young person living with a disability, in poverty and/or with ill health. Whether it's providing wheelchairs and specialist equipment or the basics like school shoes, winter coats, toys, and bedding (within 24 hours when requested), our grants are there to **make things better right here, right now.** In the midst of an unprecedented cost-of-living crisis, energy crisis and post-pandemic world, they are also an absolute **lifeline for our families.**

ALEX – A HELPING HAND FOR FAMILIES GRANT

Alex is five years old and lives with her Dad and two siblings. Her teacher applied for A Helping Hand for Families grant on behalf of the family because the children were turning up to school hungry, cold and uncomfortable, having walked 2.7 miles to school in clothes and shoes that didn't fit. They had recently been forced to move out of the catchment area but because they were still under three miles from school, they could not get a free bus pass. We provided funding for new shoes and clothes to make things a little bit easier for the family.

ELODIE – WHEELCHAIR GRANT

Elodie is two years old – she loves being outside and looking at sparkly lights! She lives with the impact of a severe brain injury, including scoliosis. All available NHS wheelchairs were far too large to meet Elodie and Mum Natasha's needs, weighing 25kg+. Natasha needed something she could lift on her own after the loss of Elodie's Dad, and a chair she could easily navigate around their home. We funded a Hoggly Wheelchair for Elodie – a much smaller, narrower and more dynamic chair which allows Natasha to turn Elodie easily and monitor her respiratory challenges.

"I got an email on Sunday at my brother's house and I burst into tears. I turned around to my Dad and said 'finally, someone's on our side.'"

- Natasha

NOAH – INDIVIDUAL GRANT

Noah's 10 years old and lives with a rare neurological condition which impacts his balance and coordination, making all physical and fine motor tasks difficult. Despite this Noah loves being active, including playing numerous paralympic sports. Noah's greatest love of all is football! He regularly goes to watch Leeds United and loves to collect and swap football cards. He also plays in a Pan Disability junior team which Mum, Catherine, says has absolutely changed his life. Noah's physio targets are incorporated into his football but with a largely grass garden, it was hard for him to play safely whilst using his walker. We funded a wet pour surface, meaning he can now practice to his hearts content, whilst improving his development, confidence and independence.

As Noah himself says:

"If I can improve my control of the ball using my walker, and my kicking and passing, I will be able to help my team more in matches and tournaments which would make me so happy and proud."

- Noah



GREAT YORKSHIRE BUILD

The Great Yorkshire Build is a **one-of-a-kind collaborative initiative** between the private, public and third sector. Together with the Yorkshire Property Sector, we deliver **life-changing building works and specialist equipment** which absolutely transform the space and facilities of failing SEND schools in Yorkshire – from their sensory facilities to purpose-built rebound therapy rooms, classrooms, playgrounds and everything in-between. The beauty of the Great Yorkshire Build is in its legacy. By embedding measures which protect the build's sustainability and resilience, the impact is felt not only now, but in generations of future students, their parents, carers and teachers.

Our 22-23 Great Yorkshire Build took place at Brooklands in Skipton, school to 100 severe and profoundly disabled children in North Yorkshire. We transformed old, outdated and underfunded facilities, which were lacking basic provisions, and delivered:

 **A BESPOKE REBOUND THERAPY FACILITY.**

 **REFURBISHMENT OF TWO EARLY YEARS' CLASSROOMS**

 **A STATE-OF-THE-ART SENSORY ROOM**

Rory has significant Global Development Delay. He has frequent and severe seizures which impact his functioning. Jill, his teacher, tells us:

"The bi-fold doors in Blossom Classroom allow him greater freedom to choose to be outdoors and the new equipment enriches his experiences in school. The refurbishment of the toilet area increases the staff's ability to meet his personal care needs with the dignity he deserves. Rory loves sensory time, so the new sensory room enhances the ability of staff to progress his early development skills including increasing concentration, focus and attention, developing understanding of cause and effect and improving co-ordination and motor development."

– Jill, Rory's Teacher



"Thank you for coming into our lives. Thank you for making the difference. Thank you for believing in us. Thank you for investing in our children, in their futures, in our school. And thank you for making the difference to our staff and to our whole community. Nobody would have done this if you didn't come and didn't help, so thank you."

– Fran, Headteacher



100
PUPILS WITH SPECIAL
EDUCATIONAL NEEDS
AND DISABILITIES
IMPACTED.

67
CONTRACTORS
DELIVERED THE BUILD.



“We’ve gone for years with very little done here. We couldn’t even have imagined that we’ve got the facilities that we’ve got now...I’ve seen children who I’ve never seen focus on an activity for the first time in their room, go to equipment, take it out and focus and do something...My staff are everything that you could describe. They’re excited, they’re re-energised. They feel invested in, they feel important, and they feel like they can now really drive on and make a massive difference to the pupils who come here...”

**- Fran Cracknall, Head Teacher,
Brooklands**

SCHOOLS OUT

"We don't have to put it forward to parents to pay for, which is a huge weight off some of our parents' shoulders. One of the kids, they said to me, oh, how much is it? I'm not sure I can come. I said no, no it's fine. This one's free. Imagine a six-year-old even having that thought in their head..."

- Teacher, Christmas Party

Schools Out is a series of day trips for disabled children and children (4-11 years) living in deprivation, who attend schools with high pupil premium rates.

The purpose of Schools Out, first and foremost, **fun!** The children we support face daily hardship. So we provide a space for them to be exactly what children should be – carefree.

Secondly, Schools Out events play an important role in expanding our beneficiaries' horizons and giving them access to experiences, places and spaces they would not otherwise get a chance to explore. Our families are struggling to cover the basic essentials right now (heating, clothing, food, shelter), let alone taking their children out for the day.

The opportunity to engage in the world around them, seeing and experiencing new things, is hugely beneficial for children's development. Research suggests positive experiences during key 'sensitive periods' of early childhood and adolescence **help build healthy brains**. As the Children's Commissioner (2022) reported, the chance for play and fun in childhood supports the development of children's mental health, physical health and creativity.



2500

CHILDREN AT 5
CHRISTMAS PARTIES



478

CHILDREN AT CANNON
HALL FARM



124

CHILDREN AT SPORTS
DAY



"I think it's brilliant for their engagement, seeing theatre productions that they might never otherwise see and socialising with their friends outside of school. A lot of them don't have that or can't go to each other's houses. They're able to just be children today."

- Teacher, Christmas Party

"It's been the best day of my life! Ronaldo the goat was my favourite."

- Student, Cannon Hall Farm

"It means a lot to us. We're giving children something they've not received in their 5 years - their whole life. This might be a once in a lifetime. They might never leave where they live. It's well known in our area that where you're born, you never leave. You just stay."

- Teacher, Cannon Hall Farm

THE SCHOOL NETWORK

We've continued to develop our network of schools across the region who, based on deprivation data including pupil premium percentage, are core beneficiaries of our work. Alongside working with volunteers to map out needs, apply for funding and project support from the charity, the schools benefit from first access to a number of campaigns and programmes, including our Young Entrepreneur Challenge in partnership with LEAP, and our Constructing Careers Property Workshop.

88 STUDENTS

AND 8 SCHOOLS TOOK PART IN THE YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR CHALLENGE

95%

OF RESPONDENTS SCORED THE YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR CHALLENGE 8/10 OR ABOVE IN TERMS OF HOW MUCH THEY ENJOYED TAKING PART

95%

OF STUDENTS COULD NAME A KEY STRENGTH OR SKILL AFTER TAKING PART IN THE CHALLENGE.



YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR CHALLENGE

Teams of students received £250 seed money to invest in their own money-making concept. They took on roles from Managing Director to Finance Director, to handle the design, creating, marketing and sales of their innovative product. With each team supported by a Yorkshire business mentor, they learned key business acumen and interpersonal skills crucial for future employability. The 2023 cohort delivered some amazing products from personalised water bottles to reed diffusers and bespoke care packages. Our winners, [SCHOOL], got to accept their award at the Yorkshires. Business Awards from none other than The Apprentice's Linda Plant!

CONSTRUCTING CAREERS PROPERTY WORKSHOP

Our friends across the Yorkshire Property Sector came together to deliver bespoke workshops for students across the School Network, providing a 360 overview of the sector from Planning and Design to Asset Management and Construction. There was a very clear takeaway for students – regardless of circumstance, ability or background, there is an opportunity for them to seek employment within the property sector.

"I've just completed a guidance meeting with a student who attended, and they said they were inspired by all mentors and employers/employees and are now interested in working in the sector in the future."

- Careers Advisor, on Constructing Careers



91

STUDENTS ATTENDED THE CONSTRUCTING CAREERS PROPERTY WORKSHOP.

"It has been tremendously rewarding for Rosemont Pharmaceuticals to collaborate in the 2023 LEAP challenge, alongside the Yorkshire Children's Charity. We hope that the children involved enjoyed their experience of creating their own enterprise, presenting the business case, and learning about the different career opportunities that exist in industry. We certainly enjoyed mentoring them!"

- Howard Taylor, Chief Executive Officer, Rosemont Pharmaceuticals Ltd

WINTER CAMPAIGN

Our 2023 Winter Campaign was by far the largest and most ambitious campaign Yorkshire Children's Charity has ever delivered. It ensured 1058 children and young people woke up on Christmas morning with gifts to open, but also, that they can stay warm and dry this season.

1058

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
RECEIVED CHRISTMAS PRESENTS
AND WINTER ESSENTIALS.

9184

ITEMS DELIVERED FROM 3
WAREHOUSES.

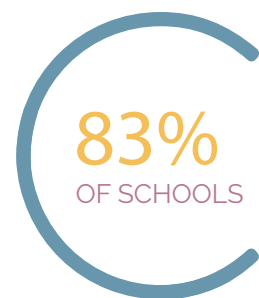
42

SCHOOLS YORKSHIRE-WIDE
ENGAGED.

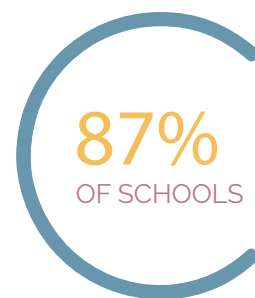
223

VOLUNTEERS KINDLY GAVE THEIR
TIME TO HELP.

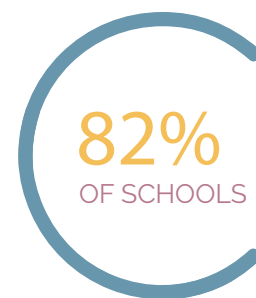
The campaign provided children and young people with dignity, self-worth and connection. Critically, it kept them **safe**.



REPORTED THAT THE
WINTER CAMPAIGN SUPPORTED
THE SAFEGUARDING OF
VULNERABLE CHILDREN.



REPORTED THAT STUDENTS
ARE WARMER AND DRIER AS
A RESULT OF THE WINTER
CAMPAIGN.



REPORTED AN IMPROVEMENT
IN CHILDREN'S WELLBEING AS A
RESULT OF RECEIVING WINTER
ESSENTIALS.

"For some of our most vulnerable pupils, we have a 3-2-1 check in every day, where 3 is great and 1 means they're worried. This week, one of our little reception girls has had a 3 every day because of her new, warm coat and shiny dry shoes! Her smile has sat on her face all week...I daren't say this out loud but it's the first Christmas we haven't made a safeguarding referral in the last week. Maybe it's a coincidence but I don't think it is."

- Deputy Head, on the Winter Campaign



OUR VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU FOR GETTING STUCK IN

Our volunteers are integral to the delivery of our work and are involved in all aspects of the organisation – we wouldn't be able to do what we do without you. We encourage our volunteers to **GO MAD** - Go Out and Make A Difference! – and that's exactly what you did in 2023!



"Sometimes with volunteering you don't actually see the impact of what you're doing, so it's nice to actually be in the middle it."

– Volunteer, Christmas Party



"It's been a really good and uplifting day, and you can really feel like everyone's together as a team. It feels rewarding to be able to volunteer here."

– Volunteer, Christmas Party



"I think it makes them feel more seen as there's more adults around for them to talk to and ask questions to, rather than it just being teachers. One of my colleagues is a farmer, so it couldn't be more perfect!"

– Volunteer, Cannon Hall Farm

CORPORATE PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS

A special thanks to all our friends at...



CORPORATE PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS

A special thanks to all our friends at...



Julius Bär



Rural Offices
LLP



SEDULO



SQUIRE
PATTON BOGGS



LISTER HORSEFALL
MOMENTS IN TIME SINCE 1902

St
James's
Place

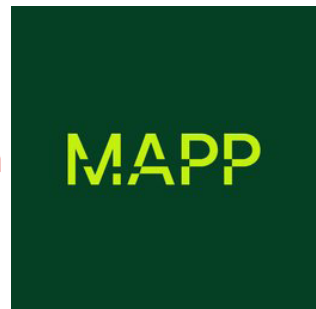


Stretton Denman

STRUGGLE



ManningStainton



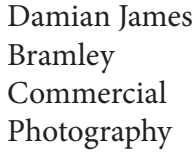
YORKSHIRE
Place



...and to all the generous individuals who donated to us in 2023. Whether it's £5 or £5000 we're enormously grateful for your support!

EVENT SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

We apologise if we have inadvertently missed anyone from this list! Your support means the world to us and to the children we support.





EVENT SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

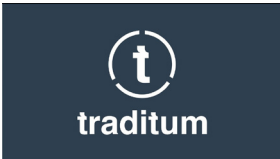












LOOKING AHEAD

We exist to **make things better** for Yorkshire's disadvantaged children and young people, now and for their future. The children we support are some of the most vulnerable in society, who've been dealt the worst hand in life and often feel powerless to change it.

Our approach is two-fold. We're taking the pressure off here and now, by relieving the immediate struggles of families living with poverty and disability. Longer-term, we're breaking the intergenerational cycle of poverty across our region.

The impact of our work is **happier, healthier, and more independent** children and young people, who are empowered to meet their unique potential and have the **most fulfilling future possible**. We have BIG plans for 2024 to keep delivering this impact:

- OUR BIGGEST EVER GREAT YORKSHIRE BUILD AT HILLTOP SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES SCHOOL IN ROTHERHAM.**

BRAND NEW SCHOOLS OUT EVENTS ON TOP OF OUR CANNON HALL FARM DAY AND CHRISTMAS PARTIES.
- CONTINUING TO GROW OUR SCHOOL NETWORK AND GRANTS PROGRAMMES, REACHING EVEN FURTHER ACROSS THE REGION.**

REACHING EVEN MORE FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS WITH OUR WINTER CAMPAIGN 2024.

As always, we need your help to do this. We have loads of volunteering opportunities, including a whole host of fundraising events we would love to see you at:

- 9TH MAY 2024**
THE YORKSHIRES. COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE AWARDS

21ST JUNE 2024
THE YORKSHIRE CLAY SHOOT
- 20TH JUNE 2024**
THE YORKSHIRE POLO

21ST SEPTEMBER 2024
A NIGHT UNDER THE STARS, GRANTLEY HALL

Check out our website for more information on how to get involved, and follow us on social media!



"Getting this support after everything we've gone through was absolutely brilliant. The difference has been absolutely massive, I cannot tell you."

– Sadie, Evie, Hannah, and Charlie's Mum.

