

**LEARNING VISIT REPORT**  
**Oasis Children's Venture 13968**

<b>1.1 Date of visit:</b> 10/07/18	<b>1.2 Name of visiting Grants Officer:</b> Kate Moralee	<b>1.3 People met with:</b> JB and KN (environmental playworker)
<b>1.4 Programme Area &amp; Outcomes:</b> Improving London's Environment More people reporting improved wellbeing through greater use of open spaces and through growing and greening initiatives; More Londoners with a greater knowledge and understanding of the 'green' environment and biodiversity		
<b>1.5 Purpose of the award:</b> £105,000 over 3 years towards a Green Prescription Programme for children and young people.		
<b>Grant start date:</b> 01/09/17		<b>Grant end date:</b> 01/09/20
<b>MONITORING INFORMATION</b>		
<p><b>2.1 Project Outcome 1:</b> Londoners will have improved understanding and appreciation of the environment/local wildlife and develop improved outdoor confidence.</p> <p><b>2.2 Project Outcome 2:</b> Londoners will have improved physical well-being through being next to nature.</p> <p><b>2.3 Project Outcome 3:</b> Children and Young people will better understand the importance of food growing and its importance to healthy eating.</p> <p><b>2.4 Project Outcome 4:</b> Londoners will have improved emotional well-being and experience reduced isolation through being next to nature.</p> <p><b>Progress made:</b> In the first 10 months of the grant the organisation has delivered 76 after school learning sessions to 129 children; 45 under 5s sessions and parent/carer sessions to 32 adults and 52 children; 38 Saturday community sessions to 46 adults and 67 children and 5 community events with 198 attendees.</p> <p>An outcomes star is used with children who access the after-school service to measure their development. Each point on the star relates to a different aspect of wellbeing. The organisation has also implemented a Buddy Award Scheme where children are awarded buddy privileges when they have demonstrated specific skills or knowledge related to nature, food and food growing etc. Children with Buddy Awards can become peer champions. The organisation has not had the capacity to analyse the data to date due to an organisational restructure, however this information will be presented in the end of year report.</p>		
<p><b>2.5 Project Outcome 5:</b> Londoners have increased decision making opportunities through developing and leading environmental activities and being actively involved in project planning and delivery</p> <p><b>Progress made:</b>  Attendees at some of the sessions are involved in planning the content and children who achieve Buddy Awards are champions for other children who attend activities.</p>		

## GRANT OFFICER COMMENTS

Your officer met with one postholder being funded by the grant, the CEO of the organisation, and some adults and children accessing the parent/carer sessions at the Nature Garden.

1. **Impact:** The project has suffered somewhat due to difficulties fundraising for the organisation's core costs. Although this has not directly affected the delivery of this project it has impacted on the overall management of the Nature Garden, including the capacity to market this project and the collection and analysis of data.

The project is successfully reaching a wide section of the local community. It is having a significant impact on children and young people's overall wellbeing by giving them a connection with and building their understanding of the natural environment. It has improved their skills and knowledge of nature and what to do in the outdoors e.g. foraging, recognising plants, the benefit of green spaces etc. There could also be a longer-term impact in that children will carry this knowledge and care for the environment into the future.

2. **Learning:** The organisation has identified the need to plan the Family Saturday Sessions but remain flexible and responsive to the needs and wishes of the families who attend. It has learned which sessions are working well and which require more planning and marketing, including building local networks.
3. **Knowledge:** this organisation has found that securing income to cover organisational infrastructure posts is difficult in the current challenging climate. This has a knock-on impact for the quality of direct delivery. There is an increasing need to work in partnership with other organisations with similar aims and objectives, which requires significant input from infrastructure staff.
4. **Total assets:** The organisation asked if CBT could support access to corporate organisations with a view to securing some volunteering and potential longer-term relationships.