



# CHILDREN'S WORLD

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Last year was another successful one for Children's World, with more workshops developed and delivered, our second community based Off the Streets event and enthusiastically received projects both at home and abroad via Children's World International.

## Thank you for making all this possible!

### New Workshop Development and Delivery:

#### PMLD Sensory Underwater Journey

Over the years since Children's World was first established the range of abilities supported by special schools has changed. Most special schools now include more children with PMLD, while more able children are increasingly included in mainstream education. Our own experiences and feedback from teachers and carers showed that some workshops previously inclusive for whole classes were no longer consistently engaging the least able. In 2015 this led Children's World Directors, Paddy Hill and Charlie Miller to develop a new workshop specifically aimed at providing stimulation and enjoyment for PMLD students.

Paddy and Charlie worked very closely with staff and pupils at local special schools during this process. Including using their feedback from dry runs to refine and improve the workshop until it was ready to offer as part of our ongoing resources.

The first delivery of the new workshop was in Forest Park School, where five sessions were run over two days - the Assistant Headteacher told us:

*"Pupils interacted really well. Staff also enjoyed the experience and gained ideas."*

*"One pupil moved his hands in some blue jelly bath, which was a first"*

*"Pupils exceeded expectations..."*



*'Working with children of all abilities since 1981'*

## Multi-cultural Workshop

Penrose Special School contacted Children's World in late 2015 with a request for help creating and delivering a replacement for their traditional Christmas play. They told us they required something that celebrated differences in cultures and faiths that did not, however, reference any specific cultures or religions.

Paddy Hill and Charlie Miller, met with the school team to discuss their needs in more detail and to visit the school premises. Using the brief they had been given and with frequent exchange of ideas with the school, Paddy and Charlie used previous experience and feedback from projects based around colours and their associations to develop a new project.

The project consisted of working within the school intensively with the children over three days, discussing their ideas and associations with each colour and filming the children acting and talking about their 'colour tribe'. The pupils had a mix of special needs from PMLD to MLD. Films were made with the children and used as background on the performance day when the children also appeared on stage in their three 'tribes' - the performance ended with bringing together both colours and children.

This workshop is now part of the increasing variety of activities Children's World is able to offer.



After the show Lisa House, Class Teacher at Penrose School said:

*"An excellent and positive experience for our wide range of learners. Paddy and Charlie were very engaging and kept the children's focus throughout. It also provided a positive way for parents and carers to be part of the experience. It was an excellent and unique way to cover SMSC (Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural) development."*

## **Regular Ongoing Workshops:**

### Transition and Induction Days

For new year five or six intakes, this workshop supplements regular induction work done by schools and is aimed at dissipating concerns, helping the children see how they can look after themselves and their fellow students successfully and confidently in a new environment. We use team games, conversations and meetings with older pupils to help the pupils address any concerns.

This year Transition Workshops were delivered in St Dunstan's and Crispin Schools for a large number of local Primary and Junior Schools, including; West Pennard, Baltonsborough, Butliegh, Walton, Meare, Brookside, Elmhurst, St Benedict's, Ashcott, Catcott Schools.

The children felt reassured by the workshop:

*"Meeting new people who will be at my new school was helpful."*

*"Meeting up with friends from nursery was fun."*



## Puppetry & Integration Workshop Weeks

Over 5 days, 60 students of all abilities from two schools, a primary and a special school, work together on puppetry projects, promoting inclusion and teamwork. Students create, produce and perform a large scale puppet show to an invited audience - including props, stories, songs and large scale inclusive games. The group focusses on one goal, integration taking place unconsciously as everybody works together to the best of their ability.

This year Integration Workshops were delivered to:

Baytree School with Westhaven and Herons' Moor Schools  
Mendip Green School with Baytree, Herons' Moor Schools  
Rice Lane Primary School with Redbridge High School  
Palmerston School and Woolton Primary School

Teachers told us:

*"Great making sessions and arts and crafts for all pupils."*

*"Great inclusion."*

*"Fantastic songs for students to engage in."*

*"Ability range from SLD (Severe Learning Difficulties) to Primary is very large, but opportunities to work together are valued."*

*"I feel the work on emotions with the masks is very valuable for the primary children - very powerful."*

And students said:

*"We loved the dancing and singing."*

*"We made lots of new friends."*

*"We would like to go again."*





## Anti-Bullying Workshops

Children's World offers two types of drama based workshops, which provide interesting and fun ways to address bullying.

**Performance and debate:** Students discuss and define bullying before devising a performance piece that portrays the issues - this is shown to the rest of the school in the afternoon, with discussion.

**Film-making:** Pupils are encouraged talk about ways of dealing with difficult situations and how to behave towards others. They then use these ideas to create a DVD.

Children's World had a very good uptake of Anti-Bullying Workshops this year, delivering them in the following Schools: St Michael's Primary, Abbas and Templecombe Primary, Bowlish Infant's Castle Cary Primary and Four Acres Academy.



Teachers and children told us:

*"All children could contribute and understand what was being said."*

*"Children were very motivated and they were never patronised."*

*"I learnt that people can still encourage bullying even if they're not the actual bully."*

*"I felt lucky to be involved."*

*"Made us think."*

*"They (Paddy and Charlie) were very positive and encouraging when we did the mime and I liked that everyone had a part."*

*"It also taught us what bullying isn't."*

## **Off the Streets 2015:**

Off the Streets (OtS) 2015 ran from the 3rd to the 7th of August - providing a large range of educational, entertaining and inspiring activities to children, young people and their families. The event was a great success and could not have been achieved without the support of our funders, Glastonbury Town Council's Youth Committee and Aster Communities.

Each day of the Off the Streets week Children's World ran events and workshops designed to engage young people of all ages.

*"...for us as a family it was the perfect, perfect week to have the workshops. For me the mix of active days, and skill based activity days was great. I have a long term health condition which means that I can't be as active with Holly as I'd like. For us having those workshops was really important - I knew Holly was enjoying herself and I could juggle work and getting some rest in and it really helped me pace myself through the long holidays. Thank you to everybody - it's such a wonderful thing to have to look forward to in the summer."*



## Fundraising:

Each year we fund our work at Children's World via a variety of sources. These include: fundraising from Trusts and Foundations; donations from individuals and groups; payments to cover costs of workshop delivery from schools and out-of-school groups; event fundraising; money earned from providing activities for other's events, trading via our trading subsidiary, Children's World Enterprises, and a small amount from bank interest.

We would like to thank all those that have supported Children's World's work in this way over the past year. You have made all that we do possible.

### Glastonbury Festival:

Thanks to the ongoing generosity of Michael Eavis and Glastonbury Festival Events Limited (GFEL) in giving us concessions to run backstage catering and beverage services on behalf of our charities, trading at Glastonbury Festival provides the charity with its main source of funds four out of five years, via a donation from our associated trading company, Children's World Enterprises. The whole team is involved in making the Festival areas run by Children's World Enterprises a success and we also really on a large number of amazing volunteers that give their time every year to help support our charities.



## Other activities:

### Website Redesign

The charity's online presence was established in the mid 90's and was updated and maintained in house with the help of guide books. It was basic, but at the time it served its purpose. It remained this way until Children's World was given a free site assessment in December 2015. The assessment outlined a few security issues and we also realised that the site was looking very outdated and wasn't being used to its full potential.

Children's World then applied for and was given funding by a local Foundation to contract a professional to work with us on redesigning our web site. Our new design is very much in line with other contemporary sites and has become much easier to navigate and for us to update. The new site also links directly to our social media pages. In addition to the redesign, the Directors were given training on updating and creating pages using the Wordpress template.



We're very pleased with the new site - it looks much brighter and more relevant and we have already taken new work from enquiries from the site [www.childrensworldcharity.org](http://www.childrensworldcharity.org)

## Children's World International

### CWI France

In March 2016 Children's World International provided workshops and performances to children and families in refugee camps at Dunkirk (18–19th), Calais (20th) and at a special site for particularly vulnerable Kurdish and Farsi families (21st).

We also delivered a trailer full of aid on behalf of RAISE – Refugee Action in Somerset East to the aid distribution warehouse in Calais and funding from Not Pointless to Dunkirk Kids' Welfare and the Calais Women and Children's Centre.

In addition, we achieved excellent local media coverage in the UK, including an on-location reporter joining us for one of our days work in Dunkirk.

Our performances and workshops received great feedback from the volunteers at all the camps. Lydia, from the Maktab School, at Dunkirk Kids Welfare told us:

*"Thank you! It was fantastic to have you all here – really positive, fun energy! Just what everyone needed. And at the right time too – your performances were the first large gatherings of people we've had in the new camp and perfect timing with New Year."*



### Partnerships

Children's World has worked closely with a large number of partner organisations and individuals over the past year. Their support and involvement has been essential to our being able to achieve so much and provide high quality educational and enjoyable experiences to children of all abilities and needs. We would like to thank all involved.

# Thank you!

*'Working with children of all abilities since 1981'*