



Much More than Just After School

2020 - 2021

Annual Report

Manor After School & Kids Klubs

Temple Park Centre
197 Harborough Avenue
Sheffield
S2 1QT

Phone: 0114 2395739

Email: letsplay@maskk.org.uk

Web: <http://maskk.org.uk>

Registered Charity: 1131388

Ofsted Registered: RP519452

Who are MASKK:

MASKK is a charity that provides activities and services for children and families.

In 2020-2021 MASKK had 17 members of staff and 9 volunteers. Out of the 26 people working/volunteering at MASKK, 10 live in the S2 area and we aim to increase local employment opportunities.

The Trustees who oversee the governance and quality are a group of 4 people, all of whom work locally and bring different skills and experiences. New people are welcome to join the Trustees at the AGM or throughout the year by contacting MASKK.

MASKK is managed day to day by a Manager, Craig, supported by a Duty Manager, Joanna, and each project is then led by a Lead Playworker. The Duty Manager and Lead Playworkers work together to plan and prepare sessions as well as monitoring quality and supporting the staff and volunteers.

Mission Statement:

“To work towards the enhancement of the lives of the local children living in the Manor area aged 5 and over regardless of wealth, religion, gender, race, background or ability.”

Aims:

a) To provide the necessary facilities for the daily care, recreation and education of children during out of school hours and school holidays.

b) To advance the education and training of the persons in the provision of such care, education and recreational facilities.

c) To advance education of the public (in particular local families) in the field of parenting and to provide or assist in providing facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation for the public with the object of improving their conditions of life and with a view to promoting good parenting.

Objectives:

- To be Child centred: All decisions will be made with children in mind and a focus on play and providing enjoyable activities.
- To be Child Led: Children will be empowered to make decisions for themselves when ever possible, including snack options, what resources and games we buy and what new activities we decide to start.
- To Create a Safe and Secure Environment: All staff will be encouraged to attend any relevant safeguarding children and health and safety courses. MASKK will provide activities that help children to develop a sense of risk management as well as teaching them what they can do to protect themselves.
- To Promote Health and Wellbeing: To encourage children and parents to choose a healthy lifestyle by providing healthy snacks and physical activities that demonstrate how exercise can be fun.
- To Include Parents: To encourage them to take part in the running of club by inviting them to join the management committee and advertising volunteering opportunities.
- To be Inclusive: To provide staff with relevant training to accept children with extra requirements to give the child an opportunity to play with other children and provide respite time for the parents. To provide activities that teaches children about diversity and respect for different cultures and beliefs.
- To be an Example to Others: To meet national standards and be the best we can be by working towards best practice guidelines. To be constantly encouraging staff and volunteers to develop through training and experience. To offer support and guidance to other clubs.
- To be Independent: To be a business in its own right, self reliant and constantly growing and developing.

- To be a Community Partner: To work with other organisations in the area to promote community development and improvement. To offer support to schools for example by providing an activity at a school gala.
- To develop new activities that continue to progress our aims.

MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER

The financial year being reported starts at the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic which had a significant impact on our organisation. MASKK was required to close our services during the first lock down but quickly recognised a need in our community to provide support in other ways.

We were supported by our Short Breaks Contract and by donations from Great Places Housing, MaTReC and generous local people to create and supply 235 at home activity packs. MASKK also delivered over 100 specific packages for children with special educational needs or disabilities to 24 families, many of these hand delivered to include a door stop visit to check in with families and offer additional support if required. Thanks to a further grant from South Yorkshire community Foundation we were able to create more too.

Jo, Kirsty and April also spent time calling families and staying in touch remotely so that we could provide support as well as referrals to other services as required, linking with Hope Hampers to provide a care package to some of the parents too.

In July 2020 when the restrictions allowed some services to re-open MASKK Playcare and Short Breaks moved temporarily to MaTReC where we could utilise multiple rooms to allow for bubbles, helping us to create a covid secure environment while Temple Park Centre also went through a refurbishment.

The financial impact of Covid was significant though, a drop of £38,121 in fee and contract income. However because of grants and donations the organisation was able to stay viable and gained some specific grants and donations to carry in to the next year to help cover the ongoing losses. One such grant was thanks to the support of the local councillors and a grant from the Community Infrastructure Levy. Councillor Terry Fox when confirming the grant said "I know myself and Sioned welcome the fact that MASKK the long established and trusted organisation is able to continue its valuable service to the good residents of Manor Castle Ward."

For more about our 2020 you can watch this short video: <https://youtu.be/uGoeb1aMz54>

Update on the Projects:

INCLUSIVE PLAYCARE

Manor After School and Kids Klubs opened originally as an After School Club only in September 1999 and since then had continued to grow until the pandemic.

MASKK had to reduce our operating hours and group sizes to meet the requirements to keep people safe, along with a number of our families being furloughed or working from home reducing the demand for childcare. In comparison in 2019 we had 4,261 bookings and fee income to the sum of £37,115.64 but in 2020 we had only 1,368 bookings generating only £10,695. Due to this significant drop MASKK unfortunately had to make the difficult decision to make 3 Playworker posts redundant in October 2020.

LETS PLAY

MASKK believe all children should have access to opportunities to play and belong to a group that supports and encourages them. During this year much of our focus around this was through our at home activity packs. You can see and download our packs here: <https://www.maskk.org.uk/home/maskk-activity-booklets/> While MASKK was running reduced services Craig also gave his time to co-ordinate the local DfE funded Healthy Holidays provision, in partnership with MCDT and Voluntary Action Sheffield, which in summer 2020 distributed 1024 hampers each week for 4 weeks in our local area. MASKK also provided a further 100 at home activity packs that were distributed through this project to support children who receive free school meals. Each school holiday since Craig has continued to support MCDT with this valuable work including a Christmas pop up shop to help ensure every local child woke up to a present at Christmas.

SHORT BREAKS

MASKK continue to provide activities and services for children with disabilities through a contract with SNIPS (Special Needs Inclusive Playcare Service) from Sheffield City Council. MASKK provide these Short Breaks on Saturday's term time, during the week in school holidays and some children benefit from attending our After School Club. The MASKK team have experience and training to support a number of children with a variety of support needs and disabilities including providing one to one support where needed.

In 2020-2021 we were limited in what we could do but the implantation of the at home packs were greatly received with one parent commenting "Appropriate activities structured to the child's needs. It gave them a sense of fun and calmness". When we were able to open parents/carers also fed back that they fully trusted we were providing a safe and secure place.

EVENTS

The MASKK team enjoy putting on events and creating opportunities to bring people together but in 2020 this was not possible to put on the events we would have liked.

As restrictions then eased in October 2020 though we were able to work with partners to put on a fantastic socially distanced pumpkin trail in half term with Friends of Manor Fields Park. Families booked a time slot, came and said hello to receive a bag of goodies and set off on a walk around the park looking for hidden items. When they finished, they then were given a pumpkin to take home and enjoy carving.

PARTNERSHIPS & SUPPORTING OTHERS

MASKK understand that the resources and opportunities for smaller charities are reducing; one way of tackling this is by building partnerships and networks. Partnerships and Networks provide opportunities to share ideas, equipment, skills, and sometimes finance. Other benefits of partnerships include sharing challenges and experiences. The MASKK Manager also sits on the board of Trustees of other local charities to share his knowledge and experience.

MASKK are part of a number of partnerships and work together with others including:

- Manor Assembly
- Manor Church and Community Project
- Manor and Castle Development Trust
- Manor Training & Resource Centre (MaTReC)
- Manor Action Group
- Everyone's Festival
- Victoria Centre Enterprise
- Manor Community Childcare Centre
- 186th Sheffield Scout Group
- Friends of Manor Fields Park
- Green Estate
- Manor Castle Alliance for People Keeping Well
- Local Area Partnership (LAP), including local Councillors and officers

VOLUNTEERING & STUDENT PLACEMENTS

Volunteers are central to enabling MASKK continue to deliver the variety of services, activities and events. MASKK throughout each year recruit and assist many volunteers, some volunteer for short periods such as six weeks, whilst others remain with MASKK for many years. Each volunteer is offered a variety of training courses, support with confidence building, help applying for work, and become part of the MASKK team.

In 2020/21 MASKK supported the placements of 6 third year medical students and a second year Sports Science student. The sports student helped us develop one of our activities at home booklets while the medical students transformed our garden, creating a space we can use ongoing and supported us to raise over £15,000 in donations to support us in future years too.