

STRATEGY 2019-2024



Our vision is to introduce people living in an urban, built up environment to their local natural green spaces through outdoor learning activities.

By promoting learning outdoors, we aim to show the benefits that the natural environment can bring to improved health and wellbeing.

Local parks and open spaces are a great place to bring people together, to learn and socialise. We encourage environmental stewardship in all our projects. We will:

Increase opportunities for outdoor learning and spending more time in local parks

Enable opportunities for vulnerable individuals and groups to spend more time in the natural environment

Promote change to lifestyle to include more time spent outside for the benefit of health and wellbeing

Understand the barriers to spending time outside.

Create and facilitate opportunities for bringing people together

Encourage environmental stewardship

Let's Go Outside and Learn CIC was established in 2015 and over the last four years has developed a strong ethos of working with vulnerable groups to encourage access to outdoor environments, and to break down barriers to accessing parks and open spaces in the London Boroughs of Richmond and Hounslow.

The strategy will guide the organisation over the next 5 years enabling the organisation to focus resources in the areas that we see as priorities.



Beneficiary groups are:

People who have limited access to outdoor environments

People who face barriers to accessing outdoor environments

People at risk of isolation, including:

- older people,
- carers,
- people with dementia,
- BAME groups,
- young carers,

Young people not engaged in employment or education

people with mental health problems,

people with mobility problems,

People who face language barriers

Families (especially in areas of social disadvantage)

Schools (especially in areas of social disadvantage)

Teachers

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Needs of Beneficiaries

We have identified the needs of our beneficiaries as:

to spend more time in outdoor environments,

to improve health and wellbeing on all levels

to overcome isolation and loneliness,

to meet and engage with other people,

to increase environmental awareness and stewardship,

to feel a sense of belonging to the community, for community cohesion and integration,

to support curriculum learning and lifelong learning objectives.



Our goals

What we will do 2019-2024

We will develop projects that support our project participants

Projects for people at risk of isolation

Projects targeting specific groups

Projects targeting families

Projects targeting schools

We will work with schools on projects to design school grounds

We will develop volunteering opportunities that support our projects

Inclusive volunteering opportunities

We will develop a programme of inclusive volunteering opportunities separate to our nature buddy scheme

We will offer nature buddies training and support

We will develop organisation structures and capacity within the organisation

We shall develop structures and processes that will allow individuals and the organisation to manage, plan, solve problems, and set and achieve objectives in a sustainable manner. We will do this by developing:

Leadership capability

Skills management

Human resources

Other organisational issues affecting capacity

Our goals

How will we do it?

Maintain a flexible organisation

Define the culture of the organisation

Understand the gaps in current provision

Develop a diverse funding base



Listen to our beneficiaries

Ensure projects meet needs of our beneficiaries

Measure and evaluate project outcomes for use in future project planning

Work in partnership to deliver shared goals

Work with a wide range of stakeholders to deliver shared goals

Review strategy on annual basis to test our goals and evaluate our successes and failures



Where will we be in 2024?

By 2024 we will:

Provide increased opportunities for vulnerable groups to spend more time in the natural environment

Provide increased opportunities for outdoor learning and spending more time in the natural environment for children and families

Better understand the barriers to spending time outside.

Promote change to lifestyle to include more time spent outside from benefit of health and wellbeing

Encourage environmental stewardship

Better understand beneficiary's needs through evaluation and feedback to projects



Support the training community volunteers in an accredited scheme to enable programmes to become self-sustaining in the long term.

Be able to encourage widespread participation amongst vulnerable groups and have developed an awareness of our projects among health and care professionals.

Be part of the local social prescribing offer

Have developed and built a sustainable business model with capacity to grow and develop

Deliver both grant funded activities and paid for activities.

Work in collaboration and partnership with a large range of other organisations and stakeholders for the benefit of beneficiaries.