

**GLOBAL
GENERATION**

Building the

PAPER GARDEN

Together



Global Generation. We grow Food, People and Community for a Just World

Founded in 2004, we are an environmental education charity that connects people to nature in the middle of the city.

We have been co-creating gardens with the local community on the King's Cross Estate since 2009, starting with our first Skip Garden, showcasing how disused urban spaces can become an oasis for plants and people to grow.

We were invited to Canada Water in 2017 by British Land to set up a growing garden on a disused part of the Printworks site. Since then we have worked with over 3000 local people to grow the Paper Garden, bringing them together to learn new skills, inspire each other, and learn about environmental and social issues and how we can tackle them.

In our gardens, people of all ages and from all walks of life come together to learn, grow, cook and eat. Our outreach is focused on connecting with local communities, specifically young people and those from underrepresented groups.



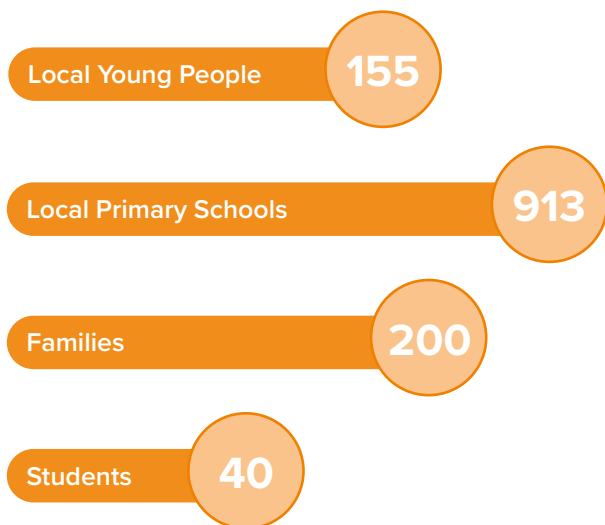
Everytime I come here there's something new and fun to do, something new to try. It's changed in so many ways, visually, but the values and identity have stayed the same. What I do becomes part of the garden we are designing. When I think and imagine the future, I imagine more community spaces like the Paper Garden.

Andras, age 15

Unlocking the potential of children and young people...

Our gardens provide the platform to unlock the potential of children and young people through our range of programmes, activities and volunteering opportunities. Our outreach work in schools and with community groups engages a cross-section of young people and offers them opportunities to develop themselves through practical hands-on and reflective work in the gardens and with the wider community.

So far across our youth programmes in 2022 we have engaged the following;

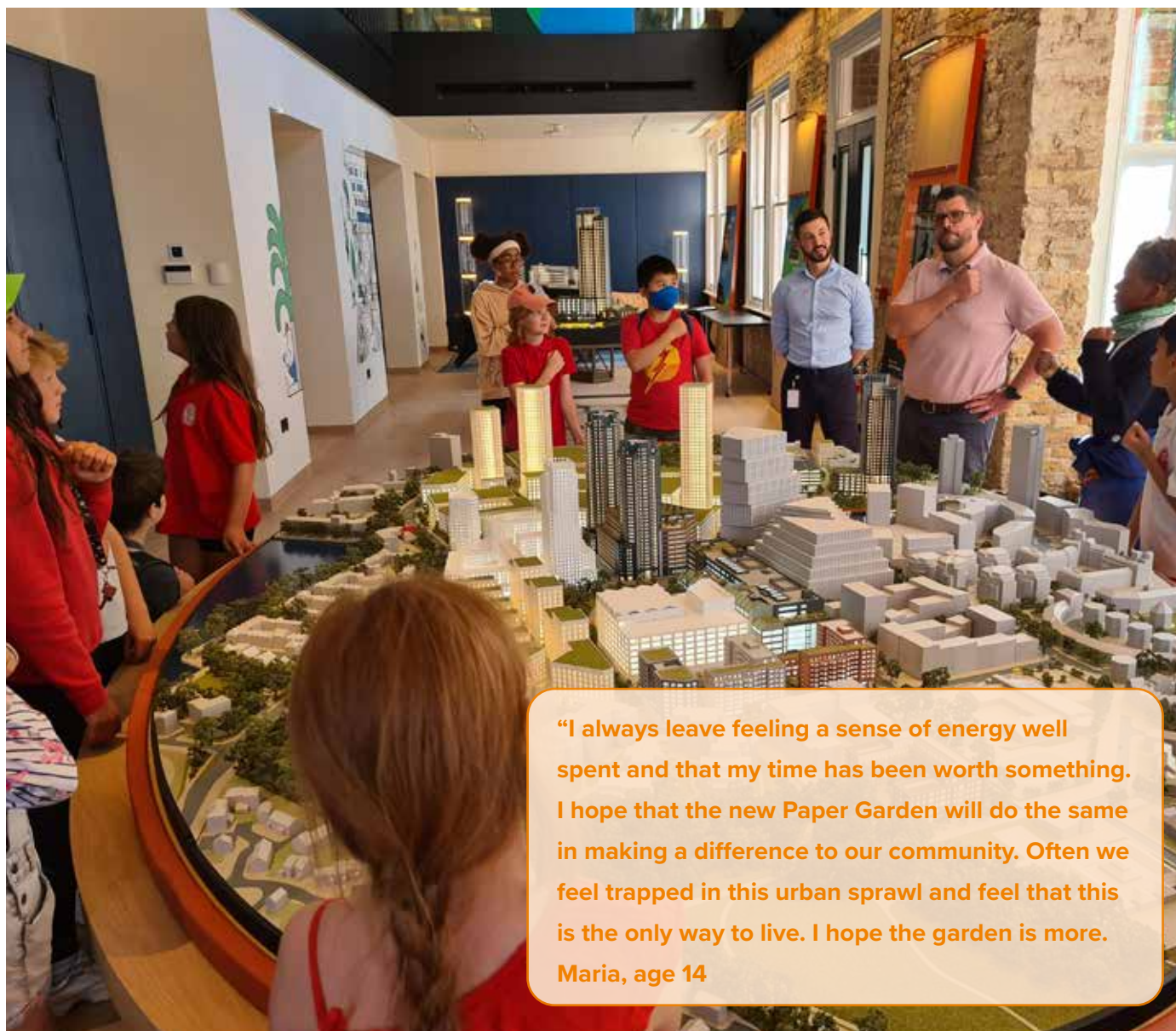


“Seeing the garden grow makes me feel joyful and curious. It reminds me of how amazing new beginnings are. I get to see plants grow, flowers sprout and trees growing ever so slightly each week. Paper Garden feels like home.”

Leia, age 12

Meaningful Collaborations...

Central to our work is the deliberate focus on providing opportunities and weaving people together who would not usually meet - people of different ages, sectors, abilities, cultures and social circumstances. In creating the right conditions for people to connect with each other and with nature something 'more-than-expected' takes place as a result of these relationships. Some examples include gardens and habitats that young people have created on top of office buildings and the public realm with business employees; sustainability workshops co-led with young people and construction companies; and collaborative work experience for local young people across different businesses.



**“I always leave feeling a sense of energy well spent and that my time has been worth something. I hope that the new Paper Garden will do the same in making a difference to our community. Often we feel trapped in this urban sprawl and feel that this is the only way to live. I hope the garden is more.
Maria, age 14**

Co-creation of the Paper Garden...

In November 2021 we moved our original Paper Garden to its new 7-year home, on another site in Printworks. This is a huge opportunity for the Paper Garden to develop a demonstrative site for wildlife and people with the local community.

Our concept is to create a garden that will be an outdoor learning space for local young people, families residents and business employees, a space to relax and to connect closely with nature. We will provide opportunities for hands-on, innovative learning, focusing on biodiversity, sustainability, discovering wildlife and increasing wellbeing through access to nature, food growing, cooking and shared meals.

Once finished the new Paper Garden will be a vibrant educational hub, where knowledge and skills in food growing, gardening, cooking, wood working, and other creative and reflective practices are shared, and young people and the community can grow and flourish together with the natural world. We hope it will inspire others to create their own community gardens and greening projects.



Building the new classroom space...

Our new classroom space is currently being constructed and is due to be completed in June 2023. We have been building as much as possible with volunteers, local young people and young apprentices. Teaching them construction skills and giving them the opportunity to become a part of the build process so they feel a sense of achievement and pride and a personal connection to the space.

A key aspect of the build has been constructing the cordwood walls of our classroom. Here we sourced felled timber from Epping forest which was stripped, sorted and installed with the help of volunteers and our young apprentices.

In parallel, we have partnered with contractors working across the local development at discounted and pro-bono rates.

So far over **3000** people have helped to contribute to the Paper Garden Community Classroom Build!



Circular Economy Approach...

Where possible we have been adopting circular economy principles through using recycled, waste or donated materials.

A lot of materials we have used within the build have come from demolition sites around London . For example, the floor of the classroom is being made entirely out of recycled door, stripped out from nearby construction sites.

Alongside this, a lot of timber used on the cordwood wall construction came from felled trees from Epping Forest and our stacked sleeper columns framing the walls came from Network Rail.

Our community build process is also an educational tool, to inspire others to adopt similar approaches and techniques in their own projects. Over the course of our volunteer sessions we have been promoting circular approaches to construction.



Co-creating the Garden...

As well as constructing our new classroom we have been busy co-creating our new garden space as best we can whilst the classroom is being built. So far we have co-created our garden space together with the help of our various youth programmes. So far we have;

- Created hugel mounds to create above ground soil structures and nutritious growing environments.
- Used recycled pavers from the Canada Water Masterplan to create a pond space in the garden.
- Built a 'Chicken Palace' in collaboration with YES make and corporate volunteers.
- Installed and fitted out our polytunnel with our various youth programmes and volunteers.
- Installation of pallet planters for community growing beds
- Built compost bays with corporate volunteers
- Installed a rainwater harvesting system with reclaimed IBC containers.





“I will miss the Old Garden, it really felt like home. But I welcome the new garden, and am excited for all the new features and how spacious it is going to be”

Margherita, age 12

Help us grow the Paper Garden...

We are looking for help to allow us to grow the Paper Garden and to run it as a community space for local young people and those living and working in the area. You can help to contribute towards the creation of this new local innovative educational space or towards the programme of activities and volunteering run from it.



A 15k donation will include....

15k Donation	
3 x nature day	Spend a day at the Paper Garden with a team of up to 15 people to grow, maintain and create at the site. The day can include learning new skills, taking on a project and working alongside our visiting groups of young people.
3 x use of garden	Use our education space and/or garden to host an event or meeting with your team. This includes two evening and one day-time event.
3 x community collaboration session	Collaborate with our young people. Share your skills and experience with members of our youth programmes. Collaborate on 2 sessions with our groups to inspire and be inspired.

A 10k donation will include....

8K Donation	
2 x nature day	Spend a day at the Paper Garden with a team of up to 15 people to grow, maintain and create at the site. The day can include learning new skills, taking on a project and working alongside our visiting groups of young people.
1 x host an event in the garden	Use our education space and/or garden to host an event or meeting with your team.
2 x community collaboration session	Collaborate with our young people. Share your skills and experience with members of our youth programmes. Collaborate on 2 sessions with our groups to inspire and be inspired.



Thank you