



**LONDON
SPORT**

Tackling Youth Isolation

Telferscot Primary School, Lambeth

London Sport's Opening School Facilities project



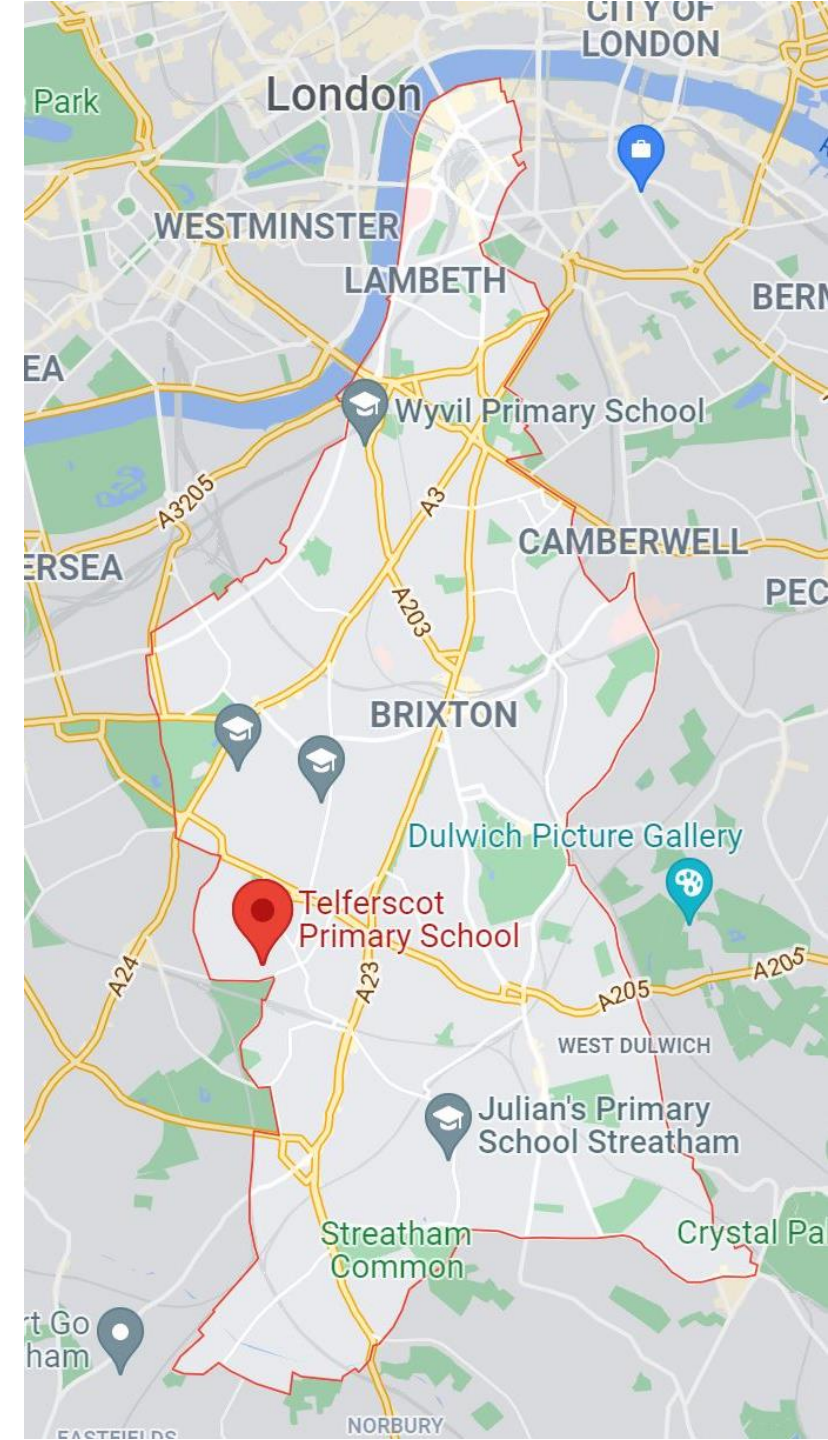
The Project

The Opening School Facilities project wanted to tackle the isolation that can happen when pupils move from primary to secondary school, by providing young people with a safe space to socialise and be active in, within a familiar environment.

The primary school is a space that parents are comfortable sending their children in the evening, especially now it is dark, as it is known and trusted. All of the sessions are able to be provided free of charge.

Their efforts started as a youth club for any local year 7s, 8s and 9s, that has since developed into two different activity sessions with the help of the OSF funding:

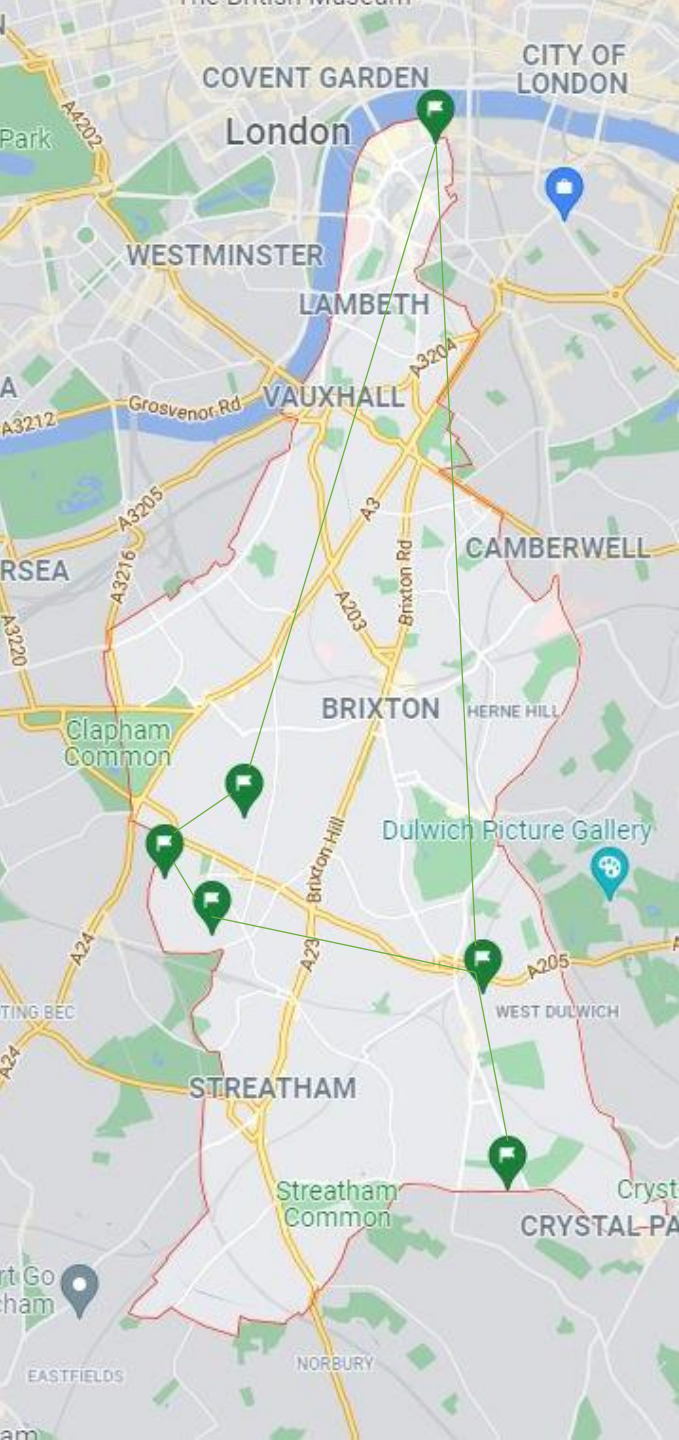
1. **Basketball Drop-in** – An informal session, led by a qualified coach (also a parent and trusted member of the school community), and is open for all. It offers a safe space for any local young person to talk and play, from 6:00pm.
2. **Jiu-jitsu Club** – A targeted session, led by Streatham-based Inspirational Youth, which invites vulnerable, pupil-premium/low-income and SEND pupils (both those who attend the school, and external, isolated year 7s).



What impact has this project had?

- ❑ **TACKLES THE ISSUE** - It has helped to prevent young people loitering in the streets/dark parks. Physical activity has given them an activity to do and a safe place to be with their friends.
- ❑ **SAFE SPACE** - Parents know Telferscot Primary School as a trusted and safe space for their children to come. It is fast becoming known as a community 'hub' locally.
- ❑ **INCREASES DEMAND** - There is new demand for opening up the school spaces after 6pm, which wasn't there before this project.
- ❑ **BUILDS LOCAL NETWORKS** - Our local secondary schools, and our relationships with them, are helping us to successfully promote these clubs to the wider community.
- ❑ **ENJOYMENT** - The young people love it and want the activities to keep running through the school holidays!
- ❑ **LOW COST** - Funding via London Sport enables the creation of free activities to those who need it most, especially after the impact of covid this year.





What are your top recommendations for other schools?

1. **Create a network of schools within your local area (left), that also deliver out-of-hours activity for young people.**
 - We have been able to sign-post to other options that we can't facilitate, and visa versa.
2. **Having a good organisation running the sessions is essential!**
 - Inspirational Youth are local, professional and make the sessions engaging for the usually inactive students attending.
3. **Word of mouth - that the sessions are good, fun, safe etc. - helps us to get great numbers attending both sessions, every week!**
 - Encourage the young people to tell their friends!

What next?

This funding round closed in the summer of 2021.

However - if you would like to learn how you can open your school facilities to the community, or for any further support, please contact us:

schoolsaccess@londonsport.org