

Ovingdean Hall News



Spring 2018

“Outstanding”

... is the rating given by Ofsted when they visited The Ear Foundation's popular summer residential for 13-18 year olds in the Derbyshire Dales last summer.

I'm so grateful that you guided me through this path in life. This has helped me become the person I want to be. It has been so inspiring. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.'

'We are extremely grateful to OHF,' said The Ear Foundation's Family Speech and Language Therapist Clare Allen. 'You have benefited many young people who would not otherwise have been able to attend. 2017 has been an exciting, 'Outstanding' and life changing year and the enthusiasm is buzzing from teenagers who want to be involved next year.'



Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we supported not only this residential, but also their first leadership course for deaf young people aged 18-25 years.

The summer residential brought teenagers together for six days of climbing, canoeing, abseiling and orienteering. The holiday focused on developing communication skills, perseverance and effective use of hearing technology. After a full day, the children relaxed together in the evening, playing games and writing messages in each other's scrapbooks.

'The best week of my life,' said one 16-year old.

The leadership weekend was equally successful. Deaf young adults are at risk of social isolation and under employment. Those attending focused upon developing their confidence, team working and leadership skills. Participants went on to help lead the outstanding summer residential.

One young person said: *'You have truly changed my life by giving me a wonderful opportunity to be a leader.'*



Linden Lodge

Thanks to a bequest left by our late supporter Lawrence Baker, we have been able to contribute toward The Isobel Centre, the new family centre at Linden Lodge School in Wandsworth, London. We have funded a family room at the school for children with sensory and physical disabilities. The Centre is due to be given its official opening later this year.



Inside The Isobel Centre's conference room



Funding new research



We are proud to support a pioneering seven year study into the performance of deaf children at school.

The data collection, analysis and reporting will be carried out by the National Sensory Impairment Partnership (NatSIP) working in partnership with the Consortium for Research Into Deaf Education (CRIDE), University College London and City University of London.

The purpose of this longitudinal study is to identify any relationship between results that individual deaf pupils achieve and the support they receive in school. Pupil outcomes will be tracked across their school years. The ultimate aim is to improve education outcomes for deaf children.

We are delighted to confirm that we will be working with two new charities:

Music and the Deaf



This small national charity is committed to enriching the lives of deaf children through music. Our grant will be used to deliver a new project in partnership with five Music Education Hubs across the UK, working alongside local Deaf and Hearing Support Teams.



Danny Lane, Chief Executive of Music and the Deaf, teaches the violin to a student.

Polka Theatre



Called 'A local and a national treasure' by *The Guardian* this bright little theatre in Wimbledon is dedicated to children, with 90,000 visiting each year. Our grant will enable Polka Theatre to adapt at least four shows for deaf children.



Polka Theatre

Thank you to all our friends for helping us support these new and ongoing projects. If you would like to help us at this time, you can donate online at www.ovingdeanhall.org/support-us or please send your cheque or CAF voucher (payable to Ovingdean Hall Foundation) to the address below:

Thank you very much.

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