



# Young People's Puppet Theatre



## Impact report 2016-17



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# Young People's Puppet Theatre

## 2016-17 in numbers:



**10** projects

**3** counties

**5** primary schools

**31** performances



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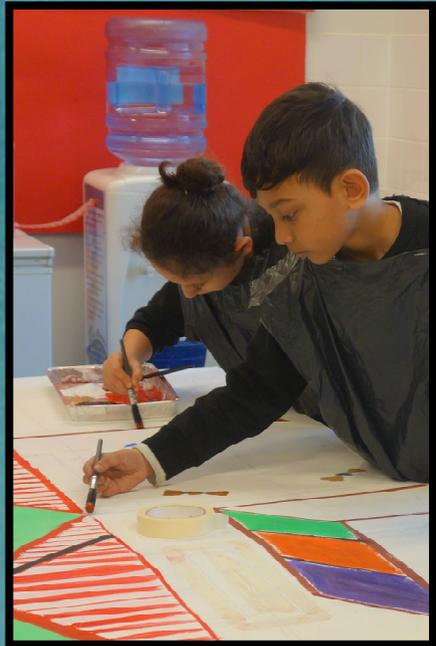
# Young People's Puppet Theatre

**305** children aged 10-14



**4** new scripts

**312** puppets



**1** secondary school

**37** set designs

**3000** audience members of all ages

= **1** very successful year

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# Young People's Puppet Theatre

The YPPT runs large-scale creative projects for children and young people, teaching artistic, dramatic and social skills through the medium of puppetmaking and puppetry. Although beneficial to all children, the projects have a disproportionately large impact on children from disadvantaged



backgrounds, who are given a new environment in which to learn and to thrive. Over the course of a project, each child involved designs and makes their own marionette, collaborates with classmates on set design and construction, and finally



takes an individual role in rehearsals and performances of the class's show for peers and parents. This is the YPPT's third year of operation, and we have now worked with

around 750 children since 2014.

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# Young People's Puppet Theatre

## Outputs

- sculpture
- sound effects
- lighting programming
- painting
- textiles
- stage management
- scale drawing
- puppetry



## Outcomes

- teamwork
- tolerance
- resilience

- patience
- problem solving
- self-motivation
- respect
- communication skills
- concentration
- independence



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# Young People's Puppet Theatre

Feedback received:

“That was **astonishing**”

Nikki Jaeggi, Headteacher, Churchfield Primary School

“Everyone **listened** to each other and **worked together.**”

Y6 pupil, The Grove Primary School

“YPPT was **AMAZING** for thousands of reasons I could not explain. Thank you for **boosting my confidence.**”

Y6 pupil, The Grove Primary School

“I love the project—the children have developed **socially and emotionally**”

Michelle McDonald, Head of Learning,  
The Orion Primary School

“Thank you so much, it's been **amazing** and we've heard about it all year at home!

Y6 parent, The Grove Primary School

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# Young People's Puppet Theatre

“I thought I would give up and never finish this thing, but I didn't. **I'm so happy**”

Y6 pupil, Houndsfield Primary School

“All the parents were clapping and smiling! **It made me feel really special**”

Y6 pupil, Houndsfield Primary School

“The project has allowed the children to achieve in ways which would not normally be possible, especially those with extra needs”

Andy Goulding, Year 6 teacher Houndsfield Primary School

“I used to be scared of people watching me perform, but **now I'm not**”

Y6 pupil, Churchfield Primary School

“Learning my lines helped me **build my confidence**”

Y6 pupil, Bromet Primary School

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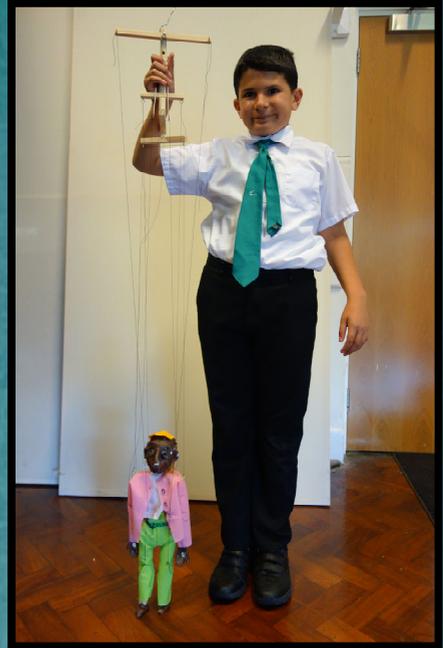
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## Case study: Hilmi

We met Hilmi in September 2016 when we started a project at his school. Hilmi has autistic spectrum disorder and speech, language and communication difficulties, as well as speaking English as an additional language. He finds it difficult to access the curriculum on his own and needs a high level of support at school, with a one-on-one learning assistant for much of the school day. At the beginning of Year Six, he was suffering a high level of stress due to changes in his home life in addition to fear of the SATs and the transition to secondary school.



*“My favourite puppet is mine”* Hilmi



# Young People's Puppet Theatre

*“The puppet project has allowed Hilmi to achieve in ways in which he wouldn't have thought possible.”* Hilmi's class teacher

At first, Hilmi found the project daunting; he wanted help with everything, and didn't want to try things by himself. Over the course of the project, he gained the confidence to work by himself and also with other children without constant adult supervision. In the past, Hilmi has often been aware of his difficulties and how they can set him apart from the rest of the class, but the project allowed him to feel part of the team for the first time, contributing to the final performances as an equal. His improved confidence and teamwork skills helped him prepare for the transition to secondary school and to deal with the stress of the changes in his life.



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# Young People's Puppet Theatre

## Thanks to our external funders

### Postcode Community Trust

Match-funded our flagship project at the Grove Primary School, Cambridge



### Old Possum's Practical Trust

Via the International Organ Festival, funded our project with Beaumont School, St Albans

### Didymus CIO

Funded our 2017 training camp for new project leaders



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# Young People's Puppet Theatre

## Social return on investment

Our projects are incredibly good value for money, coming in at around **£2 per child per hour**, and less if multiple classes from the same school are involved. For this tiny amount, the children involved are



learning a **vast range of creative skills**, as well as gaining in self-confidence, resilience, teamwork skills and **much more**. They experience working with **professional-grade tools and equipment**, and discover how it feels to **exceed the**



**expectations** of everyone around them, including their own. Many thanks to our funders who allow us to bring this **amazing opportunity** to more disadvantaged children.

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# Young People's Puppet Theatre

## The 2016-17 projects

*Aladdin* The Orion Primary



*Oliver Twist*  
Houndsfield Primary



*The Magic Bowl*  
The Grove Primary



*A Midsummer Night's  
Dream* Houndsfield Primary



*Webs, Witches and the  
Spider Queen*  
Houndsfield Primary



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# Young People's Puppet Theatre

*A Midsummer Night's  
Dream* Churchfield Primary



*Baba Yaga / The Stolen  
Turnips* Bromet Primary



*Webs, Witches and the  
Spider Queen*  
Churchfield Primary



*Oliver Twist*  
Churchfield Primary



*A Midsummer Night's  
Dream* Beaumont School



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# Young People's Puppet Theatre

## Plans for 2017-18

Our planning for 2016-17 highlighted that schools are increasingly short of funding for projects from within their own budgets, and that we will need to seek other funding in future. We were delighted to receive match funding from the Postcode



Community Trust for our flagship project with The Grove Primary in Cambridge, and also from Old Possum's Practical Trust via the International Organ Festival for our project with Beaumont School, St Albans.

For 2017-18 and beyond, grant and lottery funding for specific projects will be increasingly necessary even to continue existing partnerships due to the cuts to school budgets. We are very pleased to announce a grant from the D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust

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# Young People's Puppet Theatre

that will go towards continuing our partnership with The Grove Primary, and will also be seeking other funding partners for 2017-18 and beyond. In addition, we are amassing fundraising resources for schools which would like to host projects but lack the funds,



including pointing them towards potential grant and lottery funders, and assisting them with crowdfunding campaigns. We are planning to run 5 long-term projects in 2017-18, and are also looking into developing shorter projects that have similar benefits for the children involved.

We know that our projects make a real difference to the lives of the children involved, and we will continue to adapt our fundraising strategy over the coming year to make sure children are not missing out.

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# Young People's Puppet Theatre

## Support us!

With school budgets ever shrinking, we rely on grants and donations to support most of our project work. You could sponsor everything we need to make a puppet from just £20—every little really helps. Show your support with a financial gift at:

[www.yppt.org.uk/  
donate](http://www.yppt.org.uk/donate)

and help us make a difference today! You can also contact us at [admin@yppt.org.uk](mailto:admin@yppt.org.uk), or on 07914 830730.



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