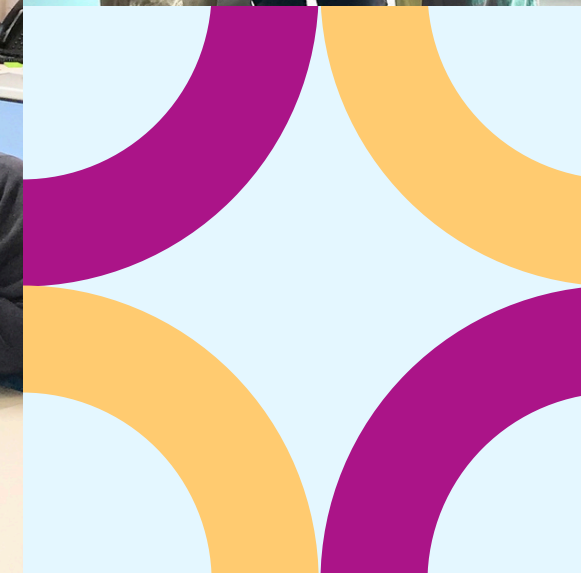
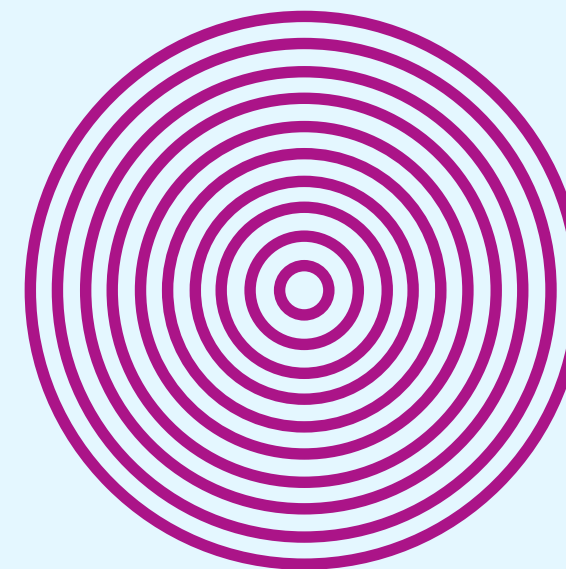


ANNUAL IMPACT

Report

April 2025 – March 2026



Our Purpose

Artburst is an award-winning not-for-profit Community Interest Company and a London Living Wage Employer. Providing creative educational workshops to improve the lives of children and their parents and carers, committed to ensuring the arts are accessible to all.

Our purpose is to engage children in creative education and the arts to bring positive outcomes to help improve their quality of life and develop skills to support their educational and life journeys by:

- **Increasing confidence in their abilities**
- **Improving their communication skills**
- **Cultivating an increased sense of pride in their achievements**



Shared artwork envisioning Oxford Street's future.

Our Funders

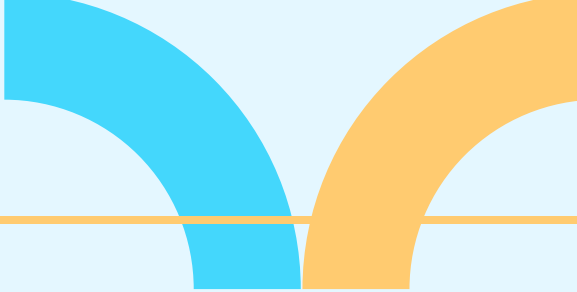
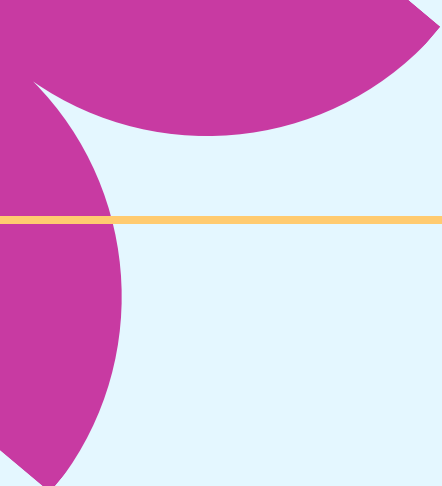
We worked in partnership with Schools, Early Years Providers, Local Authority services , CAMHS, Registered Social Landlords and community groups to deliver a range of projects for children and families to address their identified needs.

In 2025 – 2026 we were delighted to receive funding from the following funders:



TOWER HILL TRUST

Thanks to some core funding from BBC Children in Need, we have enhanced our impact monitoring to ensure our programmes reach the children and families who need us most.



What We Delivered

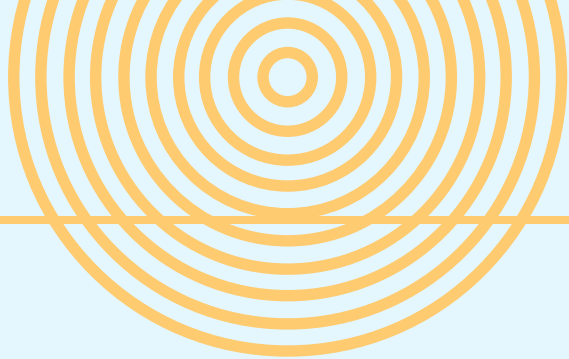
Total Reach: 3,906 Children | 2,560 Parents & Carers

Workshops Delivered: 589 Creative Workshops

Targeted Demographic Breakdown:

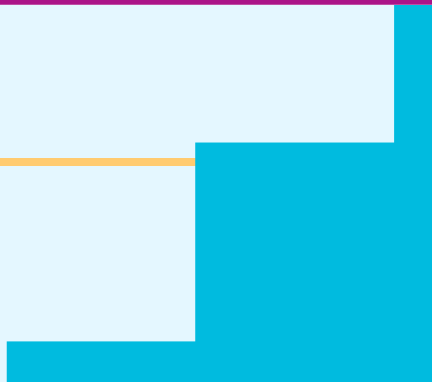
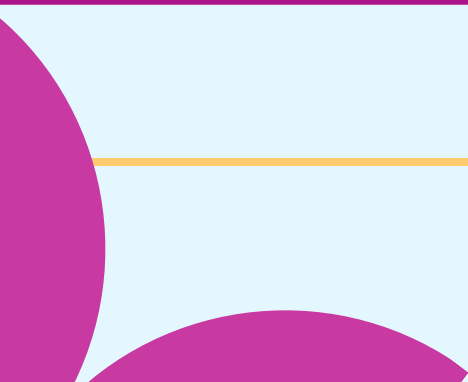
- Under 5s: 2,560 (Early Years)
- Ages 5–8: 897 (Key Stage 1)
- Ages 9+: 392 (Key Stage 2)





Our Reach

		YE 2024 – 2025	YE 2025 – 2026	
	Workshops Delivered	437	589	
	Children Engaged	3,371	3,906	
	Parents & Carers Supported	2,038	2,560	



SEND Inclusion

We strived to make all our workshops and resources inclusive and as accessible as possible, including using Makaton signing and Visual Guides.

Bespoke SEND Workshops:

We provided specialised workshops designed to support children and young people with severe complex needs and disabilities, across leading SEND institutions.

Successfully integrated into tailored programming:

34*
**Children with
Complex SEND**



Sunflower Sculpture created by children at Queensmill SEND School.

Successfully integrated into tailored programming:

134*
**Children with
Autism**

SEND Schools Included:

- Queensmill School
- Phoenix SEND School
- The Village School
- The Marjory Kinnon School

*Due to the nature of our work, specific data is not always available.

These figures were taken from a controlled portion, where we were able to collect data within a school setting.

Our Work in Schools

We designed our workshops to be adaptable with a high level of student engagement, particularly for children with SEND.

We delivered a range of workshops in schools including:

- Sculpt Your School
- Play in a Day
- Make a Play
- After School Clubs
- SEND Art Lessons

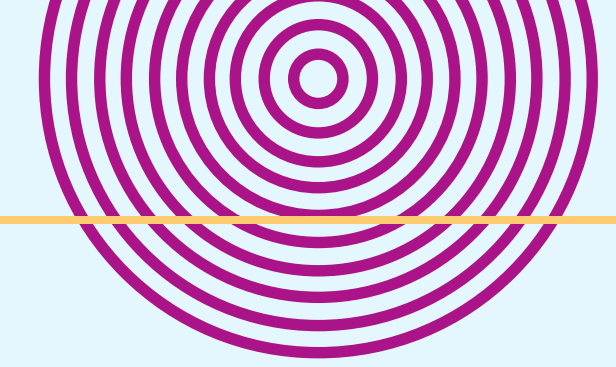
"A variety of sensory, visual, and hands-on resources made it easier for children with different learning styles to engage meaningfully." **Teacher**



The impact on **hard-to-reach students** was particularly notable, with one teacher observing:

"The workshop encouraged some students to access a space they normally avoid and to work in a group setting rather than 1:1." **Teacher**

Workshop at Linden Lodge School, for pupils with Visual and Sensory Impairment.



Teacher Feedback

We delivered robust speech, language, and communication outcomes that seamlessly integrated with and enriched the standard school curriculum.

Percentage

Teacher Statements

100%*

Agreed that the sessions were inclusive of the curriculum and stated they would love to see the program return next year.

86%*

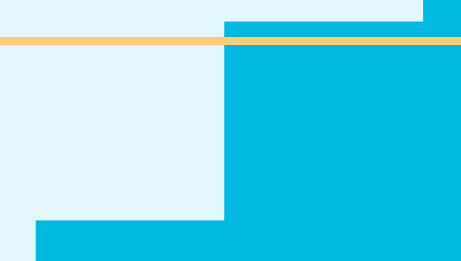
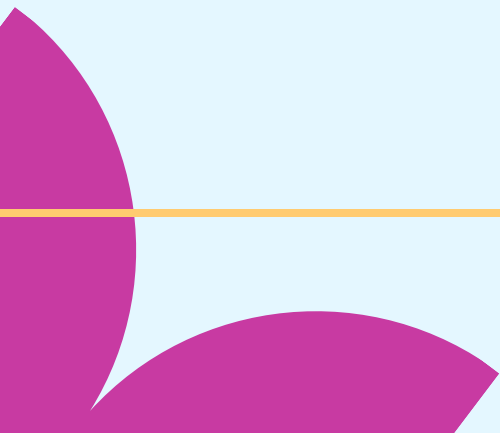
Agreed that the pupils loved each lesson and that the staff were brilliant. The use of accessible tools like Makaton and sensory materials was a key factor in this success.

86%*

Stated they plan to use some of the Artburst activities in their own classrooms.

*Due to the nature of our work, specific data is not always available.

These figures were taken from a controlled portion, where we were able to collect data within a school setting.



Our Work in Museums & Heritage

We partnered with Museums and Heritage Sites to design and deliver a variety of workshops and events.

We partnered with the following Museums and Heritage Sites:

- Tower of London
- London Transport Museum
- Boston Manor House
- Wimbledon Museum

When asked what would make the activity more accessible:

'Nothing my ASD children were catered for.' **Parent (LTM Summer Workshop)**



"Lead teacher was great... loved the songs for each stage giving instructions. Also liked the signing even though I'm not deaf, I appreciate the inclusivity. Wonderful welcome, excellent signing, well-developed activities."

Parent (LTM Summer Workshop)

Community Outreach sessions in partnership with Tower of London.

Museum & Heritage Workshops

We designed workshops and events targeting families with young children and students with varied and complex needs.

The London Transport Museum

We were commissioned to design and deliver inclusive high-capacity family workshops that seamlessly embedded multi-sensory accessibility, to celebrate 200 years of Railways.

LTM Summer Workshop
523 total attendees, with:

100%
Satisfaction Rating
(95% Excellent, 5% Good)



Under 5's Workshops at London Transport Museum.

"Working with Artburst has been wonderful! We approached them with quite a specific, budget limited brief and they rose to the challenge, shaping a positive, welcoming, engaging group that has become a key part of our local family community's weeks. The sessions are really fun and help local young children to access heritage and culture at Boston Manor House at a level that is right for them. Lots of the families...hadn't visited the house before, but now feel comfortable here.."

**Kate Kulka, Learning Manager,
Boston Manor House**

Commissioned Projects

We were commissioned to design and deliver a diverse array of workshops and events, to engage families and young people in venues across London.

The Mayor of London's Office THIS Oxford Street St. Patrick's Day Festival

We delivered two high-visibility projects on one of London's biggest cultural stages, engaging a high number of children and families in drop-in sessions.

THIS Oxford Street Festival was a collaborative project where participants created a shared artwork envisioning Oxford Street's future, with all crafts made from reused and recycled materials.



The Artburst Team at THIS Oxford Street Festival.

Watermans Arts Centre Shadow Stories Film & Animation Project

We delivered a specialised workshop with multi-session delivery, specifically designed for children with SEND.

"I was genuinely amazed at how much you did with them and how much they achieved—and I really look forward to seeing the final films! Thank you so much for your skill and patience."

Jan Lennox, Director, Watermans

Targeting Inequality

Our work was rooted in the communities facing the highest levels of systemic inequality.

Our data confirms that we successfully reached those in areas of greatest need:

Out of 327 participants
32%*
reside in the 20% most
deprived areas nationally
IDACI Deciles 1-2
(Income Deprivation
Affecting Children
Index)



February Festival of Fun at Fern Street Family Centre.

Out of 327 participants
65%*
of families we supported reside
in the 30% most deprived areas
nationally
IDACI Deciles 1-3

This concentration illustrates our
commitment to tackling inequality where
it is needed most.

*Due to the nature of our work, specific data is not always available.
These figures were taken from a controlled portion (327 participants) where we were able to collect data

Targeting Social Deprivation

We provided a delivery of workshops targeting social deprivation within Tower Hamlets, Hackney, Islington, and Wandsworth.

The **'February Festival of Fun'** was a funded half-term programme of activities for families with children aged 0-11 in Tower Hamlets.

Activities included:

- Immersive storytelling
- Singing and dancing
- Drop-in crafts
- Food bank
- Sandwich making (in partnership with The Toyhouse Library)



Shadow Stories SEND Workshop.

Workshops included: Play in a Day Workshops, offering free, high-quality holiday provision for working parents living in Tower Hamlets.

Majority of participants residing directly within
IMD* Deciles 1-4
(top 10% to 40% most deprived neighborhoods nationally)

*Index of Multiple Deprivation: the official UK government measure of relative deprivation for small neighborhoods in England, Wales, and Scotland - on a scale of 1 (most deprived) to 10 (least deprived)

Most Engaged Areas

The top 5 most engaged postcodes were as follows*:

		Participant postcodes*	Local Authority	Total Engagement			Workshop Venue Wards**	Total Engagement	
	1	E3	Tower Hamlets	104		1	Bow East/Bromley by Bow (Tower Hamlets)	133	
	2	N1	Islington	47		2	London Fields (Hackney)	108	
	3	E8	Hackney	34		3	Barnsbury (Islington)	97	
	4	SW12	Balham	24		4	Wormholt (Hammersmith)	80	
	5	E2	Tower Hamlets /Hackney	22		5	Bromley South (Tower Hamlets)	80	

*This is taken from 343 postcodes where we have valid participant data.

**This is taken from our workshop data, excluding our work at museums and public events.

Our Impact on Families

We aimed to create a multi-generational impact, reducing parental anxiety and shifting early years home environments away from a reliance on digital screens.

81%*

of parents/carers gained new creative tools to continue learning at home

"We are so much better at finding ways to use creativity, especially on cold, dark or rainy days to find screen-free activities inside... Knowing how to use his body and voice for songs and dance instead of needing a screen." **Early Years Parent**



Vegetable Printing at Artburst Babies Workshop.

"Both my children...are very shy kids... but their personality really showed in the storytelling... There was no pressure to join and I really liked that free flow...it's a fantastic opportunity to get kids involved with the community... rather than be cooped up at home uselessly scrolling on devices." **Holiday Festival Parent**

74%*

of parents/carers built lasting connections with fellow caregivers.

*Due to the nature of our work, specific data is not always available.
These figures were taken from a controlled portion, where we were able to collect data.

Empowering Children

We supported children to help them overcome isolation and performance anxiety to discover their voice and peer-to-peer connection, encouraging confidence, resilience, and social connection.

93%*

of children felt proud of their achievements

"I'm proud of me showing my true colours because sometimes in big crowds I don't do like these type of things." **Child, Age 11**

"Making friends is hard, but I did it."
Child, Age 9



Make a Play Workshop at Fern Street Family Centre.

"Artburst has taught me so much like how...to have more determination, independence, and motivation and resilience!" **Child, Age 8**

94%*

of children were eager for more music, drama and art

*Due to the nature of our work, specific data is not always available.
These figures were taken from a controlled portion, where we were able to collect data.

Supporting Children and Families

We provided a targeted safety net for families managing structural barriers, tracking significant reach among households from the Global Majority and children with SEND.

Total children facing structural barriers/needs:

- SEND: **246 (28%)**
- Global Majority: **233 (25%)**
- Pupil Premium/Free School Meals: **111**
- Universal Credit: **43**
- English as an Additional Language: **77**
- Other: **27**



Drop-in Crafts at Fern Street Family Centre.

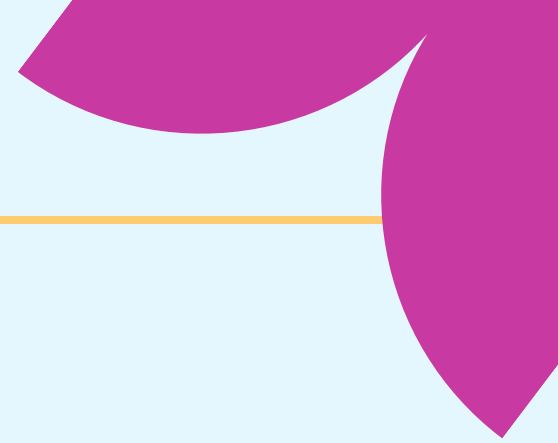
Out of 904 Children

85%*

were identified as facing structural barriers/needs

*This number consists of children with multiple needs and barriers, eg. 1 child with SEND, PP and EAL.

*Due to the nature of our work, specific data is not always available. These figures were taken from a controlled portion, where we were able to collect data (283 Workshops/50% of what we delivered and 904 Children/23% of children we worked with).



Parent & Carer Feedback

Our feedback from parents and carers showed a profound impact on children's wellbeing, development, and sense of belonging, highlighting the transformative power of creative play.

Percentage

Parent Feedback

98%*

Felt our workshops created a deeply inclusive, welcoming space.

92%*

Observed a noticeable improvement in their child's confidence.

90%*

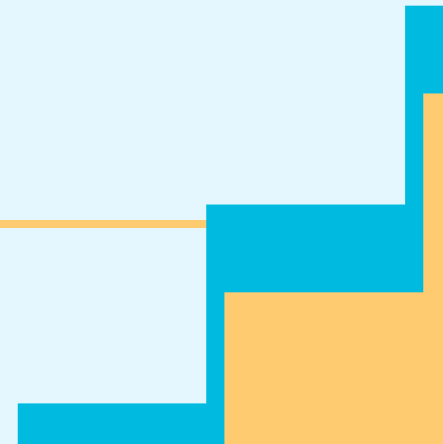
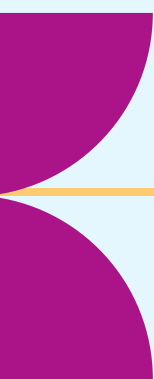
Felt their child gained pride in their achievements.

86%*

Observed significant improvements in their child's speech, language, and communication skills.

"Confidence in social interaction and being silly and creative has skyrocketed in these sessions... he has confidence to be silly and creative in his own ways." **Parent**

*Due to the nature of our work, specific data is not always available.
These figures were taken from a controlled portion, where we were able to collect data.



Core Team

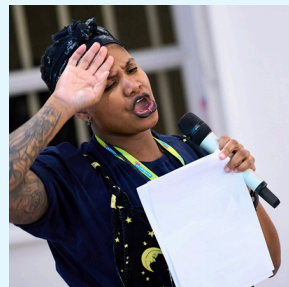
Creative Director



**Amy
Bicat**

In 2006 Amy co-founded Artburst, driven by her passion for empowering children through the arts, a path she explored while studying Integrative Arts Psychotherapy. She is a firm believer that providing accessible and interactive artistic workshops not only educates but also creates lasting memories, fostering learning and important joyful experiences for children and families.

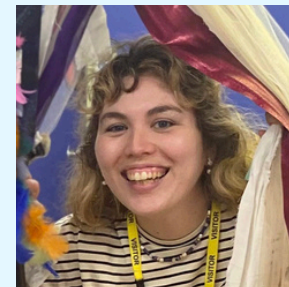
Arts Practitioners & Project Managers



**Lee
Cadogan**



**Rosie
Thompson-Agnew**



**Zoe
Moore**



**Becky
Bone**



Support Team

We have a skilled team of freelance actors, artists, musicians, dancers, and speech therapists who lead and assist our workshops. We also work extensively with interns, volunteers and students looking for Work Experience.

Directors



Jill Humphrey

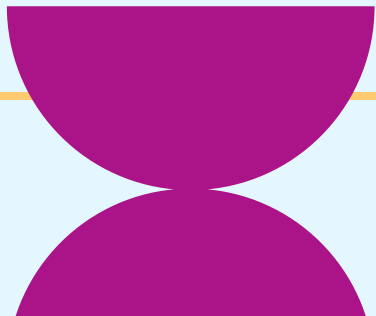
Jill is a Chartered Accountant, with a background in project and change management. She has led projects in governance, organisational design, and technology, and volunteers in the creative sector. Jill has worked with Amy & Penny since Artburst's launch in 2006 via the Princes Trust and became a director in 2012.



Penny Embden

Penny is a co-founder of Artburst and has a background in art and art psychotherapy. She has over 25 years experience working in the arts sector and currently works as a Youth Engagement Co-ordinator for South Northants Youth Engagement. Penny also fundraises for Artburst 1 day a week.

In 2025/2026 we provided placements for 5 Internships/University Placements, 5 Work Experience Students and 2 Volunteers.



Management Committee & Values

The management of Artburst is overseen by our Management Committee; a group of individuals with a wide range of skills and expertise who hail from professions as varied as teaching, banking, museums, advertising and work in the voluntary sector.



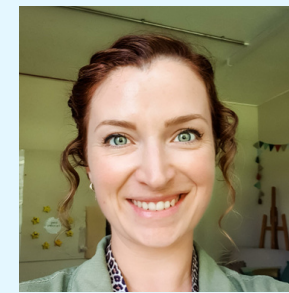
Sunney Sharma



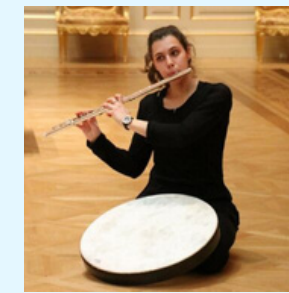
Penny Embden



Jill Humphrey



Harriet Oliver



Chiara Raicovi



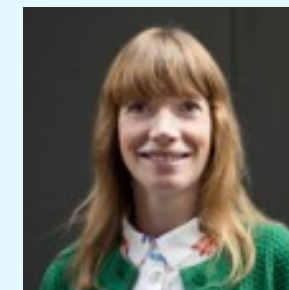
Harry Walker



Shartyn Williams



Louw Tolmay



Jessica O'Donovan





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THANK YOU

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