

**this is me,
then there is us,
and then there is outwards**

Project Information Pack

Project Introduction for Parents

Hello! I'm Bea!

I'm a member of NAS Youth Club (or Cool Club).

I'm running a three-part art project with youth club with support from Turf Projects called:

**this is me,
then there is us,
and then there is outwards**

This project is about ourselves as autistic young people who live in Croydon. It surrounds topics like sensory overwhelm, our safe spaces, our future, what we want to see in Croydon and more.

There will be three art workshops, relating to the three parts of the title.

this is me,

Date: 23rd April

Time: During normal Youth Club times

Location: Waddon Youth Centre

then there is us,

Date: 30th April

Time: 11:00 to 13:00

Location: Turf Projects, 46-47 Trinity Court, Whitgift Centre, Croydon CR0 1UQ

and then there is outwards

Date: 7th May

Time: 11:00 to 13:00

Location: The Walled Garden, Park Hill Park, Croydon CR0 5PB (family is welcome to come to this session)

If you want more information about this project, you can read our website:








www.meusoutwards.com

Jo Brown and I will be documenting this project through photography and videography, please let your young person know that we will ask for their permission to record them.

We will be displaying work at Turf Projects and in Park Hill Park. We will also be uploading artworks and sound files to the project websites, Instagram, Facebook and Soundcloud so that it is accessible for people who cannot physically go to those places. We will ask your young person if they are happy for their work to be shared in these ways.

If you have any enquiries, you can contact Chris Musgrove or email me via beatrix@meusoutwards.com

People On This Project

	<p>Beatrix Finch (They/Them) – All Workshops</p> <p>They are a member of NAS Youth Club. They like digital art, sculpture, riso printing, ceramics, collage, sewing and more. They enjoy writing stories, scripts, characters, worlds and more.</p>
	<p>Jill Finch (She/Her) – All Workshops</p> <p>Jill is Bea's mum. Primarily she is here to support and facilitate Bea but she hopes that she can add value and energy to the project for other participants too. Plus, she irrationally adores Croydon.</p>
	<p>Jo (Jolyon) Finch (He/Him) – All Workshops</p> <p>Jo is Bea's dad. He has worked as an advertising creative director. He is helping with the project as another creative mind.</p>
	<p>Jo (Joseph) Brown (He/Him) – All Workshops</p> <p>Jo is a member of NAS Youth Club. He is also Turf's Marketing Assistant, and a long-term Turf volunteer. His art practice is concerned with the inhabitants and habitats of the natural world.</p>
	<p>Jhinuk Sarkar (She/Her) – Second Workshop</p> <p>Jhinuk is an Illustrator and Arts Educator. Her main role at Turf is Access Lead, providing advice and support for the Turf team to make their programmes and facilities more accessible and inclusive.</p>
	<p>Skye Baker (She/Her) – Third Workshop</p> <p>Skye is an illustrator and workshop facilitator. She leads MOSS, Turf's art collective of learning disabled adults. Her art practice includes editorial illustrations, comics, album covers and murals!</p>
	<p>Friends of Park Hill Park – Third Workshop</p> <p>One of the Friends' volunteers will be at the third workshop to introduce The Walled Garden.</p>

Project Locations

The **first week** of the project will be in our normal youth club space at **Waddon Youth Centre**.

The **second week** of the project (April 30th) will be at **Turf Projects**. This is an artist-led space in the Whitgift Centre in Croydon. It is on the ground floor at the back of the Whitgift Centre, near the underpass that takes you to Fairfield Halls and Croydon College.



We will be working in the **gallery** area; you can see this on the **left** side in the photos above. When you arrive at Turf, come in through the front door and turn left into the gallery.

Turf is open to the public, but the gallery area will only be used by us. You may see other Turf artists walking around and there may be people looking through the windows.

There are lots of pictures, post-it notes and questions all around the walls of the gallery, you are welcome to look at them and say what it makes you think about. If you want to write a response to anything, that is fine! There will be post-it notes and pens for you to use.

There will be a table for materials, but we will be working on the floor, sitting on cushions. If you need to sit up on a chair at a table, tell Beatrix, Jill or a youth club leader.

We will be using the toilet downstairs on the lower ground floor. It is gender neutral. You need to ask a youth club leader to go with you. If the toilet isn't clean, tell Beatrix, Jill or a youth club leader and we will make sure it is cleaned for you to use.

There is a quiet area near the back of Turf with a sofa you can sit on. If you need a break, tell a youth club leader and they can take you there.

You might choose to go out into the Whitgift Centre to draw, take photos or record sounds. You can only do this if you have an adult with you.

When everyone arrives at Turf Projects, we will explain everything again so don't worry if you forget anything or if you have questions that are not answered here.

Project Locations

The **third week** of the project (May 7th) will be in the **walled garden** at **Park Hill Park**. You are welcome to bring your family with you to join in with us at this session.

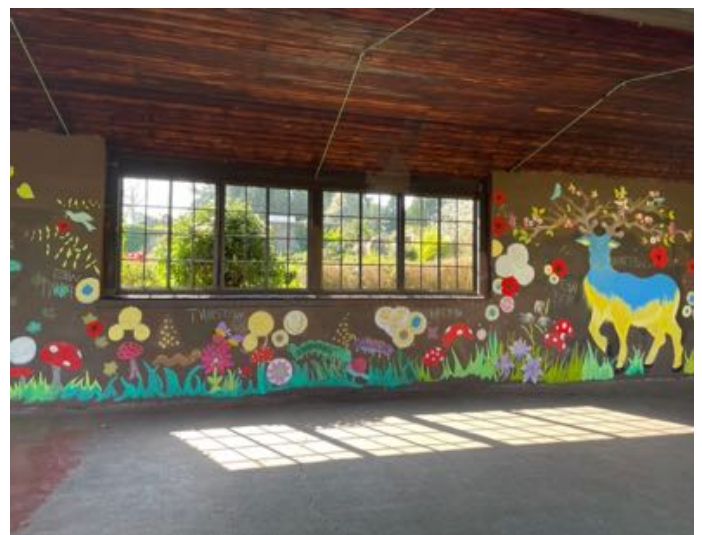
The park is in central Croydon, near the Fairfield Halls. There is a map on the next page.



The walled garden is near the top of the park on the right-hand side, past the playground and tennis courts. In the middle, there is a meeting area which will be our base. Please try to stay on the paths in the garden unless you are told otherwise.

At one end of the walled garden (the lower end), there is a covered pavilion with a beautiful mural inside. If it is raining, we will meet in the pavilion.

There is a homeless man who lives in one end of the pavilion. He has been offered help to find a home but he prefers to stay in the pavilion. He probably won't be there when we are, but his possessions will be. To be kind and respectful, we won't go near him or his things.



Project Locations

The walled garden and the rest of the park are open to the public but the meeting area in the middle of the walled garden will only be used by us. There will always be an adult here and it is safe to leave your bag if you want to go and explore.

There are dogs in the park, but they are not allowed in the walled garden. If you see a dog in the walled garden, tell the volunteer from Friends of Park Hill Park who you will be introduced to at the start of the session, and she will ask the owner to take the dog back out.

There are lots of different plants in the walled garden. If you want to know about them, you can ask the volunteer from Friends of Park Hill Park. You may be able to pick some leaves and herbs to use in your artworks or to take home, but please check with her first.

There are public toilets just outside the walled garden. You need to ask a youth club leader (or someone from your family) to go with you. If the toilet isn't clean, tell Beatrix, Jill or a youth club leader and we will make sure it is cleaned for you to use.

There is a kiosk that sells drinks and snacks, next to the children's playground. If you want to go to the kiosk or the playground, you must have an adult with you.

You might choose to go out into the wider park to draw, take photos or record sounds. You can only do this if you have an adult with you.

Please remember that you shouldn't take photos of people without their permission; and you should never touch or stroke dogs without checking with the owner first that it is OK.

When everyone arrives at the park, we will explain everything again so don't worry if you forget anything or if you have questions that are not answered here.

Sessions Format

Each of the three sessions will follow roughly the same format:

Introduction

We will explain what the session is about and introduce the adults who are supporting that day. When we're at Turf Projects and in the park, we'll introduce the space too.

We will talk about the creative prompts for that session and the materials that we can use.

We will invite everybody from youth club to introduce themselves too but if you do not want to, that is OK. We will also check who doesn't want their photograph taken.

Creative Game

We will then play a quick game to warm everyone up and get our creative brains working!

Ideas and Discussion

We will talk together about the creative prompts as a group, ask and answer questions.

Everyone can choose what they would like to do in the session: whether they want to work individually or with others, what materials and mediums they would like to use.

Creation

Next there will be time for everyone to work on their contributions – these could be drawings, rubbings, collage, stories, poems, photos, sound recordings or anything else you can think of!

Beatrix, Jill, Jo and our supporting artists and volunteers will be there to help you.

Sharing and Feedback

At the end of the session, we will share what we have created and talk about what we enjoyed, what it made us think about and what we would like to explore next.

Sharing Your Work

Before you go, please make sure that you have told Beatrix, Jill or Jo whether you are happy to share your work in the Turf gallery, in the park and/or online.