

# THE INEOS FORGOTTEN 40 PROJECT

YEAR FOUR: ISSUE NINE





# Journalists pick up on your good news

**T**HE success of INEOS' Forgotten 40 initiative is now starting to spread far and wide.

And we have you to thank for that.

Your initiatives to help alleviate the very worst effects of child poverty have started to capture the imagination of journalists, who now want to share your success stories.

And they are stories of real success.

In this edition, you can see – once again – that there is no shortage of ideas. Your passion to make a difference is evident.

As a team, we are looking forward to hearing more about your stories when we host our next Forgotten 40 conference.

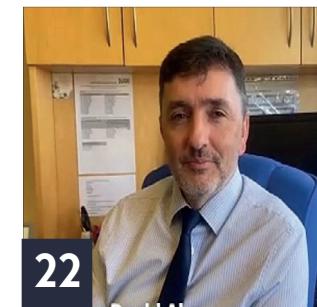
This year it will be held at Manchester United's historic home, Old Trafford, on the outskirts of Manchester.

We hope you will come away from that conference, assured in the knowledge that you are having a positive impact and making a difference to your children's lives – and also inspired to keep trying new initiatives.

*The Forgotten 40 team*



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**'Without INEOS' money, we could not have provided these activities for the children and the outstanding rating in our Ofsted report would not have been forthcoming'**  
Headteacher Helen Woodward

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PENRHYS PRIMARY SCHOOL, SOUTH WALES

# ‘Nurturing’ head accepts royal invitation

He will be among King’s guests at Buckingham Palace garden party

**K**ING Charles is hosting a garden party at Buckingham Palace to honour those involved in educating tomorrow’s generation – and one of INEOS’ Forgotten 40 headteachers will be among the guests.

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council nominated Andrew Williams for the difference he has made to one of Wales’ poorest communities since he became headteacher of Penrhys Primary about three years ago.

“He and his team have created a truly caring and nurturing community school,” said Gaynor Davies, director of education and inclusion services.

She said the local authority had been impressed by the range of initiatives he had implemented, including opening an on-site shop selling discounted food for parents struggling with the rising cost of living, and working with others to set up

a community centre to run activities. Among those activities was a free cookery course for parents aimed at encouraging healthy eating with each parent receiving a free slow cooker to use at home.

“They are always extremely well attended and promote a sense of belonging and pride,” said Gaynor.

Penrhys estate in the Rhondda Valley was built on the top of a hill in the 1960s to cope with the expected influx of coal miners. But when it finally opened, no one wanted to live there, the mining industry was in decline and many people were out of work.

Today of the 951 homes that were built, only 400 remain. Over the years the estate has lost its pub, its betting shop and its last remaining shop closed last year.

In September 2022, Penrhys Primary was deemed to be ‘a school of serious concern’.

Andrew, who had only been headteacher for a few weeks, had to report directly to the Director of

Education for Rhondda Cynon Taf, and a member of the Welsh Cabinet. The meetings took place every half-term and Andrew had to give a full progress report alongside the school’s chairman of governors, Sharon Rees, and improvement partner Ceri Llewelyn.

“It was an incredibly stressful time,” he said. “We had no idea what might happen to the school.”

Determined to make a difference, he went on to launch a raft of initiatives to help the community and raise aspirations.

His initiative to increase poor attendance in school was so successful that he was invited to talk about it to all the attendance leads in the Rhondda Valley.

That increased attendance led to improvements in the children’s work, which was duly noted by the local authority.

Gaynor said his decision to fund experiences beyond the school gates – including a trip to London to watch a West End show – had also not gone



**‘It was an incredibly stressful time. We had no idea what might happen to the school’**  
- headteacher  
**ANDREW WILLIAMS**

unnoticed.

“These trips have broadened the children’s horizons and aspirations and have enriched the lives of so many in his care,” she said.

But Andrew said INEOS were to thank for so many of the improvements he had made since becoming headteacher.

“INEOS has played an absolutely huge part in this,” he said. “It’s their money. We have just used it wisely.”

He will be joined at The King’s garden party by his school’s deputy head, Cheryl

Morgan, who specialises in early years.

Both are hoping to meet The King and if she attends, The Princess of Wales, who is passionate about the importance of early childhood.

“I am sure Cheryl would have lots to talk to her about,” said Andrew.

The King’s garden party will be held at Buckingham Palace on May 14.

And will Andrew be investing in a new suit?

“Yes, most definitely,” he said.





WILLOW WOOD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL  
SUNDERLAND

# Children discover silence is golden

**A** SCHOOL has invested **Forgotten 40 funds** in creating a peaceful garden where children can appreciate silence.

Headteacher Lindsay Robertson said silence was the one thing that so many children never experienced these days due to television, mobile phones, iPads, social media and video gaming.

“They are bombarded with noise from the moment they get up, to the moment they go to sleep,” she said.

“In the past, if you fell out with a friend, you could walk away and enjoy some peace at home. Now we are being more and more informed of squabbles going on all night via text messages, Snapchat, and on gaming consoles.

“Others then get involved and this results in the sanctuary of our homes being destroyed. Children are overstimulated and get no respite.”

Financial pressures on families are also leading to arguments in the home as stressed-out parents take out their frustrations on their children.

“It might become white noise to the children, but it can deeply affect their well-being,” she said.

Lindsay hopes the all-weather garden at Willow Wood Community Primary in Sunderland



**TIME FOR QUIET:** Pupils now have a place where they can relax, reflect and unwind before they go back to the classroom



**‘I am delighted to read that a school in the UK has started to focus on the importance of silence for children. It’s so very important’ – Professor Eric Pfeifer**

will allow children to relax, reflect and unwind before they go back into the classroom.

“Our children just do not understand how calming it can be to listen to nature,” she said. “They do not realise that it can have a major, positive effect on their well-being and ability to cope.”

Lindsay decided to invest Forgotten 40 funding in a garden at her school after seeing more and more pupils struggling to cope in lessons and needing time out in the sensory room to ‘decompress.’

She said some could not sit still and others had developed neurological disorders, such as tics.

“There is so much information out there that they find it difficult to sift through it all and work out what is relevant to them and what is not,” she said.

It is a problem for millions of children in the western world with experts now raising concerns about the effects of cognitive overload on children.

“This overload can hinder their ability to

understand and retain information effectively, making it difficult to transfer knowledge to their long-term memory,” said Zoe Benjamin, director of teaching and learning at Heathfield School in Ascot, Berkshire.

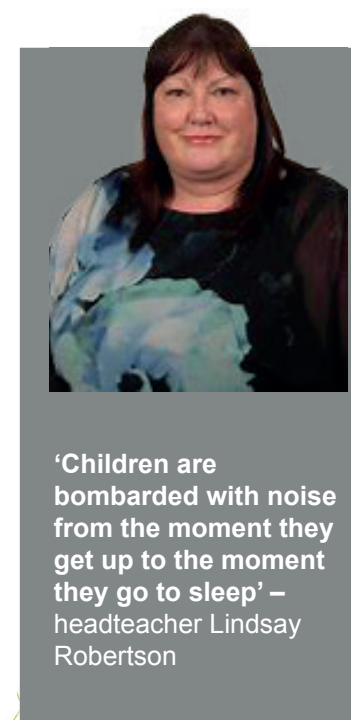
“When the demands placed on learners’ thinking exceed the limitations of their working memory, it can lead to challenges in learning and reduced performance.”

Lindsay said she hoped the garden would allow children to daydream, and – by listening to the silence – relax, rid themselves of anger and make sense of the world around them.

Eric Pfeifer is a professor for aesthetics and communication at the Catholic University of Applied Sciences in Freiburg, Germany, and has researched the perception of silence and its potential therapeutic effect.

He said a child needed silence to stay sane and praised the UK school for its initiative.

“Silence is highly important to a child’s brain development,” he said. “Just imagine an orchestra and all its musicians playing non-stop



**‘Children are bombarded with noise from the moment they get up to the moment they go to sleep’ – headteacher Lindsay Robertson**







# Impact of F40 makes mark on schools' Ofsted reports

**INEOS funding is not only helping to enrich the lives of children from some of the poorest homes in the UK.**

Headteachers say it is also helping their schools fare better in the eyes of Ofsted who are looking for how they are developing children's character, confidence and resilience.

During a recent Ofsted inspection at St Martin's Primary, the inspector awarded the Oldham school 'outstanding' for personal development.

"This was a huge deal for the children and the school," said headteacher Helen Woodward. "But without INEOS' money, we could not have provided these activities for the children and the outstanding rating would not have been forthcoming." She said INEOS' money had paid for a multitude of specialised after-school activities.

"We looked at all areas where the children could discover their own unique talent, be that in sports, music, art, cooking or performing," said Helen.

Ofsted, which inspected the school in the autumn, was blown away.

"The school has created a programme for personal development which goes beyond the expected," the inspector said. "Pupils learn how to become positive, responsible citizens. And their well-being is of extremely high importance."

St George's Community Primary School in Gainsborough – another school funded by INEOS – was inspected in December 2023.

Its overall rating was good, but the inspector said it excelled when it came to personal development.

"The provision for pupils' personal development is the golden thread that

runs through school life," lead inspector Matthew Fearn-Davies wrote in his report. "It is exceptional."

The school provides funding for parents to be included in school trips and pupils can take part in a range of activities related to their skills and interests, be it learning to sew, sing or grow food on the school's allotment.

Headteacher Katie Barry said INEOS were to thank for all of it.

"Forgotten 40 funding was openly discussed during our Ofsted inspection, and the impact it was having," she said.

Parklands Primary School in Leeds was inspected in June last year – and also awarded outstanding for personal development.

Ofsted inspector Tracey Ralph noted the school's determination to ensure all children enjoyed every enrichment

→ **CONTINUES ON PAGE 11**

**HEADTEACHERS** involved in INEOS' ground-breaking Forgotten 40 project are calling on the government to adopt a new approach to Ofsted.

They believe sharing best practice would benefit schools more than simply introducing the proposed new report cards.

"They want to know how they can do better," said Brian Padgett, a former HMI Ofsted inspector who is now part of INEOS' Forgotten 40 team. "What they are looking for in an Ofsted inspector is a critical friend."

A group of headteachers, involved in Forgotten 40, recently met online amid the government's proposed changes to Ofsted.

The new report cards, which are due to be introduced in the autumn, are designed to help parents distinguish between schools across areas such as attendance, inclusion, behaviour and leadership.



Children look to parents to lead the way. To set an example. That's why many schools, involved in INEOS' Forgotten 40 project, are also trying to help the children's families because they realise some parents may not have had the best start in life themselves. Here, one such parent, whose daughter attends Rift House Primary, which is supported by INEOS, talks openly about her own life

## EMMA Jones left primary school unable to read or write.

It did not help that she rarely went to school, staying off instead to help her mum with the housework.

But, today, as a mother of three she is determined to give her own children the best start in life and wants them to understand the importance of getting a decent education.

"I tell them to work hard," she said. "I know attending school and getting an education is important. It is key if they want to get on."

Her eldest daughter is now 15 and wants to become an orthodontist.

"She has worked out what she needs to do to get into college and then university," she said. "It will take her seven years and we will make sure she does it."

Her 13-year-old daughter loves school, especially science.

Her youngest is a pupil at Rift House Primary School in Hartlepool, where Emma works as a mid-day assistant. And it's a job she loves.

Staff recently appointed her as a parent governor.

"She is a very caring parent and will go out of her way to help," said Liz Bateman. "Often she will give certain children more to eat at lunchtime because she knows they are always hungry."

It is also a relationship that is greatly valued by the school.

"She has become such a great asset to us," said headteacher David Turner.

But it has not always been easy for her.

She is the youngest of seven children.

Her mother always gave her the option to skip school if she would help her with the chores.

"So I did," she said. "The truant officer was always at our house but we were never pushed to go to school. It was just not important. And I didn't know any different."

Her long-term partner, who is father to their three daughters, also never attended school, choosing instead to get a job at 13 in the waste industry.

They had met at 14 in the park and were living together at 16.

A few years later, they had their first child.

But as a couple, they had aspirations.

Today he is a site manager, they are buying their own home and live in a good neighbourhood.

And family comes first.

Her 68-year-old mother, who is recovering from cancer, lives in a warden-controlled complex but Emma cares for her.

"I make sure she has everything she needs," she said.

She feels blessed to have such good neighbours.

"We look out for each other and rally round when one of us needs help," she said. "And it's nice because all the kids are growing up together."

She and her partner opened savings accounts for their children when they were much younger. Any money they were given for their birthdays or Christmas was banked for a rainy day.

"It's all mounting up," she said.

Once a year the family usually book a week's holiday abroad – having saved all year – but they enjoy caravan holidays in England more.

She describes herself as a typical mum who cleans, shops, sorts the washing, and cooks a wholesome meal every night.

"We are not ones for a takeaway and I don't allow any mobile phones at the table when we are eating," she said. "I hate it and they know it."

And she doesn't worry about the future.

"I don't see the point," she said. "I just take each day as it comes. The kids are all doing well at school, all on track, so they will be okay. I just want them to be kind and try their best. And I think if you have food, got a house, gas, electric and your family, you're a winner."

**'I tell them to work hard because I know attending school and getting an education is important to getting on in life'**  
- EMMA JONES, mother of three who left primary school unable to read or write



← CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

activity, including school residentials, by making sure they were completely free.

"They are not free of course," said headteacher Laura Darley. "INEOS pays for them."

Riverside Primary School in Merseyside also fared well in its most recent ofsted report in April 2023, earning an outstanding rating for personal development.

"Pupils enjoy the wealth of rich experiences that staff provide," said lead inspector Michelle Beard. "These encounters enhance their learning and widen their knowledge of the world. Pupils achieve well. They are particularly proud of their achievements in creative arts and sports."

Other projects, funded by INEOS, are also getting noticed.

The Ofsted inspector who visited St Edmund's RC Primary School in Miles Platting, Manchester, in September last year highlighted the school's decision to prioritise reading and that children were regular visitors to the school's book den.

"We want our children to grow into compassionate, open-minded and informed individuals so we used our INEOS funding to upgrade our stock of books to ensure we have a selection of diverse and modern texts," said headteacher Anne Clinton.

And over in Leeds, Louise Hill, who is headteacher at Grimes Dyke Primary, said Ofsted recently commented on numerous positive changes at her school.

"Ofsted could see the impact on our children," she said. "But it is no accident that the many positive things that were described were funded by INEOS."





TILERY PRIMARY SCHOOL  
STOCKTON-ON-TEES

# Illness gives school food for thought



**'Our attendance has drastically improved since we introduced the scheme'**  
- headteacher  
**JUDY STANYARD**



## Food parcels help to aid pupils' recovery

**C**OUGHES and colds are commonplace in young children because they have little immunity.

It takes time to build defences against runny noses, sore throats and headaches. unable to get better."

Headteacher Judy Stanyard has always known that.

"We always have a large number of pupils absent due to the usual coughs and colds over the winter but this time it was different," she said. "Many of them seemed unable to get better."

Concerned, staff began visiting the poorly children at home and found that many were living in damp, cold, cramped homes.

"The children were run down and generally in poor health," she said. "The viruses were just spreading through families and the children genuinely needed more time to get better."

What staff from Tilery Primary School in Stockton-on-Tees also noticed was that the children seemed to be lacking essential vitamins and minerals.

The school was already using INEOS'



Forgotten 40 funding to provide families with easy-to-follow recipes and a bag of uncooked ingredients so they could make healthy meals during term time.

But Judy realised more needed to be done during the school holidays.

To help plug that gap, she has now invested Forgotten 40 funding in providing recipe cards and ingredients so families can cook nutritious meals when the children are off school.

"The initial uptake was fantastic," she said. "So it is definitely something we will continue over future holidays."

The school doesn't charge parents for the holiday meal bags.

"Without INEOS' money we would really struggle to keep this scheme going, despite getting grants from supermarkets," she said.

"But our attendance has drastically improved since we introduced the scheme and children are starting to look much healthier in general."

Since the school launched its own version of Hello Fresh – where uncooked meals are delivered to customers' doors – it has built up a bank of recipe cards.

Some of the dishes are more popular than others, but what it has done is introduce families to the benefits of home cooking – and shown them how easy it can be.

"It's so lovely to spent time together making these meals," said Vicky Henderson. "In the past I just wouldn't have known where to start making a meal because I have never really been shown. We would just eat either frozen meals or sandwiches for dinner."

Another parent, Danielle Wood, mealtimes were dictated by whatever was on offer in the shops.

"Cost is always the main issue for not buying fresh ingredients," she said. "But these meal kits are so helpful and reduce the stress of meal times."



Former headteacher takes on new role with hope of making difference

# David leads way to better future



Ex-head draws on F40 learning

LESSONS learned from INEOS' Forgotten 40 initiative continue to shape Iain Parks' words and deeds.

The former headteacher said INEOS' approach to problem solving had proved invaluable time and time again in his role as director of education for the diocese of Blackburn.

"My experience with INEOS' Forgotten 40 initiative was truly eye-opening," he said. "It showed me the power of reducing bureaucracy and empowering leaders to be creative in problem-solving. Now, I'm applying these lessons across our diocese."

In 2023, he was headteacher of a small primary school in Prescot, near Liverpool.

Today, he is responsible for helping to ensure 44,000 children from 180 primary schools and 10 high schools get the best

**A** SECOND headteacher, involved in INEOS' Forgotten 40 initiative, is now challenging the status quo.

David Akers believes that all headteachers could learn valuable lessons from INEOS' approach to tackling problems, and hopes to show them how following his appointment as director of education for the dioceses of Durham and Newcastle.

"Forgotten 40 may be about eradicating the worst effects of child poverty, but there were some unintended wider consequences of Forgotten 40 and that's what it does for headteachers too," he said.

"It made me realise that we don't have to wait for the Department for Education to come up with a plan because we can make a difference ourselves. It empowered us, it gave us a voice, and it showed us we had knowledge, experience and value."

The former headteacher of Ward Jackson Primary School in Hartlepool, whose school was one of the 100 chosen to benefit from INEOS' Forgotten 40 funding, is now responsible for 57 schools in Durham diocese and 49 schools in Newcastle diocese.

He knows there are schools, within those 10 local authorities, that are serving

deprived and struggling communities, just like his old school, and he wants to bring those headteachers together so they can learn from, and lean on, each other.

"It's a mini INEOS approach," he said. As headteacher, he regularly attended the INEOS Forgotten 40 conferences, which were organised to allow other heads to share best practice and support each other. He is also planning to organise a countryside retreat for headteachers within his dioceses to give them an opportunity to relax, reflect and re-energise.

"School leaders face so many challenges that, at times, can feel overwhelming," he said. "But they need to know that they are part of something bigger. They are not alone."



David became director of education in January after 11 years at Ward Jackson CE Primary School.

To him, it's a job made in heaven because it combines his two greatest passions: children's education and God.

"Initially, I saw those as separate parts of my life, but actually they work perfectly together," he said. "Love is fundamentally at the heart of what a school does. There is a lot of overlap. It's about compassion and understanding."

He recently met Iain Parks, another Forgotten 40 headteacher who became director of education for the diocese of Blackburn in September 2023.

Both men agree that INEOS has taught them valuable lessons.

"The inspiration that you can do something without the red tape is a huge influencer and we need to thank Forgotten 40 for that," said Iain, who was headteacher at St Mary and St Paul's Primary School in Prescot, Liverpool.

"I believe all schools can flourish if we enable headteachers to be creative and responsive when there is a need."

David said it was hard to judge Forgotten 40's impact on school's academic results. In isolation.

But he said INEOS' funding had changed his former pupils' outlook and expectations. "It has encouraged them to raise their heads above the streets where they live," he said. "And that will set them up for life so they can live life in all its fullness."

out of their education. "I have been drawing on my own experience as a headteacher," he said. "And simply by supporting heads, I'm indirectly helping to change the lives of so many more young people."

And he has been doing. He has encouraged headteachers to make changes that best suit their individual school communities.

He has challenged them to call out injustice, and call on agencies to better support their most vulnerable children.

He has been urging churches to build links with their local schools.

And he has advocated for giving headteachers more autonomy in decision-making because they best understand what their children need.

"That has led to some interesting conversations with OFSTED and the Department for Education," he said.

His ultimate goal is to create an environment where all the schools in his diocese can flourish by enabling headteachers to be creative, take swift action, and cut out needless bureaucracy so they can focus on what truly matters – their pupils.

"At its core, this union of roles is about one thing: improving lives and creating opportunities where they're needed most," he said. "And that's not just powerful. It's transformative."





## Headteacher invests Forgotten 40 funding in creating magical playground



# PUPILS GIVEN THE FREEDOM TO PLAY



**M**ORE and more schools are focusing on life outside the classroom to help teach their pupils about risk, resilience and independence.

They realise that play is not only good for their mental and physical health, but it also helps them to experiment, make decisions and test boundaries.

“Many of our families feel there aren’t a lot of places for their children to play safely outside school, so when they are here, we want them to be outside in the fresh air as much as possible,” said Kat Allen, headteacher at Roby Park Primary.

Her school in Knowsley, near Liverpool, has been working with experts from Outdoor Play and Learning – thanks to INEOS’ Forgotten 40 funding – since September 2023 to create a children’s paradise in the grounds of the school.

“OPAL is an investment,” said Kat. “Due to restricted budgets, many schools could struggle to fund OPAL in the way in which we have invested, and we couldn’t do this without INEOS’ support.”

To OPAL, play is how children learn. It’s not messing about. Certainly not when 20% of a child’s time in primary school is playtime.

“When it amounts to 1.4 years of primary school, we want to make sure that this time is as good as possible,” said Kat.

At Roby Park, children can venture anywhere, whatever the weather.

“They all have wellies and waterproof clothing in school and if they get muddy, we have got spare uniforms,” she said.

The school now has, among other things, an allotment, climbing poles, a sensory garden, a giant sandpit, swings, rope ladders, a mud kitchen, a dipping pond, and hay bales where the children can climb.

But it’s got its sights set on adding so much more.

“The playground already has a really positive vibe,” she said.

The accreditation journey with OPAL can last up to two years.

Louise Hill, headteacher at another Forgotten



PICTURES:  
NICK JONES



40 school – Grimes Dyke Primary in Leeds – has already been on that journey, thanks to INEOS.

“We could have done it ourselves, but OPAL gave us the research-based approach and support to ensure we were getting it right for the children,” she said.

Her school was recently awarded platinum status – the first school in Leeds to achieve that honour.

Every member of staff at both Grimes Dyke and Roby Park are trained in the importance of play.

They may be on duty in the playground but they watch from a distance. Rarely do they get involved in the child’s play.

Instead, if the children at Roby Park need anything, they will seek out the ‘play detectives’ – a group of their peers in blue hi-vis jackets.

“It has been lovely to watch friendships blossoming between different age groups and members of staff,” said Kat. “It’s also made a huge difference to the mood of the children. They are happier and ready to learn when they get back in the classroom.”

The school has also set up an after-school OPAL club so that the children – and their families – can spend time together in the school grounds rather than sitting at home on electronic devices.

“At its heart, what we offer is freedom,” she said.





ST THOMAS' PRIMARY SCHOOL  
STOCKPORT

# Funding stretches to PE kits for all

**C**HILDREN at a primary school in Stockport acquired more than just a PE kit when their headteacher decided to buy them each a new one.

They also acquired a sense of pride, a sense of belonging and a sense that they mattered. "Every child now feels part of the PE lesson and no one misses out," said Paul Sanchez, who has been headteacher at St Thomas' for the past four years.

"It really has supported all our families." In the past, the children wore an assortment of different outfits for PE.

"It was very inconsistent and hit and miss to what the children would bring in," he said. "Some just wore their uniform."

Investing in 220 new PE kits, which are kept in school classrooms in named bags, though, has also made life easier for teachers.

"We no longer need to worry whether a child has either forgotten their kit or doesn't have one," said year 2 teacher Rebecca Aitken.

At the end of each term, the children hand in their kits to site manager Gary Thomas, who washes them all in school, ready for the start of the next term.

"It usually involves about 10 loads of washing," said Paul.

The named PE bags follow the child through

school. It is only the kit which changes as the child ages.

Parents and children have appreciated the school's decision to invest £3,000 of its INEOS Forgiven 40 funding in new PE kits.

"I like having a PE kit from school because my mum already has to pay for my school uniform," said Jason Unwin, a pupil in year 6.

The children can also borrow tracksuit tops and trousers, which have been donated to the school by Stockport County, and trainers, if needed.

Paul said he wanted to use INEOS' money on a project that would be sustainable once INEOS' funding ends.

"We did not want the kit to just be used for one year," he said. "This way the PE kits can be used for a number of years and only replaced when they eventually look tired."



**'It really has supported all of our families'**  
- headteacher  
**PAUL SANCHEZ**



PICTURES: NICK JONES





STANHOPE PRIMARY SCHOOL  
SOUTH SHIELDS

Staff give up free time to take children on adventures

## Broadening horizons after school

**T**EACHERS are now staying behind after school to take children on adventures.

Every fortnight a group of Stanhope Primary's most disadvantaged pupils are chosen to experience what other children, who live in more affluent homes, take for granted.

The latest trip was to the seaside for a portion of fish and chips.

"One boy could not believe the view of the sea," said headteacher Adam Rogers. "He was so emotional about it."

For many, it was their first glimpse of the beach at South Shields, despite the fact that it is on their doorstep.

"They have just never been," said Adam.

Stanhope Primary launched its Twilight Tours after realising that so many of their children had never ventured outside South Shields.

"We know our children have limited experiences by the quality of their imaginations, writing ideas, speech and vocabulary," he said. "So these tours are about being 'normal' and like everyone else."

The children are escorted on their regular outings in a minibus paid for by INEOS' Forgotten 40 funding.

Future trips include a meal in a restaurant, a visit to an indoor surfing school, and an evening walk to the summit of Penshaw Hill to see the 70ft, grade I listed National

Trust monument which dominates the skyline.

"I want the children to have the same experiences I did as a child," said Adam.

What makes the outings more special is that – for one night only – the children are able to experience things that are not part of the school curriculum.

"The activities are not academic focused and they are not school-related," he said. "They are just about providing a broader experience and a broader view."

For staff, who freely give up their time, it's also been an eye-opener.

"The children are so different when they are out," said Adam. "They are amazingly behaved, they laugh, they loosen up and are just happy."





DEAN BANK PRIMARY SCHOOL, COUNTY DURHAM

Forgotten 40 funding helps school to launch cookery classes for families

# Parents given recipe for success

**P**ARENTS are being taught to cook so they can prepare home-made, healthy meals for their children.

Dean Bank Primary in County Durham launched the in-house cookery classes after speaking to parents.

“It was one of their biggest worries and concerns,” said headteacher Craig Brown.

In a bid to help ease those concerns, school cook Lorraine Harrison was drafted in to plan and run weekly, two-hour sessions.

“Two hours gave the parents enough time to have a brew and natter as well as make a meal,” said Craig.

The school used INEOS’ Forgotten 40 funding to buy fresh, local ingredients that families could cook from scratch.

“It was good because their children could



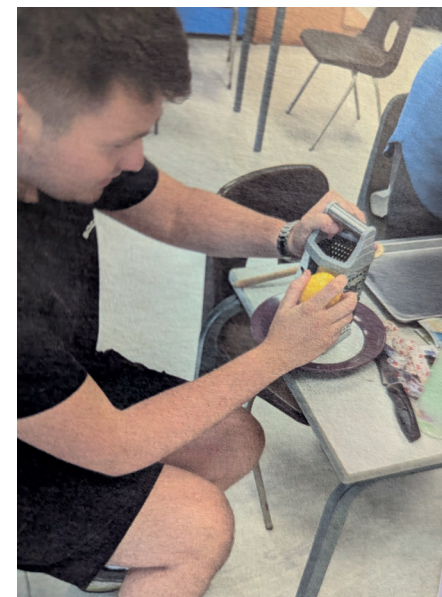
also help make most of the dishes,” he said. Since the initiative was launched, families have been busy, making pasta dishes, Scotch eggs, chocolate brownies, bacon & cheese frittata, apple slices and cheese and onion toasties.

“The feedback from parents has been fantastic and the smell of delicious food drifting down the corridors has been amazing,” said Craig.

Forgotten 40 funding was also used to buy each family an energy-efficient air fryer, a cook book and store cupboard essentials to encourage parents to carry on cooking at home.

And it seems they have been doing.

“Parents keep sending us images and telling us about what else they have cooked at home due to their new-found confidence and skills,” said Craig.



ARUNDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL, HYDE

## Temple visit opens pupils’ eyes to respect for others

CHILDREN discovered an important lesson during a Forgotten 40-funded trip to a Hindu temple.

It wasn’t just about visiting a new place that they had never been to before.

Instead, it showed them that although we might all worship a different god, speak a different language and have different-coloured skin, we all belong to the same human race.

“That was a valuable lesson,” said Laura Hulland, who accompanied the year 4 children from Arundale Primary in Hyde.

“It taught them about the need to respect other religions and challenge stereotypes. The experience helped to foster cultural awareness and respect for different faiths, and left a lasting impression on everyone.”

For almost two hours, the pupils marvelled at the intricate architecture adorning the pillars to Ashton-under-Lyne’s BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir temple.

They knew to remove their shoes – as a sign of respect – before entering the shrine room.

They were fascinated to learn about the statues of the gurus and Hindu deities and what they symbolised.

And their faces literally lit up when they were invited to take part in an Arti ceremony, one of the most important and popular ceremonies of the Hindu faith.

“It was wonderful to see the children asking such thoughtful questions,” said Laura.

Those questions also provided answers to facts they had learned during an RE lesson in school about Hinduism – one of the oldest religions in the world.

“It literally brought their learning to life,” she said.

What also impressed Laura was that some of the children now want to take their own families to visit the temple, which has been part of their community since 2021.





INEOS' Daily Mile Foundation joins forces with Place2Be

# Charities born to help young grow into healthy adults



**'We saw the positive impact that Place2Be and The Daily Mile Foundation can have within a school'**  
- global director of the foundation  
**GORDON BANKS**

**T**WO charities, with a passion for helping schoolchildren to get the best start in life, have been forging closer links.

The INEOS-backed Daily Mile Foundation and Place2Be, whose patron is the Princess of Wales, believe together they can do more to improve children's health and well-being.

Place2Be encourages children to talk about their feelings to experts in school; The Daily Mile Foundation champions a 15-minute break from the classroom to exercise in the fresh air.

To mark Children's Mental Health Week, Gordon Banks, global director of The Daily Mile Foundation, and Place2Be chief executive Catherine Roche visited Churchfield Primary, a London school that has embraced both initiatives.

"The caring and nurturing school environment Churchfield are providing for its community is a template for others to copy," said Gordon.

"We saw for ourselves the positive impact that Place2Be and The Daily Mile Foundation can have within a school."

Place2Be, which provides one-to-one and group counselling with a trained mental health clinician, has been working with pupils, families and staff in UK schools for more than 30 years.

Among them is Oakwood Primary School in Glasgow, which has been investing Forgiven 40 funding in ensuring a professional Place2Be counsellor is on hand

to help children who are struggling.

"We know that when children have Place2Be in their school, it has helped them to open up about their feelings and better understand and manage their emotions," said Catherine.

"Combining this with The Daily Mile is a brilliant way to boost wellbeing and emotional and physical fitness because there is strong evidence that physical activity has a positive impact on children's mental health."

Churchfield Primary is also part of The Ivy Learning Trust, a group of 17 schools in Enfield and Hertfordshire that share best practice to give children a great education. The school joined the growing charity in July 2018.

The trust's leader, Matthew Kleiner-Mann, is an advocate of collaborative working.

"I have seen how it helps schools to provide a better education for the children they serve," he said. "Although each school acts autonomously with regard to teaching and learning, many schools have shared successful techniques and innovations."







## THE DAILY MILE

A simple idea that sparked  
a global movement!

The Daily Mile helps to improve children's physical fitness,  
mental health and wellbeing, and concentration levels during class time.

New research from The Daily Mile Foundation reveals  
that of the schools that participate in The Daily Mile:

66%

see more  
attentive  
pupils

71%

report better  
classroom  
behaviour



Learn more

To find out more about THE DAILY MILE FOUNDATION,  
head to our website: [www.thedailymile.co.uk](http://www.thedailymile.co.uk)