

# SSH Sensory



**Team Leader:** Simone Vincenzi

**Team Mentor:** Katie

**Our Project and Aim:** We wanted to create a sensory garden at Loddon primary school to primarily help those with sensory impairments or who are on the Autistic disorder spectrum. As well as this, we wanted all children to benefit from the calming environment the garden would provide which would help them progress through school life. In conjunction, we also wanted a project that would be sustainable for the future.

**Project Managers:** Lauren Martin & Aimee-Louise Chambault - Responsible for delegating roles and targets to be met by the team and all preparation for the next day and communication within the team and the leader. Moreover, the managers were in charge of filling in forms and making detailed reports of the day in order that more targets could be set.

**Finance Officer:** David Bell - Accountable for keeping record of all finances. This includes expenditures, budgeting and income. As well as this, finance holds all cash and is in charge of accounting at the end of each day to keep a record of the financial position.

**Resources:** Oshy Ray - In control of the main sourcing and pitching for the required items to complete the sensory garden. This role included communicating with businesses and preparation of pitches.

**Research Team:** Eli Tassano-Smith & Dee Ghimire - Responsible for obtaining information including facts and figures of sensory impaired children in the UK and what kind of impact a garden would have. Also in charge of, sourcing materials at the best price and suitability for the garden.

**Fundraising:** Clara Utley & Alex Cook - Main objective to find and complete the most effective ways of fundraising. Also had the responsibility of contacting stores and business to ask for fundraising support and to source and prepare for the fundraising events.

**Advertising Team:** Tom Honer & Charlotte Meredith- In charge of setting up the social media accounts and keeping them up to date. Also in charge of sourcing and contacting the press and celebrities – this included obtaining signed memorabilia from Warwick Davis and Ricky Gervais.

**Design Team:** Freya Chaudoir & Paula Looker - Liable for creating the main name and logo for our social action project.. Moreover, the team were the planners and designers of the garden itself.

**Public Relations:** Marcus Phillips - Responsibility to reach out to local businesses and figures to receive their support, funding and endorsement .In addition, to ensure that all meetings and confrontations ran smoothly and were well prepared for.

## **The Outcomes and Impacts:**

Our project will have a great impact on the children of Loddon primary school. This is because, the sensory garden provides a calming relaxing place where energy can be let go of in order to allow for more concentration in class. This ultimately results in a more productive and exciting time in primary school which also leads on to an easier transition onto secondary school and beyond.

From this project, the team have learnt a lot about sensory gardens and rooms and how they affect the people who use them. We have learnt that by stimulating the senses, people can become much more relaxed hence reducing stress levels and it provides an easy way for children to relate and respond to each other

We have developed many skills as a team from team work to gardening! Our communication and discussions have improved greatly as each time we have a decision to be made, the result is come to in next to no time showing how we have grown as a team.

***'The children and teachers are all very impressed by the garden,  
it is of such a high quality and the students are already benefiting  
from the environment it provides'  
Sarah Phillips Head Teacher***

| Date                  | Amount Fundraised | How                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 19.08.14              | £82.61            | Donations               |
| 21.08.14              | £150              | Dragons Den             |
| 24.08.14              | £200              | Just Giving             |
| 25.08.14              | £218.75           | Woodley Pagoda          |
| 26.08.14 and 27.08.14 | £452.59           | Sainsbury's Bag Packing |
| 30.08.14              | £60               | Cake sale               |

| Amount Spent          | Resources Bought                              |
|-----------------------|---|
| £60 (originally £360) | Raised beds x 6                               |
| £45.44                | Flowers (many donated)                        |
| £60.18                | Paint and Varnish and Roofing                 |
| £95.88                | Compost/soil and Sand                         |
| £78.75                | Sandpit and Garden toys                       |
| £399.97               | Bark, Fencing and Edging (free ground sheets) |
| £111.30               | Bench   |

### Successes:

We only had a week and a half to fundraise and execute our sensory garden. The first goal we set was to complete the garden by Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September so that it would be ready for when the school started. The next goal we set was to fundraise £400. Amazingly we smashed this target and managed to raise around £1160. As a team we are particularly good at sourcing resources and achieving donations and support from businesses. An example of this is, we bought six planter boxes for £60 whereas without the donation it would have cost us £360.

However this wasn't all, a concise break down of our successes would be:

- Stay united as a team
- Raised £1160 – more than any other team on our wave!
- Directly impacted 486 lives
- Renovated an entire garden
- Already beginning the next steps to continue our work
- Been in contact with charities who would willingly help in the future
- Created a successful online campaign with celebrity recognition
- Made links with a local primary school



### Failures:

We did not have any failures. We just had changes of plans. Our first plan was to create a sensory room and after being put in contact with a place requiring one, we discussed the prospects and achievability and decided as it was our first project, it would not be suitable for our group. After this, we updated our plan and decided to create a sensory garden – something we knew we could do well and have a direct impact that we could see.

### Sustainability:

Our project – SSH sensory – will directly impact 486 children at the school. Through our blue print plan which is where we have created a basic design for a garden, so any school/community centre can have one, we plan to help and impact many more people than we have at the moment. These blueprints should be in circulation soon.