

# SHINE TOGETHER



**FREE EXTENSION COURSES FOR GIRLS & BOYS**



**Withington**  
GIRLS' SCHOOL EST 1890

[wgs.org/shinetogether](https://wgs.org/shinetogether)

# IMPACT EVALUATION 2024



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## IMPACT STATEMENT:

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Withington's SHiNE Together Saturday morning education courses were run for the 16th year in Spring 2024. 83 boys and girls in Years 5 and 6 from 16 Manchester primary schools attended one of six subject courses offered free of charge during the Spring Term. Five-week courses ran in school for Complete Creativity, Computing, Drama, Music and Science. We also had a four-week Creative Writing course.

In questionnaires that were answered at the end of the course 92% of pupils said that they had really enjoyed coming to SHiNE Together and 85% of pupils said that coming to SHiNE Together had made them more confident in that subject. An impressive 100% said that they would recommend SHiNE Together to their friends.

In the parental questionnaires, also collected at the end of the course, 97% of parents said that their child was more enthusiastic about the subject now and 100% said they would recommend SHiNE Together to others.

## AIMS OF SHiNE TOGETHER:

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### 1 COMMUNITY

- Raising aspirations of local children.
- Exposing local primary school children to a subject or experience that is new to them.
- Identifying skills and interests to take back to their schools/peers.
- Sharing resources including staff knowledge.

### 2 MARKETING

- Raising awareness of bursaries and opportunities in education in independent/grammar schools.

### 3 BENEFITS FOR WGS & SIXTH FORM STUDENTS

- Professional development for staff – gives staff an opportunity to teach a different key stage, fostering links with local schools and working closely with the Sixth Form and Year 11 pupils to allow them to develop the skills below.
- To enable Sixth Form pupils and Year 11 pupils to develop skills in organisation, responsibility, time management, teamwork, and communication with peers, staff and younger students.

## WHO IS INVOLVED IN THE PARTNERSHIP:

This year students from 16 primary schools attended and one pupil who was home schooled.

- Brookburn Primary School
- Chorlton C of E Primary School
- Christ Church C of E Primary School
- Larkhill Community Primary School
- Lewis Street Primary School
- Manley Park Primary School
- Mauldeth Road Primary School
- Old Hall Drive Academy
- Rolls Crescent Primary School
- Seymour Road Academy
- St James' CofE Primary School
- St Luke's CofE Primary School
- St Mary's RC Primary School
- Sunnybank Primary School
- Tithe Barn Primary School
- Webster Primary School

## SHINE TOGETHER IN NUMBERS:

83 pupils had regular attendance at the sessions. 7 pupils were offered a place on a course but did not attend.  
10 pupils attended the first session and then dropped out.

**10**  
COMPLETE  
CREATIVITY  
PUPILS

**21**  
COMPUTING  
PUPILS

**13**  
CREATIVE  
WRITING  
PUPILS

**10**  
D R A M A  
PUPILS

**5**  
M U S I C  
PUPILS

**18**  
S C I E N C E  
PUPILS

# CAPTURING FEEDBACK:

The link to an online feedback questionnaire was sent to parents to complete at the end of the course. 34 parents completed the questionnaire.

Pupils were given paper questionnaires in their last session. All students attending the final session completed them.

**32**

**PARENTS REPORTED THAT THEIR CHILD WAS MORE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE SUBJECT, WHILST TWO SAID THAT THEY REMAINED JUST THE SAME**

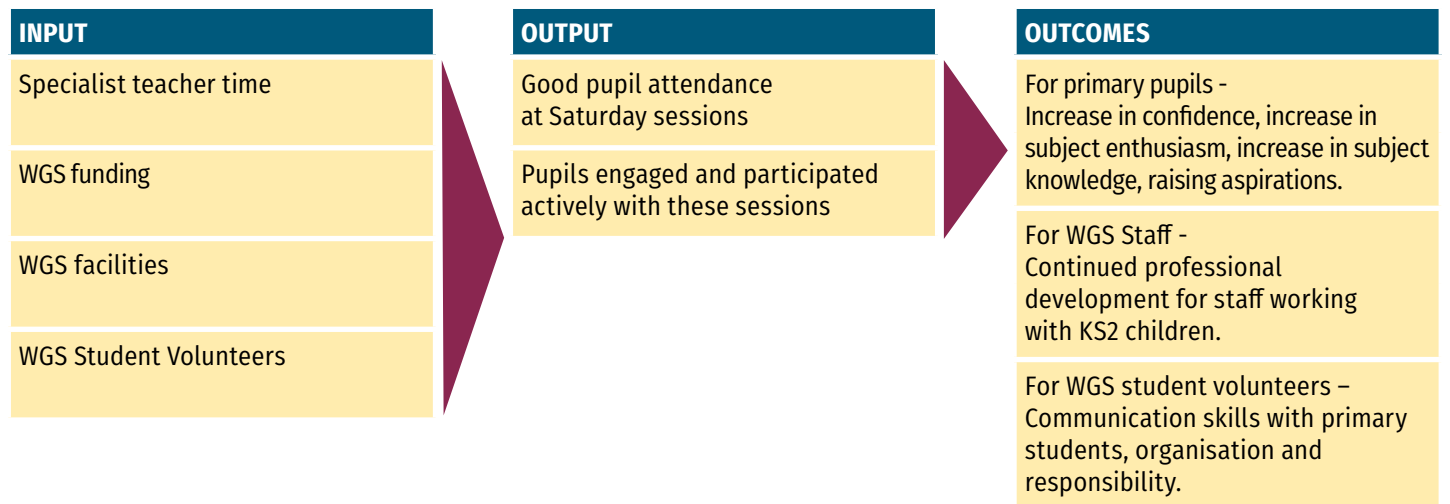
**33**

**PARENTS REPORTED THAT THEIR CHILD NOW HAS MORE CONFIDENCE IN THE SUBJECT, 1 SAID THERE WAS NO CHANGE**

**ALL**

**PARENTS SAID THAT THEY WOULD RECOMMEND SHINE TOGETHER TO OTHERS**

# INPUTS/OUTPUTS/OUTCOMES:



# WHAT WAS SAID ABOUT SHiNE TOGETHER:

Quotes from parents:

## COMPLETE CREATIVITY

*"It's an excellent programme which definitely would boost pupils' confidence."*

*"Something interesting to do on Saturday morning in a new environment. My daughter loved every lesson."*

## DRAMA

*"Such a brilliant programme, thank you all."*

## COMPUTING

*"My son enjoyed the SHiNE Together programme. He loved learning new things from the Computing teacher."*

*"Thank you. This programme is very resourceful as well as entertaining and kids are happy to go for sessions."*

## MUSIC

*"My daughter had a wonderful time, thank you!"*

## CREATIVE WRITING

*"My child really enjoyed herself with Creative Writing, sifting through her thoughts for that perfect sentence to build imagination."*

*"It is a place for children to appreciate learning more, relate with their peers and make new friends."*

## SCIENCE

*"My daughter has really enjoyed SHiNE Together, this was her second year attending. Thank you so much."*

*"My child has really enjoyed the Science programme. There has been a very nice selection of interesting topics covered during the 5 week programme. He highly recommends this course to any child who is interested in Science. As parents we have been very satisfied with the professionalism and friendly approach of the staff."*

*"The SHiNE Together programme is an excellent programme for kids. It helps kids to learn/do activities outside of school and socialise more. They get to meet and make new friends which also helps them with their confidence level."*

*"My child really enjoyed attending the SHiNE Together programme and always looked forward to it. He was so excited to tell me what he learned in his Science class. He looks forward to attending the next one and has asked me to register him."*

## WGS STUDENTS

35 students from Year 11 and Year 12 volunteered at 1 or more sessions. Students commented positively on this experience and enjoyed working with the primary school pupils. A number of the volunteers requested to attend additional sessions because they had enjoyed it so much.



# PLANS FOR THE FUTURE:

Our teachers have thoroughly enjoyed working with all the children on the SHiNE Together sessions. The pupils have been a delight and it was a real pleasure to work with each and every one of them! We will continue to explore additional

courses that we can offer to provide new opportunities for the students that attend. We hope to run these courses again next year in the Spring Term and look forward to meeting a new cohort of SHiNE Together pupils in 2025.



**Mrs Sarah Haslam**  
Headmistress



**Mrs Jennifer Stockton**  
SHiNE TOGETHER Coordinator



**Mrs Natalie Baguley**  
SHiNE TOGETHER Coordinator



