

SUCCESS 4 ALL



S4A NEWSLETTER

Issue 11
December 2017

Welcome

Welcome back to another year at Success4All! This is our 12th year at S4A and we have had a very busy first term!

Alongside our other Learning Hubs that have continued this year, we started in another two locations in September.

We have opened a brand new Learning Hub at Westgate Hill Primary School on a Monday and Wednesday and we are preparing to start a 3rd session at the school in the new year due to high demand!

We have also started running a Learning Club at Thomas Walling where we run Arts and Crafts activities on a Tuesday, and a Computer Code Club on a Thursday. Both of these Hubs run straight after school and act as a great extension to the school day.

With our Learning Hubs and Clubs there are 21 sessions offered to the community on a weekly basis!

Reward Bingo Cards!

Newly introduced this year are our Reward Bingo Cards. Each child in the Learning Hubs is given a card with different tasks to complete.

At the beginning of each session the Tutor Befrienders discuss with their tutees which task/s they would like to aim to complete in that session. If the Tutor Befriender is satisfied they have completed this task, they get a sticker to go on their bingo card!

We have created 5 levels and **53** children have already completed their Level 1 cards this term. Well done! When they get 'Bingo', they are awarded with a certificate and they get to choose a prize from the selection box!



LEARNING HUBS

We have 7 Learning Hubs running with access to 14 sessions every week. This year we currently have **241** children and young people registered to our Learning Hubs. This year 35.7% have returned from last year. The young people have visited a total of 1,280 times over the course of this term, at an average of 78 visits per week. This term **35** one-to-one 6-week tutoring blocks have been completed!

Even though it's only the first term, over 100 volunteers are already supporting our Learning Hubs and Clubs. So far **139** volunteers have registered with us. 36 are past volunteers (26%) that have continued with us and 103 are newly recruited this year. This term, they have supported the tutees on 888 visits with an average of 52.2 visits per week.

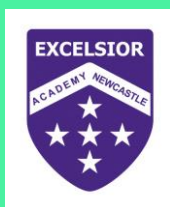
Our Learning Hubs - Success Stories



Wingrove

'There has been a great reception and support from parents in the local community. We have three tutees from one family attending the Tuesday session and a further two members of the family have joined our team of volunteer tutors. A fantastic example of community involvement!' (Learning Hub Coordinator)

'Volunteer recruitment for the Hub has been extremely successful. We have a healthy number of competent and committed young people regularly attending and providing great support to students and forming friendly relationships. Several of our more mature volunteers are on a postgraduate course or hold down demanding jobs, yet give up their time on a consistent basis. We are also grateful to have several returning volunteers this year, whose contribution has been superb.' (Learning Hub Coordinator)



Excelsior Academy

'We had two volunteers studying engineering at Newcastle University who were placed at Excelsior to support with Physics. In order to fully engage the Physics A Level tutees at Excelsior, the Newcastle University volunteers now help out in the lesson prior to the Hub. This new strategy of additional support has helped the tutees during class, but has also encouraged them to stay back after school and seek further support.' (Learning Hub Coordinator)

'This term I have been supporting a tutee with Spanish. I am a native Spanish speaker myself and we have focused on memorising vocabulary and sentence structure for her assignments. It felt so great when the tutee came to the Hub one week to tell me that she had got the highest mark in her class for her Spanish assignment!' (Tutor)



Carnegie Learning Hub

'I have been moved on to the top table in Maths! I feel like I have improved in Maths a lot and that the Hub has helped me achieve this.' (Tutee)

'I used to get confused with 'i' and 'e' in spellings but now I can write it correctly!' (Tutee)

'I didn't know where to put the remainders in Maths but after practise I now understand and don't muddle it up.' (Tutee)



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Elswick Learning Hub

'Last year a volunteer Tutor supported a tutee to prepare them for their Maths GCSE exam. I didn't think I would see either of them after the Summer as the volunteer started University and the tutee would have finished their exams. So it was a wonderful surprise when the tutee returned this year but as a tutor! They received an A in their Maths GCSE exam which they said would not have been possible if not for the one to one support received in the Learning Hub. They are now tutoring themselves on a weekly basis as they wanted to support someone else the same way they were supported.' (Learning Hub Coordinator)

'I have been supporting Marof in the Learning Hubs with his English. This week he came into the Learning Hub and told me he had received a 5 upper mark in his recent English test at school and he was over the moon!' (Tutor)

'Sehrish is very hard working and eager to learn. When I started working with her a couple of weeks ago she wanted support with Maths and Design Technology. Now, after help in the Hub, she scored 100% in her Maths exam and 90% in her design technology, which is the highest in her class!' (Tutor)

‘One of our tutees who has been receiving support as part of our one to one scheme has recently received a very positive report at her school’s parents evening. The mum informed us of how the teacher is happy with their progress. From our point of view, they are definitely improving academically, but what is amazing to see is how they are gaining confidence. They now join in the games at the end of the session and the one to one tutoring is going extremely well. We are very proud of the progress they are making with us and it seems that the school achievements are reflecting the achievements they are making with us each week.’ (Learning Hub Coordinator)

‘We have been told by one of the Mums how they love the new reward bingo cards as they act as a great motivator. For me, the reward bingo cards also give us a chance to get to know the students on a much more individual basis; strengths and weaknesses have become more apparent therefore goals are easily set and achieved. It creates an atmosphere of positivity – the cards make sure we are positively praising in every session which is a huge confidence builder for every child and gives them a non-academic goal to work towards. (Learning Hub Coordinator)



Westgate Hill Primary

‘Sometimes it can take a while to get numbers up in a new Learning Hub – but not in this case! Before we even started we had 30 children signed up! So it wasn’t long before the 1 session a week quickly turned into 2. With another 15 children on the waiting list, this will soon become 3 sessions a week starting in January.’ (Learning Hub Coordinator)

‘There has been great participation from teaching and support staff in the school. Staff that have provided support in the Hub have commented on the benefits of having additional opportunities to work with children in their class and consolidate their learning. Additionally, we have recently had ex-pupils of the school join our volunteer team who want to give back to their community!’ (Learning Hub Coordinator)



Throckley

‘The tutors at Throckley have noticed great improvement in one particular tutee in both their academic ability and confidence. The tutee has dyslexia and in the past has struggled with confidence and focusing on a task. The tutor who has been supporting them also has dyslexia, and has been able to share their own experiences. Through working one to one with the tutor and lots of hard work we have noticed that his reading, writing and Maths work are all improving!’ (Learning Hub Coordinator)

Our Learning Hubs

CARNEGIE

(Primary and
Secondary)

67 Tutees

47 Tutors

WESTGATE HILL PRIMARY

SCHOOL

33 Tutees

29 Tutors

WINGROVE

36 Tutees

24 Tutors

EXCELSIOR ACADEMY

47 Tutees

8 Tutors

BLAKELAW

15 Tutees

7 Tutors

THROCKLEY

18 Tutees

7 Tutors

ELSWICK

25 Tutees

15 Tutors

Our Clubs

We have 4 computer coding clubs, 1 arts and crafts club and 2 STEM Challenge Programmes running this year. We currently have **111** children and young people registered in our Clubs. The young people have visited a total of 667 times over the course of this term, at an average of 82.5 visits per week. The Clubs have been supported by club leaders and 12 volunteers.

STEM CHALLENGE PROGRAMME

Our 6-week STEM Challenge programme, sponsored by the engineering company REECE Foundation and the Platten Family Fund, is now up and running for both of our primary school teams at Walker Technology College and Excelsior Academy.

Our first challenge is all about testing and choosing the best design for an aeroplane, to see which one can fly the furthest and carry the most weight. The teams have 5 weeks to develop their design and try out a range of materials and modifications before presenting their final model to a team from REECE Engineering during our week 6 trip to Armstrong Works, the REECE site on Scotswood Road, at the end of the project.

Children in year 5 and 6 from local primary schools have joined our STEM Challenge teams and will receive an AQA Skills Award for taking part. Discovery and investigation are key to all the STEM Challenges, meaning young people will lead this project and get stuck in altogether.

There will be several different challenges throughout the year and each will focus on different aspects of science, technology, engineering and maths. Each challenge will be linked to a real life challenge that a leading North East company is currently facing.

The trip on the final week will be a company site visit where children will have the opportunity to speak to those working in STEM careers and discover some of the amazing work in STEM that is going on right on our doorstep here in the North East.

We would like to say a big 'Thank you!' to the REECE Foundation and the Platten Family Fund for making all of this happen!



REECE
FOUNDATION

Our Clubs

S4A CODERS

We've been working on lots of Scratch projects so far this term. But a couple of people have been experimenting making gadgets and robots with our Lego WeDo kits and the BBC micro:bits. Our coders have made a micro:bit compass, a Lego car, and a Lego games controller. We are hoping to start working with our Raspberry Pi's very soon!

Sharing our Scratch projects

Lots of children have been sharing their completed projects on our Scratch webpage. Check out some of the games the kids from Code Club have made here: <https://scratch.mit.edu/users/s4acodeclubs/>. Battle it out as slugs to slime over the whole window in Slugtoon, test your quick mental multiplication skills, or why not try a Granny Smith remix! You can also check out our Facebook page to see some animated videos!



Read Minds with Coding

One of our coders has recently shared a new cool trick with us and the other coders. They were taught how to read minds, using Binary, a method that computers use. They can guess any number you are thinking of between 1 and 31 just from you telling them which cards the numbers are on. They then taught their other code club friends the trick and explained how it links to computers.

A young person led Code Club

We have two brothers in our Code Clubs who have been attending for over a year. They have set up their very own Code Club in their primary school, along with two other former code club members!

They run their club on a Tuesday after school, sharing everything they have learnt in our Code Club, (and maybe inspired by our Code Club leader, Kirsty!!) with lots more budding coders from their school.



Our Clubs

WEYDA - EUROSOLE

Success4All have been part of a European funded project 'Eurosole', in partnership with Newcastle University and other organisations across Europe for the past 2 years. The project allows young people to develop their language and digital skills using 'big questions'.

'On the 24th October 2017, I and 8 other members from the WEYDA group went to Finland for 5 days. Words can't explain how amazing this experience was! From the -2 temperature to the early 7am wake ups, I would definitely take part in the whole journey again. If it wasn't for Caroline and the amazing person she is, I don't think I would have been offered this opportunity elsewhere. As we arrived at Helsinki airport, we began brainstorming ideas on how we were going to present our recent community project we'd been working on. Eurosole is a project where people like ourselves, come together from around Europe to answer 'big questions'. These types of questions are the type that you can't find the answer to. They have no answer limit and that's what makes it fun and engaging. The experience itself was unbelievable. We met up with groups of people from Ireland, Belgium, Finland and ourselves coming from England to answer our own 'big questions' and put together a short film of the work we have been doing. This includes the work we did on our first trip to Ireland, same time last year. The best part of the trip was visiting the shop under out hotel late at night to stock up on our goodies, (not to mention the sauna experience straight after), and jumping on in-built trampolines in the park across the road from where we were staying. I can definitely say it was a one of a kind experience no one would want to turn down. It was sad saying goodbye to this unique place which brought us altogether and lifted our spirits. Funny enough, I think the hotel staff are glad we have gone, (after all we did set the hotel fire alarm off by frying an egg!).'

(Written by a member of WEYDA, Aliyya, 1st year Sixth Form Student)



Erasmus+

In the Community

WEYDA – PIZZA IN PARLIAMENT

Our West End Young Digital Artists group produce different media products that involve media skills such as; filming, editing, recording, graphic design, interviewing and radio presenting skills. They are passionate about their area and social and civic issues that concern them and other young people. They have produced, to date, two documentaries, a comic and two radio shows. You can find out more about them on our website www.s4a.org.uk/weyda.

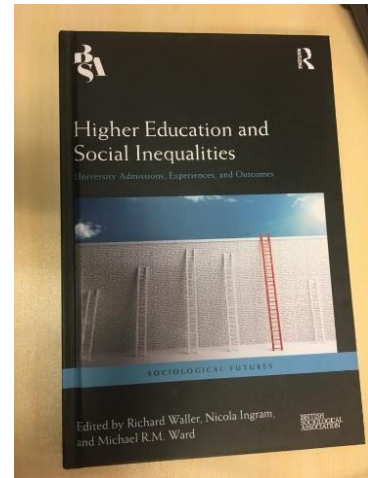
They were invited to take part in the UK parliament week. As part of this they asked the community outreach and engagement officer of parliament, Lynn Hobson, to come and do a workshop at the Pizza and Parliament event that they organised.

It was a great event, with lots of questions asked. *'Can you get involved with parliament as a young person?'*, *'Can the Queen dissolve parliament?'*, *'Should all parties get a vote on the final Brexit deal?'*

We also did a role-play where each one played out a role in parliament. We may now have a potential future prime minister among our midst.

We wrote down issues that concerned us, shared them, and then did a mock-voting exercise. Each could only vote on one issue. And most votes went to . . . reducing debt from high university fees! Catherine Peart, from BBC Newcastle radio, paid us a visit and interviewed some of our youngsters. You can listen to the interview via our blog >>>

www.s4a.org.uk/wedy-a-organizes-pizza-and-parliament-event-for-parliament-week/.



BOOK PUBLICATION

Our Volunteer Manager, Emily, recently had her dissertation research published in the book 'Higher Education and Social Inequalities: University Admissions, Experiences, and Outcomes.'

Emily studied Sociology at Newcastle University. Her interests lie in education and the sociological theories around it. In particular, she is interested in the inequalities in education in relation to attainment gaps and the widening of participation, the access to resources, opportunities and support between poor and affluent areas.

Emily's dissertation focused on social groups before and during University and the affect this had on the sense of belonging and attainment at University. She was approached by her lecturers to ask whether she would be happy for the research to be used in a chapter of a book published by the British Sociological Association.

Emily was introduced to Success4All when she volunteered in her third year at University as part of her Career Development Module. Since graduating in 2013 she has become a full time member of staff here managing our volunteers.

In the Community

SUCCESS4ALL'S STREETWISE WINNER

The 'summer blast from the past event' was hosted by Streetwise to celebrate their 25th Birthday. As part of this they chose to present 25 young people with inspirational youth awards. Success4All nominated one of their volunteers, Maisie, for the amazing work she did for us over the past year, and she was awarded as one of the winners!!!

Maisie supported two children with their studies as part of one to one tuition in our Learning Hubs, and additionally, as a Geography student herself, ran a Geography Club in our Walker Technology College Learning Hub to make school life easier for new English learners. After supporting a group of English as additional language tutees in our Hub, she noticed that it was difficult for them to understand and follow along in their Geography lessons as they were not familiar with the vocabulary. On the last week, she took the group of children to Tynemouth for a fun day out, as well as setting challenges relating to the Geography vocabulary that they had learnt over the previous weeks. This was really important to the children as they had never been before.

In order to do this, she had to raise money first and was successful in raising £480 in total.

Streetwise received a high volume of applications and staff members met on three occasions to shortlist and then decide on the final winners. First, highly commended nominees were then presented with an award. After that, the 25 winners were announced, and Maisie was one of them! A short description of her work/achievement was read out and she was presented with a framed certificate, commemorative key ring and a chocolate gift.

We would like to say another well done and thank you again! We are a successful organisation because of volunteers like you!



Don't forget that you can help raise money for S4A by using EasyFundraising at no cost to you!

Simply go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/HD8C3J/> and do your online shopping through the EasyFundraising website and a portion of your spending will be donated to us!



Find us:

www.s4a.org.uk



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