



19 September 2019

## Reimagining Marble Hill Playcentres

Dear Neighbours,

As you already know, our much loved Playcentres very nearly closed in September 2017. We wrote to you previously regarding our strategic review of the facility and received your feedback via an online questionnaire and at our event in April 2019 and have been working on our vision for the new facilities. I would now like to let you know about an upcoming fundraising event and opportunities to see the plans we have drafted to reinvigorate the Playcentres.

### *Upcoming Events*

As a local resident and parent of children who use the Playcentres, I know how important it is to see well-loved community spaces retain their character and we have worked hard towards that end. We are excited to let you know that our plans will be available to view at our fundraising End of Summer Fair on the 29th of September (11am - 4pm), along with music, food, drink and games! It would be great to see local residents attend what promises to be a lovely family event. We are also holding an evening event at York House on the 7th of October from 6 - 8pm where we will have plans available to view.

### *Our Vision*

Since the last letter, we have come together with two other charities, Skylarks (supporting children and families with additional needs) and Otakar Kraus Music Trust (providing music therapy to a range of people) to work on a vision for the Playcentres: **a ground-breaking and unique community hub, working to unlock the Magic of Community, and magnifying the impact of each charity's work.**

With the support of English Heritage, Richmond Council and many others, the hub will bring together local people in a safe, inclusive, accessible space for indoor and outdoor play, activities and support for mainstream and SEND children and young people and their families. It will harness the power of play and music and be sustainable and harmonious within the heritage and beauty of Marble Hill Park. It will enable the Playcentres to sustain its mission by opening year round with a new building on the existing footprint and reinvigorate the wonderful Adventure Playground. It will also include space for the Mandarin Ducklings Nursery, a great asset to the area.

If you can't make the events and would like to see drawings, you can also view them online at [www.mhcp.org.uk](http://www.mhcp.org.uk). And you can read more about Skylarks and OKMT and the great work they do at their websites: [www.skylarks.charity](http://www.skylarks.charity) and [www.okmtrust.org.uk](http://www.okmtrust.org.uk).

We hope to see you at one event or another and look forward to developing this fantastic community project.

Yours faithfully,

**Caroline Green**  
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