



# MANCHESTER YOUNG COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

WHO WE ARE - WHAT WE DO





# OVERVIEW

Manchester Young Community Champions (MYCC) is a not-for-profit Community Interest Company (CIC) set up in 2010 by local resident Mike Edwards.

Based in and around Ardwick, activities are delivered on a Doorstep Sports Model, part of the Street Games initiative following on from the 2012 Olympic games. Sports are taken to the young people within the community, utilising the facilities in each area such as Gartside Gardens Park in Brunswick with its purpose-built multi-use games area (MUGA).

The main aims are to get kids active, meet other young people, learn new skills and using those skills they can become mentors themselves. They learn, grow and develop into mature, responsible and confident young adults who become groups leaders, who in turn can inspire and encourage others, sharing their knowledge and experience with the next generation and beyond.

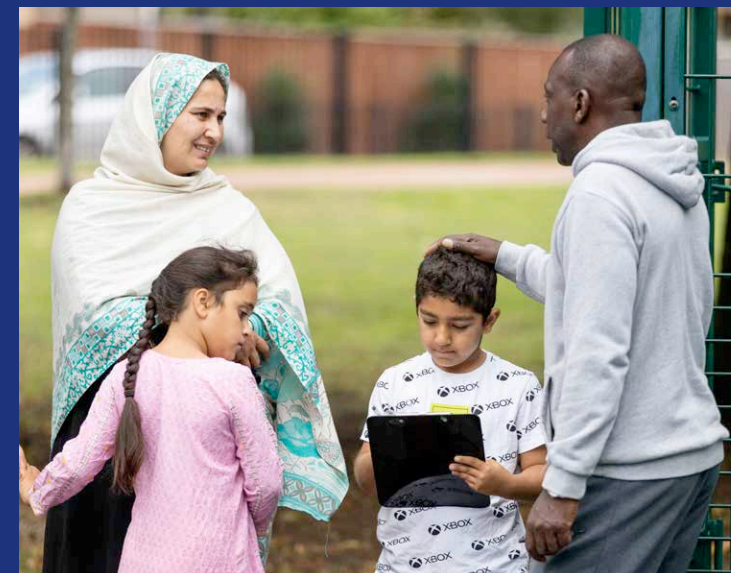
They learn life skills as well as social and sports skills. There is something for everyone with all skills and abilities and no-one should feel excluded. It's about getting active and mixing with others.

Dodge ball is a huge hit as you don't have to be sporty, and you can see the confidence grow in even in the most timid youngster. The smiles on their faces say it all.

We provide a safe environment for kids to come along, engage in a range of activities, keeping them occupied and off the streets, which reduces anti-social behaviour and gang culture, building resilience and motivation. This all makes for good mental health and wellbeing and can be a knock-on effect which benefits family and friends as well as the individual.

MYCC works in partnership across the neighbourhood to maximise opportunities for residents. It also means more accessibility for families especially those with younger ones.

This not only supports each other locally but also helps keep the carbon footprint to a minimum which in turn supports the Manchester City Council's zero carbon campaign.





# OBJECTIVES

1. Community projects - To deliver community projects at the right time, in the right place to the right people
2. Community cohesion - To bring the whole community together, to be stronger together
3. Raise the voice of young people - Inspiring and encouraging our young people to build their courage and confidence to have their say and be heard
4. Reduce our carbon footprint - work with Manchester City Council (MCC) to tie in with their going green initiatives





# ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR

Working in partnership we have built strong foundations in the area with regular half-term activities, Easter fun and Saturday sports club through the winter months.

With the support of S4B funding a football kit, we were able to raise our standards to support local school Medlock Primary. We even managed a day trip to Blackpool this summer which was amazing for everyone. Something that some of the kids had never experienced.





# WHAT OUR YOUNG LEADERS SAID



## Youth club volunteer, Hai-Anh Nham, said:

*"When I started as a volunteer at my youth group, I wasn't confident, and I really didn't believe in myself. Throughout the months of being a volunteer, I have learnt experience and many valuable skills and abilities that I could take with me to a new path, where I could use it during my career and my life as well."*

*"I've learnt abilities like communication & leadership, where they all are useful for work and other situations. Training as a volunteer/mentor has helped me to approach people without any hesitation and it made me believe that there is nothing too hard to accomplish"*

## Chloe said:

*"Before joining I was not very active at all and only did sports in PE at school. I did want to get active but didn't have the time or dedication. I am part of the youth club and wanted to get more active and helping out more, so I could do more for other people. I really enjoy the experience and feel very happy when I am doing it. Taking part has really helped my mental health by giving me a focus and being a volunteer has helped me learn new skills"*

## Volunteer at the Saturday club, Ronney, said:

*"I was already active and helping out at school with sports sessions about twice a week. I liked what I was doing, and it was fun giving back and helping other people. I could see it was about helping kids and I wanted to be part of helping my community. I like and enjoy the experience of being part of something and being able to come to a place where the kids are having fun. And it opened up so many opportunities especially after being in lockdown".*





# CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Especially in the current economic climate, we are facing even more challenges. The main challenge has always been funding and how to raise enough money so we can deliver what we promise and more. But with challenges come opportunities. This injection of funding is vital for us, so we can continue to support the young people, not only with sports and fun activities, but that essential meal which struggling parents may not be able to provide.

It's not a meal service but activity, nutrition and mental well-being all go hand in hand, and we will be able to offer the full package with reassurance and confidence and we see this as an essential opportunity. With this extra support we can continue to reach out and connect with young people in the community and their families.

There are many opportunities for working in partnership in Brunswick. Following the pandemic, we can now reaffirm and re-establish our existing partnership working across the neighbourhood enabling us to maximise opportunities for residents.

We can also look to cultivate new relationships all for the benefit of the community. We can build on our existing skills and knowledge from the past years working in and around the Ardwick area, to engage with our partners and stake holders.

We will continue to utilise the facilities in the area such as Gartside Gardens sports area, plus we are looking to develop other ideas such as working with the local Salvation Army unit which will be especially beneficial for indoor youth activities.





# THE VISION AND PLANS FOR 2022

This year we are hoping to bring more activities to the area such as:

- June Bank Holiday half-term week of activities.  
Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June. 10:00am to 2:00pm,  
with multi-sports activities with hot meals and snacks  
provided led by youth workers
- A variety of other fun lead outdoor activities
- Digital training programmes
- Podcasting
- Storytelling
- Photography
- Trips out such as the Peak District
- Youth lead initiatives and focus groups
- Leadership programmes
- Youth peer and young volunteer's mentorship programmes
- Partnerships with other youth projects

Director of Manchester Young Community Champions, said:

*"A huge thank you to Equitix for this amazing gift.*

*The main challenge for us has always how we can raise enough money to deliver what we want for the community.*

*This vital cash injection is essential to us, so we can continue to support the young and the community".*

*Thanks Mike*





# MONITORING AND EVALUATION

We will continue to record and monitor success, providing regular reports and updates to keep you up to date and informed on progress and achievements.

Case studies will continue to be compiled with any potential media worthy articles identified and promoted as required.







# GET IN TOUCH

Email : [info@youngchamps.co.uk](mailto:info@youngchamps.co.uk)

Telephone : 07447918371

Website: [www.youngchamps.co.uk](http://www.youngchamps.co.uk)



Working in Partnership with S4B