



# ANNUAL REPORT 2018

31st January 2018

## I. AIMS OF THE CHARITY

1. The Safaplace charity's aim is to make Stoke Newington as a neighbourhood a safer place where young people, parents, linked professionals and members of the community can be open and honest about all aspects of child and adolescent mental health and can find the appropriate help and support. In doing so we intend to share our learning with others, and to create hope out of our loss.

2. Safaplace therefore aims to make Stoke Newington School itself a centre for positive mental health awareness for young people, working with other schools, with those connected with education and with the wider community. It also aims to support positive mental health and wellbeing of students in Stoke Newington School via education and awareness-raising for all.

3. At the end of 2018, the trustees of the charity were: Annie Gammon, Michael Collins, Rose White and Sarah Finke. Trustee meetings took place on January 19th, February 2nd, March 9th, May 18th, June 8th, August 15th, October 17th, October 31st, November 16th, and November 30th.

4. Safaplace was founded in memory of Harry Lisle and Rachel Finke, SNS class of 2017.

## II. ACTIVITIES OF THE CHARITY IN 2018

### April 2018

5. The first ever conference held by Safaplace, was a resounding success. The challenge now will be to take the hope and inspiration born there, and make it into something real.

6. Over 150 participants attended the Conference. They attended a keynote speech by activist and campaigner Jonny Benjamin, eleven workshops covering a wide range of topics, and a lively panel discussion featuring Dr Chris Van Tulleken's masterly management of seven different speakers from CAMHS, Young Minds, Papyrus, MerseyCare, private practice and the school itself.

7. Recommendations came from the discussions, which focused on how all of us in schools, health and the community can come together on this vital issue. These covered training, changes for schools and the health service, and wider government policy. The charity will be building on these over the coming months.

8. Following the conference, the charity's website Safaplace.org, was launched, and a mailing system to conference attendees who had signed up, was established.

### **May 2018**

9. The "BIG NIGHT OUT" dance, raffle and auction organised by Claire Henshaw and her fantastic volunteers raised just under £4,500.

### **July 2018**

10. The Safaplace reflective garden was formally opened. Pupils had been involved in ideas for playground redevelopment, of which the reflective garden was one part. An award-winning designer came up with plans and over the summer holidays, a community clearance day took place, where volunteers came to work on the quiet space in the school garden. A furniture designer made furniture for the garden. Hard landscapers were involved.

11. The garden, which once was a piece of overgrown and unused playground, has been transformed in to a place where pupils can sit and reflect or talk to friends.

12. It is also intended that the garden can function as a community resource, as school facilities are used by many local groups.

13. People from across the community have worked on the garden over the last year to create a lovely space. A team of local people, led by Rose White, have maintained the garden beautifully.

### **July 2018**

14. We were excited to announce that on 16th July Safaplace was granted charity status. We are now Registered Charity Number 1179202.

### **September 2018**

15. "LOOK UP" events took place in the local community. Some great fundraising and awareness raising events took place in the gallery by Stoke Newington library. Lots of SNS pupils were involved.

16. Our sincerest thanks to all the inspiring artists, organisers, volunteers and our fantastic community who came together to make the LOOK UP events so unforgettable. There were many incredible moments mixing music and art, openness and discussion around mental health, helping to dispel stigma and raise awareness.

17. Special thanks go to the wonderful Gilles Peterson for being the lynchpin – and putting in so much of his own time- and to the Henshaws, who planned it all. A significant amount of money was raised for the charity.

### **III. SCHOOL INITIATIVES**

18. During the year mental health training has continued for Stoke Newington Staff. Students have also been trained as peer listeners.

19. Regular parents' forums continue being held with different areas of focus.

20. The school improvement plan has set specific targets for wellbeing, ensuring that the school's ethos is to be high achieving but also caring, with wellbeing as a high profile.

21. The school continues to make strong progress towards gaining the recognized kitemark for positive mental and emotional health activities, with Michael Collins leading these initiatives..

### **IV FUTURE PLANNING**

22. In January 2019, following a recruitment process, Safaplace will be welcoming two new trustees: Jane Acton and Salma Asokomh, making us a total of six.

23. A second Conference is being planned, to take place in the second quarter of 2019.