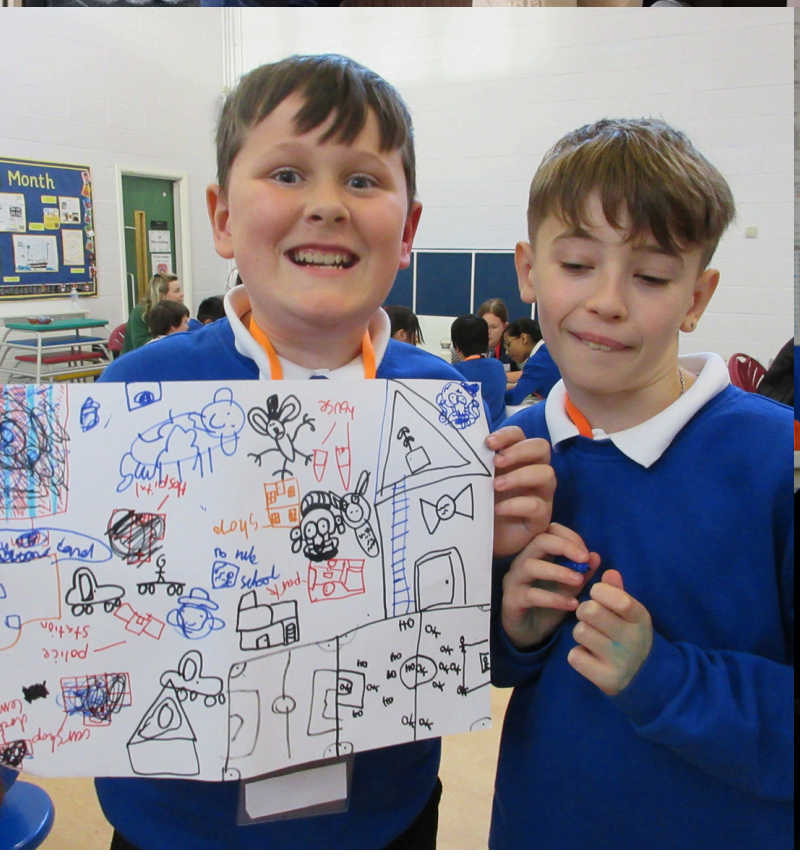





# GrowingTALENT® Morley

# IMPACT REPORT 2023-24

MORLEY more than a place | HM Government | Leeds City Council | Ahead Partnership®



"I enjoyed watching others express their ideas, it has opened my mind to new ideas. "
*Year 12 student*

"I learned today that it's important to choose a job you like. You can do any job you want if you try hard enough"
*Year 6 student*

"I liked that I got to have my own say. I'd like to speak more to the community of Morley about what they want to see change"
*Year 8 student*

"Great feedback from students, all of the interactive elements worked well"
*Volunteer, Leeds City Council*

"It was inspiring to see such a diverse group of young female volunteers passionate about their roles. Great for students to have an opportunity to ask questions and share opinions."
*Teacher, The Morley Academy*

"I have learned more about Morley and the Morley Town Deal. I liked that I could ask good questions and get good answers."
*Year 9 student*

# GROWING TALENT MORLEY IMPACT REPORT 2023-24

**3,119** young people have been supported

**159** volunteers have taken part

**36** activities have taken place

Commencing in September 2022 with the support of Leeds City Council and private sector match funding, the second year of Growing Talent Morley has now concluded, with **over 7,000 young people in the area taking part in activities facilitated by Ahead Partnership.**

**Growing Talent Morley aims to:**

- Raising local awareness of the Morley Town Deal and the opportunities it brings to communities
- Address skills gaps in the town through collaborative work between education, training providers, and through a comprehensive approach to skills in partnership with local employers.
- Harness the strength of the local employer base to provide employer-led skills development programs and improve the skills base of the community
- Increase the share of young people and adults that have relevant skills for employment and entrepreneurship

Throughout 23-24, local students have received inspirational talks, attended off-site work experience opportunities, given their thoughtful opinions on all Morley Town Deal projects, attended fascinating Q&A Careers Panels with professionals from across Leeds, and represented their school in mock trials and national competitions led by key sponsors of the programme. **This report shares the key achievements and impacts of the academic year.**

"We have a longstanding skills shortage in the UK which is only going to get more acute given the unprecedented pace of technological change. To put it into perspective – the UK Government's annual employer skills survey found 1.72 million employees are now judged to be underskilled – that's compared to 1.27 million in 2017."

HR News, May 2024

## STUDENT POPULATIONS

| PRIMARY SCHOOLS | EAL* | FSM** | SEN*** | 22-23 activity? | 23-24 activity? |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Asquith Primary School | 10.3% | 21.8% | 4.2% | | ✓ |
| Birchfield Primary School | 5.7% | 13.5% | 7.3% | ✓ | |
| Churwell Primary School | 7.4% | 10.3% | 7.8% | | |
| Drighlington Primary School | 1.7% | 16.4% | 11.0% | ✓ | |
| East Ardsley Primary Academy | 1.8% | 16.2% | 12.6% | ✓ | |
| Fountain Primary School | 8.4% | 25.6% | 12.6% | | |
| Gildersome Primary School | 2.6% | 20.9% | 14.6% | ✓ | |
| Morley Newlands Academy | 14.0% | 23.4% | 13.6% | ✓ | |
| Morley Victoria Primary School | 6.6% | 16.9% | 10.7% | | ✓ |
| Seven Hills Primary School | 11.6% | 27.9% | 16.5% | ✓ | |
| St Francis Catholic Primary School, Morley | 16.2% | 10.9% | 8.5% | ✓ | |
| Westerton Primary School | 5.9% | 11.2% | 13.1% | | |

| SECONDARY SCHOOLS/COLLEGES | EAL* | FSM** | SEN*** | 22-23 activity? | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bruntcliffe Academy | 5.5% | 30.3% | 10.2% | ✓ | ✓ |
| Elliott Hudson College | 21.0% | No data | 16.4% | ✓ | ✓ |
| Morley Academy | 8.4% | 21.1% | 12.0% | ✓ | ✓ |
| Woodkirk Academy | 6.9% | 21.5% | 6.0% | ✓ | ✓ |

***Pupils whose first language is not English***
****Pupils eligible for free school meals at any time during the past 6 years***
*****Pupils with special educational needs support***

The proportion of primary-aged pupils classified as persistently disadvantaged increased from 8.9 per cent before the pandemic, to 13.3 per cent in 2022/23. The proportion of secondary- aged pupils classified as persistently disadvantaged increased from 9.1 per cent before the pandemic to 10.6 per cent in 2022/23.

*- Education Policy Institute, March 2024*

## WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE SAID

86%

are now thinking about their own goals after school

95%

improved their perception of career options available in Morley and/or Leeds

86%

increased their understanding of skills, qualifications, and entry routes into jobs in Morley and/or Leeds

94%

developed their teamworking skills



78%

improved their self-belief and confidence

91%

improved their understanding of different jobs

93%

developed their skills in representing themselves

73%

improved their communication skills

78%

were motivated to work harder at school/college

## WHAT VOLUNTEERS SAID




said they have an improved understanding of young people




said taking part gave them an opportunity to network with other businesses




said taking part improved their business' profile and access to talent

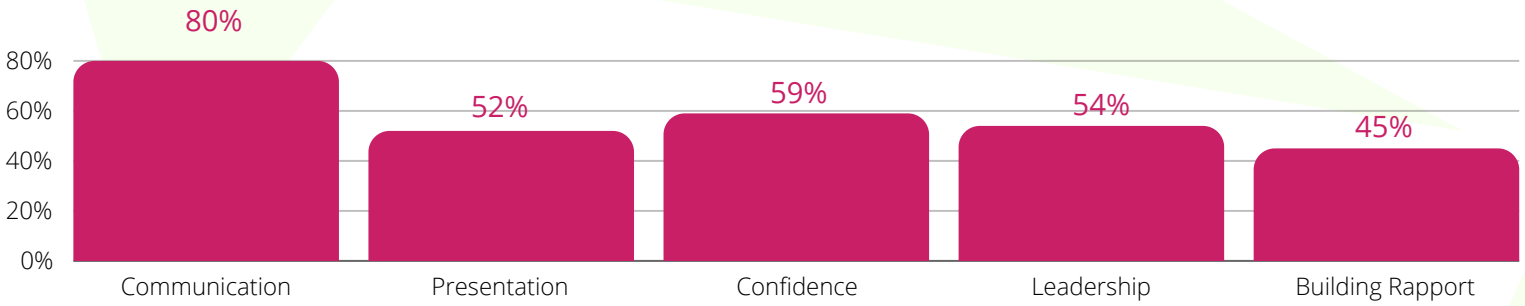



said taking part gave them the opportunity to positively role model the world of work

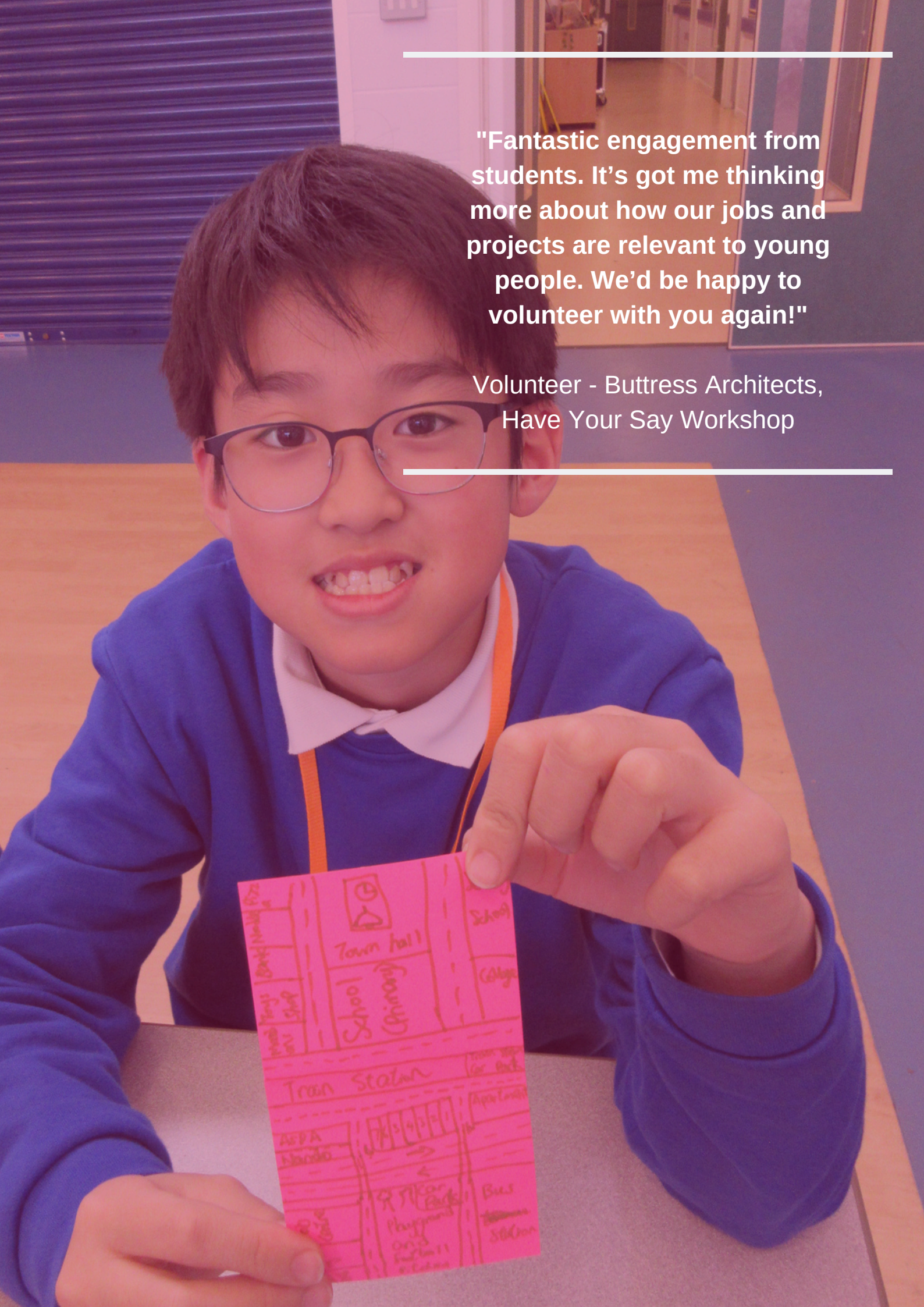



said they would take part in Ahead Partnership activities again

### SKILLS VOLUNTEERS SAY THEY DEVELOPED






**"Fantastic engagement from students. It's got me thinking more about how our jobs and projects are relevant to young people. We'd be happy to volunteer with you again!"**

Volunteer - Buttress Architects, Have Your Say Workshop

## SPOTLIGHT ON: HAVE YOUR SAY

Between January and June 2024, we hosted four '**Have Your Say**' consultation workshops with Woodkirk Academy and Bruntcliffe Academy. The consultation workshops aimed to encourage students and volunteers to consider how the Morley Town Deal capital projects impact young people, and to look forward to the future of Morley together. Students worked with volunteers from LCC and other businesses to complete empathy maps, share ideas, discuss potential challenges, and learn more about their local area. **Major themes which arose during the workshops were a focus on accessibility and neurodiversity in spaces**, and a desire to know more about opportunities for local businesses and entrepreneurs - many young people had a keen interest in this topic due to family owning or working at local businesses. We have compiled a separate impact report covering these workshops, which is available on request.




## SPOTLIGHT ON: SULZER WORKPLACE VISITS

Since January 2022, Sulzer Pumps UK have had a partnership with Morley Academy and Elliott Hudson College, offering mentoring, workplace visits, careers panels and interview practice. The programme includes multiple interventions and is designed to highlight STEM careers at this prominant and renowned Morley-based employer. In December 2023, two workplace visits took place with students from The Morley Academy - a total of 26 students took part in shop floor tours, a Q&A session with engineers, and enjoyed a lean manufacturing workshop which highlighted some of the key skills needed for working in manufacturing. Students filled out job role profiles and completed a diary log of the day, with plenty of opportunities to ask questions of volunteers.

**At the end of 2023, the CEIAG advisor at The Morley Academy advised that at least 5 students from Year 11 had applied to apprenticeships at Sulzer, as a direct result of the ongoing partnership.**



## CAPITAL PROJECTS IN 23-24








With thanks to a total match funding pot of £87,800 in AY 23-24, plus Leeds City Council's contribution of £20,000 in 2023-24, we have been able to bring some incredible projects to schools in Morley this academic year.

**TMA** - The Morley Academy **BA** - Bruntcliffe Academy
**EHC** - Elliott Hudson College **WA** - Woodkirk Academy

| | |
|---|---|
| **Careers Panels** | Six panels have taken place at TMA, BA, WA |
| **Mentoring** | Led by Sulzer with nine Year 12 students from EHC |
| **Have Your Say Workshops** | Four workshops have taken place, hosted by LCC at BA and WA |
| **Inclusive Design Panel Workshop** | Led by LCC with a group of students from EHC who were then invited to join the LCC IDP |
| **Work Experience** | Students from BA were invited to take part in this unique project with the West Yorkshire Bus Alliance |
| **Interview Practice** | Two have taken place - one led by Sulzer at TMA, one funded by WA for their Y12 6th form students |
| **Inspirational Talks** | Five different speakers have attended TMA, BA and EHC from various businesses |
| **Made in Yorkshire** | Led by Landsec with BA - 14 students took part, winning the Regional final and placing in the Nationals |
| **World of Work Days** | Two WoW days took place, with Asquith Primary and Morley Victoria Primary School |
| **Mock Tribunal** | Nineteen students from BA took part in this project led by Capsticks LLP |

**"I absolutely loved the event, the students were very enthusiastic and it seemed like a great event for them to learn more about jobs and skills"**

Volunteer - Asquith World of Work Day



## SPOTLIGHT ON: INNOVATION HUB

In May and June 2024, we invited 15 students from Elliot Hudson College to take part in a special Have Your Say project supported by LCC and Munroe K, focused on the development of the Innovation Hub at White Rose Park. Six groups of students designed their vision of an ideal space for innovation and entrepreneurship to thrive in Morley, using design thinking techniques to develop and pitch their ideas. After an initial launch session led by the team at Ingenuity, students completed several weeks of self-directed learning including ideation, prototyping ideas, research techniques and presentation creation. This culminated in a presentation showcase, where groups competed to present their best ideas to the Ingenuity team and other invited guests. **In the end, 100% of students stated that taking part improved their perception of the career options available in Morley and Leeds, and 100% stated that the project had helped them to think more about their future after leaving education.**














**"I liked the amount of thinking outside of the box and creative design thinking we did. It helped me to learn more about team work and listening to different perspectives"**

Y12 Student

## LOOKING AHEAD TO THE FUTURE

As we move forward to Year 3 of Growing Talent Morley, we are taking the opportunity to reflect and celebrate the last few years of work, choosing to look closely at learnings and successes before approaching what the future may look like.

We are discussing with our key sponsors what priorities may look like moving forwards, as this will influence the flavour of upcoming activities. We know that all businesses, whether Morley based or not, have key priorities around digitisation and sustainability, which pair perfectly with social concerns around digital literacy and eco anxiety. We also know that Morley, and Leeds more generally, has a thriving Built Environment sector, with a strong focus on how to decarbonise the sector and achieve Net Zero. The built environment sector is one of the fastest growing in the world, and we have already showcased much of this in Morley schools.

As we continue to plan and design the programme's structure in AY 24-25, we do so with a continued commitment to harnessing the strength of the local employer base to provide employer-led skills development programmes to improve the skills base of the community, and to give young people the chance to have their say on what happens in their local area. With many exciting opportunities still to explore, we look forward to the future with optimism and purpose, ready to continue supporting this community in a well-rounded and ambitious manner.

**July 2021**
Morley awarded £24.3m in Towns Fund funding

**Autumn 2021**
Conversations begin regarding Growing Talent Morley with LCC

**May 2022**
Funding approved from Morley Town Deal
First steering group defines the approach

**June - July 2022**
Consultation with schools; development of offer; Marketing, comms and evaluation plans

**September 2022**
First activities take place with young people

**May 2022 - UKREIFF**
Pocket park geography challenge is profiled at UKREIFF conference

**August 2023**
Review and approve programme for AY 23-24

**September 2023**
Year 2 activities commence with young people

**July 2024**
End of Year 2 activities

**July 2024**
Planning for Year 3 begins

## GROWING TALENT MORLEY TEAM



**Natalie Cooper**
Project Manager



**Megan Lipp**
Head of Development



**Stephanie Burras**
Chief Executive

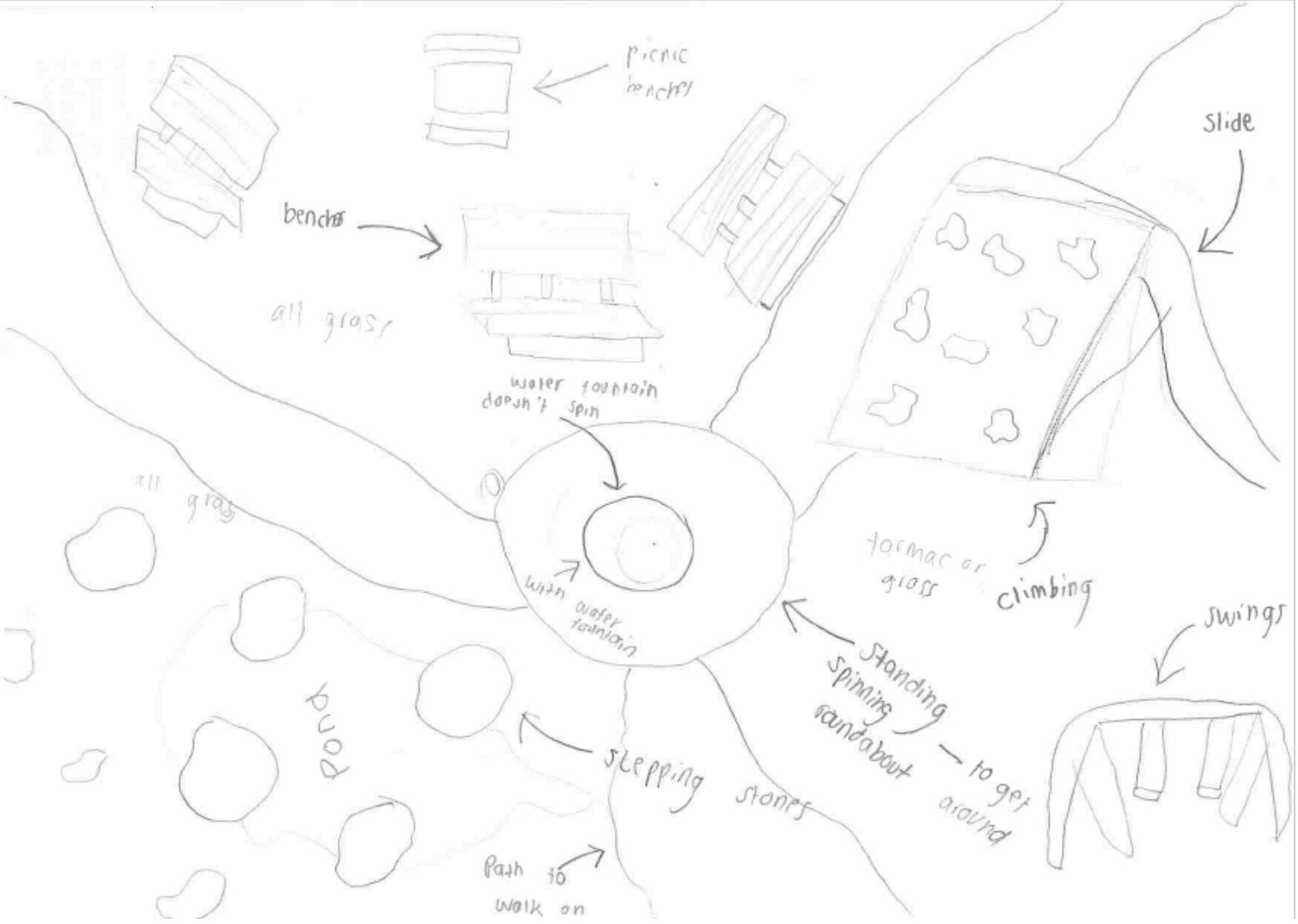


**Georgina Johnson**
Programme Manager

## CONTACT US

**Natalie Cooper**
natalie.cooper@aheadpartnership.org.uk
07518 295 754

**Georgina Johnson**
georgina.johnson@aheadpartnership.org.uk
07912 391 093




**"I really liked how we empathised and listened to other's stories. I think to work in these sort of jobs, you need to be patient with people and be proud of your work!"**

Y8 student - Have Your Say Workshop

I would to see ~~like to see~~ a reduce in the amount of steps they is inside the building. Also I would like some of the money to be invested into the smaller shops and transport around Morley. Another addition is to have a increase in the amount of accesable cafe's and local shop. This includes wheelchair ramps. More indoor and outdoor space and the quality of food and drinks