

ASPIRE2 AGM

ANNUAL REVIEW



AGENDA

1. Welcome & apologies for absence
2. Changes to Trustees & Partners: Election of officers
 - Confirmation of the following post holders:
 - Chairman
 - Vice Chairman
 - Treasurer
 - Chair of Fundraising committee
 - Chair of Finance/Compliance committee
 - Chair of Activities and Impact committee
 - Chair of Marketing committee
3. Review of previous AGM minutes
4. ASPIRE2 Annual Report:
 - Looking back 12 months – Charlie Clare, Trustee, Chair
5. Finance Report:
 - David Shepherd, Trustee, Finance
6. AOB
7. Closing remarks:
 - Ann Snowdon, Trustee Vice Chair

*** Please note, we will be holding a one-item meeting directly after the AGM. This will be to discuss the Minibus project ***

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

CHARLIE CLARE



SUMMARY MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

- We were looking forward this year, to building on the success is of last year -2018/19. Which saw an increase in the range of activities and an increase in the number of participants in most of our traditional activities.
- Unfortunately, due to the impact of Covid, this sadly has not been the case
- The three-month lock down from March, and the more recent tightening of restrictions, have included a ban on coach travel, the stopping of after-school clubs and sporting activities, and the closure of outdoor education centres. This has made the enrichment activities we normally fund virtually impossible to run.

SUMMARY MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR, CONTINUED

- Consequently, we had to find new ways to help.
 - We provided over 180 art packs. Distributed through the schools and WCDA.
 - We facilitated a three day event hosted by Ufton Adventure at Christ the King school.
 - We have enabled a number of children to attend the Reading summer schools.
- What is clear is that many of the children we support are amongst those who have suffered most greatly because of the Covid-19 situation. We are acutely aware that the activities we promote and fund will be required more than ever as restrictions are eased.

SUMMARY MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR, CONTINUED

- In recognition of this, we are working to provide schools with two minibuses so that they can more readily visit museums, theatres and outdoor education facilities as soon as they are able.
- We have forged new links with arts organisations throughout Reading to provide exciting clubs and events. We are also providing nursery rhyme packs to be used alongside programmes that one of our trustees is hosting for parents and toddlers.
- The current crisis has renewed our determination to make a difference to our children's lives. We continue to be grateful for the support of our partners listed in the financial report and I am pleased to say Holybrook Associates again chose us as their charity of the year.

Thank you for your continued support. With your help, we will make a difference.

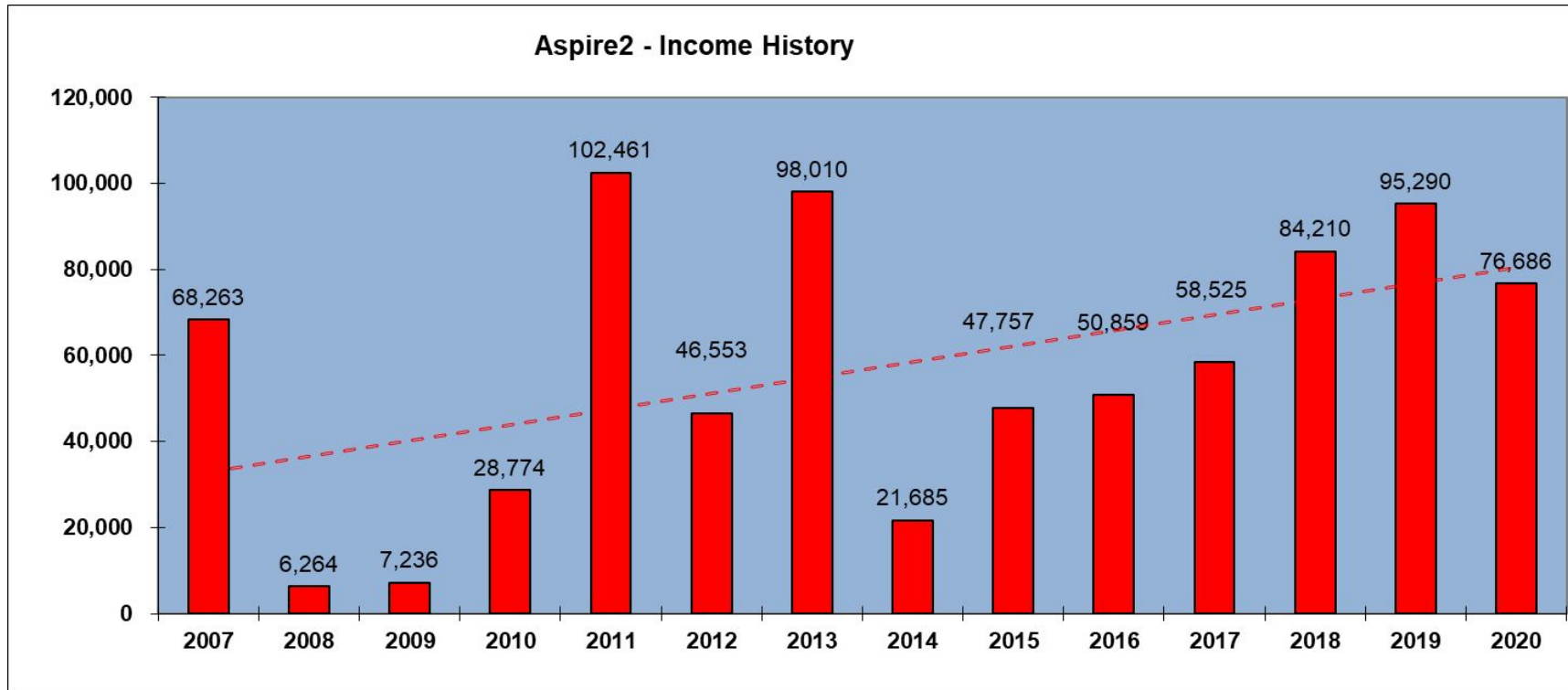


FINANCE REPORT

DAVID SHEPHERD

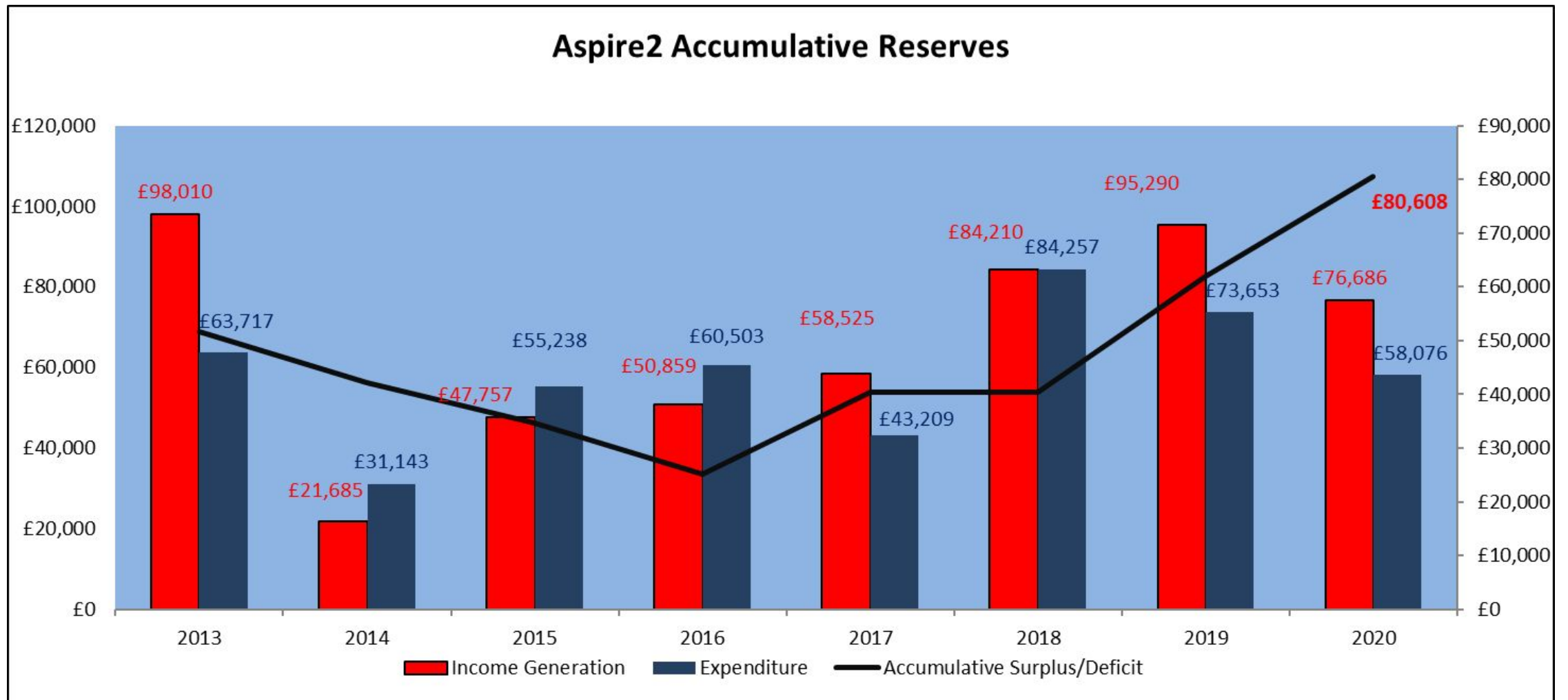


FINANCE REPORT



- Over the last completed 14 years we have received/generated income of nearly £800k,.
- 2020/21: 10 months in (Dec) and have only £39k of income.
- No UoR, and with covid19 our activities have been markedly hindered and income will be a much lower figure this year,
- Positive: with covid19 in mind, expenditures on grants etc. have kept pace at £33k.
- We have an £86k in reserve at the bank

FINANCE REPORT



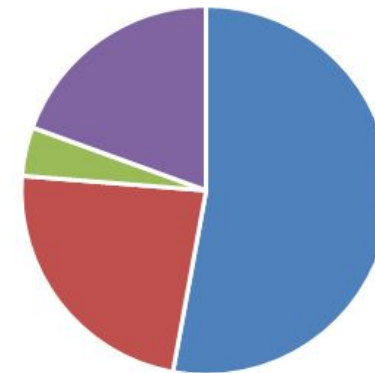
FINANCE REPORT

Income Analysis 2020



- University of Reading
- Parental Contributions
- Earley Charity
- Whitley CDA
- Direct Fundraising, Half Marathon, Aspire 2b Day, Raffles, Quiz night
- Donations
- WoodWard Trust

Expenditure analysis FY20



- Ufton, Events, Transport, entrance fees, Venues
- Charitable activities, Project Donations, event project management costs
- Governance & Fundraising Costs
- Investment Grants Charles Stanley (SRET)

FINANCE REPORT

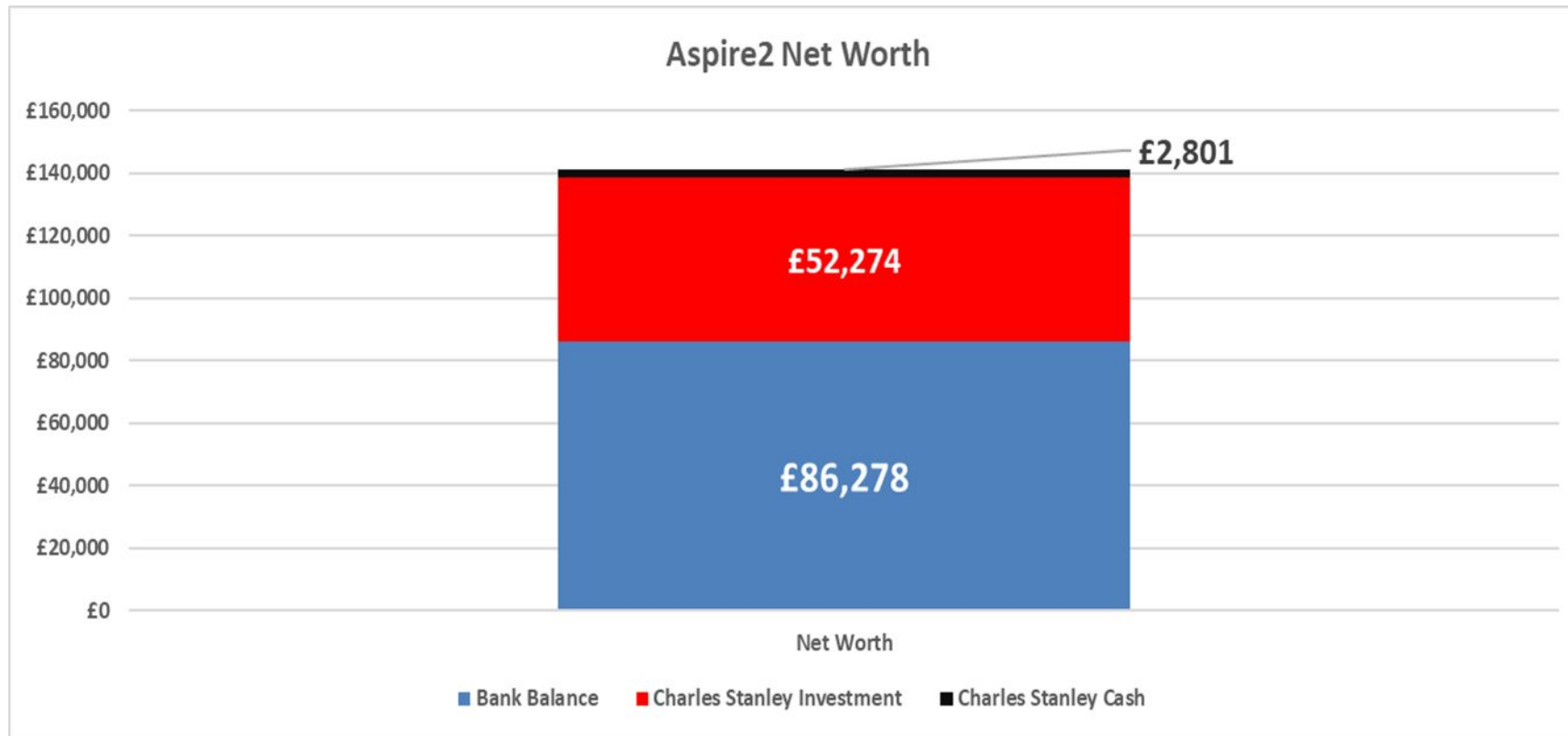
Current FY20/21 Financial
Cash Position: £86k.

We have income of £39k
so far, against a current
spend of £33k. So we
currently have an in year
surplus of £6k.

Aspire2 Cash Balance As at 29th November 2020 FY2020.21



FINANCE REPORT



We have a current net worth of £141k.

On 5th October 2020, Investments and Cash dividends held totalled £55k



ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED BY ASPIRE2



SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

- The 2019/2020 calendar of events looks significantly different to what we were hoping to share.
- Due to Covid-19 and the restrictions imposed as a result, many of the activities and experiences we would have facilitated or funded were impossible to execute.
- However, not to be discouraged, Aspire2 did work tirelessly with local community arts and sports groups to try to offer as many opportunities as we could to the children and families of South Reading during these unprecedented times.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

- From the start of the year, until the first lockdown halted all activities, Aspire2 continued to work alongside our long term and greatly valued partner, Ufton Educational trust. We continued to send hundreds of Whitley children on either day trips or residential visits.
- **Year 5 pupils University visit – Sept 19**
 - 307 Pupils from five Whitley primary schools visited the University of Reading to attend a lecture on either Volcanoes, History, Biology or Food., for a taster of University life. The lectures were followed by a campus tour and an opportunity for Q&A. Aspire2 sponsor the transport to and from this event.
 - It is a fantastic day, loved by both pupils and teachers. We will certainly be reinstating this into the Aspire2 calendar for next year.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

- [Aspire2 & WEC Public Speaking Competition – Feb 20](#)
 - Pupils from across the WEC schools from KS2 upwards took part in the final of the Public Speaking competition, which was held in a fantastic lecture theatre at the University of Reading.
 - The theme was 'Whose job is it to save the world'. It was a great event, featuring some fantastic speeches.
- All events planned from February onwards were then halted.
- Ordinarily, we would reflect upon, The WEC Olympics, visits to Ufton Court and Pangbourne College for outdoor adventures, our extremely popular Family Summer Holiday day trips, craft workshops in the school holidays and much more. Children would be busy practising their contributions to our annual Whitley Arts Festival and we would have been excited about the finalists of our annual poetry competition performing at the University. Unfortunately, none of that was possible.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES – COVID-19 RESPONSE



As a response to the Coronavirus situation, and recognizing that there would be many Whitley families who wouldn't have access to creative arts materials, Aspire2 created and distributed 150 art packs.

The packs contained sketchpads, paper, paints, brushes, pencils, crayons, pastel chalks, brushes, scissors, glue, and rubbers.

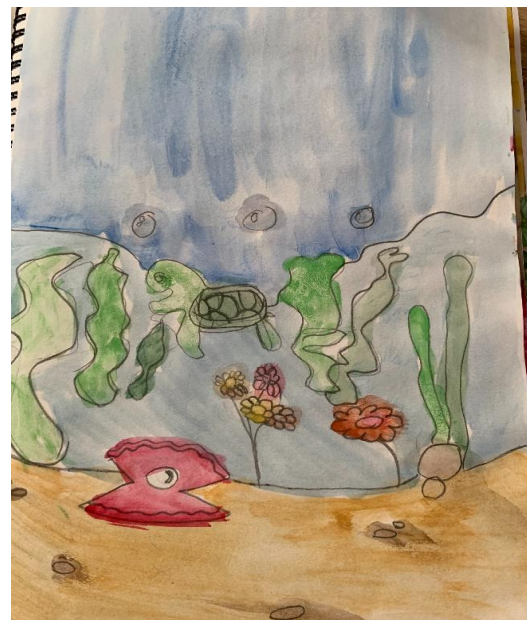
With the help of Whitley Community Development Association and Whitley schools, these packs were distributed to families of South Reading. We received some fantastic pieces of Art, which we shared on our social media platforms.



SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES – COVID-19 RESPONSE

Parental feedback was incredibly positive, with one parent saying,

“We really appreciate the art pack. It’ll keep him occupied for a while. He has Specific Language Impairment and although this improved a huge amount, he has always expressed himself through drawing and painting, even if it’s just little doodles, so this art pack has made a little boy extremely happy and I’m very grateful for that”



Some examples of the fantastic art work we received.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES – COVID-19 RESPONSE



- We also invited our partners at Ufton Court to run a series of great, fun filled activity days in one of our Whitley schools. The children loved the events. They worked together as teams to solve problems, build structures and have fun!
- Aspire2 funded a number of spaces for children to attend summer camps within local schools. The camps were arranged by the local council, but offered only limited funded spaces for specifically identified children. Aspire2 enabled many more children, identified by their school community, to attend.

Since the summer we have been working on many initiatives to engage with the South Reading community and local schools. These include, but are not limited to Rhyme time sessions, podcast recording, music tuition and sport clubs.

We look forward to incorporating programmes designed from new relationships forged during this strange time, with our much loved and enjoyed calendar of events.



ASPIRE2 PARTNERS



ASPIRE2 PARTNERS

Aspire2 are very fortunate to partner with a number of fantastic institutions, charities and business.

Ufton Adventure: The programmes offered by Ufton Adventure help children develop the skills, behaviours and attitudes that they need to succeed, to help children deal with the challenges they face in life. We use our Ufton Ladders of Success to show children how to break down complex concepts into manageable steps. These focus on raising self-esteem, development of friendship skills, tenacity, empathy and the management of personal wellbeing. We develop understanding of the behaviours of successful learners through the Ufton 4R's, which we believe lay a foundation for success in school and beyond.

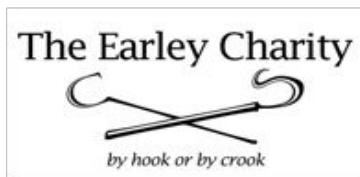
The University of Reading: Historically WEC & Aspire2 have been generously supported through a financial donation, which includes the funding all coach trips to Ufton Court and by providing rooms on site for activities – such as the Public Speaking event and the annual Poetry competition.

This Partnership is greatly valued. Aspire2 continue to work closely with the University and their outreach teams to provide enrichment opportunities for the children of Whitley.



ASPIRE2 PARTNERS

- **Earley Charity:** Earley Charity continue to be valued supporters of Aspire2. Their on-going donations to support enrichment across our schools is greatly appreciated. This year in particular, the Earley Charity have been hugely instrumental in enabling Aspire2 to realise our aspirations.
- **Reading Voluntary Action:** This year Aspire2 & WEC continued to work closely with Reading Voluntary Action. Aspire2 regularly attend youth focus groups facilitated by RVA, which has enabled us to forge some great partnerships with other local community groups and associations.
- **WCDA:** We are also grateful to the Whitley Community Development Association (CDA) who unquestionably assist Aspire2 with many of our plans and initiatives. Whether that be distributing art packs, or hosting arts performances.



working towards a stronger community
for the people of Reading

+ READING VOLUNTARY ACTION



ASPIRE2 PARTNERS

- **Holy Brook Associates:** We are delighted that Holy Brook Associates have agreed to continue their sponsorship to Aspire2 as their Charity of the Year.(www.holybrook-associates.co.uk). Their ongoing support of Aspire2 is multifaceted, with them believing in our programmes and aims, and also by providing much appreciated professional support and expertise.
- **Pangbourne College:** In February 2019 the WEC Orienteering competition was hosted by the college. This provided access to their lovely grounds at the college, which offered an interesting and challenging venue to our pupils. We have since submitted a joint bid with the college to continue and grow our partnership. Resulting in many more outdoor pursuits for Whitley children being hosted from the college.
- **The CEP:** The Reading Cultural Excellence Partnership have provided a wealth and depth of enrichment opportunities over the last year, from offering children tickets to theatre performances, to signposting free enrichment and educational opportunities for children. We are incredibly grateful to the CEP for inviting Aspire2 into their community.



Holy Brook
Associates





Thank you for your support!



<https://localgiving.org/donation/Aspire2Whitley>