

Annual Review 2025- 26



Thank you to all the partners, donors, supporters, volunteers and friends of KLS who help us reduce poverty and isolation and build a stronger community in Battersea.

Donate
by scanning
this QR code



Katherine Low Settlement
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www.klsettlement.org.uk

Registered charity no.1081248
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Give Your Time. Make A Difference

Volunteers are fundamental to life at KLS. They mentor children and young people, support older people, help members build confidence and new skills, and provide the practical support that keeps people connected to their community.



"For a lot of people, it's the only outing they get that week and the only time they see others. It gives a massive sense of community. People form friendships and they look out for each other."

— Nicky, Elders Programme volunteer



"I've worked with nonprofits before, but I haven't seen anything quite like the range KLS covers, and the way they stay individually engaged with everyone who comes through. People get the attention they deserve. It all feels very personal."

— Sophia, Future Foundations volunteer

164

Active
Volunteers

3,050

hours contributed

£51,850

estimated value of volunteer time

To get involved, explore volunteering opportunities and read the stories of the people who make it happen. Scan a QR code below to find out more.

Explore volunteering opportunities
klsettlement.org.uk/support/volunteering/



Read volunteer stories
klsettlement.org.uk/news/stories/

Rent a KLS Space for Your Special Occasion



Host your event in the heart of Battersea at Katherine Low Settlement.

From meetings, training and rehearsals to parties and community events, our welcoming spaces are available seven days a week with excellent transport links and flexible booking options.



Why Choose KLS

- Versatile spaces for up to 70 guests
- Six rooms of varying sizes
- Modern technical equipment available
- Fully accessible ground-floor rooms
- Friendly, professional support from our team



By hiring space at KLS, you are also supporting vital community work in Battersea.

Contact Tony at bookings@klsettlement.org.uk to check availability or arrange a viewing.

A Year of Deeper Impact in Battersea



For the first time, we can show not only how many people KLS reaches, but how much support sits behind those numbers.

During 2025/26, local people received 23,342 hours of direct support and took part in 12,635 sessions and events.

That means more time to learn, build confidence, make friends, stay independent and get help when life becomes difficult.

23,342

hours of direct
support

12,635

sessions and events

100+

community partners

And the difference reaches beyond our own programmes. More than 100 partners work alongside KLS and 30 charities and community groups use our building every week, helping create a stronger network of support across Battersea.

Finances 2025/2026

Our latest Annual Report & Accounts are available online:
www.klsettlement.org.uk/about/reports



Our Values, Objectives and Milestones



Our vision
An inclusive society where the people of Battersea and the wider Wandsworth community achieve their potential together.

Our mission
We foster and empower communities in our neighbourhood to reduce poverty and isolation.

2025/26 at a glance
942 local residents directly supported • 23,342 hours of direct support • 12,635 sessions and events • 164 volunteers • 100+ partners

- Our values**

 - Kindness
 - Respect
 - Collaboration
 - Sustainability
- Our aims**

 - Foster community
 - Promote empowerment
 - Fight poverty
 - Reduce isolation



KLS Needs You: Help Keep Battersea Connected

Demand for KLS services remains exceptionally high. Regular, unrestricted donations are especially valuable because they help us plan ahead, protect vital services and respond when local needs change.

- Ways to give**
- Give monthly – regular donations help us plan with confidence.
 - Take on a challenge – run, walk, cycle or create your own fundraiser.
 - Ask your workplace – many employers match donations or support local charities.
 - Leave a legacy – a gift in your Will can help keep KLS here for future generations.

Thank you to everyone who has already given so generously.
Ready to help? Contact Sarah at sarah@klssettlement.org.uk to get started and be part of our community's future.

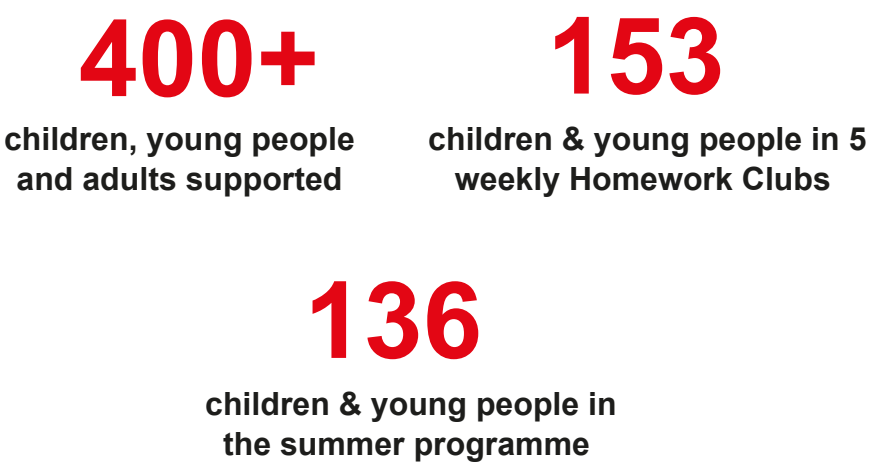


Future Foundations: Children, Young People & Families



Future Foundations supports children, young people and families from refugee and sanctuary-seeking backgrounds to build confidence, succeed in education and feel that they belong. Bringing learning, mentoring, youth work, casework, Community Learning and our free crèche together means we can respond to the whole family – and stay alongside them as their needs change.

“KLS is like my home, like my family. I feel safe here and I can be myself. When I came here I was scared and couldn't speak any English, but now I help other people and I feel more confident.”
— Naheed, 15, from Afghanistan



What changed for children and young people

- 153 children and young people had a safe, supportive place to learn each week through five Homework Clubs.
- 136 children and young people broadened their horizons through our summer programme; 20 newly arrived young people experienced a week-long sailing residential.
- 40 children received regular mentoring, building learning skills, confidence and trusted relationships.
- 48 children used weekly art therapy to explore bullying, grief and difficult emotions in a safe space.
- Early Years mentoring strengthened literacy, numeracy, communication, concentration and school readiness.
- Young people developed leadership and first-aid skills through Youth Ambassadors, with one selected as a Battersea Youth Ambassador.

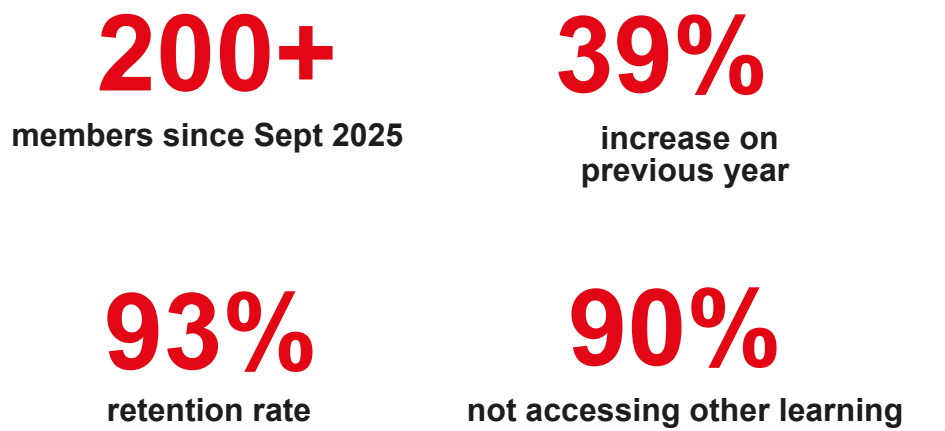
Family casework and advocacy

When problems at home or in education threatened a family's stability, our caseworkers stepped in. We managed 560 cases for 212 people – 31% more than the previous year – helping families avoid homelessness, challenge unsafe housing, secure school places and access SEND support.

Community Learning within Future Foundations



Community Learning helps adults who are often excluded from mainstream education take their next step – sometimes their very first step – into learning. More than 200 people participated from September 2025, 39% more than the previous year. Retention was 93%, and 90% of learners were not accessing any other formal or informal learning.



Why it matters

- Learners build practical English, literacy and numeracy skills they can use in everyday life.
- For some, KLS provides their first ever experience of a classroom – including adults learning to write their own name or their children's names.
- 53 parents completed Positive Parenting programmes, gaining practical strategies and greater confidence in family life.
- Learning is connected to wellbeing, friendship and confidence through creative and community activities.
- Walk and Talk gives isolated women a welcoming route into friendship, English practice and, where needed, specialist support.
- 22 specialist workshops helped learners understand housing, debt, SEND rights, the school system, mental health and financial wellbeing.
- Eight cultural and educational visits opened up new experiences across London.

“She is loving it! She always comes home telling us what she learnt. She has never ever been to school before, so she is finding going to the sessions very enjoyable. Thank you so much for all you are doing.”
— Daughter of a Community Learning member

Free in-house crèche

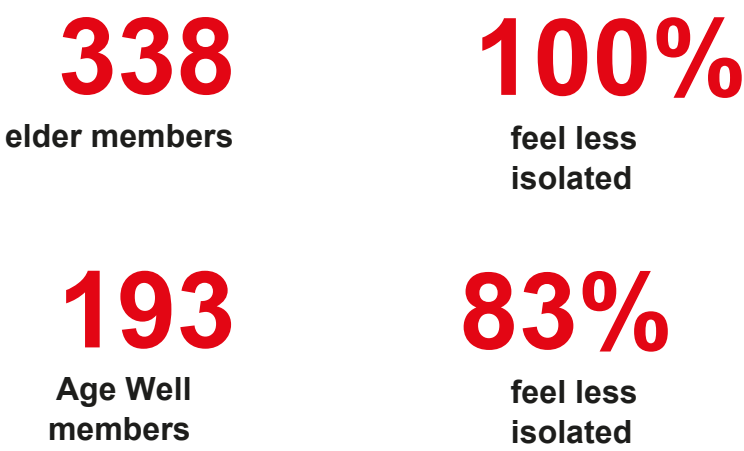
43 children used our free crèche, removing one of the biggest barriers to learning for parents of young children. Many tell us they simply could not attend classes without it.

Elders Programme



Our Elders programme helps older people stay connected, independent and part of their community. This year 338 members took part – and our impact survey found that 100% enjoy the social interaction, 92% are getting out more and 83% feel less isolated and more confident.

“When I first came to KLS I had been through a difficult time. I struggled even to get into the building because I was so anxious. The team were so welcoming and supportive and I can't believe that just a year later I'm now volunteering to help others. I've made so many friends. I really don't know where I'd be without KLS.”



What difference does it make?

- Lunch Club provides far more than a meal: it gives people friendship, routine and a trusted place to ask for help.
- Exercise and wellbeing activities help members maintain strength, balance, confidence and independence.
- Age Well grew by 37% to 193 members, with seven social groups now peer-led and co-produced by older people.
- Creative activities, trips and celebrations give people reasons to get out, try something new and build friendships.
- Our team handled 558 advice and casework cases for 238 people, helping with housing, benefits, health, debt and care.



Tech Up Battersea

As essential services move online, Tech Up helps older people stay independent rather than excluded. Weekly classes, drop-ins, one-to-one support and home visits build the confidence to manage healthcare, finances and everyday life online. The programme exceeded all contract KPIs by around 50%, supported by 11 peer Digital Champions.