

Sprinkles 2024 Impact Report

Dear Michael,

Thank you so much for your support, you have helped us to support so many young people over the last year. The below is a snapshot of what your donation of £6000 raised from the 2022 Ball helped us achieve and our plans for further development of the group!

You have helped us to run 8 youth group sessions supporting 7 unique young people and 7 unique adults.

Over the past five years, The Proud Trust has received numerous requests from primary schools, parents, carers, and youth services for LGBT+ support tailored to children under 13 - a group often overlooked due to misconceptions about their ability to understand their identities. By creating this service, we aimed to offer these young people and their families "Somewhere to go, Something to do, and Someone to talk to."

The aims of Sprinkles are connected to our five outcome indicators of Community, Belonging, Aspirations, Confidence and Wellbeing and they are:

- To foster a sense of community for LGBT+ young people aged 8-13 years old and their families
- Provide a safe and inclusive space where LGBT+ young people can express their identity and grow in confidence by being who they are.
- Support parents and carers of LGBT+ young people to have hope for their child's future
- To be a space where young people can express themselves freely and happily. • Help young people and their families create networks of support and breakdown isolation

For each session over the year we focused on a different topic including Queer Icons, Youth Pride, Back to School, Halloween, LGBT+ Superhero's and a Festive Party. One of the most impactful moments took place during Manchester Pride as you can see from this case study:



August was all about Youth Pride, a truly beautiful event and a first for us in engaging whole families to join in. Ten families walked with us at Manchester Pride, each one of them carrying colorful beehive umbrellas so they could stand out in the crowd of young people proudly marching. One 12-year-old arrived dressed in black, nervous and hesitant to

even come into the building. After a few minutes talking with one of our youth workers, they decided to join. They were amazed at how welcoming and supportive everyone was. Older young people introduced themselves, asked their name and pronouns, and invited them to meet others.

Later, that same young person reappeared, this time dressed head-to-toe in rainbows, ready to walk in Pride. Although still a little nervous, their mum was stunned by their transformation and their newfound confidence. They carried a flag high, boldly expressing their LGBT+ identity.

Halfway through the parade, the young person told that same youth worker that they were scared people might be laughing at them. The youth worker then told them, these people are here because you are wonderful and they want to celebrate you and our community. They told the young person, let me show you. The youth worker took the megaphone and shouted to the crowd:

"Wonderful people of Manchester! We are The Proud Trust! For many of our young people, today is their first-ever

Pride! Can we make some noise to show them how much you care and how amazing they are? Let's fill them with hope for the future!"

The crowd erupted into cheers and applause, and the young person's face lit up with joy and pride. Their mum, walking behind them, cried with happiness, amazed at how much her child had grown in just a few hours. Back at the building, the young person joined in a number of activities. By the end of the day, they ran up to the youth worker and said, "Thank you so much for today. It's honestly been the best day of my life."



The Year ahead

In response, we are excited to announce that starting February 2025, Sprinkles will transition to a weekly format. This change aims to:

- Provide a consistent and reliable offering for families.
- Make it easier for families to plan their participation.

- Attract new families through increased accessibility and frequency.

As you can hopefully see, you have truly helped us make a difference to the lives of young people and their adults alike. We rely on valued supporters to grow our offer and would be so grateful if you would consider supporting The Proud Trust again. If you would like to discuss this further please do not hesitate to drop me an email emma.miller-mccaffrey@theproudtrust.org All the best,

Emma Miller-McCaffrey