



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

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Katherine Low Settlement
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Volunteer and make a difference



“Volunteering brings an unmatched sense of fulfilment and positivity. The human connection and satisfaction of making a difference in someone’s life are truly invaluable. I encourage new volunteers to embrace these opportunities and make the most of the support offered by KLS staff.”

- We have multiple volunteering roles available and can help you choose which will work best for you
- Our experienced staff will make sure you are trained and supported throughout your time as a volunteer

Thank you to all the volunteers working at the heart of KLS this year.

To join them, contact Chris to find out more chrisk@klssettlement.org.uk and start making a difference in the community today.

Donate and make a difference



Your donations have a huge impact on the lives of the local people we work with. With your help, we can keep running our many activities including the Elders Lunch Club, Love to Learn Homework Club and ESOL (English) classes.

Ways to give

- Set up a monthly donation: this helps us plan our annual programmes with certainty
- Challenge yourself: sign up for a sponsored event or organise one in aid of KLS
- Speak to your employer about match-funding or nominating KLS as their Charity of the Year
- Leave a gift to KLS in your Will and your legacy will live on in Battersea

Thank you to everyone who has given in these ways this year. If you would like to follow their lead, we can get you started. Contact Emily to find out more: emily@klssettlement.org.uk

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Rent a KLS space for your special occasions



Whatever the occasion: birthdays, conferences, meetings, rehearsals, training or parties! We are open 7 days a week and are easy to reach with good transport links. We welcome one-off bookings, weekly classes, and long-term bookings. We will ensure you have the best experience with us.

- Space for up to 70 people
- 6 rooms to hire
- Technical equipment available
- Accessible ground floor rooms
- Friendly and professional staff team

KLS100 Building Appeal



To mark our centenary, we are raising much needed funds to keep our centre a safe, welcoming, accessible and sustainable place for the people of Battersea.

We are delighted that, so far:

- 63% of our online funding target has been raised in gifts from 44 individuals and institutions
- We have received over £27,000 as Gifts in Kind including painting and facilities refurbishment
- £20,000 of match funding has been pledged once we reach our target

Can you help us raise the remaining £37,000?

Every gift counts, large or small. If your employer offers match funding, please ask them if they can contribute too. If you can help, please get in touch with Emily: emily@klssettlement.org.uk

KLS celebrates our 100th birthday!



At the heart of Battersea since 1924

Katherine Low Settlement was founded in 1924 to commemorate the philanthropic work of our namesake in South London. Since our inception we have worked to reduce poverty and isolation in the local community. A century on, we are as busy as ever: around 500 people come through our doors every week for social and physical activities, education, casework support, celebrations and shared meals.



KLS100 Street Party

The people of Battersea came out in force to help us celebrate our birthday in May. Across KLS, Orville Road and Fred Wells Gardens, we sang, danced the maypole, ate cake, painted faces, zumba-ed and much more! Thank you to everyone who partied with us, and extra thanks to Enable, Edmiston and John D Wood for the support and sponsorship.



Royal Visit to KLS

We were honoured to welcome HRH The Duchess of Edinburgh to KLS in January. During the visit, HRH joined an Elders chair dance class, an ESOL sewing group and a Love to Learn mentoring session before unveiling a 100th Anniversary plaque. This visit built on a legacy of royal visits: KLS was opened by The Queen Mother, as Duchess of York, in 1924 and Her Majesty also returned to the Settlement in 1964 to mark our 40th Anniversary.

Our values, objectives and milestones



Our vision
We exist to create an inclusive society where the communities of Battersea and Wandsworth achieve their potential together.

Our values

- Kindness
- Respect
- Collaboration
- Sustainability

Our aims

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

997

members we supported through the year

100

regular donors and institutional funders

167

volunteers help us run our three programmes

65+

partners including charities and businesses



Finances 2023/2024

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

Photo credits to Gregor Petrikovič, Aisha Seriki, Yu Renije and Enable Leisure.

Elders Programme



Since 1924, we have provided a range of projects and activities for older people, focusing on health and wellbeing, creative arts, intergenerational work, connecting neighbours, trips and outings.

“It has made a huge difference to my personal well-being, and life changing for me and other friends.”

450

elder members

98%

enjoy the social interaction

18

multidisciplinary activities each week

87%

feel less isolated

Core Services

- Lunch Club
- Exercise classes
- Sewing Club
- Film Club
- Themed parties
- Advocacy support
- Wellbeing support
- Outreach support

Age Well Battersea

188 members join weekly activities in person and digitally:

- Creative art classes and socials
- Creating and sharing meals
- Photo-walking groups
- Exercise classes
- Horizons Club



Tech Up Battersea

Tech Beginners and Tech Up are weekly sessions based on the foundation skills of the Essential Digital Skills Framework. Supported by their peer mentors, 136 elders learn to:

- Buy, borrow, and access digital products
- Connect to affordable internet and digital services
- Learn and master daily digital skills

“I am gaining more confidence now using my phone. I’m still learning with the tablet but I’m positive my confidence will grow. The volunteers at the digital drop-in have been invaluable when I need extra support. Thank you KLS, to the entire crew who have been so helpful and supportive.”

ESOL Programme



We have provided free English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses for migrant and refugee communities in Wandsworth since 1999.

“Arriving in the UK I felt very relieved but also I felt sad because I miss my family very much. I really like how different the culture and community and people are in London.”

Exams, Qualifications and Next Steps

Most students can take exams and gain a nationally recognised certificate with NOCN (National Open College Network). On average, students stay with us for 3-5 years before moving on to further education and employment.

In-house Crèche

Free crèche for 43 young children (pre-school). Around 25% of our students use this, without it they say they couldn't study with us.



106

students 2023-2024

90%

achieved a nationally recognised certificate

95%

increased their confidence to use English in the ‘real world’

Extra-curricular programme

Our students want to practise English outside of the classroom, so we provide multiple opportunities for them to get together, learn new skills and have fun, including walking groups, learning to cycle, writing workshops, art therapy, yoga, dance, exercise, cooking, photography, sewing, a book club and exploring London.

Love to Learn Programme



We have been working with children and young people from refugee backgrounds and their families/carers since 2004, providing a range of education, advice and wellbeing services.

Youth work

- Homework and Youth Clubs
- GCSE Clubs
- Post-16 employability support
- Online mentoring
- Early Years mentoring
- Trips and outdoor activities
- Summer holidays project
- Art therapy project

“Thank you so much for your help, it is much appreciated as I have been struggling- so you taking the time to help me and my family means a lot to me.”

Casework and advice

We helped 142 families and young people to resolve issues such as school exclusions, post-16 choices, SEND issues, family reunions, poor housing and mental ill-health.

406

young people supported from refugee background

96%

feel positive about themselves

73%

5 - 14 year olds engage in learning at our homework clubs

67%

14 - 21 year olds want to go into further education or know what to do next

“I love coming to the club, it is fun and I love doing art and music and being with my friends.”



Partnership development

- Multidisciplinary workshops, talks and visits to The Wave Project, Our Second Home and Artists in Transit
- An exciting range of residential trips including water skills on the Isle of Wight and a taste of rural life at Jamie's Farm
- Careers Fairs supporting over 40 young people