

# AFK

working with disability  
creating opportunities



# Impact Report 2024-25

Breaking Down Barriers



# Our Impact at a Glance

725

**Children and young people supported**

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our supporters, we've helped disabled and neurodiverse children and young people across the UK to live independently and reach their full potential.

# Our approach

**We create practical solutions through two core areas:**

**Providing specialist  
mobility equipment**

**Delivering tailored  
employment support**

**Our programmes are designed in collaboration with the young people we support, ensuring they meet real needs and create lasting impact.**



Making equipment dreams reality

**Through strategic partnerships, we secured life-changing equipment from leading foundations and trusts:**

- The Elifar Foundation
- Florence Nightingale Aid in Sickness Trust
- DTD Charity
- Independence at Home
- The Hospital Saturday Fund
- Motability Foundation
- Barchester's Charitable Foundation
- Caudwell Children
- The Joseph Patrick Trust
- Promise Dreams
- The Victoria Foundation
- The Toy Trust

**"The equipment has been instrumental in our daughter's rehabilitation journey, providing targeted support for strength development and increased independence." — Parent testimonial**

# Specialist Mobility Equipment

## The numbers

- 178 items provided (8% increase)
- £243k total investment
- £113k raised through advocacy
- 3 months average wait time
- £17k Maintenance support

## Unique Support

We're the only charity in the UK that covers maintenance for the powerchairs we help fund.

## Budget Growth

Annual budget increased from £250k to £260k to meet rising demand.

# Pathways to Employment



# Pathways to employment

**23**

Gained paid employment

**30**

Work placements completed

**20**

Started volunteering

**75%**

Still employed after 12 months

# Building Employer Connections

## 2024-25 Employer Visits

Behind-the-scenes tours that broaden aspirations and understanding of career opportunities.



**The Shard**  
with Kraft Heinz



**British Library**  
behind the scenes



**Greggs**  
**Warehouse**  
Operations Tour



**National Theatre**  
Production Insights



# Exploring Entrepreneurship

## We Mean Business Programme

97

Young people supported

9

Trading businesses created

- 77 young people attended workshops on self-employment pathways
- 20 entrepreneurs received one-to-one mentoring
- 9 participants attended our first Summer Business School
- 80% exceeded our business creation target

# Entrepreneurial Success

## Summer Business School Highlights

An intensive two-week programme at the Small Business Research Enterprise Centre (July 2024):

- **Practical activities and mentoring**
- **Guest speaker sessions**
- **Business concept refinement**
- **7 clear business ideas developed**
- **2 entrepreneurs started new businesses (second-hand vinyl & Arsenal merchandise)**

"The programme impacted my confidence and provided me with a network of support. I felt empowered and learned my potential." —

Devalle, Adaptive Ballers founder

# Cultural Ambassadors

A 22-week programme providing a gateway to careers in the arts, culminating in the I AM Festival at Tate Modern (March 2025).

## Alumni Success: Parag's Journey

From participant to paid Assistant Programme Facilitator — mentoring new participants and contributing to programme delivery.

"Bittersweet" — Parag reflecting on his facilitator role

The festival brought London organisations together to "Make Some Noise" through dance, music, theatre and art — championing inclusivity and challenging stereotypes



# Impact and Innovation team

Four Programmes supporting 295 young people including:

**8**

Independent travellers

**52**

Making an impact participants

**49**

Co-production involvement

**31**

Training and events collaborators

# Our Strategy for 2025-2028

---

Ambitious Goals for Greater Impact

**180**

Equipment Items Annually

**£115k**

Advocacy funding target

**105**

Employment Programme  
Participants

**90**

Self-employment participants

# Innovation: Our Future Direction

## EDI Consultancy

Launching specialist training for organisations on disability awareness and neurodiversity, with co-facilitation from our ambassadors and alumni. This social enterprise will generate income while promoting inclusivity.



# Innovation: Our Future Direction

## Internship Programme

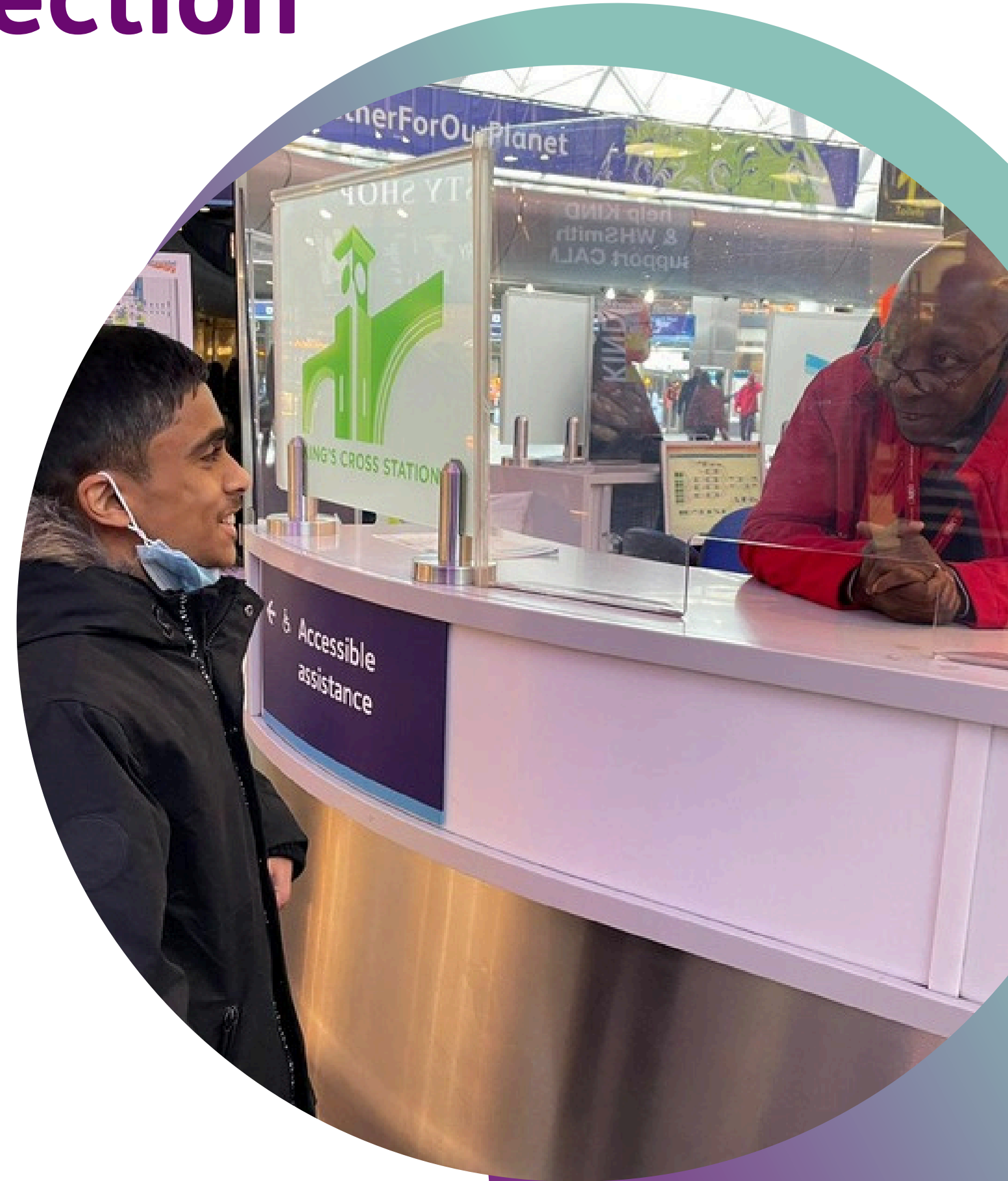
A tailored programme for young people 16-18 who require additional time and support to transition to other work programmes, delivered in partnership with North London schools and local businesses.



# Innovation: Our Future Direction

## Train the Travel Trainer

Offering accredited training for local authorities and education providers who wish to deliver their own Independent Travel Training Programmes in-house.



# Thank you to our supporters



# We are deeply grateful to our generous partners who made this impact possible:

## Trusts & Foundations

- Boshier-Hinton Foundation
- City Bridge Foundation
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- Henry Smith Foundation
- Masonic Charitable Foundation

## Corporate Partners

- The Berkeley Foundation
- Big Give
- The Bloomfield Charitable Trust
- Candis
- CareTech Charitable Foundation
- GamesAid
- Mazars Charitable Trust
- The Motability Foundation
- South East Consortium
- The Wellington Management UK Foundation

# Join Our Journey

Together, we can create a world with no barriers to independence. We're looking for partners who share our vision and want to make a difference in the lives of disabled and neurodiverse children and young people.

[www.afkcharity.org](http://www.afkcharity.org)  
e: [info@afkcharity.org](mailto:info@afkcharity.org)  
AFK is committed to supporting disabled and neurodiverse young people across the UK

