



**COMMUNITY TRUST**  
*At The Heart Of The Community*

# **CACT Attendance and Attainment Programmes in Kent January-July 2023**

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**Principal Partner**



**[www.cact.org.uk](http://www.cact.org.uk)**



## CACT Overview



- The community programme at Charlton Athletic Football Club was established in 1992 and became a registered Charity and known as Charlton Athletic Community Trust (CACT) in 2003
- Over this period, CACT's work has grown and diversified. The organisation currently employs 94 full-time staff and has a pool of 90 sessional staff, engaging thousands of people on a weekly basis
- The geographical areas CACT covers include Greenwich, Bexley, Bromley and Kent, across 7 delivery strands:

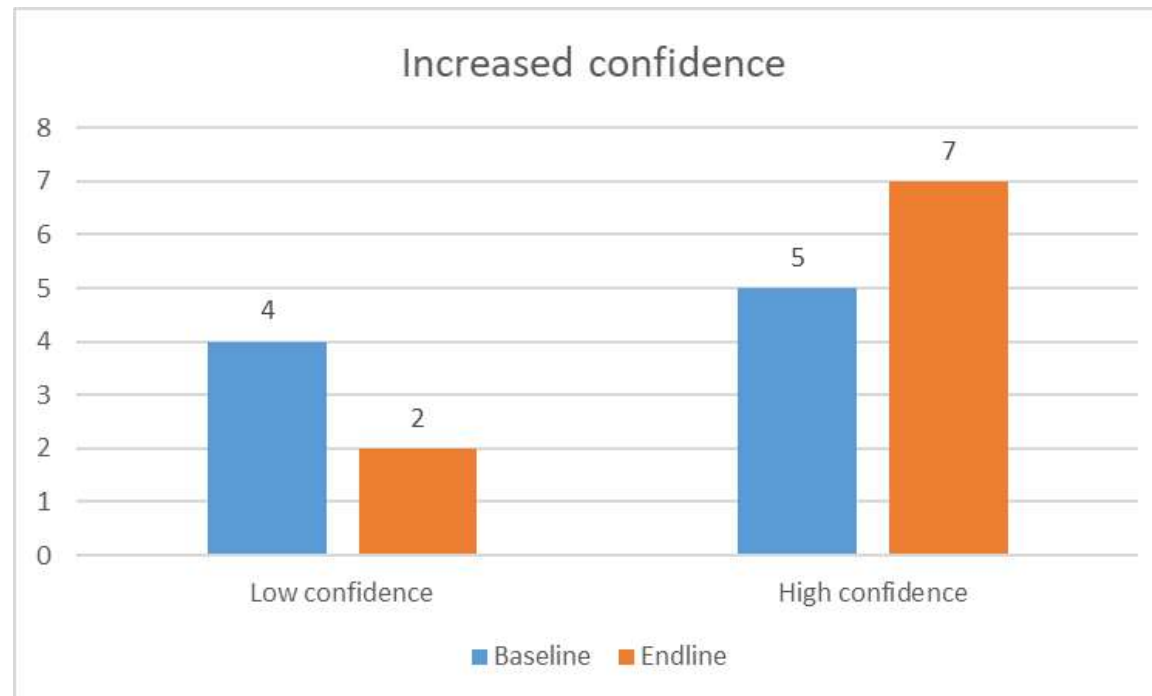


- **Early Help and Prevention**
- **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**
  - **Health Improvement**
- **Social Action and Enterprise**
  - **Youth Services**
- **Football and Sports Development**
  - **Education**



# CACT Connects Secondary: Progress Outcomes

Average increase in English assessment score was 88%





# Attendance and Attainment Programme

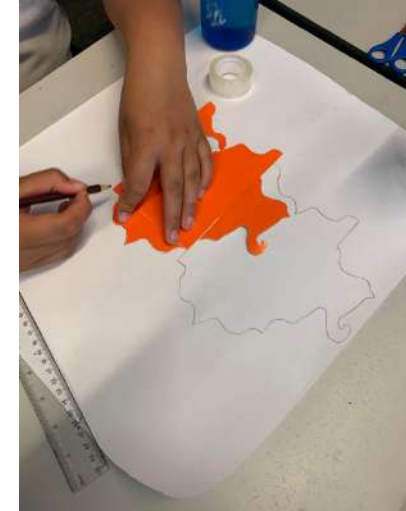
- **Aims** to contribute to improved attendance, engagement and academic, health and wellbeing outcomes particularly for pupils with poor attendance.
- **Building** on success of the CACT Connects programme and current local approaches
- **Implementing** a holistic approach
  - Numeracy development combined with fun sports activities
  - A safe and supportive approach that promotes participation and personal growth
  - Bespoke programmes tailored to meet the needs of pupils and align with school priorities





## What have we done in 2023?

- Targeted and engaged via three key touch points:
  - Preparing to start primary school
  - Transition to secondary school
  - KS3/KS4 re-engaging pupils with persistent absence challenges
- Engaged parents and carers to build new, and deepen existing, home/school relationships
- Built in new training and work experience opportunities
- Facilitated enhanced partnerships between secondary and primary schools to support transition from Year 6 to 7





# 'Getting Ready for School with Number Fun'

- 4 pilot early years family learning programmes provided May-July 2023, each with 8 sessions of 2 hours duration
- Children due to start primary school in September invited to join together with a parent, grandparent or carer
- Focused on:
  - building parents' confidence to support their child's learning
  - building and strengthening home school relationships
  - developing maths language, knowledge and skills through fun games, activities and physical activity with extension ideas for home





# 'Getting Ready for School with Number Fun'

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4 schools participated with a total of 30 children and 41 parents/carers

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Of those who completed endline surveys...

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100% of teachers rated the programme as good (50%) or excellent (50%)

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100% of parents rated the programme as good (14%) or excellent (86%)

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100% of parents rated the support received from staff as good (5%) or excellent (95%)

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95% of parents said they would be interested in other family learning programmes

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38% of parents said they would be interested in learning more about adult maths courses

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# Parent/Carer Number Fun Learning Outcomes

## What have you learnt?

- 'How to support my child in their learning journey.'
- 'Lots of different physical activities to help support physical and educational development.'
- 'Importance of parents being involved in child's education. How much adult support and involvement can benefit the children.'
- 'I feel that I've learnt a lot with the tasks. It's about taking notice of everyday events and using them to teach your children in every way.'
- 'Has given me something to think about in terms of activities that can provide excellent learning opportunities.'
- 'I have learnt ways of introducing maths into our everyday home life. My daughter is looking forward to going to big school. I think these sessions have helped her to prepare for the move up.'





## Parent/Carer Feedback on Number Fun

*'It's great that 'E' has had the opportunity to meet teachers and make friends. He can be shy, but now happily goes off with the teachers for activities. He tells us how much he enjoys the sessions.'*

*'I got to think more about the learning side of everyday life and loved meeting other new parents.'*

*'The sessions have been amazing and so enjoyable. I would recommend this to everyone whose child is starting primary school. I have learnt so much and taking away so many new ideas.'*

*'It gave me a chance to help better support my daughter's learning. It helped to make her feel comfortable and confident in her new school.'*

*'Overall an amazing course. I loved the fact 'M' got to spend time with his new teachers in his new environment and I have no doubt it will help with him settling in next year.'*



## Primary Teachers - Number Fun Feedback

*'It gave them an opportunity to do something one on one with their parents.'*

*We have already been able to identify if any child might need any additional support and it also helped us to form some early positive relationships with these children before they start with us in September.'*

*'Many of the children are coming without knowing anyone else or maybe know just one other child so this has been brilliant!'*

*'It has been wonderful to see how the little group of children have become friends.'*

*'For parents... it has helped create more positive relationships with staff. . It can help them realise that school can be a good place for their child to go to and learn exciting things.'*

*It has been really valuable for our little ones! I feel like I know so much about them already which will only support their transition into school!'*



# Year 6 Transition Programme – Goals

**Focused on building children's confidence and a positive approach to transition through:**

- Encouraging a positive attitude via cross-curricular maths activities
- Providing fun and inclusive physical activity, facilitating teamwork and building social connections and cohesive relationships within the group
- Establishing friendships with future Year 7 peers from other schools
- Building and strengthening home school relationships
- Introducing the children to Oasis Academy members of staff
- Identifying and meeting needs of individual children through one-to-one partnership working





## Year 6 Transition Programme – Activities

- For children due to start Oasis in September
- 3 programmes provided May-July 2023 and hosted by Oasis Academy
- Sessions delivered by CACT in partnership with Oasis Hub Team and participating primary schools
- Blended approach – engaging, creative maths activities and fun, inclusive physical activity, with a focus on emotional health and wellbeing
- Tours of the school and familiarisation with Oasis Academy routines and Hub Team
- Parent/carer engagement at 3 points in the programme





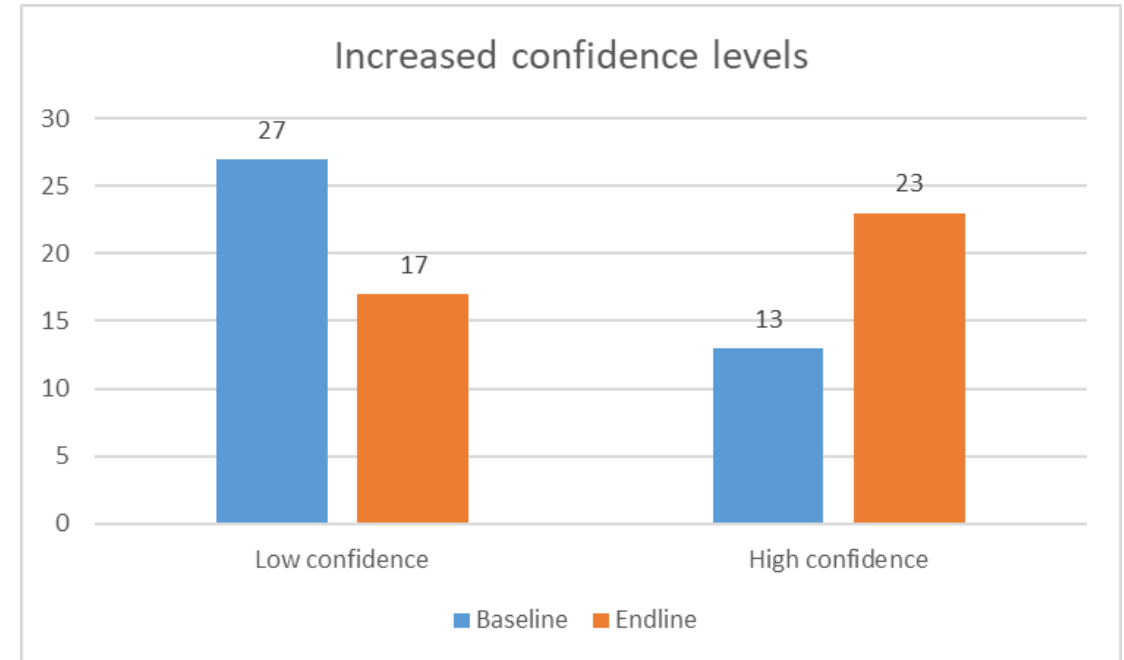
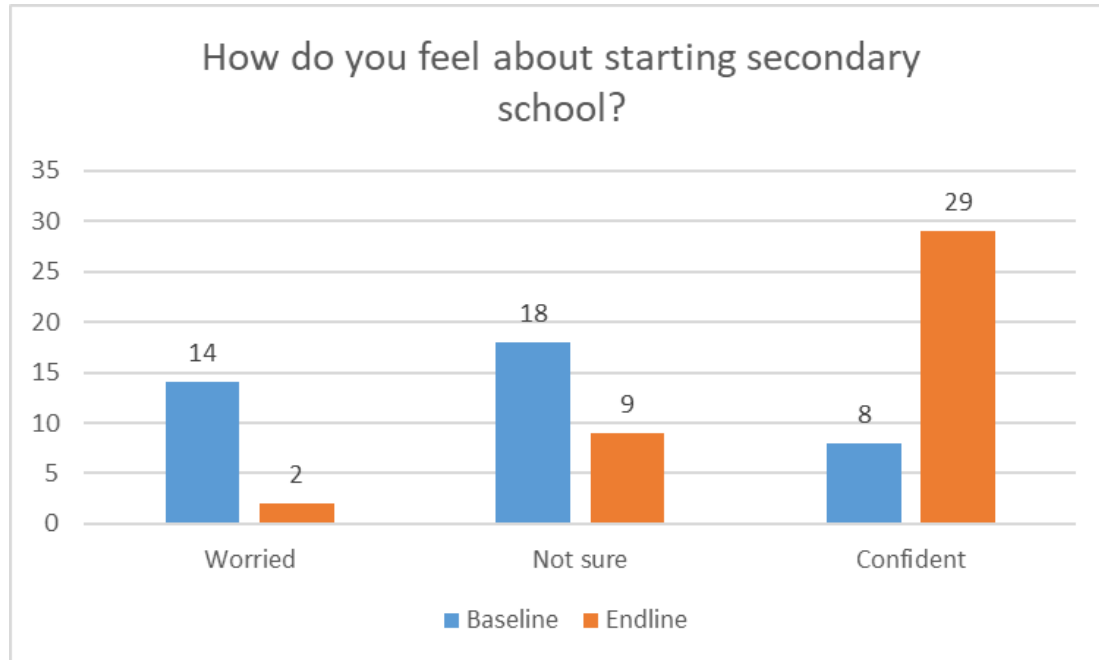
# Year 6 Transition Programme – Data

- 6 primary schools involved with a total of 48 Year 6 pupils
  - 98% of children rated the overall programme as **Good** (23%) or **Excellent** (75%)
  - 100% of teachers rated the overall programme as **Excellent** and said their school would be interested in running it again
- Parent carer engagement:
  - 85% of children had a parent/carer attend at least once
  - 44% of children had a parent/carer attend 2 or 3 sessions
  - 93% of parents who completed the endline survey felt more confident about their child's move to Oasis
  - 93% of parents who completed the endline survey also felt they now have a clearer point of contact at Oasis Academy if they want to discuss their child's transition





# Year 6 Transition Programme – Data





## Year 6 Transition – Feedback from Pupils

Helped me know I can ask questions if I need help. I enjoyed it.

They got me used to going to Secondary School before September.

They helped me to practice some different sports and got to meet new friends and practice team-work.

I feel better about having a go at different things. Feel better working with people I don't know.

Its made me less nervous about doing sport in front of people.

I'm much less nervous. I feel confident about this now.



## Year 6 Transition - Feedback from Parents

*'She's more relaxed in starting in September, made other friends, enjoyed sports as well.'*

*'She has got used to where she has to go and made friends with other schools.'*

*'She has met new children and learnt that school isn't scary.'*

*'Definitely taken a lot of the anxiety away from it – before worried about getting lost – on transition day got straight on the bus.'*

*'He's really grown in confidence. Loved mixing with the other kids.'*





## Feedback from Year 6 Staff

Around 50% of the children's attendance has improved. The children always make sure they try and come in on a Wednesday (some are sad when they can't come due to illness)

Overall the children have thrived during these sessions. The impact is seen across different fields such as academic life and their social life. They are more willing to work as a team and less likely to get frustrated when things don't turn out their way. The children have loved it. It's nice for them to get a taste of the school before they arrive.

I feel it has helped the connection between the teachers and students with their transition and that they can talk to the teacher should they need to

It has completely uplifted their confidence. It's almost like they are completely different children.



## KS3/4 Re-engagement Programme - Activities

- 1 hour maths activities and/or vocational courses with a focus on the specific education and career interests of individual students
- 1 hour physical activities
- Focus on emotional health and wellbeing
- Raising aspirations and identifying pathways
- Work experience on CACT Number Fun and Year 6 Transition programmes for 3 students
- Re-engagement with school and attending on-site for classes for first time in 1-3 years





# KS3/4 Re-engagement Programme – Outcomes

Impact Measures	Results
% increase in maths score	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0 <math>\longrightarrow</math> 10 = 1000%</li> <li>• 15 <math>\longrightarrow</math> 30 = 100%</li> <li>• 8 <math>\longrightarrow</math> 22 = 175%</li> </ul>
Certificates gained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 x EE Playmaker</li> <li>• 2 x Safeguarding for All</li> <li>• 2 x Talent Identification</li> </ul>
Impact on confidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 75% of the students stated confidence in themselves had increased</li> </ul>
Impact on Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All students attended some sessions on school site, with 4/5 students attending regularly on site</li> <li>• One student has re-started attending secondary school full time</li> </ul>
Overall rating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100% of the students rated overall enjoyment of the programme as 'Excellent'</li> </ul>



## How did the programme benefit you:

*'It made me feel more comfortable and confident going back to school. It helped me gain in confidence in my abilities. I believe in myself more.'*

*'Increased learning abilities'*

*'Been so good - I now come and help out at the Year 6 programme. Feel more confident to come and join new things.'*

*'Built confidence to mix with other people I don't know and come out of the house which I found difficult before the programme. This programme has given me a pathway and I now know what I want to do in the future. The work experience on the Early Years programme has really helped me.'*

*'Built my confidence. To know I'm good at maths and I can do it. Feel more confident to do my GCSEs now. Really enjoyed the programme.'*



## Feedback from KS3/4 Parents

*How do you think your child has benefitted from attending the Charlton and Oasis Hub programme?*

His confidence has grown so much. He loved the football. He loved doing the courses too, it really helped him know he can achieve things. It really helped him getting out of the house.

I feel more optimistic about my child's future as a result of the programme.

I really liked how you listened to him and changed things to make it work for him - he felt special.

It gave her confidence and helped us to get her back to school. ... enjoyed her time there.

I think my child is more likely to continue to attend school as a result of the programme



## Feedback from KS3/4 staff

*How do you think your child has benefitted from attending the Charlton and Oasis Hub programme?*

...they wouldn't leave the house, just because of anxieties, and now they are sat talking to people and they are engaging and they are helping out in programmes... it's that stuff that makes you happy... makes you realise the impact of the work

Improved attendance rates

...They are just becoming who they are and that's what's really important and having people around them to believe and not give up on them. The Charlton staff have been amazing!

Their confidence, social skills and maths knowledge grew from the first session.



## 'Day at The Valley'

20 families from participating schools on the Isle of Sheppey took part in the 'Day at The Valley' trip on 7th October 2023.

The CACT offer included:

- Return coach travel from Oasis Academy
- Fun physical activities in the morning led by CACT sports coaches
- A hot lunch for children, parents and accompanying staff
- Tickets to the Charlton vs Blackpool match





## What were the key factors contributing to CACT's positive impact on Isle of Sheppey?

- The hook of Charlton Athletic professional football club and how we embody our values in our work
- Holistic approach and flexibility to adapt to individual school contexts
- Growing trust and relationships on the Island
- Deepening collaborative approach with and between schools and other key partners
- Co-construction of programmes that build on the existing work of partners
- Parental engagement and involvement
- Schools maximising the opportunities offered by the programmes
- Commitment to harnessing any opportunities to build sustainable improvements







## What might we do differently?

- Seek secure funding that allows us to plan all aspects effectively from inception in the way that Multiply funding didn't allow
- Shorten the Number Fun programme to 6 weeks so that it can be delivered within a term without interruption, is less of a commitment particularly for working parents but still provides the positive outcomes
- Consider the ways in which we could further support transition from primary to secondary school specifically for children with SEN in partnership with the new Clusters
- Build clear work experience options into the initial planning for secondary students
- Explore other options for supporting schools with attendance between transition years





## Next steps

- Completion of the Number Fun schools' pack to support primary schools in their work to welcome new pupils starting school in September
- Completion of the Year 6 to Year 7 Transition programme pack to support secondary schools in their transition work
- Launch of pre 16 programme for Year 9 at Oasis Academy
- Continue our work in Isle of Sheppey schools using fun sports activities to enhance engagement, attendance and attainment
- Explore with the Strategic Group our continuing partnership in Kent...





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