

NEWSLETTER



Who Are We?

Tamil Special Children UK (TSC UK) was formed as a WhatsApp group on the 9th October 2017. The group began with just 4 parents who came together to provide each other with a support system for raising their special children. In August 2020, TSC UK was registered as a charity.

The purpose of our charity remains to promote social inclusion for the public benefit by working with the Tamil community who are socially excluded on the grounds of their learning disability/difficulty, to relieve the needs of such people and assist them to integrate into the Tamil society, in particular by:

- raising the Tamil community's awareness of the issues affecting people with learning disabilities/difficulties, both generally and in relation to their social exclusion.
- providing workshops, forums, advocacy and general support for Tamil people with learning disabilities/difficulties, their families and carers. "Learning disability" means any developmental disability of the mind and any associated condition howsoever caused and whether mild, moderate or severe.

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MEET THE TEAM

TRUSTEES

The Trustees of TSC stand as the charity's pillar, composed entirely of parents to our TSC children. They dedicate immense effort to oversee operations, drive strategic initiatives, and work towards creating a lasting impact for the TSC community.

The running of our non-profit organisation stands with these individuals who keep the well-being of TSC UK at their core.

WORKING GROUP

Comprised of parents of TSC children, this group takes an active role in organising events, arranging activities, and running classes such as yoga and cooking. Balancing full-time jobs and caregiving, they create a supportive and engaging space for families.

This hardworking group fosters a sense of community and belonging, helping to make TSC UK a welcoming place for all.

SIBLING COMMITTEE

The TSC Sibling Committee is composed of the siblings of our TSC children. Alongside organising events, their primary goal is to raise awareness about TSC by building connections with universities, collaborating with young influencers, and plan future events to strengthen the community.

If you're a sibling aged 18 or above of a TSC child and are interested in joining, please feel free to message us via Instagram DM.

VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers are a diverse group of friends, family, and supporters who dedicate their time and talents in countless ways - from creating content to providing hands-on assistance at events and spreading the word about our mission. Their generosity and hard work make everything we do possible. The volunteers group was created by the Sibling Committee.

If you're interested in joining, please fill out the form attached to our LinkTree, accessible in our Instagram bio.

2024 EVENTS RECAP

SPORTS MEET

On the 1st of June 2024, the grounds behind Manjal Restaurant in Loughton were once again transformed into a lively hub of excitement as over 200 TSC UK members came together for the annual Sports Meet. With families proudly sporting their team colours, the day was filled with smiles, laughter, and a healthy dose of competition to kick off the summer in the most active and enjoyable way!

The ever-charismatic Karthik Durairaj took the reins as our host, keeping spirits high and the energy flowing throughout the day. From the balancing bean bag race to the lemon and spoon race, kids and adults alike gave it their all in each event, with siblings and parents competing in their own races. The tug-of-war was a showstopper, especially when it came to the parents go—it was truly a sight to behold!

Of course, no TSC Sports Meet would be complete without the electric dance session led by the one and only Swapna Velayudham, whose infectious energy, alongside the Nrithyam team, had everyone moving and grooving. The joy on the children's faces was unmatched as they showcased their best moves, embodying the carefree spirit of the day.

Every child went home a winner, beaming with pride as they received their well-deserved medals. The celebrations continued as families enjoyed a delicious buffet, generously sponsored by Lyca's Gnanam Foundation. Lyca's unwavering support—including the venue, food, and so much more—made this day not only possible but unforgettable. Their commitment to the TSC community is truly remarkable, and we are endlessly grateful for their generosity.



Tug of War



Relay Race

Beyond the races and the medals, what truly stood out was the overwhelming sense of unity and joy. Watching children laugh, play, and make memories while parents connected with one another was a reminder of the importance of this event. For many families, the Sports Meet is more than just a day of fun—it's a way to kick off the summer on a positive, active note and build lasting bonds within the TSC community.

A huge thanks to Lyca's Gnanam Foundation, Nrithyam, all volunteers and the Working Group for making this day so special. Your hard work, dedication, and passion ensured that the TSC Sports Meet 2024 was not just an event, but an unforgettable experience for everyone involved.

2024 EVENTS RECAP

CHARITY WALK



The Walk

On July 13th 2024, at Valentine's Park, TSC hosted its third annual charity walk. This event was organised by the Siblings Committee - a group of siblings of TSC children - and supported by both the Working Group and young sibling volunteers.

The primary goal of the event was not just to raise funds but to foster a strong sense of togetherness and belonging. It was a day to celebrate the resilience and joy of the TSC community, while also raising awareness for the cause. As everyone walked through the park, their journey filled with laughter, singing, and impromptu music-making. Dance breaks were added to bring an added sense of fun, ensuring that the event remained engaging and inclusive for all.

After the walk, the sense of togetherness continued with a picnic. A variety of delicious food was shared, strengthening connections and creating lasting memories. The picnic was enlivened by performances that reflected the spirit of the day, showcasing music, dance, and mimicry that resonated deeply with the charity's motto of a kootu kodumbam - united family. The event was a heartfelt reminder of the power of community to inspire and uplift, leaving everyone who attended with a sense of hope, belonging, and purpose.



The day concluded with dances and expressions of gratitude to all attendees and volunteers. This charity walk was an overwhelming success, serving as much more than a 'walk'. It was a journey of dedication, unity, and hope. The cheerful turnout demonstrated the incredible power of teamwork, highlighting the positive change that can arise from intergenerational collaboration and shared talents.

An extended gratitude to the performers and hosts: Sugani Suganthan, Umar Salman, Ilakya, Sagnsiga Shanmugalingam, Thakshana Pathmasri and SP Alan - whose talent and dedication brought joy to the event. Their efforts, combined with the commitment of our volunteers, ensured the day was smoothly run.



Volunteers & Awards

2024 EVENTS RECAP

APOORVA VARNANGAL

We are once again delighted to share the success of our second large-scale fundraising event. Apoorva Varnangal took place on the 3rd of November 2024 at the Redbridge Town Hall, Ilford. The event saw a significant increase in turnout and tickets were once again completely sold out.

The charismatic Priya Ananth hosted the event and commenced the evening with some icebreakers which was then followed by the performances. The event, much like last year's, provided a platform for our children, their siblings and their parents to showcase their talents. The acts included singing, dancing, various instrumental performances as well as other entertainment bits. The breaks between performances were used to honour individuals and organisations that have been an essential part of TSC's journey as well as for a few words from our valued sponsors.

Once again, due to the generosity of the sponsors, we were able to organise a raffle, giving attendees the opportunity to win a variety of fantastic prizes. The funds raised were impressive and is another step towards achieving our future goals.



As the performances concluded, the dinner service began, and the dance floor opened up. Parents and sponsors were able to chat and reflect on yet another hugely successful event while the children danced away, bringing the evening to an end.

A huge thanks to everyone who attended, the performers, the sponsors and the events staff who collectively made the event an even bigger success.

Its proven success means that the event will continue to take place annually, playing an instrumental role in advancing TSC's long-term goal. This is to create a supported living environment for our special children where they can thrive together. Our fundraising initiatives are driven by our vision to protect our children with this residential community, making Apoorva Varnangal our most heartfelt annual project.

2024 EVENTS RECAP



HALLOWEEN PARTY

On the 27th of October 2024 at the Woollard Centre, TSC hosted its first-ever Halloween Party, bringing a spooky twist to our annual celebrations! A brand new initiative led by the Sibling Committee, the party came alive with witches, skeletons, ghosts, and many more as our children and families arrived in their imaginative costumes, fully embracing the Halloween spirit.



The event began with an arts and crafts session where the children decorated Halloween ornaments and coloured spooky-themed drawings. After a short break with tasty snacks, the highlight of the event took place – the Halloween Fashion Show. Each of our TSC stars proudly showcased their creative costumes, eliciting applause and encouragement as each child embraced their moment to shine.

The fun didn't stop there – the children then joined in a series of engaging games, including a lively round of musical chairs and an exciting mini sensory bin hunt. The event was a true celebration of creativity, togetherness, and joy, leaving everyone with cherished memories and smiles.

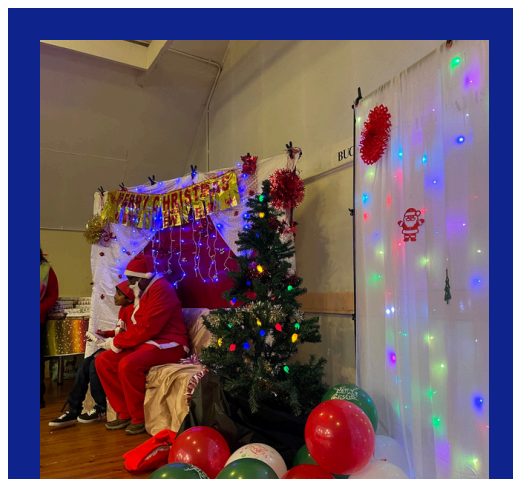


CHRISTMAS PARTY

Held in Buckhurst Hill on the 14th of December, TSC's Christmas Party wrapped up a wonderful 2024!

As one of our internal events held just before new beginnings, the event was attended by a number of new families who seemed touched by the support and inclusive community. We joined in celebrating the courage of some of our brave new TSC heroes who put on show-stopping acts for the first time in their lives! Ranging from geo-guessing to yoga, we really had it all this year.

The activities had worked up the appetites of the attendees who enjoyed a lovely dinner. The festivity became contagious with many of our TSC heroes donning the iconic Santa hat and the dance floor was opened up to finish off a fun final TSC event of the year.



Santa's Visit

After the children had finished their performances, they enjoyed a much anticipated visit from Santa who gifted all the TSC children and young siblings an exciting memory puzzle! Santa's visit was followed by a lot of pictures, and opened up the space for some game time.

2024 EVENTS RECAP

INTERNAL EVENTS

Throughout 2024, TSC UK has hosted a range of on-going activities and clubs for our special children. These programs are designed to help children develop new skills, build confidence, connect and interact with others within the community in a supportive environment.

Yoga Classes

Every Thursday evening from 7:15PM to 8:15 PM, we run yoga sessions to help our special children relax and stay active. Yoga has been shown to calm and benefit special children. One of our charity members, who trained with a yoga instructor in India, leads the sessions, teaching the children various poses, or "asanas." This year, the yoga group performed a beautiful yoga routine for the first time at Apoorva Varnangal 2024, our annual charity fundraiser event, and we're excited to see more performances in the future.



Cooking Club

Every other Sunday at 1:15PM, the Cooking Club helps our special children build essential life skills. From making soups and eggs on toast to baking cakes, this club provides a foundation for independence. Food is a vital part of life, and we're proud to support our children as they learn to prepare basic meals and build confidence in the kitchen, a skill they might otherwise not be too exposed to.

Arts & Crafts Club

On Mondays at 6PM, the Arts and Crafts Club gives our special children a chance to get creative. Activities include drawing, painting, colouring, and making crafts like animals out of cardboard. The club provides a fun way for our special children to explore their artistic side while also helping to meet sensory needs through hands-on activities and different textures.



2024 EVENTS RECAP

INTERNAL EVENTS



Dance Club

Every Sunday at 12:15 PM, our Dance Club brings children together on Zoom to express themselves through movement and rhythm. Hosted by Swapna Akka and Nrithyam, these sessions provide a fun and engaging way for our children to develop coordination, confidence, and a love for dance. Whether it's learning new routines or simply enjoying the music, Dance Club is a wonderful space for creativity and connection.

EXTERNAL EVENTS

This past year has been quite busy for our TSC children. Spanning across multiple Temples throughout London, radio shows, music academies, charity shows and various other external organisations, they were given a range of outstanding opportunities to present themselves and their talents across the year.

We are extremely grateful to all the external event organisers who recognised our children at their events.



FATV

FATV's Ponmaalai Poluthu Programme takes place online every Sunday from 5 to 8 PM, where our special children join a Zoom call to interact with other special children and their parents. It's a great way for them to get to know each other and share their hobbies or talents with the group.

These weekly sessions give children regular opportunities to connect and showcase their skills. TSC UK is ever-growing, with families from all over the country, ranging from Wales to all over London.

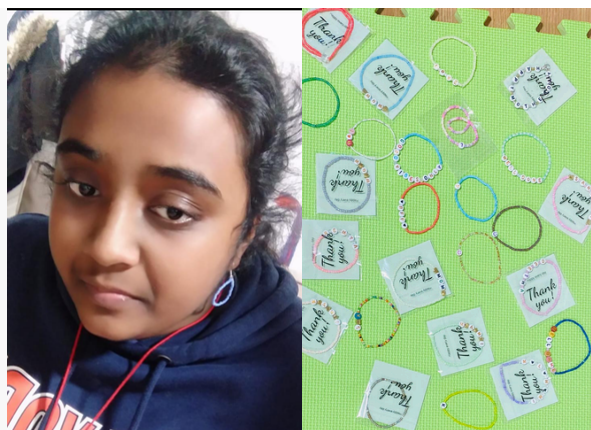
FATV is run by Nada Mohan, who our children lovingly refer to as Mama. He has given our kids a platform to express themselves, build confidence, and form lasting friendships. These Zoom sessions help us all stay connected and build a sense of community, especially when distance makes it difficult to meet up in person every week.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

We would like to specially acknowledge a few of our children who have shown exceptional initiative and skill in supporting TSC UK. From designing handmade bracelets to selling their artwork, their efforts not only help raise funds but also inspire us all. Their dedication is a shining example of how talent and generosity can make a meaningful impact within our community.

KAVISHAI SARAVANABAVAN

We are thrilled to recognize Kavishai Saravanabavan, a TSC child who has demonstrated remarkable talent in supporting TSC. Kavishai crafts and sells beautiful handmade bracelets, donating proceeds to our charity. Her creativity and commitment to giving back are truly inspiring. A heartfelt thank you to Kavishai and her family for their incredible generosity!



ILAKHEYAA SHANTHAKUMAR

It is truly inspiring to see Ilakheyaa Shanthakumar using her artistic abilities to raise funds for TSC. During our annual sports meet, Ilakheyaa created and sold stunning drawings, with all proceeds going to the charity. Her selflessness and dedication highlight the powerful impact that one person's creativity can have.

AMISH THANANSAYAN

Amish's artistic talent has made a meaningful contribution to TSC. During our annual sports meet, Amish created and sold his beautiful drawings, with all proceeds being donated to the charity. His generosity, creativity, and dedication to supporting TSC serve as an inspiration to us all. A big thank you to Amish for his remarkable effort!



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

TEACHERS

Bageshree Baskaran – Ragavardhani Music School
Swapna Velayudham – Nrithyam Dance

MENTOR

Nadarajah Mohan – FATV

TRAINING

Shridevi Sudharsan – Psychologist
Dr Anton James – Psychologist
Roshan Cruz – UK Wills & Probate Services
Dr Priyanka – Ayurvedic Professional
Rajitha Cruz – Integrative Counsellor
Kyrie Ratnam – Safeguarding Lead for LA & NHS
Agal Wellbeing Services – Charity
Medipo24 – Care agency
Renolda Antonyrajah – Highly Specialised SALT in Autism
Reeny Mariampillai – Clinical Nurse Specialist for Learning Disabilities
Dr Sathish Muthulingam - Homeopath
Anbu UK – Charity

SPORTS MEET SPONSORS

Prema & Allirajah Subaskaran & Lyca's Gnanam Foundation

SPORTS MEET VOLUNTEERS

Karthik Durairaj
Archana Kannappan
Kavitha Balraj

ADDITIONAL FUNDRAISING FOR TSC

Dance Dreamers
PMP 475 - First Audio, Mrs Anjana Ramadas & Team
Selvarajah Ehalaiyan
Cardiff Tamil Society
Queen Mary Tamil Society

MEDIA & STAGE OPPORTUNITIES

FATV Pon Maalai Pozhuthu
Saiva Munnetta Sangam UK
Enfield Nagapooshani Ambaal Temple
Manor Park Shiva Temple
Cavaliers Cricket Academy
Eastham Sivan Temple
KC Tamil View & Unity
Highgatehill Murugan Temple
RG Academy of Music
Priyaraagankal
Sudari Kalai Palli
DATA Charity
Colours of Redbridge

MEDIA COVERAGE

FATV
Meiveli
LTV London Tamils Voice
Sinnakuddi Channel

CHARITY WALK HOSTS

Thakshanaa Pathmanathan
Sagnsiga Shanmugalingam

CHARITY WALK PERFORMERS

Karthik Durairaj
Sugani Suganthan
Ilakya
SP Alan
Umar Salman

CHRISTMAS PARTY SERVICE PROVIDER

Roding Valley Hall (Venue)
Ruby (Food)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

APOORVA VARNANGAL SPONSORS

Platinum Sponsors

Bodiclinic
Indo Lanka Importers Ltd
JKNS Education
Kugans Ltd T/A Angel Supermarket
Raj Cluster Ltd
RingCentral HUGS

Gold Sponsor

Rensair

Silver Sponsors

Amaara Jewellery
ASCES - Arivakam France
Mugesh & Sajeev Ravi Kumar
Snappy Snaps Mansion House
Suriya Jewels Ltd

Bronze Sponsors

AI Woodgreen Retail Limited
Abi Convenience Store
Angel Accountants
Arul Kumaran
Boundary Service Station Limited
Chitra Lakshman
Goodmayes Technics Autos
Karnika Satheeskarani
MaxCover Financial Services Ltd
MediPro24
Nakshatra Saree
NDN Food City Ltd
Nirmiith Narayanamoorthy
North Elmham Store
Prammas Ltd
UK Wills and Probate Ltd
Westmead Corner Convenience Store

APOORVA VARNANGAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

Redbridge Town Hall (Venue)
Ruby Catering (Food)
AGS (Sound)
Focusia (LED)
Ravi Jeya (Video)

APOORVA VARNANGAL TRAINERS & VOLUNTEERS

Priya Ananth (Anchor)
Baba Luxy (Photographer)
Archana Chandamarakshan (Dance)
Namrata Vinod (Dance)
Dhanya Sree Ajith Kumar (Dance)
Rubaina Aymen (Dance)
Arunima Tangella (Dance)
Kavitha Parthasarathi (Dance)
Saranya Babu (Dance)
Shilpa Nair (Dance)
Chinmayee Sampath (Dance)
Muthu Sivaraja (Miruthangam)
Kandiah Sithamparanathan (Electronic Pads)
Malini Thanabalasingam (Veena)
Ragupriya Senthilkumaran Dance)
Abhiramy (Violin)
Nikesh Nirnanjan (Miruthangam)

APOORVA VARNANGAL RAFFLE SPONSORS

Gold coin by Suriya Jewels Ltd & Amaara Jewellery
Kanchipuaram Silk Saree by Nakshatra Saree (Insta)
Saree by Nakshatra Saree (Insta)
Saree by AK & Styles Ltd (Insta)
Voucher by Gobeka Hair & Beauty
Voucher by Anuja's House of Beauty Ltd
Voucher by Mainland Madras Restaurant
Handbag
Voucher by Rasoi Indian Restaurant & Takeaway Ltd
Voucher by Anuja's House of Beauty Ltd

