Built environment co-design with children

Guy's and St Thomas'



"We are delighted that Sustrans and Guy's and St Thomas' Charity are joining Southwark's Low Traffic Neighbourhood work, to encourage more play, and active and sustainable travel in the borough."

Cllr Richard Livingstone, Cabinet member for Environment, Transport and the Climate Emergency

The Challenge

Southwark is an area with high levels of childhood obesity, with 43% of Year 6 children in the area being overweight or obese - 10% higher than the English average. Guy's and St Thomas' Charity, in partnership with Southwark Council, commissioned Sustrans to co-design changes to the built environment to enable more children to walk, cycle and play outside to help tackle childhood obesity.



Sustrans Solution

Sustrans worked with Keyworth Primary School, Crampton Primary School and St. Paul's Primary School to re-design their area. We delivered themed street pop ups and School Assemblies, where we launched a dream 'child friendly' street design competition to enable students to shape the designs.

We organised workshops where children rated streets using Healthy Street indicators. Finally, we led walkabouts where children were given cards with a smiling, neutral or sad face, and a disposable camera, and took photos of the street using the cards to show how they felt about different elements.

Through our work so far, we have developed a strong working relationship with the council and the local community, which will enable our designs to support the council's plans while meeting the needs of residents.

Key facts

Funder: Guys' and St Thomas' Charity



550 children were engaged in the process



303 comments collected at events



8 school design workshops delivered



Sustrans is the charity making it easier for people to walk and cycle.

We connect people and places, create liveable neighbourhoods, transform the school run and deliver a happier, healthier commute.

Join us on our journey.

www.sustrans.org.uk

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