



Mr Luke Peter Evans BSc (Hons) Level 3
Forest School Programme Leader
38 Argyle Avenue
Margate
Kent
CT9 5RN

The NINEVEH Charitable Trust monitoring report on behalf of Thanet Community Forest School.

Dear Mr Lewis,

It is with great pleasure that I am writing this report today because the impact your grant has had on Thanet Community Forest School CIO and our community has been amazing.

Your grant has been used to employ a learning and outreach officer within the charity who has developed the education of children, young people and adults in our community in a variety of ways. TCFS has seen increased numbers use our services over the past 12 months with returning customers and many new customers including Forelands Special Needs School who are now a weekly user of our services. Other new schools that have started using our services this year include Education Learning Alliance (ELA) and Hartsdown ARC and these schools are specialist in children with educational needs. More recently, we have also started working with a local primary school called Holy Trinity in Margate as they had a young child who was struggling with anxiety and social communication problems. I happy to tell you that since coming to TCFS this young boy has really settled down so we are hopeful he can be integrated back into mainstream schooling in the future. Further to this, his mother has stated that TCFS have been amazing with what we have done so far which is always nice to hear as our staff are extremely passionate about what we do and hard working.

Further to this, we have also seen an increase the amount of Homed Educated children we provide services to on site, which is a result of the Outreach work we have been doing. Currently we have two days per week of Forest School sessions completely booked and we have a waiting list for when we start delivering more days in the near future. Similar to the schooled children that we provide services to, the Home Educated children and families that use our services are amazed with our ethos and passion for working outside with nature all around us. This has been recorded time and time again in parent questionnaires, verbally and via our social media forums.

Finally, I have some exciting news to tell you about but it must not be made public just yet as we are waiting for The Forestry Commission to send us our final contract before we are allowed to publicise it. TCFS is the lead bid applicant in the Governments Urban Tree Challenge Fund grant under the project, Isle of Thanet Trees and Woods Initiative (ITTWI). This is a large project, in fact, I believe it is the largest of its kind in the country, and it will have an extremely positive effect on Thanet and the wider world. ITTWI will be planting 1300 mature trees across 6 different sites in Thanet and 500 of these trees are planned for our Forest School site. Further to this, Dane Valley Woods will be having 50 trees and Dane Valley Green will be having 350 trees which is a total of 900 trees with a half mile radius of TCFS. This will transform one of the most deprived areas in the whole country in to a



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wildlife haven for generations to come. Our outreach officer will be involved in publicising this project and the organising of some large scale volunteering events to ensure the local community takes ownership of the planting and aftercare of their new trees. We have already made contact with The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) and Frances Tophill (Gardeners World presenter) who are fully supportive of ITTWI and will help us in whatever way they can in the future so this project will attract a great deal of media attention. This project, just like everything else we do at TCFS is all about getting our community to fall back in to love with nature through being outdoors when they are learning, socialising and playing.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of TCFS and I would like to assure you that we are making a big difference to our community and in the coming years this positive factor will only increase. If there is any further information, you would like from me or if you would like to come to our site again for another visit then please feel free to arrange a time and a date.

Kindest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'L.P. Evans' followed by a period.

Luke Evans – Chairmain of TCFS and Lead Bid applicant of ITTWI



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