

University of Derby

Partner Report

2022-2023



The partnership between University of Derby and the National Saturday Club has delivered an inspirational first year of the Saturday Club for young people in your local community.

Throughout the year-long programme, these young people have connected with dedicated and inspiring educators at your institution and have gained access to the valuable resources and facilities you have to offer. This opportunity has been further supported by the national programme of events including the London Visit to cultural institutions, Masterclasses with industry, Graduation Ceremonies and the Summer Show.

Across the country, this extracurricular education movement is embodied by a powerful network of partners from the education, industry and the cultural sectors. Collectively, the network is committed to engaging young people from underrepresented backgrounds at an early stage in their learning journey. The programme framework has proven impact. It enables institutions to develop their civic engagement by engaging young people within the local community, reducing barriers to access, developing young people's vital practical skills and creative capacities, and inspiring them with the breadth of pathways open to them both at your institution and in their future careers.

The following pages highlight the successes of the Society&Change Saturday Club at University of Derby in 2022-23, which were also celebrated at the National Saturday Club Summer Show at London's prestigious Somerset House in July 2023. In this document, we have drawn together evidence from our evaluation findings to demonstrate the reach and impact of your Club.

University of Derby Society&Change Saturday Club



Tutors and Staff

Charlotte Lunn
Charlotte Tupper
Christine Thomas
Joe Sheriden
Kirsten Whitehall
Prince Baza
Rhiannon Jones
Tim Elliott

Student assistants

Molly Young
Ruth Richardson

Supported by Chatham House, Society&Change Saturday Clubs explore the issues that are shaping the world today from climate change and conflict, to new technologies and global interconnectivity. Each week, Club members reflect on how major global issues affect us, and how they have a voice to influence the future.

This year the Society&Change Saturday Club at University of Derby have explored protest through poetry, rap, and by creating protest slogans and banners. Club members also thought about their future selves, hopes, and achievements. Highlights included Match Day at Derby County Football Club and visiting Baby People's music studio to record their raps.

“I am so proud of the members of Derby’s first Society&Change Club. Each week, they come to our sessions with a desire to have a go. It has been a real privilege to witness each member grow and develop. The members have worked collaboratively to create lots of different pieces of work. It feels great to be a part of the National Saturday Club’s bigger picture.”

Kirsten Whitehall, Club coordinator



Club member demographics

78%
from a Widening Participation background*

44%
do not have a parent who has been to university

44%
are from an underrepresented ethnic background

22%
live in the 30% most deprived areas in England (IMD)

22%
receive free school meals

17%
have special educational needs

11%
have a neurodivergence

11%
speak English as an additional language

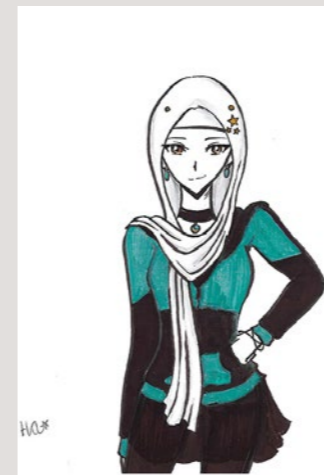
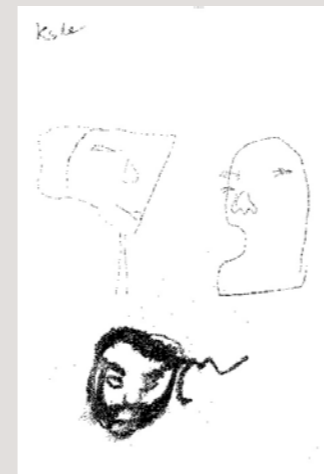
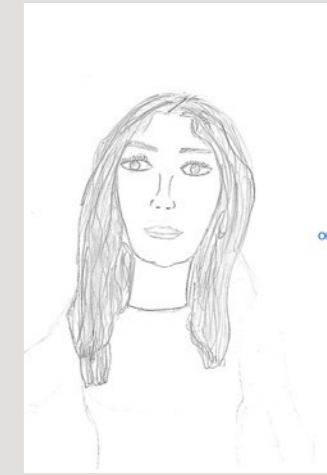
6%
have a disability

6%
have experience of Care

* The National Saturday Club identifies young people to be from a Widening Participation (WP) background if they: receive free school meals; have experience of the care system; speak English as an additional language; experience disability; parents/ guardians haven't been to university; are refugees or asylum seekers; are young carers; are from a military family; are from an underrepresented ethnic background; have special educational needs; have a neurodiversity; are D/deaf or hard of hearing; are from a Gypsy, Roma, Traveller, Showman or Boating community; and/ or those who live in the 30% most deprived areas [Index of Multiple Deprivation].

“ She comes out of each session totally buzzing! She communicates more openly with us. We are really grateful that the Club is free as we are financially limited as to what our daughter can take part in. ”

Parent/ Guardian



In Focus: University of Derby

Dr David Parker

Each year the National Saturday Club works with independent evaluator and education specialist Dr David Parker to evaluate the national programme and its impact on the young people and network. University of Derby were part of the Club sample for the national independent evaluation, contributing to the national report.

“ I feel important and special; like I can achieve anything! ”

Club member

Establishing the Club Ethos

Newly established University of Derby Saturday Club organised their activities around the theme Society & Change. The Club explored concepts and topics such as wellbeing, city spaces, youth voice, freedom, protest and justice, race and racism, politics, education, creativity, resilience, vibrancy, green and growth.

The Club was an open forum for young people to test ideas and learn through curiosity and debate. Big questions were posed. What does it mean to be a citizen of the world? What changes do you want to see happen in Derby?

Being a member of the Club meant being at the centre of everything that it did, ensuring that members had the best time whilst being hands on with making, curating, designing, and building.

There was a strong emphasis on members finding and sharing their voices and informed viewpoints. The Club facilitated engagement with the humanities in both traditional and innovative ways by working with cultural and creative industry partners.

Sessions mainly took place at Artcore Gallery, Derby City Centre and Community Corner, Pride Park Stadium and included visits to local archives, green spaces, and museums and to the University of Derby.

“It has a fantastic atmosphere!”

Parent of Club member

Defining Areas of Interest

Club members were supported to build new skills and interests by being at the heart of their own creative process and being involved in decision making.

The Club encouraged individuals to think creatively about their choices and actions, and to consider their place in the wider world and more locally. The emphasis was very much on how we can work together for brighter futures, recognising that young people are the future leaders for society who will make change happen.

Connecting with external partners meant that agendas could be set with one eye to the wider community and the cultural footprint of Derby as a whole. The partners helped extend horizons well beyond University.

Club member impacts

The Club was designed to be hosted jointly with external partners Artcore and Derby County Community Trust.

This extended the range of impacts and benefits in tangible ways. For example, on Derby County match days special guest tickets were available in conjunction with members' pop-up exhibition at home games at Pride Park. This brought an extra wow factor of a big event and placed young people at the heart of community action. It gave young people a sense of agency and satisfaction. Their tangible sense of belonging and being involved actively lifted their mood and shifted their disposition.

There is no doubt that Derby's Society&Change Club has been extremely effective in its pilot year. Members have grasped opportunities to give opinion, to shape agendas and to become more aware of how local change happens as a process and to be involved in that. In addition the social benefits have been noted by parents.

It has also been successful in illustrating how activism and local action can be developed hand in hand with creativity, and in some senses, how personal expression is the wellspring of such activism. This was summed up well by one of the guest tutors, a poet, Charlotte Lunn who said:

“Getting to know the young people and seeing them come out of their shells during the Saturday Club sessions was really beautiful. I loved hearing their thoughts around protest poetry, wellbeing and identity and seeing their confidence blossom as their poems went from page to podcast. I think it's important that young people's voices are elevated, and the Saturday Club offers the chance for exactly that. I also had the opportunity to work with a wonderful and supportive team of people who I hope to work with again in future!”

“My son has found a community and made so many new friends.”

Parent of Club member



“ This is one of the best Clubs I’ve been to. It’s a great place. Atmosphere is great! I can’t wait to come back each week. ”

Club member

Summer Show and Graduation Ceremonies

The culmination of the Saturday Club year is a public exhibition of Club members' work at London's prestigious Somerset House and end-of-year Graduation Ceremonies.

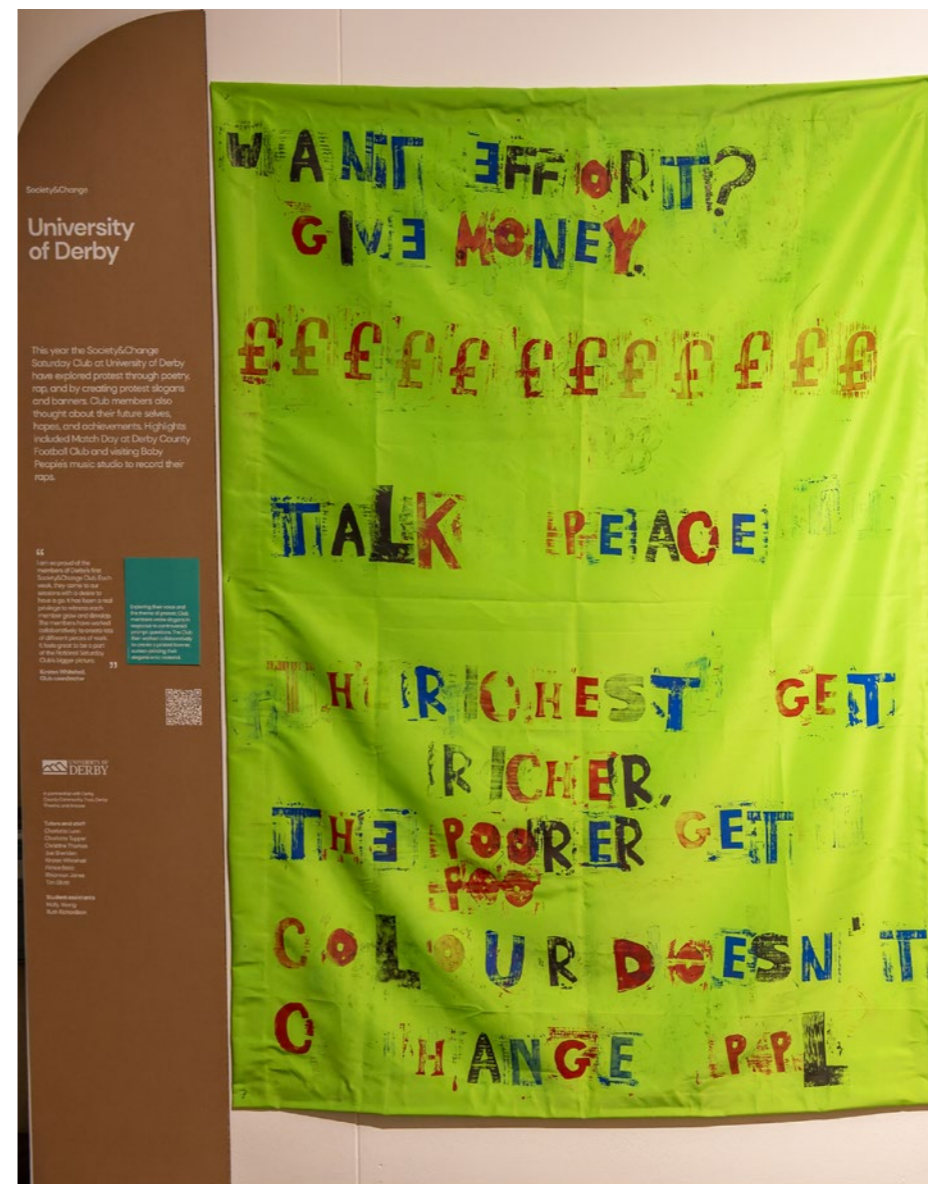
Summer Show

The Summer Show took place from 15–18 July and it was a joyous celebration of the year's achievements. Each Club had their own display, curated by expert exhibition designers, to showcase their Club members' work. Special events were hosted including Private Views for Club members and a VIP Private View for network guests, industry, the cultural sector, government and policy-makers.

Graduation Ceremonies

Graduation Ceremonies were hosted at Bush House, King's College London. These provided an important moment for Club members to recognise their achievements throughout the programme and to look ahead to future possibilities. During the ceremonies, tutors and inspiring guest speakers addressed the young people and each Club member received a Certificate of Achievement, in front of their family, friends, peers and tutors.

The Summer Show is also presented as an online exhibition with all Clubs represented: show.saturday-club.org



“ I felt like a VIP! ”

Club member

Saturday Club Trust
Somerset House
Strand
London WC2R 1LA

+44 (0)20 7845 5860
hello@saturday-club.org

Designed by Pentagram
Produced by Studio Quercus

Supported using public funding by



**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



**Funded by
UK Government**