



Evaluation Report





About IncludFEST

IncludFEST is a fully inclusive and accessible outdoor arts festival for children, young people and families produced annually by TIN Arts. It is open to all and particularly marketed towards families with a d/Deaf or disabled child.

IncludFEST is completely free to attend to ensure that it is accessible to all. In 2022 IncludFEST was funded by Durham County Council and the County Durham Community Foundation.

What happened in 2022?

IncludFEST 2022 was held in Hardwick Park in Sedgefield on Saturday 17th September from 11am to 4pm.

After cancellation in 2020 and an alternative “closed performance” format in 2021 because of the covid 19 pandemic, IncludFEST 2022 returned to its traditional format with “be it”, “watch it” and “make it” activities around the festival site.

The activities and performances at IncludFEST 2022 were:

- ❖ Sing and Sign along with Reg and Bet (join in music making) by Shabang!
- ❖ Worlds of Curiosity and Play (interactive theatre) by MeeMee Theatre
- ❖ Facepainting by Fantabulous Faces Durham
- ❖ Bit and Bob Robots (arts and crafts) by Yvonne Preston
- ❖ Creative stamping (arts and crafts) by Double V
- ❖ String and Strong’s Great Game-a-Thon (join in games) by Fully Booked Theatre
- ❖ George and the Magic Box (sensory storytelling) by Star Bright Arts and TIN Arts
- ❖ Young people’s dance performances by TIN Arts, Liberdade and Fishburn Dance and Drama
- ❖ Dance workshops with Urban Kaos
- ❖ Big Bloomers (family theatre) by Bell and Bullock
- ❖ Got Your Nose (dance theatre) by TIN Arts
- ❖ Integrating Miracles (music performance)



For the first time this year, children and young people were able to complete Arts Award Discover in a day. Seven young people completed the award and have been awarded their certificates. Several others took information and completed some activities at IncludFEST.

TIN Arts also commissioned Caroline Ryan, BSL interpreter for IncludFEST and employed the services of Mobiloo, the mobile changing places toilet, and Salus Medical, first aid providers. The event was visited by Benjamin Scott, Diverse Communities Support Officer from Durham Police and Paula Meale from Pioneering Care Partnership who attended the event to engage with the public.





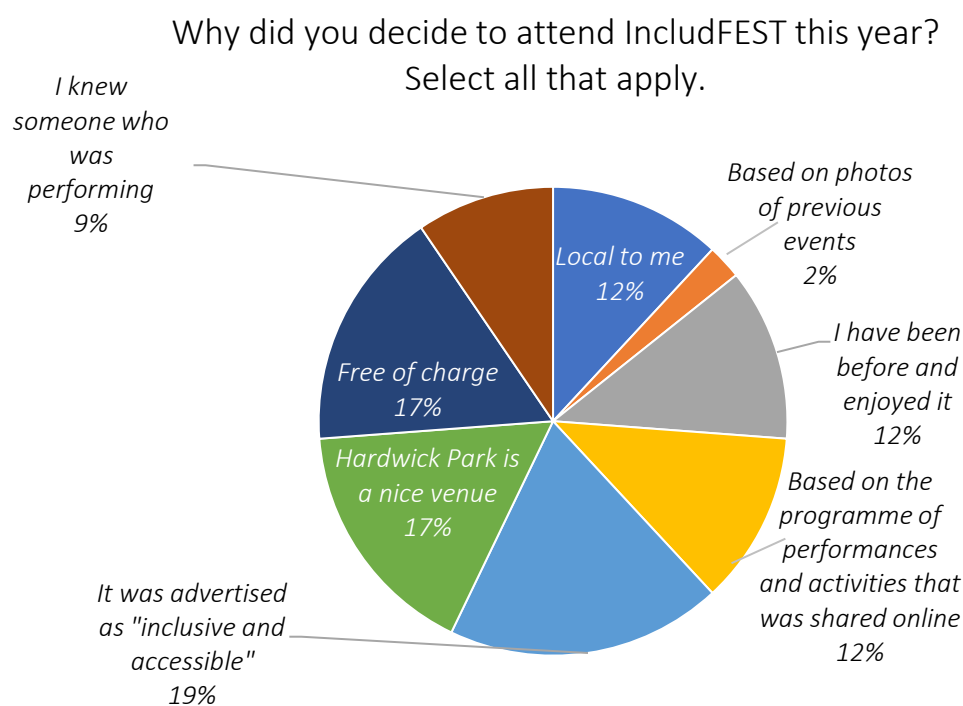
The Audience

1820 people attended IncludFEST 2022

35% of groups surveyed at the event included a disabled child

The average age of children in groups surveyed was 7 years old

The most frequently given reason for visiting IncludFEST was because it was advertised as “inclusive and accessible”.

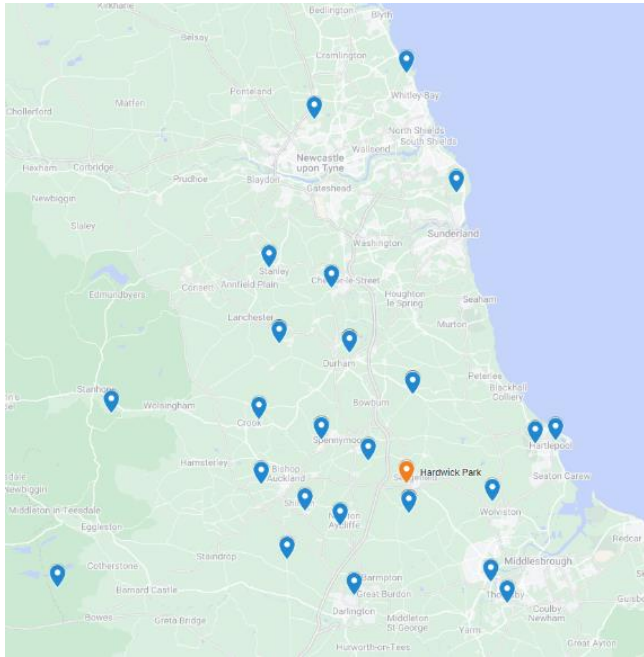


IncludFEST continues to meet its aim of improving access and inclusion in the arts with 35% of groups surveyed at the festival including a disabled child. For reference, 9% of children nationally have a disability (source: [Family Resources Survey: financial year 2020 to 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/family-resources-survey-financial-year-2020-to-2021)).

The most frequently chosen response to the question “why did you decide to attend IncludFEST this year?” was that it was advertised as inclusive and accessible.

As in previous years, a younger audience was attracted to IncludFEST. Of children and young people aged under 18 in groups surveyed, the average age was 7 years old. Although 36% of young people in groups surveyed were aged between 8 and 10, ages ranged from 4 months to 15 years.





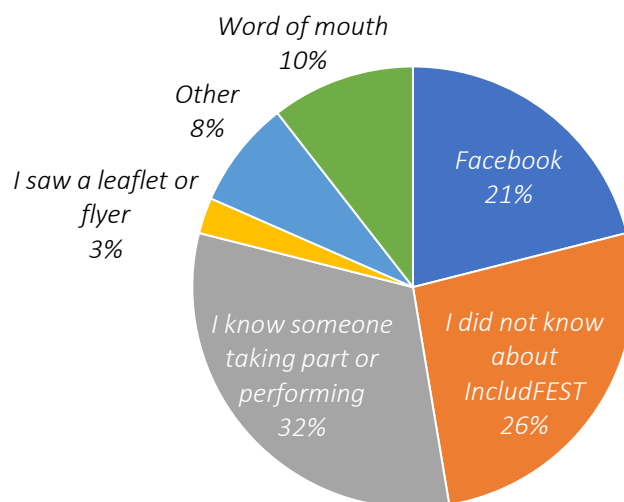
Families travelled more than 30 miles to attend.

The map here shows the postcode locations of people who attended IncludFEST. The audience came from across the North East of England, with some families travelling more than 30 miles to attend. This indicates a demand and necessity for inclusive family events.

21% of survey respondents indicated they found out about IncludFEST via Facebook which correlates with it being the main marketing route this year. Just over a quarter of survey respondents didn't know IncludFEST was happening. Whilst this is inevitable as IncludFEST takes place in a public place, working with Hardwick Park on marketing could make more people aware of IncludFEST.



How did you hear about IncludFEST?
Select all that apply



The Venue – Hardwick Park

The opportunity for all children to participate is the overarching aim of IncludFEST. Hardwick Park as a location was chosen because it is accessible and audience feedback showed it was a popular location. In previous years IncludFEST has been held at Ushaw College and Wharton Park.

“Hardwick and Ushaw are great venues for wheelchairs in terms of accessibility, whereas Wharton Park in Durham is much more difficult”.

“Great location. I’ve not been to Hardwick Park before but I would definitely go again. The festival really showcased and capitalised on the space used”.



75% of respondents asked if Hardwick Park is a good venue for IncludFEST gave a score of 9 or 10 out of 10.

When lower scores were given, this was primarily because of concern around parking costs. There was some confusion that people who had larger cars to accommodate disabled children had to pay minibus prices to park. This wasn't the case, and parking wasn't in TIN Arts' control, but parking costs should be made clearer in the future. Other areas for improvement identified by survey respondents were long queues at the café and the lack of public transport serving the park. These things were also not in the control of TIN Arts but should be taken into consideration if the decision is made to choose a different location for IncludFEST in the future.

Accessing IncludFEST

The Mobiloo is a mobile changing places toilet with hoist and changing bench. TIN Arts believe that provision of a changing places toilet is essential in enabling some families to visit a festival, and the Mobiloo was well used this year.

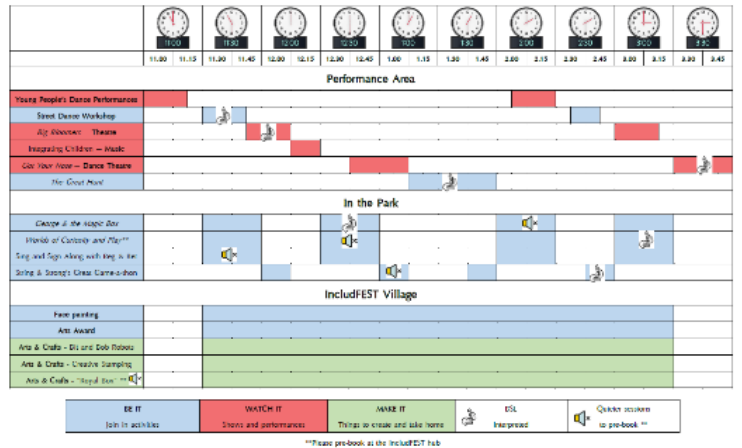
“We had plenty of users. I hope that everyone was aware that we were there. Having said that, the organisers were very good in informing people of our presence.” Andy Faulkner, Mobiloo Attendant





Maps and timetables were available to the audience from the IncludFEST hub. Feedback shows that these were well-used but it could be useful to have these at different points around the park because not everyone visits the hub.

IncludFEST 2022



"Plenty of information, we had a timetable of the events and an easy-to-follow map of where they would take place".

Useful feedback was that some families struggled to get to sessions that took place back-to-back when they were in different locations.

For the first time this year, some activity sessions were available to pre-book so groups could attend a quieter activity, and "The Royal Box", a special gazebo, was available for families to use to complete arts and crafts activities in a quieter space. Pre-booking was popular but turned out not to be necessary as pre-booked groups attended different activity sessions in the end. A guide to IncludFEST with useful information about accessing the festival was available online before the event.



"Pre-booking some events definitely helped, we were able to use the timetable and plan our day before arriving."

A recommendation for future years would be to continue to publish the programme and timetable in advance so that audience members can plan their day and continue to send the IncludFEST guide to people on the mailing list ahead of the event.

"I thought there was lots of activities but not too much to be overwhelmed and not too many people there for it not to get overwhelming".



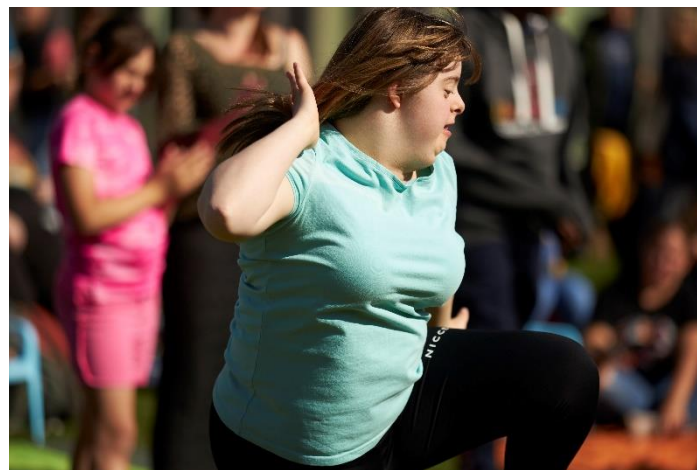


BSL interpretation was available and interpreted sessions were clearly marked on the event timetable.

Ear defenders were available to borrow from the IncludFEST hub. Families were able to reserve these before the event if they wished although there were always plenty available.

40% of survey respondents told us that quiet spaces were important to them when going to an event.

Useful feedback and suggestions for future events include having more performances in designated spaces as opposed to “out in the open” where some children can struggle to focus and engage, and having a quiet sensory space for children to explore and relax in.





Feedback from Artists, Volunteers and Group Leaders

IncludFEST was supported by:

61 young people in performance groups

23 commissioned artists

12 volunteers

7 TIN Arts staff

7 people providing external support services

Their feedback:

What was great:

I am always thrilled and honoured to be part of such a fabulous festival!! Just wish more people knew about it as the breadth and quality of the event is excellent and suitable for all! (Artist)

Volunteer briefing was very useful in helping me to understand my duties for the day, particularly when working in the royal box. (Volunteer)

Amazing experience as always. (Volunteer)

It was a good quality mix of performances and interactive workshops and activities. The festival goers were enthusiastic and looked like they were having a good time. Acts were great quality and varied. TIN arts staff were all positive and helpful as were volunteers and other support staff. Good vibes all round. (Artist)

Good early booking and plenty of information on what you required from me and also all I needed to know for the day. (Artist)

And what could make it even better:

A larger board with times of sessions with an easy-to-read map. (Young people's group leader)

More dance workshops to join in with. Please can we come again next year? (Young people's group leader)

Would have liked the information a bit sooner if possible. The volunteer timetable on the day was a bit difficult to understand for some individuals. (Volunteer)

I thought that the space was a really good size although having some areas outside of the main space might have meant some people missed those sessions. (Young people's group leader)

A few years ago, at Durham, we made scarecrows before the event with groups for a parade on the day. I felt that worked well to ensure targeted groups and their families attended further and enjoyed the festival day. Would love to take part in a similar run up to the day again. (Artist)





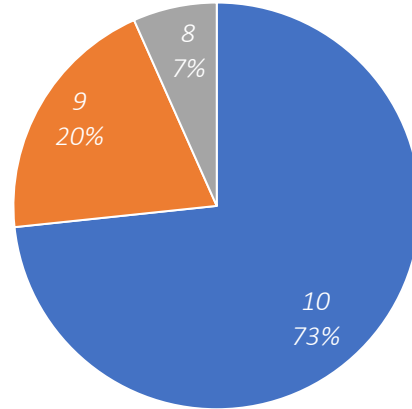
Highlights

All survey respondents reported that they would like to attend IncludFEST again in the future.

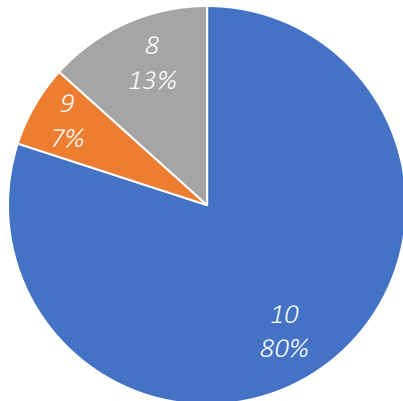
When asked how much they enjoyed IncludFEST, 73% gave a score of 10 out of 10, and 100% of respondents gave a score of 8 out of 10 or higher.

When asked how likely they would be to attend IncludFEST again in the future, 80% of respondents gave a score of 10 out of 10 and 100% of respondents gave a score of 8 out of 10 or higher.

How much did you enjoy attending IncludFEST?
(Score out of 10)



How likely would you be to attend IncludFEST in the future? (Score out of 10).





Audience Comments

Thank you very much for arranging this, we had an amazing day and will definitely be coming to more in the future.

Really lovely range of activities and lots of happy faces.

A really great mix of activities and performances. We stayed for the whole thing. It was a wonderful and informal performance platform for everyone involved and a chance to showcase some fantastic inclusive arts work. Thank you!

We very much had fun and joined in with the activities. It made us as a family who does struggle with disabilities get out and really enjoy ourselves. And also learn from other people and the fact that they don't let things stop them.

George and the Magic Box was my personal highlight. I loved the interaction and involvement. It was very well put together and performed. Thoroughly enjoyed it.

I would have liked to have seen more of the activities but the day just wasn't long enough.

The street dance was awesome and very friendly.





Finances

Income

£10,000.00

Funding from Durham County Council

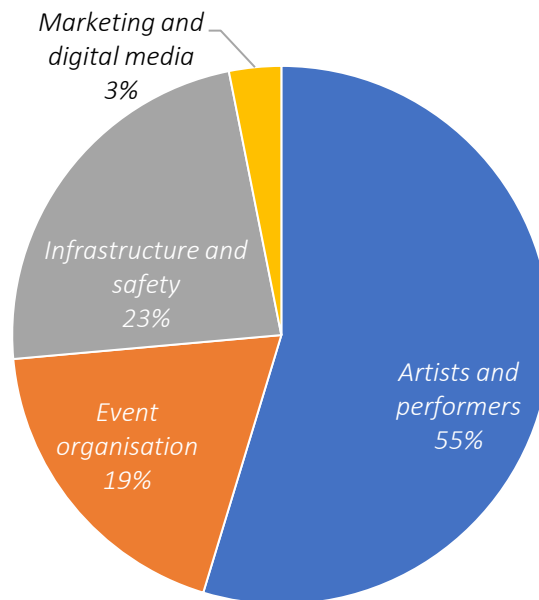
£4,815.00

Funding from County Durham Community Foundation



County Durham
Community Foundation

Expenditure



Thank You

TIN Arts would like to thank funders, volunteers, artists and providers who helped make IncludFEST 2022 a success.

T!NARTS

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