



World Sailing

Scaramouche Sailing Trust

Case Study

sport / nature / technology





Introduction

Scaramouche Sailing Trust supports inner-city London state school children by enhancing their life chances through sailing. The Trust raises the funds needed to sustain Greig City Academy's (GCA) trailblazing and agile sailing programme; encouraging and nurturing students who would never otherwise get the opportunity to sail.

Last year alone there were more than 250 young people who accessed sailing as a sport good. It is open to all students whatever their background or ability, enabling them to develop skills and confidence.

The school has approximately 1 100 students, 96% of which are from Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic communities. Of those that self-select to sail, 65% qualify for free school meals. The programme allows them to explore their own boundaries, to spread their wings in different and sometime unexpected ways and accelerates the sailing journey of those with the drive, commitment and enthusiasm to reach the heights of sailing.



Aims of the project

Jaydon started sailing when he was 11 and did the Fastnet when he was just 14 years old. Jaydon graduated from UKSA's cadetship and is a fully qualified offshore yachtmaster. He is now permanent crew on a superyacht.

"If it wasn't for Scaramouche sailing at my school (GCA), I wouldn't be here. We learnt to manage schoolwork alongside a demanding sail training schedule. The coaches helped us climb up places in the racing fleet and taught us to value and respect commitment, time management, and develop social skills. It gave me the opportunities I needed to start my career in the marine industry."

Jaydon.

The sailing programme encourages the development of practical sailing skills and equally important social skills that will set students up to pursue further studies and successful careers. Students at risk of exclusion and taking the wrong path are offered a different path with more positive outcomes for themselves and the community.



How and why did the project start

The project was created in 2014 by GCA Head of Sixth Form Jon Holt, with support from Head Teacher, Paul Sutton. The students were given the opportunity to sail as an outward-bound activity and wanted more. It offered the freedom, space and opportunity to develop a wide range of skills and knowledge that they could apply back in the classroom and more widely in their lives.

Since then, the programme has expanded to include a range of sailing from beginners' first experience of dinghy sailing on local reservoirs in north London, to overnight voyages, campaigning on a range of keelboats in the Solent and completing in crews on larger boats and competitive squads on open events all around the UK and even internationally.

The achievements of those early trailblazers has inspired subsequent cohorts of students to turn up to school, to engage with the programme, to dream big and work hard in pursuit of their goals.

"Sailing has improved my life in many ways, from improving my attendance and punctuality to bettering myself as a person.

Sailing is important because it proves to me that I can achieve anything if I put my mind to it. It gives me motivation to get up every morning and get on with the things I don't want to do.

I'm aiming to get onto the national ILCA youth squad and reach top 25 in national level events also diversifying my skills in sailing. In the future, I'd like to gain a Yacht master qualification or be selected for an apprenticeship like Kai Hockley with Emirate GBR Sail GP."

Max.



Key successes

The programme has been widely recognised for giving opportunity to disadvantaged inner city kids who would never have had the opportunity to experience sailing. It has improved attendance levels and consequently impacted individuals' exam result and outcomes. This in turn has opened up access to future education and careers which may have been beyond their dreams and aspirations previously. Their stories: Our stories - Scaramouche Sailing Trust

The students sail all year round to ensure they continue their training through the winter, ready to take on the next challenges the following season. This commitment to their own development means they are making waves in the racing world and achieving great results. In 2024, the talents of these young people were evidenced in the range of awards and trophies being won for competitions and contributions on and off the water.

For all awards, please visit:
Scaramouche Sailing Trust



British Yachting Award Young Sailor of the Year 2024

Jessye Opoku-Ware



ILCA Open Regatta, Draycote Winner

Corneille Leprince



IRC Inshore Series Winners – Riot

Joseph Samuels, John-Matthew Frederick, Shyne Wabara, Kevin Keller



Youth Sports Trust, by Sporting Equals Young Sportsperson of the Year

Kai Hockley



Cowes Week Youth Trophy

Jessye Opoku-Ware & Kai Hockley



Royal Yacht Squadron

Sir Kenneth Preston Trophy

Corneille Leprince, Max and Felipe



Red Funnel Regatta

Etchells 3rd – Team Palaver



Special mention for the 2024

campaign leading the girls on Zahara

Samiya Miah and Loreto Rodriguez



Changes and development throughout the project

Scaramouche Sailing Trust is keen to promote diversity in sailing, and demonstrates what is possible with the right support, whatever your background or disadvantage. It is an example of what's possible to others, bringing new talent into sailing & the maritime industry.

The programme has received significant support from across the sailing world. Without this encouragement and practical assistance, the students would not have achieved the life changing impact that has been made possible.

Students share their stories in order to motivate others to be similarly courageous and work hard to promote sailing to other schools at Yacht Clubs, via You-tube, even TV! **Press coverage - Scaramouche Sailing Trust.**

In 2024, when the sailing programme reached its 10-year anniversary, a report was written that highlights the lessons learned so that other state schools might be inspired to develop their own programmes. In the same year, Emirates GBR SailGP team developed an internship for underrepresented young talent, creating an exciting opportunity for Kai Hockley to join the team and pursue his foiling dream. The creation of this and other initiatives demonstrates the willingness in the sailing community to change the world for the better.



How can others get involved

To email us to find out more:
hello@scaramouchesailing.org.uk

And to reach out to local sailing clubs and youth sailing training providers to find out what opportunities exist locally and start conversations with established providers and collaborate to create a unique programme – to get started (however small those first initial steps) and start making your own waves.

We would encourage state schools, teachers and students to visit our website and read the '**Lesson Learned**' report.

SCARAMOUCHE
SAILING TRUST

Lessons Learned from The Greig City Academy Sailing Programme's First Ten Years

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