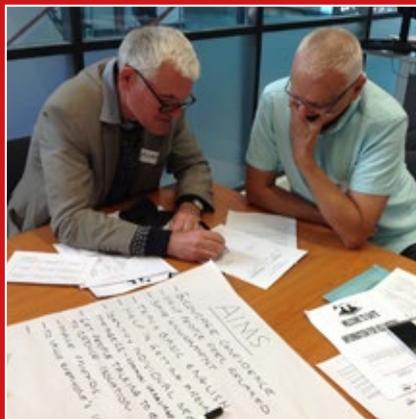




SAVTE

SHEFFIELD ASSOCIATION FOR THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH



**ANNUAL
REPORT
2018-2019**

Delivering **More than Just a Language**
in Sheffield since 1974

Foreword from the Chair

This has been an exciting year for SAVTE. We have been very successful in attracting new funding to supplement the generous support we have from the Big Lottery Fund and Sheffield City Council. This funding has enabled us to recruit new staff to help introduce some important innovations in the way we work: developing new resources to support our volunteers, including some new resources dealing with mental health issues; making our volunteer training more flexible; developing new roles for volunteers; and increasing our outreach work.

As always we have been very fortunate in our partnerships with a wide range of organisations in the city. Particularly interesting new projects have included working with SPRING to help provide integrated support services for refugees; a project with the WEA to provide a new progression route for 12 level 2 learners to enable them to work in classrooms; and a weekend residential course provided with Northern College for learners in our Ashiana group, women who have experienced abuse, including victims of trafficking. You will find many more examples of what we have been doing in this report.

There are many people to thank. Our funders provide us with the means to help meet the demand for our services: we are very grateful for their support. We have been able to recruit new colleagues to our wonderful staff team: everyone has worked enthusiastically and creatively to improve our services. We have been particularly pleased to be able to employ two of our



volunteers to work on our resources project. Stella Burton has continued to lead the team with remarkable energy, imagination and dedication: we are all very grateful to her. Thank you also to my colleagues on the Management Committee who have both supported and challenged the team, and played a key role in helping SAVTE move forward.

SAVTE can look forward to another year of serving the diverse communities of Sheffield and I hope that you enjoy reading about what we have done this year.

Derek Grover

What are your main reasons for volunteering, what do you hope to gain from the experience?

I would like to help local community as I was helped when I could say one word of English, secondly to boost my confidence and gain experience in this field.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to help speakers of other languages develop the necessary skills and confidence to learn functional English, which will enable them to become more active and empowered citizens in their communities.

SAVTE and the changing landscape of ESOL



SAVTE is 45 years old this year. Sheffield has changed a lot over the years and we are flexible enough to respond to the national context and to learners' needs.

Our approach aligns with the new English Language Strategy for England which recognises the importance of ESOL in stimulating community integration.

We aim to recruit volunteers from diverse backgrounds and enable them to gain new skills and experience. Our programme complements the more formal ESOL provision that happens in the city.

New courses that train volunteers to support learners to achieve their goals, using practice methods that empowers them to become independent and active citizens.

Some of the new initiatives that we have developed and implemented this year.

New roles for volunteers so we can respond to learners' individual needs.

- Conversation Group Volunteers
- Language Buddies
- Language Volunteers

New resources and lesson templates which help focus English language learning around living in Sheffield and becoming part of the community.

New development and outreach team who work with local communities so that we reach more learners and more diverse volunteers.

New learner centred assessment tools that identify learners' English language skills, their aspirations, wellbeing and connection to their local community.

2018-19 a year of transformation

We are pleased to be able to report good progress against our strategic priorities

Modernising our operations

– so that we can spend less time on administration and more time supporting our volunteers and learners

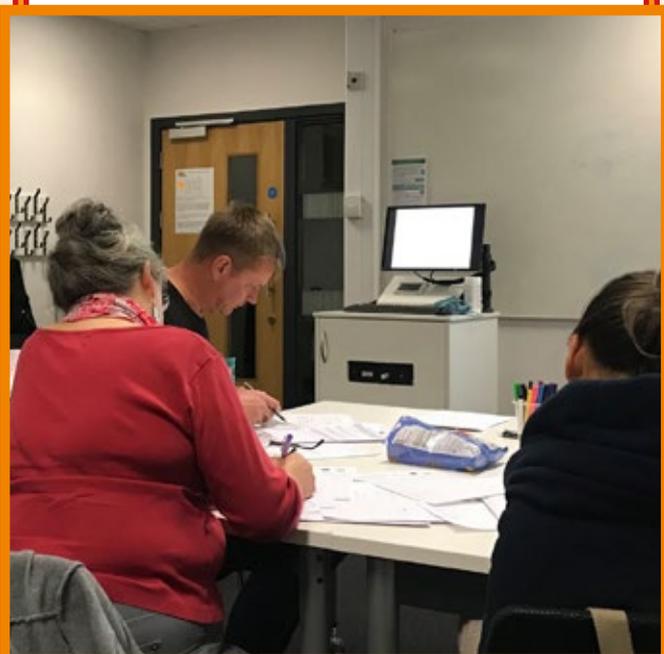
- Online learner referral and volunteer applications form.
- New customer management database.
- Online ESOL resources to improve access for volunteers.
- Shared database for volunteers and staff.
- Volunteer group supervisions and reviews.
- Intensive weekend courses for experienced volunteers.



Diversifying our provision

– so that we can provide more choice and opportunities for our learners

- New volunteer roles and training courses.
- More community based conversation groups.
- ESOL embedded in new activities e.g. sewing, walking and cooking.
- Learners encouraged to volunteer to develop skills and confidence.
- Progression pathways established onto vocational courses.



Raising our profile

– we want to become a household name in Sheffield so learners and volunteers can find us easily, so we've:

- Updated our website, publicity and social media.
- Featured in local media – radio and press.
- New extended community outreach and development roles.
- Facilitated a workshop at NATECLA National Conference.
- Produced promotional video available on YouTube.
- Developed new Mental Health ESOL resources.



Developing our partnerships

– we want to support community development but know we cannot do it alone

- Our conversation groups are delivered in partnership with local organisations.
- SAVTE provides ESOL for the SPRING partnership to aid refugee Integration.
- We co-chair Sheffield ESOL Forum to plan and coordinate ESOL provision in the city.
- Northern College organised a women empowerment residential for our Ashiana group.



“Family Voice love working with SAVTE! We totally trust the quality of their work and provision. They work flexibly according to need. Together with SAVTE we have supported over 50 local adults to build their confidence in learning English”.

Kate West, Family Voice Sheffield C.I.C.

The Year in Numbers

Our overall strategic priority is to increase our capacity to support more learners in Sheffield – the numbers show we are achieving this.

More learners accessing SAVTE provision	2017/18	2018/19
1:1	72	104
Conversation and activity groups	155	473
ESOL classes	130	120
Total number of learners	353	679

More volunteers recruited and trained	2017/18	2018/19
Total number of new volunteers	75	105
Active volunteers during the year	145	168
Number of volunteer applications received	73	163
Training courses delivered	5	6
New volunteers trained – 1:1	61	75
New volunteers trained – conversation groups	14	30
Percentage of 1:1 volunteers staying longer than 6 months	45-61% (e)	86%

Expansion of community based activities	2017/18	2018/19
Number of conversation groups supported	9	22
Number of learner engagements	Not recorded	2873
Number of conversation group volunteers supported	15	33

Learner outcomes – ESOL classes	2017/18	2018/19
Number of 1:1 learners into formal classes	7	13
Number of learners who moved up a curriculum level	47	23
Learners who progressed into volunteering with SAVTE	1	4
No of exams passed	180	184
Learners who achieved personal targets	155	164

"I have got better; I have more confidence to speak to people"
Saiqa

"I have improved, my English is better than before, I talk with my children more in English"

Nadia



Sharen's story ...in her own words

"In 2014 I was living on Winn Gardens Estate and was working full time. Then I got ill with a serious back problem and my employer terminated my contract. I left school with no GCSEs, I couldn't work because of the pain and I was very low, lost and became very depressed. Then I started to help at Winn Gardens Food Bank. A lot of Burmese people started to move onto our estate around this time, and I joined the SAVTE training course to run a conversation group on the estate.

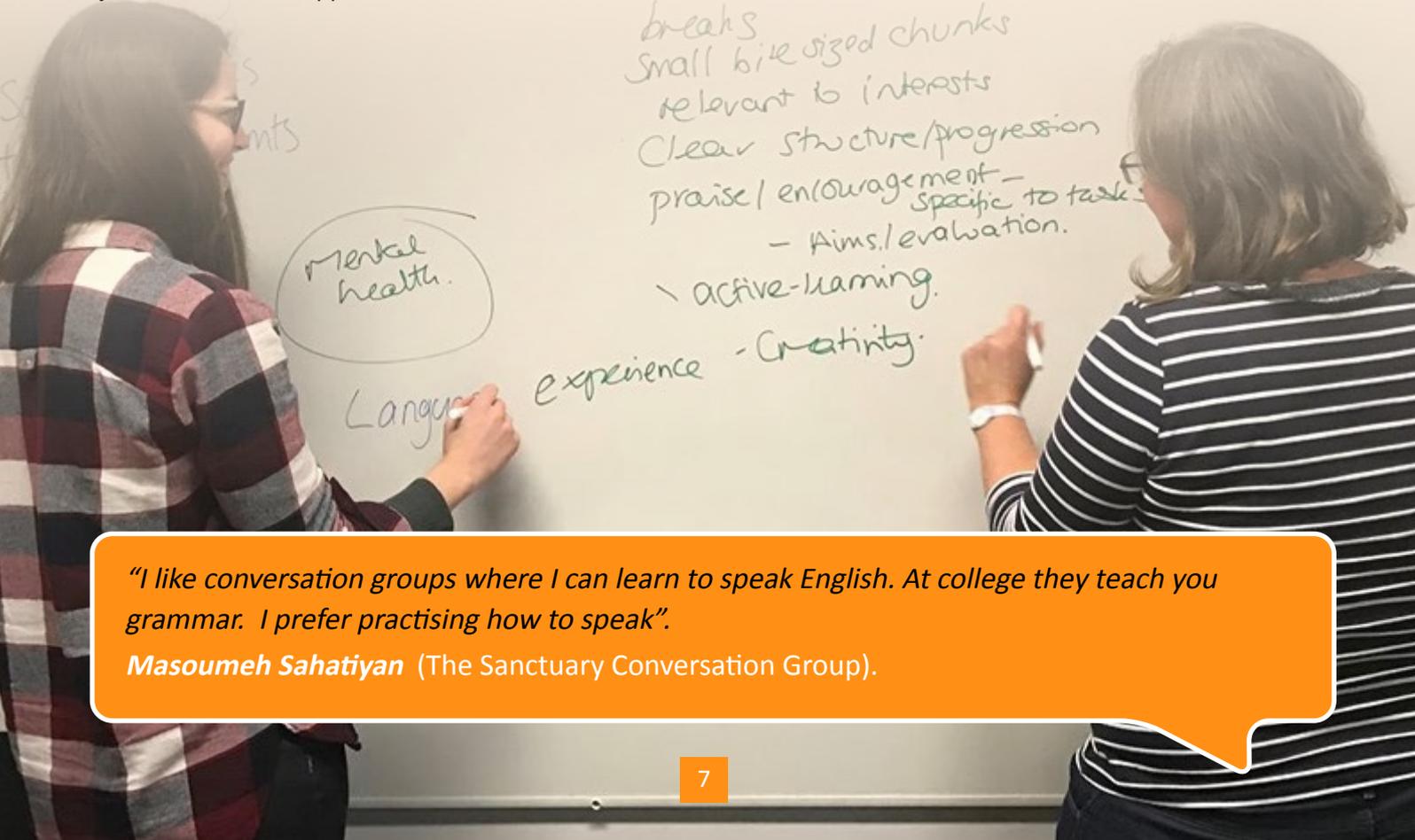
At first I thought 'I can't do that, I can't teach people, you have to have GCSEs to do something like that and I don't have any'

But I got into it, I did so many sessions it just became routine. I was making activities for the learners to do. It was fantastic to see the learners who started with very little English, start to build up their English, it was absolutely out of this world. It built my confidence a lot.

Next I started volunteering at ZEST helping English learners. I have just passed my PTLLS course and I'm doing an Information Guidance course. I now have a job as a work coach for Zest.

Before doing SAVTE I would never have stood up and talked in front of people, SAVTE helped me take those first steps to get me to where I am now.

I'm very happy now, I don't know what's going to happen in the future but I feel I can climb higher, I can apply for jobs I'd never have applied for before."



"I like conversation groups where I can learn to speak English. At college they teach you grammar. I prefer practising how to speak".

Masoumeh Sahatiyan (The Sanctuary Conversation Group).

Volunteers of the Year

It goes without saying that all our volunteers are valued and deserving of recognition – this year we are highlighting two volunteers who have taken on multiple volunteer roles.



Denise Annett – invaluable contribution to learners, tutors and other volunteers

Denise started supporting a very shy young mum of three children at home. Denise has helped her develop her confidence to speak and make phone calls, as well as read and write in English. The skills and confidence she has gained have enabled her to start studying the driving theory test, go to a gym and join a local English class. These are life-changing steps along the path of someone's future development, and is a perfect example of the impact that a SAVTE volunteer can make.

Denise also regularly gives her time to help run the SAVTE conversation group at ACT with Rosemary Telfer and provides weekly support in our beginner level ESOL class at Vestry Hall. It is great to acknowledge Denise's contribution to SAVTE in this way!

Margaret Halstead – long serving volunteer

Margaret first started volunteering with SAVTE in 1982 and in total has supported eight one to one placements as well as the Abbeyfield Conversation Group for 13 years. Many of her learners were dealing with very difficult situations for example one learner had been a victim of domestic violence and another suffered with a serious mental health condition. Margaret's support remained consistent throughout.

This year she felt it was time to handover the Conversation Group to new volunteers, her high moment was "being in the conversation group, seeing all the learners chatting away and realising that they didn't need to be there anymore!" Margaret is still not planning to retire and has returned to one to one teaching.



Omaima Belhaj – new volunteer of the year

This year, Omaima has supported two learners and helped at community events to raise awareness about SAVTE.

"For me, volunteering with SAVTE is one of my 2019 achievements. I found SAVTE well organised - the training programme was helpful for a new volunteer, like me, the time I am spending on every lesson I teach, is rewarding as I build up my experience either by improving my teaching skills or by taking some notes, advice and new ideas from my SAVTE link worker Joanna".



Learners of the Year

There are many stories of how our learners have benefited from the help of our volunteers, here are a few from this year.

Abdullahi Jinow Ali

When SAVTE first went to meet Abdullahi, he made it very clear that he had high ambitions: he wanted to go to college, then to university to study engineering. He started 1:1 sessions, working hard and remaining very motivated. After several months working with his volunteer, Glen, Abdullahi succeeded in his first aim: he got a place at Sheffield College studying science, maths and English. Being a wheelchair user was not a barrier for Abdullahi once Glen introduced him to the Sheffield bus service. The fact that the buses are wheelchair accessible has opened up the whole city to Abdullahi and now living fairly far from the city centre is no longer an issue. Abdullahi is well on his way to fulfilling his dream of becoming an engineer.

Nazi

Nazi is a great example of a SAVTE learner who started with a 1:1 volunteer and later progressed to an ESOL class. Nazi was referred to SAVTE by her health visitor, she was a single mum, an asylum seeker and felt very isolated and vulnerable having to look after her 3 young children alone and not knowing much English. Despite the demands of bringing up her children and settling into their new lives in Sheffield, she has progressed remarkably in both English and her confidence and she has now started to attend a SAVTE ESOL class.

"I like class. I'm very happy because I want to know more English. Now it's easier at my children's school and shopping. Talking to friends is good now." **Nazi**

Safa

Safa came to the UK from Yemen in 2016 and because she had young children was referred to SAVTE for 1:1 support.

She says: *"Two years ago, I wasn't speaking English. Sarah helped me very much with the English for going shopping and going to appointments with the doctor. Now sometimes I use an interpreter and sometimes not, but lots has changed. I was very happy with the support. Now I understand English much more. I need English and I want to practise."* Safa is now studying Entry 1 ESOL at Sheffield College.

Case study

The difference a SAVTE Volunteer can make

"I was placed with Tesfit, a young asylum seeker from Eritrea, who endured many hardships before he arrived in Sheffield to find that he was not allowed to work and had to survive on £5 a day.

I became more of a life coach than a language tutor because there were so many things he needed to learn about living in Britain. Together we opened a bank account and learned how to use it, we practiced how to speak clearly for immigration tribunals, we researched how to deal with solicitors and the legal system, we got him involved with a local choir. He has recently gained the right to remain in the country, is applying for work and continues at college to improve his English.

It has been immensely rewarding helping someone who has endured such hardships to find his feet and start a new life. I recommend it!"

Alan Potts – SAVTE Volunteer

You must learn. Lots of people don't speak English, but you have to try, go out of the home, see new people, speak, go out. Two years ago, I didn't go out because I couldn't speak English. Sarah (my volunteer) said to me, why not go out, to town, go shopping, go to Zest. It will be good to practise speaking. Sometimes I go to Zest to the toddler group. In the summer, all the time, I go out now with my children. Sometimes to the fountains in town, to Meadowhall and Monkey Bizness! Last year I felt shy and I couldn't go everywhere, but now it's ok. **Safa – Learner**



What made the year memorable for us...

Behind the scenes at SAVTE is a hardworking and highly committed team



Jenny

I trained a record number of new volunteers this year, it was brilliant to see many new volunteers from diverse backgrounds including 4 SAVTE learners. All our volunteers bring new experiences and ideas to enrich the organisation.

Salwa

Starting to work for SAVTE was the most interesting thing I did this year; I was introduced to a new work environment and work with an amazing team. Promoting SAVTE 's services to the local community, developing new resources for volunteers and helping new learners to start their English learning enables me to develop new skills and rediscover my abilities.

Cerowyn

I first volunteered for SAVTE when I finished university, then I joined the team to help with resources and outreach. I love telling people about the fantastic work that SAVTE does, and understanding more about how we can help meet the diverse needs within the communities. I'm excited to start working in Tinsley and in schools next year.

Hazel

I always enjoy meeting the new SAVTE 1:1 volunteers and introducing them to their learners – placement meetings are the best bit of the job! This year I've also enjoyed working alongside Kerry to design a new training course for conversation group facilitators, coming up with fresh activities and practical ideas to help volunteers get learners talking.

Kerry

I've particularly enjoyed being able to get out more into Sheffield's communities and developing new relationships - essential for supporting grassroots community development activities. Delivering the training for the first time was also a personal highlight, I've grown in confidence and discovered skills I didn't know were there.

Hannah

The highlight for me this year has been teaching again in the classroom. Some of the adults I was helping started off as 1:1 learners and it was a strong reminder of how much work and commitment it takes for busy adults to learn English whilst also raising families, looking after relatives or overcoming health problems.

Joanna

Working within the SPRING project, I have seen the value of partners working in collaboration to create a more joined up approach to support Sheffield refugees. I'm excited about the next phase of SPRING project work in 2020 which will include flexible Sheffield-specific resources that can be used by learners, volunteers and partners.

Nuhu

I have met some amazing Sheffield residents who are eager to learn English. A gentleman in Darnall referred to us by his friend after 13 years of living in Sheffield but still couldn't speak English. A lady at the Sanctuary, who can now learn English because her daughter has just started school. The list is long, there is a great need.

Maymona

Through working at SAVTE I feel connected to communities and I know the difference we make. I am the first point of contact for volunteers, learners and partners and I really see the need for our services. I feel like I am a part of something very worthwhile.

Stella

Last November, SAVTE received the VAS award for Equality and Inclusion – my highlight was seeing how our learner turned volunteer Samar Mohammed received the award along with other SAVTE volunteers – Samar told me that it was one of the most memorable moments of her entire life!

Lucy

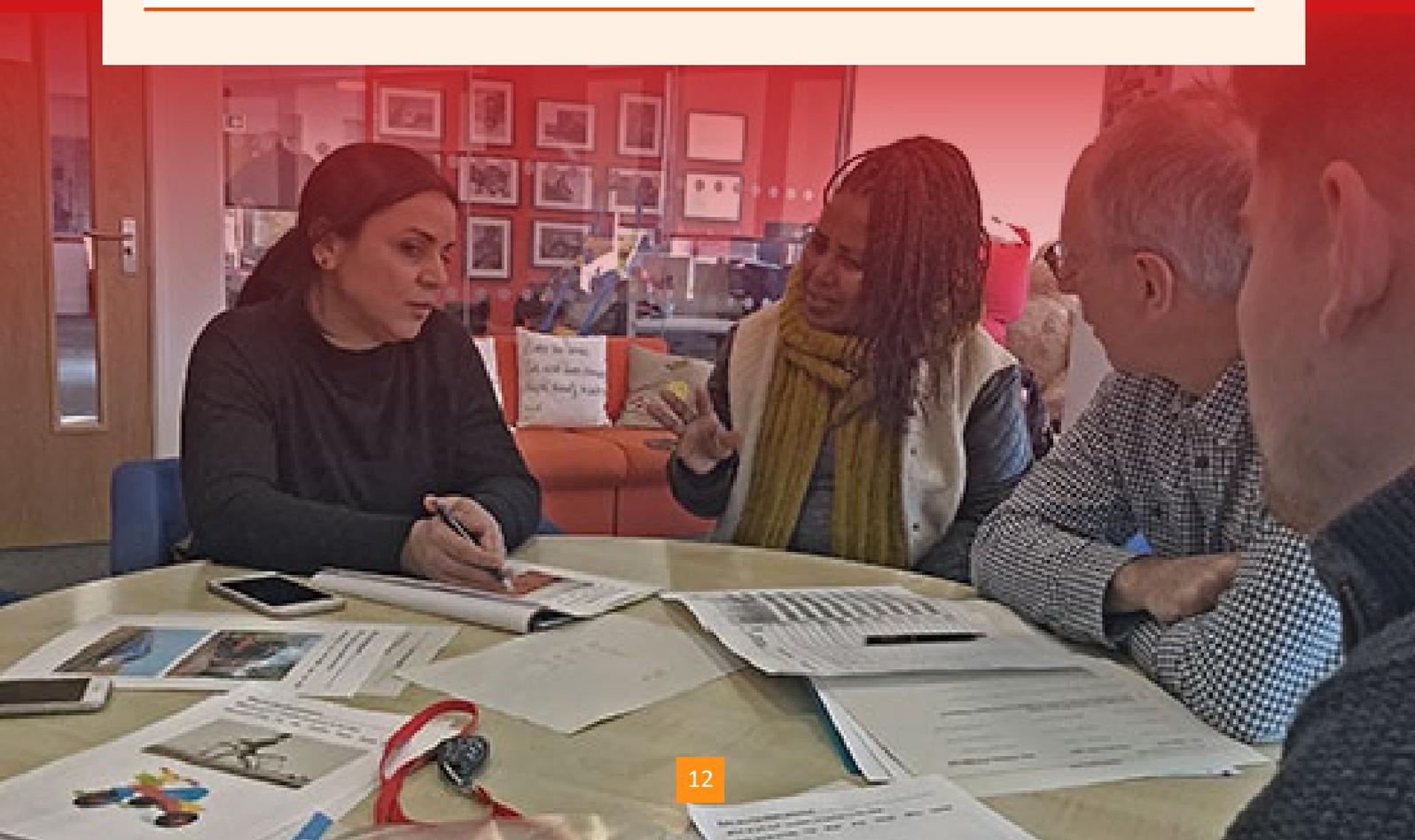
My last year at SAVTE was characterised by change. SAVTE was growing and developing, becoming better at helping learners by offering more tailored support to their needs. One thing that I really liked was that learners were becoming involved in the organisation too, supporting us, advising us and were always welcome!



Statement of Financial Activities

Incorporating the income and expenditure accounts for the period ended 31st July 2019

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL 2019	16 MONTHS TO 31 JULY 2018 TOTAL
Income from:	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Donations	7,985	–	7,985	392
Charitable activities	21,384	211,887	233,271	251,727
Investment income	278	–	278	–
Other	–	–	–	7,203
Total Incoming Resources	29,647	211,887	241,534	259,322
Resources Expended				
Charitable activities	1,953	213,108	215,061	209,276
Total Expended Resources	1,953	213,108	215,061	209,276
Net income/expenditure	27,669	(1,221)	26,473	50,046
Transfers between funds	3,543	(3,543)	–	–
Net movement in funds	31,237	(4,764)	26,473	50,046
Total funds brought forward	60,490	42,210	102,700	52,654
Total funds carried forward	91,727	37,446	129,173	102,700



The Year ahead...

– will be about evaluation and consolidation – we want to be confident that our activities meet need, that our provision is making a measurable impact and that we have a clear forward strategy that ensures our sustainability.



Measuring Impact

We want to be certain about the impact that we have. Our new learner assessment tools will help us measure learner progress and evidence outcomes.



Family learning with ESOL.

Many of our learners want to learn English so that they can support their children, we plan to work in partnership with Sheffield Council to explore the role of SAVTE volunteers and family learning.

Working with new communities

We plan to deliver new provision in Tinsley and the Manor. We also plan to work with Sheffield's Roma community, new arrivals and destitute asylum seekers.

We want to develop work with men, particularly those who have not previously learnt English and have "got by" within their own monolingual communities.



New ESOL Resources

We will create new ESOL materials which will be freely available and will include subjects specific to living in Sheffield, such as using the tram, going to the train station, waste and recycling and opening a bank account.

Thank you to all our volunteers!

Our volunteers form the bedrock of all SAVTE's work, without their enthusiasm, time and commitment we would not be able to deliver such an extensive and bespoke service in so many settings across the city. Thank you to everyone who has generously contributed their time and expertise to SAVTE this year.

Vikki Acornley
Omed Ahmed
Salwa Ahmed
Rafik Al Sakkaf
Adrian Alker
Manal Alkrad
Khaldoon Almathagi
Denise Annett
Tiguy Bangoura
Graham Barkworth
Amanda Baxter
Heike Becker
Omaima Belhaj
Charlotte Benaim
Ian Braddick
Ciaran Bright
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Alison Coult

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Margaret Halstead
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Gerry Kirwan
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Jill Lancaster
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Maeve Largey
Wendy Laycock
Margaret Lewis
Carolyn Lindsay
Giselle Lowe
Maggie Lowry
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Ethel Maqeda
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Joel Mitchell
Lynfa Moses
Stephen Moss
Stacey Murray
Hersey Nageye
Henrietta Obajema
Laura O'Neill
Mary Owen
Gwilym Owen

Maddalena Pallotti
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Lynn Pocock
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Christine Raby
Tom Reavey
Malcolm Reed
Saima Rehman
Mike Reynolds
Philippa Richardson
Liz Rick
Katie Rockett
Pat Rockett
Pat Rogers
Hannah Ronaldson
Joanne Rosenthal
Bernadette Ross
Sarah Ross
Heather Rostron
Rebekah Rotheram
Glen Ruddiforth
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Columba Timmins
Barbara Toorchen
Tony Trippett
Debra Tuckett
Dawn Lee Vatcher
Mary Wadeson
Darren Wake
Michelle Wales
Kathleen Wallace
Linda Lee Welch
Annette Whiteley
Georgina Wilde
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Dominika Wojciechowska
Jane Womack
Heather Woodley
Elizabeth Woods
Allan Wright
Sarah Zadik



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Sheffield Council – Lifelong Learning and Skills • Sheffield City Council Home Learning Project
European Union Asylum and Migration Impact Fund

Sheffield Introduction to Community Development and Health (Sheffield Council) • The Tudor Trusts
Sheffield Church Burgess Fund • Renaisi - Reading Friends • St Marks Church (Broomhill, Broomhall)

Board of Trustees

Behind the scenes, are the hugely supportive Board of Trustees who bring skills, experience and knowledge to the running and forward planning of SAVTE.

Brian Helsdon
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Gareth Dent
James Dimond
Jessica Elmore

Lyn Brandon
Rosemary Telfer
Sylvia Ashton
Valerie Boulding

Staff Team 2018-2019

Community and Volunteer Development Workers
Community Learning Teaching Project Lead
Curriculum Training and Development Workers
SPRING Partnership Lead
Resources Development and Outreach Project
Finance and Administration
Chief Executive

Kerry Cressey, Nuhu Jallow
Hannah Thornton
Jenny Rist, Hazel Leigh, Lucy Kitto
Joanna Sutcliffe
Salwa Ahmed, Cerowyn Browne
Maymona Ghannam
Stella Burton

Sessional Teachers

Martina Bramhall, Ifrah Ismail, Zeinab Mohammed, Mary Sewell, Amanda Stebbing, Hannah Thornton

New mental health resources for ESOL learners

SAVTE have produced a set of ESOL resources, 6 story books and 14 information packs. They are aimed at anyone working closely with people who may need support with talking about their mental health

With a grant from The Talbot Trusts and the EU AMIF we have been able to offer these resources to other organisations working with refugees in Sheffield for free.



"The crucial message these stories convey is what we all need in life, that is hope. They enable understanding and acceptance of how normal it is to respond to distressing experiences, using clear readable words and pictures. The reader will see and read that you can be helped to tackle the isolation you feel when clouded by mental distress."

John Davies, Practising Trauma Psychotherapist



SAVTE

The Circle • Rockingham Lane • Sheffield • S1 4FW

Tel: 0114 253 6644 • Email: savte@savte.org.uk

www.savte.org.uk



@savteesol



@savte2

REFER TO SAVTE

If you know someone who needs help with their English and can't get access, refer them through our website

www.savte.org.uk or call us on 0114 253 6644

VOLUNTEER WITH SAVTE

SAVTE will **TRAIN** you, **MATCH** you with a learner and **SUPPORT** you to **TEACH** English

Apply to volunteer online:

<http://savte.org.uk/volunteering/>

PARTNER WITH SAVTE

We welcome any opportunity to come and talk to your organisation about how we could work together

Email us at: savte@savte.org.uk



EUROPEAN UNION
Asylum, Migration
and Integration Fund



European Union
European Social Fund
Investing in jobs and skills