



IMPACT REPORT

2024/2025

ymcataunton.co.uk



Here for young people
Here for communities
Here for you

YMCA TAUNTON

Registered Charity Number: 1152585

Message from Chair

This year has been one of significant change for YMCA Taunton, but throughout it all our purpose has remained the same: supporting children, young people, families and the wider community.

Despite the challenges of a major redevelopment project, our staff, volunteers and partners continued to provide opportunities for people to learn, connect and thrive. From youth activities and support for young carers to preschool education, wellbeing programmes and community initiatives, the impact highlighted throughout this report reflects an organisation that remained focused on people, even during a period of considerable change.

This report celebrates far more than numbers. It tells the story of individuals gaining confidence, families finding support and communities coming together.

We are incredibly proud of what has been achieved. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, thank you to everyone who has contributed to YMCA Taunton this year.



Nick Low
Chair of Board

Message from CEO



Clare Langley
YMCA Taunton CEO

When I look back on 2024-25, I think of the people who made this year possible.

While our building was being transformed through the Youth Investment Fund redevelopment, our team continued delivering services from temporary spaces, adapting to new challenges and ensuring support remained available for those who needed it most. Their resilience, flexibility and commitment have been truly remarkable.

The redevelopment has created exciting opportunities for the future, but its greatest achievement is not the additional space or improved facilities. It is the stronger organisation, partnerships and community that have grown alongside it.

I would like to thank our staff, volunteers, trustees, funders, partners and everyone who continued to support YMCA Taunton throughout the year. Your belief in our mission has enabled us to continue making a difference whilst preparing for the future.

As we move into the next chapter, we do so with renewed confidence, improved facilities and a clear ambition to reach more people than ever before.

Our Mission

YMCA Taunton aims to encourage and nurture the physical, spiritual and intellectual development of young people within the Taunton Deane constituency so they can truly belong, contribute and thrive.

As a small charity, we feel we are more in touch with our local community and able to react quickly when situations and problems arise.

How we make a difference

Our charity's performance has influenced the lives of young people by providing opportunities within a safe and supportive environment, through our key areas of work.



“What a lovely place. A brilliant community focus, clearly run by people very passionate and driven by good causes. Thank you YMCA, and all the people involved, for existing in Taunton.”

Google Review

“Very friendly staff, good location for a wide variety of sports and child play facilities, meeting rooms and advice.”

Google Review

Community

We offer support to the wider community through recreational and leisure activities.

Family Work

We deliver a range of family services, including a preschool and holiday clubs.

Training and Education

We seek to support young people through education and skills-based training.

Support and Advice

We support young people during difficult times through a variety of initiatives.

Health and Wellbeing

We promote health and wellbeing across a range of programmes and individually tailored work.

1209
YOUTH CLUB
Interactions



603 Session interactions
with our young carers

We supported

56 YOUNG
CARERS

112 Seasonal gifts were
given to our young
carers

We provided

340 

Safe Holiday Spaces



We provided

860

Children's Hot Meals

7334
COMMUNITY
MEALS



4544

Young People INTERACTIONS



Youth Clubs, Groups,
Holiday Activities,
HAF and Sports

2498 
Cook at home meals

5 COMMUNITY PANTRY
EVENTS helped to feed
300+ Families 

13% increase
in the total
number of
Young Carers
we support



PRESCHOOL

49 Children
Educated



28,729
Preschool
Education Hours

24 Different sports
and weekly
classes for
all ages 

1605 
Adult Sport Sessions

474 Sport Sessions
for Young
People   

Day Support

117
hours We provided space for adults
with learning disabilities to
receive support.

Alt Education

625
hours We provided space
for alternative
education provision.

Events

11 We held 11 events that
were open to the whole
community to enjoy.

19 Staff | 29 Volunteers | 6 Corporate Partners | 2 Community Cooks | 3 Mental Health First Aiders | 1 ASIST Caregiver

INCOME

£369,202

EXPENDITURE

£371,776

15%
increase
in net
turnover



150 People Supported
with the GDN Project

Advice, information and support as part of
this collaborate cost of living project.

Young people are at the heart of everything we do at YMCA. Over the past year, we delivered nearly **500** sports sessions for young people, alongside regular youth clubs, young carers groups, and holiday activities designed to support wellbeing, confidence and connection. Our preschool continues to provide a nurturing start for little ones and their families. We're proud to have provided so many inclusive spaces where young people can thrive.

“He had a wonderful time, thank you

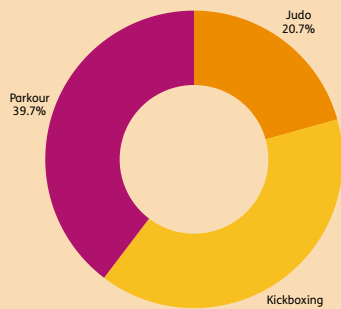
Parent of Holiday Activities Attendee”

4544

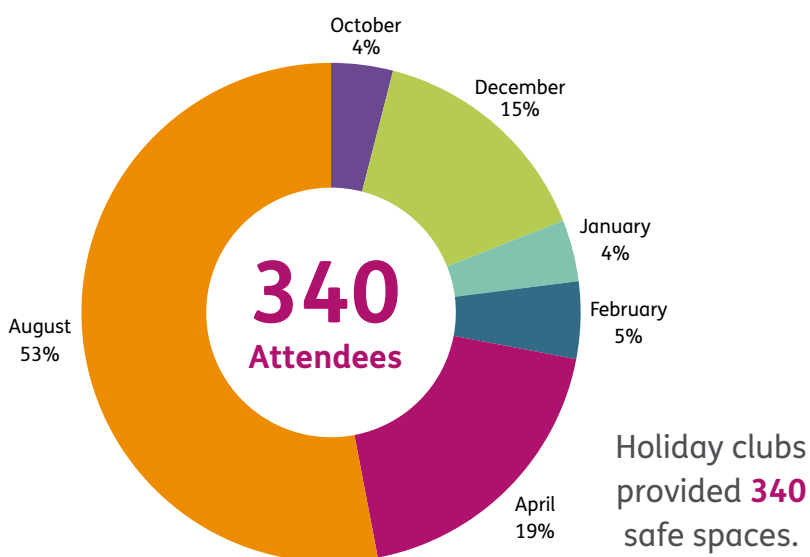
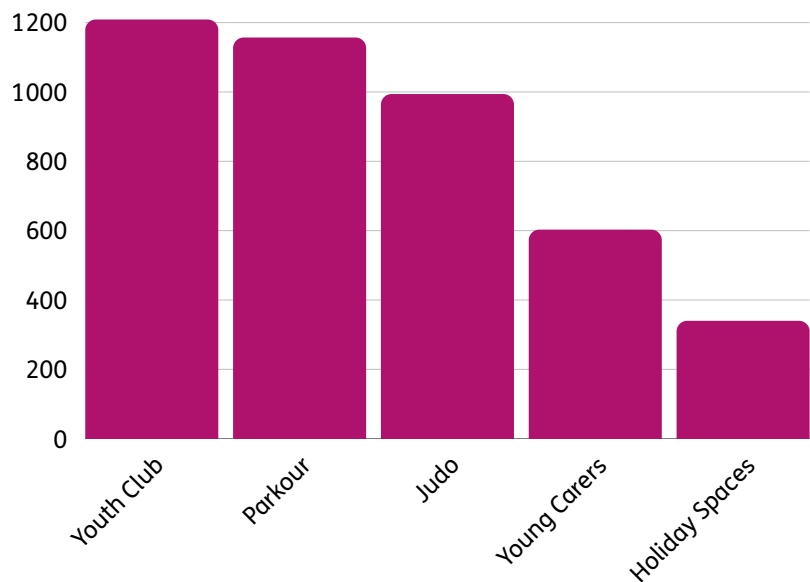
YOUNG PEOPLE
INTERACTIONS

“It's fun here!

Youth Club Attendee”



We ran **474 sports sessions** this year, helping young people stay active, healthy and engaged. Parkour topped the list as the most popular activity.



14%

14% increase
in the total
number of
Judo
attendees

1%

1% increase
in the total
number of
Hot Meals
for children

12%

12% increase
in the total
number of
Young Carer
attendees

VISITORS

Kings College students, chaplain and staff visited to discuss our work.

We welcomed **PCSO Cat** to our centre to see our work with young people.

The **High Sheriff** visited our Young Carers to see first hand the valuable work we do at our weekly groups.

MP Gideon Amos attended our Festive Fayre along with **Councillor Caroline Ellis**.



FOOD RESILIENCE

9627 meals provided

5 Community Pantry events helped **303** individuals and their families.

860 hot meals for children.

340 breakfasts for children.

1028 take and make bags.

1470 free community meals.



EVENTS

Preschool Nativity

Christmas Fayre

Painting Workshop

SEN Parent Voices

Preschool Graduation Ceremony

Family Lego Day

Easter Bingo



TAUNTON TOGETHER

We were delighted to take part in the inaugural Taunton Together event organised by Taunton Town Council. We received valuable feedback from the community on what facilities Taunton needs and invited people to test their fitness on our balance board challenge!

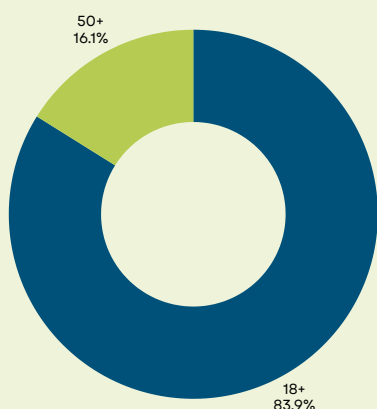


We believe health and wellbeing should be accessible to everyone. Our facilities – including a sports hall, squash court, astro pitch, dance studio and fitness suite – are open to the whole community. Income from our sports facilities and meeting rooms helps to sustain our wider charitable work.



Sporting Activities 2024/2025:

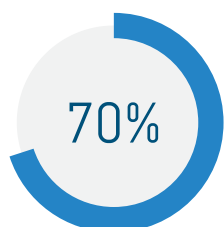
Aerobics | Table Tennis | Short Tennis | Pickleball | Badminton | Squash | Basketball
Football | Dance | Judo | Fitness Suite | Pool Table | Snooker



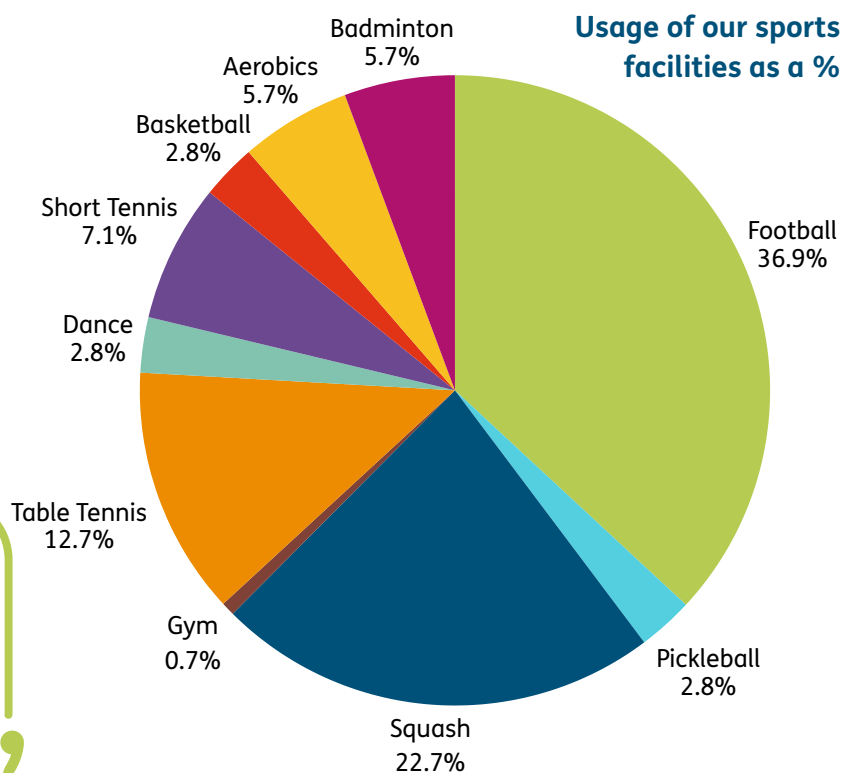
Our sports for adults held **1531** sessions, which make up **84%** of all adult sessions.

We held **294** sessions for our 50+ clients which is **16%** of all adult sessions.

70% of our income comes from our sports facilities and meeting rooms



“ Love the YMCA. Loads to do and great staff. ”
Keith B



STAFF TRAINING

- Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Allergy Awareness
- Energy Safety & Efficiency
- CO, PSR & Income Maximisation
- Paediatrics & Emergency First Aid
- Theory of Change
- Corporate Fundraising
- Digital Fundraising
- Storytelling in Fundraising
- Grant Writing Masterclass
- Events Fundraising
- Intro to AI & Intro to BI
- AI - What it Means for Your Charity
- Ethical Filmmaking for Charities
- Intro to Bid Writing
- Monitoring & Evaluation
- How to Master Grant Fundraising
- How to Write a Winning Application
- Copilot: measuring & proving impact
- How to Raise Funds to Keep Your Community Active



ADULT SUPPORT



We are proud to work with **Achieve Day Support** who provided **117 hours** of support for adults with learning disabilities at our centre.

The group enjoy a wide range of our activities including the pool table in our social area, and utilising our outside space for gardening.

ALTERNATIVE PROVISION

We provided a safe and nurturing space for several providers to offer alternative education provision for school age children. In addition to our meeting rooms, our Squash Court, Astroturf Pitch and Social Space with pool table was utilised to offer diverse learning environments.

625 HOURS



We're proud to offer practical, everyday support that makes a real difference. Throughout the year, we've signposted visitors to the right help – whether that's Village Agents, local council services or other community organisations.

It's often the little things that have the biggest impact – and we're here to help however we can.

“The pantry helps so much as I'm a pensioner so don't have spare cash.”

Community Pantry User

ASIST Caregiver

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) empowers people to provide skilled, life-saving interventions. ASIST trained caregivers help those with thoughts of suicide feel less suicidal and more hopeful. **We have 1 ASIST Caregiver**

“What a lovely place. A brilliant community focus, clearly run by people very passionate and driven by good causes. Thank you YMCA.”

Marta S

Mental Health First Aiders

Like traditional first aiders who provide immediate assistance for physical injuries, MHFAiders provide initial support, encouragement, and signposting of a person to identify and access sources of professional help and other support. **We have 3 Mental Health First Aiders**



GDN PROJECT

This project with the Gas Distribution Network helped us support **150** people.

- 61 people received energy safety and efficiency advice
- 58 people received health and wellbeing support
- 12 people received employment and education support
- 11 people received life skills support
- 8 people received money management and budget support

Volunteers

The number of volunteers has grown by **144%** this year, with 29 people very kindly donating their time. Our amazing team gave a total of **1,345 hours** to help with everything from deliveries and DIY to cooking, cleaning, removals and event support. The value of this donated time is estimated at over **£16,000** – a huge contribution that helps us do more for our community.

1345
hours



MP **Gideon Amos** volunteered his time at our Christmas Fayre serving refreshments.



Our judo coaches generously volunteer their time every week to help young people learn and practice Judo in a safe and welcoming space.

Fundraisers

- £ 123 raised via Easyfundraising
- £ 214 raised via donation pots in Bargain Buys
- £ 290 raised by Mike Phillips Half Marathon
- £1127 raised via events

Thank you to **Pophams Saddlery** for generously supporting our Young Carers with festive gifts.



CORPORATE PARTNERS

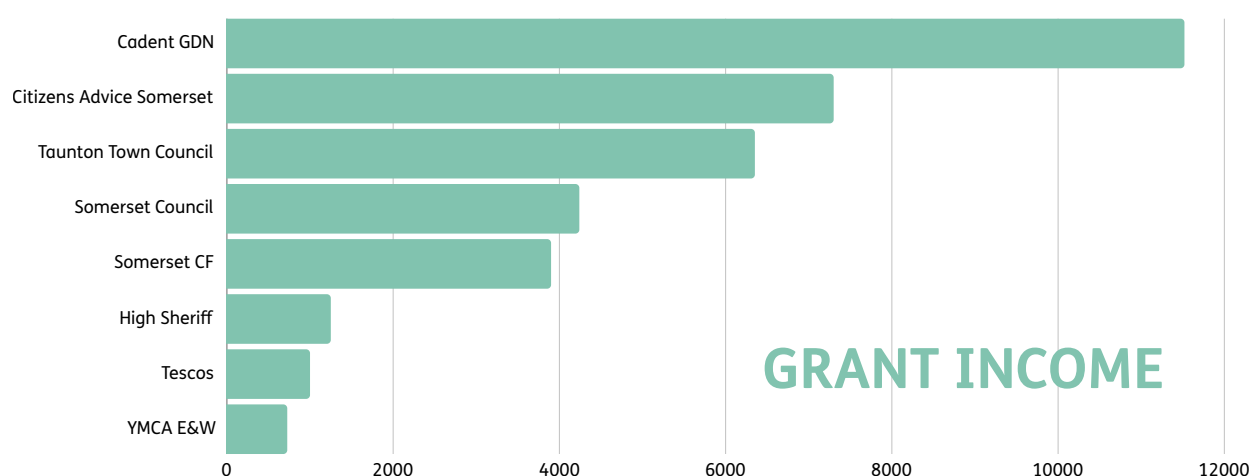
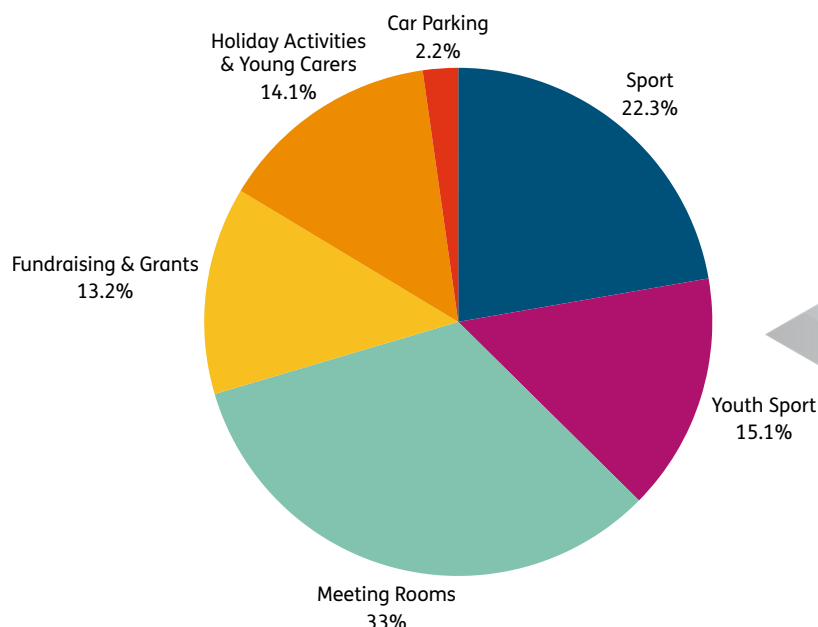
Our corporate partners support us with donations of cash, supplies and food for our Community Pantry.

Asda
Co-op
Lidl
Marks & Spencer
Morrisons
Sainsbury's

Our income during the 2024/25 reporting period increased significantly due to a **£1.2M** grant from the **UK Government** as part of the Youth Investment Fund.

Income (excluding YIF)

Our income during the 2024/25 came from a diverse range of activities, the majority of which were raised via our community centre sport and meeting room bookings. We also received grants from various organisations in addition to the Youth Investment Fund (see below).



We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of our funders, whose contributions have helped make our work in the community possible.



Future Plans



We've lots of exciting plans for the future where we can make full use of our newly refurbished rooms.



Thank you

We would like to thank all of our supporters, our volunteers, our sports users, our young carers, our youth club attendees, our preschool parents, our corporate partners, our fundraisers, all of our users and everyone in the community that has made use of our facilities. **Thank you for making YMCA Taunton a safe and welcoming space for everyone.**



How You Can Help



VOLUNTEER

Volunteering with YMCA Taunton is a meaningful way to make a difference.



DONATE

Every contribution, no matter how big or small, makes a significant impact.



FUNDRAISE

Organise a fundraising event to rally support for YMCA Taunton.

Find out more: ymcataunton.co.uk/about-us/support-us



Contact Us

We welcome conversations and feedback about the work we do for the community.

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