

CARNEGIE NPFA PLAYING FIELD: FOUNDLING HOSPITAL SITE, CORAMS FIELDS, LONDON



Site details

Location: Guildford Street, London WC1N 1DN
Landowner: Corams Fields, charity
Size: 7 acres

Grant awards were agreed in 1931

Carnegie UK Trust grant	£1,500.00
NPFA grant	£500.00

History

The London Foundling Hospital was founded in 1739 by philanthropist Captain Thomas Coram to look after unwanted children. When, in the 1920's the hospital was relocated outside London, the land was sold to a developer who demolished the hospital building itself leaving only the single storey colonnaded Georgian buildings. Following a campaign and lengthy fundraising by local people the land was turned into London's first public children's playground. The site was acquired at a cost of £118,750.

The park was re-opened under its new name in 1936. Coram's Fields continues to celebrate diversity and to promote a safe yet stimulating environment for London's children to enjoy.

Protection status

Coram's Fields is a children and young people's charity, based in central London. Founded in 1936, the core aim of the charity is to improve the lives of local children and young people through the provision of open space, sports and recreational opportunities, and affordable and high quality childcare.

The playing field is therefore deemed to have a good form of protection. Fields in Trust approached Coram's Fields with regards to entering into a Deed of Dedication but the Trustees felt that the existing measures governing the use of the site were very robust and a Deed of Dedication was proving too complicated in light of the existing governance.

Facilities and Activities

The park is open all year round from 9am until dusk and is open to children and young people under 16. No adult can enter Coram's Fields without a child and friendly on-site staff ensure that everyone can enjoy their visit. Entrance to the park is free and all activities provided by the Youth Centre, Children's Centre and Sports Programme are free of charge.

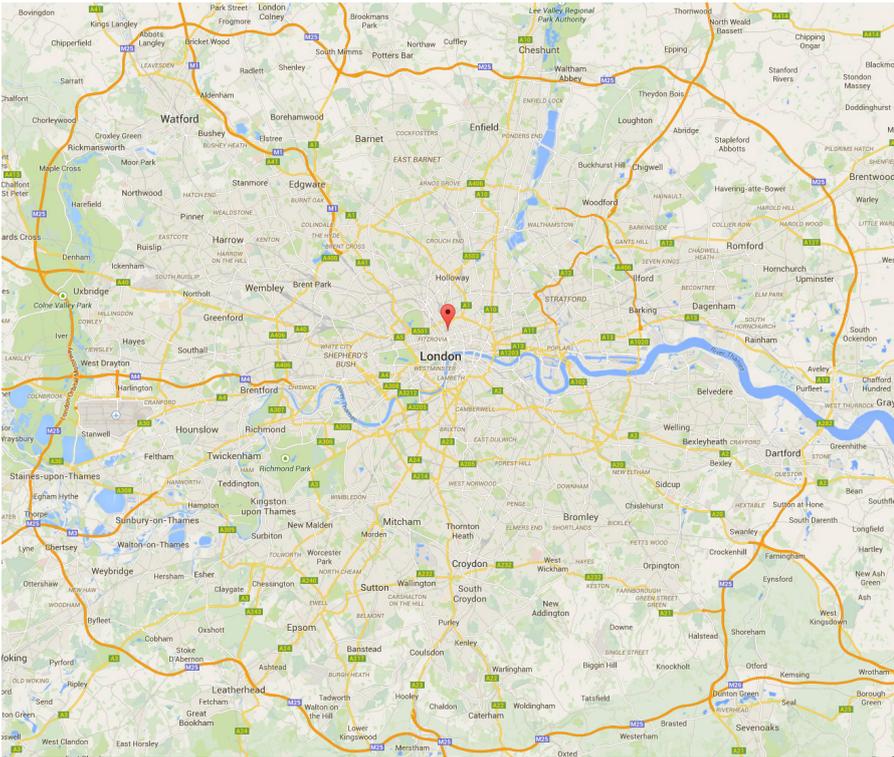
Coram's Fields runs a popular sports and youth programme catering for children and young people from the age of six to 19 years. There is also a nursery for 35 two to five year olds which is extremely popular and oversubscribed. Corams Fields is also a Children's Centre, working in partnership with Camden Council to deliver services and support for children under five and their families

In central London location there are extremely high levels of overcrowding and little provision for safe space for play and sport as many local residents do not have gardens or outside space in their residence.

The astro pitches have recently been refurbished with state of the art 3G turf including completely new fencing, goals and covers three eight aside pitches. A new fully-accessible sensory garden and carousel has also been recently installed.

CARNEGIE NPFA PLAYING FIELD: FOUNDLING HOSPITAL SITE, CORAMS FIELDS, LONDON

Location



Birds eye view. The area outlined in red is Corams Fields



CARNEGIE NPFA PLAYING FIELD: FOUNDLING HOSPITAL SITE, CORAMS FIELDS, LONDON



Photos 2014

