

# Fatima

Creative Playground Participant, Community Connector and Welcome Team member

Fatima Moseley is a Crawley resident who rediscovered a part of herself she thought she had left behind. Creative as a child, painting, drawing, singing and making, the demands of adult life gradually sidelined that creative instinct.

Creative Playground; a programme that's part of our Everyday Creativity strand, brought it back. As both a regular participant and a Community Connector, Fatima has thrown herself into everything from stewarding at *Around the Lake* to a small-group collaborative writing workshop with musician and storyteller Marco Woolf.

Her enthusiasm for Crawley's creative potential and her desire to bring others with her make her a powerful example of what Creative Playground is for.

“ I feel very, very thankful that this is happening in my town. It's on my doorstep

***We explore Fatima's experience through Creative Crawley's four strategic pillars.***

## PILLAR 1: ON THE DOORSTEP

As a Community Connector, Fatima actively draws people in - inviting friends, nudging colleagues at Manor Green School and directing her AirBnB guests to Crawley's murals and cultural spaces.

Her involvement has introduced her to fashion designers, photographers, architects and writers she would never have met otherwise. The free and local nature of events is central to this. Cost is a genuine barrier, she says, and Creative Playground's accessible offer means no one should miss out



“ Play is so important for adults, you'll connect with yourself and other people

“ I've opened up a bit more. I don't feel quite so isolated

## PILLAR 2: BIG PICTURE

Creative Playground has exposed Fatima to national-level artists and organisations she would never have encountered otherwise. *Come With Us* trips to London's South Bank opened her eyes to experiences beyond financial reach. A foraging session with Izzy revealed a new way of learning: "For me, if I Google something, I'm not going to remember it. I'm just not going to. Because I can remember Izzy, what she looked like, it's a somatic memory."

Most significantly, a collaborative writing workshop with Marco Woolf pushed her well outside her comfort zone, producing a piece she is genuinely proud of.

## PILLAR 3: PEOPLE AND PLANET

Creative Playground has had a real impact on Fatima's wellbeing. Through *Saturday Sessions*, *Big Scale Art* and *Playmakers Feasts*, she has found space to play, reflect and connect with others and with herself.

She also reflects honestly on inclusivity: working with children with complex needs at Manor Green School, she is aware of who is and who is not yet present at Creative Playground events and is keen to see the programme grow in that direction.

## PILLAR 4: VALUE IN ACTION

For Fatima, Creative Playground removes a real financial barrier, enabling access to workshops and trips that cost would otherwise have put out of reach. She has developed genuine confidence through stewarding a major festival, contributing to *Playmakers Feasts* and leading others to the programme as a Community Connector.

Her vision for what Crawley could become reflects both her own growth and the appetite Creative Playground has helped cultivate.

“ I had no idea there was this subculture, which is no longer sub, it's coming up



“ I feel very, very thankful and grateful that this is happening in my town

## IMPACT SUMMARY

Fatima's experience demonstrates the programme's ability to reconnect people with their creative identity, reduce isolation and build a more connected Crawley. Through her involvement, she rediscovered a creative life she thought had passed her by; accessed national-level arts experiences that would otherwise be unaffordable; built new friendships across diverse creative disciplines; developed confidence by stepping into unfamiliar creative territory; become an active ambassador and connector for the programme.

Fatima's story is a compelling reminder that Creative Playground is not just a programme. It is a doorway back to something essential, and it opened in her hometown.