

camphill  
village  
trust

**‘Yes, I can do it!’**



**With the help of our friends,  
we can do even more**

# 'It's happening soon!'

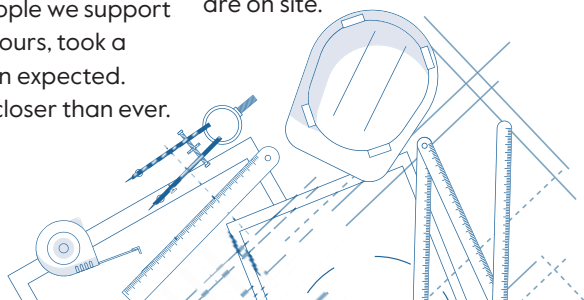
# Thanks to a lot of help from our friends



For the last two years, this has been a frequent saying at our St Albans Art Studio. We've been preparing for an extension and development of the studio building.

Site surveys, architect's designs and planning permission have been steadily progressing. Getting our plans exactly right, both for the people we support and our neighbours, took a little longer than expected. But now, we're closer than ever.

Equipment and materials have been packed away, or moved to nearby Michaelmas Hall. That's where we'll be holding our daily art sessions for people who attend the studio. Everyone has been working hard to make sure there's a smooth transition, so people won't miss out on the activities they love whilst the builders are on site.



Our friends and supporters gave generously when we launched our Art Studio fundraising appeal. With your help we raised over £100,000. Camphill Village Trust have invested a further £150,000. We're now on the final strait - and we're hoping that local trusts and foundations, and a little extra help from our supporters will help us reach our target of £380,000 to cover all the development costs.

Meanwhile, of course, everyone at the Art Studio has been keeping busy - and creative!

Alex took the lead on designing the award-winning Advent window display for the nearby Café on the Corner. 'I spent three weeks designing the windows with different shapes - dots, spirals, squares and triangles. It took a lot of time and effort.'

We want to help more people take on challenges like Alex - and when the Studio extension is complete, we'll be able to do so much more. If you turn over, we'll tell you what we've got planned...



# Getting ready for work to begin



# 'We'll be more creative when we have more space'



The Art Studio sessions are popular, and the current space feels crowded. When people are moving around, choosing materials or changing from one activity to another, it can feel as if we're getting in each other's way.

The lack of space affects how we work. Maxine has written a story in cartoon form: 'It's about a duck called Isobel, and how she makes friends with other animals. I'd like to build a set and animate it properly,' she says. 'But it's a bit big.'

Gaspar, our Art Studio Manager, is keen to help people explore the creative process. 'Maxine's story is great, we'd like to develop it further, and take the finished product to a film festival,' he says.

At the moment, Maxine's animation plans are on hold until the extension is completed.

'We want to spend much more time working on it when we have the space to do it properly,' says Gaspar. 'We'll have a dedicated area for computers and animation, and that will really help.'

# A new space - opening up new possibilities

There's a buzz of enthusiasm in everyone's voice when they talk about the extension.

'It'll bring us more opportunities - to get more things into the studio, and be more creative with different types of materials and projects,' says Lizzie.

As well as the computer area, we need to create a bigger area for ceramics. This is an activity which needs plenty of space. 'When we have a separate area for ceramics it will allow us to really focus and develop new projects,' says Gaspar.

Just as exciting is the opportunity to make new connections. When the work is complete, the ground floor extension will provide space for exhibitions, visiting artists and other community activities.

With the help of our friends, the Art Studio can become a focal point for the community. With more going on, we can offer greater variety and more interesting opportunities for the people we support.

If you turn over, our Art Studio team will explain why this is so important...



# More space...fresh ideas...new skills





# ‘The Art Studio is a place where people can prove themselves, where we say ‘yes, I can do it’,’ says Gaspar

Jake first came to the Art Studio in September, and took a little while to feel at home. But now he’s settled in and discovered a love of painting. Creativity goes hand-in-hand with growing self-confidence and concentration too. Jake often asks Gaspar for advice on his painting, and actively follows up suggestions.

‘I’ve learned to keep working, to finish things,’ says Jake. ‘And I sign my paintings, because I’m proud of them.’

Sessions at the Art Studio are part of an active, independent and fulfilling life. Maxine and Alex both attend the Art Studio, and work at the nearby Café on the Corner, which is also run by our St Albans Community. And there are always other things going on. There are plans to make a film, sporting activities on the nearby heath, and Alex has been interviewed twice for local radio about his work at the Café.

Lizzie sums up what coming to the Art Studio means: ‘The best thing about the Art Studio is keeping busy. And seeing all our friends.’



## Reaching our potential

We know that the people we support gain so much from attending the Art Studio - but we know we can do so much more.

The new extension will help us take our creativity to the next level - giving us space to develop bigger projects like Maxine’s animation. Sharing our space with the wider community - inviting new groups and visiting artists - will bring fresh ideas and new friendships.

And perhaps most importantly, we’ll be able to increase the number of people attending the studio.

All our sessions are fully booked at the moment - but with a bigger space, we can offer more adults with learning disabilities the opportunities that Alex, Lizzie, Jake and Maxine enjoy.



Registered with



   @camphillvillagetrust  @CamphillVillag1

[www.camphillvillagetrust.org.uk](http://www.camphillvillagetrust.org.uk) • Tel: 01287 661238 • Email: [family@cvt.org.uk](mailto:family@cvt.org.uk)  
Camphill Village Trust Appeals Office, Botton Village, Danby, Whitby, YO21 2NJ  
Registered charity no. 232402

A LIFE OF OPPORTUNITY  
EST.1954





**With the extra space in our Art Studio, we can offer more people the chance to learn new skills, gain self-confidence and make friends. And it's the generosity of our supporters which helps to make this possible.**