



# Poplar: Community Assets

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# Introduction

This document complements Poplar: The Local Context by offering a practical guide to the community assets that make Poplar unique. While the Local Context report explored the demographic, historical, and socioeconomic landscape, this companion focuses on the organisations, facilities, and spaces that form the backbone of local life.

Designed to support Republic's tenant universities, this guide highlights opportunities for collaboration and civic engagement. Whether you're looking to establish partnerships, create bespoke civic initiatives, or simply connect with the community, these assets provide a starting point. The Campus Experience Team has cultivated relationships with many of the organisations featured and can facilitate introductions or co-develop projects that align with your goals.

We hope this document serves as a useful resource for your initiatives, and we welcome any updates on activities you undertake. This helps us understand the broader impact of our shared work and ensures it can be captured within our Thrive framework—a bespoke tool for measuring social value and tracking the outcomes of civic engagement across education, community development, and public wellbeing in Poplar.

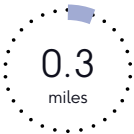


# Educational & healthcare facilities and resources

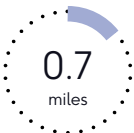
## Educational Facilities

### Primary Schools

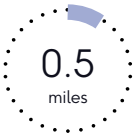
**Woolmore Primary School**  
Woolmore Street, London, E14 0EW  
An outstanding primary school known for its high educational standards and strong community involvement.



**Bygrove Primary School**  
Bygrove Street, Poplar, London, E14 6DN  
A vibrant and inclusive school dedicated to providing a supportive learning environment.

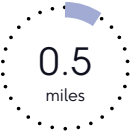


**Culloden Primary - A Paradigm Academy**  
Dee Street, London, E14 0PT  
An outstanding primary school offering a broad curriculum in the Poplar area.

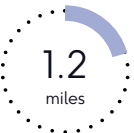


### Secondary Schools

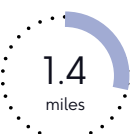
**Langdon Park School**  
Byron Street, London, E14 0RZ  
A well-regarded secondary school offering a wide range of academic and extracurricular activities.



**St Paul's Way Trust School**  
125 St Paul's Way, London, E3 4FT  
Known for its science and digital technology specialism, offering strong partnerships with universities and employers.



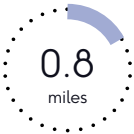
**George Green's School**  
100 Manchester Road, Isle of Dogs, London, E14 3DW  
Located on the Isle of Dogs, this school offers a diverse curriculum with a strong emphasis on community engagement and personal development.



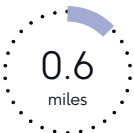
This section highlights the key community organisations and centres that play a significant role in supporting and engaging the local populations around the Republic campus.

## Healthcare Facilities

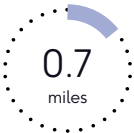
**The Aberfeldy Practice**  
19 Aberfeldy Square, Poplar, London, E14 0XA  
A key medical facility providing accessible and high-quality healthcare services to the local population.



**Chrisp Street Health Centre**  
100 Chrisp Street, Poplar, London, E14 6PG  
A large, modern GP practice central to healthcare provision for residents in and around Chrisp Street Market.



**Gough Walk Surgery**  
21 Newby Place, London, E14 0EY  
Offers comprehensive GP services, catering to residents of Blackwall and the surrounding neighbourhoods.



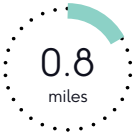


# Community organisations & centres in the Blackwall, Aberfeldy, & Poplar areas

## Community Centres

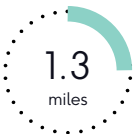
### Poplar Union

2 Cotall Street, Poplar, London, E14 6TL  
A multidisciplinary arts and community venue offering a wide range of educational programs, workshops, and creative learning opportunities for all age groups.



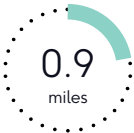
### The Linc Centre

70 Fern Street, Poplar, London, E3 3PR  
Provides various courses and workshops aimed at educational and professional development.



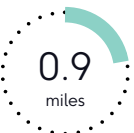
### Aberfeldy Community Centre

Aberfeldy Street, Poplar, London, E14 0NU  
A central hub for community learning programs and workshops, significantly contributing to local education and community development.



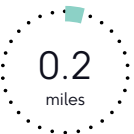
### Spotlight Youth Centre

30 Hay Currie Street, Poplar, London, E14 6GN  
A state-of-the-art youth centre providing a safe and supportive environment for young people. It offers a wide range of programs including arts, music, sports, and personal development workshops.



### The Reach Community Hub

1A Prestage Way, London E14 9QE  
Run by Sanctuary Housing Association, this is a space dedicated to fostering community spirit and providing resources for residents. The hub offers a range of services, workshops, and activities aimed at improving wellbeing, supporting social enterprises, and creating opportunities for all.

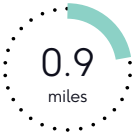


These community centres and organisations are essential resources, fostering social cohesion, providing educational opportunities, and supporting the well-being of the diverse populations in Blackwall, Aberfeldy, and Poplar.

## Key Community Organisations

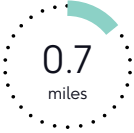
### Leaders in Community (LiC)

20 Hay Currie Street, London, E14 6GN  
A youth-led organisation that empowers young people through leadership programs, creative projects, and community engagement activities.



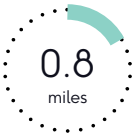
### Neighbours in Poplar

All Saints Church, Newby Place, Poplar, London, E14 0EY  
A charity that provides services and activities aimed at reducing social isolation, particularly among older adults at risk of isolation and loneliness.



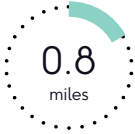
### SPLASH

21-23 Gill Street, London, E14 8HQ  
Offers support services and community activities focused on the social and emotional well-being of children and families in the local area.



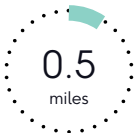
### The People Speak

27 Aberfeldy Street, E14 0NU  
An organisation that uses participatory events and creative projects to engage communities in dialogue and decision-making.



### Docklands Youth Project

113 Poplar High Street, London, E14 0AE  
Focuses on empowering young people in the Docklands area through various youth-led initiatives, educational programs, and community engagement activities.



# Community engagement & social capital: key community organisations

**Poplar HARCA** (Housing and Regeneration Community Association) is at the forefront of these efforts, driving housing management, urban regeneration, and a variety of social programs that aim to improve residents' quality of life. Through initiatives focused on education, employment, and health, Poplar HARCA plays a pivotal role in building a cohesive and resilient community.

**The People Speak** is a creative collective based in East London that uses participatory arts to spark dialogue, imagination, and decision-making in public life. Known for their signature format Talkaoke, a pop-up talk show, they create playful spaces where people of all backgrounds can share ideas, stories, and opinions. Working in Tower Hamlets and beyond, they collaborate with communities, cultural institutions, and local authorities to co-create projects that build social capital and foster civic engagement through accessible, creative interventions.

The **Tower Hamlets Food Partnership**, coordinated by Wen (Women's Environmental Network), is dedicated to developing a fair and sustainable food system in the borough. This partnership includes a range of stakeholders such as local charities, small businesses, and housing providers. A key project under this partnership is the Limborough Community Food Hub on the Burdett Estate, which combines food growing, cooking, and community-building activities, contributing significantly to the local social fabric.

**Poplar Union** is a cultural hub established in 2017, offering diverse arts, educational, and community programs. It provides a platform for local artists and residents to engage in creative activities, performances, and workshops, thus greatly enhancing cultural expression and community interaction within Poplar.

The **Sunny Jar Eco Hub** is a social enterprise that promotes sustainable living practices. Through its workshops, community events, and educational programs, Sunny Jar Eco Hub encourages residents to adopt eco-friendly habits, fostering environmental awareness and collective action within the community.

**Lincoln Area Regeneration Group (LARG)** is a resident-led charity in Tower Hamlets, dedicated to enhancing the cultural, social, and environmental well-being of the local community. Run by residents for residents, LARG focuses on empowering individuals to create opportunities that strengthen community ties and foster cohesion.

Poplar and the surrounding areas within Tower Hamlets benefit from a network of key organisations that foster community engagement and enhance social capital.



# Adult education & skills development

## New City College (Tower Hamlets Campus)

New City College offers a wide range of vocational courses, apprenticeships, and adult education programs aimed at improving employability and skills. The college is particularly noted for its strong leadership, quality teaching, and positive student experiences. However, there is a need to further enhance support for students from disadvantaged backgrounds to ensure they achieve their full potential.



## City Gateway (Based at Republic)

City Gateway provides vocational training, apprenticeships, and alternative education pathways, particularly targeting young people who are not in education, employment, or training (NEET). The organisation focuses on practical skills and qualifications, offering a crucial lifeline for those who may have been left behind by traditional education systems. City Gateway is highly regarded for its role in supporting vulnerable young people and preparing them for the workforce.

The availability of adult education and vocational training in Poplar and Tower Hamlets plays a critical role in addressing the educational needs of the adult population, particularly those seeking to improve their skills or gain new qualifications for better employment opportunities. Below is an overview of key institutions and programs contributing to adult education and skills development in the area.

## 'Feldy Centre (Aberfeldy Square)

The 'Feldy Centre supports adult education and community wellbeing through a broad mix of regular activities. These include functional skills classes, Citizens Advice drop-ins, and local councillor surgeries, alongside a homeopathy clinic and a range of workshops focused on confidence, creativity and physical health. With a strong emphasis on accessibility and inclusion, the centre provides a welcoming environment for residents of all ages to learn, connect, and stay informed.



## Idea Store (Chrisp Street and Canary Wharf)

The Idea Store provides a range of adult education courses, including English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), IT skills, creative arts, and business development courses. These courses are accessible to the local community and are designed to improve both personal development and employability. The Idea Store also offers flexible learning options, making it easier for adults to balance education with other commitments. However, there is a recognised need to expand these offerings to reach more residents, particularly those in marginalised communities who may be less aware of or less able to access these resources.





# Public spaces & cultural centres

Public spaces and cultural centres in Poplar are integral to fostering community engagement and cultural expression. **Poplar Union** stands out as a central arts venue, offering a wide range of activities, including live performances, workshops, and community events aimed at promoting creativity and well-being.

**Bartlett Park** and **Mile End Park** serve as vital green spaces where residents can engage in recreational activities and social gatherings. These parks are crucial for promoting physical health and facilitating community interaction, hosting various events that strengthen social ties.

The **Idea Store** at Chrisp Street is a combined library and community centre that provides a broad range of educational and cultural programs. These include ESOL classes, IT training, and creative workshops, which promote lifelong learning and social inclusion, making the Idea Store a cornerstone of community life in the area.



Local **mosques**, such as the East London Mosque, play a significant role not only as places of worship but also as centres of community support. They offer educational programs and social services, contributing to social cohesion and a sense of belonging within the local Muslim population.

The **R-Urban Poplar Community Garden** is a community-led initiative that emphasises urban agriculture and environmental sustainability. The garden on the Teviot Estate provides a space for residents to grow their own food, participate in workshops on sustainability, and engage in eco-friendly practices, contributing to a stronger sense of community and environmental stewardship.

**Limehouse Town Hall**, an historic building in Tower Hamlets, has been repurposed as a community and arts space, hosting events ranging from art exhibitions to community meetings. It supports grassroots initiatives and fosters community interaction, playing a crucial role in the cultural life of the area.

**Chrisp Street Market**, one of the oldest purpose-built markets in the UK, remains a key focal point of community life in Poplar. The market serves as both a commercial centre and a social hub where residents connect, maintaining its importance as a cultural and historical asset.

The **Bow Arts Trust** is another significant organisation in the broader Tower Hamlets area, providing affordable studio spaces to artists and running education programs for the community. By engaging with schools and local groups, Bow Arts Trust promotes the arts and cultural expression, making it a key contributor to the local creative scene.

Together, these organisations, public spaces, and cultural centres form the backbone of community life in Poplar and Tower Hamlets, enhancing social capital, cultural expression, and fostering a strong sense of community belonging.

**St Matthias Community Centre** offers a range of services and activities, including youth clubs, senior programs, and fitness classes. It acts as a social hub, bringing together people of all ages and backgrounds to engage in community activities and access support services.

**All Saints Church** in Poplar is a historic place of worship that also serves as a vital community centre. The church hosts a variety of services and events, supporting both the spiritual and social needs of the community, and providing a meeting place for various local groups.

**The Reach Community Hub** managed by Sanctuary Housing Association, the Blackwall Community Hub is a welcoming space dedicated to fostering community spirit and providing essential resources for local residents. Located close to Republic, the hub offers a range of services, workshops, and activities aimed at improving wellbeing, supporting social enterprises, and creating opportunities for people of all ages. With its focus on inclusivity and community-driven initiatives, the hub plays a key role in strengthening local connections and enhancing the quality of life for residents.





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