

AN ASHOKA UK & IRELAND REPORT
2023



A simple vision & a bold mission

Ashoka envisions a world where everyone is powerful – where every individual, business and institution can embrace their agency, has the skills to solve problems, and contributes to change in positive ways. To that end, we have set out to mobilise our network – of leading social

entrepreneurs, young changemakers, leaders in education, philanthropists and businesses – into a movement united by the goal of accelerating systems change. Together, we aim to build a resilient, regenerative, and equitable society, where **everyone** is a **changemaker**.

Historic context

Founded in 1980, Ashoka pioneered the field of social entrepreneurship based on the idea that the most powerful force for good in the world is a social entrepreneur: a person driven by an innovative idea that can help correct an entrenched global problem. The world's leading social entrepreneurs pursue system-changing solutions that permanently alter existing patterns of activity. We have spent over four decades supporting our Fellows as they shape the world for the better.

Over time, by identifying and studying strong themes and patterns across our Fellows' work, we have also seen the emergence of a unifying common thread – their ability to empower those around them to embrace and make change, and the tenacity with which

they rally collective action. It is this mindset shift that Fellows inspire that hastens the pace at which they can shift whole systems.

This insight, combined with the reality of a rapidly changing and increasingly complex world, has brought us to the realisation that single individuals are not enough, government alone is not enough. To truly achieve collective impact, individuals and businesses, government, civic society - everyone must step up.

This is how Ashoka defines its vision as we enter this new world – **Everyone a**Changemaker™ - where each of us has the power, confidence and support to contribute to the common good.

3,700+

95+
Countries

300 Changemaker schools

th rank in the world for impact and innovation: NGO Advisor

One of the most innovative organisations in the world: Forbes, 2019



One Community | An Ashoka UK & Ireland Report | 2023

Glossary

Changemaker

A **changemaker** is someone who imagines a new reality, takes action and collaborates with others to bring that new reality into being for the good of others.

Systems change

Systems change is an intentional process designed to bring about lasting change in a system, by altering underlying structures and supporting mechanisms which make the system operate in a particular way. It is a journey which can require a radical change in people's attitudes as well as in the ways people work.

ramework change

Framework change is the strategy for embedding new belief systems
- whereby we see and understand the world differently, which leads us to do differently - as a norm. It is a way to organise people around a purpose and entails co-creating with those individuals and institutions capable of driving social demand at a national or international level.

Collaborative Entrepreneurship

Collaborative entrepreneurship, a
giant leap beyond the
solo entrepreneur, is
when a collection of
entrepreneurs and other
actors come together to
work towards a common
framework-changing goal.

Ashoka's core changemaker skills

Empathy

The ability to understand the feelings and perspectives of others – the basis of social cohesion, and the foundation that guides decision-making, reflection and action.

New Leadership

A new kind of shared leadership – one that requires actively listening to others and identifying individual strengths, and views decision-making as an inclusive and collaborative process.

Teamwork

The active cultivation of relationships and partnerships, embedded in common values and goals, that embrace complexity and embody trust, collaboration and empathy.

Practicing hangemaking

The process of creating a novel solution to a social problem that is more effective, efficient, sustainable or just than existing solutions and for which the value created accrues primarily to society rather than to private individuals.

One Community | An Ashoka UK & Ireland Report | 2023

Foreword

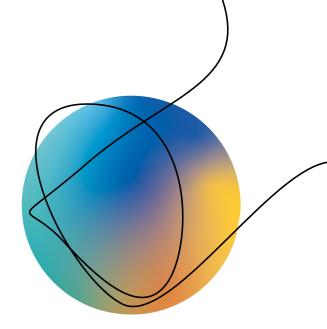
Over 15 years ago, Ashoka UK was founded with the vision of building on Ashoka's global efforts to find and support social entrepreneurs leading system-changing solutions. These social entrepreneurs serve as inspiring agents of change in their communities and beyond, using the tools of innovation and entrepreneurship to fix broken social and environmental systems.

Over time, our Fellows have shown us how to examine the seemingly immutable institutions that determine the shape of our societies – from education to justice, from finance to sport – and collectively embark on the journey of making them work for the good of all. Our Fellows have shown us how to tear up the rulebook when it no longer responds to our needs. And above all, our Fellows have shown us that when you're in the business of spreading deeply impactful, positive, system-changing ideas – there's a role for everyone to play a part.

In this report you will witness Fellows who have become our partners, young changemakers turned colleagues, individuals and businesses that have become leaders of change, and so much more – a truly

fluid network that demonstrates the power of collaborative entrepreneurship in continuously evolving ways. Today, Ashoka's increasingly open and integrated community – a network of social entrepreneurs, young changemakers, educators, philanthropists, businesses, and civic actors – represents a first microcosm of what an Everyone a Changemaker™ world could look like. And, as with every vision, there is a long way to go.

Thank you for being part of the journey and continuing to pave the way.



One Community

At the heart of it all, is our community of changemakers



Looking back, I can see that I had been seeking a 'home' and wanting to be part of a bigger movement for many years. This search was partly borne out of the recognition that it is not possible to effect system change alone and also out of a strong desire to connect with like-minded people, to widen my network, to be inspired by others and hopefully to inspire some too.

The personal growth and fulfilment I have experienced as being part of Ashoka have been huge, as has the deep sense of belonging I now feel. For that, I am incredibly grateful.

Bob Bharij

Ashoka Fellow since 2020



Fellows

Building solutions to society's biggest challenges

Ashoka Fellows are system-changing social entrepreneurs working to solve deep-rooted social problems. We search the world for these social entrepreneurs through an intensive, human-centred process, selecting them into our global, trust-based Fellowship of peers.

The process of selection is a transformative experience, one that generates robust discussion, sharpens ideas, and gives room for a journey of self-discovery and growth for each Fellow.

% achieved chang in public policy

% report changes in market-based economy

have seen their solution independently replicated

Once selected, we accompany them along their journey, enabling them to achieve their vision and have even greater impact. Our Fellows join a global peer-to-peer community, and are supported with strategic guidance, catalytic investments and greater visibility.

With them, we seed a culture of changemaking globally - where everyone owns the future and helps to shape it.

M
people directly impacted
by Fellows in the UK in
the year 2022

Over

of Fellows report that the selection process helped them strengthen and articulate their idea

82

yo
report that Ashoka helped
them see their leadership
potential

Currently, Ashoka UK and Ireland supports 90+ Fellows, tackling big cross-cutting issues including social mobility, climate change, tax justice, social inclusion, mental health and community cohesion, and more thematic areas. They champion innovative new ideas that transform society's systems, providing benefits for everyone and striving to improve the lives of millions of other people.

We continue to identify 4-6 new Fellows every year, all outstanding social innovators with transformative solutions to social issues.

MEET Jennifer Lexmond

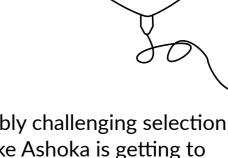
Ashoka Fellow since 2019

Jen's family moved around considerably when she was young – from North Carolina to California, to England, back to California and then Atlanta. These moves were formative experiences for Jen and from an early age, she became sensitive to cultural and socio-economic differences. Particularly, whilst living in the conservative south of America, which was punctuated by strong racial and class divides, she became troubled by the gap between the American ideal of equal opportunity and the reality of polarising inequalities which she saw around her.

Her early work experience led her to feel compelled to contribute more to the early years cause, based on clear evidence that investing in the first few years of life generates the greatest returns and is the strongest strategy to increasing equality of opportunity in society.

In 2016, Jen founded EasyPeasy, with the vision to build a more socially mobile society by inspiring parents and children everywhere to learn through play. The platform brings together parents to discover, create, play and share learning games with one another, thereby recognising and supporting parents and guardians in their role as architects of social mobility during their children's preschool years.

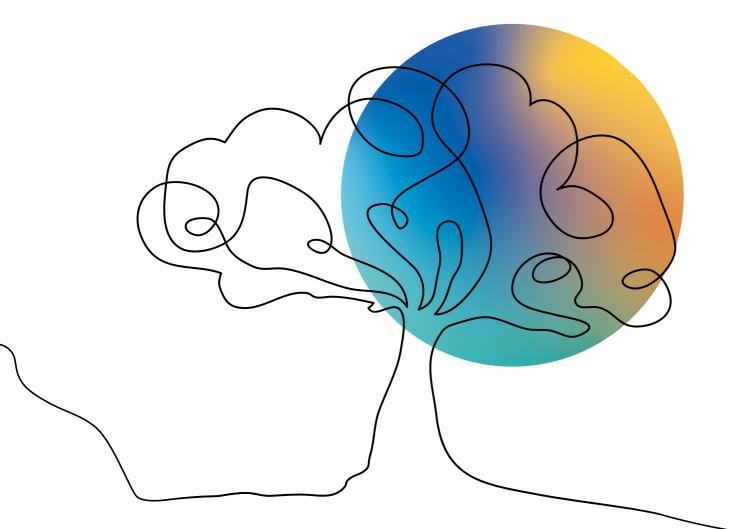




Going through Ashoka's incredibly challenging selection process really makes you feel like Ashoka is getting to know you as a person.

As social entrepreneurs, we can go in many different directions along our journey, but the selection process recognises who you are at your very core.

And there's something so important about that because you come out of it knowing that this is a lifetime connection.





Through the Ashoka Fellowship, it feels as though I have found my tribe – other leaders of social enterprises who have put themselves in the same position I have and face the same challenges I do. I've made the most meaningful connections, had rich conversations, shared experiences and learnings and found people to go along with on the same journey.

Andrew Bastawrous

Ashoka Fellow since 2017

Individuals & Businesses

Unleashing their changemaking potential

Since 2004, Ashoka has invited individuals to embark on a transformative journey through the Ashoka Support Network (ASN) - a global network of committed leaders who share, support, and advocate for Ashoka's values and vision.

ASN members become part of a community dedicated to fostering social change, supporting and learning from our Fellows and co-creating with them for a better world.

With 400 members worldwide, and 30 members in the UK and Ireland, we have built a powerful network that amplifies our work.

77

%
Fellows have gained strategic guidance to achieve their vision

70

%
Fellows have gained new partnerships or collaboration opportunities

54

% Fellows have gained connections to funders



With Hogan Lovells

Since 2010, Ashoka has held a longstanding partnership with Hogan Lovells, a world pioneer in the provision of pro bono legal services to those in need.

This partnership has funded and supported our work in social finance, helping our Fellows raise crucial capital required to continue their work as changemakers.



What is the legacy that I want to leave behind? Ashoka is a wake-up call. I have learned that there are, actually, many opportunities to step into radical systemic change, to up my game, help shape better global policies and participate in shifting the dynamics of social inequalities, both in the social and in the business sectors.

Fabienne Serfaty

ASN member

Tackling food waste:

Collaborating for systems change

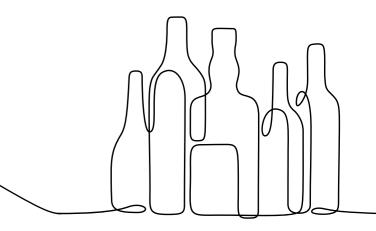
MEET Tristram Stuart

Ashoka Fellow since 2014

Growing up on a farm in Sussex,
Tristram Stuart developed a passion for
environmental stewardship from a young
age. Memorable experiences, like seeing
food waste piling up behind supermarkets
in his university town, led him to co-found
the environmental charity Feedback in
2013. Feedback is committed to building
circular food systems through investigative
research, participatory campaigns, and
government lobbying.

Following his election to the Fellowship, Tristram created Toast Ale in 2015 - the launch of which he partially accredits to strategic advice from members of the Ashoka network. The company uses surplus bread, rather than virgin barley, to brew quality beers showing that food intended for the bin can be used to create something valuable.

With all profits from Toast going towards Feedback's advocacy work, it serves as the crucial engine of growth, and a unique social enterprise model, to solve systemic food waste issues.



MEET Rob Wilson

CEO & Co-Founder of Toast Ale, Former Director of Ashoka UK

Rob is co-author of the book *On the Up*, which showcases successful social enterprises across the African continent. He was the Director of Ashoka UK for five years (2011-2016) and focused much of his work on expanding Ashoka's Fellowship and helping to grow the Changemaker Schools network.

He met Tristram Stuart during his tenure, which laid the foundation for their current partnership at Toast Ale.

MEET Serge Kremer

Board Member of Toast Ale, ASN Member

Serge is a serial business entrepreneur who has owned and managed multiple industrial companies. He joined the Ashoka Support Network in 2006 and started working with Tristram as part of an informal advisory team facilitated by Ashoka.

It was this advisory team that helped Tristram realise the idea of the Toast Ale venture, which Serge, along with other ASN members, became a founding board member of.

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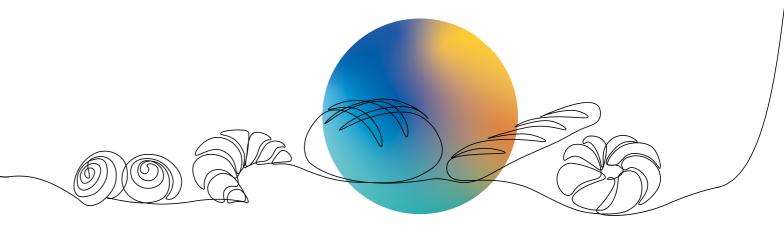
...created the 'Supermarket Food Waste Scorecard' and has led the call across the UK on mandatory food waste reporting to tackle climate change ...strives to put food on the global climate agenda and is

st Ale.

...has rescued 2,575,004 slices of surplus bread

...has avoided 48 tCO2e of emissions till date

...has inspired 72 other breweries to save 3.3 million bread slices



nurturing the next generation of food and climate activists

Partners

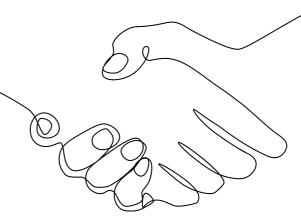
Creating a stronger ecosystem for social change

When businesses and governments engage and collaborate with systemic social entrepreneurs and changemakers, a healthier, more sustainable and more equitable future for all can be realised.

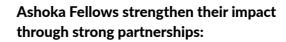
We partner with forward-thinking corporations, foundations, thought leaders, citizen sector organisations, media and other influencers who share our vision to accelerate changemaking, both within and outside of our organisations. One such example is Ashoka's Changemaker Companies programme, through which we help corporations to embrace their changemaker potential and go through a

process of transforming company culture – a transformation we believe is critical for their future success.

Ashoka's partnerships are truly collaborative: they help us fund our core work, they allow us to leverage our Fellows' work and they introduce a cultural shift within the partner's organisation. Our partners act as coleaders in designing innovative programmes and strategies that strive to shift societal mindsets and reshape how we learn, work and live together to catalyse changemaking for the good of all.



Our work with our partners has taught us that marrying corporate and social innovation, together with powerful storytelling, can accelerate the creation of a world ripe for social change.



Above

% work with NGOs, universities and forprofit companies



% work with national governments

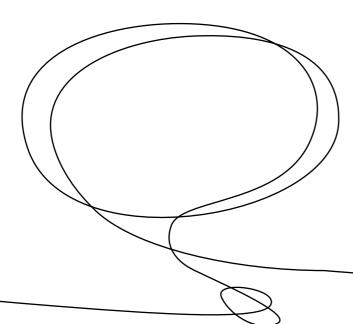


SPOTLIGHT

A new kind of partnership with Instinctif Partners

In 2022, Ashoka UK & Ireland found a new home in the London offices of our pro bono partner, Instinctif Partners.

Together, we are embarking on a new and exciting phase of collaboration – combining Ashoka's depth of insight and knowledge of social change with Instinctif's global communications prowess, to learn from one another and co-create new initiatives.





We are, all of us, trying to learn how to become more purposeful as individuals and within our working lives, to find the most impactful way to give back to the societies in which we live and work. Over my decade long relationship with Ashoka, they - by which I mean the institution itself and the many extraordinary people connected to it - have consistently inspired me to think differently, to navigate and embrace positive change. I'm really excited to embark together on this new chapter.

Ed Amory

CEO of Instinctif Partners

Pro-bono partner, Everyone a Changemaker™ Strategic Advisor, ASN Member

SPOTLIGHT

Investing in system-changing ideas with Barclays

In 2008, Ashoka UK partnered with Barclays Capital to pursue key activities of Ashoka's flagship programme: the search, selection and support of the world's leading entrepreneurs. Through a donation of £750,000 over the course of three years from Barclays, Ashoka was able to invest in individuals with system changing new ideas, each contributing to building and strengthening the global citizen sector.

The partnership enabled us to strengthen our Fellowship programme in 14 countries and elect and support 13 new Fellows working across sectors – from improving

the health of school children in the Arab World; providing skills and assistance to job seekers in France; to helping communities solve their own health care problems in Indonesia; and more.

In the UK, the partnership helped support Ashoka Fellow Faisel Rahman and his organisation, Fair Finance.

MEET Faisel Rahman

Ashoka Fellow since 2007

After studying how microfinance impacts women's empowerment in Bangladesh, Faisel worked for the World Bank and then piloted London's first microfinance programme before founding his organisation Fair Finance in 2005.

Its mission is to design and deliver financial services that are fair for all, and it has made more than £21 million of low-interest loans to marginalised communities in the UK. Faisel was one of the first Ashoka Fellows elected in the UK in 2007.

Building the field of young changemaking with Unilever

From 2013 to 2017, Unilever and Ashoka Changemakers ran the Sustainable Living Young Entrepreneurs Awards, in partnership with the University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL). The competition aimed to celebrate and support people under the age of 35, working on a unique product, service or application in response to one of the global challenges outlined by the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Over the course of the four competitions, 3000+ young entrepreneurs from 100+ countries submitted innovations tackling the challenges of sustainable living. A total of €400,000 in financial support, along with tailored mentoring programmes, were awarded to 29 challenge winners. While Ashoka is no longer a core partner in the initiative, the Unilever Young Entrepreneurs Awards continue to award and support social entrepreneurs in the sustainability sector every year.

Young Leaders

Taking charge of their future

Over the last 20 years, Ashoka has supported over half a million young changemakers to participate in or launch social change initiatives in their communities.

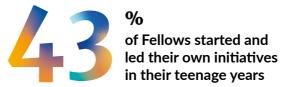
With a unique bird's eye view, Ashoka has the ability to observe patterns in its global Fellowship. One of these observations is that the majority of Ashoka Fellows started their changemaking journey in their teens. It is this empirical data that helped us to realise the importance of youth activation. Today, one of Ashoka's main objectives is to help more young people identify as changemakers and to bring about an environment that fosters changemaking skills and support from an early age.

We believe in the need to reshape how young people grow up and how we define success, both inside and outside formal education. One of our strategic aims has been to inspire changemaking behaviours right from the early years, to ensure that young people grow up to be empathetic, creative and community-oriented leaders — no matter the career path they choose to follow.

We work to ensure that the systems surrounding young people – parents, educators, institutions and media – understand the importance of youth agency, power and collaboration. It is these systems, inspired and strengthened, that will serve to activate the next generation of changemakers.

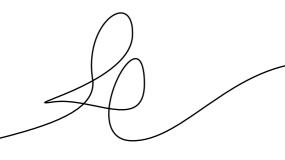
of A their before join soci

of Ashoka Fellows started their changemaking journey before the age of 20, by joining someone else's social change efforts



% of Fello young pleading

% of Fellows are putting young people in charge of leading initiatives within their organisation



MEET Olivia Clarke

Ashoka Young Change Leader

It was during the 2017 Greater Manchester mayoral campaign that Liv noticed how adults spent time talking about things that affected young people but rarely asked young people themselves for their ideas. She joined a public meeting with thencandidate Andy Burnham and found herself the only young person in attendance.

This was the start of Liv's journey as an impactful changemaker, who has led regional and national campaigns for youth inclusion and education reform. In 2019, she successfully led the creation of OUR Pass – a free bus pass for 16-18 year olds in Greater Manchester, and a first of its kind in the UK.

Liv helped the Ashoka UK & Ireland office launch our Young Change Leaders programme in January 2021, ensuring that youth play a powerful role in co-leading our movement to create an Everyone a Changemaker™ world.

MEET Charlotte Lastoweckyi

Ashoka Young Change Leader

In 2019, Charlotte Lastoweckyi helped organise one of Manchester's largest climate strikes to date, driven by the need to channel her frustration about the climate crisis into positive, meaningful action.

The strike was joined by three to four thousand young people and adults calling for more action, and led Mayor Andy Burnham to declare a climate emergency.

Soon after, city officials pedestrianised parts of the city centre to cut down on traffic congestion and protect green spaces.

Today, Charlotte continues to speak at other protests, webinars and school assemblies to inspire and engage more young people to create change and identify themselves as changemakers.



I want young people to know that everyone's changemaking journey is different, no two stories are the same. So don't compare yourself to others and worry about where to start. Even the smallest of actions is just as important, and the start of something bigger.

Changemaker Schools

Transforming the learning ecosystem

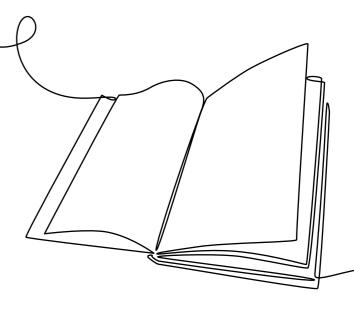
A growing number of institutions worldwide are responding to the demand from young people for the skills that will help them contribute to a better future.

Over the years, Ashoka has identified and brought together 300 of the world's most innovative schools and recognised them as Changemaker Schools. In the UK & Ireland, this loose **network of 30 Changemaker Schools** are proving that re-imagining education is possible in every context: primary, secondary, free, religious, and state-schools.

These educators and schools align around a shared vision: to empower children and

young people to be socially minded leaders, with the connection to purpose that enables them to effectively solve problems and drive positive change. They have taken active steps in pursuit of this vision on a curricular, cultural and systemic level.

Individual Change Leaders from each of the Changemaker Schools have the vision and characteristics to effectively guide institutional change. They lead crossstakeholder teams, of teachers, parents, students, staff and community members, committed to highlighting and advancing their vision.



of students in the UK want education to enable them to take action, activate others to address problems, and find solutions that benefit all

%
of parents and 80% of teachers want education to enable children to be changemakers

96

of teachers in the UK want to help pupils develop values like kindness, empathy and community cohesion – the core of changemaking

Matthew Moss School

Elected as one of our first Changemaker Schools in 2014, Matthew Moss High School in Rochdale, facilitates social and emotional development alongside academics. They believe in students' lifelong and independent learning, meaningful contribution to society and exposure to systems thinking. They uphold a unique learning agenda through learner-led classrooms in which students co-construct their learning experiences.

In their own words, their mission is "to empower young people for a life of learning both satisfying to themselves and of significant value to others."

Through their collaboration with Ashoka as a Changemaker School, the school leaders realised the value of empathy, which has come to play a large part in their C.H.A.N.G.E curriculum – Composure, High Standards, Agency, Numeracy & Literacy, Growth Mindset and Empathy.



Advocating education practice that ignites the potential of educators and young people to become changemakers; in a way that increases individual and collective capacity for perspective, empathy and agency so that we can reframe success and meet the challenges of our complex world.

Purpose Statement of the Changemaker Schools Community of Practice

SPOTLIGHT

A web of impact, stemming from a multiplier partnership with the INKEY List

In 2021, Ashoka and The INKEY List, an innovative skincare company that believes that better knowledge powers better decisions, embarked on a shared mission to build a world where changemaking is a part of our everyday routine. This vision has young people at the heart of it, and is being achieved through engaging educators. parents, and young people with the knowledge, tools and support they need to practice changemaking.

A CHANGEMAKER INSTRUMENT

A core pillar of our work with INKEY began with the development of the 'Conditions for Change' Instrument a guide to enable educators of all kinds to activate their empathy and agency, thereby unlocking their own changemaking potential and creating a strong foundation to raise the next generation of changemakers. Emerging from the personal story of INKEY's founders and their journey through education and teaching, the instrument currently forms the basis of a number of projects Ashoka is working on in the UK and USA.

INKEY IMPACT FUND

Together, Ashoka and INKEY launched the Inkey Impact Fund in 2021, led by four young leaders to promote changemaking through awareness, education and storytelling.

Now in its second year of running, the fund directly invests in not just young people, but the ecosystems around them (educators, parents, guardians, schools and more) to creating lasting change.

MEET Ruth Ibegbuna

Ashoka Fellow since 2014

Ruth was elected to the Ashoka Fellowship for her innovative work supporting working class young people into positions of leadership, through her organisation Reclaim.

In 2021, Ruth's new project, ReKindle, a south-Manchester supplementary school designed to support and enable disadvantaged youth, became the first project supported by the Inkey Impact Fund because of the central role that young people themselves have played in designing the school.

THE 'NEW CAPABILITIES' **PROGRAMME**

One such project, underpinned by the 'Conditions for Change' Instrument, is the Ashoka and Edge Foundation 'New Capabilities for a New World' programme - a year-long leadership and strategic development programme for headteachers in the Greater Manchester region that took place in 2022. The programme focused on deeper approaches to personal development, careers and life-readiness of young people, and asked the crucial question: How do we, as school leaders, develop new capabilities that help us set our young people up for success in a complex and changing world?

MEET Jaiden Corfield

Youth entrepreneur, Ashoka Young Change Leader

Jaiden is an activist turned entrepreneur, and has worked with organisations across the UK to design and implement youth engagement strategies.

A core part of the Ashoka UK & Ireland team, Jaiden is working to codify and scale best practices around youth coleadership. He designed and led the Ashoka 'New Models for Youth Co-Leadership' programme in 2022, alongside the New Capabilities programme, and is in his second year as an Inkey Impact Fund leader.

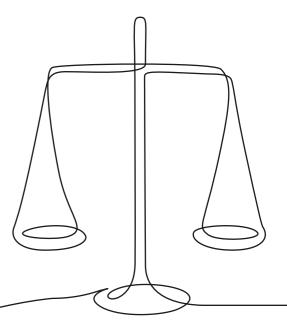
MEET Shaun McInerney

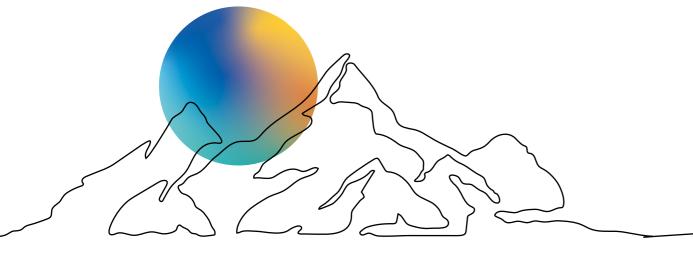
Shaun's passion is creating capacity and networks that enable ecosystem change in education so that we can all flourish and live for the common good. He arrived at this after 25 years of teaching and leading in schools and helping young people find their potential.

In the last few years, Shaun has worked with Ashoka to co-lead the development of the 'Changemaker Instrument' and design and lead the New Capabilities programme.

ECOLITERACY AT THE HEART OF EDUCATION

Emerging from the New Capabilities programme is the work on ecoliteracy for future-fit education being led by Martin Foulkes, a New Capabilities participant, in collaboration with Tamzin Ractliffe, Ashoka Fellow since 2008 and creator of the Routes to Resilience Sygnature Sustainability Leadership programme. The curriculum aims to awaken consciousness, nurture confidence and encourage intentional ecological citizenship action based on the belief that developing action competence in ecoliteracies will set young people up for sustainable and resilient careers in the future.







Ashoka is unique to other organisations in that it places a strong focus on scaling and systematising the field of social innovation. This has been hugely valuable in bringing entire teams along on the same journey, a challenge many social entrepreneurs face.

Sue Riddlestone

Ashoka Fellow since 2019

A Global Community

Seeding and supporting the ecosystem of changemaking

Recent global crises have highlighted our systems' fragilities and failures - from healthcare to education, to our political and economic systems - and the interconnectedness of the problems we face. To truly create change, there can no longer be competition - only allies.

Ashoka community members - Fellows, young changemakers, funders - have turned to each other and the wider ecosystem to learn, scale impact and co-create initiatives to activate more changemakers. Recent years have seen an unprecedented mobilisation of people and effort globally, to address the world's most pressing problems and lay a strong foundation for systemic change.

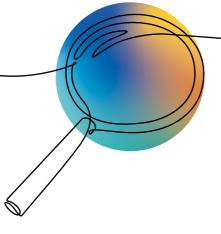
ELDERS COUNCIL

In 2019, an Ashoka Elders Retreat hosted by the Europe Fellowship, led to the creation of the Elders Council. seeded in informal conversation two years prior. Co-founded by Ashoka Fellows Andrea Coleman, Mel Young and Chris Underhill, the Elders Council is building a global network of social entrepreneurs supporting one another and sharing their wisdom across the social entrepreneurship ecosystem. Having founded, led and, for many, exited innovative and impactful organisations, the Elders engage with the wider community through mentoring, webinars, strategic advice and more.

CATALYST 2030

Catalyst 2030 is a fast-growing global movement of people and organisations committed to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. The movement was co-founded by a diverse group of social entrepreneurs, including a number of Ashoka Fellows and members of our ecosystem partners -Echoing Green, the Schwab Foundation of the World Economic Forum, and the Skoll Foundation. Today, they work alongside communities, governments, businesses and others to create connections, form collaborations and implement bold new strategies and sustainable solutions for the future.

Afterword



Today, we are not only witnessing an exponential rate of change but also a turning point in the way the world is organising.

As we orient ourselves towards the bigger vision of whole systems change, we need to keep our feet firmly on the ground, recognising the importance of direct support and those that provide it, acknowledging our own blind spots and places where we are not yet fully inclusive of those who are most marginalised, continuing to learn from those at the forefront of social innovation and sharing insights and practices which can seed new narratives, mindsets and solutions.

As we create the conditions for more and more people to embrace their power and agency as changemakers for the good of all, changemakers who in turn enable others to do the same, the red thread of relationship building is what ultimately weaves this new tapestry together.

One Community points to how individuals and groups of all shapes and sizes are responding to social issues and working synergistically with and alongside each other in fluid, collaborative, and increasingly integrated ways. In this everevolving diverse ecosystem of solutions and changemaking opportunities, there is room for everyone to find a deep sense of contribution and belonging – rooted in place, purpose, and community.



Development has always been about how to help people be powerful. So, if we're all helping one another be the best possible changemakers, that is, givers, that's a pretty good world. Everyone has the ability. Everyone has that right. We just have to link arms and make sure that everyone does get that right. Because otherwise we're going to suffer a rapidly deepening 'new inequality'. That means society's divisions will get worse.

Bill DraytonFounder & CEO of Ashoka



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