

# Calthorpe Community Garden



Photo by Markus Spiske on Unsplash

An inner-city community garden that aims to improve physical and emotional well-being through different activities such as social and therapeutic horticulture, cooking classes and sport.

## What happened through the collaboration?

Calthorpe Community Garden and the UCL students worked together to come up with a way to determine how the varied elements of the garden make a difference to the people using the garden. They developed and tested on-line questionnaires and also developed a video of 'why people love Calthorpe'.

## What is the legacy for the organisation?

The garden now has a way to evaluate the different aspects of the garden that is clear for staff to understand and carry out.

The new video will help Calthorpe present qualitative information about the garden which is hard to capture through surveys, such as the atmosphere and role in the community.

## What is the legacy for students and researchers involved?

As researchers, we've learned to help craft concrete goals through conversations with busy stakeholders as well as set timelines and manage expectations. The experience has given us understanding of how to communicate effectively with stakeholders who are coming in with a very different perspective and orientation.

The experience gave us a better understanding of the variety and huge amount of work and dedication that goes into successful functioning of a charity organisation such as a community garden.

As individuals, we've also discovered a beautiful new spot close to UCL in the heart of Camden.



Miro planning board from the early stages of the team working together.

## Students and researchers

**Anna-Leigh Brown**  
 PhD student, Neurology

**Alfred Harwood**  
 PhD student, Quantum Physics

**Aleksandra Kaye**  
 PhD student, History

**Yuhong Wang**  
 PhD student, Urban Greenspace and Environmental Policy