

FELIXSTOWE OPPORTUNITY GROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 1004101

Details

Other names	ST MARY'S OPPORTUNITY GROUP, ST MARY'S OPPORTUNITY PLAYGROUP
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1991-09-11
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Felixstowe Opportunity Group Maidstone Road Felixstowe Suffolk IP11 9EF
Phone	01394286399
Email	oppgroup@btinternet.com
Website	www.felixstoweopportunitygroup.co.uk

Activities

Objects: THE AIMS OF THE GROUP ARE TO ENHANCE THE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND THEIR SIBLINGS PRIMARILY UNDER STATUTORY SCHOOL AGE BY ENCOURAGING PARENTS TO UNDERSTAND AND PROVIDE FOR THE NEEDS OF THEIR CHILDREN THROUGH COMMUNITY GROUPS AND BY:(A) OFFERING APPROPRIATE PLAY, EDUCATION AND CARE FACILITIES, FAMILY LEARNING AND EXTENDED HOURS GROUPS, TOGETHER WITH THE RIGHT OF PARENTS TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR AND TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THE ACTIVITIES OF SUCH GROUPS, ENSURING THAT SUCH GROUPS OFFER OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL CHILDREN WHATEVER THEIR RACE, CULTURE, RELIGION, MEANS OR ABILITY;(B) ENCOURAGING THE STUDY OF THE NEEDS OF SUCH CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES AND PROMOTING PUBLIC INTEREST IN AND RECOGNITION OF SUCH NEEDS IN THE LOCAL AREAS;(C) SUPPORTING FAMILIES THROUGH THE WHOLE PROCESS FROM PRE-DIAGNOSIS THROUGH TO SUCCESSFUL INTEGRATION INTO A SCHOOL SETTING;(D) ENABLING AND ENCOURAGING INTEGRATION INTO MAINSTREAM SETTINGS;(E) INSTIGATING AND ADHERING TO AND FURTHERING THE AIMS AND OBJECTS OF THE PRE-SCHOOL LEARNING ALLIANCE.

Activities: The Charity achieves its aims of advancing the education and development of children with Special Needs and in particular children under statutory school age by providing pre-school sessions, which offer appropriate play facilities and opportunities. It also encourages the study of the needs of such children and their families and promotes the public recognition of such needs in the local area.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Suffolk

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£27,415	£18,050	-	-
2024-03-31	£10,609	£10,908	-	-
2023-03-31	£4,551	£7,736	-	-
2022-03-31	£779	£5,245	-	-
2021-03-31	£12,285	£6,086	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Stephanie Collin	Chair	2022-01-17
Betheny Relph		2023-03-16
Daniel Long		2025-04-30
Daniella Blake		2025-04-30
Elizabeth Buckley		2025-04-30
Jennifer Shepherd		2022-01-17
Lucy Turnell		2025-04-30
sandra battiste		2022-01-17

FELIXSTOWE OPPORTUNITY GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1004101

Accounts

Felixstowe Opportunity Group
Registered Charity No. 1004101

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts

For the year ended
31 March 2025

Felixstowe Opportunity Group Contents

	Pages
Trustees Annual Report	1 - 4
Receipts and Payments Account	5
Statements of Assets and Liabilities	6
Notes to the Accounts	7
Trustees Responsibilities and Approval	8
Independent Examiners Report	9 - 10

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

Felixstowe Opportunity Group
For the year ended 31 March 2025

Section A - Reference and Administration Details

Charity name:

Felixstowe Opportunity Group

Registered charity number:

1004101

Principal address:

Maidstone Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 9EF

Trustees who served during the year:

Trustee	Role	Dates served (if not full year)
Stephanie Collin	Chairperson	Full year
Beth Relph	Secretary	Full year
Jennifer Shepard	Trustee	Full year
Sandy Battiste	Trustee	Full year
Elizabeth Buckley	Trustee	Full year

Custodian Trustee:

The Official Custodian for Charities. Charity Commission for England and Wales, Harmsworth House, 13-15 Bouverie Street, London EC4Y 8DP.

Bankers:

HSBC Bank plc, 12 Tavern Street, Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 3AZ.

Section B - Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document:

Constitution

How the charity is constituted:

Unincorporated charitable association

Trustee selection methods:

Trustees are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.

The Trustees are responsible for the strategic direction and management of the charity.

During the year, improvements were made to:

- Financial tracking and accountability
- Safeguarding awareness and procedures
- Clarity around responsibilities and decision making
- Documentation and evidence of activities

The Trustees continue to monitor risks facing the charity and ensure appropriate procedures are in place to manage them.

Section C - Objectives and Activities**Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document**

The charity's object is to enhance the development and education of children with special needs and their siblings, primarily those under statutory school age, by supporting families and providing appropriate play, education and care opportunities.

The charity works to encourage understanding of children's needs, promote inclusion, support integration into mainstream settings and raise awareness of these needs within the local community.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit

The charity advances the education and development of children with special needs by providing pre-school sessions that offer appropriate play facilities and learning opportunities.

It also supports families by encouraging understanding of children's needs and promotes wider public recognition of those needs within the local community.

In planning and carrying out these activities, the Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Volunteers continue to play an essential role in supporting the charity's work.

Section D - Achievements and Performance

This year has been one of growth and development for the charity.

A key achievement was the refurbishment of the playroom, including installation of a climbing wall and modernisation of the space, creating a safer and more engaging environment.

The charity also established Tulips, a peer bereavement support group, expanding support to include compassionate adult wellbeing.

Grant funding from East Suffolk Council enabled the development of this group.

The charity continued to benefit from support from:

- Felixstowe Town Council
- Morrisons
- The Co-op
- Local Masons
- Community donors

The drama group has matured and will now operate independently as a Community Interest Company.

The Trustees extend their thanks to all volunteers whose commitment made the year's progress possible.

Section E - Financial Review

The charity reported total income of approximately £27,415 during the year.

Expenditure supported the charity's core objectives, including:

- Utilities
- Repairs and maintenance
- Activity materials
- Operational costs

Investment in the premises during the year strengthened the facilities available for beneficiaries.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees aim to maintain sufficient unrestricted reserves to support the charity's ongoing activities and ensure continuity of services in the event of short-term funding fluctuations or unexpected costs.

The level of reserves is reviewed regularly in light of operational needs and future plans.

There were no funds materially in deficit at the year end.

Section F - Other Information

No additional matters to report.

Section G - Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Annual Report.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Stephanie Collin', is written over a solid horizontal line.

Signed:
Stephanie Collin
Position: Chairperson

Date: 10/03/2026

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Felixstowe Opportunity Group
For the year ended 31 March 2025

	2025			2024		
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Totals £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Totals £
Receipts						
Donations	4,041	-	4,041	6,433	-	6,433
Grants	8,474	-	8,474	-	-	-
Tulips Grant (Restricted)	-	7,812	7,812	-	-	-
Fundraising	316	-	316	-	-	-
Rental Income	3,080	-	3,080	2,100	-	2,100
Room Hire	444	-	444	428	-	428
Miscellaneous Income	1,497	-	1,497	1,066	-	1,066
Fees	-	-	-	582	-	582
Total Receipts	17,852	7,812	25,664	10,609	-	10,609
Payments						
Utilities	5,328	-	5,328	8,020	-	8,020
Insurance	747	-	747	769	-	769
Repairs & Maintenance	8,479	-	8,479	-	-	-
Materials & Sundry Direct Expenses	616	609	1,225	1,870	-	1,870
Milk & Refreshments	61	-	61	189	-	189
Administrative Costs	238	-	238	-	-	-
Bank Charges	62	-	62	60	-	60
Drama Group Expenses	1,740	-	1,740	-	-	-
Professional Fees	135	-	135	-	-	-
Deposit Return	35	-	35	-	-	-
Total Payments	17,441	609	18,050	10,908	-	10,908
Net surplus / (deficit)	410	7,203	7,614	(299)	0	(299)
Movement in Cash	£					
Opening cash balance at 1 April 2024	5,599					
Net surplus for the year	7,614					
Closing cash balance at 31 March 2025	13,212					

STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES

As at 31 March 2025

Monetary Assets

	2025 (£)	2024 (£)
Current Account	10,951	1,587
Savings Account	2,196	3,948
Petty Cash	64	64
Total Cash	13,212	5,599

Other Assets

	2025 (£)	2024 (£)
Land & Buildings (held by Custodian Trustee)	28,765	28,765
Outdoor Sensory Room	10,000	10,000
Equipment (estimated)	3,500	3,500
Total Other Assets	42,265	42,265

Liabilities

	2025 (£)	2024 (£)
Now due for payment		
Premises costs	-	-
Total Liabilities	-	-

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Basis of Preparation

The accounts have been prepared on a **Receipts & Payments basis**, meaning income is recognised when received and expenditure when paid.

Restricted Funds

Restricted income received during the year relates to:

- Tulips Grant – £7,812

These funds were applied towards bereavement support services.

Grants Received

Grants during the year included support from:

	2025 (£)
East Suffolk Council	1,030
Felixstowe Town Council	1,500
Int Nurses Team	5,000
Total Grants Received	<u>7,530</u>

Notable Donations Received

Large donations during the year included support from:

	2025 (£)
- Languard Lodge	1,133
- Colneis Lodge	1,000
Total Notable Donations Received	<u>2,133</u>

Funds

At the year end, the charity held the following funds:

Restricted funds represent income received for specific activities, including bereavement support services (Tulips), which must be applied for those purposes.

Unrestricted funds are available for general charitable use.

The movement in funds during the year reflects the surplus generated from activities and grants received.

Funds	2025 (£)
Restricted	7,203
Unrestricted	6,009
Total	<u>13,212</u>


TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

The trustees consider that the charity is entitled to prepare its accounts on the receipts and payments basis in accordance with section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

TRUSTEES' APPROVAL

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Stephanie', is written over a solid horizontal line.

Signed:
Stephanie Collin
Chairperson

Date: 10/03/2026

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Felixstowe Opportunity Group
Charity Number: 1004101
For the year ended 31 March 2025

Section A – Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees of:
Felixstowe Opportunity Group

On accounts for the year ended:
31 March 2025

Charity number:
1004101

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Felixstowe Opportunity Group ("the charity") for the year ended 31 March 2025.

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination.

I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that, in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

JR Adams

Signed:

Date: 9th March 2026

Name: Joanna Rose Adams

Relevant qualification or experience:

Chartered Management Global Accountant CIMA CGMA

Address:

50 Princes Street, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 1RJ

Section B – Disclosure

Not applicable.