

# THE PLAY HOUSE (B'HAM) LTD

England & Wales · Charity number 1034809

## Details

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Other names	EDUCATIONAL THEATRE SERVICES LIMITED, CATALYST, LANGUAGE ALIVE!, PLAY HOUSE PROJECT
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	<a href="#">02828276</a>
Registered	1994-03-09
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Address	C/O Action for Children 2-4 Guild Close Birmingham B16 8EL
Phone	01212654425
Email	<a href="mailto:info@theplayhouse.org.uk">info@theplayhouse.org.uk</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.theplayhouse.org.uk">www.theplayhouse.org.uk</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** (1) TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY GROUPS IN THE ARTS, AND IN PARTICULAR THE ARTS OF DRAMA AND THEATRE (2) TO ADVANCE AND ENCOURAGE EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE FIELD OF ARTS EDUCATION AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES THROUGH TRAINING PROGRAMMES, COURSES, LECTURES, EXHIBITIONS, MEETINGS, CLASSES AND CONFERENCES

**Activities:** The Play House provides exciting participatory theatre and drama to stimulate the learning of children and young people, igniting the imagination to make sense of the world. Its projects bring the curriculum to life for primary schools, explore social, emotional & health issues and extend these ideas beyond the classroom.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Defined Groups

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** NOT DEFINED, IN PRACTICE GREAT BRITAIN, NORTHERN IRELAND
- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£167,454	£118,163	-	-
2024-08-31	£104,332	£172,291	-	-
2023-08-31	£233,679	£124,140	-	-
2022-08-31	£196,754	£229,323	-	-
2021-08-31	£128,166	£77,004	-	-
2020-03-31	£146,209	£149,202	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
Adaya Monique Henry		2022-03-21
Liam Alexandru		2024-10-22
TESSA TAYLOR		2020-05-11

**THE PLAY HOUSE (B'HAM) LTD**

England & Wales - Charity number 1034809

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# Accounts

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Company registration number: 02828276

Charity registration number: 1034809

# The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Bissell & Brown Birmingham Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
12 Portman Rd  
Kings Heath  
Birmingham  
B13 0SL

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# **The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

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## **The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

<b>Secretary</b>	Joanne Marie Sadler
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1034809
<b>Company Registration Number</b>	02828276
	The charity is incorporated in England.
<b>Registered Office</b>	c/o Action For Children 2-4 Guild Close Birmingham B16 8EL
<b>Accountants</b>	Bissell & Brown Birmingham Ltd Chartered Accountants 12 Portman Rd Kings Heath Birmingham West Midlands B13 0SL

# **The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

## **Trustees' Report**

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2025.

### **Financial and operational review**

The Play House is a long established and highly respected theatre in education company, known for its trademark participatory approach. Since it was founded in 1986, the company has developed a strong track record of high-quality work in schools, delivering engaging theatre work which stimulates children's imagination and creativity, supporting curriculum learning and essential life skill development. It has an excellent reputation locally and regionally with teachers, local authorities, arts organisations and academic institutions.

Our vision is to enhance the learning and development of curiosity for children and young people in the West Midlands, through engagement in drama experiences. We have a strong ethos of meaningful participation at the heart of everything we do through the creation of rich fictional worlds, where children interact with a range of situations and characters. We strongly believe in the transformational power of theatre, and we are committed to producing work that provides an exciting and challenging first experience of live theatre as enrichment.

## **The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

### **Trustees' Report**

In the academic year 2024-2025, The Play House delivered over 150 workshop-performances and reached over 4500 children and young people from across early years settings, primary and secondary schools, as well as local cultural venues including libraries, art galleries and museums.

#### **Key projects and highlights from 2024/2025**

##### **Does Birmingham Belong to Me?**

Continuing the major project from the previous year, with funding from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, The Play House continued this project, which explored the concepts of citizenship and what it means to belong to a place. By exploring lived experience stories, then creating performances inspired by the rich diversity of the city, the children were able to communicate their own ideas about belonging.

##### **Higher Education Bookings**

The Play House was asked to act as guest lecturers in a variety of Higher Education Settings (including MA Drama and Education students University of Warwick

Undergraduate Applied Theatre Course at The Royal Birmingham Conservatoire

Undergraduate Education Studies & Theatre, Acting and Performance at University of Worcester.)

The team gave an overview of the company's work and demonstrated our participation model, in order to increase awareness and understanding for subsequent generations of artists.

School Programme Tour (highlights, not extensive list)

##### **STEAM**

This project was a new addition to our school's programme and developed from last year's project, Maker Space. The fictional storyline has been rewritten to enable students to access the STEM activities within the 90 minute structure of our programmes. Students work through bio-medical engineering tasks to support problem solving and reach a positive solution within the story. This project has become a popular and effective addition to the programme.

##### **The Romans**

The Romans examines the legacy of the Roman invasion of Britain and its relevance today. In their role as archaeologists at the site of a newly discovered Roman Villa the pupils uncover the everyday life and customs of Roman Britons. This workshop develops a deeper awareness of both the role of the modern day archaeologist and those of the Roman masters and Celtic slaves in the villas of Roman Britain.

##### **Jack and the Beanstalk**

A participatory retelling of the traditional tale of Jack and the Beanstalk, the performance enrolls children as the Jack's friends. They arrive for a play date to find Jack has gone missing! The children help to find Jack by adventuring up the beanstalk to explore the land in the clouds and save Jack from the Giant.

## **The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **Little Red Hen**

The Little Red Hen workshop introduces children to counting, weighing, and measuring, within the context of this traditional story as an interactive learning experience for young children. Little Red Hen uses puppets, cooking, and storytelling to explore the concepts of growing and sharing. The children travel with The Little Red Hen around the farmyard, meet the animals and problem solve how she will make the bread by herself.

#### **Split Second**

Split Second is a programme for 9-13 years exploring consequences of knife crime in terms of the impact those directly involved, their loved ones and the wider community. Set in a boxing club, the children engage in thought provoking discussions about people's responsibility to one another and how we can support young people experiencing youth violence. This programme is delivered annually off the back of consistently successful tours.

#### **Careless Talk**

Careless Talk is a long-established touring performance-workshop which explores how a young person could be groomed to take part in extremist action. The piece is set in the fictional town of Brodingham and tells the story of Scarlett, a young member of a minority community, The Circle, who are being persecuted by another group. The children are guided through a process where they find positive and peaceful solutions for the characters in this piece which promotes social responsibility, tolerance and respect.

#### **Resilience Quest**

Created with a group of Applied Theatre Students from Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and performed by them. A historic legend is used to enable children to gain resilience and persistence through difficulties.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

#### **Trustees and officers**

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

##### **Trustees:**

Tessa Taylor  
Keshena Bowie  
Adaya Henry  
Paul Edwards  
Liam Alexandru (appointed 22 October 2024)  
Alexandra Henwood (resigned 21 October 2024)  
Shane Shambhu (resigned 21 October 2024)

##### **Secretary:**

Joanne Marie Sadler

#### **Statement of trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

## The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

### Trustees' Report

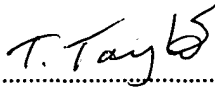
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on .....6/5/26..... and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Tessa Taylor  
Trustee

## The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

### Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 August 2025.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

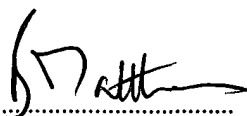
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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



Barry Matthews FCA  
Chartered Accountants  
Bissell & Brown Birmingham Ltd

12 Portman Rd  
Kings Heath  
Birmingham  
B13 0SL

Date:.....

19 May 2026

**The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2025  
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains  
and Losses)**

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Donations and legacies		-	26,100	26,100
Charitable activities	3	54,885	73,000	127,885
Investment income	4	18	-	18
Other income		13,451	-	13,451
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>68,354</u>	<u>99,100</u>	<u>167,454</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	5	<u>(41,604)</u>	<u>(76,559)</u>	<u>(118,163)</u>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<u>(41,604)</u>	<u>(76,559)</u>	<u>(118,163)</u>
<b>Net income</b>		<u>26,750</u>	<u>22,541</u>	<u>49,291</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		26,750	22,541	49,291
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<u>111,109</u>	<u>16,859</u>	<u>127,968</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	12	<u>137,859</u>	<u>39,400</u>	<u>177,259</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

**The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**  
**(Registration number: 02828276)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2025**


	Note	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	9	-	940
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	10	20,946	14,965
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>164,141</u>	<u>142,971</u>
		185,087	157,936
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	11	<u>(7,827)</u>	<u>(30,908)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>177,260</u>	<u>127,028</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>177,260</u>	<u>127,968</u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Restricted income funds</b>			
Restricted funds	12	39,400	16,859
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>137,860</u>	<u>111,109</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	12	<u>177,260</u>	<u>127,968</u>

For the financial year ending 31 August 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 7 to 13 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 6/5/26... and signed on their behalf by:

  
 .....  
 Tessa Taylor  
 Trustee

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form an integral part of these financial statements.

# The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

### 1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

c/o Action For Children  
2-4 Guild Close  
Birmingham  
B16 8EL

Principal place of business

Authorised for issue date

### 2 Accounting policies

#### Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

#### Basis of preparation

The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

#### Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

#### Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

## The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

#### 3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Schools & universities	54,885	-	54,885	63,335
Arts Council	-	26,100	26,100	20,000
Windrush project	-	-	-	11,997
Proud to be a Brummie project	-	-	-	9,000
Paul Hamlyn	-	68,000	68,000	-
Theatre Tax Claim	13,451	-	13,451	-
William Cadbury	-	5,000	5,000	-
	<u>68,336</u>	<u>99,100</u>	<u>167,436</u>	<u>104,332</u>

#### 4 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Interest receivable and similar income; Interest receivable on bank deposits	18	18
<b>Total for 2025</b>	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>

#### 5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Production costs	28,829	5,300	34,129	72,603
Freelance fees	-	17,602	17,602	19,080
Staff costs	10,182	48,257	58,439	66,397
PR & marketing	2,555	-	2,555	2,534
Travel	270	-	270	258
Insurance	913	1,000	1,913	1,908
Release of old tax provisions	(6,000)	-	(6,000)	-
Accts & independent exam	1,300	-	1,300	1,200
Office expenses	387	1,000	1,387	912
Computer & communications	724	-	724	787
Rent	1,000	3,400	4,400	4,400
Legal & Prof	333	-	333	1,112
Bank charges	170	-	170	159
Depreciation of fixed assets	940	-	940	942
	<u>940</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>940</u>	<u>942</u>

## The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
41,603	76,559	118,162	172,292

#### 6 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

#### 7 Staff costs

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2025 No	2024 No
Staff	3	3
Trustees	6	7
	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

#### 8 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

## The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

#### 9 Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Furniture and equipment £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 September 2024	3,766	3,766
At 31 August 2025	3,766	3,766
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 September 2024	2,826	2,826
Charge for the year	940	940
At 31 August 2025	3,766	3,766
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 August 2025	-	-
At 31 August 2024	940	940

#### 10 Debtors

	<b>2025 £</b>	<b>2024 £</b>
Trade debtors	7,495	14,965
Accrued income	13,451	-
	20,946	14,965

#### 11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	<b>2025 £</b>	<b>2024 £</b>
Other taxation and social security	5,126	10,256
Other creditors	1,401	-
Accruals	1,300	20,652
	7,827	30,908

## The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2025

#### 12 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
<i>General</i>				
General	101,109	68,354	(41,603)	127,860
<i>Designated</i>				
Designated- develop & IT fund	10,000	-	-	10,000
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>111,109</b>	<b>68,354</b>	<b>(41,603)</b>	<b>137,860</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	16,859	68,000	(76,559)	8,300
Arts Council	-	26,100	-	26,100
William Cadbury	-	5,000	-	5,000
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>16,859</b>	<b>99,100</b>	<b>(76,559)</b>	<b>39,400</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>127,968</b>	<b>167,454</b>	<b>(118,162)</b>	<b>177,260</b>

**THE PLAY HOUSE (B'HAM) LTD**

England & Wales - Charity number 1034809

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# Accounts

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Company registration number: 02828276

Charity registration number: 1034809

# The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Bissell & Brown Birmingham Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
12 Portman Rd  
Kings Heath  
Birmingham  
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## **The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

<b>Secretary</b>	Joanne Marie Sadler
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1034809
<b>Company Registration Number</b>	02828276
<b>Registered Office</b>	The charity is incorporated in England. c/o Action For Children 2-4 Guild Close Birmingham B16 8EL
<b>Accountants</b>	Bissell & Brown Birmingham Ltd Chartered Accountants 12 Portman Rd Kings Heath Birmingham West Midlands B13 0SL

# **The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

## **Trustees' Report**

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2024.

### **Financial and operational review**

“Performances have always been fully engaging and well-crafted, demonstrating a high standard of theatrical skill and exploring relevant themes and concepts which are always both age-appropriate and stimulating.”  
(Quote from Head Teacher)

The Play House is a long established and highly respected theatre in education company, known for its trademark participatory approach. Since it was founded in 1986, the company has developed a strong track record of high-quality work in schools, delivering engaging theatre work which stimulates children’s imagination and creativity, supporting curriculum learning and essential life skill development. It has an excellent reputation locally and regionally with teachers, local authorities, arts organisations and academic institutions.

Our vision is to enhance the learning and development of curiosity for children and young people in the West Midlands, through engagement in drama experiences. We have a strong ethos of meaningful participation at the heart of everything we do through the creation of rich fictional worlds, where children interact with a range of situations and characters. We strongly believe in the transformational power of theatre, and we are committed to producing work that provides an exciting and challenging first experience of live theatre as enrichment.

In the academic year 2023-2024, The Play House delivered over 350 workshop-performances and reached over 9000 children and young people from across early years settings, primary and secondary schools, as well as local cultural venues including libraries, art galleries and museums.

### **Key projects and highlights from 2023/2024**

#### **Does Birmingham Belong to Me?**

With funding from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, The Play House worked in partnership with Dr Reza Gholami at the University of Birmingham to create a year long project delivered once a week in 2 primary schools. This project explored the concepts of citizenship and what it means to belong to a place. By exploring lived experience stories, then creating performances inspired by the rich diversity of the city, the children were able to communicate their own ideas about belonging. We also brought the two cohorts of children together from different parts of the city, so that they could learn more about one another and celebrate a shared identity.

“This project gave the children a safe place to explore these ideas and feelings. They have a better understanding of the complexities of belonging and how you can belong to more than one thing. The age is perfect because it catches them while they’re young and they’re not set in their thinking’ (Quote from Teacher of participating students).

#### **Proud to be a Brummie**

With funding from Sir Barry Jackson Trust and Birmingham Arts School, The Play House worked with 3 schools who have limited engagement with the arts, to create a piece of theatre which was shown as part of the Proud to Be a Brummie Festival, held at Symphony Hall in Birmingham. This project was built on co-creation principles, which prioritised the children’s own opinions voices to create a fictional response to the idea of being ‘Proud to be a Brummie’. Through this project, the participants created a story all about celebrating their local area.

## **The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **Journey of a Windrush Heroine**

Funded by the Windrush Day Grant, Near Neighbours, The Play House worked with Grace Bennet to create and deliver this touring performance about the experience of a member of the Windrush generation. This story celebrated the entrepreneurial thinking and contribution to society made by the Windrush generation and their descendants. The show toured around schools and libraries for intergenerational audiences, offering post-show CPD for teachers.

#### **Higher Education Bookings**

The Play House was asked to act as guest lecturers in a variety of Higher Education Settings (including MA Drama and Education students University of Warwick

Undergraduate Applied Theatre Course at The Royal Birmingham Conservatoire

Undergraduate Education Studies & Theatre, Acting and Performance at University of Worcester.)

Our employees gave an overview of the company's work and demonstrated our participation model, in order to increase awareness and understanding for subsequent generations of artists.

#### **School Programme Tour (highlights, not extensive list)**

##### **STEAM**

This project was a new addition to our school's programme and developed from last year's project, Maker Space. The fictional storyline has been rewritten to enable students to access the STEM activities within the 90 minute structure of our programmes. Students work through bio-medical engineering tasks to support problem solving and reach a positive solution within the story. This project has become a popular and effective addition to the programme.

"The workshop was incredibly engaging for all children. The session was not only educational, teaching the children new vocabulary but also developing the children's ability to apply it to tasks. Thank you so much for creating a fabulous experience for our children." (Quote from Teacher)

##### **The Romans**

The Romans examines the legacy of the Roman invasion of Britain and its relevance today. In their role as archaeologists at the site of a newly discovered Roman Villa the pupils uncover the everyday life and customs of Roman Britons. This workshop develops a deeper awareness of both the role of the modern day archaeologist and those of the Roman masters and Celtic slaves in the villas of Roman Britain.

##### **Story Telling Residency**

The Play House Storytelling Residency consists of a Storyteller working with small groups throughout the day. During the sessions the children co-create and share stories together based on a multi-sensory, initial stimulus offered by the storyteller. The storyteller then builds on ideas and any developing narrative coming from children's responses, both physical and verbal. We work with teachers to understand current learning focus and desired outcomes. "You are able to respond to the needs and ability of each child, that is why what you do is so valuable." (Quote from Teacher)

##### **Jack and the Beanstalk**

A participatory retelling of the traditional tale of Jack and the Beanstalk, the performance enrolls children as the Jack's friends. They arrive for a play date to find Jack has gone missing! The children help to find Jack by adventuring up the beanstalk to explore the land in the clouds and save Jack from the Giant.

##### **Anansi the Spider**

This programme brings to life the tale of one of the great Ghanaian and Caribbean folk heroes. Using puppetry, multi-sensory play and song, the children help Aunt Nancy bring to life this African classic where all children can find themselves reflected. This programme has been extremely popular with children saying: "I love joining in with all the activities, especially the dancing" (child quote)

## **The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **It's My planet Too**

This story follows Acapella, the tree frog, who has arrived in school from South America in a box of fruit. She's lost and far from home. What should Cherry the greengrocer do? Could Acapella become the pet Cherry's always dreamed of or does she really belong somewhere else? This sensory adventure takes the children into the rainforest to explore why caring for the planet's animals and habitats has a positive effect on us all.

#### **Little Red Hen**

The Little Red Hen workshop introduces children to counting, weighing, and measuring, within the context of this traditional story as an interactive learning experience for young children. Little Red Hen uses puppets, cooking, and storytelling to explore the concepts of growing and sharing. The children travel with The Little Red Hen around the farmyard, meet the animals and problem solve how she will make the bread by herself.

#### **Split Second**

Split Second is a programme for 9-13 years exploring consequences of knife crime in terms of the impact those directly involved, their loved ones and the wider community. Set in a boxing club, the children engage in thought provoking discussions about people's responsibility to one another and how we can support young people experiencing youth violence. This programme is delivered annually off the back of consistently successful tours. "It showed me a bigger view of the world and what not to do." (Quote from a year 5 pupil)

#### **Careless Talk**

Careless Talk is a long-established touring performance-workshop which explores how a young person could be groomed to take part in extremist action. The piece is set in the fictional town of Brodingham and tells the story of Scarlett, a young member of a minority community, The Circle, who are being persecuted by another group. The children are guided through a process where they find positive and peaceful solutions for the characters in this piece which promotes social responsibility, tolerance and respect.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

#### **Trustees and officers**

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

##### **Trustees:**

Tessa Taylor

Keshena Bowie

Adaya Henry

Alexandra Henwood

Shane Shambhu

Paul Edwards (appointed 26 January 2024)

Deborah Shaw, Chair (Resigned 6 November 2023)

Rachel Cranny (Resigned 6 November 2023)

##### **Secretary:**

Joanne Marie Sadler

# The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

## Trustees' Report

### Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".


Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 12 May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Tessa Taylor  
Trustee

## **The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 August 2024.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').


Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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



Barry Matthews FCA  
Chartered Accountants  
Bissell & Brown Birmingham Ltd

12 Portman Rd  
KIngs Heath  
Birmingham  
B13 0SL

12 May 2025

## The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Donations and legacies		20,000	-	20,000
Charitable activities	3	<u>63,335</u>	<u>20,997</u>	<u>84,332</u>
Total Income		<u>83,335</u>	<u>20,997</u>	<u>104,332</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	4	<u>(83,153)</u>	<u>(89,138)</u>	<u>(172,291)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(83,153)</u>	<u>(89,138)</u>	<u>(172,291)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		<u>182</u>	<u>(68,141)</u>	<u>(67,959)</u>
Net movement in funds		182	(68,141)	(67,959)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		<u>110,928</u>	<u>85,000</u>	<u>195,928</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u>111,110</u>	<u>16,859</u>	<u>127,969</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**  
**(Registration number: 02828276)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024**


	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	8	940	1,882
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	9	14,965	1,850
Cash at bank and in hand	10	<u>142,971</u>	<u>201,837</u>
		157,936	203,687
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	11	<u>(30,908)</u>	<u>(9,642)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>127,028</u>	<u>194,045</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>127,968</u>	<u>195,927</u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Restricted income funds</b>			
Restricted funds	12	16,859	85,000
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>111,109</u>	<u>110,927</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	12	<u>127,968</u>	<u>195,927</u>

For the financial year ending 31 August 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 7 to 13 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 12 May 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

  
 Tessa Taylor  
 Trustee

# **The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

### **1 Charity status**

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

c/o Action For Children  
2-4 Guild Close  
Birmingham  
B16 8EL

#### Principal place of business

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the trustees on 12 May 2025.

### **2 Accounting policies**

#### **Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates**

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### **Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

#### **Basis of preparation**

The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

#### **Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

#### **Taxation**

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

## The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

#### Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

#### 3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Schools & universities	63,335	-	63,335	66,745
Garfield Weston grant	20,000	-	20,000	16,400
Windrush project	-	11,997	11,997	20,000
Proud to be a Brummie project	-	9,000	9,000	-
Royal Academy	-	-	-	24,784
29th May 1961 Char Trust	-	-	-	2,000
Edgar Lawley	-	-	-	1,500
Baron Davenport	-	-	-	500
Garfield Weston	-	-	-	15,000
Turner Trust	-	-	-	1,000
William Cadbury	-	-	-	750
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	-	-	85,000
	<u>83,335</u>	<u>20,997</u>	<u>104,332</u>	<u>233,679</u>

#### 4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Production costs	38,368	34,235	72,603	1,923
Freelance fees	-	19,080	19,080	30,322
Staff costs	30,574	35,823	66,397	74,622
PR & marketing	2,534	-	2,534	4,630
Travel	258	-	258	1,551
Insurance	1,908	-	1,908	-
Recruitment	-	-	-	611
Accts & independent exam	1,200	-	1,200	1,100
Office expenses	912	-	912	34
Computer & communications	787	-	787	2,433
Training	-	-	-	47
Rent	4,400	-	4,400	4,800
Legal & Prof	1,112	-	1,112	950
Bank charges	159	-	159	174
Depreciation of fixed assets	942	-	942	942
	<u>83,335</u>	<u>20,997</u>	<u>104,332</u>	<u>233,679</u>

## The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<u>83,154</u>	<u>89,138</u>	<u>172,292</u>	<u>124,139</u>

#### 5 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

#### 6 Staff costs

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2024 No	2023 No
Staff	3	3
Trustees	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>
	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

#### 7 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

## The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

#### 8 Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Furniture and equipment £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 September 2023	3,766	3,766
At 31 August 2024	<u>3,766</u>	<u>3,766</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 September 2023	1,884	1,884
Charge for the year	942	942
At 31 August 2024	<u>2,826</u>	<u>2,826</u>
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 August 2024	<u>940</u>	<u>940</u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>1,882</u>	<u>1,882</u>

#### 9 Debtors

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Trade debtors	<u>14,965</u>	<u>1,850</u>

#### 10 Cash and cash equivalents

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Cash at bank	<u>142,971</u>	<u>201,837</u>

#### 11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Other taxation and social security	10,256	8,542
Accruals	<u>20,652</u>	<u>1,100</u>
	<u>30,908</u>	<u>9,642</u>

## The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

#### 12 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
<i>General</i>				
General	100,927	83,335	(83,153)	101,109
<i>Designated</i>				
Designated- develop & IT fund	10,000	-	-	10,000
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>110,927</u>	<u>83,335</u>	<u>(83,153)</u>	<u>111,109</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Windrush	-	11,997	(11,997)	-
Proud Brummie	-	9,000	(9,000)	-
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	85,000	-	(68,141)	16,859
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>85,000</u>	<u>20,997</u>	<u>(89,138)</u>	<u>16,859</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>195,927</u>	<u>104,332</u>	<u>(172,291)</u>	<u>127,968</u>

**THE PLAY HOUSE (B'HAM) LTD**

England & Wales - Charity number 1034809

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# Accounts

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Company registration number: 02828276

Charity registration number: 1034809

# The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Bissell & Brown Birmingham Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
12 Portman Rd  
Kings Heath  
Birmingham  
B13 0SL

# **The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

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**The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

**Reference and Administrative Details**

<b>Secretary</b>	Joanne Marie Sadler
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1034809
<b>Company Registration Number</b>	02828276
<b>Registered Office</b>	The charity is incorporated in England. c/o Action For Children 2-4 Guild Close Birmingham B16 8EL
<b>Accountants</b>	Bissell & Brown Birmingham Ltd Chartered Accountants 12 Portman Rd Kings Heath Birmingham West Midlands B13 0SL

# **The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

## **Trustees' Report**

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2023.

### **Financial and operational review**

The Play House is a long established and highly respected theatre in education company, known nationally and internationally for its trademark participatory approach. Since it was founded in 1986, the company has developed a strong track record of high-quality work in schools. It has an excellent reputation locally and regionally with teachers, local authorities, arts organisations and academic institutions.

Our vision is to enhance the learning and development of curiosity for children and young people in the West Midlands, through engagement in drama experiences. We have a strong ethos of meaningful participation at the heart of everything we do through the creation of rich fictional worlds, where children interact with a range of situations and characters. We strongly believe in the transformational power of theatre, and we are committed to producing work that provides an exciting and challenging first experience of live theatre as enrichment.

In the academic year 2022-23, The Play House delivered over 300 workshop-performances and reached approximately 8000 children and young people from across early years settings, primary and secondary schools, as well as local cultural venues including libraries, art galleries and museums.

During this year, the company (Trustees and staff) reconfigured the staff structure taking into account the skillsets and strengths of the team. The structure was changed to make Jo Sadler-Lovett (previously Artistic Director) now the Director of the company, overseeing both creative and operational progress. Despite the changes, our values and ethos continue to be protected and upheld by all staff.

The effects of inflation and cost of living crisis can be felt but the company has adapted as much as possible to ensure that activities continue.

# **The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

## **Trustees' Report**

Key projects and highlights from 2022/23

### **Maker Space**

Funded by The Royal Academy of Engineering and delivered in partnership with The University of Birmingham/

### **Imagine a City**

This year, with the help of The Millennium Point Trust, we were able to run a second STEM-based project working with The University of Birmingham and The University of Wolverhampton.

### **CRIC storytelling**

During this year, we continued and completed the delivery of CRIC story-telling, funded by The Community Recovery Challenge.

### **Arts and Culture**

We continued to develop our relationship with The New Walsall Art gallery and Rugby Art Gallery with story-telling performances throughout the year.

### **Black Country Living Museum (BCLM)**

The Play House has worked with BCLM to enrich their event delivery and diversify event content.

### **CPD/Inset**

The Play House continues to offer CPD to both experienced teachers, and those at the start of their careers, to support the creative delivery of the curriculum.

### **Higher Education Bookings**

The Play House was asked to act as guest lecturers in a variety of Higher Education Settings.

### **SCHOOL TOUR ( highlights , not extensive list )**

The Romans

Story Telling Residency

Jack and The Beanstalk

Anansi the Spider

Resilience Quest

Its My Planet Too

Little Red Hen

Ugly Duckling

Split Second

Careless Talk

## **The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

### **Trustees' Report**

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

#### **Trustees and officers**

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	Keshena Bowie
	Adaya Henry
	Alexandra Henwood
	Tessa Taylor
	Shane Shambhu (appointed 22 May 2023)
	Paul Edwards (appointed 26 January 2024)
	Deborah Shaw, Chair (Resigned 6 November 2023)
	Rachel Cranny (appointed 22 May 2023 and Resigned 6 November 2023)
Secretary:	Joanne Marie Sadler (appointed 20 March 2023)

#### **Statement of trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.


The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

**The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

**Trustees' Report**

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 21/5/24 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Keshena Bowie  
Trustee

## The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

### Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 August 2023.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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

 for Bissell & Brown Birmingham Ltd  
Barry Matthews FCA  
Chartered Accountants  
Bissell & Brown Birmingham Ltd

12 Portman Rd  
Kings Heath  
Birmingham  
B13 0SL

Date: 21 May 2024

## The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Charitable activities	3	<u>101,745</u>	<u>131,934</u>	<u>233,679</u>
Total Income		<u>101,745</u>	<u>131,934</u>	<u>233,679</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	4	<u>(58,670)</u>	<u>(65,470)</u>	<u>(124,140)</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>(58,670)</u>	<u>(65,470)</u>	<u>(124,140)</u>
Net income		<u>43,075</u>	<u>66,464</u>	<u>109,539</u>
Net movement in funds		43,075	66,464	109,539
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		<u>67,852</u>	<u>18,536</u>	<u>86,388</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u><u>110,927</u></u>	<u><u>85,000</u></u>	<u><u>195,927</u></u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**  
**(Registration number: 02828276)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023**

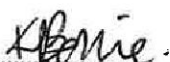
	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	8	1,882	2,824
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	9	1,850	13,734
Cash at bank and in hand	10	<u>201,837</u>	<u>76,501</u>
		203,687	90,235
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	11	<u>(9,642)</u>	<u>(6,672)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>194,045</u>	<u>83,563</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>195,927</u>	<u>86,387</u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Restricted income funds</b>			
Restricted funds	12	85,000	18,536
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>110,927</u>	<u>67,851</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	12	<u>195,927</u>	<u>86,387</u>

For the financial year ending 31 August 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 7 to 12 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 21/5/24 and signed on their behalf by:

  
 .....  
 Keshena Bowie  
 Trustee

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form an integral part of these financial statements.

# The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

### 1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

c/o Action For Children

2-4 Guild Close

Birmingham

B16 8EL

Principal place of business

Authorised for issue date

### 2 Accounting policies

#### Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

#### Basis of preparation

The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

#### Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

#### Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

## The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

#### 3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Schools & universities	66,745	-	66,745
Millenium Point	-	16,400	16,400
Postcode	20,000	-	20,000
Royal Academy	-	24,784	24,784
29th May 1961 Char Trust	-	2,000	2,000
Edgar Lawley	-	1,500	1,500
Baron Davenport	-	500	500
Garfield Weston	15,000	-	15,000
Turner Trust	-	1,000	1,000
William Cadbury	-	750	750
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	85,000	85,000
<b>Total for 2023</b>	<u>101,745</u>	<u>131,934</u>	<u>233,679</u>
<b>Total for 2022</b>	<u>48,423</u>	<u>157,485</u>	<u>205,908</u>

#### 4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Production costs	-	1,923	1,923
Freelance fees	3,322	27,000	30,322
Staff costs	41,473	33,149	74,622
PR & marketing	4,230	400	4,630
Travel	487	1,064	1,551
Recruitment	611	-	611
Accts & independent exam	1,100	-	1,100
Office expenses	-	34	34
Computer & communications	1,933	500	2,433
Training	47	-	47
Rent	3,400	1,400	4,800
Legal & Prof	950	-	950
Bank charges	174	-	174
Depreciation of fixed assets	942	-	942
<b>Total for 2023</b>	<u>58,669</u>	<u>65,470</u>	<u>124,139</u>
<b>Total for 2022</b>	<u>46,600</u>	<u>182,722</u>	<u>229,322</u>

**The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023**

**Total  
expenditure  
£**

**5 Net incoming/outgoing resources**

Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year include:

**2023  
£**

**6 Trustees remuneration and expenses**

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

**7 Taxation**

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

**8 Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Furniture and equipment £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 September 2022	3,766	3,766
At 31 August 2023	3,766	3,766
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 September 2022	942	942
Charge for the year	942	942
At 31 August 2023	1,884	1,884
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 August 2023	1,882	1,882
At 31 August 2022	2,824	2,824

**9 Debtors**

**The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023**

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	1,850	4,580
Other debtors	-	9,154
	<u>1,850</u>	<u>13,734</u>

**10 Cash and cash equivalents**

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank	<u>201,837</u>	<u>76,501</u>

**11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2023 £	2022 £
Other taxation and social security	8,542	5,532
Accruals	1,100	1,140
	<u>9,642</u>	<u>6,672</u>

**12 Funds**

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
<i>General</i>				
General	57,851	101,745	(58,669)	100,927
<i>Designated</i>				
Diseignated- develop & IT fund	<u>10,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,000</u>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>67,851</u>	<u>101,745</u>	<u>(58,669)</u>	<u>110,927</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Small Funds	-	5,750	(5,750)	-
Millenium Point	-	16,400	(16,400)	-
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	85,000	-	85,000
Bham Org Commonw Games	9,154	-	(9,154)	-
Royal Academy	8,882	24,784	(33,666)	-
WMCA	500	-	(500)	-
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>18,536</u>	<u>131,934</u>	<u>(65,470)</u>	<u>85,000</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>86,387</u>	<u>233,679</u>	<u>(124,139)</u>	<u>195,927</u>

## The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

### Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>		
Charitable activities (analysed below)	<u>233,679</u>	<u>205,908</u>
Total income	<u>233,679</u>	<u>205,908</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>		
Charitable activities (analysed below)	<u>(124,140)</u>	<u>(229,323)</u>
Total expenditure	<u>(124,140)</u>	<u>(229,323)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u>109,539</u>	<u>(23,415)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>		
Total funds carried forward	<u><u>109,539</u></u>	<u><u>(23,415)</u></u>

## The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd

### Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b><i>Charitable activities</i></b>		
Sales to schools & univs	66,745	48,423
Arts Council England	-	12,353
Edward Cadbury	-	1,000
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	85,000	-
Bham Org C.Games	-	109,154
Royal Academy	24,784	16,978
WMCA	-	15,000
29th May 1961 Char Trust	2,000	2,000
Thistle Trust	-	1,000
Millenium Point	16,400	-
Baron Davenport	500	-
Turner Trust	1,000	-
William Cadbury	750	-
Edgar Lawley	1,500	-
Garfield Weston	15,000	-
Postcode	20,000	-
	<u>233,679</u>	<u>205,908</u>
<b><i>Charitable activities</i></b>		
Production costs	(1,923)	(6,003)
Staff costs	(33,149)	(87,775)
Staff costs UF	(44,005)	-
Freelance	(27,000)	(80,783)
Freelance	(3,322)	(32,060)
Motor & travel	(1,064)	(2,410)
Motor & travel	(212)	-
Rent RF	(1,400)	(900)
Rent UF	(3,400)	(1,303)
Office expenses	(34)	(373)
Computer software and maintenance costs RF	(500)	(1,238)
Computer UF	(1,934)	-
Training	(47)	(2,400)
Insurance RF	-	(1,101)
Insurance UF	-	(2,100)
Telephone & post	-	(1,970)
Travel and subsistence	(275)	-
Sundry	2,532	1,109
Bank charges	(174)	(180)
PR & marketing RF	(400)	(3,250)
PR & Marketing UF	(4,230)	(1,016)

**The Play House ( B'ham ) Ltd**

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2023**

	<b>Total 2023 £</b>	<b>Total 2022 £</b>
Independent exam	(1,100)	(1,140)
Legal & prof	(950)	(244)
Recruitment RF	-	(500)
Recruitment UF	(611)	(2,744)
Depreciation of office equipment	<u>(942)</u>	<u>(942)</u>
	<u>(124,140)</u>	<u>(229,323)</u>

**THE PLAY HOUSE (B'HAM) LTD**

England & Wales - Charity number 1034809

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# Accounts

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Company registration number:  
02828276 Charity  
registration number:  
1034809

# The Play House (B'ham) Ltd

(A company limited by  
guarantee) Annual Report and  
Financial Statements for the  
Year Ended 31 August 2022

12 Portman  
Rd Kings  
Heath  
Birmingham  
B13 0SL

# The Play House

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**The Play House**  
**Reference and Administrative**  
**Details**

**Secretary** Joanne Marie Sadler

**Charity Registration Number**

1034809 **Company Registration**

**Number**

02828276

**Registered Office** The charity is incorporated in England.  
c/o Action For  
Children 2-4 Guild  
Close Birmingham  
B16 8EL

**Accountants** Bissell & Brown  
Birmingham Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
12 Portman  
Rd Kings  
Heath  
Birmingham  
West  
Midlands  
B13 0SL

# **The Play House**

## **Trustees'**

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2022.

### **Financial and operational review**

The Play House is a long established and highly respected theatre in education company, known nationally and internationally for its trademark participatory approach. Since it was founded in 1986, the company has developed a strong track record of high-quality work in schools. It has an excellent reputation locally and regionally with teachers, local authorities, arts organisations and academic institutions.

Our vision is to stimulate the learning and curiosity of children and young people through engagement in drama experiences. We have a strong ethos of meaningful participation at the heart of everything we do through the creation of rich fictional worlds, where children interact with a range of situations and characters. We strongly believe in the transformational power of theatre.

The Play House continues to feel the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic with increased safety measures in place in schools which are still restricting bookings to some degree. Whilst we have seen the school bookings begin to re-grow, there is still some way to go before pre-pandemic levels are achieved.

After 20 years of wonderful service, Juliet Fry stepped down from her role as Artistic Director in June 2022. Juliet continues to support the company as a freelance practitioner. Jo Sadler-Lovett was appointed as Artistic Director in May 2022. Laura Killeen, General Manager, also left the company in July 2022. In September 2021 Emily Lewis was appointed as Business Development Manager. Malcolm Jennings, Teacher Actor, continues to play a key part in the development and delivery of the artistic activities.

### **Key projects and highlights from 2021/22**

#### **Outside the Box:**

This year saw some exciting and ambitious work happening to support B22 Common Wealth Games with a performance of Outside The Box, in partnership with Untied Artists and four Birmingham schools. The performances included children from the schools acting alongside professional actors and a professional Squash athlete, Commonwealth Games Gold medallist, James Willstrop. It was performed at the University of Birmingham Squash courts as part of the city-wide cultural celebrations of the Games.

#### **Brummie Citizenship:**

Funded by The John Feeney Charitable Trust, The Play House worked in partnership with a Birmingham school, to explore how people from different communities can share the same values. We worked with different members of the school community from lunch staff to teachers, to explore their lived experiences which brought them to present circumstances. Children from the school heard their carefully crafted stories and were encouraged to explore themes that linked these different experiences together.

#### **New Histories:**

Commissioned by Birmingham Arts School, The Play House worked with an under-served Birmingham school, to co-create a performance with children which explored the history of the hyper-local area and see the impact of that history on modern living. This resulted in a celebratory performance at the school to an audience of peers and parents/ carers. The school felt the children really enjoyed taking part in the project and said they would like to work with us again on further projects.

## **The Play House**

### **Trustees'**

CRIC storytelling:

Funded by the Community Recovery Innovation Challenge, The Play House created a paid internship/ training project for a Birmingham based parent with no previous experience of professional story-telling or performance. Carefully nurtured by our staff, they developed 3 stories to touring standard and also developed the skills around managing interactive performance techniques and professional touring requirements. The story-teller delivered performances in an early years and nursery setting, free of charge, gaining great feedback "I could see the children coming alive when you got them to act things out and you listened to the little things they were saying" (quote from nursery staff).

#### CPD/Inset

The Play House continues to offer CPD to both experienced teachers, and those at the start of their careers, to support the creative delivery of the curriculum. This year we worked with Marshill Nursery with an EYFS CPD and Birmingham Arts School with a Storytelling CPD.

#### Higher Education Bookings:

The Play House was asked to act as guest lecturers in a variety of Higher Education Settings (University of Worcester, University of Warwick and Royal Birmingham Conservatoire). Our employees gave an overview of the company's work and demonstrated our participation model, in order to increase awareness and understanding for subsequent generations of artists.

#### Barnardos

The Play House has worked in the Barnardo's children's centres in Birmingham including the Ladywood Children's Centre and St Thomas Children's Centre, delivering interactive storytelling sessions for young children aged 4-8 outside of the school term.

#### New Art Gallery Walsall

This year, The Play House embarked on an exciting new partnership with New Art Gallery Walsall. We have delivered two interactive story-telling performances (The Selfish Giant and Spidery Stories) to support the rotating art exhibitions in the gallery. Performances have been specifically tailored to support SEND family audiences, as well as reaching members of the general public who may not otherwise visit the gallery.

### ***School tour highlights***

#### Romans

The Romans examines the legacy of the Roman invasion of Britain and its relevance today. In role as archaeologists at the site of a newly discovered Roman Villa the pupils will uncover the everyday life and customs of Roman Britons. This workshop develops a deeper awareness of both the role of the modern-day archaeologist and those of the Roman masters and Celtic slaves in the villas of Roman Britain.

#### Story telling residency

The Play House Storytelling Residency consists of a Storyteller working with small groups throughout the day. During the sessions the children co-create and share stories together based on a multi-sensory, initial stimulus offered by the storyteller. The storyteller then builds on ideas and any developing narrative coming from children's responses, both physical and verbal. We work with teachers to understand current learning focus and desired outcomes.

#### Meet the Character

Schools were able to book a visit for their pupils from famous historical figures or key fictional characters. The visits enhance lessons and bring learning to life in school. The Play House create bespoke interactive character encounters based on the specific learning aims of the schools pupils. We work with the teachers at the time of booking to find out what outcomes the school would like to achieve.

#### Jack and the beanstalk

A participatory retelling of the traditional tale of Jack and the Beanstalk, the performance enrolls children in the role of Jack's best friends. They arrive for a play date to find Jack has gone missing! The children help to find Jack by adventuring up the beanstalk to explore the land in the clouds and save Jack from the Giant.

#### Anansi the Spider

This is a brand new programme which brings to life the tale of one of the great folk Ghanaian and Caribbean story heroes. Using puppetry, multi-sensory play and song, the children help Aunt Nancy bring to life this African classic where all children can find themselves reflected. This programme has been extremely popular.

"I love joining in with all the activities, especially the dancing" (quote from child)

### Secret Poetry Slam

Set in a dystopian future where the government has banned all forms of artistic expression, Secret Poetry Slam puts the children in role as investigators going undercover to find out about the work of a banned poet. After taking part in one of his workshops and creating their own poetry the children have to decide whether to keep his identity a secret or not.

### Split Second

Split Second is a programme for 9-13 years exploring consequences of knife crime in terms of the impact those directly involved, their loved ones and the wider community. Set in a boxing club, the children engage in thought provoking discussions about people's responsibility to one another and how we can support young people experiencing youth violence. This programme is delivered annually off the back of consistently successful tours.

"A brilliant and effective workshop that helped the children think about the serious consequences of their actions. It explored the difficult topic of knife crime in a way where children understood the impact without it being graphic." (Quote from Wardend Primary school).

### HOPE

HOPE is an engaging workshop for primary school children aged 7-11 which explores their experiences and feelings surrounding lockdown through the safe context of a story. Set in the Derbyshire village of Eyam after the plague of 1666, HOPE explores the amazing true story of the villagers' voluntary isolation that saved the lives of the surrounding communities. HOPE was created in response to children's experiences of COVID and gave them a safe environment to make sense of their feelings.

### Resilience Quest

After its successful beginning last year, this programme was redeveloped into a two person show and successfully toured around many Birmingham schools. Resilience Quest provides a safe avenue for children to explore healthy coping strategies for dealing with difficult emotions and to understand when and how to ask for help to increase resilience.

"This has fed into lots of our PSHE work on resilience and self-esteem and very successfully made the children feel part of the action." (Quote from Colmore Primary school).

### Careless Talk

Careless Talk is a long-established touring performance-workshop which explores how a young person could be groomed to take part in extremist action. The piece is set in the fictional town of Brodingham and tells the story of Scarlett, a young member of a minority community, The Circle, who are being persecuted by another group. The children are guided through a process where they find positive and peaceful solutions for the characters in this piece which promotes social responsibility, tolerance and respect.

"This is not just a bolt-on, this is core to our PSHE and Our Wider Learning curriculum." (Quote from Colmore Junior School).

### Daughters of Invention

The Millennium Point Trust commissioned us to deliver our engineering programme, Daughters of Invention, to 4 partner schools across Birmingham working with 240 children. In partnership with the University of Birmingham we work with 8 PhD engineer students to engage primary age children in solving a medical engineering challenge. The focus of the programme is raise the aspirations of children and allow them to see the viability of an engineering career, as well as develop the communication and engagement skills of the PhD engineers.

"I really loved watching [the children] rehearse their stories... The Play House did a great job at pulling the emotional part of their lives out of them. Telling amazing stories of how they have got to where they are, communicating their research - it has been hugely beneficial to them." (Quote from Year 5 Teacher).

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

**Trustees and officers**

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

- Trustees: Deborah Shaw, Chair,  
Chair Keshena Bowie  
Adaya Henry (appointed 21 March 2022)  
Alexandra Henwood  
Tessa Taylor  
  
Daniel Jones (termination of appointment 30<sup>th</sup> August 2022)
- Secretary: Joanne Marie Sadler (appointed 20 March 2023)

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Play House (B'ham) Ltd for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

.....

Deborah  
Shaw  
Trustee

# **The Play House**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Play Company")**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 August 2022.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of The Play House (B'ham) Ltd are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of The Play House (B'ham) Ltd as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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

.....  
Barry Matthews  
FCA Chartered  
Accountants  
Bissell & Brown Birmingham Ltd

12 Portman  
Rd KIngs  
Heath  
Birmingham  
B13 0SL

Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

## The Play House

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestric ted funds £	Restrict ed funds £	Tot al 202 2 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>				
Charitable activities	<a href="#">3</a>	<u>48,423</u>	<u>157,485</u>	<u>205,908</u>
Total income		<u>48,423</u>	<u>157,485</u>	<u>205,908</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	<a href="#">4</a>	<u>(46,600)</u>	<u>(182,722)</u>	<u>(229,322)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(46,600)</u>	<u>(182,722)</u>	<u>(229,322)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		1,823	(25,237)	(23,414)
Transfers between funds		<u>13,077</u>	<u>(13,077)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		14,900	(38,314)	(23,414)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		<u>52,952</u>	<u>56,850</u>	<u>109,802</u>
Total funds carried forward	<a href="#">12</a>	<u><u>67,852</u></u>	<u><u>18,536</u></u>	<u><u>86,388</u></u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods. The funds breakdown for 2021 is shown in note 12.

The notes on pages [9](#) to [13](#) form an integral part of these financial statements.

# The Play House

## (Registration number: Balance Sheet as at 31 202 August 2

	Not e	202 2 £	202 1 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	<a href="#">8</a>	2,824	2,694
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	<a href="#">9</a>	13,734	22,095
Cash at bank and in hand	<a href="#">10</a>	76,501	93,130
		<u>90,235</u>	<u>115,225</u>
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	<a href="#">11</a>	<u>(6,671)</u>	<u>(8,116)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>83,564</u>	<u>107,109</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>86,388</u>	<u>109,803</u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Restricted income funds</b>			
Restricted funds	<a href="#">12</a>	18,536	56,850
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>67,852</u>	<u>52,953</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<a href="#">12</a>	<u>86,388</u>	<u>109,803</u>

For the financial year ending 31 August 2022 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages [7](#) to [13](#) were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on.....and signed on their behalf by:

.....  
Deborah  
Shaw  
Trustee

The notes on pages [9](#) to [13](#) form an integral part of these financial statements.

# The Play House

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year

### 1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is: c/o Action For Children  
2-4 Guild Close  
Birmingham  
B16 8EL

[Principal place of business](#)

[Authorised for issue date](#)

### 2 Accounting policies

#### Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

#### Basis of preparation

The Play House (B'ham) Ltd meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

#### Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

#### Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

#### Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax

# **The Play House**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year**

Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

### **Depreciation and amortisation**

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

### 3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestrict ed funds Gener al £	Restrict ed fund s £	Total funds £
Schools & universities	48,423	-	48,423
Arts Council	-	12,353	12,353
Bham Org Commonw Games	-	109,154	109,154
Edward Cadbury	-	1,000	1,000
Royal Academy	-	16,978	16,978
WMCA	-	15,000	15,000
29th May 1961 Char Trust	-	2,000	2,000
Thistle Trust	-	1,000	1,000
<b>Total for 2022</b>	<u>48,423</u>	<u>157,485</u>	<u>205,908</u>
<b>Total for 2021</b>	<u>26,534</u>	<u>94,290</u>	<u>120,824</u>

### 4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestrict ed funds Gener al £	Restrict ed fund s £	Total funds £
Production costs	-	6,003	6,003
Freelance fees	32,060	80,782	112,842
Staff costs	-	87,776	87,776
PR & marketing	1,016	3,250	4,266
Travel	-	2,411	2,411
Insurance	2,100	1,100	3,200
Telephone etc	1,970	-	1,970
Recruitment	2,744	500	3,244
Sundry	(1,109)	-	(1,109)
Accts & independent exam	1,140	-	1,140
Office expenses	373	-	373
Computer software	1,237	-	1,237
Training	2,400	-	2,400
Rent	1,303	900	2,203
Legal & Prof	244	-	244
Bank charges	180	-	180
Depreciation of fixed assets	942	-	942
<b>Total for 2022</b>	<u>46,600</u>	<u>182,722</u>	<u>229,322</u>
<b>Total for 2021</b>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

32,222

44,782

77,004

**Total  
expenditure  
£**

## **5 Net incoming/outgoing resources**

Net (outgoing)/incoming resources for the year include:

**202  
2  
£**

## **6 Trustees remuneration and expenses**

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year. No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

## **7 Taxation**

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

## **8 Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Furniture and equipment £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 September 2021	2,693	2,693
Additions	1,073	1,073
At 31 August 2022	<u>3,766</u>	<u>3,766</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
Charge for the year	942	942
At 31 August 2022	<u>942</u>	<u>942</u>
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 August 2022	2,824	2,824
At 31 August 2021	<u>2,693</u>	<u>2,693</u>

## **9 Debtors**

	<b>202 2 £</b>	<b>2021 £</b>
Trade debtors	4,580	3,813

Other debtors

9,154	<u>18,282</u>
<u>13,734</u>	<u>22,095</u>

## 10 Cash and cash equivalents

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Cash at bank	<u>76,501</u>	<u>93,130</u>

## 11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other taxation and social security	5,532	-
Other creditors	(1)	8,116
Accruals	<u>1,140</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>6,671</u>	<u>8,116</u>

## 12 Funds

	<b>Balance at 1 September 2021</b>	<b>Incoming resources</b>	<b>Resources expended</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Balance at 31 August 2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
<b>General</b>					
General		48,423	(46,601)		57,852
	42,953		13,077		
<b>Designated</b>					
Designated- develop & IT fund		-	-	-	10,000
	10,000				
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>52,953</u>	<u>48,423</u>	<u>(46,601)</u>	<u>13,077</u>	<u>67,852</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Not analysed	-	4,000	(4,000)	-	-
Arts Council	36,850	12,353	(49,203)	-	-
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	20,000	-	(20,000)	-	-
Bham Org Commonw Games	-	109,154	(100,000)	-	9,154
Royal Academy	-	16,978	(8,096)	-	8,882
WMCA	-	15,000	(14,500)	-	500
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>56,850</u>	<u>157,485</u>	<u>(195,799)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,536</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>109,803</u>	<u>205,908</u>	<u>(242,400)</u>	<u>13,077</u>	<u>86,388</u>

	<b>Balance at 1 September 2020</b>	<b>Incoming resources</b>	<b>Resources expended</b>	<b>Balance at 31 August 2021</b>
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
<b>General</b>				
General	48,641	26,534	(32,222)	42,953
<b>Designated</b>				
Designated- develop & IT fund	10,000	-	-	10,000
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>58,641</u>	<u>26,534</u>	<u>(32,222)</u>	<u>52,953</u>
<b>Restricted</b>				
Not analysed	-	101,632	(44,782)	56,850
<b>Total funds</b>	<u><u>58,641</u></u>	<u><u>128,166</u></u>	<u><u>(77,004)</u></u>	<u><u>109,803</u></u>

# The Play House

## Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year

	<b>Total 2022 £</b>	<b>Total 2021 £</b>
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>		
Charitable activities (analysed below)	<u>205,908</u>	<u>128,166</u>
Total income	<u>205,908</u>	<u>128,166</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>		
Charitable activities (analysed below)	<u>(229,322)</u>	<u>(77,004)</u>
Total expenditure	<u>(229,322)</u>	<u>(77,004)</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>(23,414)</u>	<u>51,162</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>		
Total funds carried forward	<u><u>(23,414)</u></u>	<u><u>51,162</u></u>

	<b>Total 2022 £</b>	<b>Total 2021 £</b>
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Sales to schools & univs	48,423	23,153
Sales to L.A.s	-	3,381
Arts Council England	12,353	55,410
Sir Barry Jackson	-	1,500
Edward Cadbury	1,000	1,000
WM Police	-	3,000
Bham Rep Theatre	-	4,880
Bham City	-	7,342
WM VRU	-	5,500
Woodward Trust	-	1,500
John Feeney Charitable Trust	-	1,500
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	20,000
Bham Org C.Games	109,154	-
Royal Academy	16,978	-
WMCA	15,000	-
29th May 1961 Char Trust	2,000	-
Thistle Trust	1,000	-
	<u>205,908</u>	<u>128,166</u>

<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Production costs	(6,003)	(5,975)
Production expenses	-	(314)
Staff costs	(87,775)	(36,756)
Staff costs UF	-	(19,792)
Freelance	(80,783)	(2,020)
Freelance	(32,060)	(1,087)
Motor & travel	(2,410)	(31)
Motor & travel	-	(13)
Rent RF	(901)	-
Rent UF	(1,303)	-
Office expenses	(373)	-
Computer software and maintenance costs	(1,237)	-
Training	(2,400)	-
Insurance RF	(1,100)	(1,449)
Insurance UF	(2,100)	-
Telephone & post	(1,970)	(1,444)
Print & stat	-	(2,351)
Sundry	1,109	(2,415)
Bank charges	(180)	-
PR & marketing RF	(3,250)	(2,217)
PR & Marketing UF	(1,016)	-
Independent exam	(1,140)	(1,140)
Legal & prof	(244)	-
Recruitment RF	(500)	-

	<b>Total 202 2 £</b>	<b>Total 202 1 £</b>
Recruitment UF	(2,744)	-
Depreciation of office equipment	(942)	-
	<u>(229,322)</u>	<u>(77,004)</u>

**THE PLAY HOUSE (B'HAM) LTD**

England & Wales - Charity number 1034809

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# Accounts

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# The Play House (B'ham) Limited

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(a company limited by guarantee)

## Report and accounts

for the period ended

**31 August 2021**

*Company number 2828276*

*Charity registration number 1034809*



**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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# The Play House (B'ham) Limited

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## **CONSTITUTION**

The Play House (B'ham) Limited trades as Language Alive! and Catalyst and is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association. Charity number 1034809. Company number 2828276.

## **DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES**

Deborah Shaw – Chair  
Keshena Bowie – Deputy Chair  
Alexandra Henwood – Deputy Chair  
Daniel Jones  
Sian Roberts (resigned November 2021)  
Tessa Taylor (appointed May 2020)  
Gillian Twaite

## **SECRETARY**

Laura Killeen

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS**

Guest Wilson Chartered Accountants  
8 Wolverton Road  
Snitterfield  
Stratford upon Avon  
Warwickshire  
CV37 0HB

## **REGISTERED OFFICE**

The Play House  
c/o Birmingham Repertory Theatre  
Centenary Square  
Broad Street  
Birmingham  
B1 2EP

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## DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors present their report and accounts for the period ended 31 August 2021.

### PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The company's principal activity during the year continued to be the provision of arts education services mainly to schools in the West Midlands.

### LEGAL STATUS OF THE CHARITY

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

### FINANCIAL RESULTS AND REVIEW OF THE BUSINESS

The income and expenditure account for the period is set out on page 7. A full review of the business is included elsewhere in this Annual Report.

### DIRECTORS AND THEIR INTERESTS

The directors of the company during the year are listed on page 2.

### RESERVES POLICY

It is the policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds, which are the free reserves of the charity, at a level that equates to not less than 3 months unrestricted expenditure. This provides sufficient funds to cover management and administration and support costs.

### RISK MANAGEMENT

The Directors have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks.

### DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE ACCOUNTS

Company law requires the directors to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the income and expenditure for that period. In preparing those accounts the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

### AUDIT EXEMPTION

The Directors are satisfied that the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011. These accounts have not, therefore, been subjected to audit.

### APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

At every annual general meeting one-third of the Directors who are subject to retirement by rotation shall retire from office. The Directors to retire by rotation shall be those who have been the longest in office.

The Directors may appoint a person who is willing to act to be a Director, either to fill a vacancy or as an additional Director. A Director so appointed shall hold office only until the next following annual general meeting and shall not be taken into account in determining the Directors who are to retire by rotation at the meeting. If not reappointed at such annual general meeting, he shall vacate office at the conclusion thereof.

A Director who retires at an annual general meeting may, if willing to act, be reappointed. If he is not reappointed, he shall retain office until the meeting appoints someone in his place, or if it does not do so, until the end of the meeting.

## **TRUSTEE INDUCTION AND TRAINING**

New trustees receive orientation information to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Constitution, the decision making processes, the company plan and recent financial performance of the charity.

The company aims to have twice annual board/staff events where board members get the opportunity to meet employees, other trustees, and see examples of the company's work. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

## **ORGANISATION**

The Play House is governed by a Board of Trustees. The board meets at least quarterly. A General Manager has been appointed by the trustees to manage the day to day operations of the charity. To facilitate effective operations, the General Manager has been delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment, artistic and educational activities.

## **FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL REVIEW**

The Play House is a long established and highly respected theatre in education company, known nationally and internationally for its trademark participatory approach. Since it was founded in 1986, the company has developed a strong track record of high quality work in schools. It has an excellent reputation locally and regionally with teachers, local authorities, arts organisations and academic institutions.

Our vision is to stimulate the learning and curiosity of children and young people through engagement in drama experiences. We have a strong ethos of meaningful participation at the heart of everything we do through the creation of rich fictional worlds, where children interact with a range of situations and characters. We strongly believe in the transformational power of theatre.

The Play House continues to weather the storm of a very challenging economic climate impacted by the global pandemic caused by the virus COVID-19. Due to restrictions in place to combat the virus schools closed instantly, impacting significantly on The Play House's potential earned income. COVID-19 continues to create an uncertain future with negative financial impacts on many businesses. Support from Paul Hamlyn's Covid Recovery Fund and Arts Council England's Culture Recovery Fund has enabled The Play House to maintain a core staff of 4 part-time employees, employ freelancers, inflate the company's reserves to pre-pandemic levels and most importantly continue to serve children and young people across Birmingham.

## Key projects and highlights from 2020/21

### **Split Second**

Split Second, a programme for 9-13 years exploring consequences of knife crime in terms of medical and legal implications. Due to COVID-19 The Play House filmed Split Second and it was shared with schools in a digital format. The programme resonated with children and had strong Teacher feedback: "A brilliant and effective workshop that helped the children think about the serious consequences of their actions. It explored the difficult topic of knife crime in a way where children understood the impact without it being too graphic."

### **HOPE**

HOPE is an engaging workshop for primary school children aged 7-11 which explores their experiences and feelings surrounding lockdown through the safe context of a story. Set in the Derbyshire village of Eyam after the plague of 1666, HOPE explores the amazing true story of the villagers' voluntary isolation that saved the lives of the surrounding communities. HOPE was created in response to children's experiences of COVID and gave them a safe environment to make sense of their feelings.

## **Hansel & Gretel**

We continued our ever popular strand of 'Traditional Tales' by filming Hansel & Gretel to share with schools digitally during the time of school closures. This received a positive response and was popular during the winter season.

## **Storybike Fundraiser**

To highlight the impact COVID-19 had on The Play House we developed a fundraising campaign through the Storybike Fundraiser. Malcolm Jennings, Teacher Actor, created and developed the idea. Malcolm borrowed a delivery bike which was adapted to contain a story box. Malcolm visited schools along the number 11 bus route (which took The Play House across the areas of Birmingham where the company first delivered work) and children chose an object from the box, which Malcom created a story about. This helped to raise the company's profile and we raised £1,202 in donations.

## **#ItGetsLighterFromHere**

Culture Central launched the collaborative campaign with arts organisations across the West Midlands, #ItGetsLighterFromHere, for the 2020 Winter Solstice. Artists were commissioned by arts organisations to share creative moments of hope and happiness. The Play House commissioned local artist Ayeisha Siniara to create Love Letters To The Moon.

## **Resilience Quest**

In the Spring of 2021 The Play House worked with 6 students from Birmingham Conservatoire to create Resilience Quest, which was our first programme touring to schools after the second national lockdown. Resilience Quest provided a safe avenue for children to explore healthy coping strategies for dealing with difficult emotions.

## **Careless Talk**

Careless Talk is a thought provoking workshop which explores how a young person could be groomed to take part in extremist action. The piece is set in the fictional town of Brodingham and tells the story of Scarlett, a young member of a minority community, The Circle, who are being persecuted by another group. The children are guided through a process where they find positive and peaceful solutions for the characters in this piece which promotes social responsibility, tolerance and respect. This programme is a long-established touring workshop for The Play House and was the company's first full schools tour after the second national lockdown.

## **By The Riverbank**

We adapted By The Riverbank for an outside public performance as part of Coco Pop-up in Cotteridge Park. The piece was supported by the Sir Barry Jackson Trust, which enabled us to engage over 80 children and their parents/carers for free. By The Riverbank took the children on an interactive storytelling journey across the park to discover the animals and nature present.

By order of the Board

**Laura Killeen**

*Secretary*

*Date 2022*

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT to the Directors of The Play House (B'ham) Limited**

I report on the financial statements of The Play House (B'ham) Limited for the period ended 31 August 2021 on pages 7 to 12.

This report is made solely to the company's members as a body, in accordance with the Companies Act 2006. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in our report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our examination work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner**

As described on page 3 the company's Directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Directors consider that an audit is not required for this year under the Charities Act 2011, s.144(2) ("the 2011 Act") and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination, being a qualified member of ICAEW.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under s.145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under s.145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Directors concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 s.386; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the Companies Act 2006, s.396 and the methods and principles of FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Name: Neil Wilson**

**Relevant professional qualification or body: ICAEW**

**8 Wolverton Road, Snitterfield, Stratford upon Avon, CV37 0HB**

**Date 2022**

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the period ended 31 August 2021

	Notes	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total August 2021 £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total March 2020 £
<b>INCOME</b>	2						
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		<b>101,632</b>	-	<b>101,632</b>	71,453	-	71,453
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>							
Arts education services		-	<b>26,534</b>	<b>26,534</b>	-	74,756	74,756
<b>Income from other trading activities</b>							
Investment income		-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total income</b>		<b>101,632</b>	<b>26,534</b>	<b>128,166</b>	71,453	74,756	146,209
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	3						
<b>Charitable activities</b>		<b>44,782</b>	<b>21,206</b>	<b>65,988</b>	71,453	63,322	134,775
<b>Governance</b>		-	<b>11,016</b>	<b>11,016</b>	-	14,427	14,427
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>44,782</b>	<b>32,222</b>	<b>77,004</b>	71,453	77,749	149,202
<b>NET INCOME</b>		<b>56,850</b>	<b>(5,688)</b>	<b>51,162</b>	-	(2,993)	(2,993)
Net transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>FUND BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD</b>		-	<b>58,641</b>	<b>58,641</b>	-	61,634	61,634
<b>FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD</b>	8	<b>56,850</b>	<b>52,953</b>	<b>£ 109,803</b>	-	58,641	£ 58,641

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

## BALANCE SHEET as at 31 August 2021

	Notes	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	August 2021 £	March 2020 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	5	-	2,694	<b>2,694</b>	1,536
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors		-	22,095	<b>22,095</b>	10,280
Cash at bank and in hand		64,966	28,164	<b>93,130</b>	60,579
		64,966	50,259	<b>115,225</b>	70,859
<b>CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year</b>	6	(8,116)	-	<b>(8,116)</b>	(13,754)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		56,850	50,259	<b>107,109</b>	57,105
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		56,850	52,953	<b>£ 109,803</b>	£ 58,641
<b>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</b>					
General	8	-	52,953	<b>52,953</b>	58,641
Designated		-	-	-	-
<b>RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>	8	56,850	-	<b>56,850</b>	-
	8	56,850	52,953	<b>£ 109,803</b>	£ 58,641

For the period ended 31 August 2021 the company is entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts in accordance with section 476.

The directors have acknowledged their responsibilities for: selecting suitable accounting policies and then applying them consistently; observing the methods and principles in the Charities SORP; making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; stating whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and preparing the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

**Deborah Shaw**

*Director*

*Date 2022*

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS at 31 August 2021

### 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **Company and charitable status**

The Play House (B'ham) Limited, a public benefit entity, is incorporated in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital. Each member has undertaken to contribute to the assets in the event of winding up a sum not exceeding £1. The charity is a registered charity. The registered office is given on page 2.

#### **Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern**

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015)" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), effective 1 January 2015 and the Companies Act 2006.

In preparing the accounts, the directors have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required. At the date of transition in applying the requirements of FRS 102 no adjustments were required.

The directors consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The company does not seek to make a profit, nor can its achievements be measured by normal commercial criteria. In order that a true and fair view should be given in these accounts the directors have set out on page 4 an income and expenditure account which shows the results for the year, but in a format other than the standard formats prescribed in the Companies Act 2006. In the opinion of the directors the format adopted provides greater clarity on the nature of the company's activities and discloses the required information relating thereto. A summary of the more important accounting policies of the company is set out below.

#### **Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities published on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

#### **Charitable status and taxation**

The company is a charity and is therefore exempt under section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 from corporation tax.

#### **Fixed assets and depreciation**

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets held for use by the charity at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation, less estimated residual value based on prices prevailing at the date of acquisition or revaluation, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life as follows:

Premises improvements	-	over 10 years
Computer and other office equipment	-	over 4 years
Minibus	-	over 4 years

## **Income and deferred income**

Income from donations and grants, including capital grants, is included in incoming resources when these are receivable, except when donors specify that donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, in which case the income is deferred until those periods and is included in Deferred Income within creditors.

All other income is accounted for on an accruals basis.

## **Expenditure**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and allocated to the appropriate heading in the accounts. Where expenditure is incurred which relates to more than one cost category, the expenditure is apportioned over all relevant headings. The bases of apportionment used reflect time and resources expended on various activities or in support of those activities.

## **Pensions**

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the profit and loss account as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

## **Fund accounting**

Funds held by the charity are either:

- Unrestricted general funds – these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Directors.
- Designated funds – these are funds set aside by the Directors out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects.
- Restricted funds – these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

<b>2 INCOME</b>	<b>August 2021 £</b>	<b>March 2020 £</b>
<b>GRANTS – RESTRICTED</b>		
The Home Office	-	27,698
Arts Council of England	<b>55,410</b>	15,000
Millennium Point Trust	-	14,690
Royal Academy of Engineering	-	5,565
The Sir Barry Jackson Trust	<b>1,500</b>	2,500
Edward Cadbury Trust	<b>1,000</b>	2,000
West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner	-	2,000
West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner	<b>3,000</b>	-
Rogers & Douglas Trust	-	1,000
Birmingham Repertory Theatre	<b>4,880</b>	-
Dame Elizabeth Cadbury	-	1,000
Birmingham City Council	<b>7,342</b>	-
West Midlands VRU	<b>5,500</b>	-
Woodward Trust	<b>1,500</b>	-
Coventry City Council	-	-
John Feeney Charitable Trust	<b>1,500</b>	-
Birmingham & Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust	-	-
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	<b>20,000</b>	-
	<b>101,632</b>	71,453
<b>ARTS EDUCATION SERVICES – ALL UNRESTRICTED</b>		
Sales to schools and universities	<b>23,153</b>	46,756
Sales to local authorities	<b>3,381</b>	28,000
Other sales	-	-
	<b>26,534</b>	74,756

3 EXPENDITURE	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	March
	£	£	August 2021	2020
			£	£
<b>CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>				
Staff costs	36,756	19,792	<b>56,548</b>	85,034
Payments to freelance artists	2,020	1,087	<b>3,107</b>	41,648
Motor and travel	31	13	<b>44</b>	776
Production expenses	5,975	314	<b>6,289</b>	7,317
Recruitment costs	-	-	-	-
	<b>44,782</b>	<b>21,206</b>	<b>65,988</b>	<b>134,755</b>

The average number of employees on long term contracts in the year was 4 (2019 – 5). The average number of staff on short term contracts was 6 to the nearest full-time equivalent

<b>GOVERNANCE</b>				
Motor and travel	-	-	-	863
Insurance	-	1,449	<b>1,449</b>	1,449
Printing and stationery	-	2,351	<b>2,351</b>	2,172
Telephone and postage	-	1,444	<b>1,444</b>	672
Premises expenses	-	-	-	686
Independent examiner's remuneration	-	1,140	<b>1,140</b>	1,140
Legal & consultancy	-	-	-	175
PR and marketing	-	2,217	<b>2,217</b>	411
Other	-	2,415	<b>2,415</b>	6,859
	-	<b>11,016</b>	<b>11,016</b>	<b>14,427</b>

#### 4 DIRECTORS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The directors of the company are listed on page 2. No remuneration was paid to any Director during the year and no director received any expense reimbursements.

5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Premises	Computer and	Minibus	Total
	improvements	other office		
	£	equipment	£	£
<b>Cost or valuation</b>				
31 March 2020	-	1,536	-	1,536
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Additions	-	1,157	-	1,157
31 August 2021	-	2,693	-	2,693
<b>Depreciation</b>				
31 March 2020	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Charge for the period	-	-	-	-
31 August 2021	-	-	-	-
<b>Net book value</b>				
<b>31 August 2021</b>	-	<b>2,693</b>	-	<b>2,693</b>
31 March 2020	-	1,536	-	1,536

6 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	August	March
	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	448
Other taxes and social security	-	1,445
Accruals	-	161
Deferred income (note 7)	<b>8,116</b>	11,700
	<b>8,116</b>	<b>13,754</b>

## 7 DEFERRED INCOME

	August 2021 £	March 2020 £
Balance at start of year	11,700	-
Amount released to incoming resources	(11,700)	-
Amount deferred in year	8,116	11,700
Balance at end of year	8,116	11,700

## 8 ANALYSIS OF FUNDS MOVEMENTS

	Balance at 31 March 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
<b><u>Undesignated</u></b>	48,641	26,534	(32,222)	-	42,953
These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Directors					
<b><u>Designated</u></b>					
Development reserve for IT and website upgrades	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	58,641	26,534	(32,222)	-	52,953
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
These are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes	-	101,632	(44,782)	-	56,850
	58,641	128,166	(77,004)	-	£ 109,803

**THE PLAY HOUSE (B'HAM) LTD**

England & Wales - Charity number 1034809

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# Accounts

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# The Play House (B'ham) Limited

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(a company limited by guarantee)

## Report and accounts

for the year ended

**30 March 2020**

*Company number 2828276*

*Charity registration number 1034809*



**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 MARCH 2020**

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Directors' report	3 - 5
Independent examiner's report	6
Statement of financial activities	7
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Notes to the financial statements	9 - 12

# The Play House (B'ham) Limited



## **CONSTITUTION**

The Play House (B'ham) Limited trades as Language Alive! and Catalyst and is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association. Charity number 1034809. Company number 2828276.

## **DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES**

Deborah Shaw – Chair  
Elizabeth Norman (resigned 11 November 2019)  
Antonia Beck (resigned 11 November 2019)  
Keshena Bowie (appointed 11 November 2019)  
Daniel Jones  
Faye Meacham  
Celia Reeves  
Sian Roberts  
Gillian Twaite

## **SECRETARY**

Rebecca Wass (resigned 10 November 2019)  
Laura Killeen (appointed 1 November 2019)

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS**

Guest Wilson Chartered Accountants  
8 Wolverton Road  
Snitterfield  
Stratford upon Avon  
Warwickshire  
CV37 0HB

## **REGISTERED OFFICE**

The Play House  
c/o Birmingham Repertory Theatre  
Centenary Square  
Broad Street  
Birmingham  
B1 2EP

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

The directors present their report and accounts for the year ended 30 March 2020.

### **PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY**

The company's principal activity during the year continued to be the provision of arts education services mainly to schools in the West Midlands.

### **LEGAL STATUS OF THE CHARITY**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

### **FINANCIAL RESULTS AND REVIEW OF THE BUSINESS**

The income and expenditure account for the period is set out on page 7. A full review of the business is included elsewhere in this Annual Report.

### **DIRECTORS AND THEIR INTERESTS**

The directors of the company during the year are listed on page 2.

### **RESERVES POLICY**

It is the policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds, which are the free reserves of the charity, at a level that equates to not less than 3 months unrestricted expenditure. This provides sufficient funds to cover management and administration and support costs.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Directors have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks.

### **DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE ACCOUNTS**

Company law requires the directors to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the income and expenditure for that period. In preparing those accounts the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

### **AUDIT EXEMPTION**

The Directors are satisfied that the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011. These accounts have not, therefore, been subjected to audit.

### **APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES**

At every annual general meeting one-third of the Directors who are subject to retirement by rotation shall retire from office. The Directors to retire by rotation shall be those who have been the longest in office.

The Directors may appoint a person who is willing to act to be a Director, either to fill a vacancy or as an additional Director. A Director so appointed shall hold office only until the next following annual general meeting and shall not be taken into account in determining the Directors who are to retire by rotation at the meeting. If not reappointed at such annual general meeting, he shall vacate office at the conclusion thereof.

A Director who retires at an annual general meeting may, if willing to act, be reappointed. If he is not reappointed, he shall retain office until the meeting appoints someone in his place, or if it does not do so, until the end of the meeting.

## **TRUSTEE INDUCTION AND TRAINING**

New trustees receive orientation information to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Constitution, the decision making processes, the company plan and recent financial performance of the charity.

The company aims to have twice annual board/staff events where board members get the opportunity to meet employees, other trustees, and see examples of the company's work. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

## **ORGANISATION**

The Play House is governed by a Board of Trustees. The board meets at least quarterly. A General Manager has been appointed by the trustees to manage the day to day operations of the charity. To facilitate effective operations, the General Manager has been delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment, artistic and educational activities.

## **FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL REVIEW**

The Play House is a long established and highly respected theatre in education company, known nationally and internationally for its trademark participatory approach. Since it was founded in 1986, the company has developed a strong track record of high quality work in schools. It has an excellent reputation locally and regionally with teachers, local authorities, arts organisations and academic institutions.

Our vision is to stimulate the learning and curiosity of children and young people through engagement in drama experiences. We have a strong ethos of meaningful participation at the heart of everything we do through the creation of rich fictional worlds, where children interact with a range of situations and characters. We strongly believe in the transformational power of theatre.

The Play House continues to weather the storm of a very challenging economic climate and huge change and uncertainty in the education sector. Relationships with schools are good and we have been able to maintain levels of income from touring. The business plan identified three key areas of our work, schools, commissions and public performances as a diversity of income sources. Consequently, we have been able to restore our reserves to an appropriate level, providing us with more security in an increasingly uncertain future. However, at the end of March 2020 The Play House's school touring programme was impacted by the global pandemic caused by the virus COVID-19. Due to restrictions in place to combat the virus schools closed instantly, impacting significantly on The Play House's potential earned income. COVID-19 continues to create an uncertain future with negative financial impacts on many businesses.

## Key projects and highlights from 2019/20

### **Follow The Bookworm**

With support from Arts Council England The Play House created a brand new interactive, multi-sensory performance celebrating the joy of sharing stories together. *Follow The Bookworm* toured across libraries in the West Midlands as a free event to enable The Play House to engage with a wider audience and develop new partnerships.

### **Down In The Dumps**

An interactive performance for children aged 7 years plus exploring mental health with their families. Developed from a research and development period in schools *Down In The Dumps* was performed as part of *BEDLAM Festival for Arts and Mental Health* at The REP.

### **Tapestry**

Commissioned by Birmingham City Council and West Mercia Police *Tapestry*, a programme for 13 -18 years preventing violent extremism, toured extensively to schools and community venues across the West

Midlands. The piece has been designated a model of best practice by the Home Office. Tapestry deals with radicalisation due to right wing, racist extremism as well as ISIS inspired ideology and is very popular with schools as means of opening dialogue about a very difficult and sensitive subject.

## **Split Second**

*Split Second*, a programme for 9-13 years exploring consequences of knife crime in terms of medical and legal implications, developed from a research and development period in early 2019 to a fully conceived touring programme in late 2019 and early 2020. Commissioned by the Home Office and with support from the Sir Barry Jackson and Edward Cadbury Trust *Split Second* engaged 690 children across schools in the West Midlands. Teachers highlighted the importance for children still in primary school to have an opportunity to talk about knives and knife crime and to learn the legal and medical consequences.

## **Daughters of Invention**

The Millennium Point Trust commissioned us to deliver our engineering programme, *Daughters of Invention*, to four partner schools across Birmingham working with 240 children. In partnership with the University of Birmingham we work with eight PhD engineer students to engage primary age children in solving a medical engineering challenge. The focus of the programme is raise the aspirations of children and allow them to see the viability of an engineering career, as well as develop the communication and engagement skills of the PhD engineers.

## **Music and Drama Education Expo 2020**

In early 2020 we were delighted to take part in the Music and Drama Education Expo in London. We held a seminar for educators titled, *We are all storytellers: Storytelling Drama and literacy in Primary Schools*. The seminar was received positively and enabled us to reach new contacts nationally and internationally.

## **Public Performances**

We continue to perform adapted versions of our school touring programmes in theatres and other public venues. We are a regular fixture in The REP's First Stages programme of theatre for children and families. We also performed to theatre students at the Birmingham Conservatoire and Warwick University as part of their applied theatre courses.

Language Alive programmes toured in this period

Summer 19: Little Red Hen, The Selfish Giant.

Autumn 19: Hansel & Gretel, Red Riding Hood, Paperchase.

Spring 20: Things That Go Bump.

By order of the Board



**Laura Killeen**

Secretary

24 September 2020

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT to the Directors of The Play House (B'ham) Limited**

I report on the financial statements of The Play House (B'ham) Limited for the year ended 30 March 2020 on pages 7 to 12.

This report is made solely to the company's members as a body, in accordance with the Companies Act 2006. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in our report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our examination work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner**

As described on page 3 the company's Directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Directors consider that an audit is not required for this year under the Charities Act 2011, s.144(2) ("the 2011 Act") and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination, being a qualified member of ICAEW.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under s.145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under s.145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Directors concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 s.386; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the Companies Act 2006, s.396 and the methods and principles of FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Name: Neil Wilson**

**Relevant professional qualification or body: ICAEW**

8 Wolverton Road, Snitterfield, Stratford upon Avon, CV37 0HB

24 September 2020

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT  
AND STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
for the year ended 30 March 2020**

	Notes	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2020 £	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2019 £
<b>INCOME</b>							
	2						
Donations and legacies		71,453	-	71,453	89,578	-	89,578
<b>Income from charitable activities</b>							
Arts education services		-	74,756	74,756	-	85,115	85,115
<b>Income from other trading activities</b>							
Investment income		-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total income</b>		<b>71,453</b>	<b>74,756</b>	<b>146,209</b>	<b>89,578</b>	<b>85,115</b>	<b>174,693</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>							
	3						
Charitable activities		71,453	63,322	134,775	91,258	46,830	138,088
Governance		-	14,427	14,427	1,112	18,373	19,485
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>71,453</b>	<b>77,749</b>	<b>149,202</b>	<b>92,371</b>	<b>65,202</b>	<b>157,573</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>(2,993)</b>	<b>(2,993)</b>	<b>(2,793)</b>	<b>19,913</b>	<b>17,120</b>
Net transfers between funds		-	-	-	2,793	(2,793)	-
<b>FUND BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>61,634</b>	<b>61,634</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>44,514</b>	<b>44,514</b>
<b>FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD</b>	8	<b>-</b>	<b>58,641</b>	<b>£ 58,641</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>61,634</b>	<b>£ 61,634</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

# The Play House (B'ham) Limited



## BALANCE SHEET as at 30 March 2020

	Notes	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	2020 £	2019 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	5	-	1,536	1,536	2,546
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors		-	10,280	10,280	6,855
Cash at bank and in hand		11,700	48,879	60,579	55,231
		11,700	59,159	70,859	62,086
<b>REDITORS: amounts falling due within one year</b>	6	(11,700)	(2,054)	(13,754)	(2,998)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		-	57,105	57,105	59,088
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		-	58,641	£ 58,641	£ 61,634
<b>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</b>					
General	8	-	58,641	58,641	61,634
Designated		-	-	-	-
<b>RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>	8	-	-	-	-
	8	-	58,641	£ 58,641	£ 61,634

For the year ended 30 March 2020 the company is entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts in accordance with section 476.

The directors have acknowledged their responsibilities for: selecting suitable accounting policies and then applying them consistently; observing the methods and principles in the Charities SORP; making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; stating whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and preparing the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

**Deborah Shaw**  
Director

24 September 2020

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS at 30 March 2020

### 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **Company and charitable status**

The Play House (B'ham) Limited, a public benefit entity, is incorporated in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital. Each member has undertaken to contribute to the assets in the event of winding up a sum not exceeding £1. The charity is a registered charity. The registered office is given on page 2.

#### **Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern**

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015)" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), effective 1 January 2015 and the Companies Act 2006.

In preparing the accounts, the directors have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required. At the date of transition in applying the requirements of FRS 102 no adjustments were required.

The directors consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The company does not seek to make a profit, nor can its achievements be measured by normal commercial criteria. In order that a true and fair view should be given in these accounts the directors have set out on page 4 an income and expenditure account which shows the results for the year, but in a format other than the standard formats prescribed in the Companies Act 2006. In the opinion of the directors the format adopted provides greater clarity on the nature of the company's activities and discloses the required information relating thereto. A summary of the more important accounting policies of the company is set out below.

#### **Accounting convention**

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Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

#### **Charitable status and taxation**

The company is a charity and is therefore exempt under section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 from corporation tax.

#### **Fixed assets and depreciation**

All fixed assets are initially recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets held for use by the charity at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation, less estimated residual value based on prices prevailing at the date of acquisition or revaluation, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life as follows:

Premises improvements	-	over 10 years
Computer and other office equipment	-	over 4 years
Minibus	-	over 4 years

## **Income and deferred income**

Income from donations and grants, including capital grants, is included in incoming resources when these are receivable, except when donors specify that donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, in which case the income is deferred until those periods and is included in Deferred Income within creditors.

All other income is accounted for on an accruals basis.

## **Expenditure**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and allocated to the appropriate heading in the accounts. Where expenditure is incurred which relates to more than one cost category, the expenditure is apportioned over all relevant headings. The bases of apportionment used reflect time and resources expended on various activities or in support of those activities.

## **Pensions**

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the profit and loss account as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

## **Fund accounting**

Funds held by the charity are either:

- Unrestricted general funds – these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Directors.
- Designated funds – these are funds set aside by the Directors out of unrestricted general funds for specific future purposes or projects.
- Restricted funds – these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

<b>2</b>	<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>GRANTS – RESTRICTED</b>			
	The Home Office	<b>27,698</b>	-
	Arts Council of England	<b>15,000</b>	14,637
	Millennium Point Trust	<b>14,690</b>	-
	Royal Academy of Engineering	<b>5,565</b>	27,142
	The Sir Barry Jackson Trust	<b>2,500</b>	-
	Edward Cadbury Trust	<b>2,000</b>	-
	West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner	<b>2,000</b>	-
	Rogers & Douglas Trust	<b>1,000</b>	-
	Dame Elizabeth Cadbury	<b>1,000</b>	-
	Birmingham City Council	-	32,500
	Coventry City Council	-	13,000
	John Feeney Charitable Trust	-	1,500
	Birmingham & Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust	-	400
	Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	399
		<b>71,453</b>	<b>89,578</b>
<b>ARTS EDUCATION SERVICES – ALL UNRESTRICTED</b>			
	Sales to schools and universities	<b>46,756</b>	58,200
	Sales to local authorities	<b>28,000</b>	24,825
	Other sales	-	2,090
		<b>74,756</b>	<b>85,115</b>

# The Play House (B'ham) Limited



3 EXPENDITURE	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	2019
	£	£	2020	
			£	£
<b>CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>				
Staff costs	45,947	39,087	<b>85,034</b>	96,702
Payments to freelance artists	21,356	20,292	<b>41,648</b>	33,279
Motor and travel	398	378	<b>776</b>	3,804
Production expenses	3,752	3,565	<b>7,317</b>	4,303
Recruitment costs	-	-	-	-
	<b>71,453</b>	<b>63,322</b>	<b>134,755</b>	<b>138,088</b>

The average number of employees on long term contracts in the year was 4 (2019 – 5). The average number of staff on short term contracts was 6 to the nearest full-time equivalent

<b>GOVERNANCE</b>				
Motor and travel	-	863	<b>863</b>	1,515
Insurance	-	1,449	<b>1,449</b>	969
Printing and stationery	-	2,172	<b>2,172</b>	1,607
Telephone and postage	-	672	<b>672</b>	3,543
Premises expenses	-	686	<b>686</b>	1,441
Auditors remuneration	-	1,140	<b>1,140</b>	950
Legal & consultancy	-	175	<b>175</b>	3,500
PR and marketing	-	411	<b>411</b>	1,275
Other	-	6,859	<b>6,859</b>	4,685
	-	<b>14,427</b>	<b>14,427</b>	<b>19,485</b>

## 4 DIRECTORS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The directors of the company are listed on page 2. No remuneration was paid to any Director during the year and no director received any expense reimbursements.

5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Premises	Computer and	Minibus	Total
	improvements	other office		
	£	equipment	£	£
		£		
<b>Cost or valuation</b>				
1 April 2019	25,446	54,424	14,221	94,091
Disposals	(25,446)	(52,914)	(14,221)	(92,581)
Additions	-	26	-	26
30 March 2020	-	1,536	-	1,536
<b>Depreciation</b>				
1 April 2019	25,445	51,880	14,220	91,545
Disposals	(25,445)	(51,880)	(14,220)	(91,545)
Charge for the year	-	-	-	-
30 March 2020	-	-	-	-
<b>Net book value</b>				
30 March 2020	-	1,536	-	1,536
1 April 2019	1	2,544	1	2,546

6 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2020	2019
	£	£
Trade creditors	448	2,998
Other taxes and social security	1,445	-
Accruals	161	-
Deferred income (note 7)	11,700	-
	<b>13,754</b>	<b>2,998</b>

# The Play House (B'ham) Limited



7 DEFERRED INCOME	2020	2019
	£	£
Balance at start of year	-	30,485
Amount released to incoming resources	-	(30,485)
Amount deferred in year	<b>11,700</b>	-
Balance at end of year	<b>11,700</b>	-

8 ANALYSIS OF FUNDS MOVEMENTS	Balance at 1 April 2019	Incoming resources	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance at 30 March 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
<b>Undesignated</b>	51,634	74,756	(77,749)	-	48,641
These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Directors					
<b>Designated</b>					
Development reserve for IT and website upgrades	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>61,634</b>	<b>74,756</b>	<b>(77,749)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>58,641</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
These are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes					
	-	71,453	(71,453)	-	-
	<b>61,634</b>	<b>146,209</b>	<b>(149,202)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>58,641</b>