



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day 1	Month April	Year 2022		Day 31	Month March	Year 2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	The Spark Foundation		
Other names charity is known by			
Registered charity number (if any)	1097058		
Charity's principal address	Hugh House		
	Hugh Place		
	Faversham, Kent		
	Postcode	ME137AD	

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Danny Chesterman	Chair		
2	Irene Hall			
3	Sheila Patel			
4	Tracey Sorrell			
5	Kirsty Ginn			
6	James Whitton	Treasurer		
7	Cathy Walker			
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Independent Examiner	Mrs Jennifer Sherwood FCA	1 The Heath, Whitstable, CT5 3HJ
Bankers	Charities Aid Foundation	CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, West Malling, Kent ME19 4TA

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Trust Deed
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Interviewed by Chair and appointed by Board decision

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Potential Trustees are invited to attend a meeting of the existing Trustees before a decision is made on appointment so that both parties can be satisfied that the appointment is appropriate.

We have a document defining the responsibilities of Trustees which is explained to all new Trustees.

The Board reviews annually risks and actions to mitigate them.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The Objects of the Trust are:

- (a) to relieve young people who are homeless or in financial need
- (b) to relieve young people who are suffering from mental or physical sickness;
- (c) to advance the education of young people;
- (d) to promote the training of young people who through their social and economic circumstances are unable to obtain employment;
- (e) to provide facilities for the leisure time occupation of young people in

order to improve their conditions of life and develop their physical, mental and spiritual capacities that they may grow to full maturity as individuals and members of society

by providing them with grants or loans in cash or in kind or in such other ways as the trustees in their absolute discretion think fit

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Foundation made 136 individual grants (amounting to £52,786 in total in the calendar year 2022) compared to 167 (amounting to £55,236) in the previous year 2021. The successful applicants came via 71 different agencies in all parts of England and Wales, 17 of which had never previously applied to the Foundation. The number of grants applied for fell slightly from 303 in 2021 to 250 in 2022, partly we suspect as a result of Spark introducing a requirement for applicants for driving lessons to have passed their theory tests first. As in the previous year, our income was not sufficient to meet all applications even where they met our tight criteria. To keep within our means, we had to turn down 105 (compared to 136 in 2021). The average grant rose to £388, up from £331 (in 2021).

Applications were received for a variety of needs. For example, for young people who have left care, the Foundation provided key goods such as washing machines, carpets and beds. Grants were also given for a wide variety of other needs, for example, laptops, driving lessons, training courses. Grants were mainly given to young people in the age ranges 16 – 20 and 21 – 25.

The Foundation's application form asks for the applicant's age, gender, nationality and ethnicity and whether or not the applicant has a disability. This information does not have to be supplied for an application to be considered. Twice a year the Foundation reviews this information both for applications it has approved and ones it has rejected. It uses this information, and data on the type of grants it has approved, to consider whether any changes should be made to its Grants Policy, website and application forms. The Foundation treats all applicants equally regardless of nationality, religion or ethnic background.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. Benefits are in the form of grants and nearly 100% of the Foundation's annual expenditure relates to grant payments.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

As usual, the main achievement was in giving out over 95% of our income in grants, whilst continuing to manage a high number of applications with a minimal administrative cost (less than 5% of income). This is all achieved through the voluntary services of a small Board of Trustees and a part time administrator.

We continued the practice of determining grants entirely virtually. This was originally introduced during the pandemic to handle the high number of applications and adopt safe methods of work, but we have found that it works efficiently and have therefore continued the practice.

Following year on year increases each year since our inception, 2022 saw a slight dip in the number of applications, due partly we suspect to tighter criteria we introduced. In order to keep within Spark's budget, we applied rigorous priorities within our grant policy and made sure any changes are reflected in the website.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The policy of the Trust is to maintain enough money in our accounts to cover expenses and a buffer of £5000 towards grants in the next quarter.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Since 2014 the main donor to the Foundation has been the Tunstall Jubilee Foundation (TJF). The Foundation would like to record its thanks to TJF for this funding. It was agreed with TJF that the Foundation would submit an application for funding in January each year. This enables the Foundation to plan its grant giving for the next financial year.

We were also delighted to receive another generous donation from the Fostering Co-operative to supplement our annual grant from the Tunstall Jubilee Foundation. This enabled us to disperse a similar amount in grants as in recent years. It is clear that economic uncertainty and a rising cost of living continues to impact on the most vulnerable. Spark is therefore continuing to explore other complementary funding sources.

The Spark Foundation does not rent premises but it does pay a small amount for administration support. As in previous years, almost all The Foundation's expenditure is in the form of grants.

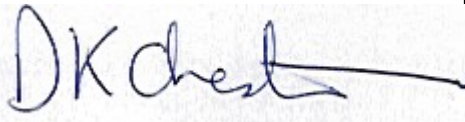
The Foundation has a grant making policy and this is reviewed annually

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Daniel	Chesterman
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	1 Dec 2023	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Spark Foundation

No (if any)
1097058

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
4/1/2022

To

Period end date
3/31/2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations and gifts	47	-	-	47	8,000
Grants	65,000	-	-	65,000	28,440
Investment income	195	-	-	195	3
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	65,242	-	-	65,242	36,443
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	65,242	-	-	65,242	36,443
A3 Payments					
Administration fees	2,100	-	-	2,100	2,100
Bank charges	72	-	-	72	89
Printing, postage and stationery costs	196	-	-	196	141
Independent Examination Fee	315	-	-	315	300
Website and data protection costs	35	-	-	35	223
	-	-	-	-	-
Grants payable	59,880	-	-	59,880	54,584
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	62,599	-	-	62,599	57,437
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	62,599	-	-	62,599	57,437
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,643	-	-	2,643	20,994
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	14,256	-	-	14,256	35,250
Cash funds this year end	16,899	-	-	16,899	14,256

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	CAF Cash account	13,182	-	-
	CAF Gold account	3,717	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	16,899	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

The Spark Foundation

On accounts for the year
ended

31 March 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1097058

Set out on pages

1-2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended ~~31~~ / ~~03~~ / 2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

~~The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date: 27 NOV 2023

Name:

MRS JENNIFER SHERWOOD FCA

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

ICAEW - Chartered Accountant

(if any):

Address:

1 The Heath
Tankerton, Whitstable
Kent, CT5 3HJ

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Nothing to record.
Financial pages prepared and checked.