

SOFTPOWER EDUCATION.COM

(A company limited by guarantee)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

Charity number 1098936

Company number 04638390

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 January 2024

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List of Acronyms

AEC	Amagezi Education Centre
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Fisheries and Rural Affairs
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IT	Information Technology
IWTCF	Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund
KCC	Kyabirwa Children's Centre
KSN	Kyomya Special Needs
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MIDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NSSF	National Social Security Fund
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
PAYE	Pay As You Earn
PMP	Performance Management Process
PS	Primary School
SAVE	South African Volunteering Experiences
SC	Sub County
SEN	Special Educational Needs
SPE	Soft Power Education
SPEC	Soft Power Education.com
SPH	Soft Power Health
TEFL	Teaching English as a Foreign Language
TUSC	Transporting Uganda's Sick Children
TEL	Telephone
UK	United Kingdom
UGX	Ugandan Shillings
UN	United Nations
UPE	Universal Primary Education
URA	Uganda Revenue Authority
USA	United States of America
USL	Uganda Sign Language
UWEC	Uganda Wildlife Education Centre
VSLA	Village Savings and Loan Association

Legal and administrative information

Constitution

SoftPower Education.com is a company limited by guarantee (incorporated on 15 January 2003) and a registered charity (registered on 11 August 2003) governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Charity number: 1098936

Company number: 04638390

Directors and trustees

The directors of SoftPower Education.com ("the charity" or "the company" or "SoftPower") are its trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the trustees. The trustees are elected by a General Meeting of the board and serve for a period of two years or more, subject to certain rotation provisions.

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

Hannah Killingly Small (Chair of Trustees)

Emma Oxnam

Moir Oliver

Secretary

James Warrender Bayne

Registered Office

55 Guildhall Street

Bury St Edmunds IP33 1QF

Bankers

HSBC plc

Grosvenor Court

149 Whiteladies Road

Bristol BS8 2RR

Solicitors

Russell Jones & Walker Solicitors

324 Grays Inn Road

London WC1X 8DH

Accountants

Knights Lowe

Eldo House

Kempson Way, Suffolk Business Park

Bury St Edmunds IP32 7AR

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 January 2024

The trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year to 31st January 2024.

The legal and administrative information set out on the preceding page forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Objects of the Charity

SoftPower Education is a non-religious British registered charity working closely within the local community of Jinja, Uganda.

The objects of SoftPower are to:

- Educate children and adults about cultures other than their own with a view to fostering mutual understanding between people of different backgrounds, and
- Advance the education of children, mainly in the primary sector, in developing countries through the provision of teachers, equipment and the building of schools.

SoftPower's original 7-year plan, which started in 2003 has been extended and is reviewed each year. The plan is primarily aimed at refurbishing, up to government standard, the 20 primary schools in the Jinja area. The schools are in varying states of disrepair and with the help of volunteers and donations that the charity receives it is able to build new classrooms, refurbish old ones and assist with teaching programmes.

Softpower's programmes to achieve these objects are:

Pre-School Education

- Our two pre-schools, for 180 children from the communities of Buwenda and Kyabirwa, provide free of charge, high quality pre-primary education ensuring readiness for primary education. Over the past 20 years, our pre-schools have developed an outstanding track record through our fun and interactive approach to learning. Teachers from primary schools often praise our graduates and their readiness for the next step in their education.

Special Educational Needs (SEN)

- Working across 5 therapy clinic locations we offer free of charge physiotherapy and occupational therapy to over 100 families at Walukuba West Primary School, Kyomya Primary School, St Francis Health Clinic (Mbiko), Kyabirwa Special Needs Clinic and Bugembe Clinic. In addition, we support 24 children with disabilities to access daily education at Kyomya Primary School by running a residential unit, ensuring they are cared for by two full time matrons.

School Infrastructure Programme (SIP)

- We partner with government primary schools to ensure pupils are learning in safe and conducive environments. Our work focuses on improving and/or building classrooms, pit latrines, water catchment systems, solar installations and teachers' accommodation. We are known as a trusted partner thanks to over 20 years of successful partnerships with local government.

Pre-School Achievements 2023/24

We continued to run our two pre-schools, providing free of charge pre-school education to children in the communities of Kyabirwa and Buwenda, closing the year with 168 pupils.

All children received their free uniform of t-shirt and shorts, and we were extremely proud to be able to continue offering porridge to all of the children on three mornings each week. The teachers continued to see the benefits of this free porridge with improved attendance and concentration in class.

The yearly average attendance for the whole year was 87% across the two pre-schools. Buwenda Pre-School (BPS) Top Class had an average attendance for the year of 88%, with Term 3 having the best attendance of 92% for the term. BPS Middle class had 88% average for the year and BPS Baby Class had an average of 87%. At Kyabirwa Children's Centre (KCC), Top class had 90% average attendance for the year, Middle Class had 87% and Baby Class had 84%.

In February 2023, we were pleased to host a Jolly Phonics Training Course with an external facilitator. In addition to training our own pre-school team and SEN team, we also welcomed teachers from the SOUL Foundation Pre-School and several P1 teachers from local government primary schools.

Our children benefited from this renewed enthusiasm for Jolly Phonics and we held two Jolly Phonics Days focusing on specific sounds for each class. The activities ranged from popcorn making to dinosaur sensory bins. Each Jolly Phonics Day had new and exciting activities with homemade resources & snacks that related to the sounds!

An additional training session was also delivered by our Special Needs Teacher concerning appropriate language and how to treat children with SEN in the classroom. The teachers again learnt a lot on the training but could do with an additional training to further their knowledge.

New PTA and SMC members were voted in during the year and the members supported us in all decisions involving the pre-schools. Regular meetings were held throughout the year and an 'Expectations Agreement' was agreed between the PTA/SMC and SPE to ensure clarity of expectations from both sides. The new members were delighted to receive t-shirts and all members received an end of year gift of essential items such as soap, sugar and rice.

As an incentive and a show of appreciation to our children, at the end of Term 1 and Term 2 we gave a certificate and a prize to 6 children in each class. The 6 categories included best attendance & time keeping, highest assessment grade, most improved, most helpful and great participation. Gifts such as cups, plates, bowls and water bottles were joyfully received.

The teachers continued to actively monitor the performance of each child through continuous assessments and end of term assessments. Parents were always updated through end of term reports and home visits conducted during the school holidays.

In 2021, following a visit from our partners at Dentaaid, we introduced a daily tooth brushing programme to encourage oral hygiene amongst the pupils. We were delighted to welcome Dentaaid again in 2023 and they were encouraged to see the positive impact of the daily programme with very few of our pupils needing dental treatment.

We celebrated Teacher's Day on October 5th with a cake to say thank you to our teachers for the hard work and dedication they put into teaching the children at the pre-schools. They were very happy to be appreciated and enjoyed the cake. Our top-class pupils were also delighted to mark the end of their three years with us at the end of year graduation party. We were very proud and happy to see them graduate and ready to take the next step in their education journey. We gave each Top-Class child a pack of scholastic resources to help them with the P1 requirements. We were also honored to welcome the Keshwala Group, who gave each Top-Class Parent a home package containing rice, sugar soap etc.

School Infrastructure Programme Achievements 2023/24

It was wonderful to welcome back some volunteers in 2023. Groups from Latymer Upper School, John Conroy and Dean Jacobs came with volunteers and contributed to the School Infrastructure Programme. John's group, alongside our own team, painted the two-classroom block that we built at Busiya 1 Parents' Primary School. Students from Latymer Upper School painted some incredible teaching aids on the walls, completing that project. The team from The University of Nebraska with Dean Jacobs provided some crucial man power as we embarked on our final building project - the complete renovation of Buwenda Pre-School.

We had hoped to build a new building for the pre-school but unfortunately this was not possible once the decision to close SPE in Uganda had been made. Building the Buwenda Pre-School was the first building project of SPE over 20 years ago so it seemed fitting that the renovation should also be the last project. A donation from Gulf for Good, enabled us to completely transform the building with the demolition and rebuild of the baby classroom, the removal and replacement of the roof, the replacement of all wooden doors and windows with metallic versions and new plastering across the entire building. In addition, a new pit latrine was built and the fence around the compound was completely replaced.

Special Needs Programme Achievements 2023/24

Throughout 2023 we continued to offer free of charge physiotherapy and occupational therapy to children living with disabilities through our therapy clinics in 4 locations across Jinja.

In October 2023, we celebrated World Cerebral Palsy Day and welcomed families from our programme to come together to celebrate their children. Motivational speakers from both the parents and healthcare professionals joined the celebrations.

We continued to operate the Kyomya Residential Unit at Kyomya Primary School providing subsidised places to 24 children with disabilities.

We have previously partnered with BISS Bakeries enabling some of our parents to take part in their bakery training programme to give them a sustainable livelihood. We were thrilled when two of our parents were able to join a further 2-week training course.

On behalf of the Trustees.

E Oxnam

Director

Date.....

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of SoftPower Education.com

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 January 2024 which are set out on pages 13 to 18.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

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 section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- 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 trustees 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 section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 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.

James Knights FCA

*Knights Lowe
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Kempson Way
Suffolk Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7AR*

SOFTPOWER EDUCATION.COM
Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 January 2024
(including income and expenditure account)

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total funds
		2024	2024	2024	2023
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources					
Activities for generating funds:					
T Shirt, pottery & knitting sales		1,059		1,059	0
Donations	3	103,240	-	103,240	111,193
Gift aid tax reclaimed		7,393		7,393	7,262
Fundraising		707		707	2,900
Interest received		1,325		1,325	230
Other income		5,031		5,031	18,933
Total incoming resources		118,756	-	118,756	140,518
Less cost of generating funds	4	8,705	-	8,705	6,630
Net incoming resources available for charitable application		110,050	-	110,050	133,888
Charitable expenditure					
Direct costs of schools project	4	132,621	-	132,621	155,319
Support costs of managing the schools project	4	25,176		25,176	2,135
Managing and administering the charity	4	9,950		9,950	6,800
Total charitable expenditure/resources expended		167,747	-	167,747	164,254
Movement in total funds for the year - net income for the year		(57,696)	-	(57,696)	(30,366)
Foreign exchange differences		-309			
Transfer between funds		-			
Fund balances brought forward		153,242		153,242	183,608
Total funds carried forward	9	95,237	-	95,237	153,242

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

SOFTPOWER EDUCATION.COM
Balance Sheet at 31 January 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
Fixed Assets		£	£
Tangible assets	6	0	269
Current assets			
Debtors	7	6,005	8,971
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>102,967</u>	<u>151,426</u>
		108,972	160,397
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	13,735	7,424
Net current assets		95,237	152,973
Total assets less current liabilities		95,237	153,242
Total assets		<u>95,237</u>	<u>153,242</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted	9	95,237	153,242
Restricted	9	-	-
		<u>95,237</u>	<u>153,242</u>

These Accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small entities.

For the financial year ended 31 January 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 Companies Act 2006; and no notice has been deposited under section 476. The trustees acknowledge their responsibility for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, so far as applicable to the company.

Approved by the trustees on October 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Emma Oxnam

Company number 04638390

SOFTPOWER EDUCATION.COM
Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 January 2024

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a Basis of accounting

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. 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 on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

b Incoming resources

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Income from the sale of T-shirts, sponsorships and other fund raising activities are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. The value of the free services provided by volunteers has not been included.

c Resources expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis.

d Depreciation

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life, which in all cases is estimated at 3 years. Individual assets costing £500 or more are capitalised at cost.

e Foreign currency

Donations received and resources expended during the period in Uganda have been translated into sterling at the average rate of exchange for the year. Any gains or losses on exchange are included in the Statement of Financial Activities. Foreign currency balances are translated into sterling at the exchange rates prevailing on the balance sheet date. Any gains or losses on exchange are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

f Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

2 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 a winding-up is limited to £1.

SOFTPOWER EDUCATION.COM
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

	2024 £	2023 £
3 Donations		
General donations	<u>103,240</u>	<u>111,193</u>
4 Total resources expended		
Cost of generating funds		
General fund-raising and marketing expenditure	<u>8,705</u>	<u>6,630</u>
Direct cost of schools project		
Building materials and tools	7,946	15,956
Project staff costs	123,540	110,133
Miscellaneous other direct project costs	<u>1,135</u>	<u>29,230</u>
	<u>132,621</u>	<u>155,319</u>
Support costs of managing the schools projects		
Wages and salaries	25,176	-
Transport depreciation	-	-
Plant and machinery depreciation	-	-
Office equipment depreciation	-	396
Communications and office costs	<u>-</u>	<u>1,739</u>
	<u>25,176</u>	<u>2,135</u>
Management and administration of the charity		
Bank charges	639	500
Other management and administration costs	<u>9,310</u>	<u>6,300</u>
	<u>9,950</u>	<u>6,800</u>

SOFTPOWER EDUCATION.COM
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

	2024	2023
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>

5 Staff costs and numbers

Salaries and wages	<u>148,716</u>	<u>110,133</u>
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The average weekly number of employees (including paid volunteers) during the year, calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2024	2023
Admin staff	3	3
Project staff	15	20
Volunteers	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>18</u>	<u>23</u>

6 Tangible fixed assets

	<u>Plant & machinery</u>	<u>Furniture & fittings</u>	<u>Motor vehicles</u>	<u>Computer equipment</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Cost					
At 1 February 2023	18,836	3,156	61,883	18,354	102,229
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-61,883	-	-
At 31 January 2024	<u>18,836</u>	<u>3,156</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,354</u>	<u>40,346</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 February 2023	18,836	3,156	61,883	18,086	101,961
Charge for the year	-	-	-	268	268
Disposals	-	-	-61,883	-	-
At 31 January 2024	<u>18,836</u>	<u>3,156</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,354</u>	<u>40,346</u>
Net book value					
At 31 January 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 January 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>268</u>	<u>268</u>

SOFTPOWER EDUCATION.COM
Notes to the financial statements (continued)

7 Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Gift Aid receivable	6,005	7,241
Other debtors	-	1,730
	6,005	8,971

8 Creditors	2024	2023
	£	£
Accountancy	2,725	1,350
Other creditors	11,010	6,074
	13,735	7,424

9 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	-	-	269
Net current assets	95,237	-	95,237	152,973
	95,237	-	95,237	153,242

The restricted fund related to funding received in respect of the Murchison Outreach DEFRA-IWTCF ((Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund) project.

10 Movement in funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
As at 1 February 2023	153,242	-	153,242
Movement in the year	(57,696)	-	(57,696)
Foreign exchange differences	(309)	-	(309)
Transfer between funds	-	-	-
As at 31 January 2024	95,237	-	95,237

11 Related party transactions

Some of the expenses of the charity have been met as a donation in kind by certain of the trustees. The value of these expenses and services could not be quantified and therefore has not been included in these financial statements.

There were no other related party transactions.

No trustee received any remuneration in their capacity as trustee.

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<http://www.virtualcabinetportal.com/WhatIsUTC>

Signature 1

Signed by Emma Oxnam using authentication code YS9ZOW5Jck1TaS9O at IP address 64.227.39.244, on 2024/10/30 11:29:03 Z.

Emma Oxnam's e-mail address is: eoynam@gmail.com.