BLUE SMILE PROJECT

England & Wales · Charity number 1139279

Details

Other names	BLUE SMILE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	07411348
Registered	2010-12-08
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Blue Smile 47-51 Norfolk Street Cambridge CB1 2LD
Phone	01223 314725
Email	info@bluesmile.org.uk
Website	www.bluesmile.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 1) FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC, TO ENHANCE THE MENTAL HEALTH OF, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE, IN PARTICULAR IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND SURROUNDING AREAS, THROUGH COUNSELLING, SUPPORT AND THERAPEUTIC USE OF THE ARTS; AND2) FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC, TO SUPPORT SCHOOLS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, IN PARTICULAR IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND SURROUNDING AREAS, IN ADDRESSING THE MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS OF, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE APPROPRIATELY.

Activities: Blue Smile provides counselling and therapy for pupils in Cambridgeshire schools between the ages of 3 and 13 during a critical window of opportunity for change. The service is designed to complement each school's pastoral provision and to deliver the kind of specialist early intervention which prevents longer-term emotional and behavioural problems

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND SURROUNDING AREAS
- Cambridgeshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£504,474	£559,427	£367,265	19
2024-07-31	£551,943	£530,271	£422,218	18
2023-07-31	£469,766	£470,335	-	-
2022-07-31	£500,309	£401,478	£401,115	8
2021-07-31	£494,475	£380,928	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Sarah Nolasco	Chair	2020-01-20
Chris O'Connor		2020-07-06
Dr Tania Clarke		2024-11-19
Karen Glisson		2024-11-19
Nicholas Patrick Froy		2022-07-18
Olivia Abigail Sofia Rowlands		2026-03-24
Rachael Eleanor Armitage		2026-03-24

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BLUE SMILE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1139279

Accounts

Docusign Envelope ID: D72AF54D-A153-4DD5-BD5A-421697FA7F18

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 07411348

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1139279

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Unaudited independently examined financial statements

31 July 2025

Docusign Envelope ID: D72AF54D-A153-4DD5-BD5A-421697FA7F18

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial statements

Year ended 31 July 2025

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Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report

Year ended 31 July 2025

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Companies Act 2006 and 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 published in October 2019.

A letter from the chair of trustees

Blue Smile continues to offer much-valued support for primary-age children through focused art and play therapy. The need for such support is more pressing than ever. We know from the stories we hear from children, parents, carers and teachers that the work Blue Smile does transforms children's lives and their ability to flourish and learn. We also know from our data and evaluation over 15 years of the charity's operation that what we do works.

While the evolving landscape has required us to adapt and make changes to the way in which we deliver services, Blue Smile remains committed to its core mission of providing high-quality, longer-term therapeutic support to the children who most need it in our region. We continue to work in close partnership with primary schools across Cambridgeshire and neighbouring counties to bring our services to children within the school environment.

This year we have significantly developed our groupwork offer, where a trained therapist works with children in small groups. The evaluation of this work shows promising results. This has enabled us to reach more children and to help children address problems at an early stage; while ensuring we can provide one-to-one support for those who need it.

We have also adapted to recognise the fact that over time, more of our services are provided by fully qualified and paid therapists rather than trainees carrying out placements with us on a voluntary basis. This is a reflection of both supply of trainees and of the increased complexity of issues and needs with which children are presenting. The work Blue Smile does is specialised, bearing in mind that a significant proportion of the children we help are either eligible for Pupil Premium, an indicator of high socio-economic need, (50% as compared to a national average of 24.6%) or on their school's Special Educational Needs register (45% as compared to a national average of 13.6%) or both (24%).

Trustees have carefully considered the financial model whereby schools contribute a proportion of the cost of Blue Smile services. We observe that making the contribution has become a more difficult decision for many schools as headteachers are managing tight budgets with many calls on those budgets. We have continued to hold down the contribution we ask from schools, meeting inflationary pressures on our own budget through the charitable contribution and of course by always having an eye to to efficiencies in delivery and back-office activities. We have also flexed our model, offering a smaller service to some schools for a smaller contribution and working with schools to ensure that we can continue to ensure we meet the needs of the most disadvantaged, as is written into our charitable objectives.

We are developing plans to extend our service to children who are unable to attend school and where possible to support them to return to school. Our evaluation shows that support from Blue Smile can help children improve their attendance at school and we want to build on this important aspect of our support.

Having explored with various commercial and academic organisations the options for digitising some of our support services, we have come to the conclusion that a digital delivery model is not the right approach at the moment for the specialist support we offer.

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Clinical quality and high standards of safeguarding are at the heart of what we do. I am grateful to the charity's Clinical and Ethics Group, and especially to those who volunteer their time on that committee, for their continued expert oversight and advice to the Board. We again held a whole-organisation training day in Sept 2024 with a focus on safeguarding for staff, volunteers and trustees. Safeguarding is on the agenda for every Board meeting, and we've been delighted to welcome Karen Glisson to the Board this year. Karen has an extensive background in Safeguarding and acts as our lead Safeguarding Trustee.

In 2025 we celebrated our 15th birthday. We held an event generously supported by Downing College for many of those who have supported and been involved with Blue Smile over its history.

As ever, I want to express our deep gratitude to all our funders and supporters. We are very fortunate to have the support of so many in our local community in Cambridgeshire and we are also extremely grateful to all the trusts and foundations who have supported us this year. Thank you to our generous individual donors and especially to our amazing Friends of Blue Smile group, who continue to fundraise and advocate tirelessly for Blue Smile. It goes without saying that we could not do our work without all of their support.

In early 2026 I will be stepping down as Chair, after more than seven years in post. It has been a privilege to chair the Board and support our amazing staff team and our volunteers. Blue Smile will always hold a special place in my heart and I wish the organisation all the best for the future.

Naomi Mallick

Naomi Mallick - Chair of the Board of Trustees

A letter from the Charity Director

Blue Smile reached our 15th birthday in 2025 - an opportunity to celebrate the impact of our work and the community who make it possible. Since 2010, over 3000 children have accessed our specialist support to help them enjoy happier childhoods and build brighter futures.

Our birthday allowed us to reflect on how things have changed, and how our work has evolved.

There remains significant need for accessible, specialist mental health support across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Blue Smile is one of very few organisations that works with primary-age children across the region.

In and around Cambridge, Blue Smile is well known among education professionals, with an established reputation for providing excellent mental health support and a large network of qualified therapists. In north Cambridgeshire, we are not widely known and have historically struggled to find therapists to deliver services.

Together with this, we have significantly expanded our provision of psychoeducational groupwork - as a cost-effective way to reach more children with specialist support, while also making best use of a limited therapist workforce - which is now firmly embedded as one of Blue Smile's core services. With increased numbers involved, we were able to conduct a detailed evaluation of groupwork this year, showing that groups, even over the limited 6-week timeframe, had a significant positive impact for children, including those eligible for Pupil Premium and those with Special Educational Needs.

We are finding increasingly that schools are requesting a package of Blue Smile support that includes a mix of both 1-1 therapy and groupwork. To reflect this, and to help us meet our objective to reach more children in north Cambridgeshire, we took the decision in 2024-5 to restructure our Clinical Services Team, introducing two new Service Coordinator roles from October 2025 with one focused on expanding our work to reach more children in north Cambridgeshire and one supporting services in the south of the county.

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In spite of the challenging fundraising climate, Blue Smile is in a sustainable financial position and, thanks to significant core multi-year funding from The Leathersellers Foundation, the Henry Smith Charity and the Binks Trust, has been able to invest in building our resilience over the last 3 years.

While we have not managed to secure new multi-year core costs funding to replace these major grants that are ending, and have budgeted for a deficit budget in 2025-26, we have sufficient reserves to enable this. We anticipate increases in both service and fundraising income in 2026-27 and are confident we have capacity in the team to achieve this. We are investing in support from a Fundraising Consultant to help the trustees and team develop our fundraising strategy for the next few years.

We are confident that we can successfully articulate both the needs of our beneficiaries and the benefits of our early intervention approach, together with evidence of our positive impact.

In the coming years, we will continue to offer high-quality, arts-based 1:1 therapy and groupwork in Cambridgeshire schools to improve the mental health and life chances of children, alongside expanding geographically and piloting new approaches to support children in the community.

Anne Kent-Taylor

Anne Kent-Taylor - Charity Director

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Blue Smile Project
Charity registration number	1139279
Company registration number	07411348
Principal office and registered office	47-51 Norfolk Street Cambridge CB1 2LD

The trustees

The trustees who served during the year and at the date of approval were as follows:

Naomi Mallick (Chair)
Christopher O'Connor (Treasurer)
Tania Clarke (Appointed 19/11/2024)
Nicholas Froy
Karen Glisson (Appointed 19/11/2024)
Sarah Nolasco
Hannah Buxton (Resigned 11/09/2024)
Angela McKeown (Resigned 28/07/2025)

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The Patron	Professor Sir Simon Baron-Cohen
Charity Director	Anne Kent-Taylor
Independent examiner	A Robinson FCA Lovewell Blake LLP Chartered accountants First Floor Suite 2 Hillside Business Park Bury St Edmunds IP32 7EA
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank Plc PO Box 250, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT The Charity Bank Limited Fosse House 182 High Street Tonbridge TN9 1BE
Solicitors	Mills & Reeve LLP Botanic House 100 Hills Road Cambridge CB2 1PH
Website	www.bluesmile.org.uk

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Objectives and activities

Objectives:

Blue Smile's charitable objectives as set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association are:

- For the benefit of the public, to enhance the mental health of, in particular but not exclusively, disadvantaged children and young people, in particular in Cambridgeshire and surrounding areas, through counselling, support and therapeutic use of the arts; and
- For the benefit of the public, to support schools and other educational institutions, in particular in Cambridgeshire and surrounding areas, in addressing the mental health needs of, in particular but not exclusively, disadvantaged children and young people appropriately.

Vision:

A world where happier children have brighter futures.

Mission:

To transform the mental health and life chances of children across Cambridgeshire.

Public benefit statement:

The Trustees have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. The charity offers subsidised services to schools and works hard to ensure that the contribution it asks schools to make is fair and proportionate in the context of our aim to reach as many beneficiaries as possible, with a focus on those who face the most disadvantage. Of the children referred to the one-to-one service in the reporting year 50% were eligible for Pupil Premium indicating high socio-economic need (national average: 24.6%); 45% were on their school's Special Educational Needs register (national average: 13.6%); 24% were both eligible for Pupil Premium and had Special Educational Needs.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011.

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Achievements and performance

Providing a clinical service in Partner Schools

Blue Smile provides arts-based therapy and mentoring in Partner Schools in Cambridge to children aged 3-13. A Blue Smile team, led by our School Clinical Lead for that school, goes into each Partner School on the school's 'Blue Smile Day' each week in term time. Partner Schools also act as our training and development hubs, providing clinical placements for trainee therapists who undertake their placements alongside the qualified therapists who work for us in Blue Smile schools.

We provide intensive one-to-one, long-term therapy (generally weekly in term-time for 20 weeks). Where Partner Schools contribute to a full service, we offer one to one support for 12-16 children per week in term-time; we have offered a smaller service in one school this year.

In addition, we provide support in the form of an offer tailored to each school including assemblies, psychoeducational groups for children, advice for parents, and formal and informal support for school staff. The approach is a 'whole school' and 'whole family' approach, recognising that where children need support there may be wider family issues in play and that support may be needed across the wider school community too.

In 2024/25 we worked in 9 Partner Schools providing one to one therapy for 230 children across those schools. Those schools were: Arbury Primary School, The Grove Primary School, Histon and Impington Brook Primary School, Orchard Park Community Primary School, The Galfrid School, Shirley Community Primary School, St Andrew's C of E Primary School in Soham, Pendragon Community Primary School in Papworth Everard, and Monkfield Park Primary School in Cambourne.

Providing clinical services in other schools

Blue Smile provides a flexible outreach service to help children in any school in Cambridgeshire and surrounding areas. This enables us to reach more children across a wider range of schools who for various reasons may not want or be able to commit to the Partner School service.

Alongside one-to-one therapy for individual children, the outreach service offers a 'menu of services' from which schools can select including psychoeducational group work and teacher mentoring.

We provided an outreach service in 22 schools in 2024/5.

Taking the Partner schools and other schools together, we provided services in 31 schools in 2024/25, as compared to 37 schools in 2023/24.

One-to-one and groupwork - more detail

Our therapists delivered 3938 1-1 therapy sessions to 289 children (2023/24 - 3930 sessions for 266 children). Children who completed therapy within the year received an average of 18 weekly sessions. This is significantly longer than most services and reflects our commitment to long-term support.

138 children took part in 21 early-intervention psychoeducational groupwork programmes (2023/24: 158 children in 24 groups), equipping them with skills and knowledge to cope with emerging mental health problems. Each group was led by two qualified therapists for six weekly sessions.

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We offered groups on four themes:

- Moving on Up - 67 children took part in 10 groups to help prepare for a successful transition to secondary school and manage anxiety around this significant change
- Managing Big Feelings - 37 children took part in 6 groups to help them understand and manage emotions like anger or fear
- Worry Warriors - 24 children took part in 3 groups to help equip them with knowledge and positive coping strategies to manage anxiety
- Survive and Thrive - 10 children took part in 2 groups for those in the first year of secondary school, building confidence and coping skills.

Supporting parents and teachers - more detail

Blue Smile therapists provided mentoring and advice to parents and school staff to help them better support children's emotional wellbeing. This included:

- 36 hours of formal mentoring for school staff (2023/24 - 27.5 hours)
- informal mentoring and support to school staff at 9 Partner Schools
- at least two individual sessions with parents and teachers of each child receiving one-to-one therapy.

Who we helpeed

Of the 427 children aged 3-13 we supported in 2024-5

- 43% were girls and 56% were boys;
- 50% were eligible for Pupil Premium indicating high socio-economic need (national average: 24.6%)
- 45% were on their school's Special Educational Needs register (national average: 13.6%)
- 24% were both eligible for Pupil Premium and had Special Educational Needs.

77% of those we supported with 1-1 therapy had experienced 1 or more adverse childhood experience (ACE), while 24% faced 3 or more. The most commonly reported ACEs were family breakdown/parental separation (50%), bereavement (18%), domestic abuse (17%) and parent/family mental illness (16%).

Maintaining clinical standards and supporting professional development

Clinical excellence is core to what we do at Blue Smile and we regularly review our policies and the processes we operate which focus on our clinical standards and practice. Ensuring that our workers and volunteers are well-supported in their practice and professional development is a key part of this. Through what we do we aim to make a long-term contribution to the maintenance of a skilled therapeutic workforce in our region.

Our services were delivered by 52 practitioners including 41 qualified therapists and 11 trainees (2023/24 - 63 practitioners).

To help ensure continued high quality and to promote good practice, we delivered or hosted 4 training sessions in the year to a total of 142 participants. Sessions were delivered by experts in the relevant areas and were free to Blue Smile practitioners. 98% participants felt the training enhanced their skills or understanding.

We again brought the whole Blue Smile team together, including staff, students and self-employed therapists along with Trustees, for a Blue Smile Day on a Saturday in September 2024. The day involved a range of practical training sessions delivered by senior staff and the Safeguarding Trustee.

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We continued our Student Bursary scheme this year, awarding a bursary of £1,000 each to two Masters students doing a placement with Blue Smile, to support them to complete their training as Child and Adolescent Psychotherapists. The bursaries are designed to particularly support those who may face challenges in completing their professional training.

All the charity's practitioners received regular clinical supervision at an appropriate level and had regular management reviews to monitor progress and provide support.

The charity has comprehensive policies and procedures in place and a full set of Practice Standards, to which practitioners sign up annually. Safer recruiting methods are used for all persons working with children and they receive a full induction and regular supervision. We regularly review and update our safeguarding policy and practice and ensure that for everyone involved in the charity safeguarding is always the priority and always front of mind.

Following the resignation of our previous Safeguarding Trustee in the 23/24 year, Angela McKeown acted as Interim Lead Trustee for Safeguarding from the beginning of the 2024/25 year until November 2024 when our new Lead Trustee for Safeguarding, Karen Glisson, took over. I am grateful to Angela for her excellent stewardship during this interim period as Chair of our Clinical and Ethics Group and in taking the lead at Board in this area. We have been delighted to have Karen on board in this role since November 2024 with her significant experience in safeguarding matters.

Karen chairs our Clinical and Ethics Group which advises and reports into the Trustee Board. It comprises internal and external members and considers safeguarding data and issues alongside other clinical and ethical issues and standards. A Clinical Panel, comprising a Clinical Supervisor, the Clinical Services Manager and the Lead Trustee for Safeguarding, can be called if immediate discussion or advice on a clinical matter is required.

Evaluation and impact

Our evaluation shows Blue Smile's early intervention and prevention model to be highly effective.

It is an important feature of what we do that we work in schools, which means that we bring the service to where children are and which makes our offer much more accessible to families who may otherwise find such support difficult to access, even where they may be available outside the school setting.

Based on information gathered from parents and teachers, we record the symptoms that children are experiencing when they are referred for 1-1 therapy.

The average number of symptoms reported per child was 3.8. The top 5 symptoms in 2024-5 were the same as in 2023-4 and were as follows:

- Anger/lack of self-regulation
- Low self-esteem
- Anxiety
- Poor relationships/friendships
- Low mood

We saw a higher proportion of children than last year experiencing anger/lack of self-regulation (from 38% to 48%) and rates of anxiety increased from 32% to 36%.

68% children had a mental health problem in the "clinically diagnosable range", ie severely affecting functioning and requiring treatment, measured using the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire completed by parents - up from 67% in 2023-4.

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13% of children had at least one diagnosis at start of therapy. The most common diagnoses were Autistic Spectrum Disorder, ADHD/ADD, Learning difficulties including dyslexia and Physical Disability/Chronic Health Condition.

77% of those we supported with 1-1 therapy had experienced 1 or more adverse childhood experience (ACE), while 24% faced 3 or more. The most commonly reported ACEs were family breakdown/parental separation (50%), bereavement (18%), domestic abuse (17%) and parent/family mental illness (16%). Multiple ACEs are a major risk factor for both physical and mental health difficulties through life.

We use standardised and bespoke measures to evaluate our work and regularly consider and assess evaluation in planning and developing our services. Our two core measures to evaluate our one-to-one therapy are the SDQ (Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire) which is a widely used behavioural screening measure and a goals based Blue Smile Aims Measure (BSAM).

Of all children supported by Blue Smile in 2024/25 (one-to-one therapy and groupwork):

- 87% reported that they had made progress towards their goals, with 74% reporting significant progress
- 92% made progress, according to their teacher
- 64% were more willing to engage at school after intervention.

Of children who completed one-to-one therapy:
- 91% reported that they had made progress towards their goals, with 81% reporting significant progress
- 93% made progress according to their parents
- 62% were more engaged in school after therapy (rising to 70% for children who showed low engagement before intervention
- 44% improved their school attendance after therapy.

Of children who started in the "clinically diagnosable range", 65% made noticeable progress and 40% made a complete recovery by the end of therapy (according to Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaires completed by parents).

Quotes from feedback forms after 1-1 therapy included the following:

"I liked talking about all the goods and bads. It helped friendships and family stuff.""My anxiety has shrunk. I can manage it most of the time now and if it gets big I know that it helps to talk to someone" "(Child) is going to school more easily and staying in school more. He has begun to talk to me about how he feels" (from a parent).

Of the children who completed groupwork programmes:
- 84% reported that they had made progress towards the goal of the group, with 67% reporting significant progress
- 94% had made progress towards the group's goal, according to their teachers
- 75% were more engaged in school after groupwork (rising to 92% for children showed low engagement before intervention).

Quotes from child feedback forms after groupwork include the following:

"It has helped me express myself and stop thinking so much about my worries""The Blue Smile group helped me with my breathing when I get stressed, angry and sad""It makes you feel more confident. It helped me look at the more positive side of going to secondary school."

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Financial review

The financial year ending July 2025 resulted in a deficit of £54,953 (2024: surplus of £21,672) against a budgeted deficit of £88,821. Overall income was £504,474 compared to £551,943 in 2024 of which voluntary income was decreased from £382,635 in 2024 to £351,101.

As a result of this deficit the net assets of the charity decreased to £367,265. The cash balance remained relatively stable increasing from £431,449 to £500,986 as at 31 July 2025.

Over the year, we have been extremely fortunate to have been supported by some very generous partners. These cover trusts and funds, community fundraising efforts, corporates and individual donors, many of whom give on a regular basis. We are extremely grateful to them all.

Overall income

Income from donations, grants, fundraising events and bank interest amounted to £357,448. Service fee income amounted to £147,026.

Reserves policy:

Blue Smile continues to emphasise prudent management of its reserves and long-term financial planning.

The trustees reviewed and updated the reserves policy a few years ago, the actual level of reserves compared to this policy is reviewed on a regular basis. In setting and reviewing Blue Smile's Reserves Policy, the Board takes into account the charity's commitment to working long-term with children (the aim is an average of two school terms), as well as the annual Service Level Agreements with schools.

Having assessed potential threats and risks, the Trustees have agreed the need to maintain sufficient income reserves to:

- protect the continuity of the charity's work
- allow for fluctuations in fundraising income
- cover unexpected expenditure and contingencies
- fund the costs of growth and transformation
- enable the charity to wind up in an orderly and ethical fashion should it become no longer viable for the charity to continue.

The trustees consider the optimal amount for reserves is 6 months' running costs.

This equates, on the basis of the budget agreed by trustees for the 25/26 year, to £298,000.

As at 31 July 2025 total reserves held were £367,265 of which £42,170 was restricted as detailed in the notes to the accounts. The remaining £325,095 (2024: £406,677) is unrestricted and considered to be 'free reserve' in line with the Charity Commission guidance.

Trustees have carefully considered the way in which reserves above this level can be strategically invested to support the future development of Blue Smile.

In 2024/25, we once again decided not to increase the contribution that we seek from schools, in recognition of the pressures on school finances. In addition, we decided to fully fund one of our Partner Schools in an area of high deprivation, providing support free of charge for children most in need. We designated £10,000 of funding for laptops, recognising additional IT equipment needed now that all clinical data is recorded online following the rollout of our clinical record management system (Charitylog).

Reserves, and income and expenditure, are monitored closely by the Remuneration and Finance subcommittee and Board.

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Financial review ***(continued)***

Investment Policy:

Cash balances are held in current and deposit bank accounts with the Charity's bankers.

Plans for future periods

We plan to continue to offer one-to-one therapy for up to 20 weeks (with discretion to extend this in exceptional cases) alongside our expanded groupwork and 'menu of services' offer.

Our observation and feedback from schools is that fewer will be in a position to take up the full Blue Smile Partner School service in 2025/26 and future years. We understand this to be for a mix of reasons. Even though our service is very heavily subsidised as a charitable offer, budgetary pressures as well as pressure on other resources (e.g. room space) are important factors in school take up. Some schools are facing falling rolls which means they do not need or cannot afford a full Blue Smile Partner School service. Some are using other services or models though we are not aware of any service locally (other than for those referred to CAMHS) which offers the same level of specialist support as Blue Smile.

As a result, we are developing and will continue to develop flexible models for schools to access Blue Smile services and envisage that more of our services will be delivered through our outreach offer, with fewer Partner Schools.

In Feb 2025 we contacted 58 schools new to Blue Smile to ask about their priorities and budgets for mental health support, resulting in 6 follow up meetings. Following that feedback we have trialled new smaller service packages for schools which include a combination of one-to-one therapy and groupwork, groupwork being more affordable for schools than the one-to-one service. Our evaluation of our groups, even over the limited 6-week timeframe in which they run, had a significant positive impact for children including those eligible for Pupil Premium and those with Special Educational Needs - see Evaluation and Impact section above.

In 2025/26 we are focusing on expanding into the Peterborough/Fenland region, where we understand there to be significant need. We are particularly promoting a more highly subsidised service package in areas of particular deprivation, as far as we can in a way which is financially sustainable for us as an organisation.

We are also working up plans to offer a service to children who are struggling with school attendance or not attending at all. This will mark a departure from our model of offering services only in school settings; we will still work in close partnership with schools where such children are enrolled.

In response to school feedback that some of their youngest students are struggling with social and emotional skills and self-regulation, we have introduced a version of our 'Worry Warriors' Group adapted for 3- to 5-year-olds. We will, as for all our services, carefully evaluate this new offer as we look to expand support children in this age group in the most effective way.

Blue Smile collaborated with CPSL Mind, Cambridge Acorn Project, and Red Hen on a project to explore new, more relational ways of supporting families with children aged 3-11 who face multiple disadvantages. Blue Smile also continues to be active in Fullscope, a consortium of seven leading organisations that support the mental wellbeing of children and/or young people in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Fullscope has a 3-year programme that aims to affect a more accessible, relevant and equitable system to support children and young people with their mental wellbeing. The participating organisations are Blue Smile, Cambridge Curiosity and Imagination, Centre 33, CPSL Mind, The Kite Trust, Ormiston Families and YMCA Trinity.

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Structure, governance and management

Governing documentation:

Blue Smile is the working name of Blue Smile Project. It is a company limited by guarantee with no share capital. It was incorporated on 18 October 2010 under company registration number 7411348 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It was registered as a charity on 8 December 2010 under charity number 1139279. Its principal office and registered office is at 47-51 Norfolk St, Cambridge, CB1 2LD.

Patron:

Our Patron is Professor Sir Simon Baron-Cohen, Professor of Developmental Psychopathology at the University of Cambridge and Director of the Autism Research Centre.

Our Charity Director is Dr Anne Kent-Taylor.

Trustees

The trustees bring a variety of experience and skills. They meet bi-monthly and more often where necessary. The trustees oversee the work of the Charity Director, make major decisions, approve policy, review risks and determine strategy. The Trustees delegate day-to-day management of the charity to the Charity Director.

No trustee is an employee of the company nor has any beneficial interest, but each is a member as well as a Director of the company and guarantees to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees:

Trustees are recruited for their skills and experience and generally following advertisement. They are appointed by the Board in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association and in accordance with 'safer recruitment' practices. There must be at least three and not more than nine Trustees.

Trustees must, according to the Articles of Association, retire after 5 years' service and may not be reappointed more than once. Trustees may be appointed again after they have served ten years but only with a 12-month break.

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Structure, governance and management ***(continued)***

Trustee induction and training:

New Trustees meet the Charity Director, Clinical Services Manager and other office staff. They are given an induction pack, including the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the current strategy, the most recent full accounts and Annual Review plus recent management accounts. Trustee meeting minutes from previous meetings as well as reports from advisory groups and sub-committees are also available to them. Those new to the role of Trustee are recommended to obtain and read the 'Good Trustee Guide' from the National Council for Voluntary Organisations. Training is available to trustees.

The Board abides by the principles underlying the ACEVO Code of Good Governance.

For the 2024/25 year the Trustees were:

Naomi Mallick - Chair of Trustees
Chris O'Connor - Treasurer, reappointed 6 July 2025
Angela McKeown - Lead Trustee for Safeguarding (interim) till 18 November 2024; resigned 28 July 2025
Karen Glisson - Lead Trustee for Safeguarding, appointed 18 November 2024
Sarah Nolasco - reappointed 20 January 2025
Nicholas Froy
Tania Clarke - appointed 18 November 2024
Hannah Buxton - resigned 11 September 2024

We have a Clinical, Ethics and Safeguarding Group (CEG), chaired by the Lead Trustee for Safeguarding, Angela McKeown till November 2024 and thereafter Karen Glisson. This group includes volunteer members as well as the Safeguarding Trustee and staff members. It advises the Board on matters within its remit.

We also have a Remuneration and Finance Committee (RemCom), chaired by the Treasurer Chris O'Connor. RemCom comprises the Treasurer, the Chair of Trustees and the Charity Director. RemCom advises the Board on remuneration and finance matters and may also make decisions as delegated by the Board. Both CEG and RemCom report to the Board.

Senior staff reporting to the Director in the reporting year were Rosi Jack (Fundraising Manager), Anita Gatt (Clinical Services Manager), Vicki Osborne (Operations Manager) and Amna Hamza (Data and Evaluation Lead).

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Structure, governance and management ***(continued)***

Risk Assessment:

The Trustees operate a formal risk management process. Trustees and Charity Director together identify and record key risks, their probability, impact and mitigating actions. Risks are reviewed by Board committees and at full Board. Risk Management was overseen by Sarah Nolasco, with CEG and RemCom reporting to the Board on the risks relevant to their remit.

Key areas of potential risk to Board identified to keep under review in 2024/5, along with key measure put in place to manage each of these risks were:

1. Income: Failure to raise sufficient fundraised income
- Fundraising targets set and monitored
- Concentrate on areas of highest ROI
- Balance resources between fundraising and comms
- Develop strong links with donor sources
- Focus on diversifying income streams to include individual donors and legacies
- Assess impact of competing charities
- Review contribution from schools
- Undertake due diligence on funders
- Ensure appropriate clinical measures in place

2. Capacity to deliver: Poor recruitment, retention, training and supervision of clinical teams limits ability to meet demand for services from schools
- Maintain relationships with Faculty of Education
- Build relationships with other training organisations
- Clear role descriptions for clinical roles
- Implement changes in delivery of services
- Improved remuneration and support package
- Establish Blue Smile bursaries
- Set up of group model to support more children with reduction in 1-1 service model
- Review qualifications and where they sit to support different types of work
- Consider the impact of competing charities and organisations

3. Loss of school support: Schools are unable or unwilling to work with Blue Smile
- Initial assessment of schools
- Annual SLAs with termination procedures
- Annual review of cost to schools of services
- Maintain good relationships with Heads
- Maintain state school experience on Board
- Review and adapted Partner School model for individual schools
- Ensure ongoing delivery of 1-1 and groupwork to ensure more schools are able to benefit from service and minimise reliance on Partner Schools
- Practice standards and ethical framework
- Feedback and evaluation processes
- Complaints and concerns policy and procedure

Independent examiner reappointment

A resolution to appoint A Robinson FCA of Lovewell Blake LLP as independent examiner will be proposed at the next meeting.

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Small company provisions

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies' exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 23/3/2026 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Naomi Mallick
Chair

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Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Blue Smile Project

Year ended 31 July 2025

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 July 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements 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 company's financial statements 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

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), which is one of the listed bodies.

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 that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements 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 financial statements 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.

Abigail Robinson

A Robinson FCA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA
23/3/2026

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Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 July 2025

	Note	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	2025 **Total funds** £	2024 Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	**5**	221,876	129,225	351,101	382,635
Charitable activities	**6**	147,026	–	147,026	162,022
Investment income		6,347	–	6,347	7,286
Total income		375,249	129,225	504,474	551,943
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of fundraising	**7**	122,580	–	122,580	109,893
Charitable activities	**8**	339,177	97,670	436,847	420,378
Total expenditure		461,757	97,670	559,427	530,271
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds		(86,508)	31,555	(54,953)	21,672
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		411,603	10,615	422,218	400,546
Total funds carried forward		325,095	42,170	367,265	422,218

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

The notes on pages 20 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

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Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Balance sheet

31 July 2025

	Note	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	**12**		–		3,685
Current assets					
Debtors	**13**	19,318		184,437	
Cash at bank and in hand		500,986		431,449	
		520,304		615,886	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	**14**	(153,039)		(197,353)	
Net current assets			367,265		418,533
Total assets less current liabilities			367,265		422,218
Net assets			367,265		422,218
Funds of the charity					
Restricted funds			42,170		10,615
Unrestricted funds			325,095		411,603
Total charity funds	**16**		367,265		422,218

For the year ending 31 July 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 company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 23/3/2026, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Naomi Mallick

Naomi Mallick
Chair

Company registration number: 07411348

The notes on pages 20 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

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Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of cash flows

Year ended 31 July 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net (expenditure)/income	(54,953)	21,672
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,685	4,068
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(6,347)	(7,286)
Accrued expenses	35,000	–
Changes in:		
Trade and other debtors	130,119	136,845
Trade and other creditors	(44,314)	(132,099)
Cash generated from operations	63,190	23,200
Net cash from operating activities	63,190	23,200
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	6,347	7,286
Net cash from investing activities	6,347	7,286
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	69,537	30,486
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	431,449	400,963
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	500,986	431,449

The notes on pages 20 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

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Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 July 2025

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 47-51 Norfolk Street, Cambridge, CB1 2LD.

2. Statement of compliance

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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

3. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

(b) Going concern

The accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis and the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected income and expenditure for the next 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure for the next 12 months shows a deficit. Reserves are sufficient for the Charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

(c) Income tax

As a registered charitable company, the activities are exempt from United Kingdom Income and Corporation taxation, provided that the income is applied to charitable purposes.

(d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated funds are where necessary, unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds 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.

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3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

(e) Income

All income included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Income is recognised when it is due under terms of funding agreements. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- income from grants and contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.
- investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

(f) Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT that cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. Expenditure is allocated between:

- Expenditure incurred directly in the fulfillment of the charity's objectives (charitable expenditure).

- Expenditure incurred directly in the effort to raise voluntary contributions (costs of fundraising).

(g) Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

(h) Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

(i) Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment	-	33% straight line

(j) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as a basic financial instrument. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

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4. Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital, and is also a registered charity; it is not liable to corporation tax. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the limited liability company.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**
Donations			
Corporate donations	17,286	17,400	34,686
Community and events	27,880	7,400	35,280
Individual donations	15,456	1,000	16,456
Trusts and grants	155,250	103,425	258,675
Major donors	1,000	–	1,000
Gift aid	5,004	–	5,004
Legacies	–	–	–
	221,876	129,225	351,101

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations			
Corporate donations	15,174	2,000	17,174
Community and events	42,526	14,364	56,890
Individual donations	13,924	2,000	15,924
Trusts and grants	167,500	95,293	262,793
Major donors	–	–	–
Gift aid	4,280	–	4,280
Legacies	25,574	–	25,574
	268,978	113,657	382,635

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Service fees	147,026	147,026	162,022	162,022

7. Costs of fundraising

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Costs of fundraising	122,580	122,580	109,893	109,893

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8. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2025 £**
Salary and social security costs	217,609	29,035	246,644
Premises	12,754	–	12,754
Professional fees of clinical teams and consultants	68,083	68,635	136,718
Office costs	26,676	–	26,676
Legal and professional	3,301	–	3,301
Training and recruitment	4,338	–	4,338
Sundries	4,416	–	4,416
Bluesmile bursaries	2,000	–	2,000
	339,177	97,670	436,847

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Salary and social security costs	115,937	54,848	170,785
Premises	12,394	–	12,394
Professional fees of clinical teams and consultants	108,207	69,602	177,809
Office costs	41,256	–	41,256
Legal and professional	2,801	–	2,801
Training and recruitment	7,613	–	7,613
Sundries	5,220	500	5,720
Bluesmile bursaries	2,000	–	2,000
	295,428	124,950	420,378

9. Independent examination fees

	2025 £	2024 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for:		
Independent examination of the financial statements	3,025	2,400

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10. Staff costs

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	323,393	306,987
Social security costs	14,986	14,920
Pension costs	5,568	4,886
	343,947	326,793

The average head count of employees during the year was 19 (2024: 18). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2025 No	2024 No
Management	1	1
Clinical operations	4	4
Other	5	5
	10	10

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2024: £Nil).

Key management personnel

Key management personnel include all personnel that have the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. The total compensation paid to key management personnel for services provided to the charity was £51,239 (2024: £44,676).

11. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No trustee received remuneration in the current or prior year, directly or indirectly, from the charity. No expenses were reimbursed to the trustees during this or the prior year.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £
Cost	
At 1 August 2024 and 31 July 2025	24,618
Depreciation	
At 1 August 2024	20,933
Charge for the year	3,685
At 31 July 2025	24,618
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2025	–
At 31 July 2024	3,685

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13. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	2,550	6,294
Prepayments and accrued income	16,128	177,128
Other debtors	640	1,015
	19,318	184,437

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	17,363	19,339
Accruals and deferred income	134,000	177,850
Other creditors	1,676	164
	153,039	197,353

15. Deferred income

	2025	2024
	£	£
At 1 August 2024	175,000	312,700
Amount released to income	(171,000)	(312,700)
Amount deferred in year	127,150	175,000
At 31 July 2025	131,150	175,000

Deferred income relates to conditional grant income received in the year on behalf of projects being completed in following years.

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16. Analysis of charitable funds

Year ended 31 July 2025

	At 1 August 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2025 £
Restricted Funds					
Netherby Trust	6,250	–	(6,250)	–	–
Newmarket Festival	4,365	–	(4,365)	–	–
East Cambridgeshire District Council (Community Grant)	–	750	(750)	–	–
Robert Heylen	–	1,000	(1,000)	–	–
Histon Feast	–	400	(400)	–	–
Evelyn Trust	–	3,475	(3,475)	–	–
Ely Community Unit Trust	–	2,000	(2,000)	–	–
Openwork Foundation	–	9,000	(9,000)	–	–
Rathbones	–	10,000	(10,000)	–	–
Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust	–	3,000	(3,000)	–	–
Eastern Counties Educational Trust	–	9,700	(6,000)	–	3,700
Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust	–	3,000	(3,000)	–	–
PEM	–	900	(900)	–	–
Netherby Trust	–	25,000	(19,035)	–	5,965
The Pixel Fund	–	7,500	(7,500)	–	–
CCF: S2 Partnership Community Fund	–	3,000	(3,000)	–	–
OpenArch	–	6,500	(245)	–	6,255
Newby Trust	–	10,000	(6,750)	–	3,250
Sir Bernard and Lady Schreier Foundation	–	3,000	(3,000)	–	–
CCF: Warwick & Dominey Fund	–	4,000	(4,000)	–	–
Friends of Blue Smile	–	4,000	(4,000)	–	–
The Britford Bridge Trust	–	10,000	–	–	10,000
Friends of Blue Smile	–	3,000	–	–	3,000
BBC Children in Need - Big Sky	–	5,000	–	–	5,000
Alan Boswell Group Charitable Trust	–	5,000	–	–	5,000
	10,615	129,225	(97,670)	–	42,170
Unrestricted Funds					
Designated projects	48,000	–	–	2,000	50,000
Designated funds - Service delivery 26/27	–	10,000	–	–	10,000
General funds	363,603	365,249	(461,757)	(2,000)	265,095
	411,603	375,249	(461,757)	–	325,095
Total funds	422,218	504,474	(559,427)	–	367,265

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Year ended 31 July 2024

	At 1 August 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2024 £
Restricted Funds					
The Asda Foundation	–	500	(500)	–	–
Cambourne Town Council	–	250	(250)	–	–
Cambridge Community Foundation	–	6,565	(6,565)	–	–
CCF - 52 Partnership Fund	–	7,500	(7,500)	–	–
Community Fund at the Leys	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
ECDC	–	1,000	(1,000)	–	–
ECET	–	9,003	(9,003)	–	–
Evelyn Trust	–	3,624	(3,624)	–	–
Groundworks	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
John Coates	–	8,300	(8,300)	–	–
Netherby Trust	4,208	25,000	(22,958)	–	6,250
Newmarket Festival	–	8,865	(4,500)	–	4,365
Openwork Foundation	15,000	–	(15,000)	–	–
PEM Charitable Trust	–	2,000	(2,000)	–	–
Pixel Foundation	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
Postcode Places	–	16,850	(16,850)	–	–
Red Hill Trust	–	2,000	(2,000)	–	–
Robert Heylen	–	2,000	(2,000)	–	–
Simon Gibson Charitable Trust	–	4,200	(4,200)	–	–
The Cole Charitable Trust	–	1,000	(1,000)	–	–
Timothy Lowe	2,700	–	(2,700)	–	–
	21,908	113,657	(124,950)	–	10,615
Unrestricted Funds					
Designated projects	35,000	–	–	13,000	48,000
General funds	343,638	438,286	(405,321)	(13,000)	363,603
	378,638	438,286	(405,321)	–	411,603
Total funds	400,546	551,943	(530,271)	–	422,218

Restricted fund purposes

Alan Boswell Group Charitable Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for 1:1 Outreach during the autumn term 2025.

BBC Children in Need - BigSky - The income received within this fund is restricted for 3x Worry Warriors groups in Fenland schools.

Eastern Countries Educational Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for children with SEN.

Friends of Blue Smile - The income received within this fund is restricted for the Partner School Service.

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Netherby Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for Groupwork Coordinator salary and groupwork delivery.

Newby Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for The Grove Partner School.

OpenArch - The income received within this fund is restricted for work at Over Primary School.

The Britford Bridge Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for the Partner School Service.

The following restricted projects have been completed in this or the prior year:

Anton Jurgens Charitable Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for the Partner School service.

CCF: S2 Partnership Community Fund - The income received within this fund is restricted for Outreach during the summer term 2025.

CCF Warwick & Dominey Fund - The income within this fund is restricted to Shirley Community Primary School.

East Cambridgeshire District Council (Community Grant) - The income received within this fund is restricted for St Andrew's, Soham.

Ely Community Unit Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to work at St Andrew's CofE Primary School, Soham.

Evelyn Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for Worry Warriors Groupwork pilot.

Histon Feast - The income received within this fund is restricted for Histon and Impington Partner School.

Newmarket Festival - The income received within this fund is restricted for groupwork in Newmarket primary schools.

Openwork Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted to work at Galfrid Primary School.

PEM - The income received within this fund is restricted to work at Galfrid Primary School.

Rathbones - The income received within this fund is restricted for the Partner School Service (therapist costs & equipment).

Robert Heylen - The income received within this fund is restricted for Partner School service - Histon & Impington Brook Primary School.

Sir Bernard and Lady Schreier Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted for The Grove Partner School.

Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for 1:1 arts based therapy in Partner School.

The Pixel Fund - The income received within this fund is restricted for the Partner School Service.

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Designated fund purposes:

In prior years, the charity designated £10,000 towards hardware to support the cloud-based data system project. Additionally, the charity has designated £40,000 (2024: £38,000) towards the provision of a Partner School service for various schools, amalgamating from increasing contributions towards this fund, reviewed annually. These costs remain unexpensed at the year end with funds towards the clinical service will be spent within 12 months; funds towards IT equipment are likely to be spent within 24 24 months.

The Service delivery 26/27 fund is amounts set aside to cover service delivery costs in the future.

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Year ended 31 July 2025

	Fixed Assets £	Current Assets £	Creditors Less Than 1 Year £	**Total £**
General Funds	–	418,134	(153,039)	265,095
Designated Funds	–	60,000	–	60,000
Restricted Funds	–	42,170	–	42,170
	–	520,304	(153,039)	367,265

Year ended 31 July 2024

	Fixed Assets £	Current Assets £	Creditors Less Than 1 Year £	**Total £**
General Funds	3,685	557,271	(197,353)	363,603
Designated Funds	–	48,000	–	48,000
Restricted Funds	–	10,615	–	10,615
	3,685	615,886	(197,353)	422,218

18. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Aug 2024 £	Cash flows £	**At 31 Jul 2025 £**
Cash at bank and in hand	431,449	69,537	500,986

19. Operating lease commitments

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Not later than 1 year	6,017	5,757

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20. Related parties

There were no related party transactions in this or the prior period.

BLUE SMILE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1139279

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 07411348

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1139279

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Unaudited independently examined financial statements

31 July 2024

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial statements

Year ended 31 July 2024

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Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report

Year ended 31 July 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Companies Act 2006 and 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 published in October 2019.

A letter from the chair of trustees

I am happy to present my Chair's report for Blue Smile for the year ended 31 July 2024.

Blue Smile continues to offer vital support for primary age children at a time when the mental health of children and young people is a matter of rising concern. Our aim is to provide an accessible service to address the needs of as many children as possible. We aim to ensure that what we do is effective and robustly evidence-based and continue to be at the forefront of best practice in the field.

This year we have invested more in psychoeducational groups for children; this has yielded promising results and useful data which is enabling us to refine our offer. Groupwork runs alongside our one-to-one work, which remains a tried and tested core service for schools across Cambridgeshire. We continue to invest in our 'whole school' philosophy, supporting the whole school community in a variety of ways, tailored to need, in our nine Partner Schools.

We have continued to hold at the same rate the financial contribution schools make towards our services, given pressures on school budgets. As our costs have risen with inflation and for other reasons, this has meant that we have increased the charitable subsidy through fundraised income. We have also offered some flexibility e.g. offering a smaller Partner School service in one school for a smaller contribution and temporarily increasing the charitable contribution in exceptional circumstances for one school.

We have continued to gradually expand our reach this year. We have provided one-to-one therapy for 266 children, as compared to 255 last year and 232 the year before, and we have supported 158 children through psychoeducational groups, as compared to 153 and 59 respectively last year and the year before that.

Blue Smile's charitable objectives focus particularly on those children facing disadvantage. This year 52% of the children we worked with were eligible for free school meals and 49% were on the school Special Educational Needs Register. We continue to focus on schools and children who most need our help and whose families may not have the means to access help elsewhere.

This year we have adjusted our model to follow the evidence about the number of sessions which yields best results for children. We now offer one-to-one work on the basis of 20 weekly sessions, though this can be flexed if necessary to reflect the needs of an individual child. We are committed to continuing to build and refine our evaluation and evidence base.

This year we worked with 9 Partner Schools and 28 other schools.

We have made good use of our now embedded cloud-based system for holding and managing data to ensure data is accurate and up to date, that any safeguarding issues can be fully and securely recorded and reviewed and that we are evaluating and reviewing all the services we provide as we go along.

We adopted a new Strategy in the 2023/24 year as our previous Strategy came to a close in 2023. Our current Strategy focuses on four strategic aims: Deliver and Grow; Data and Impact; Our People and Our Organisation.

Clinical quality and effectiveness, and best safeguarding practice, remain at the heart of what we do. These issues are regularly on the agenda for Board meetings as well as the focus of meetings of the Clinical and Ethics Group, which reports into Board. Day to day, clinical and safeguarding issues are regularly reviewed and discussed by the Director and Clinical Services Manager. Safeguarding was the core theme of our Blue Smile Day which all staff, therapists, volunteers and Trustees are strongly encouraged to attend, and the Day involved some excellent training and talks for the whole team on different aspects of safeguarding. I am grateful both to Carrie-Ann Black, our lead Safeguarding Trustee till Jan 2024, and to Angela McKeown, who ably stepped up to fill this role until a new Safeguarding Trustee, Karen Glisson, joined the Board in the 24/25 year.

We are extremely grateful to all those individuals, companies, community groups, trusts and foundations who have generously supported our work this year. I want to particularly thank our wonderful Friends of Blue Smile, who remain tireless in their support, and to pay special tribute to the late Dr Hassan Shakir-Khalil and his wife Anna who left us a very generous legacy this year. We are extremely grateful to Dr and Mrs Shakir-Khalil's family for supporting us to tell others about this legacy and about the lasting impact it will have for Blue Smile and in the lives of the children we support.

Naomi Mallick - Chair of the Board of Trustees

A letter from the Charity Director

We began 23/24 with a review our strategy and plan, to ensure that we are fit for purpose for the next three years. Our mission to transform the mental health and life chances of children across Cambridgeshire is underpinned by our four strategic aims:

" To reach more children with the right support at the right time, by delivering and growing an excellent mental health service " To enhance understanding of children's mental health and practice, by focusing on data and evidence, to support collaboration and innovation " To build a diverse and inclusive community of staff, therapists, trainee therapists and volunteers, who are empowered to support children and young people " To strengthen our organisational services, in order to have impact now and in the future

Throughout the year, we have focused on delivering excellent services - both one-to-one arts-based therapy and psychoeducational groupwork. We have worked in 37 Cambridgeshire schools and supported over 420 children. Nine Partner Schools received a holistic package of support whilst, at other schools, we delivered one-to-one therapy, groupwork, or teacher mentoring, depending on need.

In total, we supported 266 children via one-to-one therapy. While mental health challenges can happen to any child, those from disadvantaged backgrounds are at much greater risk and face more barriers to access support. Children with special educational needs or disabilities are also more likely to experience anxiety, depression or low self-esteem than their peers. Of the children we supported last year, 52% were eligible for Pupil Premium, indicating economic disadvantage (national average: 24%) and 49% of children on the Special Educational Needs register (national average: 14%). The average age when starting therapy was 8 years, showing our commitment to early intervention.

Many children we support have been through highly stressful or traumatic experiences in their young lives - or "adverse childhood experiences" (ACEs). Those most reported were parental separation, domestic abuse, family mental illness and bereavement. 59% children accessing Blue Smile therapy were facing more than one adverse childhood experience (ACE), whilst 18% had experienced four or more ACEs.

Outcomes for children remain consistently positive, with 90% of children, 87% of parents and 90% of teachers reporting children had improved on their identified goals because of Blue Smile's support.

Blue Smile also collects data on the wider impact of our work, including children's willingness to engage in school life. For children who initially scored low (a score 5 or less out of 10), teachers reported 72% showed increased willingness to engage following therapy.

We continued to focus on expanding our provision of early intervention groupwork to reach more children. We were able to offer 24 groups, across five different themes, supporting over 150 children. This included the successful delivery of a pilot program "Worry Warriors" to support children at primary school experiencing anxiety. Children attending this group showed decreased anxiety and an increase in coping skills.

Blue Smile took key decisions during 23/24 that will enable us to scale up our service, reach more children, and keeping waiting times down.

We adopted a 20-week model of therapy, which our clinical data shows is the optimum time to ensure that a child can make good progress on their goals, allowing us to provide long-term support to more children. We increased therapists pay significantly, to better reflect the skills, qualifications and experience we require and address recruitment and retention challenges. We also launched Charitylog, a clinical record management system, that will allow us to manage clinical data safely and efficiently, enabling data-driven decision making and clear, real-time understanding of clinical need, to that we can maintain the highest possible quality of support for children.

Looking forward to 2025, Blue Smile will mark 15 years since its foundation. During that time, over 3000 children have been able to enjoy happier childhoods and build brighter futures thanks to specialist mental health support by Blue Smile therapists in Cambridgeshire schools.

This birthday year provides an occasion to celebrate what has been achieved and thank people who have played a significant role in Blue Smile's development, but it will also be an important opportunity to highlight the continued and growing need for children's mental health services and galvanise support for the coming years. With NHS figures showing that 1 in 5 children is currently experiencing significant mental health difficulties (up from 1 in 10 when we started), sadly Blue Smile's work is needed more than ever.

Anne Kent-Taylor - Charity Director

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Blue Smile Project
Charity registration number	1139279
Company registration number	07411348
Principal office and registered office	47-51 Norfolk Street Cambridge CB1 2LD

The trustees

The trustees who served during the year and at the date of approval were as follows:

Naomi Mallick (Chair)
Christopher O'Connor (Treasurer)
Nicholas Froy
Angela McKeown
Sarah Nolasco
Carrie-Ann Black (Resigned 15/01/2024)
Hannah Buxton (Resigned 11/09/2024)

The Patron	Professor Sir Simon Baron-Cohen
Charity Director	Anne Kent-Taylor
Independent examiner	L Thurston FCCA Lovewell Blake LLP Chartered accountants First Floor Suite 2 Hillside Business Park Bury St Edmunds IP32 7EA
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank Plc PO Box 250, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT The Charity Bank Limited Fosse House 182 High Street Tonbridge TN9 1BE
Solicitors	Mills & Reeve LLP Botanic House 100 Hills Road Cambridge CB2 1PH
Website	www.bluesmile.org.uk

Objectives and activities

Objectives:

Blue Smile's charitable objectives as set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association are:

- For the benefit of the public, to enhance the mental health of, in particular but not exclusively, disadvantaged children and young people, in particular in Cambridgeshire and surrounding areas, through counselling, support and therapeutic use of the arts; and
- For the benefit of the public, to support schools and other educational institutions, in particular in Cambridgeshire and surrounding areas, in addressing the mental health needs of, in particular but not exclusively, disadvantaged children and young people appropriately.

Vision:

A world where happier children have brighter futures.

Mission:

To transform the mental health and life chances of children across Cambridgeshire.

Public benefit statement:

The Trustees have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. The charity offers subsidised services to schools and works hard to ensure that the contribution it asks schools to make is fair and proportionate in the context of our aim to reach as many beneficiaries as possible, with a focus on those who face the most disadvantage. Of the children referred to the one-to-one service in the reporting year 49% are on the Special Educational Needs Register (as compared to a 14.1% national average), 22% are performing below national curriculum levels in all three of reading, writing and maths and 53% are eligible for Pupil Premium (as compared to the national average of 25.9%). 30% are both on the SEN Register and eligible for Pupil Premium and 59% of the children referred were identified as having experienced more than one Adverse Childhood Experiences.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011.

Achievements and performance

Providing a clinical service in Partner Schools

Blue Smile provides arts-based therapy and mentoring in Partner Schools in Cambridge to children aged 3-13. A Blue Smile team, led by our School Clinical Lead for that school, goes into each Partner School on the school's 'Blue Smile Day' each week in term time.Partner Schools also act as our training and development hubs, providing clinical placements for trainee therapists. We provide intensive one-to-one, long-term therapy (generally weekly in term-time for 20 weeks) for 12-16 children per week in each Partner School. In addition, we provide support for the whole school in the form of an offer tailored to each school including assemblies, psychoeducational groups for children, advice for parents, and formal and informal support for school staff.

Blue Smile offers a 'whole family' and 'whole school' approach in our Partner Schools, responsive to feedback and information from our referrals data. Where children need support, it is regularly the case that parents and carers may also need support, whether with their own mental health or other issues. We engage with parents and carers through parent meetings, which are part of our model. We work with schools and where appropriate other agencies to ensure broader family needs are addressed. We also work to support teaching and other staff, providing support tailored to need.

In 2023/24 Blue Smile operated a Partner School service in Arbury Primary School, The Grove Primary School, Histon and Impington Brook Primary School, Orchard Park Community Primary School, The Galfrid School, Shirley Community Primary School, St Andrew's C of E Primary School in Soham, Pendragon Community Primary School in Papworth Everard, and Monkfield Park Primary School in Cambourne.

Providing clinical services in other schools

Blue Smile provides a flexible outreach service to help children in any school in Cambridgeshire and surrounding areas. This enables schools who may not want to commit to the Partner School model to ask Blue Smile to work with individual or small numbers of children who need support.

The outreach service also offers a 'menu of services' from which schools can choose to support children with one-to-one therapy, provide psychoeducational support through group work, or provide formal teacher mentoring.

We have provided our outreach service in 14 schools where we offered one-to-one therapy, 6 schools where we offered psychoeducational groups, 5 schools where we offered both one-to-one and groupwork, and 3 schools where we offered formal teacher mentoring.

One-to-one provision

Overall, Blue Smile provided one-to-one therapy for **266 children** over **3,930 sessions** as compared to 255 children over 4,624 sessions in 2022/3. This consisted of **2,831 sessions** for **193 children** in our Partner Schools, and **1,099 sessions** to **73 children** in other schools.

We have adapted our model this year for both Partner Schools and other schools in that our one-to-one offer now consists of a package of 20 sessions for each child. We have made this change as our evaluation shows that more than 20 sessions do not improve outcomes for children; we are keen to ensure our approach is robustly evidence based and that we can support as many children as possible within the resources we have. The 20-session model can be flexed up or down as required as we recognise that each child is individual, and our service is tailored to each child's needs.

Additional services

Blue Smile has continued to offer a 'whole family' and 'whole school' approach in response to feedback and information from our referrals data. Where children need support it is regularly the case that parents and carers may also need support, whether with their own mental health or other issues. While Blue Smile's offer is focused on children we continue to engage with parents and carers by including parent meetings in our model and we seek to work with schools and where appropriate other agencies to ensure broader family needs are addressed.

We continue to offer additional services through our Blue Smile 'Menu of Services' available to all schools. We have delivered:

- **24** psychoeducational groups to **158** children on topics such as Managing Big Feelings and, for children in Year 6, Moving on Up. We have also developed and rolled out a new group to help children address anxiety, called Worry Warriors.
- **27.5** hours of formal mentoring to staff in **3** schools (alongside the informal support and mentoring provided as part of the service to our Partner Schools).

We have also delivered several talks to external groups as part of our commitment to supporting the wider community. These included talks for student counsellors at the University of Cambridge Faculty of Education and "lunch and learn" events for our corporate supporters, including RXCelerate. Our staff also participated in an interview for World Mental Health Day 2023 on BBC Radio Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, and Norfolk

Maintaining clinical standards and supporting professional development

Supporting the professional development of our staff, practitioners, trainees and volunteers remains a priority for Blue Smile, as is our broader contribution to the development of the child mental health workforce in our region.

Across our clinical services, we worked with a total of 62 practitioners in 2023/24 who delivered work in schools. These included volunteer mentors, trainee therapists on clinical placement, and qualified therapists.

We delivered or hosted **6 training sessions** for a total of **174 attendees**, which included mental health practitioners from and beyond Blue Smile, trainees, and other members of the community interested in mental health work. As always, our training was offered free of charge to Blue Smile practitioners. **95.5%** of attendees agreed or strongly agreed that the training enhanced their skills, knowledge or understanding, and **91.7%** of attendees agreed or strongly agreed that the tra ining was relevant to their role. The sessions covered areas such as safeguarding, supporting children with ADHD, the narrative arc, an introduction to dramatherapy, and working with hard-to-reach children.

We again brought the whole Blue Smile team together, including staff, students and self-employed therapists along with Trustees, for a Blue Smile Day on a Saturday in September 2023. The day involved a range of practical training sessions delivered by senior staff and the Safeguarding Trustee, with a focus on Safeguarding as well as affording an opportunity for people to network and spend some time together.

We continued our Student Bursary scheme this year, awarding a bursary of £1000 each to two Masters students doing a placement with Blue Smile, to support them to complete their training as Child and Adolescent Psychotherapists. The bursaries are designed to particularly support those who may face challenges in completing their professional training.

All the charity's practitioners received regular clinical supervision at an appropriate level and had regular management reviews to monitor progress and provide support.

The charity has comprehensive policies and procedures in place and a full set of Practice Standards, to which practitioners sign up annually. Safer recruiting methods are used for all persons working with children and they receive a full induction and regular supervision. We regularly review and update our safeguarding policy and practice and ensure that for everyone involved in the charity safeguarding is always the priority and always front of mind.

Carrie-Ann Black, Head of Nursing for Research and Quality at the South London and Maudsley NHS Trust, remained our Lead Safeguarding Trustee till her resignation from the Board in January 2024. Angela McKeown stepped in as Interim Lead Safeguarding Trustee; we have recruited a new Lead Safeguarding Trustee, Karen Glisson, in the 24/25 year. Karen has extensive safeguarding experience, and we have been pleased to welcome her to the Board.

The Clinical, Ethics and Safeguarding Group, chaired by Carrie-Ann and then Angela, and comprising internal and external members, considers safeguarding requirements and ethical issues and practice standards. A Clinical Panel, comprising a Clinical Supervisor, the Clinical Services Manager and the Lead Trustee for Safeguarding, can be called if immediate discussion or advice on a clinical matter is required.

Evaluation and Impact - measuring our effectiveness

Since the start of the service in 2010, Blue Smile has supported over 1700 children through one to one therapy, 500 children through psychoeducational groups and a further 1000 children through assemblies and awareness raising workshops.

The support we offer to children also encompasses support for parents and carers and we also support whole school communities to better understand and deal with mental health challenges.

Our evaluation shows Blue Smile's early intervention and prevention model to be highly effective. The fact that services are delivered in consultation with and in schools mean they are readily accessible even to families who may otherwise find it difficult to transport their children to services outside school and outside school hours.

While we have seen a decrease in the average number of problems and symptoms this year, complex cases still make up 59% of the caseload and children are presenting with an average of 2.4 problems (such as family breakdown, bereavement or parental mental ill health) and 3.8 symptoms (such as anxiety/panic attacks, low self-esteem/identity problems and low mood/depression).

18% of referrals record parental/family mental illness, as compared to 27% in 22/23 and 22% the previous year. Domestic abuse reporting remains at around 21% of referrals which is down from the spike that was seen immediately after the pandemic. 17% of children referred had social care involvement. 18% of children had at least 4 Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). Having multiple ACEs has been identified as a major risk factor for serious illness, such as heart disease and cancer, and emotional and social problems later in adult life.

We have a robust system of outcome measures in place for our services, using a variety of bespoke and standardised measures. We consider measurement of these outcomes to be a core part of clinical decision-making and ensuring that our work is effective.

We use two core measures to evaluate our one-to-one therapy:

Our SDQ progress and clinical recovery rates show that children's emotional functioning is significantly improved with Blue Smile's early support, which can prevent more serious difficulties later on in life and improve long-term life prospects. Our goals based BSAM outcomes demonstrates that supporting children's emotional wellbeing reduces behavioural difficulties and emotional blocks related to learning.

On the BSAM, **90%** of children felt they had made progress on the goals they had set by the end of therapy and **87%** of parents said their children had made progress on those goals. In additional **90%** of teachers said that their pupil's problems identified had improved by the end of therapy.

As regards the SDQ, **65%** of parents felt that their child had improved by the end of therapy. Of the parents of children who started in the clinically diagnosable range, **69%** considered their child to have made noticeable improvement by the end of therapy, with **36%** having made a full recovery.

In addition, **48%** of children improved school attendance. And **32%** of the children performing below the national curriculum level improved their performance in at least one or more main areas of study (reading, writing, and maths) to be in line with the curriculum expectations.

Blue Smile collects data on children's willingness to engage in school life such as classroom activities and extracurricular clubs. For children who initially scored low (a score 5 or less out of 10), teachers reported **72%** showed increased willingness to engage following therapy.

All of our psychoeducational groups are evaluated using robust measures appropriate to the specific group and show positive impacts including on children's ability to deploy coping strategies. For example, following participation in 'Worry Warriors', **87%** of the children reported improved ability to use appropriate strategies to tackle their worries

We use the feedback and evaluation to refine the groupwork offer; for example, in 24/25 we decided to deliver 'Survive and Thrive' groups for year 7 pupils separately for boys and girls.

We collect feedback directly from children: Here is some of the feedback we received this year.

Feedback on one-to-one work

"You should definitely go. It helps you learn and calm down. They're really kind and I know that if you're sad about something they'll help you be happy again."

Feedback on groups

"The group helped me to calm down"
(On what helped) "talking about problems and thinking of solutions I never thought about""It is amazing. Don't change."
"It helps you relax with your worries."
"It is really fun and I wish I could keep going."

Financial review

Ensuring financial sustainability

The financial year ending July 2024 resulted in a surplus of £21,672 (2023: deficit of £569) against a budgeted deficit of £30,281. Overall income was £551,943 compared to £469,766 in 2023 of which voluntary income increased from £279,253 in 2023 to £382,635. As a result of this surplus the net assets of the charity increased to £422,218. The cash balance remained relatively stable increasing from £400,963 to £431,449 as at 31 July 2024. Debtors and creditors fell by similar levels over the year as shown in the balance sheet to these accounts.

Over the year, we have been extremely fortunate to have been supported by some very generous partners. These cover trusts and funds, community fundraising efforts, corporates and individual donors, many of whom give on a regular basis. We are extremely grateful to them all.

Overall income

Income from donations, grants, fundraising events and bank interest amounted to £389,921. Service fee income amounted to £162,022.

Reserves policy:

Blue Smile continues to emphasise prudent management of its reserves and long-term financial planning.

The trustees reviewed and updated the reserves policy a few years ago, the actual level of reserves compared to this policy is reviewed on a regular basis. In setting and reviewing Blue Smile's Reserves Policy, the Board takes into account the charity's commitment to working long-term with children (the aim is an average of two school terms), as well as the annual Service Level Agreements with schools.

Having assessed potential threats and risks, the Trustees have agreed the need to maintain sufficient income reserves to:

- protect the continuity of the charity's work
- allow for fluctuations in fundraising income
- cover unexpected expenditure and contingencies
- fund the costs of growth and transformation
- enable the charity to wind up in an orderly and ethical fashion should it become no longer viable for the charity to continue.

The trustees consider the optimal amount for reserves is 6 months' running costs.

This equates, on the basis of the budget agreed by trustees for the 24/25 year, to £324,000.

As at 31 July 2024 total reserves held were £422,218 of which £10,615 was restricted as detailed in the notes to the accounts. The remaining £411,603 (2023: £378,638) is unrestricted and considered to be 'free reserve' in line with the Charity Commission guidance.

Trustees have carefully considered the way in which reserves above this level can be strategically invested to support the future development of Blue Smile.

Financial review ***(continued)***

In April 2023, we made the decision to increase therapist fees to more fairly reflect the training, skills and experience of our workforce. This will be an additional expense of £60,000 towards our Partner School service alone. At the same time, we decided not to increase the contribution we seek from schools, in recognition of the pressures on school finances. In addition, we designated additional funds, of £10,000 beyond our usual level, to further subsidise our work at Partner Schools serving particularly disadvantaged areas. We also designated £10,000 of funding for laptops, recognising additional IT equipment needed now that all clinical data is recorded online following the rollout of our clinical record management system (Charitylog).

Reserves, and income and expenditure, are monitored closely by the Remuneration and Finance subcommittee and Board.

Designated funds

With respect to designated funds, the charity designated £10,000 towards hardware to support the cloud-based data system project and £25,000 towards the provision of a Partner School service in a new school. In 2023/2024 the charity further designated £13,000 towards the provision of a Partner School service in a new school, bringing the total amount designated for this purpose to £38,000. These costs remain unexpensed at the year end.

Investment Policy:

Cash balances are held in current and deposit bank accounts with the Charity's bankers

Plans for future periods

We plan to continue our new 20-week model for one-to-one therapy, following the evidence that more sessions than this do not yield better results for children. This will help us deliver good outcomes for more children. We also plan to build on our successful expansion of groupwork and our new 'Worry Warriors' pilot which had excellent feedback and positive evaluation results. Groupwork is an excellent model for early intervention and for helping children build resilience.

In the coming year we will explore geographical expansion and ways in which we can reach children particularly in more deprived areas or from families facing more challenges than the average.

Having done thorough research into digital models, we have concluded that in person delivery of the intensive one-to-one support we offer to young children cannot be readily replaced by any of the digital models currently on the market. Many of these models are aimed at less severe problems or situations, are aimed at older children/teenagers or involve high levels of parental engagement. We will continue to look at best ways to build on our digitisation of data and at digital models for supporting our work and making it more efficient in terms of delivery.

Blue Smile continues to be active in The Fullscope Project, a consortium of seven leading organisations that support the mental wellbeing of children and/or young people in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Fullscope has a 3-year programme that aims to affect a more accessible, relevant and equitable system to support children and young people with their mental wellbeing. The participating organisations are Blue Smile, Cambridge Curiosity and Imagination, Centre 33, CPSL Mind, The Kite Trust, Ormiston Families and YMCA Trinity.

Structure, governance and management

Governing documentation:

Blue Smile is the working name of Blue Smile Project. It is a company limited by guarantee with no share capital. It was incorporated on 18 October 2010 under company registration number 7411348 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It was registered as a charity on 8 December 2010 under charity number 1139279. Its principal office and registered office is at 47-51 Norfolk St, Cambridge, CB1 2LD.

Patron:

Our Patron is Professor Sir Simon Baron-Cohen, Professor of Developmental Psychopathology at the University of Cambridge and Director of the Autism Research Centre.

Our Charity Director is Dr Anne Kent-Taylor.

Bankers and Advisers:

Independent examiner
L Thurston FCCA, Lovewell Blake, LLP, Chartered accountants, First Floor, Suite 2, Hillside Business Park, Bury St Edmunds, IP32 7EA

Bankers
The Co-operative Bank Plc, PO Box 250, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT
The Charity Bank Limited, Fosse House, 182 High Street, Tonbridge, TN9 1BE

Website www.bluesmile.org.uk

Trustees

The trustees bring a variety of experience and skills. They meet bi-monthly and more often where necessary. The trustees oversee the work of the Charity Director, make major decisions, approve policy, review risks and determine strategy. The Trustees delegate day-to-day management of the charity to the Charity Director.

No trustee is an employee of the company nor has any beneficial interest, but each is a member as well as a Director of the company and guarantees to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees:

Trustees are recruited for their skills and experience and generally following advertisement. They are appointed by the Board in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association and in accordance with 'safer recruitment' practices. There must be at least three and not more than nine Trustees.

Trustees must, according to the Articles of Association, retire after 5 years' service and may not be reappointed more than once. Trustees may be appointed again after they have served ten years but only with a 12-month break.

Structure, governance and management ***(continued)***

Trustee induction and training:

New Trustees meet the Charity Director, Clinical Services Manager and other office staff. They are given an induction pack, including the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the current strategy, the most recent full accounts and Annual Review plus recent management accounts. Trustee meeting minutes from previous meetings as well as reports from advisory groups and sub-committees are also available to them. Those new to the role of Trustee are recommended to obtain and read the 'Good Trustee Guide' from the National Council for Voluntary Organisations. Training is available to trustees.

The Board abides by the principles underlying the ACEVO Code of Good Governance.

For the 2023/24 year the Trustees were:

Naomi Mallick - Chair of Trustees
Angela McKeown - Interim Trustee Safeguarding Lead (from 15 January 2024)
Sarah Nolasco
Chris O'Connor - Treasurer
Carrie-Ann Black - Trustee Safeguarding Lead (resigned 15 January 2024)
Nick Froy
Hannah Buxton (resigned 11 September 2024)

We have a Clinical, Ethics and Safeguarding Group (CEG), chaired by the Trustee Safeguarding Lead, Carrie-Ann Black till 15 Jan 2024 thereafter Angela McKeown. This group includes volunteer members as well as the Safeguarding Trustee and staff members. It advises the Board on matters within its remit.

We also have a Remuneration and Finance Committee (RemCom), chaired by the Treasurer Chris O'Connor. RemCom comprises the Treasurer, the Chair of Trustees and the Charity Director and in 23/24 was also attended by Louise Buckingham, who provided finance and bookkeeping services on a consultancy basis. RemCom advises the Board on remuneration and finance matters and may also make decisions as delegated by the Board. Both CEG and RemCom report to the Board.

Senior staff reporting to the Director in the reporting year were Rosi Jack, Fundraising Manager, Anita Gatt, Clinical Services Manager, Vicki Osborne, Operations Manager and Amna Hamza, Data and Evaluation Lead.

Structure, governance and management ***(continued)***

Risk Assessment:

The Trustees operate a formal risk management process. Trustees and Charity Director together identify and record key risks, their probability, impact and mitigating actions. Risks are reviewed by Board committees and at full Board. Risk Management was overseen by Sarah Nolasco, with CEG and RemCom reporting to the Board on the risks relevant to their remit.

Key areas of potential risk to Board identified to keep under review in 2024/5 are:.

- Income: Failure to raise sufficient fundraised income.
- Capacity to deliver: Poor recruitment, retention, training and supervision of clinical teams limits ability to meet demand for services from schools.
- Loss of school support: Schools are unable or unwilling to work with Blue Smile.

Key measures put in place to manage each of these risks are:

- Fundraising targets set and monitored.
- Concentrate on areas of highest ROI.
- Balance resources between fundraising and comms.
- Develop strong links with donor sources.
- Focus on diversifying income streams to include individual donors and legacies.
- Assess impact of competing charities.
- Review contribution from schools.
- Undertake due diligence on funders.
- Ensure appropriate clinical measures in place.
- Maintain relationships with Faculty of Education.
- Build relationships with other training organisations.
- Clear role descriptions for clinical roles.
- Implement changes in delivery of services.
- Review remuneration and support package.
- Establish Blue Smile bursaries.
- Set up of group model to support more children with reduction in 1:1 service model.
- Review qualifications and where they sit to support different types of work.
- Consider the impact of competing charities and organisations.
- Initial assessment of schools.
- Annual SLAs with termination procedures.
- Annual review of cost to schools of services.
- Maintain good relationships with Heads/Chairs of Governors.
- Maintain state school experience on Board.
- Ensure ongoing delivery of outreach 1:1, groupwork and menu of services which ensures more schools are able to benefit from service and minimises reliance on Partner Schools.
- Practice standards and ethical framework.
- Feedback and evaluation processes.
- Complaints and concerns policy and procedure.
- Review and adapted Partner School model for individual schools.

Independent examiner reappointment

A resolution to appoint L Thurston FCCA of Lovewell Blake LLP as independent examiner will be proposed at the next meeting.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies' exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 3 March 2025 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Naomi Mallick
Chair

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Blue Smile Project

Year ended 31 July 2024

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 July 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements 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 company's financial statements 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

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements 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 financial statements 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.

L Thurston 5/3/25

L Thurston FCCA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 July 2024

	Note	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	268,978	113,657	382,635	279,253
Charitable activities	6	162,022	–	162,022	186,565
Investment income		7,286	–	7,286	3,948
Total income		438,286	113,657	551,943	469,766
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of fundraising	7	109,893	–	109,893	59,003
Charitable activities	8	295,428	124,950	420,378	411,332
Total expenditure		405,321	124,950	530,271	470,335
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		32,965	(11,293)	21,672	(569)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		378,638	21,908	400,546	401,115
Total funds carried forward		411,603	10,615	422,218	400,546

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

The notes on pages 20 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Balance sheet

31 July 2024

	Note	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	12		3,685		7,753
Current assets					
Debtors	13	184,437		321,282	
Cash at bank and in hand		431,449		400,963	
		615,886		722,245	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(197,353)		(329,452)	
Net current assets			418,533		392,793
Total assets less current liabilities			422,218		400,546
Net assets			422,218		400,546
Funds of the charity					
Restricted funds			10,615		21,908
Unrestricted funds			411,603		378,638
Total charity funds	16		422,218		400,546

For the year ending 31 July 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 company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 31 March 2025 and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Naomi Mallick
Chair

Naomi Mallick

Company registration number: 07411348

The notes on pages 20 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of cash flows

Year ended 31 July 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income/(expenditure)	21,672	(569)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	4,068	4,068
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(7,286)	(3,948)
Accrued expenses	64,259	77,700
Changes in:		
Trade and other debtors	73,436	(81,872)
Trade and other creditors	(132,949)	470
Cash generated from operations	23,200	(4,151)
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	23,200	(4,151)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	7,286	3,948
Purchase of tangible assets	–	(9,904)
Net cash from/(used in) investing activities	7,286	(5,956)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	30,486	(10,107)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	400,963	411,070
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	431,449	400,963

The notes on pages 20 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 47-51 Norfolk Street, Cambridge, CB1 2LD.

2. Statement of compliance

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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

3. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

(b) Going concern

The accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis and the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected income and expenditure for the next 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the Charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

(c) Income tax

As a registered charitable company, the activities are exempt from United Kingdom Income and Corporation taxation, provided that the income is applied to charitable purposes.

(d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated funds are where necessary, unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds 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.

3. **Accounting policies** *(continued)*

(e) Income

All income included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Income is recognised when it is due under terms of funding agreements. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- income from grants and contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

(f) Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT that cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. Expenditure is allocated between:

- Expenditure incurred directly in the fulfillment of the charity's objectives (charitable expenditure).

- Expenditure incurred directly in the effort to raise voluntary contributions (costs of fundraising).

(g) Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

(h) Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to the extent that it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

3. **Accounting policies** *(continued)*

(i) Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment	-	33% straight line

(j) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as a basic financial instrument. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

4. **Limited by guarantee**

The company is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital, and is also a registered charity; it is not liable to corporation tax. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the limited liability company.

5. **Donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2024 £**
Donations			
Corporate donations	15,174	2,000	17,174
Community and events	42,526	14,364	56,890
Individual donations	13,924	2,000	15,924
Trusts and grants	167,500	95,293	262,793
Major donors	–	–	–
Gift aid	4,280	–	4,280
Legacies	25,574	–	25,574
	268,978	113,657	382,635

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations			
Corporate donations	16,205	–	16,205
Community and events	16,821	2,122	18,943
Individual donations	9,474	–	9,474
Trusts and grants	146,570	75,065	221,635
Major donors	2,000	3,000	5,000
Gift aid	7,808	–	7,808
Legacies	188	–	188
	199,066	80,187	279,253

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2024 £**
Service fees	162,022	–	162,022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Service fees	183,906	2,659	186,565

7. Costs of fundraising

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2024 £**	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Costs of fundraising	109,893	109,893	59,003	59,003

8. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2024 £**
Salary and social security costs	115,937	54,848	170,785
Premises	12,394	–	12,394
Professional fees of clinical teams and consultants	108,207	69,602	177,809
Office costs	41,256	–	41,256
Legal and professional	2,801	–	2,801
Training and recruitment	7,613	–	7,613
Sundries	5,220	500	5,720
Bluesmile bursaries	2,000	–	2,000
	295,428	124,950	420,378

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Salary and social security costs	134,463	105,518	239,981
Premises	12,288	–	12,288
Professional fees of clinical teams and consultants	106,822	–	106,822
Office costs	36,646	–	36,646
Legal and professional	2,253	–	2,253
Training and recruitment	9,636	–	9,636
Sundries	3,706	–	3,706
Bluesmile bursaries	–	–	–
	305,814	105,518	411,332

9. Independent examination fees

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	2,400	2,400

10. Staff costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	306,987	272,058
Social security costs	14,920	10,210
Pension costs	4,886	3,755
	326,793	286,023

The average head count of employees during the year was 18 (2023: 18). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2024 No	2023 No
Management	1	1
Clinical operations	4	3
Other	5	5
	10	9

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: £Nil).

Key management personnel

Key management personnel include all personnel that have the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. The total compensation paid to key management personnel for services provided to the charity was £44,676 (2023: £41,908).

11. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No trustee received remuneration in the current or prior year, directly or indirectly, from the charity. No expenses were reimbursed to the trustees during this or the prior year.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £
Cost	
At 1 August 2023 and 31 July 2024	24,618
Depreciation	
At 1 August 2023	16,865
Charge for the year	4,068
At 31 July 2024	20,933
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2024	3,685
At 31 July 2023	7,753

13. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	6,294	80,361
Prepayments and accrued income	177,128	240,281
Other debtors	1,015	640
	184,437	321,282

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	19,339	14,139
Accruals and deferred income	177,850	314,700
Social security and other taxes	–	371
Other creditors	164	242
	197,353	329,452

15. Deferred income

	2024 £	2023 £
At 1 August 2023	312,700	–
Amount released to income	(312,700)	–
Amount deferred in year	175,000	312,700
At 31 July 2024	175,000	312,700

Deferred income relates to conditional grant income received in the year on behalf of projects being completed in following years.

16. Analysis of charitable funds

Year ended 31 July 2024

	At 1 August 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2024 £
Restricted Funds					
The Asda Foundation	–	500	(500)	–	–
Cambourne Town Council	–	250	(250)	–	–
Cambridge Community Foundation	–	6,565	(6,565)	–	–
CCF - 52 Partnership Fund	–	7,500	(7,500)	–	–
Community Fund at the Leys	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
ECDC	–	1,000	(1,000)	–	–
ECET	–	9,003	(9,003)	–	–
Evelyn Trust	–	3,624	(3,624)	–	–
Groundworks	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
John Coates	–	8,300	(8,300)	–	–
Netherby Trust	4,208	25,000	(22,958)	–	6,250
Newmarket Festival	–	8,865	(4,500)	–	4,365
Openwork Foundation	15,000	–	(15,000)	–	–
PEM Charitable Trust	–	2,000	(2,000)	–	–
Pixel Foundation	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
Postcode Places	–	16,850	(16,850)	–	–
Red Hill Trust	–	2,000	(2,000)	–	–
Robert Heylen	–	2,000	(2,000)	–	–
Simon Gibson Charitable Trust	–	4,200	(4,200)	–	–
The Cole Charitable Trust	–	1,000	(1,000)	–	–
Timothy Lowe	2,700	–	(2,700)	–	–
	21,908	113,657	(124,950)	–	10,615
Unrestricted Funds					
Designated projects	35,000	–	–	13,000	48,000
General funds	343,638	438,286	(405,321)	(13,000)	363,603
	378,638	438,286	(405,321)	–	411,603
Total funds	400,546	551,943	(530,271)	–	422,218

Year ended 31 July 2023

	At 1 August 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2023 £
Restricted Funds					
CCF Innovate and Cultivate	–	6,565	(6,565)	–	–
CCF Warwick Dominey	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
Clothworkers Foundation	10,000	–	(10,000)	–	–
Community Fund at the Leys	5,000	–	(5,000)	–	–
Co-Op Community Fund	–	2,122	(2,122)	–	–
EACT	–	6,500	(6,500)	–	–
ECDC	–	1,000	(1,000)	–	–
Ely Community Unit Trust	–	2,000	(2,000)	–	–
Evelyn Trust	–	2,659	(2,659)	–	–
John Coates	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
Netherby Trust	–	25,000	(20,792)	–	4,208
Openwork Foundation	15,000	15,000	(15,000)	–	15,000
Red Hill Trust	–	4,000	(4,000)	–	–
Robert Heylen	–	3,000	(3,000)	–	–
Strangward Trust	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
Timothy Lowe	14,580	–	(11,880)	–	2,700
	44,580	82,846	(105,518)	–	21,908
Unrestricted Funds					
Designated projects	20,000	–	–	15,000	35,000
General Funds	336,535	386,920	(364,817)	(15,000)	343,638
	356,535	386,920	(364,817)	–	378,638
Total funds	401,115	469,766	(470,335)	–	400,546

Restricted fund purposes

Netherby Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for Groupwork Coordinator salary and groupwork delivery.

Newmarket Festival - The income received within this fund is restricted for groupwork in Newmarket primary schools.

The following restricted projects have been completed in this or the prior year:

The Asda Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted for art and play resources for therapy.

Cambourne Town Council - The income received within this fund is restricted for Partner School service at Monkfield Park Primary School.

Cambridge Community Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted for "Survive and Thrive" groupwork pilot.

CCF Innovate and Cultivate - The income received within this fund is restricted for "Survive and Thrive" groupwork pilot.

CCF - 52 Partnership Fund - The income received within this fund is restricted for Partner School service at Pendragon & Monkfield Park schools.

CCF Warwick Dominey - The income within this fund is restricted to providing a weekly "Blue Smile Day" in any partner school.

Clothworkers Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted to laptops for Digital Integration Project.

Community Fund at the Leys - The income received within this fund is restricted for Partner School service at The Grove school.

Co-Op Community Fund - The income received within this fund is restricted to practitioner training.

EACT - The income received within this fund is restricted to work at Pendragon Community Primary School, Papworth Everard.

ECDC - The income received within this fund is restricted for partner school service - St Andrew's Primary School, Soham.

ECET - The income received within this fund is restricted to support children with Special Educational Needs via Outreach service.

Ely Community Unit Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to work at St Andrew's CofE Primary School, Soham.

Evelyn Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for Worry Warriors Groupwork pilot.

Groundworks - The income received within this fund is restricted for arts-based therapy in Partner Schools.

John Coates - The income received within this fund is restricted for Partner School service.

Openwork Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted to work at Orchard Park Primary School, Cambridge.

PEM Charitable Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for Partner School service - Cambridge City schools.

Pixel Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted for arts-based therapy in Partner Schools.

Postcode Places - The income received within this fund is restricted for Partner School Service - Galfrid School.

Red Hill Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for Partner School service at The Grove school.

Robert Heylen - The income received within this fund is restricted for Partner School service - Histon & Impington Brook Primary School.

Simon Gibson Charitable Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for Partner School service.

Strangward Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to in-school counselling service in Cambridgeshire.

The Cole Charitable Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for Partner School service.

Timothy Lowe - The income received within this fund is restricted to outreach work at Hemingford Grey school.

Designated fund purposes:

In 2022/2023 the charity designated £10,000 towards hardware to support the cloud-based data system project and £25,000 towards the provision of a Partner School service in a new school. In 2023/2024 the charity further designated £13,000 towards the provision of a Partner School service in a new school, bringing the total amount designated for this purpose to £38,000. These costs remain unexpensed at the year end.

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Year ended 31 July 2024

	Fixed Assets £	Current Assets £	Creditors Less Than 1 Year £	**Total £**
General Funds	3,685	557,271	(197,353)	363,603
Designated Funds	–	48,000	–	48,000
Restricted Funds	–	10,615	–	10,615
	3,685	615,886	(197,353)	422,218

Year ended 31 July 2023

	Fixed Assets £	Current Assets £	Creditors Less Than 1 Year £	**Total £**
General Funds	7,753	665,337	(329,452)	343,638
Designated Funds	–	35,000	–	35,000
Restricted Funds	–	21,908	–	21,908
	7,753	722,245	(329,452)	400,546

18. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Aug 2023 £	Cash flows £	**At 31 Jul 2024 £**
Cash at bank and in hand	400,963	30,486	431,449

19. Operating lease commitments

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Not later than 1 year	5,757	5,649
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	–	1,809
	5,757	7,458

20. Related parties

There were no related party transactions in this or the prior period.

BLUE SMILE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1139279

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 07411348

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1139279

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Unaudited financial statements

31 July 2023

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial statements

Year ended 31 July 2023

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Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report

Year ended 31 July 2023

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Companies Act 2006 and 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 published in October 2019.

A letter from the chair of trustees

I am happy to present my Chair's report for Blue Smile for the year ended 31 July 2023.

The demand for mental health support for children in primary schools remains high and Blue Smile continues to respond to that need in primary schools across our region. Our aim is to support as many children as possible and to do so we also work to address the financial and other resource constraints the charity and those schools face.

Our one-to-one work with children, weekly during school term-time, remains a vital, effective and hugely valued core service. We have also this year built up our offer of small group intervention and the early results from this work are promising.

We have held the financial contribution we ask from schools at the same level as last year, mindful of the need to make our service affordable in the context of pressured school budgets. We are pleased to have worked in 30 schools this year, up from 24 in 2021/22 and to have provided one to one therapy for 255 children, an increase on last year's figure of 232. Our group work has supported 153 children, as compared to 59 children supported through groups in 2021/22.

We completed the development of our new cloud-based Customer Relationship Management system this year, which will transform the way we collect and use our data.

We completed our research project with Statisticians for Society this year; this showed that on a narrow economic measure (so this offers a conservative assessment of value) the Blue Smile services offers an economic value per child of almost twice the cost of its service.

Our Strategy came to a close in 2023; we held a Trustees and Charity Director workshop and a workshop with staff to help develop a new Strategy. The new Strategy will be adopted by the Board in the 2023/24 year.

Clinical quality and effectiveness, and best safeguarding practice, remain vital to the work we do and are regularly reviewed and discussed between the Charity Director and Clinical Services Manager and also by the charity's Trustee Board. The team have this year improved the way in which data relating to these matters, and safeguarding in particular, is captured and this has enabled stronger oversight and assurance in this important area. I want to particularly thank our lead Safeguarding Trustee Carrie-Ann Black (who has stepped down as a trustee in the 23/24 year) for her excellent work and support in this area.

As ever, everything we have done this year has been made possible by the generosity of our donors. We do not take this support for granted and are extremely grateful to all of our funders and supporters. I would like particularly to thank our Friends group who continue to go from strength to strength in their support for Blue Smile, and our many community supporters, who have fundraised for us and assisted us in so many ways. Equally, support from corporate donors and from trusts and foundations has been vital to enable our work to continue.

Naomi Mallick - Chair of the Board of Trustees

A letter from the Charity Director

As you may well be aware, we are sadly seeing record levels of mental health problems, with 1 in 5 children in England having a probable mental health disorder (NHS Digital, 2023). This number has risen significantly between 2017 and 2023, from 12.5% to 20.3%, with children from low-income backgrounds more likely to be affected (NHS Digital, 2023).

In our primary school, this means that at least six children in every classroom are likely to be struggling with their mental health. This has led to increased demand for service nationwide, which we are also seeing in our schools in Cambridgeshire.

At Blue Smile, we believe that early intervention is essential, not only to prevent conditions from worsening, but to improve outcomes for people who develop enduring poor mental health.?

We have continued to focus on our 1:1 service delivering arts-based therapy, in schools. We worked in 30 schools across Cambridgeshire (up from 24 the previous year), supporting 255 children. We remain committed to working long-term with children. We saw particular growth in our flexible Outreach service, with nine new schools working with us over the year.

Our services are particularly offered to those that may be experiencing disadvantage, with 53% of children eligible for Pupil Premium (national average: 24%) and 47% of children on the Special Educational Needs register (national average: 14%). Outcomes for children remain consistently positive, with 86% of children, 90% of parents and 93% of teachers reported children had improved on their identified goals because of Blue Smile's support. We have also shown a wider impact for children, with 61% of of teachers reporting that children's willingness to engage in school life increased following therapy.

Due to increasing demand, and limited capacity in the mental health workforce, we focused efforts in 22/23 on expanding our provision of early intervention groupwork to reach more children, including increasing our portfolio of groups. We employed a Groupwork Coordinator for the first time, dedicated to planning and coordinating groupwork. We delivered work on four themes, Managing Big Feelings, Managing Change, Moving On Up (for year 6 children who may face difficulties with the transition to secondary school), and, for the first time, piloted work with secondary school pupils through our Survive and Thrive group, helping those at risk of emotionally based school avoidance to make a secure transition. Overall, we were able to deliver 23 groups, to over 150 children, a three-fold increase from the prior year.

We also developed and supported our clinical workforce to maintain a high-quality service. We worked with 61 practitioners, including volunteer mentors, trainee therapists on clinical placement and qualified therapists. We launched the Blue Smile bursary scheme, as part of our commitment to diversifying the mental health workforce and were delighted to make two awards last year to postgraduate students training as child and adolescent therapists. We have also invested in our therapy teams, providing more opportunities for paid work, and hosted six training sessions, covering topics such as safeguarding and child protection, trauma and neglect, and unconscious bias.

Finally, we focused on developing systems and processes to ensure that we are an efficient and effective organisation. This included development of a new, cloud-based data system, Charitylog, which will replace our paper-based system. This will be launched in September 2023, and will allow regular monitoring of data to identify trends or issues within our service, so we can ensure we maintain the highest possible quality of support for children.

Looking forward, Blue Smile will begin the next year with a review our strategy and plan, ensuring that we are fit for purpose for the next three years.

We will continue to work with around 30 Cambridgeshire schools, providing 1:1 therapy for 250 children.

In response to the highest ever incidence of children experiencing anxiety seen in referrals to Blue Smile, we will develop a new group "Worry Warriors", and pilot this in primary schools.

We will also consider the needs of parents and teachers, and our role in supporting them to understand their children's mental health.

We know that the ripple effect of Blue Smile's work in schools has the potential to lead to indirect benefits across the school community: awareness activities reducing stigma and promoting understanding of mental health; siblings and family members of supported children experiencing reduced conflict and stronger relationships at home; and children benefiting from having teachers who are better equipped to promote mental wellbeing.

Anne Kent-Taylor - Charity Director

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Blue Smile Project
Charity registration number	1139279
Company registration number	07411348
Principal office and registered office	47-51 Norfolk Street Cambridge CB1 2LD

The trustees

The trustees who served during the year and at the date of approval were as follows:

Naomi Mallick (Chair)
Christopher O'Connor (Treasurer)
Carrie-Ann Black (Trustee Safeguarding Lead)
Hannah Buxton (Appointed 13/03/2023)
Nicholas Froy
Angela McKeown
Sarah Nolasco

The patron	Professor Sir Simon Baron-Cohen
Executive positions	Anne Kent-Taylor (Charity Director)
Independent examiner	L Thurston FCCA Lovewell Blake LLP Chartered accountants First Floor Suite 2 Hillside Business Park Bury St Edmunds IP32 7EA
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank Plc PO Box 250, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

	The Charity Bank Limited Fosse House 182 High Street Tonbridge TN9 1BE
Solicitors	Mills & Reeve LLP Botanic House 100 Hills Road Cambridge CB2 1PH
Website	www.bluesmile.org.uk

Objectives and activities

Objectives:

Blue Smile's charitable objectives as set out in the Memorandum of Association are:

- For the benefit of the public, to enhance the mental health of, in particular but not exclusively, disadvantaged children and young people, in particular in Cambridgeshire and surrounding areas, through counselling, support and therapeutic use of the arts; and
- For the benefit of the public, to support schools and other educational institutions, in particular in Cambridgeshire and surrounding areas, in addressing the mental health needs of, in particular but not exclusively, disadvantaged children and young people appropriately.

Vision:

A world where happier children have brighter futures.

Mission:

To transform the mental health and life chances of children across Cambridgeshire.

Public benefit statement:

The Trustees have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. The charity offers subsidised services to schools and works hard to ensure that the contribution it asks schools to make is fair and proportionate in the context of our aim to reach as many beneficiaries as possible, with a focus on those who face the most disadvantage.

Of the children referred to the one-to-one service, in the reporting year, over 50% of cases are recorded as having a clinical diagnosable mental health problem. 53% are eligible for pupil premium (national average: 24%), 47% are on the Special Educational Needs Register (national average: 13.5%), and 26% are both on the SEN Register and eligible for pupil premium. 42% are performing below national curriculum levels in either reading, writing and maths. 29% of the children referred were identified as as having experienced 4 or more Adverse Childhood Experiences, a significant increase on last year's figure which was 17%.

Achievements and performance

Providing a clinical service in Partner Schools:

Blue Smile provides a comprehensive arts-based therapy service in Partner Schools in Cambridgeshire to children aged 3-13. A Blue Smile team, led by our School Clinical Lead for that school, goes into each Partner School on the school's 'Blue Smile Day' each week in term time. Partner Schools also act as our training, research and development hubs, giving clinical placements to trainee therapists. We provide intensive one-to-one, long-term therapy for up to 16 children per week per Partner School. We also provide support for teacher, parents and the whole-school community, through services such as formal and informal mentoring, assemblies, wellbeing workshops and parent meetings.

In 2022/23 Blue Smile operated in Arbury Primary School, Cherry Hinton C of E Primary School, The Grove Primary School, Histon and Impington Junior School, Orchard Park Community Primary School, Shirley Community Primary School, St Andrew's C of E Primary School in Soham, Pendragon Community Primary School in Papworth Everard, and Monkfield Park Primary School in Cambourne.

Providing an Outreach Service:

Blue Smile provides a flexible Outreach service to help children in any school in Cambridgeshire and surrounding areas. This enables schools who may not want to commit to the Partner School model to ask Blue Smile to work with individual or small numbers of children who need support. The Outreach service also offers a whole menu of services to support teachers, give peer support to children through group work, provide support for parents and provide bespoke solutions in areas of high need. This year we have worked with children in 21 schools on an Outreach basis - up from 15 schools in 2021/22, over and above our Partner schools..

Overall, in 2022/23 we have worked with 255 children over 4,624 one to one sessions - an increase of around 6% as compared to 2021/22. We have worked with a further 153 children through groupwork.

Impact

90% of parents said their child improved because of Blue Smile, 94% of teachers reported improvement because of Blue Smile and 74% of children with the most worrying problems improved.

Additional services/Menu of Services

Blue Smile has continued to offer a 'whole family' and 'whole school' approach in response to feedback and information from our referrals data. Where children need support it is regularly the case that parents and carers may also need support, whether with their own mental health or other issues. While Blue Smile's offer is focused on children we continue to engage with parents and carers by including parent meetings in our model and we seek to work with schools and where appropriate other agencies to ensure broader family needs are addressed.

We continue to offer additional services through our Blue Smile 'Menu of Services' available to Partner, Outreach and other schools. We have delivered:

- 23 psychoeducational groups to 153 children on topics such as Managing Big Feelings and Moving on Up for children in Year 6. For the first time this year we have provided psychoeducational groups in secondary school (Survive and Thrive) to support children with the transition to Year 7.
- 12 hours of formal mentoring to staff in 3 schools, alongside informal support and mentoring as part of the service to our Partner Schools.

In line with Blue Smile's commitment to contribute toward better community mental health understanding in Cambridgeshire and beyond, Blue Smile staff have also delivered several talks to external groups. This included a talk for student counsellors at the Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge and several talks by Blue Smile's senior clinical team about children's mental health on Cambridge 105 Radio.

Maintaining clinical standards:

Supporting the professional development of our staff, practitioners, trainees and volunteers remains a priority for Blue Smile. We want to ensure everyone at Blue Smile feels supported and able to develop their skills; this also contributes more broadly to the development of the child mental health workforce regionally.

Across our clinical services, we worked with a total of 61 practitioners who delivered work in Partner and Outreach Schools. These included volunteer mentors, trainee therapists on clinical placement, and qualified therapists.

This year we introduced for the first time a bursary scheme, offering two bursaries of £1000 to Masters students to support them, particularly where they may face particular challenges, to complete their training as Child and Adolescent Psychotherapists. These were awarded by the Trustees to two of trainees starting with Blue Smile in the 2023/24.

In 2022/23 we offered 6 half or full day training sessions for a total of 168 attendees, delivered by well-regarded professionals in the field. These were delivered free to those working with Blue Smile and were open to the wider workforce on payment of a fee.

98.3% of attendees agreed or strongly agreed that the training enhanced their skills knowledge or understanding, and 99.1% of attendees agreed or strongly agreed that the training was relevant to their role.

The sessions covered areas such as safeguarding, self-harm research, working with clay, unconscious bias, cultural competence, and trauma & early years development.

All of the charity's practitioners received regular clinical supervision at an appropriate level and had regular management reviews to monitor progress and provide support.

The charity has comprehensive policies and procedures in place and a full set of Practice Standards, to which practitioners sign up annually. Safer recruiting methods are used for all persons working with children and they receive a full induction and regular supervision. We regularly review and update our safeguarding policy and practice and ensure that for everyone involved in the charity safeguarding is always the priority and always front of mind.

Carrie-Ann Black, Head of Nursing for Research and Quality at the South London and Maudsley NHS Trust, has remained our Lead Safeguarding Trustee.

The Clinical, Ethics and Safeguarding Group, chaired by Carrie-Ann and comprising internal and external members, considers safeguarding requirements and ethical issues and practice standards. A Clinical Panel, comprising a Clinical Supervisor, the Clinical Services Manager and the Lead Trustee for Safeguarding, can be convened should the Charity Director be absent and immediate discussion or advice on a clinical matter be required.

Measuring our effectiveness:

To date, Blue Smile has directly supported 1,498 children one-to-one and a further 1,019 children through groups and workshops. We know we indirectly help countless others in the schools in which we work. Evaluation shows Blue Smile's early intervention and prevention model to be highly effective. The fact that services are delivered in consultation with and in schools mean they are readily accessible even to families who may otherwise find it difficult to transport their children to services outside school and outside school hours.

We have seen an increase in the average number of problems and symptoms this year, potentially reflecting increasing complexity in children's mental health needs. There was a big increase in the number of complex cases immediately after the pandemic - when we saw 65% of referrals involving complex needs and, although this dropped again in 21/22, this has resurged this year to 60%.

More than 1 in 4 referrals record parental/family mental illness, an increase of 22% since 2020/21. Domestic abuse reporting, which went down in 2021 spiked again by 24%. 17% of children referred had social care involvement. 29% of children had at least 4 Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), a significant increase from the previous year where the figure was 17%. Having multiple ACEs has been identified as a major risk factor for serious illness, such as heart disease and cancer, and emotional and social problems later on in adult life.

We have a robust system of outcome measures in place for our services, using a variety of bespoke and standardised measures. We consider measurement of these outcomes to be a core part of clinical decision-making and ensuring that our work is effective.

Our Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) progress and clinical recovery rates show that children's emotional functioning is significantly improved with Blue Smile's early support, which can prevent more serious difficulties later on in life and improve long-term life prospects. Our goals based Blue Smile Aims Measure outcomes demonstrates that supporting children's emotional wellbeing reduces behavioural difficulties and emotional blocks related to learning.

Blue Smile collects data on children's willingness to engage in school life such as classroom activities and extracurricular clubs. Results show that 61% of teachers have found that children's willingness to engage in school has increased following therapy. Additionally, 44% of children have had their attendance improved following therapy and 34% of the children performing below the national curriculum level improved their performance in at least one or more main areas of study (reading, writing, and maths) to be in line with the curriculum expectations. These figures demonstrate that Blue Smile's services led to better school engagement and academic performance as well as benefits to classroom dynamics and the school as a whole.

Feedback from children is very important to us and can speak as compellingly, and more so, than the figures. Feedback from one child was: *"If you are having any sort of problem, a worry, then go because your Blue Smile person will understand you and help you when you need it most."*

Financial review

The financial year ending July 2023 resulted in a very small deficit of £569 (2022: surplus of £98,831) as against a budgeted deficit of £47,355. Service and fundraising income came in below budget but expenditure was significantly lower than budget resulting in a break even position at end of year. Lower costs were as a result of continued efforts to find back-office efficiencies and also a result of capacity limitations in the therapeutic workforce - availability of therapists has to some degree limited our expenditure on contracts with them. Service income was lower to a modest degree than budget; fundraising performance was strong against an ambitious budget but equally constrained by lack of fundraising expertise for part of the year. We are pleased to report that following successful recruitment the fundraising team is now back to full strength.

Overall income was £469,766 compared to £500,309 in 2022.

Voluntary income decreased from £335,127 in 2022 to £279,253.

Over the year, we have been extremely fortunate to have been supported by some very generous partners. These cover trusts and funds, community fundraising efforts, individual donors many of whom give on a regular basis and corporates. We are extremely grateful to them all.

Overall income

Income from donations, grants, fundraising events and bank interest amounted to £283,201 (2022: £337,939).

Reserves policy:

Blue Smile continues to emphasise prudent management of its reserves and long-term financial planning. The Trustees reviewed and updated the reserves policy in October 2021 and the actual level of reserves compared to this policy is reviewed on a regular basis. In setting and reviewing Blue Smile's Reserves Policy, the Board takes into account the charity's commitment to working long-term with children (the aim is an average of two school terms), as well as the annual Service Level Agreements with schools. Having assessed potential threats and risks, the Trustees have agreed the need to maintain sufficient income reserves to:

- protect the continuity of the charity's work
- allow for fluctuations in fundraising income
- cover unexpected expenditure and contingencies
- fund the costs of growth and transformation
- enable the charity to wind up in an orderly and ethical fashion should it become no longer viable for the charity to continue

The trustees consider the optimal amount for reserves is 4 months' running costs. This equates, on the basis of the budget agreed by trustees for the 22/23 year, to approximately £190,000.

As at 31 July 2023, the actual free reserves totalled £378,638 (2022: £336,535). Reserves, and income and expenditure, are monitored closely by the Remuneration and Finance subcommittee and Board.

In 2022/2023 the charity designated £10,000 towards hardware to support the cloud-based data system project and £25,000 towards the provision of a Partner School service in a new school. These costs remain unexpensed at the year end.

Financial review ***(continued)***

Investment Policy:

The charity does not have significant reserves to invest. Cash balances are held in current and deposit bank accounts with the Charity's bankers.

Plans for future periods

We continued to implement our 2021 to 2023 Strategy, focused on continuing our 1 to 1 service, building on our learning from the remote support we offered during the pandemic, strengthening our data and continuing to invest in evaluation and research and reaching more children. In Spring 2023 we convened a workshop of Trustees and a discussion with staff to develop a new strategy to run from 2023, which has now been agreed and launched.

We plan to continue to build on our expanded groupwork offer; groupwork is enabling us to reach more children, help them develop resilience. Groupwork supports our early intervention and preventative approach and makes best use of our expert practitioner resource.

We are exploring options for engaging with researchers and developers of digital services to understand the potential benefits (and limitations) of different delivery models for our services. Blue Smile continues to be active in The Fullscope Project, a consortium of seven leading organisations that support the mental wellbeing of children and/or young people in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Fullscope has a 3-year programme that will improve provision, establish clearer opportunity pathways, and have national significance in influencing the sector as a whole. The participating organisations are Blue Smile, Cambridge Curiosity & Imagination, Centre 33, CPSL Mind, The Kite Trust and Ormiston Families.

Structure, governance and management

Governing documentation:

Blue Smile is the working name of Blue Smile Project. It is a company limited by guarantee with no share capital. It was incorporated on 18 October 2010 under company registration number 7411348 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It was registered as a charity on 8 December 2010 under charity number 1139279. Its principal office and registered office is at 47-51 Norfolk St, Cambridge, CB1 2LD.

Patron:

Our Patron is Professor Sir Simon Baron-Cohen, Professor of Developmental Psychopathology at the University of Cambridge and Director of the Autism Research Centre.

Our Charity Director is Dr Anne Kent-Taylor.

Bankers and Advisers:

Independent examiner
L Thurston FCCA, Lovewell Blake, LLP, Chartered accountants, First Floor, Suite 2, Hillside Business Park, Bury St Edmunds, IP32 7EA

Bankers
The Co-operative Bank Plc, PO Box 250, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT
The Charity Bank Limited, Fosse House, 182 High Street, Tonbridge, TN9 1BE

Website www.bluesmile.org.uk

Trustees

The trustees bring a variety of experience and skills. They meet bi-monthly and more often where necessary. The trustees oversee the work of the Charity Director, make major decisions, approve policy, review risks, and determine strategy. The Trustees delegate day-to-day management of the charity to the Charity Director.

No trustee is an employee of the company nor has any beneficial interest but each is a member as well as a Director of the company and guarantees to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees:

Trustees are recruited for their skills and experience and generally following advertisement. They are appointed by the Board in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association and in accordance with 'safer recruitment' practices. There must be at least three and not more than nine Trustees.

Trustees must, according to the Articles of Association, retire after 5 years' service and may not be reappointed more than once. Trustees may be appointed again after they have served ten years but only with a 12-month break.

Structure, governance and management ***(continued)***

Trustee induction and training:

New Trustees meet the Charity Director, Clinical Services Manager and other office staff. They are given an induction pack, including the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the current strategy, the most recent full accounts and Annual Review, plus recent management accounts. Trustee meeting minutes from previous meetings as well as reports from advisory groups and sub-committees are also available to them. Those new to the role of Trustee are recommended to obtain and read the 'Good Trustee Guide' from the National Council for Voluntary Organisations. Training is available to trustees.

The Board abides by the principles underlying the ACEVO Code of Good Governance.

The Trustees are:

Naomi Mallick - Chair of Trustees
Chris O'Connor - Treasurer
Carrie-Ann Black - Lead Trustee for Safeguarding
Angela McKeown
Sarah Nolasco
Nicholas Froy
Hannah Buxton (appointed 13/03/2023)

Our advisory groups and committees, who report to the Board, are:

- Clinical, Ethics and Safeguarding Group (Chair, Carrie-Ann Black)
- Remuneration and Finance Committee (Chair, Chris O'Connor)

Both committees and groups contain at least one trustee and at least one staff member; CEG also benefits from the expertise of volunteer members.

As well as these formal groups, the charity benefits from the support of other skilled volunteers, to whom we are very grateful.

Senior staff reporting to the Charity Director in the reporting year were Cara Parker Head of Fundraising and Development until March 2023, Rosi Jack, Fundraising Manager from June 2023, Anita Gatt, Clinical Services Manager, Vicki Osborne, Clinical Administration and Recruitment Manager, and Amna Hamza, Data and Impact Officer.

Structure, governance and management *(continued)*

Risk Assessment:

The Trustees operate a formal risk management process. Trustees and Charity Director together identify and record key risks, their probability, impact and mitigating actions. Risks are reviewed by Board committees and at full Board. Risk Management was overseen by Sarah Nolasco, with the different groups/committees reporting to the Board on the risks relevant to their remit.

The key areas of potential risks the Board identified as ones to keep under review in 2023/2024 are:

- Capacity to deliver/capacity of clinical resource insufficient to meet demand
- Failure to raise sufficient fundraised income
- Loss of school support

Key measures that have been put in place to manage each of these risks are:
- Maintain relationships with Faculty of Education and build relationships with other training organisations
- Clear role descriptions for clinical roles; Implement recruitment and retention proposals
- Review remuneration and support package
- Set up of group model to support more children with reduction in 1:1 service model
- Review qualifications and where they sit to support different types of work
- Fundraising targets set and monitored, concentrating on areas of highest ROI
- Balance resources between fundraising and comms
- Develop strong links with donor sources, undertaking due diligence on funders
- Assess impact of competing charities
- Review contribution from schools and improve links between schools and statutory funded services
- Review resourcing and mitigate lack of capacity through use of existing staff (overtime) and freelancers
- Initial assessment of schools
- Annual SLAs with review of cost and termination procedures
- Maintain good relationships with Heads
- Maintain state school representation of Board
- Ensure ongoing delivery of Outreach service which ensures more schools are able to benefit from service and minimises reliance on Partner Schools

Independent examiner reappointment

A resolution to appoint L Thurston FCCA of Lovewell Blake LLP as independent examiner will be proposed at the next meeting.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies' exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 5th April 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Naomi Mallick
Chair

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Blue Smile Project

Year ended 31 July 2023

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 July 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

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 financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements 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 company's financial statements 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

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements 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 financial statements 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.

L Thurston FCCA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA

5 April 2024

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 July 2023

	Note	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	**5**	199,066	80,187	279,253	335,127
Charitable activities	**6**	183,906	2,659	186,565	162,370
Investment income		3,948	–	3,948	2,812
Total income		386,920	82,846	469,766	500,309
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of fundraising	**7**	59,003	–	59,003	50,388
Charitable activities	**8**	305,814	105,518	411,332	351,090
Total expenditure		364,817	105,518	470,335	401,478
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds		22,103	(22,672)	(569)	98,831
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		356,535	44,580	401,115	302,284
Total funds carried forward		378,638	21,908	400,546	401,115

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

The notes on pages 19 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Balance sheet

31 July 2023

	Note	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	**12**		7,753		1,917
Current assets					
Debtors	**13**	321,282		4,410	
Cash at bank and in hand		400,963		411,070	
		722,245		415,480	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	**14**	(329,452)		(16,282)	
Net current assets			392,793		399,198
Total assets less current liabilities			400,546		401,115
Net assets			400,546		401,115
Funds of the charity					
Restricted funds			21,908		44,580
Unrestricted funds			378,638		356,535
Total charity funds	**16**		400,546		401,115

For the year ending 31 July 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 company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on ....., and are signed on behalf of the board by:

5th April 2024

Naomi Mallick
Chair

Company registration number: 07411348

The notes on pages 19 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of cash flows

Year ended 31 July 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net (expenditure)/income	(569)	98,831
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	4,068	383
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(3,948)	(2,812)
Accrued expenses/(income)	77,700	(33,070)
Changes in:		
Trade and other debtors	(81,872)	42,276
Trade and other creditors	470	(9,350)
Cash generated from operations	(4,151)	96,258
Net cash (used in)/from operating activities	(4,151)	96,258
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	3,948	2,812
Purchase of tangible assets	(9,904)	(2,300)
Net cash (used in)/from investing activities	(5,956)	512
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(10,107)	96,770
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	411,070	314,300
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	400,963	411,070

The notes on pages 19 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 47-51 Norfolk Street, Cambridge, CB1 2LD.

2. Statement of compliance

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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

3. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

(b) Going concern

The accounts have been prepared on the on going concern basis and the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected income and expenditure for the next 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the Association to be able to continue as a going concern.

(c) Income tax

As a registered charitable company, the activities are exempt from United Kingdom Income and Corporation taxation, provided that the income is applied to charitable purposes.

(d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated funds are where necessary, unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds 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.

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

(e) Income

All income included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Income is recognised when it is due under terms of funding agreements.

(f) Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT that cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. Expenditure is allocated between:

- Expenditure incurred directly in the fulfillment of the charity's objectives (charitable expenditure).

- Expenditure incurred directly in the effort to raise voluntary contributions (costs of fundraising).

(g) Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

(h) Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to the extent that it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

(i) Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment	-	33% straight line

(j) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as a basic financial instrument. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

4. Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital, and is also a registered charity; it is not liable to corporation tax. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the limited liability company.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2023 £**
Donations			
Corporate donations	16,205	–	16,205
Community and events	16,821	2,122	18,943
Individual donations	9,474	–	9,474
Trusts and grants	146,570	75,065	221,635
Major donors	2,000	3,000	5,000
Gift aid	7,808	–	7,808
Legacies	188	–	188
	199,066	80,187	279,253

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations			
Corporate donations	8,946	22,615	31,561
Community and events	28,651	348	28,999
Individual donations	13,971	–	13,971
Trusts and grants	141,182	83,707	224,889
Major donors	–	14,580	14,580
Gift aid	4,894	–	4,894
Legacies	16,233	–	16,233
	213,877	121,250	335,127

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2023 £**
Service fees	183,906	2,659	186,565

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Service fees	155,056	7,314	162,370

7. Costs of fundraising

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	**Total Funds 2023 £**	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Costs of fundraising	59,003	59,003	50,388	50,388

8. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2023 £**
Salary and social security costs	134,463	105,518	239,981
Premises	12,288	–	12,288
Professional fees of clinical teams and consultants	106,822	–	106,822
Office costs	36,646	–	36,646
Legal and professional	2,253	–	2,253
Training and recruitment	9,636	–	9,636
Sundries	3,706	–	3,706
	305,814	105,518	411,332

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Salary and social security costs	80,396	104,566	184,962
Premises	11,774	–	11,774
Professional fees of clinical teams and consultants	107,385	–	107,385
Office costs	29,555	–	29,555
Legal and professional	1,945	–	1,945
Training and recruitment	6,619	–	6,619
Sundries	8,850	–	8,850
	246,524	104,566	351,090

9. Independent examination fees

	2023 £	2022 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for:		
Independent examination of the financial statements	2,400	2,082

10. Staff costs

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	272,058	208,439
Social security costs	10,210	8,284
Pension costs	3,755	2,930
	286,023	219,653

The average head count of employees during the year was 18 (2022: 14). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
	No	No
Management	1	1
Clinical operations	3	2
Other	5	5
	9	8

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: £Nil).

Key management personnel

Key management personnel include all personnel that have the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. The total compensation paid to key management personnel for services provided to the charity was £44,766 (2022: £40,371).

11. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No trustee received remuneration in the current or prior year, directly or indirectly, from the charity. No expenses were reimbursed to the trustees during the year.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment
	£
Cost	
At 1 August 2022	14,714
Additions	9,904
At 31 July 2023	24,618
Depreciation	
At 1 August 2022	12,797
Charge for the year	4,068
At 31 July 2023	16,865
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2023	7,753
At 31 July 2022	1,917

13. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	80,361	2,021
Prepayments and accrued income	240,281	1,749
Other debtors	640	640
	321,282	4,410

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	14,139	13,863
Accruals and deferred income	314,700	2,000
Social security and other taxes	371	–
Other creditors	242	419
	329,452	16,282

15. Deferred income

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amount deferred in year	312,700	–

During the year the charity received conditional income amounting to £312,700 (2022: £Nil) where the service period or performance related conditions were met after the balance sheet date. This amount has been deferred into the following year.

16. Analysis of charitable funds

Year ended 31 July 2023

	At 1 August 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2023 £
Restricted Funds					
CCF Innovate and Cultivate	–	6,565	(6,565)	–	–
CCF Warwick Dominey	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
Clothworkers Foundation	10,000	–	(10,000)	–	–
Community Fund at the Leys	5,000	–	(5,000)	–	–
Co-Op Community Fund	–	2,122	(2,122)	–	–
EACT	–	6,500	(6,500)	–	–
ECDC	–	1,000	(1,000)	–	–
Ely Community Unit Trust	–	2,000	(2,000)	–	–
Evelyn Trust	–	2,659	(2,659)	–	–
John Coates	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
Netherby Trust	–	25,000	(20,792)	–	4,208
Openwork Foundation	15,000	15,000	(15,000)	–	15,000
Red Hill Trust	–	4,000	(4,000)	–	–
Robert Heylen	–	3,000	(3,000)	–	–
Strangward Trust	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
Timothy Lowe	14,580	–	(11,880)	–	2,700
	44,580	82,846	(105,518)	–	21,908
Unrestricted Funds					
Designated projects	20,000	–	–	15,000	35,000
General Funds	336,535	386,920	(364,817)	(15,000)	343,638
	356,535	386,920	(364,817)	–	378,638
Total funds	401,115	469,766	(470,335)	–	400,546

Year ended 31 July 2022

	At 1 August 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2022 £
Restricted Funds					
Arnold Clark Community Foundation	–	1,000	(1,000)	–	–
Cambridge Community Foundation	1,350	8,414	(9,764)	–	–
Clothworkers Foundation	–	10,000	–	–	10,000
Community Chest Application - SCDC	–	5,422	(5,422)	–	–
Community Fund at the Leys	–	5,000	–	–	5,000
Co-Op Community Fund	–	348	(348)	–	–
EACT	–	6,000	(6,000)	–	–
ECET	6,845	–	(6,845)	–	–
Edward Gostling Foundation	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
Evelyn Trust	–	7,314	(7,314)	–	–
Groundworks	284	–	(284)	–	–
Kelly Family Foundation Trust	436	–	(436)	–	–
Newby Trust	6,667	–	(6,667)	–	–
Openwork Foundation	5,000	15,000	(5,000)	–	15,000
Postcode Places Trust	–	17,371	(17,371)	–	–
Qualcomm Foundation	–	18,615	(18,615)	–	–
Red Hill Trust	–	2,000	(2,000)	–	–
Robert Heylen	–	4,000	(4,000)	–	–
Sir Bernard and Lady Schrierer Foundation	–	3,000	(3,000)	–	–
Timothy Lowe	–	14,580	–	–	14,580
Toy Trust	–	2,500	(2,500)	–	–
	20,582	128,564	(104,566)	–	44,580
Unrestricted Funds					
Designated projects	40,000	–	–	(20,000)	20,000
General Funds	241,702	371,745	(296,912)	20,000	336,535
	281,702	371,745	(296,912)	–	356,535
Total funds	302,284	500,309	(401,478)	–	401,115

Restricted fund purposes

Netherby Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to Groupwork coordinator salary and delivery of groupwork.

Openwork Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted to work at Orchard Park Primary School, Cambridge.

Timothy Lowe - The income received within this fund is restricted to outreach work at Hemingford Grey school.

The following restricted projects have been completed in this or the prior year:

Arnold Clark Community Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted to the delivery of 121 therapy sessions.

Cambridge Community Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted for LAC at St Andrews (partner schools).

CCF Innovate and Cultivate - The income received within this fund is restricted to pilot of Survive and Thrive year 7 transition groupwork.

CCF Warwick Dominey - The income within this fund is restricted to providing a weekly "Blue Smile Day" in any partner school.

Clothworkers Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted to laptops for Digital Integration Project.

Community Chest Application - SCDC - The income received within this fund is restricted for art materials in art packs.

Community Fund at the Leys - The income received within this fund is restricted to our work at The Grove Primary School.

Co-Op Community Fund - The income received within this fund is restricted to practitioner training.

EACT - The income received within this fund is restricted to work at Pendragon Community Primary School, Papworth Everard.

ECDC - The income received within this fund is restricted to work at St Andrew's CofE Primary School, Soham.

ECET - The income received within this fund is restricted to Cherry Hinton and Shirley Primary (partner schools).

Edward Gostling Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted to our work at The Grove Primary School.

Ely Community Unit Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to work at St Andrew's CofE Primary School, Soham.

Evelyn Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to Managing Change groupwork.

Groundworks - The income received within this fund is restricted for individual therapy kits.

John Coates - The income received within this fund is restricted to providing a weekly "Blue Smile Day" in any Partner School.

Kelly Family Foundation Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for Parent and child work.

Newby Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to Ridgefield (partner school).

Postcode Places Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to the salary costs of our Clinical Operations Manager.

Qualcomm Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted to our Digital Integration Project.

Red Hill Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to work at The Grove Primary School, Cambridge.

Robert Heylen - The income received within this fund is restricted to work at Histon and Impington Brook Primary School.

Sir Bernard and Lady Schrierer Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted to our work at Cherry Hinton Primary School.

Schrierer Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted to the purposes set out by the fund provider.

Strangward Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to in-school counselling service in Cambridgeshire.

Toy Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to the cost of art and play resources.

Designated fund purposes:

In 2022/2023 the charity designated £10,000 towards hardware to support the cloud-based data system project and £25,000 towards the provision of a Partner School service in a new school. These costs remain unexpensed at the year end.

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Year ended 31 July 2023

	Fixed Assets £	Current Assets £	Creditors Less Than 1 Year £	**Total £**
General Funds	7,753	665,337	(329,452)	343,638
Designated Funds	–	35,000	–	35,000
Restricted Funds	–	21,908	–	21,908
	7,753	722,245	(329,452)	400,546

Year ended 31 July 2022

	Fixed Assets £	Current Assets £	Creditors Less Than 1 Year £	**Total £**
General Funds	1,917	350,900	(16,282)	336,535
Designated Funds	–	20,000	–	20,000
Restricted Funds	–	44,580	–	44,580
	1,917	415,480	(16,282)	401,115

18. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Aug 2022	Cash flows	**At 31 Jul 2023**
	£	£	**£**
Cash at bank and in hand	411,070	(10,107)	400,963

19. Operating lease commitments

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Not later than 1 year	5,649	5,649
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	1,809	3,617
	7,458	9,266

20. Related parties

During the year the charity paid Elizabeth Froy amounts for employment of £Nil (2022: £8,794). Elizabeth Froy is related to the trustee Nicholas Froy. There were no other related party transactions in this or the prior period.

BLUE SMILE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1139279

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 07411348

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1139279

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Unaudited financial statements

31 July 2022

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial statements

Year ended 31 July 2022

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Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report

Year ended 31 July 2022

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Companies Act 2006 and 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 published in October 2019.

A letter from the chair of trustees

I am happy to present my Chair's report for Blue Smile for the year ended 31 July 2022.

It has been very good to see our teams back in schools and delivering services face to face again this year in all the schools with which we work. Our dedicated teams have worked very closely with schools as they and we have adapted to take account of the changes wrought by the Covid pandemic.

The need for mental health support for children who are struggling with difficult circumstances and emotions is more acute than ever and Blue Smile continues to meet that need for many children across Cambridgeshire. Our one-to-one work with children, weekly during school term-time, remains the core of our offer and continues to show excellent results. We have however also expanded our offer to reach more children - developing and expanding our psychoeducational groups for children and also offering support for those around the child, namely school staff, parents and carers.

At the beginning of the year we took the decision to reduce the financial contribution we ask schools to pay for our Outreach service to make it more affordable and therefore more accessible to children and families. We have held flat the contributions we ask our Partner schools to make, reflecting the more substantial charitable investment in the Partner School service. We are pleased to have worked in 9 partner schools and 15 Outreach schools this year; 3 of the Outreach schools were new to Blue Smile. This year we have provided one to one therapy for 232 children over more than 4,000 sessions and we have worked with more than 100 children additionally through our groupwork and workshop offers.

We continue to focus on high quality data and evaluation to inform our work and also to contribute to research and learning in the area of child mental health. We have been fortunate to obtain funding to help us with the costs of introducing a new cloud-based client data record system which we are now rolling out and which offers exciting opportunities to collect and manage our data more efficiently and effectively. This investment is vital to developing and growing the work of Blue Smile in a a sustainable way.

We have partnered with others to pursue research. We are for example working with Statisticians for Society to develop a cost-benefit analysis of Blue Smile's one to one work; this has yielded promising initial findings. And a Masters student at the Cambridge Faculty of Education has recently completed a project examining the progress children we work with make in a differentiated way to take account of different relevant factors.

At the beginning of the 21/22 year (August, September) we developed and implemented a new Strategy for 2021 to 2023. We have implemented a new fundraising strategy and invested in fundraising resource.

Clinical quality and safeguarding has been as ever at the heart of what we do. We completed implementation of the recommendations of the safeguarding audit which we undertook in 20/21, overseen by our Clinical and Ethics Group (CEG). This group is chaired by our lead Safeguarding Trustee Carrie Ann-Black and comprises members both internal and external to Blue Smile. The CEG reports regularly to Board on safeguarding and other clinical and ethics issues.

All our work depends on the generosity of our many funders and supporters and I am truly grateful to each and every one of them. As ever, a special mention goes to our Friends group, chaired by Mary-Louisa Glynn who continue to work tirelessly in support of Blue Smile. To all our supporters, on behalf of all at Blue Smile and on behalf of and all the children we support, a huge thank you.

I also want to extend my thanks to Ellen Nowak, who left us as trustee in March 2022 after four years on the Board. Ellen's time, advice and enthusiastic support have been hugely valuable to us and we wish her well for future endeavours. We warmly welcomed Nick Froy to the Board this year - he joined us in July 2022 and brings to bear his invaluable experience in the education field.

Naomi Mallick - Chair of the Board of Trustees

A letter from the Charity Director

At the start of the school term in September 2021, it was with some trepidation that children, staff, and our therapists returned to schools. There was uncertainty over what the year would bring, and how the disruption of the previous 18 months would affect the children.

This year has been a period of recovery. Blue Smile's support has become especially important post pandemic due to the long-term impact it has had on children's mental health and wellbeing. Disruption to schooling and social life, and an increasing number of families in financial distress, has exacerbated mental health issues (Office for Health Improvement & Disparities, 2021). The Anna Freud Centre's survey of early years workers at the end of 2020 evidenced 42% noticing signs that the children in their care had had their mental health and wellbeing affected by the pandemic.

This year has seen record high numbers of referrals of children with mental health problems (NHS Digital 2019-22). Previously, NHS services only treated 1 in 3 children with diagnosable mental health conditions, now estimated to be only 1 in 4 (Children's Commissioner, 2021).

The latest NHS Digital data (Nov 2022) reveals a deeply concerning continuing decline in children's well-being, showing that in children aged seven to 16 years, rates of probable mental health disorder rose from 12.1% in 2017 to 16.7% in 2020 and have stayed there since.

At Blue Smile, we believe that early intervention is essential, not only to prevent conditions from worsening, but to improve outcomes for people who develop enduring poor mental health.

We have continued to focus on our core service, providing expert arts-based 1:1 therapy for over 230 children across 24 Cambridgeshire schools. Services are offered to those that may be experiencing disadvantage, with 53% of children eligible for Pupil Premium (national average: 22.5%) and 43% of children on the Special Educational Needs register (national average: 12.5%). According to both parents and teachers, children who have received Blue Smile support show improvements in their mental health, and also show better school engagement, improved attendance, and better attainment.

Blue Smile has started to develop new ways to increase reach and expand scope. Psychoeducational groups provide a route to reaching more children, providing early intervention before more serious problems develop. Last year we were able to deliver nine groups, to nearly 60 children, including a new group designed in response to the challenges raised by the pandemic.

Blue Smile has also supported the community around the child, completing the pilot of a family support service that offered joint parent-child therapy, providing formal mentoring to 11 staff at 4 schools, and delivering webinars to our corporate partners in order to help their staff support their own children with their mental health and emotional wellbeing.

Blue Smile remain committed to the development of the mental health workforce. Last year, we directly employed the School Clinical Leads that oversee our Partner School service and provided more opportunities for sessional work in our school teams. In addition, we have offered training to 130 attendees on safeguarding, working with parents, sand use in children's therapy, autism and the neurodiversity paradigm, an introduction to Theraplay, and working with new levels of anxiety post-pandemic.

Next year, Blue Smile are committed to working with nearly 30 Cambridgeshire schools, aiming to provide 1:1 therapy for 250 children.

We will expand our portfolio of psychoeducational groups to meet emerging needs and increasing demand. This will include reviewing and refreshing our existing groups, re-positioning them for younger children, and developing a new pilot workshop for Year 7 pupils, helping those at risk of emotionally based school avoidance to make a secure transition to secondary school.

We will also respond to the need of parents by developing and delivering parent information session on understanding and supporting children's mental health.

As a charity, Blue Smile aims to place ourselves in the best position to help meet the increasing need for mental health support for children in Cambridgeshire.

Anne Kent-Taylor - Charity Director

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Blue Smile Project
Charity registration number	1139279
Company registration number	07411348
Principal office and registered office	47-51 Norfolk Street Cambridge CB1 2LD

The trustees

The trustees who served during the year and at the date of approval were as follows:

Naomi Mallick (Chair)
Christopher O'Connor (Treasurer)
Carrie-Ann Black (Trustee Safeguarding Lead)
Nicholas Froy (Appointed 18/07/2022)
Angela McKeown
Sarah Nolasco
Ellen Nowak (Resigned 31/03/2022)

The patron	Professor Sir Simon Baron-Cohen
Executive positions	Anne Kent-Taylor (Charity Director)
Independent examiner	L Thurston FCCA Lovewell Blake LLP Chartered accountants First Floor Suite 2 Hillside Business Park Bury St Edmunds IP32 7EA
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank Plc PO Box 250, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT The Charity Bank Limited Fosse House 182 High Street Tonbridge TN9 1BE
Solicitors	Mills & Reeve LLP Botanic House 100 Hills Road Cambridge CB2 1PH
Website	www.bluesmile.org.uk

Objectives and activities

Objectives:

Blue Smile's charitable objectives as set out in the Memorandum of Association are:

- For the benefit of the public, to enhance the mental health of, in particular but not exclusively, disadvantaged children and young people, in particular in Cambridgeshire and surrounding areas, through counselling, support and therapeutic use of the arts; and

- For the benefit of the public, to support schools and other educational institutions, in particular in Cambridgeshire and surrounding areas, in addressing the mental health needs of, in particular but not

- exclusively, disadvantaged children and young people appropriately.

Vision:

A world where happier children have brighter futures.

Mission:

To transform the mental health and life chances of children across Cambridgeshire.

Public benefit statement:

The Trustees have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. The charity offers subsidised services to schools and works hard to ensure that the contribution it asks schools to make does not create an insurmountable barrier to potential beneficiaries. Of the children referred to the one-to-one service, 56% of cases are recorded as having a clinically diagnosable mental health problem. 43% are on the Special Educational Needs Register (as compared to the 12.5% national average), 41% are performing below national curriculum levels and 53% are eligible for the pupil premium. 24% are both on the SEN Register and eligible for pupil premium.

The most common problem reported was "Family breakdown, parental separation, reconstituted family" with 56% of the referred children affected. This has always been the most common problem encountered in Blue Smile referrals but had seen a significant rise during the pandemic reflecting the strains of the situation on families.

Achievements and performance

Providing a clinical service in Partner Schools:

Blue Smile provides arts-based therapy and mentoring in Partner Schools in Cambridge to children aged 3-13. Partner Schools also act as our training, research and development hubs, giving clinical placements to trainee therapists. Volunteer mentors also form part of our Partner School teams. We provide intensive one-to-one, long-term therapy and mentoring for around 16 children per week per Partner School. In 2022/23 Blue Smile operated in Arbury Primary School, Cherry Hinton C of E Primary School, The Grove Primary School, Histon and Impington Brook Primary School, Orchard Park Community Primary School, Ridgefield Primary School, Shirley Community Primary School, St Andrew's C of E Primary School in Soham and Pendragon Community Primary School in Papworth Everard.

This year we have changed our model to directly employ our Partner School Team Leaders (now School Clinical Leads) as part of our commitment to developing the mental health workforce and to provide more integrated support for our teams and for schools.

Providing an Outreach Service:

Blue Smile provides a flexible Outreach service to help children in any school in Cambridgeshire and surrounding areas. This enables schools who may not want to commit to the Partner School model to ask Blue Smile to work with individual or small numbers of children who need support. The Outreach service also offers a whole menu of services to support teachers, give peer support to children through group work, provide support for parents and provide bespoke solutions in areas of high need. This year we we have worked with children in 15 schools, over and above our Partner schools, on an Outreach basis.

Overall in 2021/22 we have worked with 232 children over 4,370 one to one sessions and with a further 106 children through groupwork and workshops.

Impact

93% of parents said their child improved because of Blue Smile, 94% of teachers reported improvement because of Blue Smile and 74% of children with the most worrying problems improved.

Additional services/Menu of Services

Blue Smile has responded to the increasing need for whole family support, which has been consistently highlighted in our referrals data. Feedback from Blue Smile families further emphasised that parents and carers needed more support for their mental health and emotional wellbeing compared to before the pandemic.

Blue Smile has continued to make regular support calls to parents and carers of children who received therapeutic support.

Through the Blue Smile 'Menu of Services' we have expanded our offer to children and schools and piloted new services. We have delivered:

- 9 psychoeducational groups to nearly 60 children on topics such as Managing Big Feelings
- a new psychoeducational group designed in response to the Covid pandemic on Managing Change
- whole class Wellbeing Workshops to nearly 50 children, helping children to understand and normalise discussions around mental health
- a family support service pilot that offered joint parent-child therapy
- formal mentoring to 11 staff at 4 schools, supporting the whole school community.

We have also delivered webinars to our corporate fundraising partners to help their staff support their own children with their mental health and wellbeing.

Maintaining clinical standards:

Our services would not be possible without our team of dedicated staff, practitioners, trainees, and clinical volunteers. Throughout the year, we continued to support the professional development of our practitioners through training opportunities and rigorous practice standards, contributing to the much-needed growth of an expert mental health workforce in Cambridgeshire.

With increasing complexity of cases coming our way, and the 'stretched' capacity of local Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) to take up referrals, development of clinical workers is essential. Each year we offer a programme of training workshops, delivered by external professionals in the field. These are free to those working with Blue Smile.

In 2021/22 we provided expert, high-quality training to 130 attendees on Safeguarding, Working with Parents, Sand use in Children's Therapy, Autism and the Neurodiversity Paradigm, Theraplay, and Working with New Levels of Anxiety post-pandemic.

All of the charity's practitioners received regular clinical supervision at an appropriate level and had regular management reviews to monitor progress and provide support.

Since it began, Blue Smile has trained over 180 clinical practitioners. Close relationships with the Faculty of Education and other trainings means that Blue Smile has always attracted excellent practitioners with the skills to work with a range of mental health needs including complex and challenging cases.

The charity has comprehensive policies and procedures in place and a full set of Practice Standards, to which practitioners sign up annually. Safer recruiting methods are used for all persons working with children and they receive a full induction and regular supervision. We regularly review and update our safeguarding policy and practice and ensure that for everyone involved in the charity safeguarding is always the priority and always front of mind.

We are fortunate to have Carrie-Ann Black, who is Head of Nursing for Research and Quality at the South London and Maudsley NHS Trust as our Lead Safeguarding Trustee.

The Clinical, Ethics and Safeguarding Group, chaired by Carrie-Ann and comprising internal and external members, considers safeguarding requirements and ethical issues and practice standards. A Clinical Panel, comprising a Clinical Supervisor, the Clinical Services Manager and the Lead Trustee for Safeguarding, can be convened should the Charity Director be absent and immediate discussion or advice on a clinical matter be required.

Supporting the wider community

In line with Blue Smile's commitment to contribute toward better community mental health understanding in Cambridgeshire and beyond, Blue Smile staff delivered several talks to external groups. Our senior clinical staff delivered webinars on how to support children and young people with their emotions to corporate organisations such as CUP&A and QualComm. We delivered an online assembly to a local primary school and a talk to international students about our work. We also appeared on the BBC Radio Cambridgeshire discussing how to talk to children about the rising cost of living.

Measuring our effectiveness:

To date, Blue Smile has directly supported 1364 children one-to-one and a further 866 children through groups and workshops. We know we indirectly help countless others in the schools in which we work and our model is a 'whole school' model. Evaluation shows Blue Smile's service to be highly effective in this early intervention and prevention.

Blue Smile's services provided directly through school means that families at the Partner and Outreach schools have more and quicker access to much-needed support. In the light of studies that have found even higher levels of emotional and behavioural difficulties for young children in low income households and for children with SEND, Blue Smile also continues to be strongly committed to supporting the most vulnerable children who need the most help, as shown in our cohort data.

We have a robust system of outcome measures in place for our services, using a variety of bespoke and standardised measures. We consider measurement of these outcomes to be a core part of clinical decision-making and ensuring that our work is effective.

Our Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) progress and clinical recovery rates show that children's emotional functioning is significantly improved with Blue Smile's early support, which can prevent more serious difficulties later on in life and improve long-term life prospects. Our goals based Blue Smile Aims Measure outcomes also evidence how supporting children's emotional wellbeing reduces behavioural difficulties and emotional blocks related to learning.

Blue Smile collects data on children's willingness to engage in school life such as classroom activities and extracurricular clubs. Results show that 67% of teachers have found that children's willingness to engage in school has increased following therapy. Additionally, 27% of children have had their attendance improved following therapy and 28% of the children performing below the national curriculum level improved their performance in at least one or more main areas of study (reading, writing, and maths) to be in line with the curriculum expectations. These figures demonstrate that Blue Smile's services led to better school engagement and academic performance as well as benefits to classroom dynamics and the school as a whole.

Feedback from children and parents/carers is very important to us. This includes: from children: *'(Blue Smile) helped me get to sleep. Instead of thinking about bad things, I think of Blue Smile.' "It makes me have a smile now when I get back (home), instead of a sad face' and from a parent: "(therapists) suggestions for home life transformed us!"*

Financial review

The financial year ending July 2022 resulted in a surplus of £98,831 (2020/2021: £113,547). This surplus was as a result of strong fundraising performance and lower than expected costs. Costs were lower than expected because: we made efficiencies in the back office; delivery of Outreach work was slow at the start of the academic year due to Covid restrictions which have continued through the year; delivery has equally been limited by availability of trained therapists during this period.

Overall income in 2021/2022 increased by 1% figure from £494,475 to £500,309.

Voluntary income increased from £312,531 to £335,127.

Over the year, we have been extremely fortunate to have been supported by some very generous partners. These cover trusts and funds, community fundraising efforts, individual donors many of whom give on a regular basis and corporates. We are extremely grateful to them all.

Overall income

Income from donations, grants, fundraising events and bank interest amounted to £337,939 (2020/2021: £312,998).

Reserves policy:

Blue Smile continues to emphasise prudent management of its reserves and long-term financial planning. The Trustees reviewed the reserves policy as part of their approval of these accounts. The actual level of reserves compared to this policy is reviewed on a regular basis. In setting Blue Smile's Reserves Policy, the Board takes into account the charity's commitment to working long-term with children (for an average of two school terms), as well as the annual Service Level Agreements with schools. Having assessed potential threats and risks, the Trustees have agreed the need to maintain sufficient income reserves to:

- protect the continuity of the charity's work
- allow for fluctuations in fundraising income
- cover unexpected expenditure and contingencies
- fund the costs of growth and transformation
- enable the charity to wind up in an orderly and ethical fashion should it become no longer viable for the charity to continue

The trustees consider the optimal amount for reserves is 4 months' running costs. This equates, on the basis of the budget agreed by trustees for the 2021/2022 year, to approximately £170,000 and on the basis of the budget agreed by the trustees in July 2022 for the 2022/2023 year to approximately £190,000.

As at 31 July 2022, the actual free reserves totalled £336,535 (2021 £241,702). Reserves, and income and expenditure, are monitored closely by the Remuneration and Finance subcommittee and Board.

In 2020/2021 the charity designated £40,000 towards our cloud-based data system project which was reviewed and adjusted to £20,000 in 2021/2022. This cost remains unexpensed at the year end.

Investment Policy:

The charity does not have significant reserves to invest. Cash balances are held in current and deposit bank accounts with the Charity's bankers.

Plans for future periods

We have embarked on a new 2021 to 2023 Strategy, focused on continuing our 1 to 1 service, building on our learning from the remote support we offered during the pandemic, strengthening our data and continuing to invest in evaluation and research and reaching more children.

We have developed our groupwork and workshops offer, enabling us to reach more children across a wide range of issues, particularly those we have identified following the changes and stresses of the Covid pandemic. We have continued to build on the telephone support offered during the pandemic and much appreciated by parents and carers.

We have partnered with others to pursue research. We are for example working with Statisticians for Society to develop a cost-benefit analysis of Blue Smile one to one intervention; this has yielded promising initial findings. A Masters student at the Cambridge Faculty of Education has recently completed a project examining the way in which we can analyse the progress children we work with make in a differentiated way to take account of different relevant factors. We are actively seeking further opportunities to develop our research partnerships. Our investment in a new cloud based client data record system - generously supported by Qualcomm - will facilitate this and is an exciting development for us. It is enabling us to move away from paper-based records and enabling our therapists to link directly into the system using Blue Smile laptops, capturing data in a much more efficient way than was previously possible.

Blue Smile continues to be active in Fullscope, a consortium of seven leading organisations that support the mental wellbeing of children and/or young people in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Fullscope has a 3-year programme that will improve provision, establish clearer opportunity pathways, and have national significance in influencing the sector as a whole. The participating organisations are Arts and Minds, Blue Smile, Cambridge Curiosity & Imagination, Centre 33, The Kite Trust, CPSL Mind and YMCA Trinity Group.

Structure, governance and management

Governing documentation:

Blue Smile is the working name of Blue Smile Project. It is a company limited by guarantee with no share capital. It was incorporated on 18 October 2010 under company registration number 7411348, and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It was registered as a charity on 8 December 2010 under charity number 1139279. Its principal office and registered office is at 47-51 Norfolk St, Cambridge, CB1 2LD.

Patron:

Our Patron is Professor Sir Simon Baron-Cohen, Professor of Developmental Psychopathology at the University of Cambridge and Director of the Autism Research Centre.

Our Charity Director is Dr. Anne Kent-Taylor.

Bankers and Advisers:

Independent examiner
L Thurston FCCA, Lovewell Blake, LLP, Chartered accountants, First Floor, Suite 2, Hillside Business Park, Bury St Edmunds, IP32 7EA

Bankers
The Co-operative Bank Plc, PO Box 250, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT
The Charity Bank Limited, Fosse House, 182 High Street, Tonbridge, TN9 1BE

Website www.bluesmile.org.uk

Trustees

The trustees bring a variety of experience and skills. They meet bi-monthly and more often where necessary. The trustees oversee the work of the Charity Director, make major decisions, approve policy, review risks and determine strategy. The Trustees delegate day-to-day management of the charity to the Charity Director. Until July 2021 the Director was Jess Manley; Anne Kent-Taylor is the new Director who took up post on an interim basis in August 2021 and on a permanent basis in January 2022.

No trustee is an employee of the company nor has any beneficial interest but each is a member as well as a Director of the company and guarantees to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees:

Trustees are recruited for their skills and experience and generally following advertisement. They are appointed by the Board in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association and in accordance with 'safer recruitment' practices. There must be at least three and not more than nine Trustees.

Trustees must, according to the Articles of Association, retire after 5 years' service and may not be reappointed more than once. An exception was made for those trustees who had already been in post for 5 years in April 2020, when the Articles were changed as regards trustee retirement. No trustee now falls into that category. Trustees may be appointed again after they have served ten years but only with a 12 month break.

Structure, governance and management ***(continued)***

Trustee induction and training:

New Trustees meet the Charity Director, Clinical Services Manager and other office staff. They are given an induction pack, including the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the current strategy, the most recent full accounts and Annual Review plus recent management accounts. Trustee meeting minutes from previous meetings as well as reports from advisory groups and sub-committees are also available to them. Those new to the role of Trustee are recommended to obtain and read the 'Good Trustee Guide' from the National Council for Voluntary Organisations. Training is available to trustees.

The Board abides by the principles underlying the ACEVO Code of Good Governance.

The Trustees are as listed in the reference and administrative details of these accounts.

Our advisory groups and committees, who report to the Board, are:

- Clinical, Ethics and Safeguarding Group (Chair, Carrie-Ann Black)
- Remuneration and Finance Committee (Chair, Chris O'Connor)
- Fundraising Advisory Group (Chair, Ellen Nowak till 14/10/2021)

All committees and groups contain at least one trustee and at least one staff member, alongside expert volunteers.

As well as these formal groups, the charity benefits from a large number of other skilled volunteers, to whom we are very grateful.

Senior staff reporting to the Director are Cara Parker, Head of Fundraising and Development, Anita Gatt, Clinical Services Manager, Vicki Osborne, Clinical Administration and Recruitment Manager, Nard Choi, Data and Impact Manager till February 2022; Amna Hamza, Data and Impact Officer from March 2022.

Structure, governance and management *(continued)*

Risk Assessment:

The Trustees operate a formal risk management process. Trustees and Charity Director together identify and record key risks, their probability, impact and mitigating actions. Risks are reviewed by Board committees and at full Board. Risk Management was overseen by Sarah Nolasco, with the different groups/committees reporting to the Board on the risks relevant to their remit.

The key areas of potential risks the Board identified as ones to keep under review in 2022/2023 are:

- capacity to deliver/capacity of clinical resource insufficient to meet demand
- loss of school support
- business continuity
- health and safety

Key measures that have been put in place to manage each of these risks are:

- Maintain relationships with Faculty of Education; build relationships with other training organisations
- Clear role descriptions for clinical roles; implement recruitment and retention proposals
- review remuneration and support package
- Establish Blue Smile bursaries

- Assessment of schools; annual SLAs with termination procedures
- Good relationships with Heads; state school representation on Board
- Ensure ongoing delivery of Outreach services
- Practice standards and ethical framework; appropriate clinical measures in place
- Feedback and evaluation processes; complaints and concerns policy and procedure

- Implement results of staff wellbeing survey
- Ensure supervision for staff with clinical responsibility
- Support for wellbeing at work and for remote working
- Review recruitment processes and benchmark salaries and benefits

- Review H and S policy bi-annually; ensure office-based staff have read policy; e-learning for staff
- External review by Croner; implement findings
- Insurance and risk assessments in place

Independent examiner reappointment

A resolution to appoint L Thurston FCCA of Lovewell Blake LLP as independent examiner will be proposed at the next meeting.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies' exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 7 April 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Naomi Mallick
Chair

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Blue Smile Project

Year ended 31 July 2022

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 July 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes.

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 financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements 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 company's financial statements 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

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements 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 financial statements 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.

L Thurston 11/4/23

L Thurston FCCA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 July 2022

	Note	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	213,877	121,250	335,127	312,531
Charitable activities	6	155,056	7,314	162,370	181,477
Investment income		2,812	–	2,812	467
Total income		371,745	128,564	500,309	494,475
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of fundraising	7	50,388	–	50,388	41,132
Charitable activities	8	246,524	104,566	351,090	339,796
Total expenditure		296,912	104,566	401,478	380,928
Net income and net movement in funds		74,833	23,998	98,831	113,547
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		281,702	20,582	302,284	188,737
Total funds carried forward		356,535	44,580	401,115	302,284

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

The notes on pages 20 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Balance sheet

31 July 2022

	Note	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	12		1,917		–
Current assets					
Debtors	13	4,410		46,686	
Cash at bank and in hand		411,070		314,300	
		415,480		360,986	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(16,282)		(58,702)	
Net current assets			399,198		302,284
Total assets less current liabilities			401,115		302,284
Net assets			401,115		302,284
Funds of the charity					
Restricted funds			44,580		20,582
Unrestricted funds			356,535		281,702
Total charity funds	16		401,115		302,284

For the year ending 31 July 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 company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 7 April 2023, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Naomi Mallick
Chair

Company registration number: 07411348

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of cash flows

Year ended 31 July 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income	98,831	113,547
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	383	2,445
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(2,812)	(467)
Accrued (income)/expenses	(33,070)	2,949
Changes in:		
Trade and other debtors	42,276	(5,592)
Trade and other creditors	(9,350)	4,073
Cash generated from operations	96,258	116,955
Net cash from operating activities	96,258	116,955
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	2,812	467
Purchase of tangible assets	(2,300)	–
Net cash from investing activities	512	467
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	96,770	117,422
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	314,300	196,878
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	411,070	314,300

The notes on pages 20 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 47-51 Norfolk Street, Cambridge, CB1 2LD.

2. Statement of compliance

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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

3. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

(b) Going concern

The accounts have been prepared on the on going concern basis and the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected income and expenditure for the next 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the Association to be able to continue as a going concern.

(c) Income tax

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

(d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated funds are where necessary, unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds 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.

(e) Income

All income included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Income is recognised when it is due under terms of funding agreements.

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

(f) Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT that cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. Expenditure is allocated between:

- Expenditure incurred directly in the fulfillment of the charity's objectives (charitable expenditure).

- Expenditure incurred directly in the effort to raise voluntary contributions (costs of fundraising).

(g) Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

(h) Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to the extent that it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

(i) Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment	-	33% straight line

(j) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as a basic financial instrument. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

4. Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital, and is also a registered charity; it is not liable to corporation tax. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the limited liability company.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2022 £**
Donations			
Corporate donations	8,946	22,615	31,561
Community and events	28,651	348	28,999
Individual donations	13,971	–	13,971
Trusts	141,182	83,707	224,889
Major donors	–	14,580	14,580
Gift aid	4,894	–	4,894
Legacies	16,233	–	16,233
	213,877	121,250	335,127

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Donations			
Corporate donations	25,973	1,600	27,573
Community and events	51,224	–	51,224
Individual donations	13,156	5,746	18,902
Trusts	162,206	49,154	211,360
Major donors	–	–	–
Gift aid	3,472	–	3,472
Legacies	–	–	–
	256,031	56,500	312,531

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2022 £**
Service fees	155,056	7,314	162,370

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Service fees	181,477	–	181,477

7. Costs of fundraising

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2022 £**	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Costs of fundraising	50,388	50,388	41,132	41,132

8. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activities undertaken directly	**Total funds 2022**	Total fund 2021
	£	£	£
Salary and social security costs	184,962	184,962	132,161
Premises	11,774	11,774	12,837
Professional fees of clinical teams and consultants	107,385	107,385	146,318
Office costs	29,555	29,555	27,091
Legal and professional	1,945	1,945	1,770
Training and recruitment	6,619	6,619	4,343
Sundries	8,850	8,850	13,027
Depreciation	–	–	2,249
	351,090	351,090	339,796

9. Independent examination fees

	2022	2021
	£	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for:		
Independent examination of the financial statements	2,082	1,890

10. Staff costs

	2022	**2021**
	£	£
Wages and salaries	208,439	134,890
Social security costs	8,284	6,202
Pension costs	2,930	2,626
	219,653	143,718

The average head count of employees during the year was 8 (2020/2021: 5). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2022	**2021**
	No	No
Management	1	1
Clinical operations	2	2
Other	5	2
	8	5

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2020/2021: £Nil).

Key management personnel

Key management personnel include all personnel that have the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. The total compensation paid to key management personnel for services provided to the charity was £40,371 (2020/2021: £44,030).

11. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No trustee received remuneration in the current or prior year, directly or indirectly, from the charity. No expenses were reimbursed to the trustees during the year.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment £
Cost	
At 1 August 2021	12,414
Additions	2,300
At 31 July 2022	14,714
Depreciation	
At 1 August 2021	12,414
Charge for the year	383
At 31 July 2022	12,797
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2022	1,917
At 31 July 2021	–

13. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	2,021	44,575
Prepayments and accrued income	1,749	1,471
Other debtors	640	640
	4,410	46,686

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	13,863	19,765
Accruals and deferred income	2,000	35,070
Social security and other taxes	–	2,699
Other creditors	419	1,168
	16,282	58,702

15. Deferred income

During the year the charity received conditional income amounting to £Nil (2020/2021: £33,300) where the service period or performance related conditions were met after the balance sheet date. This amount has been deferred into the following year.

16. Analysis of charitable funds

Year ended 31 July 2022

	At 1 August 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2022 £
Restricted Funds					
Arnold Clark Community Foundation	–	1,000	(1,000)	–	–
Cambridge Community Foundation	1,350	8,414	(9,764)	–	–
Clothworkers Foundation	–	10,000	–	–	10,000
Community Chest Application - SCDC	–	5,422	(5,422)	–	–
Community Fund at the Leys	–	5,000	–	–	5,000
Co-Op Community Fund	–	348	(348)	–	–
EACT	–	6,000	(6,000)	–	–
ECET	6,845	–	(6,845)	–	–
Edward Gostling Foundation	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
Evelyn Trust	–	7,314	(7,314)	–	–
Groundworks	284	–	(284)	–	–
Kelly Family Foundation Trust	436	–	(436)	–	–
Newby Trust	6,667	–	(6,667)	–	–
Openwork Foundation	5,000	15,000	(5,000)	–	15,000
Postcode Places Trust	–	17,371	(17,371)	–	–
Qualcomm Foundation	–	18,615	(18,615)	–	–
Red Hill Trust	–	2,000	(2,000)	–	–
Robert Heylen	–	4,000	(4,000)	–	–
Sir Bernard and Lady Schrierer Foundation	–	3,000	(3,000)	–	–
Timothy Lowe	–	14,580	–	–	14,580
Toy Trust	–	2,500	(2,500)	–	–
	20,582	128,564	(104,566)	–	44,580
Designated Funds					
Designated projects	40,000	–	–	(20,000)	20,000
	40,000	–	–	(20,000)	20,000
Unrestricted Funds					
General Funds	241,702	371,745	(296,912)	20,000	336,535
	281,702	371,745	(296,912)	–	356,535

Year ended 31 July 2021

	At 1 August 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2021 £
Restricted Funds					
Awards for All	3,304	–	(3,304)	–	–
Cambridge Community Foundation	–	5,000	(3,650)	–	1,350
Community Chest Application - SCDC	–	1,000	(1,000)	–	–
ECET	3,308	10,268	(6,510)	–	6,845
Ely Community Unit Trust	–	2,500	(2,500)	–	–
Ewings	–	1,600	(1,600)	–	–
Groundworks	–	1,000	(716)	–	284
Kelly Family Foundation Trust	–	4,000	(3,564)	–	436
Local Giving Foundation	–	3,382	(3,382)	–	–
Masonic Charitable Foundation	–	250	(250)	–	–
Newby Trust	–	10,000	(3,333)	–	6,667
Openwork Foundation	–	10,000	(5,000)	–	5,000
Red Hill Trust	–	2,500	(2,500)	–	–
Timespace Technology	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
	6,392	56,500	(42,310)	–	20,582
Designated Funds					
Designated projects	–	–	–	40,000	40,000
	–	–	–	40,000	40,000
Unrestricted Funds					
General Funds	182,345	437,975	(338,618)	(40,000)	241,702
	182,345	437,975	(338,618)	–	281,702

Purpose of restricted funds

Arnold Clark Community Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted to the delivery of 121 therapy sessions.

Awards for All - The income received within this fund is restricted to parent, school staff support and webpage for a three month period over the pandemic.

Cambridge Community Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted for LAC at St Andrews (partner schools).

Clothworkers Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted to laptops for Digital Integration Project.

Community Chest Application - SCDC - The income received within this fund is restricted for art materials in art packs.

Community Fund at the Leys - The income received within this fund is restricted to our work at The Grove Primary School.

Co-Op Community Fund - The income received within this fund is restrived to practitioner training.

EACT - The income received within this fund is restricted to our work at Pendragon Community Primary School.

ECET - The income received within this fund is restricted to Cherry Hinton and Shirley Primary (partner schools).

Edward Gostling Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted to our work at The Grove Primary School.

Ely Community Unit Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for work at St Andrew's School (partner school).

Evelyn Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to our 'Managing Change' project.

Ewings - The income received within this fund is restricted for an 8 week pupil group work programme Wheatfields Primary School (partner school).

Groundworks - The income received within this fund is restricted for individual therapy kits.

Kelly Family Foundation Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for Parent and child work.

Local Giving Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted for Art therapy supplies and the Art Kit appeal.

Masonic Charitable Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted for art packs.

Newby Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to Ridgefield (partner school).

Openwork Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted for therapists who provide arts based therapy and mentoring service at Orchard Park Primary School (partner school).

Postcode Places Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to the salary costs of our Clinical Operations Manager.

Qualcomm Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted to our Digital Integration Project.

Red Hill Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to our work at The Grove Primary School.

Robert Heylen - The income received within this fund is restricted to our work at Histon and Impington Junior School.

Sir Bernard and Lady Schrierer Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted to our work at Cherry Hinton Primary School.

TimeSpace Technology - The income received within this fund is restricted to Histon and Impington Junior School (partner School).

Timothy Lowe - The income received within this fund is restricted to outreach work at Hemingford Grey school.

Toy Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to the cost of art and play resources.

Purpose of designated funds

In 2020/2021 the charity designated £40,000 towards our cloud-based data system project which was reviewed and adjusted to £20,000 in 2021/2022. This cost remains unexpensed at the year end.

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Year ended 31 July 2022

	Fixed Assets £	Current Assets £	Creditors Less Than 1 Year £	**Total £**
General Funds	1,917	350,900	(16,282)	336,535
Designated Funds	–	20,000	–	20,000
Restricted Funds	–	44,580	–	44,580
	1,917	415,480	(16,282)	401,115

Year ended 31 July 2021

	Fixed Assets £	Current Assets £	Creditors Less Than 1 Year £	**Total £**
General Funds	–	300,404	(58,702)	241,702
Designated Funds	–	40,000	–	40,000
Restricted Funds	–	20,582	–	20,582
	–	360,986	(58,702)	302,284

18. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Aug 2021 £	Cash flows £	**At 31 Jul 2022 £**
Cash at bank and in hand	314,300	96,770	411,070

19. Operating lease commitments

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Not later than 1 year	5,649	3,011
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	3,617	5,426
	9,266	8,437

20. Related parties

During the year the charity paid Elizabeth Froy amounts for employment of £8,794 (2020/2021: £Nil). Elizabeth Froy is related to the trustee Nicholas Froy. There were no other related party transactions in this or the prior period.

BLUE SMILE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1139279

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 07411348

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1139279

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Unaudited financial statements

31 July 2021

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial statements

Year ended 31 July 2021

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Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' annual report

Year ended 31 July 2021

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Companies Act 2006 and 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 published in October 2019.

A letter from the chair of trustees

I am very pleased to be reporting on the 2020/21 year for Blue Smile.

This has, as for many other charitable organisations, been a year dominated by the coronavirus pandemic and the radical changes that it has wrought in all our lives. I am very proud of the way in which Blue Smile has risen and adapted to the many challenges. The charity has throughout continued to deliver much needed and valued expert support to children who are struggling with their mental health and emotional wellbeing. The pandemic has taken a heavy toll on children and the services Blue Smile offers are needed more than ever.

At the end of the 2019/20 year the Blue Smile team worked tirelessly to set up services for children and their families which could be delivered remotely, alongside face-to-face work wherever that was possible and safe. During this year those services - telephone support, art packs posted to children and some online therapy - have been continued and evaluated. Feedback from children and parents has been extremely positive with 100% of parents and children who provided feedback responding that they found our remote support services helpful, with a parent commenting that "The calls have been very helpful because without the room to air our feelings and concerns, we would have been even more isolated." We are building on the learning from these innovations, while continuing to maintain face-to-face art and play therapy as our core service for the young children whom we support.

I would like to pay tribute to the headteachers and their teams at the schools with which we work for the dedication and commitment they have shown through these difficult times.

We have continued to focus on high quality data collection and evaluation during this year. Comparisons with data from before the pandemic show that Blue Smile's services are needed more than ever, with significant increases in children affected by problems such as stress/post-traumatic stress, family breakdown, and parent/carer mental illness. Long-term evaluation of our data has helped Blue Smile identify areas of need for our service development such as an increased emphasis on parent/carer and whole family support after identifying that family breakdown has consistently been the most common presenting issue in Blue Smile's referrals. Blue Smile has also continued to demonstrate the positive impact of our services on children's outcomes, with data showing that 74% of children were more willing to engage in school life after receiving Blue Smile support.

We completed our Strategic Plan at the end of the 2020/21 year and are now implementing a new Strategy, which has been developed collaboratively with Blue Smile staff. We have refreshed our fundraising strategy and reviewed and updated our service delivery and training. We successfully migrated our office systems to Outlook 365, an important project expertly managed by our Finance and Administration assistant Maria Harrison.

We also completed our Resilience Project, creating a handbook and training to enable this model and the learning from it to be used widely by other organisations. I would like to thank our Founder and Ambassador Amanda Langford for all the work she has done leading this project - it would not have been possible without her expertise and commitment.

As ever, we have maintained a strong emphasis on safeguarding. With support from the Pixel Fund, we were able to commission a full external safeguarding audit carried out by Safe CiC. The audit commended Blue Smile on its strong and supportive safeguarding culture and made various recommendations which we have subsequently worked through. As usual, we offered safeguarding training alongside other training, supervision and support to our Partner School teams and Outreach therapists. We have welcomed Carrie-Ann Black, a senior mental health nurse, as a new Trustee and Safeguarding lead for the Board

We have also strengthened our fundraising capacity this year, welcoming Cara Parker as our new Head of Fundraising and Development, though sadly saying goodbye to our Fundraising Consultant Zoe Bunter, who had been with us for several years.

I am truly grateful to all those who have given to Blue Smile this year. Our corporate sponsors have continued to support us through huge changes to their ways of working - I mention in particular Cambridge University Press & Assessment and Cambridge Design Partnership. We have been generously supported again with significant grants from The Henry Smith Charity and also by Garfield Weston and the Cambridge Coronavirus Recovery Fund alongside other trusts and foundations. And our community have raised funds through events, sporting challenges and many other activities. I want in particular to express gratitude to the captains and members of the Brampton Golf Club who raised a fantastic sum for us as their charity of the year. And our wonderful Friends group continue to be behind us all the way, raising funds and awareness of the work we do. To all of you, on behalf of everyone at Blue Smile and all the children and families we support, a huge thank you.

I also want to extend my thanks to two of our longstanding Trustees, Graeme Menzies and Penny Dryden who retired from the Board this year. I have been hugely grateful for their wise counsel over the years - the time and skills they have donated have been invaluable and much appreciated. We will miss them and wish them all the best in their next ventures.

At the end of the 20/21 year our brilliant Charity Director, Jess Manley, also retired. Anne Kent-Taylor took up this role on an interim basis (with the approval of the Charity Commission as she had been a Trustee formerly) and I am delighted that the Board have now appointed Anne permanently to this role, following an open competition.

Naomi Mallick - Chair of the Board of Trustees

A letter from the Charity Director

2020-21 continued to be a year in which the coronavirus pandemic impacted Blue Smile and many other charities. After the initial lockdown in March 2020, we began the new financial year full of hope for more normal operational delivery.

However, as our children returned to school for the first time in five months in September 2020, it was to a very different world. Although the first lockdown was over, the school that they returned to was not the same as the one they had left.

This past year has seen a continuance of delivery of Blue Smile's core therapeutic values across the charity in what has proved to be a contrasting environment; we have moved out of a series of lockdowns, each with slightly different rules and sometimes confusing and difficult consequences for schools, to a more familiar, freer and open situation but with the continuing shadow of the pandemic present in our minds.

In responding to this changing world, Blue Smile has listened to children, parents, and teachers. We have resolutely and consistently offered support to many children and to the wider school communities with flexible and tailored delivery.

Blue Smile's services provided directly through school means that families at our schools have more and quicker accessibility to much needed support. Our clinical recovery rates show that children's emotional functioning is significantly improved with Blue Smile's early intervention, which can prevent more serious difficulties later in life. Blue Smile's support has become especially important in the ongoing pandemic that has had a disproportionate impact on children's mental health and wellbeing. Children who have received Blue Smile support have better school engagement, improved attendance, and fewer exclusions.

Our flexible in-person and remote support has been delivered to over 300 children across 27 Cambridgeshire schools. We have continued to develop our clinical services, with groupwork on topics such as Managing and Understanding Emotions and Managing Transition. In response to the growing

mental health need amongst our children, we have developed and provided class wellbeing workshops to over 300 children, promoting and normalizing discussions around mental health and how we can all look after our emotional wellbeing.

Blue Smile also recognises the need for parent support, as highlighted by our own parent/carer survey. We were able to begin to pilot a family support service that offered joint parent-child therapy, developed in response to an increasing need for whole family support. Over the coming year, we hope to offer more support to parents and carers.

We also recognise the impact of the pandemic on the teaching staff that support our children and aim to work with them to ensure they are empowered around mental health and emotional wellbeing.

We have ensured the highest possible standards, with training of up to 65 Blue Smile workers, covering areas such as safeguarding, providing therapeutic support for young children online, LGBTQ+ awareness, and delivering different kinds of groupwork for parents and children.

We remain a clinically led organisation, ensuring that the largest possible proportion of our funding is directed towards the provision of our frontline services.

Next year, as the new Charity Director I will lead a refreshed two-year strategy which will focus on continued delivery of an excellent mental health service, underpinned by evidence and research; increased reach through additional services which impact the whole school community; and the growth of a strong, stable, and sustainable organisation.

Anne Kent-Taylor

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Blue Smile Project
Charity registration number	1139279
Company registration number	07411348
Principal office and registered office	47-51 Norfolk Street Cambridge CB1 2LD

The trustees

The trustees who served during the year and at the date of approval were as follows:

Naomi Mallick (Chair)
Christopher O'Connor (Treasurer)
Angela McKeown
Ellen Nowak
Sarah Nolasco
Carrie-Ann Black (Trustee Safeguarding Lead, appointed 12/10/2020)
Penelope Dryden (Resigned 31/07/2021)
Anne Marie Kent-Taylor (Resigned 31/07/2021)
Graeme Menzies (Resigned 18/01/2021)

Company secretary	Penelope Dryden (Resigned 31/07/2021)
The patron	Professor Sir Simon Baron-Cohen
Executive positions	Jessamy Manley (Resigned 31/07/2021) Anne Kent-Taylor (Appointed 16/08/2021)
Independent examiner	L Thurston FCCA Lovewell Blake LLP Chartered accountants First Floor Suite 2 Hillside Business Park Bury St Edmunds IP32 7EA
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank Plc PO Box 250, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT The Charity Bank Limited Fosse House 182 High Street Tonbridge TN9 1BE
Solicitors	Mills & Reeve LLP Botanic House 100 Hills Road Cambridge CB2 1PH
Website	www.bluesmile.org.uk

Objectives and activities

Objectives:

Blue Smile's charitable objectives as set out in the Memorandum of Association are:

- For the benefit of the public, to enhance the mental health of, in particular but not exclusively, disadvantaged children and young people, in particular in Cambridgeshire and surrounding areas, through counselling, support and therapeutic use of the arts; and
- For the benefit of the public, to support schools and other educational institutions, in particular in Cambridgeshire and surrounding areas, in addressing the mental health needs of, in particular but not exclusively, disadvantaged children and young people appropriately.

Vision:

A world where happier children have brighter futures.

Mission:

To improve the mental wellbeing and prospects of Cambridgeshire children through expert arts-based therapies.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

The charity offers subsidised services to schools and works hard to ensure that the contribution it asks schools to make does not create an insurmountable barrier to potential beneficiaries. Of the children referred to the one-to-one service, 65% of cases are recorded as having more than one problem ("complex").

The most common problem reported is family breakdown and/or reconstituted family. 58% of the children referred to Blue Smile are eligible for Pupil Premium (previously Free School Meals) and 45% are on the Special Educational Needs register.

Achievements and performance

Providing a clinical service in Partner Schools:

Blue Smile provides arts-based therapy and mentoring in Partner Schools in Cambridge to children aged 3-13. Partner Schools also act as our training, research and development hubs, giving clinical placements to trainee therapists. Volunteer mentors also form part of our Partner School teams. We provide intensive one-to-one, long-term therapy and mentoring for around 16 children per week per Partner School.

In 2020/21 Blue Smile operated in Arbury Primary School, Cherry Hinton C of E Primary School, The Grove Primary School in Arbury, Histon and Impington Junior School, Orchard Park Community Primary School, Ridgefield Primary School on the Coleridge site, Shirley Community Primary School in Chesterton, St Andrew's C of E Primary School in Soham and Pendragon Community Primary School in Papworth Everard

Providing an Outreach Service:

Blue Smile provides a flexible Outreach service to help children in any school in Cambridgeshire and surrounding areas. In 2020/2021, Blue Smile provided services for 20 Outreach Schools. This enables schools who may not want to commit to the Partner School model to ask Blue Smile to work with individual or small numbers of children who need support. The Outreach service also offers a whole menu of services to support teachers, give peer support to children through group work, provide support for parents and provide bespoke solutions in areas of high need.

Impact

93% of parents said their child improved because of Blue Smile, 89% of teachers reported improvement because of Blue Smile and 80% of children with the most worrying problems improved. 74% of children were more willing to engage in school life after receiving Blue Smile support. 40% of children had attendance improved and 66% had fewer exclusions.

Providing a service through the pandemic:

The effect of the Covid-19 pandemic created unprecedented challenges and adjustments to everyone's lives and children have been and remain in need of mental health support more than ever. At the beginning of the pandemic, the team at Blue Smile pivoted to new models of working including a new 'Keeping in Touch' phone service whereby our qualified therapists offered regular phone calls to parents as well as children.

We also developed online therapy provision for children above the age of 10. When schools reopened in Autumn 2020, Blue Smile was able to resume most of our face-to-face services, working closely with schools and their new protocols to ensure the health and safety of the children, therapists, and staff in line with Government guidance. It was essential for Blue Smile to provide a flexible service that prioritised face-to-face support whenever possible but also had options for remote support in place whenever necessary.

The ongoing provision of our remote services through phone calls or online therapy since the first lockdown meant that Blue Smile was able to offer a smooth continuity of support for children, parents/carers, and school staff in all our schools over the whole school year, and we have continued to receive very positive feedback about our remote support services.

Maintaining clinical standards:

Since it began, Blue Smile has offered clinical placements to over 2000 trainee therapists. Close relationships with the Faculty of Education and other trainings means that Blue Smile attracts excellent

practitioners with the skills to work with a range of mental health needs including complex and challenging cases. The charity has comprehensive policies and procedures in place and a full set of Practice Standards, to which practitioners sign up annually.

Safer recruiting methods are used for all persons working with children and they receive a full induction and regular supervision. A safeguarding audit carried out by SAFEcic in 2020 found that "there is great pride in the high standards of service delivery and great commitment at all levels to make the charity the best it can be. Everyone recognised that safeguarding is the priority for the charity at all levels". Blue Smile has in 2020 recruited a Lead Trustee for safeguarding, who is a senior mental health nurse at South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust.

The Clinical, Ethics and Safeguarding Group also considers safeguarding requirements and regularly considers ethical issues and practice standards. The Lead Trustee for Safeguarding is available for advice and support to the the Clinical Operations Manager, in particular in situations where the Charity Director may be absent and immediate discussion or advice on a clinical matter is required.

During the pandemic we reviewed policies such as our Online Safety Policy and wrote new policies, guidelines and risk assessment (e.g.Cyber Security Policy) to ensure appropriate standards for new ways of working.

Measuring our effectiveness:

To date, Blue Smile has directly supported 1,250 children one-to-one and 1,992 when group work and workshops are taken into account. We know we indirectly help countless others in the schools we operate in. Evaluation shows Blue Smile's service to be highly effective in this early intervention and prevention.

In 2015, a study by a researcher from the CORC/Anna Freud Centre at UCL benchmarked Blue Smile's outcomes against a study of CAMHS'(Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) outcomes and found:

- 40% of all Blue Smile children (who had higher starting levels of difficulty than those in CAMHS) improved according to their parent/carers, versus 16% in CAMHS.

- 35% of the Blue Smile children with clinically diagnosable difficulties completely recovered, versus 21% for CAMHS.

In 2018, Cambridge Hub Impact Labs (University of Cambridge) undertook a research project with Blue Smile to measure short term versus long term therapy and provide evidence to validate and support an appropriate length of therapy. The report concluded, from Blue Smile data, that there is a statistically significant positive association of treatment length on teacher-rated improvement with longer-term therapy leading to a higher likelihood of improvement compared with shorter therapy.

There is similar directionality of results for parent-rated improvement, although the association is weaker and less consistent. The findings help to inform the basis for our therapeutic model so as to potentially optimise the most effective treatment length within the charity's school-based setting.

A survey in a partner school showed educational attainment improved best in those children supported by Blue Smile compared to other interventions, including interventions in literacy and numeracy. Blue Smile wants to do more research in this area.

In addition to measuring academic progress, we are starting to measure children's engagement in school life and also whether improvements made during therapy are sustained following the end of the work; early results suggest that improvements do seem to be sustained.

We will report on this further in our next financial review following analysis of a larger dataset this has been an analysis we have had to delay as a result of lockdowns during 2020.

Achievements and performance *(continued)*

Supporting continuing professional development:

Development of clinical workers is essential and the contribution we make to this is important to Blue Smile. Blue Smile delivered 7 training sessions this year for a total of 163 attendees, which included mental health practitioners from and beyond Blue Smile, trainees, and other members of the community interested in mental health work. As always, our training was offered free of charge to Blue Smile practitioners. The sessions covered areas such as safeguarding, working therapeutically online with young children, LGBTQ+ awareness, delivering groupwork, and running parent groups.

As in previous years, the charity's Partner School Team Leaders were provided with a training bursary to spend as they chose to develop their clinical and team-leading skills. And all of the charity's practitioners received clinical supervision at an appropriate level and had regular management reviews to monitor progress and provide support.

Financial review

The financial year ending July 2021 resulted in a surplus of £113,547 (2019/20 £122,391). This surplus was as a result of increased trust income and a fall in costs as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic resulting in less face-to-face work.

Overall income in 2020/21 increased by 1% to £494,475 from £489,757 in 2019/20.

Voluntary income increased from £301,214 to £312,531.

Over the year, we have been extremely fortunate to have been supported by some very generous partners. These cover trusts and funds, community fundraising efforts, individual donors many of whom give on a regular basis and corporates. We are extremely grateful to them all.

Overall income

Income from donations, grants, fundraising events and bank interest amounted to £312,998 (2019/20 £301,465).

Financial review *(continued)*

Reserves policy:

Blue Smile continues to emphasise prudent management of its reserves and long-term financial planning. The Trustees reviewed the reserves policy as part of their approval of these accounts. The actual level of reserves compared to this policy is reviewed on a regular basis. In setting Blue Smile's Reserves Policy, the Board takes into account the charity's commitment to working long-term with children (for an average of two school terms), as well as the annual Service Level Agreements with schools. Having assessed potential threats and risks, the Trustees have agreed the need to maintain sufficient income reserves to:

- protect the continuity of the charity's work
- allow for fluctuations in fundraising income
- cover unexpected expenditure and contingencies
- fund the costs of growth and transformation
- to enable the charity to wind up in an orderly and ethical fashion should a very significant change in the fundraising or operating landscape make it no longer viable for the charity to continue

The current policy is that the equivalent of four months of running costs are held as reserves. This equates (on the basis of the budget agreed by trustees for the 20/21 year) to be approximately £172,000. This policy reflects the recent uncertain past and the need to be prudent in the light of this uncertainty.

As at 31 July 2021, the actual free reserves totalled £241,702 (2020 £182,345). Reserves, and expenditure and income, are monitored closely by the Remuneration and Finance subcommittee and Board.

In 20/21 we designated £40,000 towards our cloud-based data system project.

Investment Policy:

The charity does not have significant reserves to invest. Cash balances are held in current and deposit bank accounts with the Charity's bankers. This position is kept regularly under review by the Remuneration and Finance Committee.

Plans for future periods

Blue Smile completed its two-year strategy which ran to 2021. We have developed a new Fundraising Strategy and invested in Fundraising and Development resource, recruiting a new Head of Fundraising and Development. We have planned and started a project to move our data systems to a modern cloudbased system - this project is generously supported by Qualcomm.

We have developed a new set of clinical KPIs, evaluating referral data and clinical outcome for long-term trends and patterns that will help inform areas of improvement and development in Blue Smile's services. We have also further developed our research connections with Cambridge University's Faculty of Education and we currently have a Master's student from the Faculty conducting advanced statistical evaluations of Blue Smile's clinical data.

Amanda Langford has led the Resilience Project for Blue Smile, completing this in 2020/21. This has been made possible by funding from The Evelyn Trust and Cambridgeshire County Council's Innovate and Cultivate Fund. Blue Smile undertook this project with other lead partner Relate and some input from the Family Mediation Service.

Blue Smile continues to be active in The Fullscope Project, a consortium of seven leading organisations that support the mental wellbeing of children and/or young people in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Fullscope has a 3-year programme that will improve provision, establish clearer opportunity pathways, and have national significance in influencing the sector as a whole. The participating organisations are Arts and Minds, Blue Smile, Cambridge Curiosity & Imagination, Centre 33, The Kite Trust, CPSL Mind and YMCA Trinity Group. Blue Smile's Research and Impact Manager has contributed to several Fullscope projects this year, including an evaluation of rejected CAMHS referrals and the development of new referral pathways for primary care networks that harness the resources of the voluntary sector.

Structure, governance and management

Governing documentation:

Blue Smile is the working name of Blue Smile Project. It is a company limited by guarantee with no share capital. It was incorporated on 18 October 2010 under company registration number 7411348, and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It was registered as a charity on 8 December 2010 under charity number 1139279. Its principal office and registered office are 47-51 Norfolk St, Cambridge, CB1 2LD.

Patron:

Our Patron is Professor Sir Simon Baron-Cohen, Professor of Developmental Psychopathology at the University of Cambridge and Director of the Autism Research Centre.

Our Charity Director was Jessamy Manley until 31 July 2021 and is now Anne Kent-Taylor.

Our advisory groups and committees, who report to the Board, are:

Clinical, Ethics and Safeguarding Group (Chair, Anne Kent-Taylor until July 2021 then Carrie-Ann Black)
Fundraising Advisory Group (Chair, Ellen Nowak)
Research and Impact Advisory Group (Chair, Amanda Langford)
Remuneration and Finance Committee (Chair, Naomi Mallick until November 2020 then Christopher O'Connor)

All committees and groups contain at least one trustee and at least one staff member, alongside expert volunteers.

As well as these formal groups, the charity benefits from a large number of other skilled volunteers, to whom we are very grateful.

Senior staff reporting to the Director are Cara Parker, Head of Fundraising and Development, Anita Gatt, Clinical Operations Manager, Vicki Osborne, Clinical Administration & Recruitment Manager, Nard Choi, Research and Impact Manager, and Maria Harrison, IT, Finance and Office Assistant.

Trustees

The trustees bring a variety of experience and skills. They meet bi-monthly and more often where necessary. The trustees oversee the work of the Charity Director, make major decisions, approve policy, review risks and determine strategy. The Trustees delegate day-to-day management of the charity to the Charity Director. Until July 2021 the Director was Jess Manley; Anne Kent-Taylor is the new Director who took up post on an interim basis in August 2021 and on a permanent basis in January 2022.

No trustee is an employee of the company nor has any beneficial interest, but each is a member as well as a director of the company and guarantees to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Structure, governance and management *(continued)*

Recruitment and appointment of trustees:

Trustees are recruited for their skills and experience and generally following advertisement. They are appointed by the Board in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association; there must be at least three and not more than nine Trustees. Prospective trustees are asked to provide two satisfactory references and undertake a DBS check.

Trustees must, according to the Articles of Association, retire after 5 years' service and may not be reappointed more than once. An exception was made for those trustees (numbering one) who had already been in post for 5 years in April 2020, when the Articles were changed as regards trustee retirement. That trustee, Graeme Menzies, was permitted to serve until 20 Jan 2021. Trustees may be appointed again after they have served ten years but only with a 12-month break.

Trustee induction and training:

New Trustees meet the Charity Director, Clinical Operations Manager and other office staff. They are given an induction pack, including the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the current strategy, the most recent full accounts and Annual Review plus recent management accounts. Trustee meeting minutes from previous meetings as well as reports from advisory groups and sub-committees are also available to them. Those new to the role of Trustee are recommended to obtain and read the 'Good Trustee Guide' from the National Council for Voluntary Organisations. There is a Code of Conduct for trustees and training is available to them.

The Board abides by the principles underlying the ACEVO Code of Good Governance.

Structure, governance and management *(continued)*

Risk Assessment:

The Trustees operate a formal risk management process. Trustees and the Charity Director together identify and record key risks, their probability, impact and mitigating actions. Risks are reviewed by Board committees and at full Board. Risk Management was overseen by Penny Dryden in 2020/21 (for the 21/22 year by Sarah Nolasco), with the different groups/committees reporting to the Board on the risks relevant to their remit.

The key areas of potential risks the Board identified as ones to keep under review in 2020/21 were:

Coronavirus pandemic
Poor financial governance and control
Inadequate or undiverse fundraising
Overreliance on key individuals
Compliance in relation to employment
Health and Safety

Key measures that have been put in place to manage each of these risks are:

- Close monitoring by the Board of the impact of coronavirus pandemic on delivery, finances and staff wellbeing. Regular discussion of these matters at Board meetings and agreement on actions as appropriate throughout the year.

- Trustee with accountancy qualification and expertise recruited to Board as Treasurer and reviewed financial documentation and arrangements; he has provided support and training to staff involved in financial management; employed services of a consultant bookkeeper; financial arrangements, cashflow and accounts kept under regular review by Remuneration and Finance Committee. Reviewed fundraising strategy and systems, employed new Head of Fundraising. Review employment arrangements (completed December 2021).

- Board review of professional development and mentoring for staff particularly Charity Director; review of expert volunteer capacity; Board consideration of matters important to staff retention in particular ensuring good wellbeing support in place; ensured office staff were familiar with policy; reviewed Government guidance relating to Covid pandemic; Health and Safety added to agenda for staff meetings.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies' exemption of section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 14 March 2022 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Naomi Mallick
Chair

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Blue Smile Project

Year ended 31 July 2021

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 July 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), balance sheet and the related notes.

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 financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements 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 company's financial statements 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

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or

2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3. the financial statements 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 financial statements 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.

L Thurston 6/4/22

L Thurston FCCA
Independent Examiner

Lovewell Blake LLP
Chartered accountants
First Floor Suite
2 Hillside Business Park
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7EA

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 July 2021

	Note	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	256,031	56,500	312,531	301,214
Charitable activities	6	181,477	–	181,477	183,940
Other trading activities		–	–	–	4,352
Investment income		467	–	467	251
Total income		437,975	56,500	494,475	489,757
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of fundraising	7	41,132	–	41,132	72,249
Charitable activities	8	297,486	42,310	339,796	295,117
Total expenditure		338,618	42,310	380,928	367,366
Net income and net movement in funds		99,357	14,190	113,547	122,391
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		182,345	6,392	188,737	66,346
Total funds carried forward		281,702	20,582	302,284	188,737

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

Blue Smile Project

Company Limited by Guarantee

Balance sheet

31 July 2021

	Note	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible fixed assets	12		–		2,445
Current assets					
Debtors	13	46,686		41,094	
Cash at bank and in hand		314,300		196,878	
		360,986		237,972	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(58,702)		(51,680)	
Net current assets			302,284		186,292
Total assets less current liabilities			302,284		188,737
Net assets			302,284		188,737
Funds of the charity					
Restricted funds			20,582		6,392
Unrestricted funds			281,702		182,345
Total charity funds	16		302,284		188,737

For the year ending 31 July 2021 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 company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 14 March 2022 and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Naomi Mallick

Naomi Mallick
Chair

Company registration number: 07411348

The notes on pages 18 to 28 form part of these financial statements.

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 47-51 Norfolk Street, Cambridge, CB1 2LD.

2. Statement of compliance

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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

3. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

(b) Going concern

The accounts have been prepared on the on going concern basis and the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected income and expenditure for the next 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the Association to be able to continue as a going concern. The trustees have taken Covid-19 into consideration when reviewing going concern.

(c) Income tax

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

(d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated funds are where necessary, unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds 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.

3. **Accounting policies** *(continued)*

(e) Income

All income included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Income is recognised when it is due under terms of funding agreements.

(f) Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT that cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. Expenditure is allocated between:

- Expenditure incurred directly in the fulfillment of the charity's objectives (charitable expenditure).

- Expenditure incurred directly in the effort to raise voluntary contributions (costs of fundraising).

(g) Operating leases

Lease payments are recognised as an expense over the lease term on a straight-line basis. The aggregate benefit of lease incentives is recognised as a reduction to expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis.

(h) Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to the extent that it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

(i) Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Equipment	-	33% straight line

(j) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as a basic financial instrument. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

4. Limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital, and is also a registered charity; it is not liable to corporation tax. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the limited liability company.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2021 £**
Donations			
Corporate donations	25,973	1,600	27,573
Community and events	51,224	–	51,224
Individual donations	13,156	5,746	18,902
Trusts	162,206	49,154	211,360
Gift aid	3,472	–	3,472
	256,031	56,500	312,531

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Donations			
Corporate donations	6,529	5,000	11,529
Community and events	51,857	–	51,857
Individual donations	10,817	–	10,817
Trusts	169,014	50,158	219,172
Gift aid	7,839	–	7,839
	246,056	55,158	301,214

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2021 £**	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Service fees	181,477	181,477	183,940	183,940

7. Costs of fundraising

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total Funds 2021 £**	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Costs of fundraising	41,132	41,132	72,249	72,249

8. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Activities undertaken directly £	**Total funds 2021 £**	Total fund 2020 £
Salary and social security costs	132,161	132,161	104,699
Premises	12,837	12,837	10,560
Professional fees of clinical teams and consultants	146,318	146,318	140,510
Office costs	6,898	6,898	10,607
Postage and stationery	20,193	20,193	13,655
Legal and professional	1,770	1,770	1,853
Training and recruitment	4,343	4,343	4,915
Sundries	13,027	13,027	5,173
Depreciation	2,249	2,249	3,145
	339,796	339,796	295,117

9. Independent examination fees

	2021 £	2020 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for:		
Independent examination of the financial statements	300	600

10. Staff costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	134,890	131,335
Social security costs	6,202	4,946
Pension costs	2,626	2,203
	143,718	138,484

The average head count of employees during the year was 5 (2020: 8). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2021	2020
	No	No
Management	1	1
Clinical operations	2	3
Other	2	3
	5	7

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2020: £Nil).

As a result of a reorganisation within the charity, termination and redundancy payments totalling £Nil (2020: £4,848) are included within staff costs.

Key management personnel

Key management personnel include all personnel that have the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. The total compensation paid to key management personnel for services provided to the charity was £44,030 (2020: £50,149).

11. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No trustee received remuneration in the current or prior year, directly or indirectly, from the charity. No expenses were reimbursed to the trustees during the year.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment
	£
Cost	
At 1 August 2020 and 31 July 2021	12,414
Depreciation	
At 1 August 2020	9,969
Charge for the year	2,445
At 31 July 2021	12,414
Carrying amount	
At 31 July 2021	–
At 31 July 2020	2,445

13. Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	44,575	30,014
Prepayments and accrued income	1,471	10,440
Other debtors	640	640
	46,686	41,094

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	19,765	17,775
Accruals and deferred income	35,070	32,121
Social security and other taxes	2,699	1,742
Other creditors	1,168	42
	58,702	51,680

15. Deferred income

During the year the charity received income amounting to £33,300 (2020: £28,800) where the service period or performance related conditions were met after the balance sheet date. This amount has been deferred into the following year.

16. Analysis of charitable funds

Year ended 31 July 2021

	At 1 August 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2021 £
Restricted Funds					
Awards for All	3,304	–	(3,304)	–	–
ECET	3,308	10,268	(6,510)	–	6,845
Cambridge Community Foundation	–	5,000	(3,650)	–	1,350
Ewings	–	1,600	(1,600)	–	–
Kelly Family Foundation Trust	–	4,000	(3,564)	–	436
Ely Community Unit Trust	–	2,500	(2,500)	–	–
Timespace Technology	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
Local Giving Foundation	–	3,382	(3,382)	–	–
Groundworks	–	1,000	(716)	–	284
Masonic Charitable Foundation	–	250	(250)	–	–
Community Chest Application - SCDC	–	1,000	(1,000)	–	–
Openwork Foundation	–	10,000	(5,000)	–	5,000
Newby Trust	–	10,000	(3,333)	–	6,667
Red Hill	–	2,500	(2,500)	–	–
	6,392	56,500	(42,310)	–	20,582
Designated Funds					
Designated projects	–	–	–	40,000	40,000
	–	–	–	40,000	40,000
Unrestricted Funds					
General Funds	182,345	437,975	(338,618)	(40,000)	241,702
	182,345	437,975	(338,618)	–	281,702

Year ended 31 July 2020

	At 1 August 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31 July 2020 £
Restricted Funds					
Outreach Funding and Partner Schools	17,381	–	(17,381)	–	–
Kelly Family Trust	1,500	–	(1,500)	–	–
Awards for All	–	9,912	(6,608)	–	3,304
CCF Coronavirus Emergency Fund	–	3,115	(3,115)	–	–
Chapman	–	1,000	(1,000)	–	–
ECET	–	9,263	(6,175)	–	3,088
Evelyn Trust	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
Hobson	–	2,000	(2,000)	–	–
Monica Rabagliati	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
Newby Trust	–	10,000	(10,000)	–	–
Pixel Fund	–	3,228	(3,228)	–	–
Red Hill	–	1,640	(1,640)	–	–
TimeSpace Technology	–	5,000	(5,000)	–	–
	18,881	55,158	(67,647)	–	6,392
Unrestricted Funds					
General Funds	47,465	434,599	(299,719)	–	182,345
	47,465	434,599	(299,719)	–	182,345

Purpose of restricted funds

Awards for All - The income received within this fund is restricted to parent, school staff support and webpage for a three month period over the pandemic.

ECET - The income received within this fund is restricted to Cherry Hinton and Shirley Primary (partner schools).

Cambridge Community Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted for LAC at St Andrews (partner schools).

Ewings - The income received within this fund is restricted for an 8 week pupil group work programme Wheatfields Primary School (partner school).

Kelly Family Foundation Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for Parent and child work.

Ely Community Unit Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted for work at St Andrew's School (partner school).

TimeSpace Technology - The income received within this fund is restricted to Histon and Impington Junior School (partner School).

Local Giving Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted for Art therapy supplies and the Art Kit appeal.

Groundworks - The income received within this fund is restricted for individual therapy kits.

Masonic Charitable Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted for art packs.

Community Chest Application - SCDC - The income received within this fund is restricted for art materials in art packs.

Openwork Foundation - The income received within this fund is restricted for therapists who provide arts based therapy and mentoring service at Orchard Park Primary School (partner school).

Newby Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to Ridgefield (partner school).

Red Hill - The income received within this fund is restricted to The Grove for the summer term 2021.

Outreach Funding and Partner School - Income within this fund is restricted against the costs of the outreach work performed by the charity. This works includes therapists going into schools to provide counselling to students.

Kelly Family Trust - The income received within this fund was restricted to the development and deliivery of a pilot parant/child group work programme in one Outreach school.

CCF Coronavirus Emergency Fund - The income received within this fund is restricted to art packs.

Chapman - The income received within this fund is restricted to mentor training.

Evelyn Trust - The income received within this fund is restricted to the Keeping in Touch project funded by the Evelyn Trust.

Hobson - The income received within this fund is restricted to outreach art materials and toys.

Monica Rabagliati - The income received within this fund is restricted to The Grove (partner school).

Pixel Fund - The income received within this fund is restricted to the safeguarding audit.

Purpose of designated funds

In 20/21 we designated £40,000 towards our cloud-based data system project.

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Year ended 31 July 2021

	Fixed Assets £	Current Assets £	Creditors Less Than 1 Year £	**Total £**
General Funds	–	300,404	(58,702)	241,702
Designated Funds	–	40,000	–	40,000
Restricted Funds	–	20,582	–	20,582
	–	360,986	(58,702)	302,284

Year ended 31 July 2020

	Fixed Assets £	Current Assets £	Creditors Less Than 1 Year £	**Total £**
General Funds	2,445	231,580	(51,680)	182,345
Restricted Funds	–	6,392	–	6,392
	2,445	237,972	(51,680)	188,737

18. Operating lease commitments

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Not later than 1 year	8,437	10,246

19. Related parties

There are no related party transactions during the period (2020: £Nil).