

FRIENDS OF GRIFFINS

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1149285

**C/O GRIFFINS SENSORY SUPPORT SERVICE, LOVIBONDS AVENUE,
ORPINGTON BR6 8ER**

ANNUAL REPORT

01/12/23 – 30/11/24



Friends of Griffins

FRIENDS OF GRIFFINS - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1149285
C/O GRIFFINS SENSORY SUPPORT SERVICE, LOVIBONDS AVENUE, ORPINGTON, BR6 8ER
ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS
FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 01/12/23 TO 30/11/24

TRUSTEES DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024

JENNIFER BUTLER
KAREN LONGLEY
TARYN DENHAM
AMY PAGE

Governing Document

The Governing Document for Friends of Griffins, is called The Constitution and Guidelines, this document outlines the rules and guidelines for day-to-day running of the charity. The Charity is an Unincorporated Association, run by volunteers. The Charity trustees are appointed from full members, and they are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting - but the committee can appoint a trustee from among the full members at any time during the year, should this be deemed necessary or appropriate.

Additional Governance Issues

Safeguarding:

There is a Safeguarding Policy in place.

There is a Social Media Policy in Place

Summary of the Objects of the Charity as set out in its Governing Document:

'The Friends are established to advance and enhance the education and life skills of the children and young people on the register of the Sensory Support Service by providing and assisting in the provision of facilities not required or provided by the local education authority for education at the Centre.'

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these Objects

In planning activities, the trustees keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustee meetings.

The focus of our activities during this year has been on providing funding for equipment and activities devised by the staff at Griffins Sensory Support Service, for the children and young people they support. These activities benefit the children by developing self-confidence and social skills alongside practical skills and life skills. We have also provided funds for equipment for the specialist Sensory Room at the centre, this room is used to stimulate the vision of babies and children born with Visual Impairment.

Reserves

The charity is very small, with no requirement for vehicle or property maintenance, and we are unlikely to meet with unforeseen expenditure, but we do strive to maintain a minimum of £2000 in the bank account to allow for emergencies.

Income and Expenditure

Income

Total income for the year was £26701.00

Expenditure

Total expenditure for the year was £8648.88

The money was spent on a variety of activities for the children on the Griffins register to enrich their lives and to help with life skills, social interaction, healthy minds, understanding of their world, visual capabilities and deaf identity, all requests and receipts on file.

Summary of the main achievements and activities funded by the Charity during the year

December 2023- Pre-school parents and children went to a soft play session at The Pavilion in Bromley. The children all had a great time and some mums with very young babies, one 3 months and newly diagnosed, were able to meet and chat. It is an important element of the social events to bring people together to share and create support networks – this particular event was very successful in achieving that aim.

December 2023– 12 children from the vision team visited the Cleaner and Greener Hub in The Glades, Bromley, followed by McDonalds treat.

December 2023– Peri Hearing Team Secondary students and Deaf Centre students visited The Pavilion for bowling, followed by McDonalds. The children got the chance to meet others from different schools and to chat about their hearing loss, their hearing aid devices and what it's like for them at school. Seeing other teenagers wearing similar device to themselves makes them feel less isolated and 'different'.

November 2023 – (this trip appears in this year's Report and Accounts due to the late presentation of invoices) - The Primary Deaf Base and the Early Years Sing & Sign Group went to Coolings to visit the Nature Trail. They were able to talk about the different

animals they saw, and interact with one another in a social setting. The Primary Deaf Base children were encouraged to choose and order their snacks and drinks. This activity was chosen to improve confidence and self-esteem, as well as provide an opportunity for them to practise their communication skills. The PDB children used the trip to support their sequencing and writing. It is very beneficial for the younger children to see older ones using and wearing the same hearing technology, giving them a sense of belonging and not being 'different'.

November 2023 – (this trip appears in this year's Report and Accounts due to the late presentation of invoices) -The Peri Team secondary students and Deaf Centre students went to The Pavilion in Bromley for Bowling and then to McDonalds. This social event brings young people together whilst enjoying an activity, enabling them to make friends and use their communication skills to order food etc.

February 2024 – The Vision Team took part in a cross-borough event with an instructor from Goalball UK. The day included 2 peer awareness sessions in schools where 3 children are blind and an after school event for all year 2 to year 7 children with Vision Impairment, to facilitate equality, all participants were blindfolded. The aims were for the children to learn to play Goalball and participate in a game with their peers. To improve awareness of Vision Impairment, meet children from other schools and build confidence.

March 2024- Preschool families and 2 children from the Deaf Base visited Littleville Role Play Café where children can play in a variety of different role play areas: school, café, hospital, hair salon, police station, fire firefighter, builder, musician etc. The adults were able to model language associated with every day life. The learned about taking turns and practised interaction with adults and children.

May 2024- As we do every year, FoG provide plants and soil so that the age-appropriate children can plant and tend flowers. They learn about how things grow and how to maintain them with water etc.

May 2024 – A coach-full of children with HI went off to Chessington

June 2024- The Primary Deaf Base visited Crystal Palace Park Farm, some went by minibus and some practised using public transport depending on their age. The trip enabled the children to be active, run around the park and to see the animals in the farm.

July 2024- After discussion with staff, the decision was made to test a 'Breakfast Hub' for children arriving on transport. These children often leave home very early for long journeys into Griffins and sometimes breakfast is extremely early or skipped completely, a budget was agreed and the hub set up. The children are offered a healthy breakfast bar, fruit or similar, with a drink. Children were eager to participate, chatting with staff and other

children as they ate - the staff really noticed a difference in concentration levels of the children through the morning. We have agreed to fund the hub for next term to see how it progresses.

July 2024- Vision Picnic. Babies and children with vision impairment, some with additional needs, and their families attended a picnic and crazy golf in Kelsey Park. This is an annual event and enables all the families to meet up and share their experiences and for the children to make and maintain friendships.

July 2024- Pre-school Sing and Sign Group children with parents and carers attended a park and playground visit. These visits enable the children to play together, to meet other children with HI and who wear technology – hearing aids or cochlear implants. The children play together with adults able to support interactions and model language. The charity paid for refreshments for the group to enjoy.

July 2024- A musical body percussions workshop was held at the Primary Deaf Base for children from nursery to year 6. An external provider came to work with the children over Vi

a day, and as well as being thoroughly enjoyed by the children, some of the following benefits were noted.

1. Simple clapping and singing songs enabled the children to follow beat and rhythm.
2. Children took turns to play a metal drum, learning to make it soft or loud as a song was sung.
3. Using a microphone made sounds clearer
4. Sounds were used in a professional capacity to encourage different word sounds such as ff and zzz
5. Children thought of words for their own songs
6. Made car and motorbike sounds etc while moving around the room
7. The children created a soundscape of the seaside, using IT to record and layer the sounds to create a final piece or waves, seagulls, crawling crabs etc

There were many other excellent positive benefits accorded to the visit and plans are in place to repeat it next year.

November 2024 -A group of visually impaired children went bowling and for a meal at the Pavillion in Bromley. These events help the children to make friends and find the confidence to act autonomously to play games and order meals and drinks.

November- 2024 Coach and tickets purchased for the Deaf Base Children to attend a pantomime in Catford in December. A group of cast members came to Griffins in advance

to teach the children about pantomime, the history and special place it has in British culture. The children learned to boo the baddies as loud as they can.

INCOME

Bromley Chain registered Charity

Bromley Chain was a charity involved in assisting the deaf community in the London Borough of Bromley for many years. Sadly, due to lack of interest from anyone to take over the administration from two elderly ladies, the charity was forced to fold. Friends of Griffins, being a charity with very similar aims, was selected as recipient of some of their funds and in December 2023, we received £25,050.00 from them. They were very keen to keep a commitment made to staff at Griffins Centre to fund a British Sign Language Level 3 course. After discussion, we agreed that we would administer the course on their behalf and pay the tutors. The course is now well under way, with the first exams approaching.

We received donations from parents towards various trips and events, which is very helpful. 2 Girls from Bromley High School did a sponsored silence, raising £633 - and a local dance school raised £360.

Opening Balance of Account as at	01/12/2023	£23,304.46
Closing Balance of Account as at	30/11/2024	£41,356.58
Petty Cash Opening Balance as at	01/12/2023	£41.78
Petty cash closing Balance as at	30/11/2024	£41.78
Monies in for financial year 23/24		£26701.00
Monies out for financial year 23/24		£8648.88

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Accounts above as a true representation of the financial year 01/12/2023 to 30/11/2024

Signatures:

Jenny Butler.....



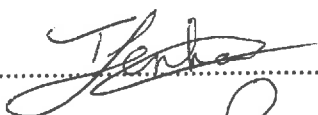
Date..... 01-02-2025

Karen Longley.....



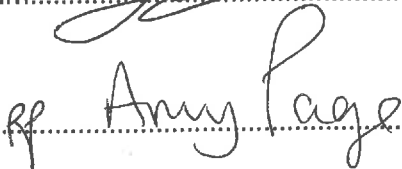
Date..... 1/2/25

Taryn Denham.....



Date..... 1/2/25

Amy Page.....



Date..... 6/2/25

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ORPINGTON BR6 8ER**

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

01/12/23 – 30/11/24



Friends of Griffins

FRIENDS OF GRIFFINS - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1149285
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MONIES IN 01/12/23– 30/11/24

DATE	MONIES IN FROM	AMOUNT	TYPE	DESCRIPTION
01/12/23	OPENING BALANCE			
07/12/23	Bromley Chain	25,050.00		Closure of their Charity
25/03/24	Parent	50.00		Donation
April	17 children x 15.00	255.00		Donations for Chessington
May	10 children X15	150.00		Donations for Chessington
23/05/24	Vision Team	158.00		Refund for bouldering
23/05/24	Sponsored Silence Girls	633.00		Fund raiser
19/07/24	S74	360.00		Fund Raiser
18/11/24	Parent	5.00		Donation Pizza trip
19/11/24	Parent	5.00		"
19/11/24	Parent	5.00		"
21/11/24	Parent	5.00		"
25/11/24	Parent	5.00		"
25/11/24	Parent	5.00		"
27/11/24	Parent	5.00		"
27/11/24	Parent	5.00		"
27/11/24	Parent	5.00		"
TOTAL		26,701.00		

The income logged for this financial year will be £26,701.00

MONIES OUT

DATE	MONIES OUT TO	AMOUNT	HOW	DESCRIPTION
01/12/23	Hiscox	9.16		Insurance
04/12/23	BSL3 Tutor	490.00		BSL3 Tutor
14/12/24	Vision Team	66.99		Vision visit to The Hub Bromley
14/12/24	Peri Team	87.00		Soft Play
14/12/24	Vision Team	50.00		Vision visit to The Hub Bromley
15/12/24	Peri Team	290.83		Bowling Peri Team +
19/12/24	BSL3 Tutor	210.00		BSL3 tutor
02/01/24	Hiscox	9.16		Insurance
01/02/24	Hiscox	9.16		Insurance
23/02/24	GoalBall	225.00		Vision event Goalball
01/03/24	Hiscox	9.16		Insurance
02/04/24	Peri Team	163.70		Reimburse for Littleville Role Play

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02/04/24	Hiscox	9.16		Insurance
12/04/24	LBB	919.68	Chq	Laptops for Deaf Centre
12/04/24	LBB	796.00	Chq	Ipads for Deaf Base
19/04/24	Deaf Base	49.40		Reimburse for planting
01/05/24	Guideline Coaches	675.00		Coach to Chessington
01/05/24	Hiscox	8.40		Hiscox
01/05/24	Deaf Base	12.00		Reimburse soil for planting
07/05/24	BSL 3 Tutor	315.00		BSL3 tutor
07/05/24	Vision Team	158.00		Reimburse bouldering (refunded)
14/05/24	Chessington	329.25		Tickets
22/05/24	BSL3 Tutor	210.00		BSL3 tutor
22/05/24	Chessington	13.50		Extra ticket
03/06/24	Hiscox	8.40		Insurance
10/06/24	minibus	190.00		Crystal Palace Park Farm
01/07/24	BSL3 Tutor	315.00		BSL3 tutor
01/07/24	Hiscox	8.40		Insurance
05/07/24	Vision Team	52.50		Crazy Golf Vision Picnic
16/07/24	Deaf Base	49.48		Breakfast Club
19/07/24	Sound Stories	400.00		Music Day
24/07/24	Peri Team	70.95		Preschool park and play
01/08/24	Hiscox	8.40		Insurance
30/08/24	Hiscox	8.40		Insurance
03/09/24	BSL3 Tutor	315.00		BSL3 tutor
01/10/24	Hiscox	8.40		Insurance
02/10/24	BSL3 Tutor	420.00		BSL3 tutor
17/10/24	BSL3 Tutor	210.00		BSL3 tutor
01/11/24	Hiscox	8.40		Insurance
08/11/24	Guideline Coaches	890		Coach for panto
15/11/24	Post Office (for Lewisham Council)	470		Panto tickets
28/11/24	Vision Team	100		Vision Bowling
TOTAL		8648.88		

The OUTGOINGS logged for this financial year will be £8648.88

PETTY CASH LOG 2023/2024

All Receipts held in File

DATE	IN	OUT	DESCRIPTION	BALANCE
01/12/23			OPENING BALANCE	41.78
30/11/24			CLOSING BALANCE	41.78

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Jenny Butler.....

Date..... 01-02-2025

Karen Longley.....

Date..... 1/2/25

Taryn Denham.....

Date..... 1/2/25

Amy Page.....

Date..... 6/2/25



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Friends of Griffins

On accounts for the year
ended

30 November 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1149285

Set out on pages

1-2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/11/2024.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

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

Independent
examiner's statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:

Date: 11/01/2025

Name:

Matthew Phillips

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

ACA

Address:

17 Derrick Road

Beckenham

BR3 3QG

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

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