

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LTD

England & Wales · Charity number 1150231

Details

Other names LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [08151118](#)

Registered 2012-12-18

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE EDUCATION IN SCIENCE AMONGST SCHOOLCHILDREN AND ADULTS IN THE UK AND ABROAD IN SUCH WAYS AS THE TRUSTEES SEE FIT, INCLUDING BY:-HELPING ESTABLISH SCIENCE-ORIENTED PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN SCHOOLS IN THE UK AND OVERSEAS-ORGANISING EVENTS WHICH PROMOTE AN INTEREST IN SCIENCE-INVESTIGATING AND USING NEW TECHNOLOGY TO COMMUNICATE SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

Activities: To advance education in science amongst schoolchildren and adults in the UK, including by:- breaking down barriers to help disabled children and young adults participate in STEM- organising events which promote an interest in science- investigating and using new technology to communicate scientific knowledge and understanding

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£239,302	£197,502	-	-
2024-12-31	£230,327	£127,190	-	-
2023-12-31	£158,622	£71,743	-	-
2022-12-31	£107,734	£91,448	-	-
2021-12-31	£105,088	£83,043	-	-
2020-12-31	£95,418	£88,593	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anthony Alan Dodd		2025-09-22
Chloe Askew		2025-09-22
Clive Gilbert		2022-09-07
Dr Josie Rawes		2023-01-01
George Oscar O'Brien		2025-09-22
Julie Eshleman		2025-09-22
Lisa Katherine Nicholas		2025-09-22
Lucy Jane Williams		2021-04-14
Mitchel Paxton Vidler		2025-09-22
Puneet Paul Thukral		2025-09-22

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Accounts



Annual Report & Financial Statements

For year ended
31 December 2025

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Financial Year Ended 31 December 2025

The Board of Trustees of the Charity, which also acts as the board of directors for company law purposes, submits their report and the financial statements for Lightyear Foundation for the period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025. The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition – October 2019) and with the Charities Act 2011.

Objectives

The Charity's objects, as set out in its governing document, are: To advance education in science amongst schoolchildren and adults in the UK and abroad in such ways as the Trustees see fit, including by:

- Helping establish science-oriented partnerships between schools
- Organising events that promote an interest in science
- Investigating and using new technology to communicate scientific knowledge and understanding

Statement of Public Benefit

The Charity Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

The Charity's Activities

Lightyear Foundation breaks down the barriers to disabled and neurodivergent children and young people participating in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM), opening up the exciting world of science for all regardless of ability or background.

Through targeted educational programmes, outreach, training, and consultancy, the Charity works with children and young people, educators, and employers to inspire a new generation of disabled scientists, engineers, and innovators. The Charity delivers immersive STEM experiences, skills-based learning, and direct engagement with disabled role models, enabling young people to discover, explore, and thrive in STEM subjects and careers.

For STEM Education and Learning

Disabled and neurodivergent young people face significant challenges in accessing STEM education. Many experience inaccessible learning environments, a lack of adapted teaching resources, and few opportunities to see themselves represented in STEM fields. As a result, disabled students are less likely to engage with STEM subjects, leading to underrepresentation in STEM education and careers.

Lightyear Foundation delivers high-impact programmes designed to inspire, engage, and empower disabled and neurodivergent children and young people in STEM.

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- Immersive Sensory Science Experiences provide hands-on, multi-sensory learning tailored to diverse needs, enabling children to engage with science in a way that is both accessible and memorable.
- Lightyear Labs and Lightning Labs give disabled students the opportunity to experiment, explore, and develop key scientific skills in a fully inclusive environment.
- Work Inspiration Trips provide real-world exposure to STEM workplaces, allowing students to meet professionals, explore careers, and envision themselves in STEM roles.
- Celebrating STEM Stories ensures that disabled and neurodivergent young people see positive role models in STEM, demonstrating that there is a place for them in the sector.
- SEND in STEM Network connects educators and professionals to share best practices and drive forward more inclusive STEM education policies and approaches.
- Policy and Influencing Work ensures that the voices and experiences of deaf, disabled and neurodivergent young people inform STEM education policy and practice, helping to drive lasting systemic change across the sector.

By delivering tailored, accessible and inclusive STEM opportunities, Lightyear Foundation empowers disabled and neurodivergent children and young people to discover, explore and lead in STEM. Through our programmes, we build confidence, develop transferable skills, foster a strong sense of belonging, and support long-term progression into further study, training and employment.

For the STEM Sector

Despite the increasing demand for skilled STEM professionals, disabled people remain significantly underrepresented in STEM careers. Science, engineering, and technology jobs are growing at double the rate of other occupations, with an estimated 1.8 million more STEM-qualified people needed in the UK by 2025.

However, structural barriers continue to exclude disabled individuals from STEM pathways.

Lightyear Foundation works directly with STEM organisations, employers, and educators to drive meaningful and lasting change by:

- Delivering training and consultancy to improve accessibility in STEM education, outreach, and workplace environments.
- Supporting STEM organisations through the SEND in STEM Network, providing guidance on making STEM more inclusive for disabled and neurodivergent individuals.
- Advocating for policy change to ensure that disabled young people have equitable access to STEM education, training, and employment.

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- Developing partnerships with STEM employers to increase disabled representation and create inclusive hiring pathways.

Through these initiatives, Lightyear Foundation ensures that the STEM sector recognises, values, and embraces the contributions of disabled individuals—not just as participants, but as innovators, leaders, and changemakers.

Our Impact in 2025

In 2025, Lightyear Foundation delivered its largest and most ambitious programme to date, reaching 1,892 deaf, disabled and neurodivergent children and young people across the UK. This represents an increase of over 108% on the previous year and marks the first year of delivering our Strategic Plan 2025–2030.

Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent young people are growing up in a world shaped by science and technology, yet many continue to face systemic barriers to participation in STEM education and employment. Schools remain under pressure, transitions into further education and employment are fragile, and expectations are too often lowered. Meanwhile, rapid advances in artificial intelligence, green technologies and digital industries are reshaping the labour market at pace. Without intentional inclusion, the next generation of STEM pathways risks becoming less accessible, not more.

Lightyear Foundation exists to address this imbalance. We combine practical programme delivery with sector development and policy influence, ensuring that inclusion is embedded at every level of the STEM ecosystem.

In 2025, our work spanned our four core areas:

Education and Outreach, Community Development, Sector Development, and Policy and Influence.

1. Education and Outreach

Immersive Sensory Science

- 745 young people engaged
- 5 special schools visited

Our Immersive Sensory Science programme delivers multi-sensory STEM experiences designed for accessibility from the outset. Through our pop-up planetarium and immersive storytelling, we ensure that young people with a wide range of physical, sensory and communication needs can experience awe, curiosity and scientific exploration in ways that are meaningful to them.

Teachers consistently report high levels of engagement, including among learners who do not typically access traditional STEM lessons.

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Lightyear Labs and Lightning Labs

- 21 labs delivered
- 162 young people engaged

Our fully funded small-group labs promote experimentation, collaboration and critical thinking. Sessions are delivered both in person and online and are adapted to meet diverse communication and access needs.

In 2025, we expanded our offer to include:

- Engineering Labs focused on problem-solving and design
- Technology Labs delivered in British Sign Language with deaf STEM professionals
- Continued development of physics, chemistry and robotics themes

Evaluation shows sustained impact:

- 91% of Lightyear Lab participants reported learning something new
- 92% showed higher engagement compared to their regular science lessons
- 91% expressed a desire to learn more STEM

These sessions build confidence, strengthen transferable skills and reinforce the belief that STEM is accessible and relevant.

Work Inspiration Trips

- 13 trips delivered
- 132 young people engaged
- 54 STEM professionals involved

Work Inspiration Trips provide behind-the-scenes access to STEM workplaces, enabling young people to see STEM in action and meet professionals working in the field.

In 2025, we visited ten STEM organisations including Prodrive, Wellcome Genome Campus, Renishaw and Systra. These experiences broaden understanding of career pathways and challenge assumptions about who belongs in STEM workplaces.

Following participation:

- 85% of young people reported increased knowledge of STEM careers
- 84% reported improved understanding of how STEM impacts everyday life
- 86% enjoyed the visits

STEM Futures

- 812 young people engaged
-

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- 65 educators directly involved
- 33 bespoke sessions co-designed and delivered
- 9 special schools connected across four UK nations

STEM Futures marked a significant evolution in our delivery model. Moving beyond one-off interventions, we developed sustained partnerships with special schools to co-create accessible curriculum models.

The programme combined direct classroom delivery with professional development, enabling teachers to embed inclusive STEM practice beyond the life of the pilot.

Outcomes include:

- 93% of young people showed increased interest in STEM
- 88% demonstrated improved STEM knowledge
- 100% of participating schools implemented sustainable curriculum changes
- Educator confidence increased by 21% on average

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This model reflects our strategic commitment to embedding inclusion, not simply supplementing provision.

2. Community Development

Lightyear Youth Group

In 2025, we launched our national Youth Group for disabled and neurodivergent young people aged 14–25. Developed through co-production workshops, the group now meets regularly to shape our programmes, inform advocacy and contribute to sector discussions.

This marks an important step in ensuring that lived experience guides organisational direction.

Celebrating STEM Stories

- 3 new role models profiled
- Total profiles now: 30

Our Celebrating STEM Stories programme continues to challenge stereotypes and increase representation. In 2025, we profiled three disabled and neurodivergent STEM professionals, producing high-quality films to showcase diverse career pathways. Representation remains critical. When young people see professionals who share their lived experience, aspirations become tangible.

3. Sector Development

Training and Consultancy

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- 104 training attendees
- 10 new consultancy partnerships initiated

Through our Making STEM Accessible training and consultancy services, we support STEM organisations to embed inclusive practice in programming, management and workforce development.

Feedback remains consistently strong:

- 95% rated training content 4/5 or higher
- 98% found trainers supportive and engaging
- 86% reported increased confidence engaging with disabled and neurodivergent people

We also supported resource development, event accessibility, research steering groups and co-production initiatives across the sector.

SEND in STEM Network

- 472 members
- 3 network meetings delivered

The SEND in STEM Network continues to convene educators, policy makers, researchers, disability activists and industry leaders committed to inclusive STEM practice.

In 2025, meetings focused on accessible laboratory environments, engagement with young people with profound and multiple learning disabilities, and peer-led roundtables.

The Network plays a critical role in driving collaboration and knowledge exchange at national level.

4. Policy and Influence

Creating lasting change requires influence beyond programme delivery.

Throughout 2025, Lightyear Foundation strengthened its national voice in policy and sector reform. We contributed to:

- Curriculum and Assessment Review for England
- Education Scotland's Sciences Curriculum Improvement Cycle
- Parliamentary events and STEM policy receptions
- Royal Society and Ogden Trust accessibility discussions
- National SEND Employment Forum
- Cross-sector roundtables on AI, employability and accessibility

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We engaged in disability-led networks including the DPO Forum and Funding Justice Collective, ensuring lived experience informs systems-level decisions. Our role is increasingly recognised not only as a delivery organisation, but as a credible, disabled-led voice shaping inclusive STEM policy and practice.

2025 in Numbers

In 2025, Lightyear Foundation delivered its largest programme to date, reaching more deaf, disabled and neurodivergent young people than at any point in our history. Year One of our Strategic Plan 2025–2030 marked a significant step forward in scale, depth and influence.

Our work continued to focus on removing barriers, embedding accessibility from the outset, and ensuring young people see themselves as active participants and future leaders within STEM.

Engagement

- 1,895 deaf, disabled and neurodivergent young people participated directly in our programmes.
- 745 young people engaged in Immersive Sensory Science experiences.
- 162 young people took part in Lightyear Labs and Lightning Labs.
- 132 young people participated in Work Inspiration Trips.
- 812 young people participated in STEM Futures.
- 3 new Celebrating STEM Stories role models profiled.
- 30 total role models featured to date.
- 837 views of Celebrating STEM Stories content.

Programme Delivery

- 13 Work Inspiration Trips delivered.
- 21 Lightyear Labs and Lightning Labs delivered.
- 9 special schools engaged in STEM Futures across all four UK nations.

Capacity Building and Training

- 472 members in the SEND in STEM Network.
- 104 attendees across our Making STEM Accessible training courses.
- 54 STEM professionals facilitated Work Inspiration Trips.

Partnerships and Collaboration

- 26 schools and partner organisations engaged.
- 10 new consultancy partnerships initiated.
- Ongoing contribution to national curriculum reform, parliamentary events and cross-sector accessibility forums.

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Volunteering and Community Involvement

- 341 volunteer hours contributed in support of programme delivery, governance and sector engagement.

Lightyear Foundation remains committed to ensuring that every disabled and neurodivergent young person has the opportunity to engage with STEM, develop essential skills, and see themselves as part of the future of science, technology, engineering, and maths.

Strategic Progress in 2025

2025 marked the first year of delivering the Lightyear Foundation Strategic Plan 2025-2030 and represented a year of significant growth and consolidation. The Charity expanded its programme reach to 1,642 deaf, disabled and neurodivergent young people, strengthening delivery models and launching STEM Futures to embed more sustained, curriculum-linked partnerships with special schools. Alongside programme expansion, we initiated a structured review of delivery and evaluation frameworks to ensure accessibility, quality and long-term impact remain central to our work.

During the year, we strengthened youth participation and community engagement, further developing our Youth Group and national SEND in STEM Network. We also increased our contribution to sector discussions, engaging in curriculum reform processes and national forums to ensure that disability inclusion remains central to STEM policy and practice. This marked an important step in positioning the Charity not only as a delivery organisation but as a credible, disabled-led voice within the sector.

Operationally, 2025 saw continued progress in building a sustainable organisation. Staffing structures were stabilised, governance and financial oversight strengthened, and new fundraising and communications strategies implemented. Income diversification improved and multi-year partnerships were secured, laying strong foundations for long-term resilience and growth.

Acknowledgements and principal funders

The Trustees extend their sincere thanks to all those who supported Lightyear Foundation throughout 2025. Year One of our Strategic Plan 2025–2030 has been a year of significant growth in reach, depth and influence. None of this progress would have been possible without the generosity of our funders, the dedication of our staff and volunteers, and the commitment of our partners across education, industry and policy.

Funders and supporters

The Charity is deeply grateful to the organisations, trusts and foundations whose financial support enabled us to deliver inclusive STEM programmes to 1,642 deaf, disabled and neurodivergent young people across the UK, strengthen sector practice and contribute to national policy discussions.

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We extend particular thanks to:

- Avantor Foundation
- AKO Foundation
- Bailey Thomas Charitable Fund
- Biochemical Society
- Cawood Scientific Limited
- Civil Aviation Authority – Reach for the Sky Challenge Fund
- Community Foundation of Ireland – RTÉ Toy Show Appeal
- FB Coales Family Trust
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- Howmet Aerospace Foundation
- Johnson Matthey – Science and Me
- Liberty Specialty Markets
- Manly Trust
- Merck Group / EMD Millipore Corporation
- Masonic Charitable Foundation
- National RTÉ Toy Show Appeal
- Night Sky Foundation
- Ogden Trust
- PA Foundation
- Royal Academy of Engineering
- Spectris Foundation

We are also grateful to the many individual donors who supported our work, including those who contributed to our Big Give Christmas Challenge, enabling us to exceed our fundraising target and expand access to our programmes.

Our Partners

Lightyear Foundation is proud to work alongside special schools, mainstream schools, multi-academy trusts, universities, research institutions, STEM employers, science centres and national sector bodies to embed accessibility across the STEM ecosystem.

In 2025, we worked with 26 schools and partner organisations, visited ten STEM workplaces, and initiated ten new consultancy partnerships. We are particularly grateful to the 54 STEM professionals who facilitated Work Inspiration Trips and the organisations that opened their workplaces to our young people.

We also thank the 472 members of the SEND in STEM Network, whose collaboration, insight and leadership continue to drive meaningful sector change.

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Finally, the Trustees extend their appreciation to our volunteers, Youth Group members and disabled-led networks who ensure that lived experience remains central to our governance, programme design and advocacy.

Your collective support ensures that deaf, disabled and neurodivergent young people are not only included in STEM but empowered to thrive within it.

Plans for 2026

Building on the first year of our Strategic Plan 2025–2030, 2026 will focus on consolidating growth, strengthening evaluation, and embedding sustainable infrastructure across the organisation.

Deliver High-Impact STEM Programmes

In 2026, we will strengthen programme evaluation and impact measurement by implementing a formal data collection and analysis system aligned to agreed KPIs. Annual accessibility audits and staff training will ensure universal design and inclusive pedagogy remain central to delivery.

Build Inclusive Communities

We will expand our Community Development work, embedding youth leadership structures including Apprentice Board Members and undertaking our first annual community engagement review to assess reach, inclusivity and impact.

Become a Trusted Resource

A priority for 2026 will be establishing a formal research and evaluation framework. This will include approving a research strategy, developing partnerships with academic and sector bodies, and publishing findings to inform sector practice.

Influence Policy and Practice

We will build on firm foundations to implement a structured Influencing and Advocacy Strategy, strengthening engagement with policymakers and producing evidence-based policy recommendations. Our aim is to ensure disability inclusion remains central to STEM education and workforce reform discussions.

Build a Sustainable Organisation

Operational priorities include reviewing governance structures, strengthening Board oversight through subcommittees, embedding upgraded financial management systems, and implementing our Marketing and Communications Strategy. We will continue to diversify income streams and build reserves in line with our five-year financial plan.

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As we enter Year Two of our Strategic Plan, our focus is on ensuring that growth is underpinned by strong governance, robust evidence, and long-term financial sustainability.

Financial review

Results for the year

The Charity received income of £239,302 (2024 - £230,327) and incurred expenditure of £197,502 (2024 - £127,190) resulting in net income of £41,800 (2024 - £103,137) for the year, of which a surplus of £102,138 was attributable to unrestricted funds and a deficit of £60,338 to restricted funds. The totals funds at 31 December 2025 of £310,200 was made up of £190,248 in unrestricted funds and £119,952 in restricted funds.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have agreed a reserves policy that ensures the Charity can continue to operate effectively and meet its commitments in the event of unforeseen circumstances. The reserves policy is designed to:

- Maintain financial stability and protect against unexpected funding shortfalls.
- Provide working capital to support programme delivery and organisational development.
- Allow for strategic investment in the Charity's growth and sustainability.

The Trustees have set a target level of free reserves equivalent to five months of core operating costs, which has been calculated at £82,092. As of 31 December 2025, the Charity's free reserves stood at £190,248, exceeding this target level. The Trustees have determined that, in early 2026, the proportion of reserves above the target level will be used to implement organisational changes arising from the new Strategic Plan 2025-2030. This planned investment will support the Charity's long-term sustainability and enhance its capacity to deliver on its mission.

Reserves may be accessed, with the agreement of the Trustees, to provide working capital for new areas of work, strategic development, or emergency requirements.

The reserves policy is reviewed annually to ensure that it remains appropriate for the Charity's financial position and strategic priorities.

The Trustees remain committed to maintaining a sustainable level of reserves while ensuring that funds are effectively deployed to breaking down barriers to STEM for disabled and neurodivergent young people.

Donated goods and services

The charity is very grateful for all the pro bono support it receives but is unable to put a financial value on it.

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Reference and administrative details

Charity registration number: 1150231

Date of registration: 18th Dec 2012

Company registration number: 08151118

Date of incorporation: 20th July 2012

Address: Lightyear Foundation, 19 Penrith Road, Bournemouth, BH5 1LT

Website: www.lightyearfoundation.org

Bankers: Lloyds Bank plc, 120 Lewisham High Street, Lewisham, London. SE13 6JG

Insurers: Hiscox

Independent examiner: Amy Beecroft

Trustees:

The Trustees who served the Charity during the period were as follows:

Dr Camila Devis-Rozental (resigned 22 September 2025)

Clive Gilbert

Kirshen Govender (Resigned 21 May 2025)

Dr Camilla Pang (resigned 21 May 2025)

Dr Josie (Co-Chair)

Peter Roberts (resigned 12 November 2025)

Lucy Williams (Co-Chair)

Chloe Askew (appointed 22 September 2025)

Anthony Dodd (appointed 22 September 2025)

Julie Eschelman (appointed 22 September 2025)

Lisa Nicholas (appointed 22 September 2025)

George O'Brien (appointed 22 September 2025)

Puneet Thikral (appointed 22 September 2025)

Mitchel Vidler (appointed 22 September 2025)

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

Lightyear Foundation is governed by its Articles of Association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Organisational structure

The Trustees are responsible for decisions regarding the strategy and development of the Charity, and other high-level decisions. Day to day running of the Charity is delegated to the CEO of Lightyear Foundation plus a team of employed and freelance professionals.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

Lightyear Foundation is governed by a Board of Trustees, who are responsible for setting the Charity's strategic direction, ensuring good governance, and overseeing financial and operational management. Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Charity's Articles of Association and are subject to a formal recruitment, selection, and induction process.

During 2025, the Charity undertook a significant and successful Trustee recruitment round to strengthen the Board's capacity for the delivery of the Strategic Plan 2025–2030.

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Following a structured recruitment and assessment process, a number of new Trustees were appointed in September 2025, bringing additional expertise across governance, finance, sector leadership and lived experience. This recruitment round substantially strengthened the Board's breadth of skills and supported succession planning as the organisation enters a new phase of growth.

The Board also saw planned leadership transition during the year. Peter Roberts stepped down as Chair in November 2025, and the Trustees elected Lucy Williams and Josie Rawes to serve as Co-Chairs. This co-chairing model reflects the Charity's commitment to collaborative leadership and inclusive governance.

Regular Trustee skills audits continue to be undertaken to ensure that the Board maintains a broad and balanced mix of skills, professional expertise and lived experience. All new Trustees complete a comprehensive induction programme, including briefing on governance responsibilities, strategy, financial oversight, safeguarding, and equity, diversity and inclusion. This approach ensures that Trustees are fully equipped to support the Charity's mission and long-term sustainability.

Staff and Associates

The senior management team and staff who served during the year ended 31 December 2025 were:

- Jeff Banks – Chief Executive Officer
- Emma Zeale – Senior Programme Manager
- Hannah-Rose Ford Tomlinson – Communities and Partnerships Programme Manager and Lightyear Lab Lead
- Jade Fouracre-Reynolds – Programme Manager (STEM Futures)
- Yoli Wallbanks – Access to Work Support Worker and Assistant to the CEO
- Michelle Singer – Administrator
- Dr Claire Malone – STEM Lead
- Rupa Ahluwalia – Lightyear Lab Lead
- Beejal Parekh – Lightyear Lab Lead
- Sammy Mason – Lightyear Lab Lead and Lightyear Course Trainer

Our Team and Volunteers

The Trustees would like to thank our staff, sessional workers, and volunteers for their dedication and commitment to delivering high-quality, inclusive STEM experiences. Their passion and expertise are at the heart of Lightyear Foundation's impact. The Trustees would also like to extend a welcome to those who have joined the team as we embark on an ambitious new phase of growth and impact.

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review the risks facing Lightyear Foundation and take appropriate steps to mitigate potential threats to the Charity's operations, finances, governance, and reputation. The Charity maintains a risk register, which is reviewed and updated periodically to ensure that risks are identified, assessed, and managed effectively.

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Key areas of risk management in 2025 included:

- Financial sustainability – Managing growth responsibly while diversifying income streams, securing multi-year funding commitments, and strengthening financial forecasting and reserves in line with the five-year operational plan.
- Governance and leadership transition – Managing significant Board recruitment and leadership changes, including Chair succession, while maintaining strong governance, compliance with charity and company law, and effective strategic oversight.
- Operational capacity and growth – Ensuring staffing structures, systems and processes kept pace with increased programme delivery and organisational expansion, including the implementation of strengthened evaluation and performance monitoring systems.
- Programme quality and accessibility – Maintaining high standards of accessibility, inclusive pedagogy and safeguarding as delivery expanded geographically and in scale, supported by accessibility audits and training.
- Safeguarding and data protection – Maintaining robust safeguarding oversight, Board-level accountability and mandatory training, alongside strengthened GDPR compliance and data management systems.
- Reputation, policy engagement and partnerships – Managing reputational risk as the Charity’s national profile and policy engagement increased, ensuring that communications, advocacy and partnerships remained aligned with our values and evidence base.

The Charity has also embedded risk management into its strategic planning processes, ensuring that potential challenges are identified early and that mitigation strategies are in place to support the successful delivery of the Strategic Plan (2025–2030). The Trustees are committed to ongoing risk monitoring and proactive risk management, ensuring that Lightyear Foundation remains a stable, sustainable, and high-impact organisation.

Statement of the Responsibilities of the Trustee Directors

The Trustees (who are also directors of Lightyear Foundation for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees’ Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

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- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The company has taken advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the report above.

So far as each of the Trustees is aware at the time the report is approved:

- There is no relevant review information of which the charitable company's independent examiner is unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant review information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:



Josie Rawes, Co-Chair of Trustees



Lucy Williams, Co-Chair of Trustees

Date: 30 March 2026

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REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

I report to the Charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Lightyear Foundation Limited for the year ended 31 December 2025 as set out on pages 17 to 27.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity's trustees of the company (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that:

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- The accounts do not accord with such records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (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.

Signed:

Date: 30 March 2026

Amy Beecroft

Name: Amy Beecroft FCA

Address: Amy Beecroft Ltd, 19 Newton Road, Lindfield, West Sussex, RH16 2NB.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2025 Total funds £	31.12.2024 Total funds £
Income from:					
Grants and donations	2	101,491	128,170	229,661	228,123
Consultancy, training and events income		9,641	-	9,641	2,204
Total income		111,132	128,170	239,302	230,327
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	3	393	-	393	184
Charitable activities	4,5,6	8,244	188,865	197,109	127,006
Total expenditure		8,637	188,865	197,502	127,190
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR	9	102,495	(60,695)	41,800	103,137
Transfers between the funds		(357)	357	-	-
Net movement in the funds		102,138	(60,338)	41,800	103,137
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		88,110	180,290	268,400	165,263
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	12	190,248	119,952	310,200	268,400

The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.
All of the activities of the Charity are classed as continuing.

The comparative funds are detailed in Note 13.
The notes on pages 19 to 27 form part of these financial statements.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2025 Total funds £	31.12.2024 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	61,466	73,131	134,597	1,537
Cash at bank		132,812	46,821	179,633	267,449
		<u>194,278</u>	<u>119,952</u>	<u>314,230</u>	<u>268,986</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(4,030)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,030)</u>	<u>(586)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>190,248</u>	<u>119,952</u>	<u>310,200</u>	<u>268,400</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>190,248</u></u>	<u><u>119,952</u></u>	<u><u>310,200</u></u>	<u><u>268,400</u></u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	12			190,248	88,110
Restricted funds				<u>119,952</u>	<u>180,290</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u><u>310,200</u></u>	<u><u>268,400</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 30 March 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:



.....
Josie Rawes
Co-Chair



.....
Lucy Williams
Co-Chair

The notes on pages 19 to 27 form part of these financial statements.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with items recognised at cost or transaction value. The Financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), FRS 102 and the Charities Act 2011. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern due to accumulated reserves, and there are no significant current or longer-term liabilities, and the organisation has significant net assets and reserves.

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred and no material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

Income

All income is included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Grants and donations are included in income when they are received, except for significant one-off grants and donations, received after the year end but promised before the year end.

Gift aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any gift aid recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor has specified otherwise.

Legacies are included when the charity is advised by the personal representative of an estate that the payment will be made, or property transferred and the amount can be quantified.

Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably. Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SoFA.

The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the Trustees' Annual Report.

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities or income and expenses.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity costs categories on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Expenditure includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees. Designated funds form part of unrestricted funds and have been identified as being for particular purposes by the Trustees. They are not restricted and can be transferred to general funds at any time at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for the 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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to a sum not exceeding £10 per member of the charity.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

2. GRANTS AND DONATIONS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2025 Total £	31.12.2024 Total £
Grants - unrestricted	44,988	-	44,988	23,613
Grants - restricted				
- Lightyear Labs	-	29,960	29,960	19,437
- Core Costs	-	69,710	69,710	71,529
- SEN in STEM	-	3,800	3,800	1,500
- Role Models	-	4,100	4,100	7,200
- Immersive Sensory Science	-	12,700	12,700	8,900
- Work Inspiration Trips	-	6,500	6,500	3,400
- Community Projects	-	1,400	1,400	10,500
- Signs for Science	-	-	-	11,000
- STEM Futures	-	-	-	70,252
Donations	55,715	-	55,715	669
Gift aid	788	-	788	123
	<u>101,491</u>	<u>128,170</u>	<u>229,661</u>	<u>228,123</u>

3. RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2025 Total £	31.12.2024 Total £
Fundraising costs	377	-	377	180
Donation website charges	16	-	16	4
	<u>393</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>393</u>	<u>184</u>

All raising funds expenditure was from unrestricted funds totalling £184 in 2024.

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - CURRENT YEAR

	Direct costs £	Project costs £	31.12.2025 Total £
Charitable activities (see Note 5)	490	188,865	189,355
Support and governance costs (see Note 6)	7,754	-	7,754
	<u>8,244</u>	<u>188,865</u>	<u>197,109</u>

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - PRIOR YEAR

	Direct costs £	Project costs £	31.12.2024 Total £
Charitable activities (see Note 5)	510	117,057	117,567
Support and governance costs (see Note 6)	9,439	-	9,439
	<u>9,949</u>	<u>117,057</u>	<u>127,006</u>

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - CURRENT YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2025 Total £
<u>Direct costs</u>			
Website and marketing	490	-	490
<u>Project costs</u>			
- Lightyear Labs	-	26,544	26,544
- Core Costs	-	70,009	70,009
- SEN in STEM	-	1,500	1,500
- Role Models	-	3,444	3,444
- Immersive Sensory Science	-	8,660	8,660
- Work Inspiration Trips	-	6,157	6,157
- Community Projects	-	10,582	10,582
- Signs for Science	-	170	170
- STEM Futures	-	61,799	61,799
	<u>490</u>	<u>188,865</u>	<u>189,355</u>

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - PREVIOUS YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2024 Total £
<u>Direct costs</u>			
Website and marketing	477	-	477
<u>Project costs</u>			
- Lightyear Labs	33	21,582	21,615
- Core Costs	-	77,267	77,267
- Role Models	-	5,870	5,870
- Immersive Sensory Science	-	8,934	8,934
- Work Inspiration Trips	-	3,186	3,186
- Signs for Science	-	218	218
	<u>510</u>	<u>117,057</u>	<u>117,567</u>

6. SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2025 Total £	31.12.2024 Total £
<u>Support costs</u>				
Operations team - freelance	300	-	300	1,350
DBS checks	-	-	-	500
Training and development	672	-	672	1,402
Travelling and hotels	271	-	271	2,318
Printing, postage and stationery	32	-	32	541
Subscriptions	-	-	-	172
Sundry	87	-	87	133
Bank charges	72	-	72	64
Bookkeeping and accounts	2,576	-	2,576	1,035
	<u>4,010</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,010</u>	<u>7,515</u>
<u>Governance</u>				
Insurance	-	-	-	325
Independent examiner's fee	480	-	480	-
Impact report design	1,830	-	1,830	790
Strategy and policy reports	1,400	-	1,400	740
Companies House fee	34	-	34	34
Data protection registration fee	-	-	-	35
	<u>3,744</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,744</u>	<u>1,924</u>
Total support and governance	<u>7,754</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,754</u>	<u>9,439</u>

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

6. SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS (CONTINUED)

Support and governance expenditure from unrestricted funds totalled £9,439 in 2024.

7. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS - CURRENT YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2025 Total £	31.12.2024 Total £
Gross salaries and wages	-	87,056	87,056	-
Employer pension	-	1,927	1,927	-
Employer national insurance	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>88,983</u>	<u>88,983</u>	<u>-</u>
Freelance staff				
- Charitable activities - projects	-	26,437	26,437	31,024
- Management and governance	300	13,615	13,915	67,829
	<u>300</u>	<u>40,052</u>	<u>40,352</u>	<u>98,853</u>
Total staff costs	<u>300</u>	<u>129,035</u>	<u>129,335</u>	<u>98,853</u>

STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS - PRIOR YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2024 Total £
Gross salaries and wages	-	-	-
Freelance staff			
- Charitable activities - projects	-	31,024	31,024
- Management and governance	1,510	66,319	67,829
	<u>1,510</u>	<u>97,343</u>	<u>98,853</u>
Total staff costs	<u>1,510</u>	<u>97,343</u>	<u>98,853</u>

There were four members of staff employed during 2025 (2024 None).

No members of staff received staff benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the year of more than £60,000.

The remuneration of the key management personnel (2025, 4 people) amounted to £88,983 (2024, 3 people all freelance, £40,300).

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

8. TRANSACTIONS WITH TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTIES

Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no Trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2025 nor for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were Trustees' expenses paid to two Trustees of £80 for training courses for the year

Trustees' donations

Three Trustees made donations totalling £500 in the year (2024 Nil).

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

This is stated after charging:

	31.12.2025	31.12.2024
	£	£
Independent examiner's fee	<u>480</u>	<u>-</u>
<p>The above fees have been paid to the Independent Examiner for their review (2024 - £NIL) and they have not provided any other assurance or advisory services.</p>		

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.2025	31.12.2024
	£	£
Grant income	73,131	1,000
Local Giving	10,137	12
Donations	46,502	-
Trading income debtor	4,827	525
	<u>134,597</u>	<u>1,537</u>

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.2025	31.12.2024
	£	£
Tax and social security	1,701	-
Other creditors	971	-
Accruals	1,358	586
	<u>4,030</u>	<u>586</u>

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

	At 1.1.2025 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31.12.2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	88,110	111,132	(8,637)	(357)	190,248
Restricted funds					
Lightyear Labs	11,281	29,960	(26,544)	(4,059)	10,638
Core Costs	65,495	69,710	(70,009)	-	65,196
SEN in STEM	1,500	3,800	(1,500)	-	3,800
Role Models	1,330	4,100	(3,444)	4,110	6,096
Immersive Sensory Science	4,221	12,700	(8,660)	-	8,261
Work Inspiration Trips	4,929	6,500	(6,157)	306	5,578
Community Projects	10,500	1,400	(10,582)	-	1,318
Signs for Science	10,782	-	(170)	-	10,612
STEM Futures	70,252	-	(61,799)	-	8,453
	<u>180,290</u>	<u>128,170</u>	<u>(188,865)</u>	<u>357</u>	<u>119,952</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>268,400</u>	<u>239,302</u>	<u>(197,502)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>310,200</u>

MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

	At 1.1.2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31.12.2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	71,634	26,609	(10,133)	-	88,110
Restricted funds					
Lightyear Labs	13,426	19,437	(21,582)	-	11,281
Core Costs	71,233	71,529	(77,267)	-	65,495
SEN in STEM	-	1,500	-	-	1,500
Role Models	-	7,200	(5,870)	-	1,330
Immersive Sensory Science	4,255	8,900	(8,934)	-	4,221
Work Inspiration Trips	4,715	3,400	(3,186)	-	4,929
Community Projects	-	10,500	-	-	10,500
Signs for Science	-	11,000	(218)	-	10,782
STEM Futures	-	70,252	-	-	70,252
	<u>93,629</u>	<u>203,718</u>	<u>(117,057)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>180,290</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>165,263</u>	<u>230,327</u>	<u>(127,190)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>268,400</u>

General fund

The general fund is used for the administration costs of the charity.

Lightyear Labs

These funds provide virtual science workshops for disabled children.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Core costs

This funding covers core costs relating to developing the charity's future programmes.

SEN in STEM

This fund covers training and hosting inclusivity events in the STEM sector.

Role Models

This funding covers linking children with disabled professionals in STEM industries to inspire them to consider the industry as a career option.

Immersive Sensory Science

This fund is to offer accessible and interactive STEM experiences for disabled children to create a multi-sensory experience to STEM learning.

Work Inspiration Trips

This fund facilitates days where young adults and children can visit a STEM workplace to encourage them to explore the STEM industries as a career.

Community Projects

This fund supports a Young Peoples' Group to engage young people in STEM subjects.

Signs for Science

This fund is for a project combining resource development in British Sign language and Makaton.

STEM Futures

This fund supports the launch of the STEM Futures initiative aimed at transforming STEM education in Special schools.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

13. PRIOR YEAR FUND COMPARATIVES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2024 Total funds £
Income from:			
Grants and donations	24,405	203,718	228,123
Other	2,204	-	2,204
Total income	26,609	203,718	230,327
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	184	-	184
Charitable activities	9,949	117,057	127,006
Total expenditure	10,133	117,057	127,190
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR	16,476	86,661	103,137
Net movement in the funds	16,476	86,661	103,137
Total funds brought forward	71,634	93,629	165,263
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	88,110	180,290	268,400

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1150231

Accounts



Annual Report & Financial Statements

For year ended
31 December 2024

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024

The Board of Trustees of the Charity, which also acts as the board of directors for company law purposes, submits their report and the financial statements for Lightyear Foundation for the period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024. The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition – October 2019) and with the Charities Act 2011.

Objectives

The Charity's objects, as set out in its governing document, are: To advance education in science amongst schoolchildren and adults in the UK and abroad in such ways as the Trustees see fit, including by:

- Helping establish science-oriented partnerships between schools
- Organising events that promote an interest in science
- Investigating and using new technology to communicate scientific knowledge and understanding

Statement of Public Benefit

The Charity Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

The Charity's Activities

Lightyear Foundation breaks down the barriers to disabled people participating in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM), opening up the exciting world of science for all regardless of ability or background.

Through targeted educational programmes, outreach, training, and consultancy, the Charity works with children, educators, and employers to inspire a new generation of disabled scientists, engineers, and innovators. The Charity delivers immersive STEM experiences, skills-based learning, and direct engagement with disabled role models, enabling young people to discover, explore, and thrive in STEM subjects and careers.

For STEM Education and Learning

Disabled and neurodivergent young people face significant challenges in accessing STEM education. Many experience inaccessible learning environments, a lack of adapted teaching resources, and few opportunities to see themselves represented in STEM fields. As a result, disabled students are less likely to engage with STEM subjects, leading to underrepresentation in STEM education and careers.

Lightyear Foundation delivers high-impact programmes designed to inspire, engage, and empower disabled and neurodivergent children and young people in STEM.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

- Immersive Sensory Science Experiences provide hands-on, multi-sensory learning tailored to diverse needs, enabling children to engage with science in a way that is both accessible and memorable.
- Lightyear Labs and Lightning Labs give disabled students the opportunity to experiment, explore, and develop key scientific skills in a fully inclusive environment.
- Work Inspiration Trips provide real-world exposure to STEM workplaces, allowing students to meet professionals, explore careers, and envision themselves in STEM roles.
- Celebrating STEM Stories ensures that disabled and neurodivergent young people see positive role models in STEM, demonstrating that there is a place for them in the sector.
- SEND in STEM Network connects educators and professionals to share best practices and drive forward more inclusive STEM education policies and approaches.

By providing these tailored and accessible learning opportunities, Lightyear Foundation supports students to build confidence, develop skills, and foster a long-term interest in STEM.

For the STEM Sector

Despite the increasing demand for skilled STEM professionals, disabled people remain significantly underrepresented in STEM careers. Research, engineering, and technology jobs are growing at double the rate of other occupations, with an estimated 1.8 million more STEM-qualified people needed in the UK by 2025.

However, structural barriers continue to exclude disabled individuals from STEM pathways.

Lightyear Foundation works directly with STEM organisations, employers, and educators to drive meaningful and lasting change by:

- Delivering training and consultancy to improve accessibility in STEM education, outreach, and workplace environments.
- Supporting STEM organisations through the SEND in STEM Network, providing guidance on making STEM more inclusive for disabled and neurodivergent individuals.
- Advocating for policy change to ensure that disabled young people have equitable access to STEM education, training, and employment.
- Developing partnerships with STEM employers to increase disabled representation and create inclusive hiring pathways.

Through these initiatives, Lightyear Foundation ensures that the STEM sector recognises, values, and embraces the contributions of disabled individuals—not just as participants, but as innovators, leaders, and changemakers.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Our Impact in 2024

Lightyear Foundation continues to break down barriers to STEM education and careers for disabled and neurodivergent young people. In 2024, the Charity delivered its largest programme of activities to date, reaching 909 disabled and neurodivergent children and young people through a range of targeted, inclusive STEM initiatives.

Many disabled children and young people either have no access to a STEM education or do not see themselves represented in the sector. This means that the STEM workforce is missing out on their talents and contributions. For children with complex disabilities, STEM also provides a unique way to develop key life skills such as problem-solving, resilience, and choice-making. Whether or not this leads to a career in STEM, engaging disabled young people in science, technology, engineering, and maths builds confidence, independence, and a sense of possibility.

At the same time, the STEM sector faces a significant skills gap, with research, engineering, and technology jobs growing at double the rate of other occupations.

Yet, disabled people remain severely underrepresented in STEM education and employment. Misperceptions about disability continue to limit disabled young people's aspirations and opportunities, while also restricting the STEM sector from accessing diverse talent. Lightyear Foundation's work addresses these challenges directly, ensuring that disabled young people have access to high-quality STEM experiences, while also supporting educators and employers to create inclusive learning and working environments.

In 2024, the Charity worked across six core programme areas:

1. Lightyear Labs and Lightning Labs

- 18 labs delivered
- 129 children involved
- 96 teachers and STEM professionals trained

Lightyear Labs and Lightning Labs provide disabled students with opportunities to experiment, problem-solve, and explore scientific concepts in a fully accessible environment. Each session is designed to be engaging, interactive, and adapted to meet diverse needs, ensuring that all students can experience the excitement of STEM.

In 2024, Lightyear Foundation expanded its lab themes, introducing:

- Astronomy Lightyear Lab, developed with the Royal Astronomical Society, where students explored the wonders of space through hands-on experiments.
- Technology Lightning Lab, which introduced coding and problem-solving using LEGO robotics.
- Chemistry Lightning Lab, which engaged students in hands-on chemistry experiments linked to climate change.
- F1 Engineering Lab, developed in collaboration with F1 in Schools, enabling students to explore engineering concepts through racing car design.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

"We felt the Lightyear Lab was brilliant, the students enjoyed the activities and grew with confidence week by week. The host was brilliant in engaging and listening to the students and adapted to their pace." – Senior Assistant Head, Helen Allison School

2. Immersive Sensory Science

- 5 experiences delivered
- 698 children involved

Disabled children lack opportunities for hands-on STEM experiences that are fully accessible and adapted to their needs. Immersive Sensory Science brings STEM to life through interactive storytelling, stunning visuals, and multi-sensory engagement, ensuring that young people can experience the wonder of science in a way that is meaningful and accessible to them.

"Our students (and staff!) are still buzzing following the fantastic day we had with Matt and Jason from Immersive Experiences and their Planetarium. We were all so impressed at how Matt had adapted his delivery for our SEND students, and it has made such a lasting impression on them – they're still talking about it weeks later!" – Teacher

3. Work Inspiration Trips

- 12 trips delivered
- 78 children involved
- 9 new STEM venues visited
- 51 STEM professionals engaged

Work Inspiration Trips provide disabled young people with a direct window into STEM careers, offering behind-the-scenes access to industry settings and hands-on experiences with STEM professionals. The programme is designed to raise aspirations and challenge stereotypes about disability in STEM workplaces.

In 2024, Lightyear Foundation partnered with leading STEM employers to deliver Work Inspiration Trips, including Malvern Panalytical, Science Creates, and university research labs. Students had the opportunity to engage in real-world STEM problem-solving, meet industry professionals, and experience first-hand the range of careers available to them.

"Thank you so much for organising this trip for us – it was amazing and we all really enjoyed ourselves. This was unlike anything we have done before and was really interesting to see how science plays such an important place in the world of work. The students said they really liked mixing different things together to make the gel pouches and were all quite of the opinion that single-use plastic was bad for the environment. Lots of great learning happened." – Teacher

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4. SEND in STEM Network

- 479 members
- Major review undertaken
- Steering Committee formed

The SEND in STEM Network continues to bring together leading science institutions, membership organisations, science centres, charities, government bodies, and private sector companies to break down barriers to inclusion in STEM.

Following a strategic review in 2024, the Network has been restructured to include:

- Open Membership, allowing all interested professionals to share best practice.
- A Steering Group, made up of key sector leaders to drive forward inclusion initiatives.

5. Celebrating STEM Stories

- 6 new disabled role models profiled
- New youth-led video project showcasing assistive technology

Lightyear Foundation's Celebrating STEM Stories ensures that disabled young people can see positive role models in STEM, providing inspiration and practical insights into careers in science, technology, engineering, and maths.

In 2024, the Charity partnered with the Night Sky Foundation to profile six disabled and neurodivergent scientists, while also supporting students at The Oaks Specialist College to produce a video project showcasing how assistive technology supports their learning and daily lives.

6. Young People's Forum

In 2024, Lightyear Foundation took the first steps towards establishing a Young People's Forum, a new initiative designed to ensure that disabled and neurodivergent young people have a direct role in shaping STEM accessibility. This forum will provide young people with opportunities to influence Lightyear Foundation's work, ensuring that their lived experiences guide programme development, training, and advocacy.

A key initiative linked to this work is the Squar3Roots Podcast, a youth-led podcast where disabled and neurodivergent young people explore STEM topics, career pathways, and accessibility issues. The podcast features conversations with disabled scientists, engineers, and technology professionals, offering real-life perspectives on working in STEM.

The first episodes explored:

- The Magic of Science with Chloe
- Driving into STEM with Dylan
- Hitting All the Right Notes with Lakhile

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“Hosting this podcast has been an incredible experience. It’s given me the confidence to speak up about my experiences in STEM and to hear from amazing people who are working to make science more inclusive.” – Young Podcast Host

Listeners can tune in to the Squar3Roots Podcast on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and YouTube.

The Young People’s Forum is an important step in ensuring that disabled and neurodivergent young people are not just beneficiaries of Lightyear Foundation’s work but active participants in shaping its future.

2024 in Numbers

In 2024, Lightyear Foundation expanded its reach, delivering inclusive STEM experiences to more disabled and neurodivergent young people than ever before. The Charity’s work focused on removing barriers, increasing engagement, and empowering young people to see a future for themselves in STEM.

Engagement

- 909 disabled and neurodivergent young people participated in our programmes.
- 698 children engaged in Immersive Sensory Science Experiences.
- 129 students took part in Lightyear Labs and Lightning Labs.
- 78 students participated in Work Inspiration Trips.
- 6 new ‘Celebrating STEM Stories’ role models profiled.
- 34 total role models featured to date.

Programme Delivery

- 12 Work Inspiration Trips delivered.
- 18 Lightyear Labs and Lightning Labs delivered.

Capacity Building & Training

- 479 members in the SEND in STEM Network.
- 96 teachers and STEM professionals trained in making STEM accessible.
- 51 STEM professionals hosted Work Inspiration Trips.

Partnerships & Collaboration

- 22 schools and partner organisations engaged.
- 37 stakeholder organisations consulted on the Strategic Plan.
- 2 consultancy projects completed.

Volunteering & Community Involvement

- 223.5 volunteer hours contributed.

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Lightyear Foundation remains committed to ensuring that every disabled and neurodivergent young person has the opportunity to engage with STEM, develop essential skills, and see themselves as part of the future of science, technology, engineering, and maths.

Acknowledgements and principal funders

The Trustees extend their sincere thanks to all those who have supported Lightyear Foundation throughout 2024. The Charity's work would not be possible without the generosity of our funders, the dedication of our staff and volunteers, and the commitment of our partners.

Funders and Supporters

The Charity is deeply grateful to the organisations, trusts, and individuals whose financial support has enabled us to continue delivering transformative STEM opportunities for disabled and neurodivergent young people. Special thanks go to:

- Avantor Foundation
- PA Foundation
- Howmet Aerospace Foundation
- Spectris Foundation
- Biochemical Society
- Royal Academy of Engineering
- Royal Astronomical Society
- Institute of Physics
- Night Sky Foundation
- Ogden Trust
- Cawood Scientific
- National Grid Community Matters
- The Manly Trust
- Masonic Charitable Trust
- Bailey Thomas Charitable Fund

We also extend our thanks to corporate partners, individual donors, and community supporters whose generosity has contributed to our success.

Our Partners

Lightyear Foundation is proud to work alongside schools, multi-academy trusts, STEM organisations, science centres, and industry partners to ensure that STEM is inclusive for all. We also thank the 479 members of the SEND in STEM Network, whose engagement is driving meaningful change in the sector.

The Trustees are grateful to everyone who has contributed to the Charity's work this year. Your support ensures that disabled and neurodivergent young people can access and thrive in STEM.

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Plans for 2025

In 2025, Lightyear Foundation will begin implementing its new Strategic Plan (2025–2030), which sets out a bold vision for ensuring disabled and neurodivergent young people have meaningful opportunities to engage with and thrive in STEM. The Charity's work will continue to focus on delivering high-impact STEM programmes, strengthening inclusive communities, and influencing national policy and practice.

A major focus for the year will be the launch of STEM Futures, an ambitious new initiative funded by the Avantor Foundation, aimed at transforming STEM education in UK special schools. Alongside this, Lightyear Foundation will continue to expand and refine its existing programmes, ensuring that more disabled and neurodivergent young people can engage with high-quality STEM experiences.

Strategic Priorities for 2025

The Charity's Strategic Plan (2025–2030) will guide its activities in five key areas:

- Delivering transformative STEM programmes – expanding and refining Lightyear Foundation's educational activities to reach more disabled young people and deepen impact.
- Building inclusive communities – growing the SEND in STEM Network and strengthening engagement with educators, STEM professionals, and disabled role models.
- Becoming a trusted resource – ensuring best practices in inclusive STEM education are widely shared and accessible.
- Influencing policy and practice – advocating for systemic change in STEM education and employment pathways for disabled young people.
- Building a sustainable organisation – strengthening governance, financial sustainability, and operational capacity.

To support the implementation of our new Strategic Plan, Lightyear Foundation will transition key freelance roles into permanent positions, ensuring greater stability, continuity, and long-term sustainability. The Charity will also expand project management and administration capacity, strengthening internal infrastructure to support programme delivery, partnerships, and operational growth.

Continuing and Expanding Existing Programmes

In addition to launching new initiatives, Lightyear Foundation will continue to deliver and expand its core programmes, ensuring disabled and neurodivergent young people have sustained opportunities to explore, engage with, and thrive in STEM:

- Immersive Sensory Science – providing multi-sensory, interactive STEM experiences for children with complex needs, ensuring hands-on, accessible engagement.
- Lightyear Labs and Lightning Labs – expanding the successful lab model, offering more hands-on experiments, problem-solving challenges, and real-world STEM applications.

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- Work Inspiration Trips – increasing opportunities for students to visit STEM workplaces, meet professionals, and explore potential career pathways.
- Celebrating STEM Stories – continuing to profile disabled and neurodivergent role models, ensuring young people can see representation and possibility in STEM.
- SEND in STEM Network – strengthening the national network of educators, STEM professionals, and accessibility experts, enabling collaboration and best practice sharing.

These programmes will be scaled and refined to reach more schools, students, and educators, ensuring broader impact across the UK.

STEM Futures: Transforming STEM Education in Special Schools

STEM Futures, running from January 2025 to January 2026, is designed to embed science specialists in special schools, develop inclusive STEM learning activities, and create a framework for long-term improvements in STEM education for disabled and neurodivergent students.

The Charity will work closely with up to nine special schools across the UK, recruiting STEM specialists to support the design and delivery of engaging, accessible learning experiences. A Community of Practice will be established to enable participating schools to share insights and best practices, while an evaluation framework will ensure the project generates robust evidence on effective approaches to STEM education for disabled young people.

Lightyear Foundation will also explore opportunities to engage STEM employers, industry professionals, and volunteers, further strengthening connections between education and employment.

Looking Ahead

As Lightyear Foundation moves into 2025, the Charity remains committed to removing barriers to STEM, supporting educators, and ensuring disabled young people can see themselves in STEM education and careers. The implementation of the Strategic Plan (2025–2030) and the STEM Futures project will be key milestones in furthering this mission, while the continuation and expansion of the Charity's existing programmes will ensure sustained impact for young people, educators, and the wider STEM sector.

Financial review

Results for the year

The Charity received income of £230,327 (2023 - £158,622) and incurred expenditure of £127,190 (2023 - £71,743) resulting in net income of £103,137 (2023 - £86,879) for the year, of which a surplus of £16,476 was attributable to unrestricted funds and a surplus of £86,661 to restricted funds. The totals funds at 31 December 2024 of £268,400 was made up of £88,110 in unrestricted funds and £180,290 in restricted funds.

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Reserves policy

The Trustees have agreed a reserves policy that ensures the Charity can continue to operate effectively and meet its commitments in the event of unforeseen circumstances. The reserves policy is designed to:

- Maintain financial stability and protect against unexpected funding shortfalls.
- Provide working capital to support programme delivery and organisational development.
- Allow for strategic investment in the Charity's growth and sustainability.

The Trustees have set a target level of free reserves equivalent to five months of core operating costs, which has been calculated at £52,996. As of 31 December 2024, the Charity's free reserves stood at £88,110, exceeding this target level. The Trustees have determined that, in early 2025, the proportion of reserves above the target level will be used to implement organisational changes arising from the new Strategic Plan 2025-2030. This planned investment will support the Charity's long-term sustainability and enhance its capacity to deliver on its mission.

Reserves may be accessed, with the agreement of the Trustees, to provide working capital for new areas of work, strategic development, or emergency requirements.

The reserves policy is reviewed annually to ensure that it remains appropriate for the Charity's financial position and strategic priorities.

The Trustees remain committed to maintaining a sustainable level of reserves while ensuring that funds are effectively deployed to breaking down barriers to STEM for disabled and neurodivergent young people.

Donated goods and services

The charity is very grateful for all the pro bono support it receives but is unable to put a financial value on it.

Reference and administrative details

Charity registration number: 1150231

Date of registration: 18th Dec 2012

Company registration number: 08151118

Date of incorporation: 20th July 2012

Address: Lightyear Foundation, 12 Anson Drive, York, YO10 4LH

Website: www.lightyearfoundation.org

Bankers: Lloyds Bank plc, 120 Lewisham High Street, Lewisham, London. SE13 6JG

Insurers: Zurich (to 15 November 2024), Hiscox (from 15 November 2024)

Independent examiner: Camilla Frost

Trustees:

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The Trustees who served the Charity during the period were as follows:

Dr Camila Devis-Rozental
Clive Gilbert
Kirshen Govender (Treasurer)
Nathan Macabuag (resigned 4 March 2024)
Dr Camilla Pang
Dr Josie Rawes (Chair to 4 March 2024)
Peter Roberts (Chair from 4 March 2024)
Lucy Williams

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

Lightyear Foundation is governed by its Articles of Association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Organisational structure

The Trustees are responsible for decisions regarding the strategy and development of the Charity, and other high-level decisions. Day to day running of the Charity is delegated to the CEO of Lightyear Foundation plus a team of freelance professionals.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

Lightyear Foundation is governed by a Board of Trustees, who are responsible for setting the Charity's strategic direction, ensuring good governance, and overseeing financial and operational management. Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Charity's Articles of Association and are subject to a formal recruitment, selection, and induction process.

Regular Trustee skills audits are conducted to ensure that the Board maintains a broad and balanced mix of skills, experience, and lived expertise. New Trustees are recruited either to replace outgoing members or to bring additional expertise in key areas aligned with the Charity's strategic priorities. All new Trustees undergo a comprehensive induction process, which includes an overview of the Charity's governance, strategy, and financial management, as well as training in safeguarding, equity, diversity, and inclusion.

A new recruitment round for Trustees will commence in Spring 2025, ensuring that the Board continues to reflect the skills, experience, and perspectives necessary to support the successful implementation of the Strategic Plan (2025–2030).

Staff and Associates

The staff and associates who supported the Charity during the period were as follows:

- Jeff Banks – Chief Executive Officer (from 1 March 2024)
- Katie Sparkes – Chief Executive Officer (to 31 January 2024)
- Elle Wilks – Deputy Chief Executive Officer (to 19 January 2024)
- Em Diserens – STEM Partnership Programme Manager
- Emma Zeale – STEM Outreach Programme Manager
- Rosie Mellors – Community Manager

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- Beth Whittal-Williams – Social Media Manager
- Dr. Claire Malone – STEM Lead and Assistant to the CEO
- Rupa Ahluwalia – Lightyear Lab Lead
- Hannah-Rose Ford Tomlinson – Lightyear Lab Lead
- Beejal Parekh – Lightyear Lab Lead
- Sammy Mason – Lightyear Lab Lead and Lightyear Course Trainer

Our Team and Volunteers

The Trustees would like to thank our staff, sessional workers, and volunteers for their dedication and commitment to delivering high-quality, inclusive STEM experiences. Their passion and expertise are at the heart of Lightyear Foundation's impact. The Trustees would also like to extend a welcome to those who have joined the team as we embark on an ambitious new phase of growth and impact.

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review the risks facing Lightyear Foundation and take appropriate steps to mitigate potential threats to the Charity's operations, finances, governance, and reputation. The Charity maintains a risk register, which is reviewed and updated periodically to ensure that risks are identified, assessed, and managed effectively.

Key areas of risk management in 2024 included:

- Financial sustainability – Diversifying income streams and securing long-term funding to ensure the Charity remains financially resilient.
- Governance and compliance – Strengthening governance processes to ensure compliance with charity and company law, safeguarding regulations, and best practice in financial management.
- Programme delivery – Ensuring that all Lightyear Foundation programmes remain accessible, high-quality, and aligned with the needs of disabled and neurodivergent young people.
- Safeguarding and data protection – Maintaining robust safeguarding policies and procedures, ensuring that all staff, volunteers, and delivery partners are appropriately trained, and reviewing data protection measures to safeguard personal information.
- Reputation and stakeholder engagement – Strengthening relationships with funders, schools, and STEM sector partners to maintain the Charity's position as a leader in inclusive STEM education.

The Charity has also embedded risk management into its strategic planning processes, ensuring that potential challenges are identified early and that mitigation strategies are in place to support the successful delivery of the Strategic Plan (2025–2030). The Trustees are committed to ongoing risk monitoring and proactive risk management, ensuring that Lightyear Foundation remains a stable, sustainable, and high-impact organisation.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Statement of the Responsibilities of the Trustee Directors

The Trustees (who are also directors of Lightyear Foundation for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

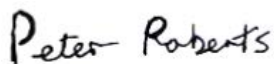
The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The company has taken advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the report above.

So far as each of the Trustees is aware at the time the report is approved:

- There is no relevant review information of which the charitable company's independent examiner is unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant review information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:



Peter Roberts, Chair of Trustees

Date: 3 March 2025

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

I report to the Charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Lightyear Foundation Limited for the year ended 31 December 2024 as set out on pages 15 to 24.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity's trustees of the company (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

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


Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that:

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- The accounts do not accord with such records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (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.

Signed:



Date: March 2025

Name: Camilla Frost

Address: 61 Wellington Street, Stretford, Manchester, M32 9AD

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31.12.2024 Total funds	31.12.2023 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Grants and donations	2	24405	203718	228123	157472
Trading income		2204	-	2204	1150
Total income		<u>26609</u>	<u>203718</u>	<u>230327</u>	<u>158622</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	3	184	-	184	344
Charitable activities	4,5,6	9949	117057	127006	71399
Total expenditure		<u>10133</u>	<u>117057</u>	<u>127190</u>	<u>71743</u>
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR	9	16476	86661	103137	86879
Transfers between the funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in the funds		16476	86661	103137	86879
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>71634</u>	<u>93629</u>	<u>165263</u>	<u>78384</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	12	<u><u>88110</u></u>	<u><u>180290</u></u>	<u><u>268400</u></u>	<u><u>165263</u></u>

The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.
All of the activities of the Charity are classed as continuing.

The comparative funds are detailed in Note 13.
The notes on pages 17 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2024 Total funds £	31.12.2023 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	537	1000	1537	-
Cash at bank		88159	179290	267449	165648
		<u>88696</u>	<u>180290</u>	<u>268986</u>	<u>165648</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(586)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(586)</u>	<u>(385)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>88110</u>	<u>180290</u>	<u>268400</u>	<u>165263</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>88110</u></u>	<u><u>180290</u></u>	<u><u>268400</u></u>	<u><u>165263</u></u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	12			88110	71634
Restricted funds				<u>180290</u>	<u>93629</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u><u>268400</u></u>	<u><u>165263</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 3 March 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

Peter Roberts

.....

Peter Roberts

The notes on pages 17 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with items recognised at cost or transaction value. The Financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), FRS 102 and the Charities Act 2011. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern due to accumulated reserves, and there are no significant current or longer-term liabilities, and the organisation has significant net assets and reserves.

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred and no material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

Income

All income is included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Grants and donations are included in income when they are received, except for significant one-off grants and donations, received after the year end but promised before the year end.

Gift aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any gift aid recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor has specified otherwise.

Legacies are included when the charity is advised by the personal representative of an estate that the payment will be made, or property transferred and the amount can be quantified.

Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably. Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SoFA.

The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the Trustees' Annual Report.

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities or income and expenses.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity costs categories on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Expenditure includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees. Designated funds form part of unrestricted funds and have been identified as being for particular purposes by the Trustees. They are not restricted and can be transferred to general funds at any time at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for the 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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2. GRANTS AND DONATIONS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2024 Total £	31.12.2023 Total £
Grants - unrestricted	23613	-	23613	45386
Grants - restricted				
- Lightyear Labs	-	19437	19437	19090
- Core Costs	-	71529	71529	76073
- SEN in STEM	-	1500	1500	1000
- Role Models	-	7200	7200	-
- Immersive Sensory Science	-	8900	8900	4255
- Work Inspiration Trips	-	3400	3400	6250
- Community Projects	-	10500	10500	-
- Signs for Science	-	11000	11000	-
- STEM Futures	-	70252	70252	-
Donations	669	-	669	5118
Gift aid	123	-	123	300
	<u>24405</u>	<u>203718</u>	<u>228123</u>	<u>157472</u>

3. RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2024 Total £	31.12.2023 Total £
Fundraising costs	180	-	180	255
Donation website charges	4	-	4	89
	<u>184</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>184</u>	<u>344</u>

All raising funds expenditure was from unrestricted funds totalling £344 in 2023.

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - CURRENT YEAR

	Direct costs £	Project costs £	31.12.2024 Total £
Charitable activities (see Note 5)	510	117057	117567
Support and governance costs (see Note 6)	9439	-	9439
	<u>9949</u>	<u>117057</u>	<u>127006</u>

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - PRIOR YEAR

	Direct costs £	Project costs £	31.12.2023 Total £
Charitable activities (see Note 5)	3965	52692	56657
Support and governance costs (see Note 6)	14742	-	14742
	<u>18707</u>	<u>52692</u>	<u>71399</u>

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - CURRENT YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2024 Total £
<u>Direct costs</u>			
Website and marketing	477	-	477
<u>Project costs</u>			
- Lightyear Labs	33	21582	21615
- Core Costs	-	77267	77267
- Role Models	-	5870	5870
- Immersive Sensory Science	-	8934	8934
- Work Inspiration Trips	-	3186	3186
- Signs for Science	-	218	218
	<u>510</u>	<u>117057</u>	<u>117567</u>

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - PREVIOUS YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2023 Total £
<u>Direct costs</u>			
Website and marketing	473	-	473
Charity Awards costs	713	-	713
<u>Project costs</u>			
- Lightyear Labs	259	10463	10722
- Core Costs	-	26677	26677
- SEN in STEM	-	1000	1000
- Role Models	-	10105	10105
- Immersive Sensory Science	2520	662	3182
- Work Inspiration Trips	-	3785	3785
	<u>3965</u>	<u>52692</u>	<u>56657</u>

6. SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2024 Total £	31.12.2023 Total £
<u>Support costs</u>				
Operations team - freelance	1350	-	1350	10835
DBS checks	500	-	500	552
Training and development	1402	-	1402	172
Recruitment	-	-	-	299
Travelling and hotels	2318	-	2318	320
Printing, postage and stationery	541	-	541	92
Subscriptions	172	-	172	216
Sundry	133	-	133	122
Bank charges	64	-	64	32
Bookkeeping and accounts	1035	-	1035	800
	<u>7515</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7515</u>	<u>13440</u>
<u>Governance</u>				
Insurance	325	-	325	524
Impact report design	790	-	790	730
Strategy and policy reports	740	-	740	-
Companies House fee	34	-	34	13
Data protection registration fee	35	-	35	35
	<u>1924</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1924</u>	<u>1302</u>
Total support and governance	<u>9439</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9439</u>	<u>14742</u>

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6. SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS (CONTINUED)

Support and governance expenditure from unrestricted funds totalled £14,742 in 2023.

7. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS - CURRENT YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2024 Total £	31.12.2023 Total £
Gross salaries and wages	-	-	-	-
Freelance staff				
- Charitable activities - projects	-	31024	31024	22165
- Management and governance	1510	66319	67829	34913
	<u>1510</u>	<u>97343</u>	<u>98853</u>	<u>57078</u>
Total staff costs	<u>1510</u>	<u>97343</u>	<u>98853</u>	<u>57078</u>

STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS - PRIOR YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2023 Total £
Gross salaries and wages	-	-	-
Freelance staff			
- Charitable activities - projects	5630	16535	22165
- Management and governance	5205	29708	34913
	<u>10835</u>	<u>46243</u>	<u>57078</u>
Total staff costs	<u>10835</u>	<u>46243</u>	<u>57078</u>

There were no members of staff employed during 2024 (2023 None).

No members of staff received staff benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the year of more than £60,000.

The remuneration of the key management personnel (2024, 3 people) amounted to £40,300 (2023, 2 people, £34,912).

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

8. TRANSACTIONS WITH TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTIES

Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no Trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were Trustees' expenses paid to one Trustees of £149 for travel and hotel expenses for the year ended 31 December 2024 (2023 - Nil).

Trustees' donations

No Trustees made donations in the year (2023 Nil).

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

This is stated after charging:

	31.12.2024	31.12.2023
	£	£
Independent examiner's fee	-	-

No fees have been paid to the Independent Examiner for her review (2023 - £NIL) and she has not provided any other assurance or advisory services.

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.2024	31.12.2023
	£	£
Grant income	1000	-
Local Giving	12	-
Trading income debtor	525	-
	<u>1537</u>	<u>-</u>

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.2024	31.12.2023
	£	£
Accruals	<u>586</u>	<u>385</u>

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

	At 1.1.2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31.12.2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	71634	26609	(10133)	-	88110
Restricted funds					
Lightyear Labs	13426	19437	(21582)	-	11281
Core Costs	71233	71529	(77267)	-	65495
SEN in STEM	-	1500	-	-	1500
Role Models	-	7200	(5870)	-	1330
Immersive Sensory Science	4255	8900	(8934)	-	4221
Work Inspiration Trips	4715	3400	(3186)	-	4929
Community Projects	-	10500	-	-	10500
Signs for Science	-	11000	(218)	-	10782
STEM Futures	-	70252	-	-	70252
	<u>93629</u>	<u>203718</u>	<u>(117057)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>180290</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>165263</u></u>	<u><u>230327</u></u>	<u><u>(127190)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>268400</u></u>

MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

	At 1.1.2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31.12.2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	38731	51954	(19051)	-	71634
Restricted funds					
Lightyear Labs	4799	19090	(10463)	-	13426
Core Costs	21837	76073	(26677)	-	71233
SEN in STEM	-	1000	(1000)	-	-
Role Models	10105	-	(10105)	-	-
Immersive Sensory Science	662	4255	(662)	-	4255
Work Inspiration Trips	2250	6250	(3785)	-	4715
	<u>39653</u>	<u>106668</u>	<u>(52692)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93629</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>78384</u></u>	<u><u>158622</u></u>	<u><u>(71743)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>165263</u></u>

General fund

The general fund is used for the administration costs of the charity.

Lightyear Labs

These funds provide virtual science workshops for disabled children.

Core costs

This funding covers core costs relating to developing the charity's future programmes.

SEN in STEM

This fund covers training and hosting inclusivity events in the STEM sector.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Role Models

This funding covers linking children with disabled professionals in STEM industries to inspire them to consider the industry as a career option.

Immersive Sensory Science

This fund is to offer accessible and interactive STEM experiences for disabled children to create a multi-sensory experience to STEM learning.

Work Inspiration Trips

This fund facilitates days where young adults and children can visit a STEM workplace to encourage them to explore the STEM industries as a career.

Community Projects

This fund will support a Young Peoples Council project to engage young people in STEM subjects.

Signs for Science

This fund is for a project combining resource development in British Sign language and Makaton.

STEM Futures

This fund will support the launch of the STEM Futures initiative aimed at transforming STEM education in Special schools.

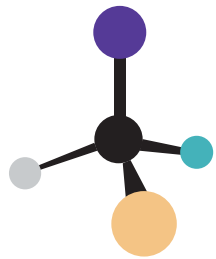
13. PRIOR YEAR FUND COMPARATIVES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2023 Total funds £
Income from:			
Grants and donations	50804	106668	157472
Other	1150	-	1150
Total income	<u>51954</u>	<u>106668</u>	<u>158622</u>
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	344	-	344
Charitable activities	18707	52692	71399
Total expenditure	<u>19051</u>	<u>52692</u>	<u>71743</u>
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR	<u>32903</u>	<u>53976</u>	<u>86879</u>
Net movement in the funds	32903	53976	86879
Total funds brought forward	<u>38731</u>	<u>39653</u>	<u>78384</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>71634</u></u>	<u><u>93629</u></u>	<u><u>165263</u></u>

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1150231

Accounts



lightyear
foundation

Annual Report & Financial Statements

For year ended
31 December 2023

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Financial Year Ended 31 December 2023

The Board of Trustees of the Charity, which also acts as the board of directors for company law purposes, submits their report and the financial statements for Lightyear Foundation for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023. The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition – October 2019) and with the Charities Act 2011.

Objectives

The Charity's objects, as set out in its governing document, are: To advance education in science amongst schoolchildren and adults in the UK and abroad in such ways as the Trustees see fit, including by:

- Helping establish science-oriented partnerships between schools
- Organising events that promote an interest in science
- Investigating and using new technology to communicate scientific knowledge and understanding

Statement of Public Benefit

The Charity Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

The Charity's Activities

Lightyear Foundation breaks down the barriers to disabled people participating in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM), opening up the exciting world of science for all regardless of ability or background.

We are proud to have been shortlisted and highly commended in the 2023 Charity Awards, the 2023 Charity Times Awards, and the 2023 Third Sector Charity Awards, recognising our relentless commitment to widening participation in STEM.

Recent years have seen some headway in tackling STEM's inclusivity and diversity issues, but it's still work in progress. The good news is that there's a growing realisation that a homogeneous workforce tends to come up with narrow-focused solutions. To overcome the big global challenges, our scientists and engineers of the future need to come from all walks of life. The problem is twofold: young disabled people aren't being offered the opportunity to access the world of STEM and to see a role for themselves within it, and many STEM educators and employers do not offer inclusive and accessible routes to joining the sector. We tackle both issues head on.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The difference we make to disabled children

Many disabled children and young people either have no access to a STEM education or simply believe it's not something they could ever be part of, meaning the sector and society at large is missing out on the talents and contributions of a huge number of people. For children with more complex disabilities, STEM offers a unique way to inspire and impart key life skills such as choice-making or dealing with unexpected outcomes. So, whether it leads to a career in the sector or improves a disabled person's self-confidence, independence and enjoyment of life, creating opportunities for disabled children to love and learn from these subjects has significant individual and social impact.

The difference we make to the STEM sector

We know that research, engineering and technology jobs are growing at double the rate of other occupations. 1.8m more STEM-qualified people will be needed in the UK by 2025. Misperceptions of disabled scientists and engineers are categorically causing the STEM industry to miss out on hiring some of the most skilled workers who can make incredible contributions to progress in STEM and the global economy. The unique ways in which disabled people interpret and interact with the world, typically perceived as an obstacle to their inclusion, are arguably among humanity's best chances at solving some of our planet's biggest problems. We believe a disability makes a person uniquely qualified for STEM work. We will continue to advise and support STEM working environments to be inclusive places where individuals have an equal opportunity to participate and advance.

We take a holistic approach, developing unique programmes that educate, inspire and include disabled children in STEM from the early years through to young adulthood, whilst working in partnership with educators and employers to identify and dismantle the barriers that young disabled people currently face in the STEM sector. We fill a gap in service delivery and education that is offered by no other organisation. We are proud of the range and impact of our programmes.

We fill a gap in service delivery and education that is offered by no other organisation.

In 2023, we helped to improve disabled children's access to STEM through five programme areas:

1. Immersive Sensory Science
2. Lightyear Labs
3. Role Models
4. Work Inspiration Trips
5. SEN in STEM Network

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Our impact in 2023

1. Immersive Sensory Science

- **5 experiences delivered**
- **683 children involved**

We know there is a significant lack of opportunities for disabled children to have hands-on science experiences that are fully accessible and adapted for their needs, yet we also know how truly impactful and magical these events can be. With hands-on demonstrations and stunning visuals combined with knowledgeable, enthusiastic and professional presenters, our Immersive Sensory Science programme offers lively, accessible, interactive and fun STEM experiences for disabled children. We visit SEN schools nationwide, and stage shows for all ages and abilities, engaging young people with the wonder of STEM. From taking an imaginary trip to space in a pop-up planetarium to travelling through the clouds and feeling them brush past us as we fly through the sky, Immersive Sensory Science uses beautiful colours, sounds, textures and activities to create an unforgettable multi-sensory experience to support STEM learning.

“The students were fully immersed in the experience and fascinated by the visual effects. I was very impressed by the knowledge of the presenter and his ability to communicate this to the students.” SEND teacher

2. Lightyear Labs

- **12 labs delivered**
- **73 children involved**
- **30 SEND teachers upskilled**
- **34.5 volunteer hours**

Our Lightyear Labs take small groups of children aged 11–16 years in special schools on a journey through science experimentation, once a week for a month, either online or in person. Our challenge-based learning methodology promotes experimentation and discovery while developing critical thinking, decision-making and problem-solving skills. We provide a magical box of kit so children and teachers have everything they need to start experimenting, led by one of our Lightyear Lab scientists and skilled volunteers! The lab aims to support our young researchers to work scientifically in practical science, to increase confidence in practical STEM applications, to learn how to make predictions, to develop resilience around incorrect predictions and to apply prior learning to answer real-world STEM problems through experiments.

“We felt the Lightyear Lab was brilliant, the students enjoyed the activities and grew with confidence week by week. The host was brilliant in engaging and listening to the students and adapted to their pace.” Lisa Waters, Senior Assistant Head, Helen Allison School

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

"I was just amazed that the sessions captured our students' attention for that long through online learning. The resources were very well combined with the pace and delivery of the session. Very hard to do!" Kyle Richmond, Lead Science Teacher, Heaton School

3. Role Models

- **23 role models**

When young people are inspired and engaged by our workshops and labs, we further support these budding STEM-ists by connecting them with disabled professionals doing awesome things within the STEM industry. Our role models encourage disabled children to look at the industry as a viable and welcoming career option while being honest about their experiences and the challenges they have faced (and continue to face).

"Growing up being visually impaired has given me loads of skills that are useful at work and day to day. For starters, I'm constantly solving problems without realising it, whether that be working out the safest route for me to get from A to B or figuring out what's on the menu in a café. This has helped with both my physics degree and now in my job." Lucy Williams, Lightyear role model and Trustee; Assistant Editor, Royal Astronomical Society

4. Work Inspiration Trips

- **10 trips delivered**
- **85 children involved**
- **30 STEM professionals involved**
- **9 new STEM venues visited**

From Facebook HQ in London to Ultraleap's haptic technology lab in Bristol, we love inspiring young STEM-ists by taking groups of post-16 disabled students to show them STEM in action! There are so few opportunities for disabled young people to see a place for themselves in a STEM workplace; our trips are designed to introduce students to the full range of roles and settings available, inspiring them to consider a career in this fulfilling sector. As a result of these trips, over 80% of students say they'd consider STEM choices at college or applying for work experience in the industry.

"Hosting children from Pond Meadow School was an amazing experience. They were infectious about our work in Artificial Intelligence and keenly participated in the demos of different AI systems. The abilities of some of the pupils in matching face images and estimating age were exceptional. One of them scored 100% in a standard face matching test! We could see a role for them in our research, and in other companies that employ people with such talents. This was the most rewarding outreach activity for us for quite some time." Professor Josef Kittler, Sensus Futuris, University of Surrey

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

5. SEN in STEM Network

- 360 members
- 2 events delivered
- 67 attendees at events
- 32 people trained in inclusive practice
- 4 joint projects/partnerships

We founded the SEN in STEM Network in 2018 in response to huge demand and appetite for a central forum to discuss all things inclusivity within the sector, hosting regular in-person and virtual roundtable events and workshops at venues from the Home Office to London Zoo! The network brings the sector together to break down barriers to inclusion by sharing best practice and leading the way with practical solutions. Our members span leading science institutions, membership organisations, science centres, charities, government bodies and private sector companies who collectively represent the UK's STEM community, including the Royal Society, the Royal Astronomical Society, the Science Museum, the Association for Science & Discovery Centres, the West of England Centre for Inclusive Living, the Ministry of Defence and Airbus. Membership is entirely free of charge.

2023 in numbers

841 disabled young people through our programmes:

- 683 in Immersive Sensory Science
- 73 in Lightyear Labs
- 85 in Work Inspiration Trips

23 Lightyear Role Models

360 SEN in STEM Network members

- 67 attendees at 2 events
- 4 consultancy projects

32 people trained in 'Making STEM Accessible'

30 SEND teachers upskilled

30 STEM professionals hosting Work Inspiration Trips

22 volunteers offering 212.5 hours of support

5 staff working the combined equivalent of 1 full-time person

Acknowledgements

We are very grateful for the support, generosity and kindness we've received this year. Thank you to our Board of Trustees and our dedicated team of volunteers, without whom none of this would have been possible. Particular thanks to Spectris Foundation, who have awarded us a three-year grant of £195,000 to support the infrastructure of our organisation which will enable us to grow significantly in impact and reach.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Plans for 2024

Lightyear Foundation Mission Control

We centre children's feedback in the design and development of our programmes and are experts in creating evaluation frameworks that effectively capture the views of disabled children using tactile, sensory and creative techniques such as Science Sand and Miles up the Mountain. We use Widgit Symbols and Makaton to enable participants to feedback their views as independently as possible and we continue to develop this work, sharing with and upskilling other organisations in inclusive techniques that not just successfully include disabled children but put them at the heart. In 2024, we will be introducing our own youth advisory council – named Lightyear Mission Control! This group of 10 peer-elected disabled children will meet quarterly to inform the design, delivery and content of our programmes, and to share their experiences and ideas around accessing opportunities in STEM.

Astronomy Lightyear Lab

Our funding agreement with the Royal Astronomical Society will enable us to develop an astronomy-themed Lightyear Lab and create a digital leave-behind document on 'Accessible Astronomy' for schools to continue to discuss and explore astronomy with their students. We will be piloting this new lab and materials in one special school in the UK in 2024 and then using these learnings to create a scalable and replicable astronomy-themed Lightyear Lab for national roll-out.

Chemistry programmes

In partnership with the Royal Society of Chemistry, we will be developing and piloting a chemistry-themed programme to add to our school offering, which will be designed to achieve these goals:

- To encourage an interest in chemistry among disabled young people in special secondary schools across the UK
- To increase disabled children's confidence in doing practical chemistry
- To improve knowledge of the careers available in chemistry
- To raise aspirations of disabled students in this subject
- To increase understanding of how chemistry relates to the world around us
- To tackle the disparity in the demographics of people studying and working in chemistry

This will include a new chemistry Lightning Lab, two Immersive Sensory Science experiences, and five Work Inspiration Trips to chemistry-related workplaces.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Technology-themed activities

Following our successful collaboration with Night Sky Foundation in 2023, we are rolling out an expanded technology-themed programme, adding new components to maximise reach and impact. In 2024, this will include two full Lightyear Labs, a Lightning Lab (a single session version of our deep learning series), two Immersive Sensory Science experiences and the recruitment, profiling and promotion of five disabled role models working in the field of technology.

Makaton STEM signs

There is huge demand for Makaton vocabulary to add specific STEM-related terminology. Currently, for example, the sign for 'planet' is a ball and then 'p'. Creating Makaton signs to include STEM vocabulary would help to reinforce the importance of these subjects within SEN education and open up the language of STEM to a wider audience. We will be working with Makaton to design and introduce these new signs. We had hoped to deliver this project in 2023, but it is firmly in our plans to bring to fruition next year.

Lightyear Foundation Inclusion Awards

After much planning this year, we hope to host our inaugural Lightyear Foundation Inclusion Awards as our way to recognise and celebrate the relentless commitment, energy and achievements of people and places working hard to improve accessibility and inclusivity in STEM. New Scientist magazine has confirmed its intention to collaborate on these awards. Fully online, these awards will be accessible to all with signing and captioning.

Our vision of the future

Through developing our programmes to be scalable and replicable, and through fortifying pathways with our SEN in STEM Network members and other educators and employers, we firmly position ourselves as a catalyst for creating systemic change. We are committed to tackling the root causes preventing the disabled community from accessing STEM. We want to be part of the solution so that ultimately our services are no longer needed.

Our vision is of a future where inclusivity and accessibility are embedded within STEM education and workplaces, where disabled people are welcomed and celebrated in these pioneering fields, offering their unique contributions to tackling the world's greatest challenges and advancing human knowledge.

Financial review

Results for the year

The Charity received income of £158,622 (2022 - £107,734) and incurred expenditure of £71,743 (2022 - £91,448) resulting in net income of £86,879 (2022 - £16,286) for the year, of which a surplus of £32,903 was attributable to unrestricted funds and a surplus of £53,976 to restricted funds. The total funds at 31 December 2023 of £165,263 was made up of £71,634 in unrestricted funds and £93,629 in restricted funds.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Reserves policy

Trustees have agreed a reserves level that will allow for normal operation of the Charity for five months in the absence of any further funding, Lightyear Foundation has set at £44,067. At the end of 2023 the free reserves were £71,634 so are currently above the target. Reserves may be accessed, with the agreement of the Trustees, to provide working capital in order to meet new areas of endeavour and to meet emergency requirements.

Principal funding sources

Lightyear Foundation works hard to create a fundraising armoury with funding sources from several avenues. These include charitable trusts and foundations, corporate support and community fundraising.

The Charity would like to thank the following for their generous support this year.

Amazon Smile
ApotheCom
Big Yellow Storage
Cawood Scientific
Crowdfunder (Race to Space campaign)
Euler Labs Ltd
Facebook Giving
Future First
Immersive Experiences
Local Giving
Local Giving Magic Little Grants (Postcode Lottery)
Masonic Charitable Foundation
Night Sky Foundation
Oxford University
PayPal Giving
Royal Astronomical Society
Royal Society of Chemistry (Chemists' Community Fund)
Springer Nature
The Charles Ruddock Trust Ltd
The Funding Network
The Joseph and Annie Cattle Trust
The Sir James Roll Charitable Trust
The Spectris Foundation
The Yvonne Flux Charitable Trust

Donated goods and services

The charity is very grateful for all the pro bono support it receives but is unable to put a financial value on it.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Reference and administrative details

Charity registration number: 1150231

Date of registration: 18th Dec 2012

Company registration number: 08151118

Date of incorporation: 20th July 2012

Address: Lightyear Foundation, 12 Anson Drive, York, YO10 4LH

Website: www.lightyearfoundation.org

Bankers: Lloyds Bank plc, 120 Lewisham High Street, Lewisham, London. SE13 6JG

Independent examiner: Camilla Frost

Trustees:

The Trustees who served the Charity during the period were as follows:

Dr Camila Devis-Rozental (appointed 27 January 2023)

Clive Gilbert

Kirshen Govender

Nathan Macabuag

Dr Camilla Pang

Dr Josie Rawes - chair

Peter Roberts

Lucy Williams

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

Lightyear Foundation is governed by its Articles of Association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Organisational structure

The Trustees are responsible for decisions regarding the strategy and development of the Charity, and other high-level decisions. Day to day running of the Charity is delegated to the CEO of Lightyear Foundation plus a team of freelance professionals.

After 8 years of dedicated leadership, our CEO Katie Sparkes has decided to step down, leaving an indelible mark on our Charity's journey. We extend our gratitude for her unwavering commitment and significant contributions, which have propelled the organisation towards new heights of impact and success. We are delighted to be appointing Jeff Banks as our new CEO, joining us in January 2024. Jeff has over 30 years of experience in leading charities and social enterprises focused on supporting disabled and disadvantaged children and families. He has worked at director, executive director and chief executive level with a range of organisations in the public, private and third sector, both regionally and nationally, to engage disabled and disadvantaged young people in enriching educational activities. He has set up and run workshops and training seminars in over 120 schools, colleges and educational institutions, including extensive work in special schools, and founded a STEM Free School in 2015. He also brings personal lived experience of disability.

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Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

Regular Trustee skills audits are carried out and based on this, new Trustees are recruited, either to replace a person who has resigned or to bring specific skill and experience onto the board. Trustee vacancies are widely advertised. Shortlisted candidates are interviewed by the CEO then by at least one other Trustee before being invited to attend a first board meeting as an observer. Following this the board votes on the appointment of the new member. Lightyear Foundation prides itself on making its onboarding process accessible. Measures include a Board Buddy scheme and live minutes.

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review risks facing the charity and have taken action this year to diversify fundraising streams, improve infrastructure and introduce new IT and data management systems.

Statement of the Responsibilities of the Trustee Directors

The Trustees (who are also directors of Lightyear Foundation for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

The company has taken advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the report above.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

So far as each of the Trustees is aware at the time the report is approved:

- There is no relevant review information of which the charitable company's independent examiner is unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant review information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

Dr Josie Rawes, Chair of Trustees **JOSIE RAWES**

Date: 22 January 2024

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

I report to the Charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Lightyear Foundation Limited for the year ended 31 December 2023 as set out on pages 13 to 22.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity's trustees of the company (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that:

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- The accounts do not accord with such records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (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.

Signed: CAMILLA FROST

Date: 22 January 2024

Name: Camilla Frost

Address: 61 Wellington Street, Stretford, Manchester, M32 9AD

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31.12.2023 Total funds	31.12.2022 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Grants and donations	2	50,804	106,668	157,472	105,952
Trading income		1,150	-	1,150	1,782
Total income		<u>51,954</u>	<u>106,668</u>	<u>158,622</u>	<u>107,734</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	3	344	-	344	945
Charitable activities	4,5,6	18,707	52,692	71,399	90,503
Total expenditure		<u>19,051</u>	<u>52,692</u>	<u>71,743</u>	<u>91,448</u>
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR	9	32,903	53,976	86,879	16,286
Transfers between the funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in the funds		32,903	53,976	86,879	16,286
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>38,731</u>	<u>39,653</u>	<u>78,384</u>	<u>62,098</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	12	<u><u>71,634</u></u>	<u><u>93,629</u></u>	<u><u>165,263</u></u>	<u><u>78,384</u></u>

The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.
All of the activities of the Charity are classed as continuing.

The comparative funds are detailed in Note 13.
The notes on pages 15 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2023 Total funds £	31.12.2022 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	-	-	-	7,355
Cash at bank		72,019	93,629	165,648	71,404
		<u>72,019</u>	<u>93,629</u>	<u>165,648</u>	<u>78,759</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(385)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(385)</u>	<u>(375)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>71,634</u>	<u>93,629</u>	<u>165,263</u>	<u>78,384</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>71,634</u></u>	<u><u>93,629</u></u>	<u><u>165,263</u></u>	<u><u>78,384</u></u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	12			71,634	38,731
Restricted funds				<u>93,629</u>	<u>39,653</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u><u>165,263</u></u>	<u><u>78,384</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 22 January 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
Dr Josie Rawes **JOSIE RAWES**

The notes on pages 15 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with items recognised at cost or transaction value. The Financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), FRS 102 and the Charities Act 2011. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern due to accumulated reserves, and there are no significant current or longer-term liabilities, and the organisation has significant net assets and reserves.

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred and no material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

Income

All income is included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Grants and donations are included in income when they are received, except for significant one-off grants and donations, received after the year end but promised before the year end.

Gift aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any gift aid recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor has specified otherwise.

Legacies are included when the charity is advised by the personal representative of an estate that the payment will be made, or property transferred and the amount can be quantified.

Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably. Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SoFA.

The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the Trustees' Annual Report.

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities or income and expenses.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity costs categories on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Expenditure includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees. Designated funds form part of unrestricted funds and have been identified as being for particular purposes by the Trustees. They are not restricted and can be transferred to general funds at any time at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for the 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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2. GRANTS AND DONATIONS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2023 Total £	31.12.2022 Total £
Grants - unrestricted	45,386	-	45,386	10,546
Grants - restricted				
- Active Learning Workshops	-	-	-	42,793
- Lightyear Labs	-	19,090	19,090	5,782
- Core Costs	-	76,073	76,073	28,878
- SEN in STEM	-	1,000	1,000	-
- Role Models	-	-	-	10,105
- Immersive Sensory Science	-	4,255	4,255	1,250
- Work Inspiration Trips	-	6,250	6,250	2,250
Donations	5,118	-	5,118	4,348
Gift aid	300	-	300	-
	<u>50,804</u>	<u>106,668</u>	<u>157,472</u>	<u>105,952</u>

3. RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2023 Total £	31.12.2022 Total £
Fundraising costs	255	-	255	700
Donation website charges	89	-	89	245
	<u>344</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>344</u>	<u>945</u>

All raising funds expenditure was from unrestricted funds totalling £945 in 2022.

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - CURRENT YEAR

	Direct costs £	Project costs £	31.12.2023 Total £
Charitable activities (see Note 5)	3,965	52,692	56,657
Support and governance costs (see Note 6)	14,742	-	14,742
	<u>18,707</u>	<u>52,692</u>	<u>71,399</u>

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - PRIOR YEAR

	Direct costs £	Project costs £	31.12.2022 Total £
Charitable activities (see Note 5)	541	85,635	86,176
Support and governance costs (see Note 6)	3,881	446	4,327
	<u>4,422</u>	<u>86,081</u>	<u>90,503</u>

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - CURRENT YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2023 Total £
<u>Direct costs</u>			
Website and marketing	473	-	473
Charity Awards costs	713	-	713
<u>Project costs</u>			
- Lightyear Labs	259	10,463	10,722
- Core Costs	-	26,677	26,677
- SEN in STEM	-	1,000	1,000
- Role Models	-	10,105	10,105
- Immersive Sensory Science	2,520	662	3,182
- Work Inspiration Trips	-	3,785	3,785
	<u>3,965</u>	<u>52,692</u>	<u>56,657</u>

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - PREVIOUS YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2022 Total £
<u>Direct costs</u>			
Website and marketing	511	-	511
<u>Project costs</u>			
- Active Learning Workshops	30	59,654	59,684
- Lightyear Labs	-	4,607	4,607
- Core Costs	-	20,786	20,786
- Immersive Sensory Science	-	588	588
	<u>541</u>	<u>85,635</u>	<u>86,176</u>

6. SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2023 Total £	31.12.2022 Total £
<u>Support costs</u>				
Operations team - freelance	10,835	-	10,835	1,292
DBS checks	552	-	552	99
Training and development	172	-	172	748
Recruitment	299	-	299	-
Travelling	320	-	320	210
Printing, postage and stationery	92	-	92	173
IT , software and equipment	-	-	-	224
Subscriptions	216	-	216	96
Sundry	122	-	122	74
Bank charges	32	-	32	32
Bookkeeping and accounts	800	-	800	735
	<u>13,440</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,440</u>	<u>3,683</u>
<u>Governance</u>				
Insurance	524	-	524	446
Impact report design	730	-	730	150
Companies House fee	13	-	13	13
Data protection registration fee	35	-	35	35
	<u>1,302</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,302</u>	<u>644</u>
Total support and governance	<u>14,742</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,742</u>	<u>4,327</u>

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6. SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS (CONTINUED)

Support and governance expenditure from unrestricted funds totalled £3,881 and £446 from restricted funds (insurance) in 2022.

7. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS - CURRENT YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2023 Total £	31.12.2022 Total £
Gross salaries and wages	-	-	-	-
Freelance staff				
- Raising funds	-	-	-	1,292
- Charitable activities - projects	5,630	16,535	22,165	36,825
- Management and governance	5,205	29,708	34,913	13,986
	<u>10,835</u>	<u>46,243</u>	<u>57,078</u>	<u>52,103</u>
Total staff costs	<u>10,835</u>	<u>46,243</u>	<u>57,078</u>	<u>52,103</u>

STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS - PRIOR YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2022 Total £
Gross salaries and wages	-	-	-
Freelance staff			
- Raising funds	1,292	-	1,292
- Charitable activities - projects	-	36,825	36,825
- Management and governance	-	13,986	13,986
	<u>1,292</u>	<u>50,811</u>	<u>52,103</u>
Total staff costs	<u>1,292</u>	<u>50,811</u>	<u>52,103</u>

There were no members of staff employed during 2023 (2022 None).

No members of staff received staff benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the year of more than £60,000.

The remuneration of the key management personnel (2023, 2 people) amounted to £34,912 (2022, 1 person, £16,525).

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

8. TRANSACTIONS WITH TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTIES

Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no Trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no Trustees' expenses paid or waived for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Trustees' donations

No Trustees made donations in the year (2022 5 trustees - £322).

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

This is stated after charging:

	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
	£	£
Independent examiner's fee	-	-

No fees have been paid to the Independent Examiner for her review (2022 - £NIL) and she has not provided any other assurance or advisory services.

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
	£	£
Accrued income - match funding	-	6,177
Gift aid due	-	678
Trading income debtor	-	500
	<u>-</u>	<u>7,355</u>

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
	£	£
Accruals	<u>385</u>	<u>375</u>

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

	At 1.1.2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31.12.2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	38,731	51,954	(19,051)	-	71,634
Restricted funds					
Lightyear Labs	4,799	19,090	(10,463)	-	13,426
Core Costs	21,837	76,073	(26,677)	-	71,233
SEN in STEM	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Role Models	10,105	-	(10,105)	-	-
Immersive Sensory Science	662	4,255	(662)	-	4,255
Work Inspiration Trips	2,250	6,250	(3,785)	-	4,715
	<u>39,653</u>	<u>106,668</u>	<u>(52,692)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,629</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>78,384</u></u>	<u><u>158,622</u></u>	<u><u>(71,743)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>165,263</u></u>

MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

	At 1.1.2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31.12.2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	27,422	16,676	(5,367)	-	38,731
Restricted funds					
Active Learning Workshops	16,861	42,793	(59,654)	-	-
Lightyear Labs	3,624	5,782	(4,607)	-	4,799
Core costs	14,191	28,878	(21,232)	-	21,837
Role Models	-	10,105	-	-	10,105
Immersive Sensory Science	-	1,250	(588)	-	662
Work Inspiration Trips	-	2,250	-	-	2,250
	<u>34,676</u>	<u>91,058</u>	<u>(86,081)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,653</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>62,098</u></u>	<u><u>107,734</u></u>	<u><u>(91,448)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>78,384</u></u>

General fund

The general fund is used for the administration costs of the charity.

Active Learning Workshops

This project was completed in 2022

Lightyear Labs (was Virtual Labs)

These funds provide virtual science workshops for disabled children.

Core costs

This funding covers core costs relating to developing the charity's future programmes.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

SEN in STEM

This fund covers training and hosting inclusivity events in the STEM sector.

Role Models

This funding covers linking children with disabled professionals in STEM industries to inspire them to consider the industry as a career option.

Immersive Sensory Science

This fund is to offer accessible and interactive STEM experiences for disabled children to create a multi-sensory experience to STEMM learning.

Work Inspiration Trips

This fund facilitates days where young adults and children can visit a STEM workplace to encourage them to explore the STEM industries as a career.

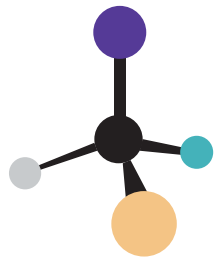
13. PRIOR YEAR FUND COMPARATIVES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2022 Total funds £
Income from:			
Grants and donations	14,894	91,058	105,952
Other	1,782	-	1,782
Total income	16,676	91,058	107,734
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	945	-	945
Charitable activities	4,422	86,081	90,503
Total expenditure	5,367	86,081	91,448
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR	11,309	4,977	16,286
Transfers between the funds	-	-	-
Net movement in the funds	11,309	4,977	16,286
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	27,422	34,676	62,098
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	38,731	39,653	78,384

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1150231

Accounts



lightyear
foundation

Annual Report & Financial Statements

For year ended
31 December 2022

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Financial Year Ended 31 December 2022

The Board of Trustees of the Charity, which also acts as the board of directors for company law purposes, submits their report and the financial statements for Lightyear Foundation for the period 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022. The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition – October 2019) and with the Charities Act 2011.

Objectives

The Charity's objects, as set out in its governing document, are: To advance education in science amongst schoolchildren and adults in the UK and abroad in such ways as the Trustees see fit, including by:

- Helping establish science-oriented partnerships between schools
- Organising events that promote an interest in science
- Investigating and using new technology to communicate scientific knowledge and understanding

Statement of Public Benefit

The Charity Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

The Charity's Activities

Lightyear Foundation breaks down the barriers to disabled people participating in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM), opening up the exciting world of science for all regardless of ability or background.

Recent years have seen some headway in tackling STEM's inclusivity and diversity issues, but it's still work in progress. Disabled people, making up 20% of working-age adults in the UK¹, still remain largely overlooked. STEM jobs are growing at double the rate of other occupations, creating 142,000 extra jobs by the end of 2023². 1.8m more STEM-qualified people will be needed in the UK by 2025³. There's a growing realisation that a workforce made up of people from similar backgrounds tends to come up with narrow-focused solutions. To overcome the biggest global challenges, our scientists and engineers of the future need to come from *all* walks of life. But despite the need for skilled people in STEM,

¹<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/the-employment-of-disabled-people-2021/the-employment-of-disabled-people-2021>

²<https://www.sciencecampaign.org.uk/resource/jobs-of-the-future---social-market-foundation--edf-energy.html>

³ <https://www.jamesdysonfoundation.co.uk/resources.html>

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

47% of disabled people are unemployed⁴, including 78% of the autistic community⁵ and 95% of people with a learning disability⁶. Disabled people are three times as likely to have no qualifications⁷.

The unique ways in which disabled people interpret and interact with the world, typically perceived as an obstacle to their inclusion, are arguably among humanity's best chances at solving some of our planet's biggest problems. For example, individuals with autism often have specialist traits of fine-detail processing, high concentration, reliability and honesty; people with ADHD can have hyper-focus, creativity and passion; and a visually impaired scientist could detect tactile details that someone else might miss. Also disabled people's needs are often overlooked when solutions to these challenges are developed because they are under represented in the organisations and teams that design them.

We take a holistic approach, developing unique programmes that educate, inspire and include disabled children in STEM from the early years through to young adulthood, whilst working in partnership with educators and employers to identify and dismantle the barriers that disabled people currently face in the STEM sector.

In 2022, we offered six programmes:

1. Active Learning Workshops
2. Immersive Sensory Science
3. Lightyear Labs
4. Role Models
5. Work Inspiration Trips
6. SEN in STEM Network

Our impact in 2022

1. Active Learning Workshops

- **7,201 children through our sessions this year**
- **82 regular classes – up by 49%**
- **29 new settings**
- **194 workshops delivered – up by 44%**

Our unique Active Learning Workshops fuse dance and STEM to get our youngest disabled children moving and learning about the world around them. Our workshops are adapted for a wide range of physical abilities, feature Makaton (a language programme widely used by the learning disability community), are linked to learning outcomes in the National

⁴<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/the-employment-of-disabled-people-2021/the-employment-of-disabled-people-2021>

⁵<https://www.autism.org.uk/what-we-do/news/new-data-on-the-autism-employment-gap>

⁶<https://www.mencap.org.uk/learning-disability-explained/research-and-statistics/employment-research-and-statistics>

⁷<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/disability/articles/outcomesfordisabledpeopleintheuk/2020#:~:text=Disabled%20men%20were%20three%20times,%25%20of%20non%20disabled%20women.>

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Curriculum and offer spin-off STEM and craft activities for extended learning. They are delivered in collaboration with Flamingo Chicks, an inclusive dance charity.

- 79% said their physical ability had improved (60% by a significant amount)
- 83% said their confidence and resilience had improved
- 73% said their enjoyment and interest in STEM had increased

2. Immersive Sensory Science (NEW IN 2022)

- **1 experience delivered**
- **39 children involved**

With hands-on demonstrations and stunning visuals combined with knowledgeable, enthusiastic and professional presenters, our Immersive Sensory Science programme offers lively, accessible, interactive and fun STEM experiences for disabled children. From taking an imaginary trip to space in a pop-up planetarium to travelling through the clouds and feeling them brush past us as we fly through the sky, Immersive Sensory Science uses beautiful colours, sounds, textures and activities to create an unforgettable multi-sensory experience to support STEM learning.

"It was EPIC! It was like a magical story. My favourite thing was when we welcomed the planets. Did you know the moon is billions of years old? All my friends went 'wow'! It made me think I was in actual space. I want to learn more about space." **Poppy (cerebral palsy), aged 16**

3. Lightyear Labs

- **8 labs delivered**
- **48 students involved**

Each Lightyear Lab, led by an experienced STEM professional, takes a cohort of around five students through a 4-week programme of exploratory sessions, offering a challenge-based learning methodology that promotes experimentation and discovery while also developing critical thinking, decision-making and problem-solving skills. The format offers a unique gateway to GCSE science. These sessions not only get students doing hands-on STEM, but crucially also upskill SEN teachers in the subjects for long-lasting impact.

In June, 26 students from John Watson School in Oxfordshire, a community special school for children with severe, complex, or profound learning difficulties, took part in our pilot Formula 1 Lightyear Lab, delivered in partnership with F1 in Schools.

- 69% thought the F1 Lightyear Lab was fun and 63% gave the project top marks for understanding what they had done
- Compared to a school science lesson, 96% of students were more engaged by the F1 Lightyear Lab
- 75% were more engaged with the lab than with their favourite activity!

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4. Role Models

- **16 role models**

When young people are inspired and engaged by our workshops and labs, we further support these budding STEM-ists by connecting them with disabled professionals doing awesome things within the STEM industry. Our role models encourage disabled children to look at the industry as a viable and welcoming career option while being honest about their experiences and the challenges they have faced (and continue to face).

"It's an absolute honour to be a part of this programme. No aspiring scientist should be told they cannot pursue a career in STEM because of a disability." **Amy-Charlotte Devitz, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology PhD Researcher and Lightyear role model**

5. Work Inspiration Trips

- **2 trips in 2022**

We love inspiring young STEM-ists by taking groups of post-16 disabled students to show them STEM in action! There are so few opportunities for disabled young people to see a place for themselves in a STEM workplace; our trips are designed to introduce students to the full range of roles and settings available, inspiring them to consider a career in this fulfilling sector. As a result of these trips, the vast majority of students say they'd consider STEM choices at college or applying for work experience in the industry.

"What an exciting experience – we can't thank you enough for this amazing opportunity! We were all really inspired by our trip and the diverse team that make up the Ultraleap family. J and M were especially inspired and J maintained that he'd love to work there one day (so lovely to hear)! This has really made our guys think about the world of work." **Hazel Staddon, Lecturer Post-16, Briarwood School**

6. SEN in STEM Network

- **228 members**
- **5 consultancy projects through our triage service**
- **124 people trained in inclusive practice**

We founded the SEN in STEM Network in 2018 in response to huge demand and appetite for a central forum to discuss all things inclusivity within the sector, hosting regular in-person and virtual round table events and workshops at venues from the Home Office to London Zoo! The network brings the sector together to break down barriers to inclusion by sharing best practice and leading the way with practical solutions. We currently have 228 members, spanning leading science institutions, membership organisations, science centres, charities, government bodies, corporates and individuals who collectively represent the UK's STEM

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community. Between meetings, we continue to run our 'triage service' to provide support to organisations needing help with inclusion.

In 2022, we developed a CPD-accredited training course called 'Making STEM Accessible', funded by John Lyon's Charity. This is a practical course for anyone working in STEM and interacting with disabled children or those with special educational needs. Attendees will leave with new techniques, tips and renewed confidence in delivery, evaluation and communication methods plus what they can do to embed these practices into their future work.

- 80% rated the course as excellent
- 98% said they'd learnt something new
- 98% said they'd recommend the training to others

2022 in numbers

- 7,303 disabled young people through our programmes:
 - 7,201 in Active Learning Workshops
 - 39 in Immersive Sensory Science
 - 48 in Lightyear Labs
 - 15 in Work Inspiration Trips
- 16 Lightyear Role Models
- 228 SEN in STEM Network members
 - 5 consultancy projects
 - 6 presentations at conferences and events
- 124 people trained in 'Making STEM Accessible'
- 2 high-profile media features
- 16 volunteers supporting our work
- 5 staff working the combined equivalent of 1 full-time person

Acknowledgements

We are very grateful for the staggering support, generosity and kindness we've received this year. Thank you to our Board of Trustees and our dedicated team of volunteers, without whom none of this would have been possible. Very special mentions to Ultraleap and Ventient Energy, who both supported us as their Charity of the Year in 2022. We received a transformational grant of £17,309.06 from the Funding Network towards our leadership salaries, and a grant of £10,000 from Garfield Weston Foundation towards core costs. Our first ever community fundraising appeal, Race to Space, raised £13,378 through the Crowdfunder platform.

Thank you to everyone who was part of our story this year; we look forward to writing the next chapter with you in 2023.

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Plans for 2023

Diversity and being inclusive will remain at the heart of what we do, and we'll continue to challenge ourselves to lead the way in pioneering accessibility – being led by those we exist to serve. To ensure we can survive and thrive, fundraising will be central to our strategy next year. We aim to maintain reserve levels of four months to enable us to cover core costs, securing our delivery so we can be safe in the knowledge of being able to support families during these challenging and unpredictable times.

In addition to managing our core programmes and growing our influence in the sector through our SEN in STEM Network, we are looking forward to delivering some innovative new projects and collaborations in the coming months.

Future First: We are excited to be entering into a two-year partnership with education charity Future First. They are managing the Planet Possibility programme funded by the Institute of Physics. The aim is to increase the diversity of the physics community. We are partnering with them to promote physics to disabled children through a mixture of Immersive Sensory Science, Lightyear Labs, Work Inspirations Trips and a brand-new role model project.

Makaton: There is huge demand for Makaton vocabulary to add specific STEM-related terminology. Creating Makaton signs to include STEM vocabulary would help to reinforce the importance of these subjects within SEN education and open up the language of STEM to a wider audience. We will be working with Makaton to design and introduce these new signs next year.

Lightyear Foundation Inclusion Awards with New Scientist magazine: We meet, work with and support many people and organisations doing incredible things in the name of inclusion in the STEM sector. In 2023, we hope to host the inaugural Lightyear Foundation Inclusion Awards as our way to recognise and celebrate their relentless commitment, energy and achievements. New Scientist magazine has confirmed its intention to collaborate on these awards as our media partner. Fully online, these awards will be accessible to all with signing and captioning.

Virtual reality (VR) with the University of York: The university's VR and spatial audio labs feature state-of-the-art equipment for the development and production of VR experiences and immersive audio. We will be working with them to open up the exciting world of STEM to those who are unable to travel or feel overwhelmed by visiting new places by creating virtual tours of scientific facilities, offering new and exciting 360-degree video content for the young people we work with, complementing and extending our Work Inspiration Trip programme.

Our vision of the future

Through developing our programmes to be scalable and replicable, and through fortifying pathways with our SEN in STEM Network members and other educators and employers, we firmly position ourselves as a catalyst for creating systemic change. We are committed to

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tackling the root causes preventing the disabled community from accessing STEM. We want to be part of the solution so that ultimately our services are no longer needed.

Our vision is of a future where inclusivity and accessibility are embedded within STEM education and workplaces, where disabled people are welcomed and celebrated in these pioneering fields, offering their unique contributions to tackling the world's greatest challenges and advancing human knowledge. In doing so, making society more accessible through more inclusive innovation in science and technology.

Financial review

Results for the year

The Charity received income of £107,734 (2021 - £105,088) and incurred expenditure of £91,448 (2021 - £83,043) resulting in net income of £16,286 (2021 - £22,045) for the year, of which a surplus of £11,309 was attributable to unrestricted funds and a surplus of £4,977 to restricted funds. The totals funds at 31 December 2022 of £78,384 was made up of £38,731 in unrestricted funds and £39,653 in restricted funds.

Reserves policy

Trustees have agreed a reserves level that will allow for normal operation of the Charity for four months in the absence of any further funding. Lightyear Foundation anticipates a period of growth in 2023-24 and therefore has increased the reserves level to reflect this, at £40,000. At the end of 2022 the free reserves were £38,731 so a focus for early 2023 will be in increasing current reserves to the new level. Reserves may be accessed, with the agreement of the Trustees, to provide working capital in order to meet new areas of endeavour and to meet emergency requirements.

Principal funding sources

Lightyear Foundation works hard to create a fundraising armoury with funding sources from several avenues. These include charitable trusts and foundations, corporate support and community fundraising.

The Charity would like to thank the following for their generous support this year.

Amazon Smile

Avios

BA Better World Community Fund

British Airways Executive Club

British Ecological Society

Crowdfunder (Race to Space campaign)

Curiosity Fund (BBC Children in Need and Wellcome Trust)

Facebook Giving

Future First

Garfield Weston Foundation

Institute of Physics

Local Giving

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Local Giving Magic Little Grants (Postcode Lottery)
Palo Alto Networks
PayPal Giving
Royal Museums Greenwich
Royal Society of Chemistry
Springer Publishing
The Funding Network
The Institution of Engineering and Technology
The National Emergencies Trust
The Ogden Trust
Ultraleap
University of Manchester
Ventient Energy

Donated goods and services

The charity is very grateful for all the pro bono support it receives but is unable to put a financial value on it.

Reference and administrative details

Charity registration number: 1150231

Date of registration: 18th Dec 2012

Company registration number: 08151118

Date of incorporation: 20th July 2012

Address: Lightyear Foundation, 12 Anson Drive, York, YO10 4LH (in effect from 07.09.2022)
previous address: Lightyear Foundation Ltd, The Bungalow, The Green, Crakehall, Bedale
DL8 1HP)

Website: www.lightyearfoundation.org

Bankers: Lloyds Bank plc, 120 Lewisham High Street, Lewisham, London. SE13 6JG

Independent examiner: Camilla Frost

Trustees:

The Trustees who served the Charity during the period were as follows:

Clive Gilbert (appointed 07.09.2022)

Kirshen Govender (appointed 07.09.2022)

Lewis Honey (resigned 10.03.2022)

Chintan Jayesh Khamar (resigned 05.12.2022)

Nathan Macabuag (appointed 07.09.2022)

Nathan March (resigned 05.12.2022)

Kerry Nelson (resigned 07.09.2022)

Dr Camilla Pang

Dr Josie Rawes - chair

Peter Roberts

Lucy Williams

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Structure, governance and management

Governing document

Lightyear Foundation is governed by its Articles of Association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Organisational structure

The Trustees are responsible for decisions regarding the strategy and development of the Charity, and other high-level decisions. Day to day running of the Charity is delegated to the CEO of Lightyear Foundation plus a team of freelance professionals.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

Regular Trustee skills audits are carried out and based on this, new Trustees are recruited, either to replace a person who has resigned or to bring specific skill and experience onto the board.

Trustee vacancies are widely advertised. Shortlisted candidates are interviewed by the CEO then by at least one other Trustee before being invited to attend a first board meeting as an observer. Following this the board votes on the appointment of the new member. Lightyear Foundation prides itself on making its onboarding process accessible. Measures include a Board Buddy scheme, recording meetings to watch again and live minutes.

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review risks facing the charity and have taken action this year to diversify fundraising streams, improve infrastructure and introduce new IT and data management systems.

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Statement of the Responsibilities of the Trustee Directors

The Trustees (who are also directors of Lightyear Foundation for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

The company has taken advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the report above.

So far as each of the Trustees is aware at the time the report is approved:

- There is no relevant review information of which the charitable company's independent examiner is unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant review information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

Dr Josie Rawes, Chair of Trustees **JOSIE RAWES**

Date 6 March 2023

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

I report to the Charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Lightyear Foundation Limited for the year ended 31 December 2022 as set out on pages 12 to 21.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity's trustees of the company (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that:

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- The accounts do not accord with such records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (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.

Signed: CAMILLA FROST

Date: 6 March 2023

Name: Camilla Frost

Address: Flat 1, 547 Barlow Moor Road, Manchester, M21 8AN

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31.12.2022 Total funds	31.12.2021 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Grants and donations	2	14,894	91,058	105,952	104,438
Trading income		<u>1,782</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,782</u>	<u>650</u>
Total income		<u>16,676</u>	<u>91,058</u>	<u>107,734</u>	<u>105,088</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	3	945	-	945	1,059
Charitable activities	4,5,6	<u>4,422</u>	<u>86,081</u>	<u>90,503</u>	<u>81,984</u>
Total expenditure		<u>5,367</u>	<u>86,081</u>	<u>91,448</u>	<u>83,043</u>
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR	9	11,309	4,977	16,286	22,045
Transfers between the funds		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in the funds		11,309	4,977	16,286	22,045
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>27,422</u>	<u>34,676</u>	<u>62,098</u>	<u>40,053</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	12	<u><u>38,731</u></u>	<u><u>39,653</u></u>	<u><u>78,384</u></u>	<u><u>62,098</u></u>

The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.
All of the activities of the Charity are classed as continuing.

The comparative funds are detailed in Note 13.
The notes on pages 14 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31.12.2022 Total funds	31.12.2021 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	7,355	-	7,355	150
Cash at bank		31,751	39,653	71,404	62,308
		<u>39,106</u>	<u>39,653</u>	<u>78,759</u>	<u>62,458</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(375)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(375)</u>	<u>(360)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>38,731</u>	<u>39,653</u>	<u>78,384</u>	<u>62,098</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>38,731</u></u>	<u><u>39,653</u></u>	<u><u>78,384</u></u>	<u><u>62,098</u></u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	12			38,731	27,422
Restricted funds				<u>39,653</u>	<u>34,676</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u><u>78,384</u></u>	<u><u>62,098</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 6 March 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
Dr Josie Rawes **JOSIE RAWES**

The notes on pages 14 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with items recognised at cost or transaction value. The Financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), FRS 102 and the Charities Act 2011. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern due to accumulated reserves, and there are no significant current or longer-term liabilities, and the organisation has significant net assets and reserves.

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred and no material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

Income

All income is included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Grants and donations are included in income when they are received, except for significant one-off grants and donations, received after the year end but promised before the year end.

Gift aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any gift aid recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor has specified otherwise.

Legacies are included when the charity is advised by the personal representative of an estate that the payment will be made, or property transferred and the amount can be quantified.

Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably. Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SoFA.

The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the Trustees' Annual Report.

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities or income and expenses.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity costs categories on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Expenditure includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees. Designated funds form part of unrestricted funds and have been identified as being for particular purposes by the Trustees. They are not restricted and can be transferred to general funds at any time at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for the 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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

2. GRANTS AND DONATIONS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2022 Total £	31.12.2021 Total £
Grants - unrestricted	10,546	-	10,546	9,373
Grants - restricted				
- Active Learning Workshops	-	42,793	42,793	54,605
- Lightyear Labs	-	5,782	5,782	13,711
- Core Costs	-	28,878	28,878	20,592
- Role Models	-	10,105	10,105	-
- Immersive Sensory Science	-	1,250	1,250	-
- Work Inspiration Trips	-	2,250	2,250	-
Donations	4,348	-	4,348	6,157
Gift aid	-	-	-	-
	<u>14,894</u>	<u>91,058</u>	<u>105,952</u>	<u>104,438</u>

3. RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2022 Total £	31.12.2021 Total £
Fundraising costs	700	-	700	976
Donation website charges	<u>245</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>245</u>	<u>83</u>
	<u>945</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>945</u>	<u>1,059</u>

All raising funds expenditure was from unrestricted funds totalling £1,059 in 2021.

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - CURRENT YEAR

	Direct costs £	Project costs £	31.12.2022 Total £
Charitable activities (see Note 5)	541	85,635	86,176
Support and governance costs (see Note 6)	<u>3,881</u>	<u>446</u>	<u>4,327</u>
	<u>4,422</u>	<u>86,081</u>	<u>90,503</u>

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - PRIOR YEAR

	Direct costs £	Project costs £	31.12.2021 Total £
Charitable activities (see Note 5)	865	78,456	79,321
Support and governance costs (see Note 6)	<u>2,663</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,663</u>
	<u>3,528</u>	<u>78,456</u>	<u>81,984</u>

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - CURRENT YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2022 Total £
<u>Direct costs</u>			
Website and marketing	511	-	511
<u>Project costs</u>			
- Active Learning Workshops	30	59,654	59,684
- Lightyear Labs	-	4,607	4,607
- Core Costs	-	20,786	20,786
- Immersive Sensory Science	-	588	588
	<u>541</u>	<u>85,635</u>	<u>86,176</u>

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - PREVIOUS YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2021 Total £
<u>Direct costs</u>			
Website and marketing	294	-	294
<u>Project costs</u>			
- Active Learning Workshops	571	45,904	46,475
- Virtual Lab summer school	-	10,587	10,587
- Core Costs	-	21,965	21,965
	<u>865</u>	<u>78,456</u>	<u>79,321</u>

6. SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2022 Total £	31.12.2021 Total £
<u>Support costs</u>				
Fundraising - Operations team	1,292	-	1,292	265
DBS checks	99	-	99	48
Training and development	748	-	748	-
Travelling	210	-	210	197
Printing, postage and stationery	173	-	173	95
IT , software and equipment	224	-	224	477
Subscriptions	96	-	96	343
Sundry	74	-	74	54
Bank charges	32	-	32	-
Bookkeeping and accounts	735	-	735	690
	<u>3,683</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,683</u>	<u>2,169</u>
<u>Governance</u>				
Insurance	-	446	446	446
Impact report design	150	-	150	-
Companies House fee	13	-	13	13
Data protection registration fee	35	-	35	35
	<u>198</u>	<u>446</u>	<u>644</u>	<u>494</u>
Total support and governance	<u>3,881</u>	<u>446</u>	<u>4,327</u>	<u>2,663</u>

All support and governance expenditure was from unrestricted funds totalling £2,663 in 2021.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

7. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS - CURRENT YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2022 Total £	31.12.2021 Total £
Gross salaries and wages	-	-	-	-
Freelance staff				
- Raising funds	1,292	-	1,292	-
- Charitable activities - projects	-	36,825	36,825	30,927
- Management and governance	-	13,986	13,986	17,786
	<u>1,292</u>	<u>50,811</u>	<u>52,103</u>	<u>48,713</u>
Total staff costs	<u>1,292</u>	<u>50,811</u>	<u>52,103</u>	<u>48,713</u>

STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS - PRIOR YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.21 Total £
Gross salaries and wages	-	-	-
Freelance staff			
- Raising funds	-	-	-
- Charitable activities - projects	265	30,662	30,927
- Management and governance	-	17,786	17,786
	<u>265</u>	<u>48,448</u>	<u>48,713</u>
Total staff costs	<u>265</u>	<u>48,448</u>	<u>48,713</u>

There were no members of staff employed during 2022 (2021 None).

No members of staff received staff benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the year of more than £60,000.

The remuneration of the key management personnel (2022, 1 person) amounted to £16,525 (2021, 1 person, £19,200).

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

8. TRANSACTIONS WITH TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTIES

Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no Trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no Trustees' expenses paid or waived for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Trustees' donations

Five Trustees made donations amounting to £322 (2021 2 trustees - £175).

Related parties

2022 saw the final year of the charity's partnership with Flamingo Chicks CIO (a registered charity). The relationship has enabled Lightyear Foundation to have a greater reach and social impact, making maximum use of available funds. The organisation is known to the Lightyear Foundation as Lightyear's CEO, who works part-time for Lightyear, founded Flamingo Chicks CIO and is its CEO. The 3 year project came to a close in December 2022.

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

This is stated after charging:

	31.12.2022	31.12.2021
	£	£
Independent examiner's fee	-	-

No fees have been paid to the Independent Examiner for her review (2021 - £NIL) and she has not provided any other assurance or advisory services.

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.2022	31.12.2021
	£	£
Accrued income - match funding	6,177	-
Gift aid due	678	-
Trading income debtor	500	150
	<u>7,355</u>	<u>150</u>

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.2022	31.12.2021
	£	£
Accruals	375	360

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

	At 1.1.2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31.12.2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	27,422	16,676	(5,367)	-	38,731
Restricted funds					
Active Learning Workshops	16,861	42,793	(59,654)	-	-
Lightyear Labs	3,624	5,782	(4,607)	-	4,799
Core Costs	14,191	28,878	(21,232)	-	21,837
Role Models	-	10,105	-	-	10,105
Immersive Sensory Science	-	1,250	(588)	-	662
Work Inspiration Trips	-	2,250	-	-	2,250
	<u>34,676</u>	<u>91,058</u>	<u>(86,081)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,653</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>62,098</u></u>	<u><u>107,734</u></u>	<u><u>(91,448)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>78,384</u></u>

MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

	At 1.1.2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31.12.2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	15,829	16,180	(4,587)	-	27,422
Restricted funds					
Active Learning Workshops	8,160	54,605	(45,904)	-	16,861
Virtual Lab programme	-	13,711	(10,087)	-	3,624
Virtual Lab science week 2021	500	-	(500)	-	-
Core costs	15,564	20,592	(21,965)	-	14,191
	<u>24,224</u>	<u>88,908</u>	<u>(78,456)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,676</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>40,053</u></u>	<u><u>105,088</u></u>	<u><u>(83,043)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>62,098</u></u>

General fund

The general fund is used for the administration costs of the charity.

Active Learning Workshops

This fund delivers Sensory Science workshops that provide a practical experience for disabled children.

Lightyear Labs (was Virtual Labs)

These funds provide virtual science workshops for disabled children.

Core costs

This funding covers core costs relating to developing the charity's future programmes.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Role Models

This funding covers linking children with disabled professionals in STEM industries to inspire them to consider the industry as a career option.

Immersive Sensory Science

This fund is to offer accessible and interactive STEM experiences for disabled children to create a multi-sensory experience to STEMM learning.

Work Inspiration Trips

This fund facilitates days where young adults and children can visit a STEM workplace to encourage them to explore the STEM industries as a career.

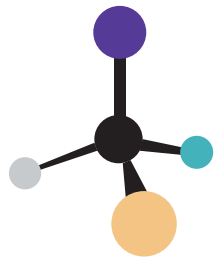
13. PRIOR YEAR FUND COMPARATIVES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2021 Total funds £
Income from:			
Grants and donations	15,530	88,908	104,438
Other	650	-	650
Total income	16,180	88,908	105,088
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	1,059	-	1,059
Charitable activities	3,528	78,456	81,984
Total expenditure	4,587	78,456	83,043
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR	11,593	10,452	22,045
Transfers between the funds	-	-	-
Net movement in the funds	11,593	10,452	22,045
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	15,829	24,224	40,053
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	27,422	34,676	62,098

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1150231

Accounts



lightyear
foundation

Annual Report & Financial Statements

For year ended
31 December 2021

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

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LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Financial Year Ended 31 December 2021

The Board of Trustees of the Charity, which also acts as the board of directors for company law purposes, submits their report and the financial statements for Lightyear Foundation for the period 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021. The Board of Trustees confirms that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition – October 2019) and with the Charities Act 2011.

Objectives

The Charity's objects, as set out in its governing document, are: To advance education in science amongst schoolchildren and adults in the UK and abroad in such ways as the Trustees see fit, including by:

- Helping establish science-oriented partnerships between schools
- Organising events that promote an interest in science
- Investigating and using new technology to communicate scientific knowledge and understanding

Statement of Public Benefit

The Charity Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

The Charity's Activities

Lightyear Foundation breaks down the barriers to disabled people participating in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM), opening up the exciting world of science for all regardless of ability or background.

85% of the Autistic Community and 94% of people with a learning disability are unemployed. This is where science comes in. Science jobs will grow at double the rate of other occupations creating 142,000 extra jobs by 2023 [Social Market Foundation 'Jobs of the Future' study].

Many 'disabilities' are in fact advantageous – for example attention to detail and comfort in repetition common to those with autism are key skills of a successful coder. A visually impaired scientist may detect tactile details that someone else might miss.

Our unique five-part programme mobilises this untapped pool of talent.

For children with more complex disabilities, science offers a unique way to inspire and impart key life skills such as choice making or dealing with unexpected outcomes. Themes such as space and alien worlds have high appeal, particularly for harder to reach groups such as boys with challenging behaviour.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

We have **five project streams** working together to excite, inspire and enable disabled children (such as those with autism, visual impairment, cancer or cerebral palsy) to access STEM:

1. Active Learning Workshops
2. Virtual Lab
3. Role Models
4. Work Inspiration Trips
5. SEN in STEM

From our immersive, creative sensory workshops using science to teach life skills, through to our accessible Work Inspiration Trips, we are able to offer a progressive and holistic approach. This helps us to reach young people who show potential in STEM learning and deliver opportunities that empower them to take their next steps whether that be a formal qualification in science or pursuing a STEM career.

To help us amplify our impact, we have created our SEN in STEM Network (Special Educational Needs in STEM), a widespread community of people committed to making STEM accessible. Building on our expertise we create opportunities to share, learn and showcase across the 160 member organisations who collectively represent the UK's science community.

OUR IMPACT IN 2021

- Young people through our sessions: 5640
- Workshops delivered: 136 (an increase of 43%!)
- Virtual workshop views: 250,000
- Work Inspiration Trips: 2
- Role Models: 13
- Virtual Lab participants: 41
- SEN in STEM Network Members: 184

Despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, 2021 was an action-packed year for Lightyear Foundation, seeing a total of **5,640** young people through our sessions.

Our small team continued to use creativity and swift adaptations, along with harnessing the power of technology, to enable Lightyear to continue creating transformative change despite the regular COVID changes.

2021 saw the return to some face-to-face delivery with the ability to switch to remote delivery as required. Lightyear plans to utilise hybrid delivery moving forwards for maximum impact – it enables the charity not only to increase geographical footprint but also more vulnerable young people.

Lightyear Foundation would like to say a very special thank you for all the volunteers who've supported us in our work this year. From our Zoom Commanders working on the Virtual Lab

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

to pro bono professional support – and of course the leadership and direction of our Trustees, our achievements would simply not have been possible.

Project streams:

Active Learning workshops: Our partnership with Flamingo Chicks CIO is in its third and final year, offering a unique fusion of dance and STEM. Our theme was Japan during the first part of 2021, to coincide with the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Our young people explored volcanoes, lava, mountains and hot springs, as well as Japanese technology and engineering! Key STEM words and concepts continue to anchor all sessions. The winter term saw our students explore the wonders of the Ocean. This included the return to using sensory equipment as COVID restrictions permitted – from sensory jelly fish umbrellas to crochet sea creatures!

Virtual Lab: Our Virtual Lab programme has also gained momentum this year, offering a formal science experience for young people with SEN who have shown an interest and potential in STEM. The project is led by Dr Sarah Bearchell, and students receive a kit with everything they need for the experiments. Each cohort takes part in 4 weeks of experiments by Zoom and on graduating, they join our alumni programme where they can take part in regular events and forge friendships with like-minded young people.

Stefanos Katsikarelis, Head of Science at New Fosseway Special School: “It was great to see what our students can achieve and can do. Sometimes we assume that things may be too tricky, so it was inspiring to have a fresh pair of eyes to push our students. Importantly, all teachers and support staff now feel more confident to deliver science after having the Virtual Lab at our school. We look forward to integrating the techniques we’ve observed into our teaching. It has really helped us a lot.”

Key Stage 3 lead, Leslea Thomas, added: “It blew my mind what the pupils could do and how engaged they were. There was such a buzz afterwards! They really loved it and feel more positive about science.”

In March, Lightyear held a British Science Week Alumni special - looking at how the heart works and featuring pulse oximeters - routinely used in medical appointments but especially in relation to COVID-19.

Role models: A key part of encouraging young people into STEM is ensuring they have inspiring role models and 2021 saw our Role Model programme continue with opportunities for our disabled scientists to interact with young people on our programmes, helping to inspire the scientists of the future. The Lightyear Foundation Role Models have a wide range of disabilities and deliver Q&As, visits and interactions to show disabled children and young people that their disability is not a barrier to success.

Work inspiration trips: We delivered 2 in-person Work Inspiration Trips this year to Ultraleap (an exciting day exploring futuristic technology!) and also the Natural History Museum for a behind the scenes experience. The modern, forward thinking and energetic

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

vibe at Ultraleap really ignited the students' interest in STEM in the industry. We got to try out the AR and VR technology, as well as their trademark hand-tracking and haptics technology. One student said "I've seen things today I have never seen before in my life!" The school staff fed back - "Thanks so much for organising our trip this week, the students got a lot out of it."

SEN in STEM: membership rocketed to 184 in 2021. A community of people committed to making STEM accessible and breaking down barriers to inclusion, members now include the Royal Society, the Royal Astronomical Society, the Association for Science & Discovery Centres, charities like WECIL and government bodies such as the Ministry of Defence. Our 2021 roundtable covered sensory and tactile evaluation techniques – a topic chosen by members and featuring brilliant guest speakers; Angela Schlenkhoff-Hus, the Programme Director at Coalition for Efficiency (CfE) and Vanessa Mignan, an independent trainer and social inclusion consultant for science engagement institutions.

Between meetings, we continue to run our 'triage service' to provide support to organisations needing help with inclusion. From advising Engineering UK on designing inclusive content on STEM related kinetic movement for 30 schools to speaking at the Royal Society of Biology (RSB)'s Diversity and Inclusion Working Group.

We are extremely grateful for all the support we've seen this year. With the flexibility of funders, generosity of supporters, kindness of volunteers and the immense hard work of our team, we have been able to create real impact and momentum.

Special mentions must be made to: Ultraleap and Ventient Energy. Both companies have continued to be great supporters of Lightyear, extending our Charity of the Year status into 2022.

The Network for Social Change – for a transformational grant of **£20,592** to cover core costs and fund matched by the Ogden Trust and the Quartet Community Foundation.

The two Peters – past Trustee Peter Horne 'chased the sun' with an exciting cycle challenge raising £743.75 for Lightyear and new Trustee Peter Roberts' One Million Steps raised an incredible £1,731.13. Peter walked the equivalent of Paris to Milan!

Targets and plans for 2022

During the pandemic, we have learned to make great use of technology and we will continue to develop that in 2022 as well as re-establishing our more traditional formats.

We remain committed to provide high quality, essential support to the young people we work with and their families.

The start of the year will see an exciting chemistry themed Virtual Lab launch thanks to support from the Royal Society of Chemistry followed by a Formula 1 themed Lab later in the year, funded by The Institution of Engineering and Technology. The later will enable us

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

to propel child-made cars at 40mph powered by compressed air, across a classroom! The project will also involve engineer role models who will help us learn about F1 cars and aerodynamics.

We'll seek out opportunities to showcase our work and inclusive techniques, increasing our community and harnessing the voices within it, giving them a platform to be heard.

Diversity and being inclusive will remain at the heart of what we do, and we'll continue to challenge ourselves to lead the way in pioneering accessibility – being led by those we exist to serve.

Our SEN in STEM network will go from strength to strength too, we aim to hit 250 members by the end of 2022. Thanks to John Lyon's Charity, we'll be delivering 5 free to access training courses on delivering accessible STEM activities. This will form the basis of our new, CPD accredited training which will roll-out later in the year.

To ensure we can survive and thrive, fundraising will be central to our strategy this year. We aim to maintain reserve levels of four months to enable us to cover core costs, securing our delivery so we can be safe in the knowledge of being able to support families during these challenging and unpredictable times.

Financial review

Results for the year

The Charity received income of £105,089 (2020 - £95,418) and incurred expenditure of £83,043 (2020 - £88,593) resulting in net income of £22,045 (2020 - £6,825) for the year, of which a surplus of £11,593 was attributable to unrestricted funds and a surplus of £10,453 to restricted funds. The totals funds at 31 December 2021 of £62,098 was made up of £27,422 in unrestricted funds and £34,677 in restricted funds.

Reserves policy

Trustees have agreed a reserves level that will allow for normal operation of the Charity for four months in the absence of any further funding, which Lightyear Foundation has set at **£27,600**. At the end of 2021, the unrestricted free reserves were £27,422 so just below the set target level. Reserves may be accessed, with the agreement of the Trustees, to provide working capital in order to meet new areas of endeavour and to meet emergency requirements.

Principal funding sources

Lightyear Foundation works hard to create a fundraising armoury with funding sources from several avenues. These include charitable trusts and foundations, corporate support and community fundraising.

The Charity would like to thank the following for their generous support this year – and particularly their flexibility with funding enabling the Charity to respond so effectively and swiftly to Covid-19.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Amazon Smile
Brian Murtagh Charitable Trust
British Science Week
Facebook Giving
Curiosity Fund
John Lyon's Charity
Quartet Community Foundation
Royal Society of Chemistry
The Curiosity Fund
The Institution of Engineering and Technology
The Network for Social Change
The Ogden Trust
The Prudential Foundation
The Veronica Awdry Charitable Trust
Ultraleap
Ventient Energy Services Limited

Donated goods and services

The charity is very grateful for all the pro bono support it receives but is unable to put a financial value on it.

Reference and administrative details

Charity registration number: 1150231

Date of registration: 18th Dec 2012

Company registration number: 08151118

Date of incorporation: 20th July 2012

Address: Lightyear Foundation Ltd, The Bungalow, The Green, Crakehall, Bedale DL8

1HP **Website:** www.lightyearfoundation.org

Bankers: Lloyds Bank plc, 120 Lewisham High Street. Lewisham, London. SE13 6JG

Independent examiner: Camilla Frost

Trustees:

The Trustees who served the Charity during the period were as follows:

Dr Robert Massey (resigned 9.03.2021)

Dr Colin Church (resigned 9.03.2021)

Lewis Honey

Dr Josie Rawes - chair

Kerry Nelson

Chintan Jayesh Khamar

Nathan March

Dr Camilla Pang

Peter Roberts (appointed 14.04.2021)

Lucy Williams (appointed 14.04.2021)

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

Lightyear Foundation is governed by its Articles of Association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Organisational structure

The Trustees are responsible for decisions regarding the strategy and development of the Charity, and other high-level decisions. Day to day running of the Charity is delegated to the CEO of Lightyear Foundation plus a team of freelance professionals.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

Regular Trustee skills audits are carried out and based on this, new Trustees are recruited, either to replace a person who has resigned or to bring specific skill and experience onto the board. Trustee vacancies are widely advertised. Shortlisted candidates are interviewed by the CEO then by at least one other Trustee before being invited to attend a first board meeting as an observer. Following this the board votes on the appointment of the new member. Lightyear Foundation prides itself on making its onboarding process accessible. New measures include a Board Buddy scheme, recording meetings to watch again and live minutes.

Risk management

The Trustees regularly review risks facing the charity and have taken action this year to improve fundraising and infrastructure plus maintaining Covid-safe procedures for delivery. The Covid-19 pandemic has been a challenge for the whole sector and the Charity responded quickly in moving from face-to-face services to impactful digital delivery, while ensuring the ongoing financial viability and reserves of the Charity.

As 2021 unfolded, it became clear that the Covid-19 pandemic would still have a significant impact of Lightyear Foundation's activities throughout the year. However, the team continued to respond creatively by harnessing technology and as a result, the Charity has been able to reach more disabled young people than ever before.

As the Charity grows, improving systems and IT infrastructure will be a key focus for the Trustees.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Statement of the Responsibilities of the Trustee Directors

The Trustees (who are also directors of Lightyear Foundation for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

The company has taken advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the report above.

So far as each of the Trustees is aware at the time the report is approved:

- There is no relevant review information of which the charitable company's independent examiner is unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant review information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

Dr Josie Rawes, Chair of Trustees **JOSIE RAWES**

Date: 9 March 2022

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

I report to the Charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Lightyear Foundation Limited for the year ended 31 December 2021 as set out on pages 10 to 19.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity's trustees of the company (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that:

- Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- The accounts do not accord with such records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (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.

Signed: CAMILLA FROST

Date: 9 March 2022

Name: Camilla Frost

Address: 30 Goulden Road, Manchester, M20 4ZF

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31.12.2021 Total funds	31.12.2020 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Grants and donations	2	15,530	88,908	104,438	95,418
Trading income		650	-	650	-
Total income		16,180	88,908	105,088	95,418
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	3	1,059	-	1,059	933
Charitable activities	4,5,6	3,528	78,456	81,984	87,660
Total expenditure		4,587	78,456	83,043	88,593
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR	9	11,593	10,452	22,045	6,825
Transfers between the funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in the funds		11,593	10,452	22,045	6,825
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		15,829	24,224	40,053	33,228
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	12	27,422	34,676	62,098	40,053

The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.
All of the activities of the Charity are classed as continuing.

The comparative funds are detailed in Note 13.
The notes on pages 12 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31.12.2021 Total funds	31.12.2020 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	150	-	150	155
Cash at bank		27,632	34,676	62,308	40,258
		<u>27,782</u>	<u>34,676</u>	<u>62,458</u>	<u>40,413</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(360)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(360)</u>	<u>(360)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>27,422</u>	<u>34,676</u>	<u>62,098</u>	<u>40,053</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>27,422</u></u>	<u><u>34,676</u></u>	<u><u>62,098</u></u>	<u><u>40,053</u></u>
FUNDS					
	12				
Unrestricted funds				27,422	15,829
Restricted funds				<u>34,676</u>	<u>24,224</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u><u>62,098</u></u>	<u><u>40,053</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 9 March 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

Dr Josie Rawes **JOSIE RAWES**

The notes on pages 12 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with items recognised at cost or transaction value. The Financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), FRS 102 and the Charities Act 2011. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern due to accumulated reserves, and there are no significant current or longer-term liabilities, and the organisation has significant net assets and reserves.

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred and no material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period.

Income

All income is included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Grants and donations are included in income when they are received, except for significant one-off grants and donations, received after the year end but promised before the year end.

Gift aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any gift aid recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor has specified otherwise.

Legacies are included when the charity is advised by the personal representative of an estate that the payment will be made, or property transferred and the amount can be quantified.

Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably. Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SoFA.

The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the Trustees' Annual Report.

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities or income and expenses.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity costs categories on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Expenditure includes attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees. Designated funds form part of unrestricted funds and have been identified as being for particular purposes by the Trustees. They are not restricted and can be transferred to general funds at any time at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for the 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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

2. GRANTS AND DONATIONS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2021 Total £	31.12.2020 Total £
Grants - unrestricted	9,373	-	9,373	5,418
Grants - restricted				
- Active Learning Workshops	-	54,605	54,605	60,518
- Virtual Lab summer club	-	13,711	13,711	3,674
- Virtual Lab science week	-	-	-	500
- Core costs	-	20,592	20,592	15,858
- SEN in STEM	-	-	-	-
- Work Inspiration Trips	-	-	-	-
Donations	6,157	-	6,157	8,818
Gift aid	-	-	-	632
	<u>15,530</u>	<u>88,908</u>	<u>104,438</u>	<u>95,418</u>

3. RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2021 Total £	31.12.2020 Total £
Fundraising costs	976	-	976	812
Donation website charges	<u>83</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>121</u>
	<u>1,059</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,059</u>	<u>933</u>

All raising funds expenditure was from unrestricted funds totalling £933 in 2020.

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - CURRENT YEAR

	Direct costs £	Project costs £	31.12.2021 Total £
Charitable activities (see Note 5)	865	78,456	79,321
Support and governance costs (see Note 6)	<u>2,663</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,663</u>
	<u>3,528</u>	<u>78,456</u>	<u>81,984</u>

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - PRIOR YEAR

	Direct costs £	Project costs £	31.12.2020 Total £
Charitable activities (see Note 5)	400	85,364	85,764
Support and governance costs (see Note 6)	<u>1,896</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,896</u>
	<u>2,296</u>	<u>85,364</u>	<u>87,660</u>

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - CURRENT YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2021 Total £
<u>Direct costs</u>			
Website and marketing	294	-	294
<u>Project costs</u>			
- Active Learning Workshops	571	45,904	46,475
- Virtual Lab summer school	-	10,587	10,587
- Core costs	-	21,965	21,965
	<u>865</u>	<u>78,456</u>	<u>79,321</u>

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - PREVIOUS YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2020 Total £
<u>Direct costs</u>			
Website and marketing	400	-	400
<u>Project costs</u>			
- Active Learning Workshops	-	66,236	66,236
- Virtual Lab summer school	-	6,174	6,174
- Core costs	-	294	294
- SEN in STEM	-	7,342	7,342
- Work Inspiration Trips	-	5,318	5,318
	<u>400</u>	<u>85,364</u>	<u>85,764</u>

6. SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2021 Total £	31.12.2020 Total £
<u>Support costs</u>				
Fundraising - Operations team	265	-	265	140
DBS checks	48	-	48	-
Travelling	197	-	197	63
Printing, postage and stationery	95	-	95	14
IT , software and equipment	477	-	477	216
Subscriptions	343	-	343	-
Sundry	54	-	54	139
Bookkeeping and accounts	690	-	690	488
	<u>2,169</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,169</u>	<u>1,060</u>
<u>Governance</u>				
Insurance	446	-	446	396
Impact report design	-	-	-	400
Companies House fee	13	-	13	-
Data protection registration fee	35	-	35	40
	<u>494</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>494</u>	<u>836</u>
Total support and governance	<u>2,663</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,663</u>	<u>1,896</u>

All support and governance expenditure was from unrestricted funds totalling £1,896 in 2020.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

7. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS - CURRENT YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2021 Total £	31.12.2020 Total £
Gross salaries and wages	-	-	-	-
Freelance staff				
- Raising funds	-	-	-	434
- Charitable activities - projects	265	30,662	30,927	51,163
- Management and governance	-	17,786	17,786	-
	<u>265</u>	<u>48,448</u>	<u>48,713</u>	<u>51,597</u>
Total staff costs	<u>265</u>	<u>48,448</u>	<u>48,713</u>	<u>51,597</u>

STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS - PRIOR YEAR

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.19 Total £
Gross salaries and wages	-	-	-
Freelance staff			
- Raising funds	140	294	434
- Charitable activities - projects	-	51,163	51,163
	<u>140</u>	<u>51,457</u>	<u>51,597</u>
Total staff costs	<u>140</u>	<u>51,457</u>	<u>51,597</u>

There were no members of staff employed during 2021 (2020 None).

No members of staff received staff benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the year of more than £60,000.

The remuneration of the key management personnel (2021, 1 person) amounted to £19,200 (2020, 1 person, £17,100).

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

8. TRANSACTIONS WITH TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTIES

Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no Trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2021 nor for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no Trustees' expenses paid or waived for the year ended 31 December 2021 nor for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Trustees' donations

Two Trustees made donations amounting to £175 (2020 - £1,205).

Related parties

During 2021 the charity continued its partnership with Flamingo Chicks CIO (a registered charity). The relationship enables Lightyear Foundation to have a greater reach and social impact, making maximum use of available funds. The organisation is well-known to the Lightyear Foundation as Lightyear's CEO, who works one day a week for Lightyear, founded Flamingo Chicks CIO and is its CEO.

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

This is stated after charging:

	31.12.2021	31.12.2020
	£	£
Independent examiner's fee	-	-

No fees have been paid to the Independent Examiner for her review (2020 - £NIL) and she has not provided any other assurance or advisory services.

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.2021	31.12.2020
	£	£
Accrued income - donations	-	155
Trading income debtor	150	-
	<u>150</u>	<u>155</u>

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.2021	31.12.2020
	£	£
Accruals	<u>360</u>	<u>360</u>

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

	At 1.1.2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31.12.2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	15,829	16,180	(4,587)	-	27,422
Restricted funds					
Active Learning Workshops	8,160	54,605	(45,904)	-	16,861
Virtual Lab programme	-	13,711	(10,087)	-	3,624
Virtual Lab science week 2021	500	-	(500)	-	-
Core costs	15,564	20,592	(21,965)	-	14,191
	<u>24,224</u>	<u>88,908</u>	<u>(78,456)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,676</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>40,053</u></u>	<u><u>105,088</u></u>	<u><u>(83,043)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>62,098</u></u>

MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

	At 1.1.2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	At 31.12.2020 £
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	4,190	14,868	(3,229)	-	15,829
Restricted funds					
Active Learning Workshops	13,878	60,518	(66,236)	-	8,160
Virtual Lab programme	2,500	3,674	(6,174)	-	-
Virtual Lab science week 2021	-	500	-	-	500
Core costs	-	15,858	(294)	-	15,564
SEN in STEM	7,342	-	(7,342)	-	-
Work Inspiration Trips	5,318	-	(5,318)	-	-
	<u>29,038</u>	<u>80,550</u>	<u>(85,364)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,224</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>33,228</u></u>	<u><u>95,418</u></u>	<u><u>(88,593)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>40,053</u></u>

General fund

The general fund is used for the administration costs of the charity.

Active Learning Workshops

This fund delivers Sensory Science workshops that provide a practical experience for disabled children.

Virtual Lab summer club and British science week

These funds provide virtual science workshops for disabled children.

LIGHTYEAR FOUNDATION LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Core costs

This funding covers core costs relating to developing the charity's future programmes.

SEN in STEM

This fund is to raise awareness to charities, institutions and corporate businesses of the benefits to disabled children of engaging in STEM subjects.

Work Inspiration Trips

This fund facilitates days where young adults and children can visit a STEM workplace to encourage them to explore the STEM industries as a career.

13. PRIOR YEAR FUND COMPARATIVES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.2020 Total funds £
Income from:			
Grants and donations	14,868	80,550	95,418
Other	-	-	-
Total income	14,868	80,550	95,418
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	933	-	933
Charitable activities	2,296	85,364	87,660
Total expenditure	3,229	85,364	88,593
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR	11,639	(4,814)	6,825
Transfers between the funds	-	-	-
Net movement in the funds	11,639	(4,814)	6,825
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	4,190	29,038	33,228
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	15,829	24,224	40,053