THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1150538

Details

Other names	THE DORSET CHILDRENS FOUNDATION, THE LONDON CHILDRENS FOUNDATION, THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION, THE NATIONAL CHILDRENS FOUNDATION, THE NATIONAL LONDON CHILDRENS FOUNDATION
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2013-01-21
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Dorset Childrens Foundation 695-697 Christchurch Road Bournemouth BH7 6AF
Phone	07833318285
Email	Patsy@thedcf.org
Website	thedcf.org

Activities

Objects: THE RELIEF OF SICKNESS AND THE PRESERVATION OF HEALTH AMONG CHILDREN WITH LONG TERM ILLNESSES AND/OR DISABILITIES BY PROVIDING OR ASSISTING IN THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION NOT NORMALLY PROVIDED BY THE STATUTORY AUTHORITIES AND SUCH OTHER SUPPORT AS THE TRUSTEES MAY DETERMINE.

Activities: Jan 2022 We support disabled children by funding disability equipment, medical expenses & therapies & offer Accessible For All, a large range of sports & play activities. We offer free counselling, fund a range of support groups and clubs and run stay and play pre school sessions that bring likeminded families together. We also offer disability education workshops & campaign for disability rights.

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1150538

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Accommodation/housing, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NATIONAL.
- Bournemouth
- Dorset
- Hampshire
- Poole

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£426,585	£466,523	-	-
2024-03-31	£348,930	£401,544	-	-
2023-03-31	£355,381	£318,879	-	-
2022-03-31	£268,643	£296,248	-	-
2021-03-31	£343,874	£254,093	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alex Deutsch	Chair	2018-06-15
Amy Collins		2020-04-22
Avril Jackson		2022-03-01
Daniel McEvoy		2019-12-19
Frances Hunt		2024-10-31
Rosa Donovan		2026-01-16

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/1150538

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1150538

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1150538

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1EF

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

CONTENTS

	Page
Company information	1
Trustees' report	2 - 16
Statement of trustees' responsibilities	17
Independent examiner's report	18
Statement of financial activities	19
Balance sheet	20
Notes to the financial statements	21 - 33

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr. A Deutsch Ms. A Collins Mr. D McEvoy Ms. A Jackson Ms. F Hunt	 (Appointed 31 October 2024)
Charity number	1150538	
Independent examiner	TC Group 10 Bridge Street Christchurch Dorset BH23 1EF	

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees present this report with the financial statement for the year ending 31st March 2025.

The Trustees have adopted the provision of accounting and reporting by the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts, with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 01/01/2015.

The Trustees believe that the information included in this report demonstrates how the activities of The Dorset Children's Foundation has created public benefit.

The Dorset Children's Foundation
Charity Reg: 1150538 in England and Wales
Principal & Registered address: 695-697 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth BH7 6AF

Trustees
A Collins
A Deutsch
A Jackson
D McEvoy
F Hunt (from 24/08/2024)

There trustees delegate the day-to-day management to:
CEO and Co-Founder - Patricia Hallmey (Governor of Montecute Special School member of Dorset IAG committee, trustee for Enable My Trip and panel member of AFCB Disability and inclusion team).
CFO and Co-Founder - Scott Akam

Accountants:
TC Group
10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
BH23 1EF

Bank:
Barclays PLC
100 High Street
Poole
BH15 1BL

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Our Trustees are all volunteers, deemed fit and proper persons for this role and they receive no financial remuneration.

Type of governing document:

The Dorset Children's Foundation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered with the Charity Commission on 21st January 2013 and is governed by a constitution which was amended on 19th June 2021.

Summary of the objectives of the charity:

THE RELIEF OF SICKNESS AND THE PRESERVATION OF HEALTH AMONG CHILDREN WITH LONG TERM ILLNESSES AND/OR DISABILITIES BY PROVIDING OR ASSISTING IN THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION NOT NORMALLY PROVIDED BY THE STATUTORY AUTHORITIES AND SUCH OTHER SUPPORT AS THE TRUSTEES MAY DETERMINE.

The overall management and control of The Dorset Children's Foundation is the responsibility of The Trustees who meet regularly to discuss operations and potential beneficiaries.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in The Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charities aims and objectives.

Financial report:

The financial statements are set out in page 19

Our activities and Public Benefit:

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit, when reviewing the Foundations Aims and Objectives and in planning future activities and setting the grant making policies for the year.

The trustees believe that the information provided within the report demonstrates the various ways that the activities of the DCF have created public benefit.

Summary of the Foundation's achievements during the period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.

In the last year our register has grown by over 55 more families, and we now support 681 children with disabilities living in Dorset.

Public Benefit summary:

At DCF we recognize that there are many costs associated with raising a disabled child. We understand that these are not always covered by statutory services, so we help families find other ways to provide the funds needed.

We support disabled children and their families by funding essential equipment, medical costs and therapies, and by providing a comprehensive programme of inclusive activities. Our Accessible for All provision offers targeted groups such as the Saturday Social Club for young people with PMLD, Adventure Buddies for younger children with complex needs, and Little Stars, our early years stay-and-play groups, now running twice weekly in Bournemouth and Poole. We also provide counselling, parent/carer support sessions, disability education workshops and ongoing advocacy for disability rights.

In June 2024, we opened The Windmill, a fully accessible Community Hub created from a vacant retail unit. This dedicated space has allowed us to broaden our services, establish new groups including an additional early years session and a PMLD Saturday Social Club, and offer a welcoming venue where families can gather, access support and take part in a wide range of activities.

Outreach Services

Our outreach service continues to grow, and we continue to receive referrals from local medical and council professionals. This outreach service provides support and encouragement to families who may need more 1 to 1 support and a personal approach, rather than attending our group activities. It's most useful for those who are dealing with a new diagnosis and trying to navigate the 'system'. Our team can work with parents and help them access all that they are entitled to, ensuring they have everything they need and know where to get additional support. In February the team started a new weekly information 'drop-in' service in collaboration with a café in Wimborne.

Disability Education:
We believe in talking positively about disability and continue to work with local mainstream schools and youth organizations' (scout groups, guides etc), raising awareness of disabilities in general and helping children understand what life may be like for some of the children we support. Opening our new community hub has enabled us to invite some of these local youth groups to come to us and take part in fully interactive disability awareness workshops.

Equipment

We fund disability equipment that is not provided by Statutory Services, such as off-road wheelchairs, lightweight wheelchairs, rain covers, sleep systems, epilepsy sleep monitors, trikes, hydrotherapy pools, physiotherapy aids, podiatry aids etc. under the guidance of local health care professionals, for use in and out of the home.

Examples of when we may need to provide suitable wheelchairs:
- To children with autism or other neuro-diverse conditions where the child has no concept of danger.
- When a child is mobile but tires easily.
- When a child is mobile but has seizures and needs to rest, often reclined while recovering.
- Statutory Services will not provide wheelchairs in these cases.

This year we have purchased 53 pieces of equipment ranging from wheelchairs to therapy benches.

Medical Expenses:
Provided for procedures not covered by the NHS or if the waiting list is so long as to be detrimental to the child's wellbeing.

Therapies:
We fund therapies for children who are referred to us from health care professionals including speech and language, occupational therapy, music therapy, physiotherapy, hydrotherapy etc.

Due to the length of waiting lists there is a much-extended wait for appointments before treatment even starts. Studies have conclusively demonstrated that the earlier therapies are implemented the better the long-term outcome for the child.

We are now able to refer children for music and art therapy and trauma informed surf therapy.

17 Children have had funded therapy services this year.

Counselling:
We recognise that many parents and carers need mental health support, particularly as the cost of living crisis continues to place pressure on families. Our counselling service has grown in response, with families able to self-refer via our newsletter or website. The service provides confidential, low-cost sessions tailored to individual needs, delivered by phone, Zoom or face to face.

We maintain strong links with Linwood School, who kindly provide space for in-person sessions, and our counsellor is now qualified to offer one-to-one therapy for children aged eight and above. Bereavement counselling also remains an important part of this provision.

27 individuals received 6 sessions of counselling each this year.

Play and Sporting Opportunities:

Accessible for All:

We recognise that children with disabilities often miss out on experiences that should be available to all, particularly as local provision for those with complex needs and accessible changing facilities remains limited. We help address this gap by offering fully inclusive activities for children of all abilities and providing our own portable changing equipment when required.

Where possible, our events are open to siblings as well as disabled children, enabling families to take part together and share meaningful experiences. Our programme includes music and dance sessions, pantomimes, drama, crafts, themed parties, exclusive use of skate parks, water sports and other accessible activities. We have also developed smaller, tailored groups for children with similar needs, allowing us to better meet their physical and sensory requirements. We have established great working relationships with local sports coaches and now have accessible golf skills and skateboarding with professional coaches on a regular basis.

These opportunities help reduce isolation and build friendships within our community. In addition to our own activities, we have supported a local frame-running group with track hire and equipment costs, and are proud that two of the children involved reached the national championships this year.

This year approx. 865 Children accessed our play opportunities.

Give Kids the World: GKTW.org
We are delighted to be only one of 6 UK charities to be accepted as a wish granter for GKTW which is a holiday village in Florida for life limiting children, passing their strict criteria. **This year we were thrilled to be able to send 2 families** who were all able to visit the world-famous attractions and theme parks in Florida, Walt Disney World, Epcot Centre, Sea World etc.

Support in the community

Early Years Stay and Play Groups:
We fund three early years stay-and-play groups for pre-school children: two Little Stars groups and Something Special, alongside a weekly early years forest school. With the exception of the newly launched Bournemouth Little Stars group, these sessions are now in their fourth year of operation. Demand continues to grow, with more than 30 families regularly accessing early support through one of these groups.

PMLD Support:
With such high demand for PMLD Services, we now have two groups set up specifically for those children with more complex needs. Our Saturday Social group caters for 13yrs+ and our new Adventure Buddies group has no upper age limit but priority is given to young children that can't access the teens group. Each group holds monthly activity sessions at The Windmill and Adventure Buddies encourages families to get together and meet at local attractions and public spaces, and go out as a group.
Both clubs have a regular attendance of approx. **25 young people and their carers.**

Support for those not in education:
With the opening of our Windmill Community Hub, we launched a new Home Education Club for children with disabilities who are unable to attend school. Parents and carers can bring their children to take part in structured educational activities provided by us, or to complete their own work in a supportive environment. The group helps reduce isolation, supports social development and builds confidence for both children and their families.

Parent support and activities:

Sewing group:
Many of the children we support require adapted clothing, either to accommodate feeding tubes or because stiff limbs make dressing more difficult. These items are rarely available on the high street and specialist suppliers can be prohibitively expensive. Our weekly sewing group teaches parents how to adapt clothing themselves and offers this service free of charge to other families. The group also creates sensory items, wheelchair covers and other practical accessories.

As well as developing useful skills, the sewing group provides a supportive space for the 10–15 parents who attend regularly, offering advice, shared experience and a sense of community.

Yoga:
Our yoga group has continued to grow this year, supported by our instructor—one of our parents—who has now completed additional training in pelvic health, funded by the charity. This specialist knowledge is especially valuable for parents and carers who regularly lift and support their children. The group meets weekly, with over 15 people attending, and provides an important opportunity for participants to focus on their own wellbeing.

Weekly Wellbeing:
Since opening The Windmill, we have been able to offer a weekly wellbeing session for parents and carers. These informal gatherings provide an opportunity to connect over coffee before taking part in activities designed to support mental health. Examples include craft sessions, journalling, meditation, tai chi and drumming workshops.

Community Initiatives

Disability In the Workplace
We are members of The Disability Committed Employers initiative so by having people with a disability volunteering in our shops this demonstrates to the wider community the abilities of the people the charity supports, promoting our vision for inclusion for everyone.

Mental Health Initiative
The mental health of our parent/carers, staff and volunteers is very important to us and we are delighted to become members of The Mental Health Charter, which means we are a mental health committed employer. We host regular wellness sessions; social activities and all staff and volunteers have access to our counselling services.

Ask for Clive
We are members of the Ask for Clive initiative. Ask for Clive is charity that focuses on inclusivity for the LGBTQ community. It asks inclusive establishments to put a sticker with the charity name on their door to signal that the LGBTQ community is welcome there. The charity also provides a brief for staff and volunteers on how to deal with discrimination queer patrons may experience.

Safe Space Scheme
For the last few years, we have signed up to become a Safe Space for people with learning disabilities. Our staff and volunteers are given training on what to do when supporting someone who feels vulnerable. Their logo is prominently displayed in our shops so people know they can ask for help in a safe and secure environment.

The role of our trustees:
As deemed appropriate, new trustees will be appointed by the existing trustees. The induction process will follow the ICSA good practice guide and include meeting with existing trustees. They receive a copy of our accounts, a copy of our governing document and a copy of the Charity Commissions guidance 'The essential trustee, what you need to know, what you need to do' (CC3).

Ongoing good trustee training is also offered through Community Action Network.
Our appointed board of trustees create a welcoming and supportive culture and apply ethical principal to all decisions made. They support inclusion, equality, and diversity.

Their approach supports good governance and delivery of the charity's purpose. Our trustees play an integral and active role within the DCF as they all regularly run or attend our events and activities and thus have direct and frequent access to our families and can see first-hand the needs and wishes of the children we serve.

Policies are renewed on an annual basis and are standard items on our board of trustees meetings. We place emphasis on safeguarding, disability awareness training, data protection and robust financial controls.

Our appointed board of trustees are:

Alex Deutsch (senior Network Manager)
Alex is a long-standing supporter of the charity who also runs our award-winning FA affiliated DCF football club.

Amy Collins (Volunteering Development Head, Community Action Network)
Amy volunteers at many of our Accessible for All events and is a regular helper at our Saturday club.

Dan McEvoy
Dan is a parent of a child with complex disabilities. He oversees our IT and technical infrastructure and ensures our compliance with relevant regulations. He also represents the DCF on the Disabled Children Partnership steering, communication, and campaign forums. Dan has also campaigned tirelessly on the effect of the cost of living on families with disabled children and has represented these families on GMTV, Panorama, Radio 4 and 5 and in The Guardian and other publications.

Avril Jackson
Avril was for many years a teacher of children with additional needs and is a long-standing governor of Montacute School (Special needs provision school) for 30 years. Avril has fostered children with complex needs and set up our Saturday club. This year Avril was awarded the Paul Payne award for trusteeship awarded for 'an individual who has shown outstanding dedication and expertise in trusteeship'.

Fran Hunt
Fran is our most newly appointed trustee. She brings with her over 25 years' experience as a registered nurse and has a real passion for supporting children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

Because of our trustees' very welcome hands-on approach, all have an enhanced DBS check.

Communication:

Social Media:
Our Facebook pages remain one of our key tools for sharing up-to-date information with our 9.1k followers. They are regularly updated with photographs of our events, activities and fundraising campaigns. We also manage two private Facebook groups for parents—Accessible for All and The DCF Family Group—which are used to share activity information, promote services and signpost families to relevant support.

Newsletter:
We appreciate that not all of our families are on social media and therefore send a monthly newsletter to all our families who have requested them via email.
Quarterly E-news:
We also send quarterly E-news to a wider audience of local businesses and sponsors that have opted to receive it. We have found this to be an extremely cost-effective way of reaching a larger target audience.

Charity Partners:

We are pleased to be partnered with the following companies. Each Charity Partner is expected to hold fundraising events during the year, share our news on their social media and generally support us where they can offer volunteers, attend our events and receive a presentation to staff about the DCF to help raise awareness. We are enormously grateful to our amazing community of local companies who support us.

- Grosvenor carpets
- First Position School of Dance
- Slater & Gordon Solicitors
- Mortgage Intelligence
- Poole Bay Holdings
- Stairway Joinery
- Kiss in Light
- The Shirt Framing service
- Bourne Free
- Holt Recruitment
- Coastal Comedy: Comedy Club
- RH Pardy
- Think Aero

We have continued our close relationship with CMP Print who provided us with free leaflets, flyers headed paper, business cards and other promotional materials, saving us at least £2,000 per year.

The role and contribution of our volunteers:
The Foundation is committed to ensuring fairness and recognises the need for diversity and inclusion within our recruitment and management of volunteers.
We currently have 62 volunteers ranging from age 14 (Completing Duke of Edinburgh award scheme) to age 87. All health and safety procedures are followed, and induction and ongoing training is given.
Many of our volunteers are also parent/carers of the children we support. We embrace volunteers of all abilities and currently have 2 volunteers who have multiple learning difficulties and are wheelchair users.
Volunteers are recruited from the following sectors:

- Community Action Network
- Local mental health teams
- Local schools
- Job Centre Plus
- Local language schools
- Others contact us through the shops and website.
- Duke of Edinburgh Scheme

We have also developed a good working relationship with Bournemouth & Poole college who bring students with SEND to our stores to volunteer and gain work experience.

All appropriate paperwork is completed when taking on any new volunteers who all have to complete CRB checks and receive a comprehensive volunteer handbook.

We have many long-standing volunteers, and we call ourselves The Dorset Children's Foundation Family

Risk management:

Retail activities:
All procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety and safeguarding regulations and best practice concerning staff, volunteers, clients and customers.

Both staff and volunteer handbooks have been reviewed and updated. All policies are regularly and robustly reviewed by the trustees, founders, and external agencies such as Community Action Network.

Ongoing training is actively supported, and our safeguarding policy has been updated.

All managers and volunteers have successfully completed an online safeguarding course.
We follow best practice in recruitment, support and training, including carrying out appropriate DBS/Enhanced DBS checks.
Volunteer handbooks have been updated and expanded.

Financial\Fundraising
We have a variety of fundraising streams.
1) Profits from our 3 charity shops
2) Online sales
3) Grants from trusts and other charities
4) Corporate donations
5) Public donations
6) Fundraising events
7) Fundraising platforms (i.e., PayPal, JustGiving and Facebook)
8) Charity partners
9) Legacies
10) Collections

We have a robust financial control policy, financial control procedure policy, a reserves policy and a risk management policy that covers all aspects of our operations.

We do not use any paid fundraising specialist companies. We only publicise our fundraising campaigns in the public domain, we never contact previous donors without their express permission, and we evaluate and monitor this process regularly.

Any family, individual or company who fundraise on our behalf are assessed and sent an information leaflet 'Fundraising Safely' given a letter of authority with the permission of the Foundation with details and contacts and their relationship with the Foundation for clarification. We provide key information from the Institute of Fundraising. Our Foundation monitors fundraising activities through the records of the fundraising platforms monthly reports.

Details of each event or fundraising campaign are required from the Foundation before commencing and are required to adhere to ours and the Fundraising Standards code of practice.

Social media fundraisers are regularly monitored. Facebook funds come directly to the charities bank.

Collection pots are numbered, sealed, and signed in and out, with confirmation of where they will be placed or used. When returned are counted with two members of staff present.

Fundraising platforms.
All funds from fundraising platforms such as JustGiving are paid directly to our bank.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Foundation at any time to enable the trustees to plan and to prepare financial statements for each financial year. A budgeting review is carried out monthly. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding assets and funds of the Foundation by taking robust steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

Sources of Income
We do not receive any Government or local council funding. Monies are generated through a variety of funding streams.

Grants
This financial year we were grateful to receive grants from the following:

Asda Foundation £400
Toy Trust £5,000
Cherries Community Fund £2,500
Valentine Trust £10,000
Boscombe Traders Grant £2,000
Dagney Raymond Trust £6,226.41
Mazars Charitable Trust £15,096.00
BCP Thriving Communities Fund £5,000
GFEYRE Charitable Trust £1,000

Total £44,372.41

Sponsorship
We have received both corporate and private sponsorship for our Christmas parties, Avon Tyrell residential weekend, immersive theatre performances and a percentage for the cost of our Wet Wheels events. We also received sponsorship from Gordon and Slator Solicitors to fund our early years provision, including core costs.

Donations
We receive donations from both the public and corporate sector with the latter holding fundraising events on our behalf.

Goods In Kind
This year, we gave out goods in kind to the value of £59,000. This included mobility and other disability aids and various medical and PPE supplies.

Wills and Legacies
We have produced a leaflet encouraging people to support us by leaving us something in their will. This has been done in conjunction with The Good Will Partnership, and we are currently arranging meetings with local solicitors to highlight our work and to encourage bequests.

Main Fundraising Events
We are thankful to the wonderful support of our local community. These were the highlights of our year.

Dorset and Hampshire Businesses Charitable Luncheon
We were grateful to receive half the proceeds from the annual Christmas auction, which amounted to £22,445

First Position School of Dance
For the 4th year they donated a total of £10,000, the entire proceeds of their annual showcase.

Reserves policy:
Support to beneficiaries is only given when the funds have been raised and so the Foundation doesn't have any ongoing commitments in this regard.

The trustees acknowledge that this was an incredibly difficult year for the charity.

The trustees have identified the need for three months costs to be held in reserve to fulfil its contractual obligations to landlords and staff redundancy if we had to close. Calculated to be £59,214 as at the year end with length of service accounted for.

The trustees also determined that three months of costs should be held in reserve to cover parent/carers in counselling or funded activities booked, costs for stay and play groups and costs associated with all the support and parent groups.
Calculated to be £13,833.

At the end of the year the foundation had negative unrestricted reserves of £12,458, a shortfall from the reserves policy by £85,505.

The lack of grants, the pressure on our services, the refurbishment of our community hub The Windmill and the loss of our most valuable stock due to a car accident at our storage facility in Pokesdown.

Robust plans were in place to mitigate this and an insurance payout of loss of stock was received post year end totaling £15,255. A payout had been agreed early March 2025 however negotiations were in place regarding the exact figure and so the debtor has not been included within these financial statements. At the end of the year the foundation had free reserves of £(12,458) which is fully covered by the insurance refund received post year end.

The restricted funds which have balances carried forward as at the year end, primarily the music fund, continues to be ongoing and will be spent in accordance with the restrictions in place. Restricted reserves totaled £42,039.

The charity has taken conscious steps to increase the unrestricted funds to the required level which include the following:

-A change in direction for grant applications to cover specific services and external service providers, core costs, mental health, advocacy plus existing requests for specialist equipment.

-Reduction in costs of out storage facility saving rent, utility charges, repairs/upkeep, rates and insurance.

-Reduction in staff hours and reduced staffing levels

-Increase in volunteers to run activities and events

-Founders to provide their services on a completely voluntary basis if required

-Increased eBay sales

-Activities within Accessible for All and Little Stars to be charged at a nominal rate

-Continued charity partnership with Poole Bay Holdings who donate saleable stock for both shops, direct sales and eBay.

-Increased charity partnership and corporate sponsorship

-Increased fund raising activities

-Charge for The Windmill (our fully accessible community space) for external user, parties and events

-Continued partnership with Slater Gordon Solicitors who donate £27,000 pa

-Increase use of The Windmill by specialist provision who pay a hire fee

-Change to the way unsold items are sold, the price has reduced from 60p to 10p for tonnage, following the success of other charities we will follow their model, selling on eBay for £20-£60 per bag.

- New relationship with our local Tesco who donate their unsold seasonal stock to us

-We have produced a legacy leaflet and mounted a social media campaign to encourage people to leave money in wills

Sustainability
Sustainability is about meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. UN Sustainability Development Goals.
We are partnered with BPC Councils Carbon Reduction Program to measure and reduce our carbon footprint and to work towards net zero.
We also support the Circular Economic System whereby resources are used, reused and recycled minimising CO2 emissions.

We do not have the expense and overheads of a head office but are now able to use our new community hub as our main office and meeting point.
Charity shops saved 339,000 tons of textiles from landfill in 2024/25.

Our charity shops support the public benefit of keeping used goods in circulation and expanding the life cycle of products. We resell donated items that would otherwise end up in land fill. We also provide low-cost alternatives to buying new which makes sustainable consumption more accessible to people with a limited income.

We reduce, reuse, recycle and reconnect wherever possible by;
Using an ethical, licensed waste company who recycle textiles and household items. Appropriate clothing from this is sent to the developing world.
Excess books and toys are donated to local schools and Children's Centre's.
Regular appropriate donations are made to homeless charities.
Our office furniture is pre used as are 70% of our shop fittings.
The Boscombe and Southbourne shops have had energy saving LED lighting fitted by our founder.
75% of our office supplies are taken from shop donations as are 90% of our branded clothing for events.
We received a grant for £2,000 that enabled us to insulate our new community hub.

Previous Action Points:
As part of our continual evaluation process the trustees identified key action points for 2024/2025, below are those action points with an update on our progress.

- To find a suitable venue that will act as a permanent base for our families to get together for group activities. **Achieved with the opening of The Windmill.**
- To continue to raise funds for medical expenses, mobility equipment and therapies to improve the quality of life of the children and families we support. **Achieved, we purchased more equipment this year and increased our counselling services to include children.**
- Continue to grow and develop our parent liaison and befriending services. **This service has increased with demand, and we started weekly community drop-ins.**
- Continue to work with siblings by providing activities that build resilience and encourage creativity. We will work with other local service providers who offer training in this area. **We have been able to include siblings in the majority of our accessible for all events and have also referred some for therapy services.**
- To continue funding and expanding the range of inclusive events and activities for families with disabled children as part of our Accessible for All program. **We introduced Skateboarding and Musical Joy, and our new center enabled us to increase our activity program significantly. Adventure Buddies as well as a second Little Stars group.**
- To continue to expand our counselling services by offering a complete family support service, including bereavement counselling to parents/carers and children. **We continue to offer counselling and have expanded this to include counselling for children aged 8+**
- To increase our program of activities for parent/carers that improve overall physical and mental health. This will include regular wellness walks and sea swimming. **We increased our wellness program with weekly parent wellness sessions in The Windmill, we also continued to organise wellness walks as we believe in the benefit of being out in nature.**

- To actively source local businesses and great corporate sponsorship packages to cover the cost of fundraising events, therapies, and equipment for Dorset's disabled children.

Future Action Points:

o Expand outreach support to cope with the growing demand, hold more group workshops.

o Build relationships with local education providers to offer both work experience opportunities and use of our community hub during term times. Priority to be given to specialist provisions who struggle to find appropriate, safe spaces for the children and young people they support.

o Expand the services provided at the community hub during weekends and school holidays.

o Engage with the home education community to offer more support to those children with SEND who are currently unable to attend school.

o Work with charity partners Marsham Court Hotel to organise a 'leavers prom' for local disabled children leaving education, giving them the same 'rite of passage' opportunity as their non SEND peers.

o To continue to fund and facilitate accessible activities and events.

o To continue to raise funds for medical expenses, mobility equipment and therapies to improve the quality of life of the children and families we support.

o To continue to offer a complete family support service, with counselling for parents/carers and children.

The Dorset Children Foundation are members of:

The Institute of Fundraising
The National Council for Voluntary Organisations
The Small Charities Coalition
Community Action Network
Charity Retail Organisation
Disability Committed Employers
Mental Health Charter Members

We are fully GDPR compliant, our IOC membership is annually reviewed.
No. ZA382325
Personal files are updated with payroll information, and all payroll is to be authorised and approved by Co-founder Scott Akam

The website is updated on a regular basis and contains charity information, appeals, event calendar, application process, grant making policy and how the community can help, contacts, news and previous activities and about us in general. www.thedcf.org

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.
The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).
There were no complaints against the charity this, or previous years.

We have the following policies and procedures in place.

Child Eligibility and Support Criteria
Safeguarding Children Policy
Compliments and Complaints Procedure
Confidentiality Policy
Home Visit Policy
Menopause Policy
Equality and Diversity Policy
First Aid Policy
Reserves Policy
DCF Data Protection Policy
Grievance Procedure
Privacy Policy
Financial Controls Policy
Social Media Policy
Conflict of Interest Policy

Registered Charity number
1150538

Principal Address
695-697 Christchurch Road
Bournemouth
Dorset BH7 6AF

Independent examiner: Lucy Filer at TC Group



.....
Mr. A Deutsch
Trustee

Date: 30-1-2026

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

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 SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable 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 charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Dorset Children's Foundation (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or

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

3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Lucy Filer
TC Group

10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1EF

Dated: 30-1-2026

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	**2**	111,829	72,125	183,954	110,744	78,396	189,140
Other trading activities	**3**	241,587	-	241,587	236,774	-	236,774
Investments	**4**	1,044	-	1,044	1,412	-	1,412
Total income		354,460	72,125	426,585	348,930	78,396	427,326
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	**5**	147,649	-	147,649	156,206	-	156,206
Charitable activities	**6**	217,303	101,571	318,874	245,338	87,368	332,706
Total expenditure		364,952	101,571	466,523	401,544	87,368	488,912
Net expenditure		(10,492)	(29,446)	(39,938)	(52,614)	(8,972)	(61,586)
Transfers between funds		(12,919)	12,919	-	(3,812)	3,812	-
Net movement in funds	**7**	(23,411)	(16,527)	(39,938)	(56,426)	(5,160)	(61,586)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		10,953	58,566	69,519	67,379	63,726	131,105
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		(12,458)	42,039	29,581	10,953	58,566	69,519

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

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**11**		24,036		42,611
Current assets					
Debtors	**12**	30,734		52,483	
Cash at bank and in hand		10,797		11,945	
		41,531		64,428	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**14**	(16,950)		(19,880)	
Net current assets			24,581		44,548
Total assets less current liabilities			48,617		87,159
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	**15**		(19,036)		(17,640)
Net assets			29,581		69,519
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	**16**		42,039		58,566
Unrestricted funds	**17**		(12,458)		10,953
			29,581		69,519

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 30-1-2026

.....

Mr. A Deutsch

Trustee

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Dorset Children's Foundation is a charitable organisation incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 695-697 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH7 6AF.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 “The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland” (“FRS 102”) and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.5 Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals bassis. All expenses, including support costs and governance costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings in the statement of financial liabilities.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Plant and equipment	25% straight line
Specialised children's equipment	25% straight line
Computers	33.33% straight line
Motor vehicles	25% reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.8 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 ‘Basic Financial Instruments’ and Section 12 ‘Other Financial Instruments Issues’ of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

1.9 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee’s services are received.

1.10 Donated goods

Stock of donated goods is not provided for as at the year end. This is in line with previous years and impracticable to estimate upon receipt of the donated goods.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.11 Significant judgements and estimates

The charity's management do not apply any significant judgements, apart from those involving estimates, in applying the accounting policies.

The only estimates made in applying accounting policies are in assessing the useful life of fixed assets. These do not result in a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities.

2 Donations and grants

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	111,829	72,125	183,954	189,140
For the year ended 31 March 2024	110,744	78,396		189,140

3 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025	Unrestricted funds 2024
	£	£
Shop income	241,587	236,774

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025	Unrestricted funds 2024
	£	£
Interest receivable	1,044	1,412

5 Raising funds, trading costs and support costs

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2025	2024
	£	£
Fundraising and publicity		
Depreciation	1,951	2,518
Motor vehicle depreciation	3,228	4,304
Other fundraising costs	6,210	5,707
Fundraising and publicity	11,389	12,529
Staff and support costs		
Staff costs	136,260	143,677
Raising funds, trading and support costs	147,649	156,206

6 Charitable activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Charitable activities	266,768	289,350
Support costs	37,315	28,361
	318,874	332,706

7 Net movement in funds

	2025	**2024**
	£	**£**
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	19,974	21,547

8 Trustees

None of the trustee's received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
	15	16

Employment costs	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	244,564	234,422

No employees received emoluments in excess of £41,000.

Total key management personnel remuneration totalled £80,137 (2024 - £83,000) during the year.

10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and equipment	Specialised children's equipment	Computers	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 April 2024	9,680	59,064	10,787	31,345	110,876
Additions	1,400	-	-	-	1,400
At 31 March 2025	11,080	59,064	10,787	31,345	112,276
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2024	9,385	32,634	7,814	18,433	68,266
Depreciation charged in the year	234	14,766	1,746	3,228	19,974
At 31 March 2025	9,619	47,400	9,560	21,661	88,240
Carrying amount					
At 31 March 2025	1,461	11,664	1,227	9,684	24,036
At 31 March 2024	295	26,430	2,974	12,912	42,611

12 Debtors

	2025	2024
Amounts falling due within one year:	**£**	**£**
Other debtors	26,578	50,701

	2025	2024
Amounts falling due after more than one year:	**£**	**£**
Prepayments and accrued income	4,156	1,782
Total debtors	30,734	52,483

13 Loans and overdrafts

	2025	2024
	£	**£**
Bank loans	23,628	27,802
Payable within one year	4,592	10,162
Payable after one year	19,036	17,640

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2025	2024
		£	**£**
Bank loans	**13**	4,592	10,162
Other taxation and social security		5,263	5,640
Trade creditors		1,200	-
Other creditors		3,048	1,231
Accruals and deferred income		2,847	2,847
		16,950	19,880

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Bank loans	**13**	19,036	17,640

16 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

		Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Accessible for All	-	470	(470)	-	-
Specific children donations	21,556	6,780	(13,322)	43	15,056
DCF FC Football	-	3,750	-	-	3,750
Music Therapy	22,350	-	(4,650)	-	17,700
Windmill project	-	25,205	(39,168)	13,963	-
Volunteer Groups	-	5,000	(5,642)	642	-
Christchurch Children	762	-	(815)	53	-
Squidge & Pop	-	165	(165)	-	-
Wheelchair table	-	360	(360)	-	-
Saturday Club	-	1,000	(2,050)	1,050	-
Community Hub	-	2,268	-	-	2,268
Toy Trust	1,765	-	(1,186)	-	579
Arts & Crafts	1,213	-	(1,895)	682	-
Boscombe Fiddle Orchestra	4,000	4,250	(9,203)	953	-
Xmas Parties	1,744	300	(339)	-	1,705
Bear Suit	4,467	-	-	(4,467)	-
Little Stars	709	16,953	(17,662)	-	-
Support worker sponorship	-	5,625	(4,644)	-	981
	-				-
	58,566	72,125	(101,571)	12,919	42,039

16 Restricted funds (Continued)

Accessible for All

Accessible for All, is the charity's initiative to make sports and fin activities fully accessible for families they support.

Activities' provided include, exclusive sessions at an indoor skate park, Music sessions, craft sessions, all ability discos, accessible boat ride, to name but a few.

Specific Children Donations

Each restricted fund related to amounts raised through appeals and fundraising to provide assistance equipment and care for the individual child on the fund. Names have not been used as requested by the parents of the children and for the purpose of financial reporting the specific child funds have been grouped however are maintained separately by the charity.

DCF FC Football

As part of the Accessible for All initiative, DCF have launched their first ever FA registered football team for children with disabilities.

Music Therapy

Music Therapy is part of our program of activities for disabled children. It can be adapted to cater to children with a wide range of developmental challenges, including severe ones. Music therapist are training to work with diverse needs, and they can modify the therapy to suit a child's abilities and comfort level.

Windmill Project

Based in The Sovereign Centre, Boscombe, The Windmill is the heart of our foundation—a welcoming and fully inclusive hub for disabled children, young people and their families. It offers a safe, calming space with a Changing Places facility, state of the art cinema and fully equipped kitchen. The main area can be transformed into a sensory environment with adjustable lighting, projectors and a wealth of play and craft resource's.

The Windmill hosts a wide variety of activities, from stay-and-play sessions like Little Stars and sensory cinema experiences to music therapy, art therapy, PMLD clubs Adventure Buddies and Saturday Social. Young people can join life skills and cookery sessions, youth and friendship groups, while families enjoy story time, craft days, sing-alongs and tailor made entertainment.

During the year an air-conditioning unit was purchased for the Windmill costing £1,400 which has been capitalised. as such this amount has been reallocated from unrestricted to restricted funds.

Volunteer Groups

This provides training and courses in safeguarding, communication and mental health awareness to facilitate volunteers running various clubs and group meetings such as Adventure buddies, sewing, yoga for parents/carers, life skills, and friendship group.

16 Restricted funds (Continued)

Christchurch Children
This was funding specifically received in relation to children living in Christchurch.

Squidge & Pop
Squidge & Pop run interactive, fun and engaging shows allowing the children to expand their imagination and enjoy the serenity of alternative therapeutic bubble play and relaxation. Adaptive to all learners, they use a variety of sensory input and communication methods to allow individual expression and for everyone to reach their best potential. Sessions have the focus to encourage positive social and communication skills, self-regulation, fine and gross motor development and to enhance positive state of emotional and physical wellbeing.

Wheelchair Table
This fund was received for the purchase of a wheelchair table.

Saturday Club
The DCF run a unique and fantastic Saturday Club for the most profoundly disabled. This club is exclusively open to our PMLD (profound and multiple learning difficulty) wheelchair users. It is held at a specialist school that has all the appropriate changing facilities and is fully accessible. It is not the only the children that benefit as parents/carers have a lunch together and share advice and support. The children and young people enjoy a wealth of activities included wheelchair dancing, craft making, cooking sessions, yoga, clay making, bubble workshops, immersive theatre and more.

Community Hub
Part of the Windmill, the Community hub is a multi-purpose space for both disabled children and parent/carers, complete with a fully accessible changing facility and state of the art cinema.

Toy Trust
This is funding received alongside Little Stars to fund the toys used as part of our Little Stars play group.

Arts & Crafts
Funds for arts & crafts sessions for families.

Boscombe Fiddle Orchestra
Boscome Youth Fiddle Orchestra is based in Boscombe and provides free violin tuittion for local students aged 5 to 19. It is funded by Bournemouth Rotary, Thornton Trust an Soundstorm. Until the end of December, the orchestra operated under the umbrella of Coda Music Trust based in Walkford, but has now transferred to the Dorset Children's Foundation (DCF). The DCF, founded 11 years ago, supports children and young people with learning difficulties, and believe that bringing the two organisactions together will work well. The change of ownership has resulted in a change of name from 'Code Fiddle Orchestra' to Boscombe Youth Fiddle Orchestra (BYFO).

16 Restricted funds **(Continued)**

Xmas Parties
This funding was received in relation to hosting Christmas parties for the children and young people who attend DCF, families and siblings were also invited.

Bear Suit
Bear suit is for our new mascot, we have been getting our money's worth out of the old one and will be purchasing a new one shortly. Following a conversation with the original donor, they confirmed that it was best to transfer this fund into general unrestricted funds.

Little Stars
This is a stay and play group for preschool children with additional needs. These sessions will help little ones explore, socialise and communicate, create and enjoy a lot of messy play. This group is ideal for those at the beginning of their journey and will really support parents whose children have just recently been diagnosed. Siblings are very welcome too.

Support Worker Sponsorship
The charity receives funds from a legal practice to cover the salary costs of three support workers.

17 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	10,953	354,460	(364,952)	(12,919)	(12,458)

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	67,379	348,930	(401,544)	(3,812)	10,953

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
At 31 March 2025:			
Tangible assets	24,036	-	24,036
Current assets/(liabilities)	(17,458)	42,039	24,581
Long term liabilities	(19,036)	-	(19,036)
	(12,458)	42,039	29,581

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 31 March 2024:			
Tangible assets	42,611	-	42,611
Current assets/(liabilities)	(14,018)	58,566	44,548
Long term liabilities	(17,640)	-	(17,640)
	10,953	58,566	69,519

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Donations and legacies	111,829	72,125	183,954	189,140
Shop income	241,587	-	241,587	236,774
Investment	1,044	-	1,044	-
Total income	354,460	72,125	426,585	427,326
Resources expended				
Raising funds				
Fundraising costs	6,210	-	6,210	5,707
Staff wages	136,260	-	136,260	143,677
Plant and machinery depreciation	15,000	-	205	15,083
Computer equipment depreciation	1,746	-	1,746	2,160
Motor vehicles depreciation	3,228	-	3,228	4,304
	162,444	-	147,649	170,931
Charitable activities				
Rates and water	2,544	-	2,544	2,821
Staff wages	63,136	45,168	108,304	90,745
Light and heat	3,183	-	3,183	11,040
Telephone	2,842	-	2,842	3,165
Postage and stationery	77	-	77	621
Advertising and marketing	300	-	300	344
Sundries	4,093	-	4,093	1,322
Subscriptions	706	-	706	148
Travel	483	-	483	1,869
Motor expenses	3,892	-	3,892	5,038
Entertainment	332	-	332	1,981
IT software and consumables	2,450	-	2,450	3,576
Rent	49,689	6,000	55,693	49,693
Direct expenses for children	41,499	40,370	81,869	116,987
	175,226	91,538	266,768	289,350

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Support costs				
Insurance	5,669	1,290	6,959	7,376
Bank charges	4,286	-	4,286	3,413
Loan interest	504	-	504	738
Repairs and renewals	360	8,743	9,103	1,974
Accountancy and legal fees	3,023	-	3,023	1,690
Consultancy	13,440	-	13,440	13,440
	27,282	10,033	37,315	28,631
Total resources expended	364,952	101,571	451,732	488,912
Gross transfers between funds	12,919	(12,919)	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(23,411)	(16,527)	(25,147)	(61,586)

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1150538

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1150538

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1EF

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

CONTENTS

	Page
Company information	1
Trustees' report	2 - 15
Statement of trustees' responsibilities	16
Independent examiner's report	17
Statement of financial activities	18
Balance sheet	19
Notes to the financial statements	20 - 32

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr. A Deutsch Ms. A Collins Mr. D McEvoy Ms. A Jackson Ms. F Hunt	 (Appointed 31 October 2024)
Charity number	1150538	
Independent examiner	TC Group 10 Bridge Street Christchurch Dorset BH23 1EF	

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees present this report with the financial statement for the year ending 31st March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 “The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland” (“FRS 102”) and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trustees believe that the information included in this report demonstrates how the activities of The Dorset Children’s Foundation has created public benefit.

The Dorset Children’s Foundation
Charity Reg: 1150538 in England and Wales
Principal & Registered address: 695-697 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth BH7 6AF

Trustees

A Collins	
A Deutsch	
C Palmer	Resigned 23/05/2023
J Pantling-Skeet	Resigned 18/08/2024
A Jackson	
D McEvoy	
F Hunt	Appointed 31/10/2024

There trustees delegate the day-to-day management to:
CEO and Co-Founder - Patricia Hallmey (Governor of Montecute Special School member of Dorset IAG committee, trustee for Enable My Trip and panel member of AFCB Disability and inclusion team).
CFO and Co-Founder - Scott Akam

Accountants:
TC Group
10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
BH23 1EF

Bank:
Barclays PLC
100 High Street
Poole
BH15 1BL

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Our Trustees are all volunteers, deemed fit and proper persons for this role and they receive no financial remuneration.

Type of governing document:

The Dorset Children's Foundation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered with the Charity Commission on 21st January 2013 and is governed by a constitution which was amended on 19th June 2021.

Summary of the objectives of the charity:

THE RELIEF OF SICKNESS AND THE PRESERVATION OF HEALTH AMONG CHILDREN WITH LONG TERM ILLNESSES AND/OR DISABILITIES BY PROVIDING OR ASSISTING IN THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION NOT NORMALLY PROVIDED BY THE STATUTORY AUTHORITIES AND SUCH OTHER SUPPORT AS THE TRUSTEES MAY DETERMINE.

The overall management and control of The Dorset Children's Foundation is the responsibility of The Trustees who meet regularly to discuss operations and potential beneficiaries.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in The Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charities aims and objectives.

Financial report:

The financial statements are set out in page 18

Our activities and Public Benefit:

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit, when reviewing the Foundations Aims and Objectives and in planning future activities and setting the grant making policies for the year.

The trustees believe that the information provided within the report demonstrates the various ways that the activities of the DCF have created public benefit.

Summary of the Foundation's achievements during the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024.

In the last year our register has grown by over 60 more families, and we now support just under 700 children with disabilities living in Dorset.

Public Benefit summary:

At DCF we recognize that there are many costs associated with raising a disabled child. We understand that these are not always covered by statutory services, so we help families find other ways to provide the funds needed.

We support disabled children by funding disability equipment, medical expenses, therapies, and offer accessible for all, which encompasses our outreach services and our wide range of sports and activities. We offer counselling and fund a range of support groups and clubs and run weekly stay and play pre-school sessions. We offer disability education workshops and campaigns for disability rights.

Outreach Services:
Our outreach service continues to grow, and we are now getting referrals from local medical and council professionals. This outreach service provides support and encouragement to families who may need more 1 to 1 support and a personal approach, rather than attending our group activities. It's most useful for those who are dealing with a new diagnosis and trying to navigate the 'system'. Our team can work with parents and help them access all that they are entitled to, ensuring they have everything they need and know where to get additional support.

Disability Education:
We believe in talking positively about disability and continue to work with local mainstream schools and youth organizations' (scout groups, guides etc), raising awareness of disabilities in general and helping children understand what life may be like for some of the children we support. We also continue to support 'Awesome Archie', another local organization that visits local schools to raise awareness of neurodiversity.

Equipment:
We fund disability equipment that is not provided by Statutory Services, such as off-road wheelchairs, lightweight wheelchairs, rain covers, sleep systems, epilepsy sleep monitors, trikes, hydrotherapy pools, physiotherapy aids, podiatry aids etc. under the guidance of local health care professionals, for use in and out of the home.

Examples of when we may need to provide suitable wheelchairs:
- To children with autism or other neuro-diverse conditions where the child has no concept of danger.
- When a child is mobile but tires easily.
- When a child is mobile but has seizures and needs to rest, often reclined while recovering.
- Statutory Services will not provide wheelchairs in these cases.

This year we have purchased 25 pieces of equipment ranging from wheelchairs to therapy benches.

Medical Expenses:
Provided for procedures not covered by the NHS or if the waiting list is so long as to be detrimental to the child's wellbeing.

Therapies:
We fund therapies for children who are referred to us from health care professionals including speech and language, occupational therapy, music therapy, physiotherapy, hydrotherapy etc.

Due to the length of waiting lists since Covid 19 there is a much-extended wait for appointments before treatment even starts. Studies have conclusively demonstrated that the earlier therapies are implemented the better the long-term outcome for the child.

39 Children have had funded therapy services this year.

Counselling:
We have previously identified that parent/carers need mental health support, especially post pandemic. And our counselling services have expanded this year.

Families can self-refer through our newsletter, welcome pack, and website. The service offers confidential discussions, support and the appropriate level of coping strategies and long-term support where needed. Each session is tailored to the individual's needs, are low-cost and can be held via phone, zoom and face to face.

We work with local Colleges to provide placement for trainee counsellors and have established links with a local specialist provision (Linwood School who kindly provide rooms for us), currently having a team of three.

We have recently supported families whose child has sadly passed away and now offer bereavement counselling as part of this service.

Our service has also been expanded to include sessions for children over the age of 8 years.

22 individuals received 6 sessions of counselling each this year.

Play and Sporting Opportunities:

Accessible for All:
We recognize that children with disabilities miss out on those valuable experiences that should be available to all children of all abilities and sadly there is still a lack of provision for them in the wider community. Although some other service providers are now operating again after covid, the provision for those with complex needs and physical disabilities who need access to changing facilities is still non-existent. We fill this gap by providing activities that everyone from the neurodiverse to the most medically complex child can attend and this year we bought a gazebo and portable changing bench that we can have available at our events where none are provided.

Wherever possible our events and activities are open to both disabled children and their siblings as we understand that other local providers only cater for the child with disabilities. We know how hard it can be for families to find activities to do together so by providing things like private skate park hire and days out in the park (with mobile changing unit) we are filling this gap. It's so important that families can share fun activities and create lasting memories.

We provide regular events such as soft play sessions, pantomimes, drama, crafts days, themed parties, exclusive use of skate parks, water sports, dance etc. with all abilities catered for.

Children and families can make friends and the isolation felt by so many in our community is massively reduced.

This year 824 Children accessed our play opportunities.

Give Kids the World: GKTW.org
We are delighted to be only one of 9 UK charities to be accepted as a wish granter for GKTW which is a holiday village in Florida for life limiting children, passing their strict criteria. **This year we were thrilled to be able to send 2 families** who were all able to visit the world-famous attractions and theme parks in Florida, Walt Disney World, Epcot Centre, Sea World etc.

Support Groups in the community

Early Years Stay and Play Groups:
We currently fund two separate stay and play groups for pre-school children, Little Stars and Something Special, as well as a weekly early year's forest school.
These groups are in their third year of operation, and we have been overwhelmed by the demand. Both groups have expanded to meet the growing need and have each increased their sessions from 1 to 2 a week with **20+ children regularly attending.**

PMLD Saturday club:
There is no other provision in Dorset specifically for PMLD (Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities) children and young adults to attend. Our Saturday club provides inclusive activities, tailored to meet the sensory and physical needs of those that attend and meets every fortnight at Montaqcute Specialist school that has all the appropriate changing facilities and is fully accessible.
The club has a regular attendance of approx. **25 children and their carers.**

SENturions:
Online membership has increased to over 800 members (an increase of over 100 from last year). Membership is open to parents, carers, and professionals in the local SEND community. Members can seek advice and support both online and at their coffee mornings and play sessions with **20-30 regularly attending.** SENturians is run entirely by volunteers who are themselves parents of neurodiverse children.

Doors open:
Online membership has increased by 100 with 758 current members. This group is aimed at families of SEN children diagnosed or not. They host weekly meetings and run holiday activities. The intention of this group is to build a community of parents supporting parents to provide a local support base to share experiences and strategies and to help identify external sources of help and support. The group highlights the importance of a positive relationship with schools and pre-school inclusion teams encouraging parent/carers to continue to strive for positive connection and help the children required.
Their weekly coffee mornings **regularly attract 20+ families.**
Doors Open is also run entirely by volunteers.

Parent support and activities:

Sewing group:
Many of our children need to wear adapted clothing, either to give access to feeding tubes or because stiff limbs make dressing difficult. These clothes aren't available on the high street, and specialist providers charge a lot for very little. The parents who attend our weekly sewing club have been taught how to adapt clothing themselves and can offer the service of adapting garments for our families free of charge. They have also made sensory items, wheelchair cozies and other useful items.

This is a wonderful group, not only teaching new skills but providing advice and information in a supportive setting for the **10-15 parents who regularly attend.**

DCF Paddlers:
In the warmer months, **10-15 parents** meet up to go paddle boarding, chat and support each other and make new friends, while experiencing the benefits of nature, improving mental health and physical wellbeing. We have built a relationship with a local company who hire out boards to our families for these sessions at a reduced rate.

Yoga:
Our yoga group has gone from strength to strength this year literally, as our Yoga instructor (who is also one of our Mums) is now able to specialise in pelvic health exercises since completing a course we funded. This is important for parents and carers who are lifting and carrying children over a long period of time. The group meets weekly with **15+ people attending** who all really benefit from taking time out to focus on themselves.

Coffee and craft mornings:
All our parents/carers are invited to join us at various venues for cake, coffee and crafts like wreath making and sensory toy making. These are very popular with **up to 30 people attending monthly.** These great mornings support mental health as parents can share experiences, whilst doing something positive.

Cold Water Swimming:
In November we introduced cold water swimming as part of our parent/carer wellbeing sessions. Working with a local sea swimming instructor in the safety of a local hotel pool we were able to have exclusive access to the pool on a weekly basis. This activity proved successful as parents had the physical benefit of the cold, as well as the sense of personal achievement that comes when you tackle something out of the ordinary like entering a cold pool.

Community Initiatives

Disability In the Workplace
We are members of The Disability Committed Employers initiative so by having people with a disability volunteering in our shops this demonstrates to the wider community the abilities of the people the charity supports, promoting our vision for inclusion for everyone.

Mental Health Initiative
The mental health of our parent/carers, staff and volunteers is very important to us and we are delighted to become members of The Mental Health Charter, which means we are a mental health committed employer. We host regular wellness sessions; social activities and all staff and volunteers have access to our counselling services.

Ask for Clive
We are members of the Ask for Clive initiative. Ask for Clive is charity that focuses on inclusivity for the LGBTQ community. It asks inclusive establishments to put a sticker with the charity name on their door to signal that the LGBTQ community is welcome there. The charity also provides a brief for staff and volunteers on how to deal with discrimination queer patrons may experience.

Safe Space Scheme
For the last few years, we have signed up to become a Safe Space for people with learning disabilities. Our staff and volunteers are given training on what to do when supporting someone who feels vulnerable. Their logo is prominently displayed in our shops so people know they can ask for help in a safe and secure environment.

The role of our trustees:
As deemed appropriate, new trustees will be appointed by the existing trustees. The induction process will follow the ICSA good practice guide and include meeting with existing trustees. They receive a copy of our accounts, a copy of our governing document and a copy of the Charity Commissions guidance 'The essential trustee, what you need to know, what you need to do' (CC3).

Ongoing good trustee training is also offered through Community Action Network.
Our appointed board of trustees create a welcoming and supportive culture and apply ethical principal to all decisions made. They support inclusion, equality, and diversity.

Their approach supports good governance and delivery of the charity's purpose. Our trustees play an integral and active role within the DCF as they all regularly run or attend our events and activities and thus have direct and frequent access to our families and can see first-hand the needs and wishes of the children we serve.

Policies are renewed on an annual basis and are standard items on our board of trustees meetings. We place emphasis on safeguarding, disability awareness training, data protection and robust financial controls.

Our appointed board of trustees are:

Alex Deutsch (senior Network Manager)
Alex is a long-standing supporter of the charity who also runs our award-winning FA affiliated DCF football club.

Amy Collins (Volunteering Development Head, Community Action Network)
Amy volunteers at many of our Accessible for All events and is a regular helper at our Saturday club.

James Pantling-Skeet (Chartered Legal Executive and Community Care Expert)
James has hosted free workshops, run marathons and is on hand to help with issues such as housing, education, benefits, and entitlement.

Dan McEvoy
Dan is a parent of a child with complex disabilities. He oversees our IT and technical infrastructure and ensures our compliance with relevant regulations. He also represents the DCF on the Disabled Children Partnership steering, communication, and campaign forums. Dan has also campaigned tirelessly on the effect of the cost of living on families with disabled children and has represented these families on GMTV, Panorama, Radio 4 and 5 and in The Guardian and other publications.

Avril Jackson
Avril is our most recently appointed trustee. She was for many years a teacher of children with additional needs and is a long-standing governor of Montacute School (Special needs provision school) for 30 years. Avril has fostered children with complex needs and set up our Saturday club.

Because of our trustees' very welcome hands-on approach, all have an enhanced DBS check.

Communication:

Social Media:
Our Facebook pages are one of our main tools to provide up to date information to the 8500 who follow us. It is regularly updated with photographs of our events and activities and our fund-raising campaigns.
We also have 2 private Facebook pages for our parents, Accessible for All and The DCF family group, these pages are used for advertising our activities and services and signposting our families to relevant support.

Newsletter:
We appreciate that not all of our families are on social media and therefore send a monthly newsletter to all our families who have requested them via email.
Quarterly E-news:
We also send a quarterly E-news to a wider audience of local businesses and sponsors that have opted to receive it. We have found this to be an extremely cost-effective way of reaching a larger target audience.

Charity Partners:

We are pleased to be partnered with the following companies. Each Charity Partner is expected to hold fundraising events during the year, share our news on their social media and generally support us where they can offer volunteers, attend our events and receive a presentation to staff about the DCF to help raise awareness. We are enormously grateful to our amazing community of local companies who support us.

- Bournemouth Collegiate school
- Grosvenor carpets
- Seafield Mortgages
- JLD Events
- First Position School of Dance
- Think ATM and Airports Consultancy
- Glenigan
- BAE Systems
- Stairway Joinery
- Kiss in Light
- The Shirt Framing service
- Hoburne Holiday Parks
- The Marsham Court. Hotel
- The Marriot Hotel Bournemouth
- Reed Employment: Recruitment Agency
- Coastal Comedy: Comedy Club
- Urban Guild: Local restaurant chain
- Holt Recruitment: Recruitment company.
- Bourne Free

We have continued our close relationship with CMP Print who provided us with free leaflets, flyers headed paper, business cards and other promotional materials, saving us at least £2000 per year.

The role and contribution of our volunteers:
The Foundation is committed to ensuring fairness and recognises the need for diversity and inclusion within our recruitment and management of volunteers.
We currently have 62 volunteers ranging from age 14 (Completing Duke of Edinburgh award scheme) to age 87.
All health and safety procedures are followed, and induction and ongoing training is given.
Many of our volunteers are also parent/carers of the children we support. We embrace volunteers of all abilities and currently have 2 volunteers who have multiple learning difficulties and are wheelchair users.
Volunteers are recruited from the following sectors:

- Community Action Network
- Local mental health teams
- Local schools
- Job Centre Plus
- Probation Service
- Local language schools
- Others contact us through the shops and website.

All appropriate paperwork is completed when taking on any new volunteers who all have to complete CRB checks.

We have many long-standing volunteers, and we call ourselves The Dorset Children's Foundation Family

Risk management:

Retail activities:
All procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety and safeguarding regulations and best practice concerning staff, volunteers, clients and customers.

Both staff and volunteer handbooks have been reviewed and updated. All policies are regularly and robustly reviewed by the trustees, founders, and external agencies such as Community Action Network.

Ongoing training is actively supported, and our safeguarding policy has been updated.

All managers and volunteers have successfully completed an online safeguarding course.
We follow best practice in recruitment, support and training, including carrying out appropriate DBS/Enhanced DBS checks.
Volunteer handbooks have been updated and expanded.

Financial\Fundraising
We have a variety of fundraising streams.
1) Profits from our 3 charity shops
2) Online sales
3) Grants from trusts and other charities
4) Corporate donations
5) Public donations
6) Fundraising events
7) Fundraising platforms (i.e., PayPal, JustGiving and Facebook)
8) Charity partners
9) Legacies
10) Collections

We have a robust financial control policy, financial control procedure policy, a reserves policy and a risk management policy that covers all aspects of our operations.

We do not use any paid fundraising specialist companies. We only publicise our fundraising campaigns in the public domain, we never contact previous donors without their express permission, and we evaluate and monitor this process regularly.

Any family, individual or company who fundraise on our behalf are assessed and sent an information leaflet 'Fundraising Safely' given a letter of authority with the permission of the Foundation with details and contacts and their relationship with the Foundation for clarification. We provide key information from the Institute of Fundraising. Our Foundation monitors fundraising activities through the records of the fundraising platforms monthly reports.

Details of each event or fundraising campaign are required from the Foundation before commencing and are required to adhere to ours and the Fundraising Standards code of practice.

Social media fundraisers are regularly monitored. Facebook funds come directly to the charities bank.

Collection pots are numbered, sealed, and signed in and out, with confirmation of where they will be placed or used. When returned are counted with two members of staff present.

Fundraising platforms.
All funds from fundraising platforms such as JustGiving are paid directly to our bank.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Foundation at any time to enable the trustees to plan and to prepare financial statements for each financial year. A budgeting review is carried out monthly. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding assets and funds of the Foundation by taking robust steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

Sources of Income
We do not receive any Government or local council funding. Monies are generated through a variety of funding streams.

Grants
This financial year we were grateful to receive grants from the following:

GFEYRE Charitable Trust £600
Asda Foundation £400
Harry Faulker Trust £1000
Masonic Lodge £1500
Cherries Trust £1000
CFSG Pankram Grant £1279.28
JTYA £4000 (Boscombe Fiddle Orchestra)
Friends of Coda £2500 (Boscombe Fiddle Orchestra)

Total £12,279

Sponsorship
We have received both corporate and private sponsorship for our Christmas parties, Avon Tyrell residential weekend, immersive theatre performances and a percentage for the cost of our Wet Wheels events.

Donations
We receive donations from both the public and corporate sector with the latter holding fundraising events on our behalf.

Goods In Kind
This year, we gave out goods in kind to the value of £47000. This included mobility and therapy equipment, arts and craft materials, household items and children's clothing. These items were distributed through our stay and play groups, Saturday club, direct to registered families and through the local community via women's refuge and children's centres.

Wills and Legacies
We have produced a leaflet encouraging people to support us by leaving us something in their will. This has been done in conjunction with The Good Will Partnership and we are currently arranging meetings with local solicitors to highlight our work and to encourage bequests.

Main Fundraising Events
We are thankful to the wonderful support of our local community. These were the highlights of our year.

The Dorset Plane Pull.
We had 2 teams of 20 people pulling a jumbo jet.
We raised over £2000.

First Position School of Dance
For the 4th year they donated a total of £10,000, the entire proceeds of their annual showcase.

Our annual ball raised £4,300

Reserves policy:
Support to beneficiaries is only given when the funds have been raised and so the Foundation doesn't have any ongoing commitments in this regard.

The trustees have identified the need for three months costs to be held in reserve to fulfil its contractual obligations to landlords and staff redundancy if we had to close.
Calculated to be £26,266 with length of service accounted for.

The trustees also determined that three months costs should be held in reserve to cover parent/carers in cancelling or funding activities booked, costs for stay and play groups and costs associated with all the support and parent groups.
Calculated to be £26,787

At the end of the year the foundation had free reserves of £10,953 which is below the above the level of reserves required. Despite this the charity continues to operate as a going concern due to funding received post year end and continued income from it's charity shop.

Sustainability
Sustainability is about meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. UN Sustainability Development Goals.
In February 2023 we partnered with BPC Councils Carbon Reduction Program to measure and reduce our carbon footprint and to work towards net zero.
We also support the Circular Economic System whereby resources are used, reused and recycled minimising CO2 emissions.

We do not have the expense and overheads of a head office preferring to work from the shops
Charity shops saved 339,000 tons of textiles from landfill in 2023/24.

Our charity shops supports the public benefit of keeping used goods in circulation and expanding the life cycle of products. We resell donated items that would otherwise end up in land fill. We also provide low-cost alternatives to buying new which makes sustainable consumption more accessible to people with a limited income.

We reduce, reuse, recycle and reconnect wherever possible by;
Using an ethical, licensed waste company who recycle textiles and household items. Appropriate clothing from this is sent to the developing world.
Excess books and toys are donated to local schools and Children’s Centre’s.
Regular appropriate donations are made to homeless charities.
Our office furniture is pre used as are 70% of our shop fittings.
The Boscombe and Southbourne shops have had energy saving LED lighting fitted by our founder.
75% of our office supplies are taken from shop donations as are 90% of our branded clothing for events.

Future Action Points:

As part of our continual evaluation process the trustees have identified key action points for 2024/2025:

- To find a suitable venue that will act as a permanent base for our families to get together for group activities.
- To continue to raise funds for medical expenses, mobility equipment and therapies to improve the quality of life of the children and families we support.
- Continue to grow and develop our parent liaison and befriending services.
- Continue to work with siblings by providing activities that build resilience and encourage creativity. We will work with other local service providers who offer training in this area.
- To continue funding and expanding the range of inclusive events and activities for families with disabled children as part of our Accessible for All program.
- To continue to expand our counselling services by offering a complete family support service, including bereavement counselling to parents/carers and children.
- To increase our program of activities for parent/carers that improve overall physical and mental health. This will include regular wellness walks and sea swimming.
- To actively source local businesses and great corporate sponsorship packages to cover the cost of fundraising events, therapies, and equipment for Dorset's disabled children.

The Dorset Children Foundation are members of:

The Institute of Fundraising
The National Council for Voluntary Organisations
The Small Charities Coalition
Community Action Network
Charity Retail Organisation
Disability Committed Employers
Mental Health Charter Members

We are fully GDPR compliant, our IOC membership is annually reviewed.
No. ZA382325
Personal files are updated with payroll information and all payroll is to be authorised and approved by Co-founder Scott Akam

The website is updated on a regular basis and contains charity information, appeals, event calendar, application process, grant making policy and how the community can help, contacts, news and previous activities and about us in general. www.thedcf.org

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).
There were no complaints against the charity this, or previous years.

We have the following policies and procedures in place.

Child Eligibility and Support Criteria
Safeguarding Children Policy
Compliments and Complaints Procedure
Confidentiality Policy
Home Visit Policy
Menopause Policy
Equality and Diversity Policy
First Aid Policy
Reserves Policy
DCF Data Protection Policy
Grievance Procedure
Privacy Policy
Financial Controls Policy
Social Media Policy
Conflict of Interest Policy

Registered Charity number
1150538

Principal Address
695-697 Christchurch Road
Bournemouth
Dorset BH7 6AF

Independent examiner: Dean Pullen TC Group

Mr. A Deutsch
Trustee
Dated: 30 January 2025

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

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 SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable 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 charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Dorset Children's Foundation (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or

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

3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Dean Pullen
TC Group

10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1EF

Dated: 30 January 2025

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	**2**	110,744	78,396	189,140	112,296	54,461	166,757
Other trading activities	**3**	236,774	-	236,774	241,926	-	241,926
Investments	**4**	1,412	-	1,412	1,159	-	1,159
Total income		348,930	78,396	427,326	355,381	54,461	409,842
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	**5**	156,206	-	156,206	139,515	-	139,515
Charitable activities		245,338	87,368	332,706	182,602	108,381	290,983
Other expenditure	**10**	-	-	-	(3,238)	-	(3,238)
Total expenditure		401,544	87,368	488,912	318,879	108,381	427,260
Net expenditure		(52,614)	(8,972)	(61,586)	36,502	(53,920)	(17,418)
Transfers between funds		(3,812)	3,812	-	(66,837)	66,837	-
Net movement in funds	**7**	(56,426)	(5,160)	(61,586)	(30,335)	12,917	(17,418)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		67,379	63,726	131,105	97,714	50,809	148,523
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		10,953	58,566	69,519	67,379	63,726	131,105

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

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**12**		42,611		61,759
Current assets					
Debtors	**13**	52,483		3,856	
Cash at bank and in hand		11,945		104,920	
		64,428		108,776	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**15**	(19,880)		(15,992)	
Net current assets			44,548		92,784
Total assets less current liabilities			87,159		154,543
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	**16**		(17,640)		(23,438)
Net assets			69,519		131,105
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	**17**		58,566		63,726
Unrestricted funds	**18**		10,953		67,379
			69,519		131,105

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 30 January 2025

Mr. A Deutsch
Trustee

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Dorset Children's Foundation is a charitable organisation incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 695-697 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH7 6AF.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 “The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland” (“FRS 102”) and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.5 Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals bassis. All expenses, including support costs and governance costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings in the statement of financial liabilities.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Plant and equipment	25% straight line
Specialised children's equipment	25% straight line
Computers	33.33% straight line
Motor vehicles	25% reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.8 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 ‘Basic Financial Instruments’ and Section 12 ‘Other Financial Instruments Issues’ of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

1.9 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee’s services are received.

1.10 Donated goods

Stock of donated goods is not provided for as at the year end. This is in line with previous years and impracticable to estimate upon receipt of the donated goods.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.11 Significant judgements and estimates

The charity's management do not apply any significant judgements, apart from those involving estimates, in applying the accounting policies.

The only estimates made in applying accounting policies are in assessing the useful life of fixed assets. These do not result in a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities.

2 Donations and grants

	Unrestricted funds	**Restricted funds**	**Total**	Total
	2024	**2024**	**2024**	2023
	£	**£**	**£**	£
Donations and gifts	110,744	78,396	189,140	166,757
For the year ended 31 March 2023	112,296	54,461		166,757

3 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024	**Unrestricted funds 2023**
	£	**£**
Shop income	236,774	241,926

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024	**Unrestricted funds 2023**
	£	**£**
Interest receivable	1,412	1,159

5 Raising funds, trading costs and support costs

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2024	2023
	£	£
Fundraising and publicity		
Depreciation	2,518	2,215
Motor vehicle depreciation	4,304	4,564
Other fundraising costs	5,707	4,310
Fundraising and publicity	12,529	11,089
Staff and support costs		
Staff costs	143,677	128,426
Raising funds, trading and support costs	156,206	139,515

6 Charitable activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Charitable activities	183,768	223,005
Support costs	33,684	17,932
	332,706	290,983

7 Net movement in funds

	2024	**2023**
	£	**£**
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	21,547	20,868
Loss/(profit) on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	(3,238)

8 Trustees

None of the trustee's received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
	16	17

Employment costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	234,422	201,956

No employees received emoluments in excess of £42,000.

Total key management personnel remuneration totalled £83,000 (2023 - £92,000) during the year.

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

Remuneration of key management personnel
The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

10 Other

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2024	2023
		£
Net loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	(3,238)

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and equipment	Specialised children's equipment	Computers	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 April 2023	9,680	57,081	10,371	31,345	108,477
Additions	-	1,983	417	-	2,400
At 31 March 2024	9,680	59,064	10,788	31,345	110,877
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2023	9,027	17,909	5,654	14,129	46,719
Depreciation charged in the year	358	14,725	2,160	4,304	21,547
At 31 March 2024	9,385	32,634	7,814	18,433	68,266
Carrying amount					
At 31 March 2024	295	26,430	2,974	12,912	42,611
At 31 March 2023	654	39,172	4,717	17,216	61,759

13 Debtors

	2024	2023
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Other debtors	50,701	3,856

	2024	2023
Amounts falling due after more than one year:	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	1,782	-
Total debtors	52,483	3,856

14 Loans and overdrafts

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loans	27,802	33,349
Payable within one year	10,162	9,911
Payable after one year	17,640	23,438

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Bank loans	14	10,162	9,911
Other taxation and social security		5,640	3,090
Other creditors		1,231	936
Accruals and deferred income		2,847	2,055
		19,880	15,992

16 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Bank loans	14	17,640	23,438

17 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

		Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Accessible for All	-	49,843	(49,843)	-	-
Specific children donations	28,514	15,725	(22,684)	-	21,554
Music Therapy	24,152	-	(1,803)	-	22,349
Christchurch Children	763	-	-	-	763
Saturday Club	500	-	(500)	-	-
Avon Tyrell	831	-	(4,642)	3,812	-
Arts & Crafts	2,000	-	(787)	-	1,213
Boscombe Fiddle Orchestra	-	4,000	-	-	4,000
Xmas Parties	-	3,305	(1,560)	-	1,745
Little Stars	-	5,523	(4,814)	-	709
Bear Suit	4,467	-	-	-	4,467
Toy Trust	2,500	-	(735)	-	1,765
	-				-
	63,726	78,396	(87,368)	3,812	58,566

Accessible for All

Accessible for All, is the charity's initiative to make sports and fin activities fully accessible for families they support.

Activities' provided include, exclusive sessions at an indoor skate park, Music sessions, craft sessions, all ability discos, accessible boat ride, to name but a few.

Specific Children Donations

Each restricted fund related to amounts raised through appeals and fundraising to provide assistance equipment and care for the individual child on the fund. Names have not been used as requested by the parents of the children and for the purpose of financial reporting the specific child funds have been grouped however are maintained separately by the charity.

Music Therapy

Music Therapy is part of our program of activities for disabled children. It can be adapted to cater to children with a wide range of developmental challenges, including severe ones. Music therapist are training to work with diverse needs, and they can modify the therapy to suit a child's abilities and comfort level.

17 Restricted funds (Continued)

Saturday Club
The DCF run a unique and fantastic Saturday Club for the most profoundly disabled. This club is exclusively open to our PMLD (profound and multiple learning difficulty) wheelchair users. It is held at a specialist school that has all the appropriate changing facilities and is fully accessible. It is not the only the children that benefit as parents/carers have a lunch together and share advice and support.
The children and young people enjoy a wealth of activities included wheelchair dancing, craft making, cooking sessions, yoga, clay making, bubble workshops, immersive theatre and more.

Avon Tyrell
Avon Tyrell is an outdoor activity center and the DCF offer residential trips there as part of Accessible for All. 10 disabled children and their families attend the weekend with 7 staying overnight in the accessible lodge. Activities provided include, archery, high ropes and canoeing and everyone that attended have an amazing time.

Arts & Crafts
Funds for arts & crafts sessions for families.

Boscombe Fiddle Orchestra
Boscome Youth Fiddle Orchestra is based in Boscombe and provides free violin tuittion for local students aged 5 to 19. It is funded by Bournemouth Rotary, Thornton Trust an Soundstorm. Until the end of December, the orchestra operated under the umbrella of Coda Music Trust based in Walkford, but has now transferred to the Dorset Children's Foundation (DCF). The DCF, founded 11 years ago, supports children and young people with learning difficulties, and believe that bringing the two organisactions together will work well. The change of ownership has resulted in a change of name from 'Code Fiddle Orchestra' to Boscombe Youth Fiddle Orchestra (BYFO).

Xmas Parties
This funding was received in relation to hosting Christmas parties for the children and young people who attend DCF, families and siblings were also invited.

Little Stars
This is a stay and play group for preschool children with additional needs. These sessions will help little ones explore, socialise and communicate, create and enjoy a lot of messy play. This group is ideal for those at the beginning of their journey and will really support parents whose children have just recently been diagnosed. Siblings are very welcome too.

Bear Suit
Bear suit is for our new mascot, we have been getting our money's worth out of the old one and will be purchasing a new one shortly.

Toy Trust
This is funding received alongside Little Stars to fund the toys used as part of our Little Stars play group.

Christchurch Children
This was funding specifically received in relation to children living in Christchurch.

17 Restricted funds **(Continued)**

18 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	67,379	348,930	(401,544)	(3,812)	10,953

Previous year:	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	97,714	355,381	(318,879)	(66,837)	67,379

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total 2024
	£	£	£
At 31 March 2024:			
Tangible assets	42,611	-	42,611
Current assets/(liabilities)	(14,018)	58,566	44,548
Long term liabilities	(17,640)	-	(17,640)
	10,953	58,566	69,519

19 Analysis of net assets between funds **(Continued)**

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total 2023
	£	£	£
At 31 March 2023:			
Tangible assets	61,759	-	61,759
Current assets/(liabilities)	29,058	63,726	92,784
Long term liabilities	(23,438)	-	(23,438)
	67,379	63,726	131,105

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Donations and legacies	110,744	78,396	189,140	166,757
Shop income	236,774	-	236,774	241,926
Investment	1,412	-	1,412	-
Total income	348,930	78,396	427,326	409,842
Resources expended				
Raising funds				
Fundraising costs	5,707	-	5,707	4,310
Staff wages	207,404	27,018	234,422	128,426
Plant and machinery depreciation	358	-	358	850
Computer equipment depreciation	2,160	-	2,160	1,365
Motor vehicles depreciation	4,304	-	4,304	4,564
	219,933	27,018	246,951	139,515
Charitable activities				
Rates and water	2,821	-	2,821	4,047
Light and heat	11,040	-	11,040	5,632
Telephone	3,165	-	3,165	2,796
Postage and stationery	621	-	621	733
Advertising and marketing	344	-	344	557
Sundries	1,322	-	1,322	1,324
Subscriptions	148	-	148	977
Travel	1,869	-	1,869	1,495
Motor expenses	5,038	-	5,038	7,181
Entertainment	1,981	-	1,981	804
IT software and consumables	3,576	-	3,576	2,598
Rent	49,693	-	49,693	28,048
Direct expenses for children	56,637	60,350	116,987	121,574
	138,255	60,350	198,605	177,766

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Support costs				
Insurance	7,376	-	7,376	(1,513)
Bank charges	3,413	-	3,413	6,469
Loan interest	738	-	738	982
Repairs and renewals	1,974	-	1,974	1,703
Accountancy and legal fees	1,690	-	1,690	4,500
Consultancy	13,439	-	13,439	13,458
	28,630	-	28,630	25,599
Total resources expended	386,818	87,368	474,186	342,880
Gross transfers between funds	3,812	(3,812)	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(41,700)	(5,160)	(46,860)	66,962

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1150538

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1150538

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

tc accounts · tax · legal · financial planning

10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1EF

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

CONTENTS

	Page
Company information	1
Trustees' report	2 - 26
Statement of trustees' responsibilities	27
Independent examiner's report	28 - 29
Statement of financial activities	30
Balance sheet	31
Notes to the financial statements	32 - 41

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr. A Deutsch Mr. J Pantlington-Skeet Ms. A Collins Mr. D McEvoy Ms. C Palmer Ms. A Jackson
Charity number	1150538
Principal address	695-697 Christchurch Road Bournemouth Dorset BH7 6AF
Independent examiner	TC Group 10 Bridge Street Christchurch Dorset BH23 1EF

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees present this report with the financial statement for the year ending 31st March 2023.

The Trustees have adopted the provision of accounting and reporting by the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts,
with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 01/01/2015.

The Trustees believe that the information included in this report demonstrates how the activities of The Dorset Children's Foundation has created public benefit.

The Dorset Children's Foundation
Charity Reg: 1150538 in England and Wales
Principal & Registered address: 695-697 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth BH7 6AF

Trustees
A Collins
A Deutsch
J Pantling-Skeet
A Jackson
D McEvoy
C Palmer

There trustees delegate the day-to-day management to:
CEO and Co-Founder - Patricia Hallmey (Governor of Montecute Special School member of Dorset IAG committee, trustee for Enable My Trip and panel member of AFCB Disability and inclusion team).
CFO and Co-Founder - Scott Akam

Accountants:
TC Group
10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
BH23 1EF

Bank:
Barclays PLC
100 High Street
Poole
BH15 1BL

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Our Trustees are all volunteers, deemed fit and proper persons for this role and they receive no financial remuneration.

Type of governing document:

The Dorset Children's Foundation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered with the Charity Commission on 21st January 2013 and is governed by a constitution which was amended on 19th June 2021.

Summary of the objectives of the charity:

THE RELIEF OF SICKNESS AND THE PRESERVATION OF HEALTH AMONG CHILDREN WITH LONG TERM ILLNESSES AND/OR DISABILITIES BY PROVIDING OR ASSISTING IN THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION NOT NORMALLY PROVIDED BY THE STATUTORY AUTHORITIES AND SUCH OTHER SUPPORT AS THE TRUSTEES MAY DETERMINE.

The overall management and control of The Dorset Children's Foundation is the responsibility of The Trustees who meet regularly to discuss operations and potential beneficiaries.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in The Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charities aims and objectives.

Our activities and Public Benefit:

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commissions general guidance on public benefit, when reviewing the Foundations Aims and Objectives and in planning future activities and setting the grant making policies for the year.

The trustees believe that the information provided within the report demonstrates the various ways that the activities of the DCF have created public benefit.

Summary of the Foundation's achievements during the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023.

In the last year our register has grown by over 200 more families, and we now support more than 600 children living in Dorset.

Public Benefit summary:

At DCF we recognize that there are many costs associated with raising a disabled child. We understand that these are not always covered by statutory services, so we help families find other ways to provide the funds needed.

We support disabled children by funding disability equipment, medical expenses, therapies, and offer accessible for all, which encompasses our outreach services and our wide range of sports and activities. We offer counselling and fund a range of support groups and clubs and run weekly stay and play pre-school sessions. We offer disability education workshops and campaigns for disability rights.

Outreach Services

This year we have two new outreach services, our befriending service, and parent liaison service which is available to all families who register with us. This outreach service provides support and encouragement to families who may need more 1 to 1 support and a personal approach, rather than attending our group activities. And our parent liaison service is working closely with families who need support to access public services and complete assessments, attend school visits, complete EHCP's and grant applications.

We are a parent-led charity and over the past year have recognized the need for more support for our parents/ carers. We have met this need by increasing our program of activities that bring parents together. We now provide weekly Yoga, Sewing, Paddle boarding, coffee, and craft activities throughout the year.

Sibling Support:

We've also recognized the need to support the siblings of disabled children registered with us, many of whom are young carers themselves. We've done this by providing several creative writing sessions at Bournemouth University and are hoping to expand on this work and work with other service providers.

Disability Education:

We've continued to fund projects that take disability education into mainstream schools so that all local children grow up with a better understanding of disabilities. This year we have supported 'Awesome Archie', an initiative set up by local Mum Rebecca Clapcott, whose son Archie is autistic. Rebecca has been delivering assemblies and workshops to many local schools to talk about living with Autism.

Equipment

We fund disability equipment that is not provided by Statutory Services, such as off-road wheelchairs, lightweight wheelchairs, rain covers, sleep systems, epilepsy sleep monitors, trikes, hydrotherapy pools, physiotherapy aids, podiatry aids etc. under the guidance of local health care professionals, for use in and out of the home.

Examples of when we may need to provide suitable wheelchairs:

- To children with autism or other neuro-diverse conditions where the child has no concept of danger.
- When a child is mobile but tires easily.
- When a child is mobile but has seizures and needs to rest, often reclined while recovering.
- Statutory Services will not provide wheelchairs in these cases.

Power Packs:

Wheelchair power packs can change lives. They are a small, motorised attachment that can be placed on a manual wheelchair which helps with the movement of it. This is especially helpful for carers of disabled individuals who are adult sized as the motion to physically push a manual wheelchair can be straining on the 'carers' body and back resulting in injury. Sadly, this is extremely common in the carer's community and therefore these simple power packs can change lives completely. Wheelchair power packs can also help the 'carer' to push the wheelchair further & help tackle hills & difficult terrain, making the great outdoors more accessible.

This year DCF have bought 12 of these at a cost of £13,500 and these have now been provided to PMLD children who regularly attend our Saturday club.





Power pack in use by Sadie

"As a family we are all so grateful to The DCF for funding the Power Pack. It's truly made an amazing difference straight away to our everyday lives. Previously I was exhausted each day from having to put so much effort into pushing the wheelchair as Sadie is heavy now. My back ached and I started to feel like going out was sometimes just too much effort. The Power Pack has changed all that. We are powering up hills and over rough terrain with little effort. This simple but ingenious device has made our lives so much better." **Kathy Bartlett**

Beach Wheelchair

Our charity partners The Marsham Court Hotel have carried out extensive work this year to improve their facilities for disabled guests. They've installed a changing facility and sensory room and upgraded several hotel rooms with new profile beds and ceiling track hoists. As the hotel is located within walking distance of Bournemouth Beach, we purchased a special beach wheelchair for the hotel that can be used both by the hotel guests, and any of our children who would like to borrow it for the day. This is a great arrangement for us as many of our children benefit from this equipment but it is very large and hard to store so having it available so close to the beach is great for all.

Medical Expenses:

Provided for procedures not covered by the NHS or if the waiting list is so long as to be detrimental to the child's wellbeing.

Therapies:

We fund therapies for children who are referred to us from health care professionals including speech and language, occupational therapy, music therapy, physiotherapy, hydrotherapy etc.

Due to the length of waiting lists since Covid 19 there is a much-extended wait for appointments before treatment even starts. Studies have conclusively demonstrated that the earlier therapies are implemented the better the long-term outcome for the child.

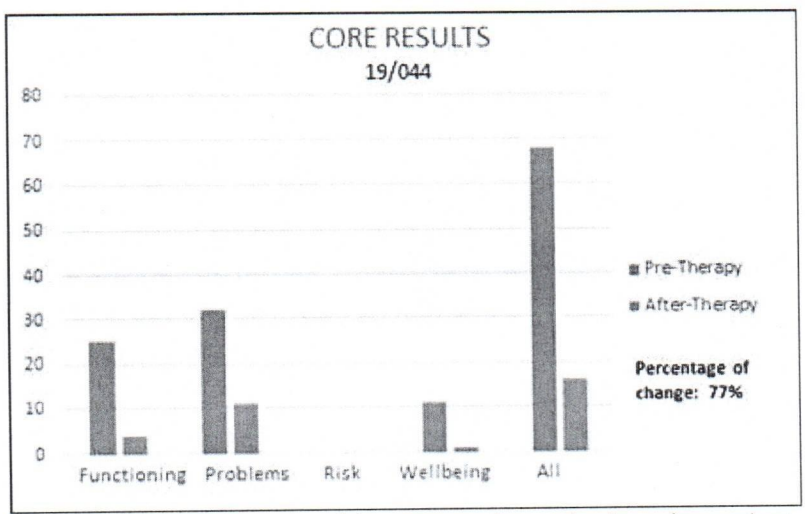
Counselling:
We have previously identified that parent/carers need mental health support, especially post pandemic. And our counselling services have expanded this year.

Families can self-refer through our newsletter, welcome pack, and website. The service offers confidential discussions, support and the appropriate level of coping strategies and long-term support where needed. Each session is tailored to the individual's needs, are low-cost and can be held via phone, zoom and face to face.

We work with local Colleges to provide placement for trainee counsellors and have established links with a local specialist provision (Linwood School who kindly provide rooms for us), currently having a team of three.

We have recently supported families whose child has sadly passed away and now offer bereavement counselling as part of this service.

Our service has also been expanded to include sessions for children over the age of 8 years.



Core results taken from one of the parents who received regular sessions.

Play and Sporting Opportunities:

Accessible for All:

We recognise that children with disabilities miss out on those valuable experiences that should be available to all children of all abilities and sadly there is still a lack of provision for them in the wider community. Although some other service providers are now operating again after covid, the provision for those with complex needs and physical disabilities who need access to changing facilities is still non-existent. We fill this gap by providing activities that everyone from the neurodiverse to the most medically complex child can attend and this year we bought a gazebo and portable changing bench that we can have available at our events where none are provided.

Wherever possible our events and activities are open to both disabled children and their siblings as we understand that other local providers only cater for the child with disabilities. We know how hard it can be for families to find activities to do together so by providing things like private skate park hire, days out in the park (with mobile changing unit) we are filling this gap. It's so important that families can share fun activities and create lasting memories.

We provide regular events such as soft play sessions, pantomimes, drama, crafts days, themed parties, exclusive use of skate parks, water sports, dance etc. with all abilities catered for.

We even have our own award-winning FA registered football club, where we offer inclusivity for the children and encourage parents to get involved wherever possible, so parents and siblings have a chance to join in, as with all our activities.

Children and families can make friends and the isolation felt by so many in our community is massively reduced.



"For us, it means that my daughter who is a wheelchair user gets to experience places that would otherwise be inaccessible, like Giggles soft play and Prevail skate park, we would never visit these places if it wasn't for DCF"
Tilly Green

"We can do activities without being judged and takes a load of stress away because everyone at the events understands!!" **Tan Bunst**

Give Kids the World: GKTW.org
We are delighted to be only one of 9 UK charities to be accepted as a wish granter for GKTW which is a holiday village in Florida for life limiting children, passing their strict criteria. And, as restrictions were lifted this year we were thrilled to be able to send 3 families who were all able to visit the world-famous attractions and theme parks in Florida, Walt Disney World, Epcot Centre, Sea World etc.

A trip to Give Kids the World Village gives families time together, inspiring a renewed sense of hope and happiness that lasts long after they return home. In a very real sense, this offers the gift of time - time away from the burdens of everyday life and time to rediscover the joy of simply being together, providing lasting memories for the family.

Further Details of some of the support The DCF provides:

Support Groups in the community

Early Years Stay and Play Groups:
We currently fund two separate stay and play groups for pre-school children, Little Stars and Something Special. These groups are in their second year of operation, and we have been overwhelmed by the demand. Both groups have expanded to meet the growing need and have each increased their sessions from 1 to 2 a week with **20+ children regularly attending**.

These sessions encourage children to explore, communicate and create, while parents come together and meet other families going through similar experiences, helping them feel less isolated. Through these groups, with the introduction of our Parent Liaison and Befriending service we can offer new parents' advice on entitlements, education, and general assistance in filling in forms, attending appointments and offering a listening ear. Professionals are also invited to give informative talks and workshops, and these have been very well received.

PMLD Saturday club:
There is no other provision in Dorset specifically for PMLD (Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities) children and young adults to attend. Our Saturday club provides inclusive activities, tailored to meet the sensory and physical needs of those that attend and meets every fortnight at Montaqcute Specialist school that has all the appropriate changing facilities and is fully accessible.
The club is regularly attended by local Councilors and others that work in the sector.
The club has a regular attendance of approx. **25 children and their carers**.

SENturions:
Online membership has increased to over 700 members. Membership is open to parents, carers, and professionals in the local SEND community. Members can seek advice and support both online and at their coffee mornings and play sessions with **20-30 regularly attending**. SENturians is run entirely by volunteers who are themselves parents of neurodiverse children.

Doors open:
Online membership has increased by 180 with 681 current members. This group is aimed at families of SEN children diagnosed or not. They host weekly meetings and run holiday activities. The intention of this group is to build a community of parents supporting parents to provide a local support base to share experiences and strategies and to help identify external sources of help and support. The group highlights the importance of a positive relationship with schools and pre-school inclusion teams encouraging parent/carers to continue to strive for positive connection and help the children required.
Their weekly coffee mornings **regularly attract 20+ families**.
Doors Open is also run entirely by volunteers.

Parent support and activities:

Sewing group:
Many of our children need to wear adapted clothing, either to give access to feeding tubes or because stiff limbs make dressing difficult. These clothes aren't available on the high street, and specialist providers charge a lot for very little. The parents who attend our weekly sewing club have been taught how to adapt clothing themselves and can offer the service of adapting garments for our families free of charge. They have also made sensory items, wheelchair cozies and other useful items.

This is a wonderful group, not only teaching new skills but providing advice and information in a supportive setting for the **10-15 parents who regularly attend**.

DCF Paddlers:
In the warmer months, **10-15 parents** meet up to go paddle boarding, chat and support each other and make new friends, while experiencing the benefits of nature, improving mental health and physical wellbeing. We have built a relationship with a local company who hire out boards to our families for these sessions at a reduced rate.

Yoga:
Our yoga group has gone from strength to strength this year literally, as our Yoga instructor (who is also one of our Mums) is now able to specialise in pelvic health exercises since completing a course we funded. This is important for parents and carers who are lifting and carrying children over a long period of time. The group meets weekly with **15+ people attending** who all really benefit from taking time out to focus on themselves.

Coffee and craft mornings:
All our parents/carers are invited to join us at various venues for cake, coffee and crafts like wreath making and sensory toy making. These are very popular with **up to 30 people attending monthly**. These great mornings support mental health as parents can share experiences, whilst doing something positive.



Month by Month Achievements Performance and Activities

April 2022

Accessible for All
Gemma Cardona was officially taken on as Accessible for All activity coordinator, her first task was to organise activities for the Easter holidays. The two-week break was jam packed with activities available every day. We tried out two new activities for us, inclusive cycling with Pedall New Forest and accessible tennis with Southbourne Tennis Club.

Gemma took a short course in Sensory Story Massage and was able to deliver the first of these sessions.

We were supported at each of our events by The Marsham Court Hotel who gave out gifts and easter eggs to all the people who attended, and they also entertained the children as the Easter Bunny.

Asda did an Easter egg collection for us too.

Rhian took part in adaptive surf training and is now able to assist with adaptive surf therapy sessions which we hope some of our children will be able to access through other local organisations.

Retail:
Work to clear our warehouse took a lot of time as we had to sort through several rooms of stock and equipment. Lots of volunteers and staff put in extra hours to help get this done. We were able to distribute most of our stock amongst our three stores and any clean and appropriate items were donated to other local service providers.

All three shops performed well in April with our new manager Dany in our Southbourne store doubling profits within the first 3 weeks.

Therapies:
We continue to work with Total Children's Therapy Service who have developed a triage session to see what therapy is best suited and when. It has enabled us to have a better understanding of the families we are sending over along with if the help they are requesting is appropriate for the perceived timeframe.

May 2022

Early Years
With the success of our Little Stars Under 5's group, it was agreed that Nicola, who runs the session, would be formally employed on a part-time basis.

Accessible for All
The Accessible for All events were improved with the purchase of a gazebo, hoist and changing platform for those that need it. Permission was granted from the local parks department, so we can now set this up at some of our outdoor events.

National Campaign
With the cost-of-living crisis affecting most of our families, our trustee Dan Mcevoy was interviewed on national TV, and featured in many national newspapers highlighting the struggle for families paying extortionate energy bills that come with having to run essential equipment at home. Letters were also delivered to The Prime Minister.

Give Kids The World

In May we were delighted to be able to send Pola and her family to Florida with Give Kids the World.
Pola is profoundly disabled through meningitis but despite everything this trip bought joy to both her and her loving family.



June 2022

Accessible for All

Half term activities were held at various venues across Dorset and included a Jubilee Themed Craft Day and a day at Slades Park.
Our Saturday club also held a Jubilee Craft Day and made painted bunting that was then displayed in all three of our shops.



Residential Weekend

As part of our Accessible for All program we organised a very special residential stay to Avon Tyrrell, a local outdoor activity centre. Ten families with young people with complex physical and medical needs tried canoeing, high ropes, and the zip wire! We rented a lodge that had space for 7 wheelchair users with their carers to stay (3 more families joined us during the day).

As we wanted this to be a chance for family groups to come together and make lasting memories, we also had our own camping field adjacent to the lodge where the Dads and siblings set up camp. It was so lovely to see the siblings, who are young carers themselves, having fun together, knowing that their brothers and sisters all have similar conditions, they all relaxed and felt completely at ease with each other and formed lasting friendships.



Happy First birthday to The Treehouse

Our dedicated children's shop celebrated its first year of trading. The Treehouse has grown from strength to strength since its opening in June last year and it's helped us really engaged with our local community and parents who use the place to both shop and to meet other parents at our regular story reading and play sessions held there.

Many of the staff and volunteers are the parent/carers of the children we support and are always on hand to befriend and advise parents who come into the shop.

We are delighted to say that The Treehouse has raised over £50,000 (well beyond our expectations) and every single penny of this has been spent directly on the children we support.



Incredible Fundraising
First Position School of Dance raised an incredible £10,000 through donating 100% of their ticket sales for their annual show to us.

July 2022

Equipment
We presented the beach wheelchair to our friends at the Marsham Court Hotel and in conjunction with the Steve Bernard Foundation we purchased a custom made, fully adapted surfboard for Wild and Free adapted surfing, at a cost of £2,500 each.

Fundraising
This month there were several successful events including an evening with top D'J's at local venue, Chaplin's, and a golf tournament and charity auction held at Meyrick Park Golf Club. The gold day was attended by valued volunteers Jenny & Malcolm Jeffries of Bournemouth Rotary Club who asked if they would become Patrons of the Foundation and happily, they agreed.

Our former Chair of Trustees Conor Mullen raised an outstanding £6,000 for us as he got together a team of his employees who trekked miles over the Purbecks wearing our Dorsey Bear outfit while also pushing a fully laden wheelchair.

Bourne Free Pride Events
Once again, we were asked to be charity partners for Bourne Free pride festival and were able to attend the two day festival with two sensory tents so that those with disabilities had a quiet space in the shade to retreat to. We also provided free sensory gift bags and ran a fundraising tombola. We worked closely with Bourne Free's trustees and because of our discussions they provided a Mobiloo changing facility for those in our community who cannot use typical toilets.

Accessible for All
On top of organising our regular monthly soft play and skate sessions Gemma worked hard behind the scenes putting together an extensive program for the summer holidays which includes two separate wet wheels events. Programs and booking forms were sent out to all our families.

August 2022

Accessible for All
We had an incredible august with our accessible for all program and were able to provide 12 days of activities, accommodating over 400 children and their parents/carers across the summer. Highlights were our Pirate boat trips where two fully accessible boats sailed side by side around Poole harbour while the children dressed as pirates and battled with water pistols across the water and our inclusive cycling sessions in the New Forest.



Fundraising

We had our largest fundraising event of the year The Dorset Plane Pull and were supported by 3 teams of pullers this year who raised a massive £9,776 which will be used to put on even more accessible for all activities over the year.

One of our ambassadors, boxer Chris Billam- Smith won against a home crowd & donated the sales of all prefight merchandise to us.

Equipment

The last of our 10 We-Go push chairs was delivered to a very happy family.

The beach wheelchair we'd purchased was loaned out to The Marsham Court Hotel with the agreement that our families can access it if they would like to, and 2 Delichon Delta off road wheelchairs were given to two young boys so they could both enjoy the great outdoors.

September 2022

New support for our families

We launched our two new roles and introduced Rhian Wooten as Parent Liaison and Line Grieve as Befriending Coordinator to our early year's groups. Both Rhian and Line have experience as parent carers to their own disabled children and their combined knowledge and professionalism we're sure will make them real assets and great additions to the DCF team.

Counselling Service

September saw a change in our counselling service as Rebecca Leddington took over as the head of our counselling service. Rebecca is well known to the DCF and has volunteered at our little stars group since it started. She has years of experience running her own counselling practice for both adults and children and her personal and professional experience makes her the perfect choice to replace Hayley who has moved on but will be sadly missed.

Fundraising

We were blown away with our child ambassador, Adam Sevenoaks who at just 15 years old and living with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (a severe degenerative muscle wasting disease) decided to challenge himself to complete 1000 taekwondo punches using his new 'Neater' arm supports (part funded by DCF). Adam is an incredible inspiration as he participates in so many sports and has achieved his black belt in taekwondo. Money raised from his outstanding effort was divided between us and the club he attends so they can improve their wheelchair access.



Reggie's Big Adventure (Reggie is Dorsey Bear's little cousin)
Our amazing friends at Grosvenor Carpets spent 2 years planning and training for an incredible physical challenge that saw them cycle over 1000 miles from Bournemouth to Nice, France. Their trip is entirely self-funded so 100% of the £18,081 raised will be spent on the children and young people we support.

October 2022

Happy 1st Birthday Saturday Club
This unique club for children and young people who have profound and multiple learning difficulties has now been operating for one year!
A party was held for all the children attending.

Accessible for All Cinema
We have launched a new offering under our Accessible For All initiative, our very own state of the art cinema, kindly donated by Together For Cinema and Living Home Tech and their partners. This amazing new facility is located in our children's charity shop, The Treehouse. We are now able to host relaxed movie viewings for our children who struggle with the sensory overload that attending a public cinema can cause. This new equipment will be put to good use as we can offer it out to our many community groups for various fun and educational events.

It was half term in October and we were able to provide several activities including 2 Halloween themed parties with over 40 children attending these at Poole and Southbourne venues. These parties were carefully planned to accommodate the sensory needs of our children and included craft activities, games and a magic show with quiet zones available for those who needed it.

Fundraising
A wonderful 15yr old girl, Kitty (who we support) wanted to give something back and decided to have her lovely long hair cut. This was very brave of her but benefited two charities as her hair was sent to The Little Princess Trust and she received £1100 in sponsorship for us.

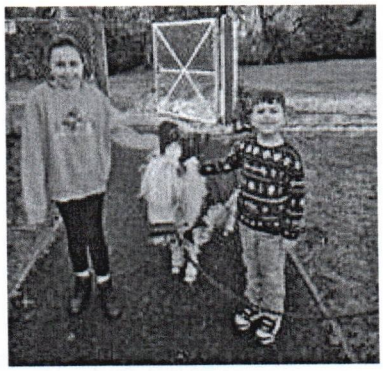
We were able to hold a winter ball for the first time since covid which our trustee Carlie Palmer organised with support from our charity partner The Marsham Court Hotel. The event was a resounding success and raised £6000.

December 2022

December was a very difficult month for some of our families as heartbreakingly 2 children passed away, as did one of our parents. We supported all the families affected with offers of financial assistance and practical help like food shopping and cleaning etc. We attended all funerals and will continue to help these families throughout the coming year by offering counselling and access to our family activities.

Accessible for All

Despite the sadness we all felt, we continued with our events. After the success of last year's Christmas events, we tripled our efforts and hosted 3 Christmas parties back-to-back, in one day, at one venue. By doing this we were able to accommodate over 120 children and their parents. We were able to give every child a gift from Santa and provided a sensory room, mobile changing room with hoist and fully inclusive crafts and games that the whole family could get involved with.



All our subgroups (Sat Club, Early years etc.) also held Christmas parties so in total we funded 7 Christmas events.

Parent/Carers activities

A local hotel offered us the use of a function room for free so our trustee Avril Jackson hosted a wreath making workshop for our parent/carers which was attended by over 30 people and a wonderful day was had by all.

Fundraising

The annual Hampshire and Dorset Christmas luncheon chose us as one of their charities this year, donating half of the proceeds from the day. Gemma Cardona attended and gave a short presentation, and we were delighted to receive a massive £20.387.50 from the day which included £5000 in donations specifically to cover the costs of us repeating our outdoor adventure residential weekend for another 10 children in 2023.

Outreach Support

One of the children we support was sadly moved to a local hospice for end-of-life care at the start of the month. A few of our staff members and trustees visited regularly and were able to offer practical support with things like Christmas shopping. We provided some light relief for the family and took our snow machine to them so they could enjoy a 'snow day' as we knew they wouldn't be able to attend any of our planned Christmas parties.

January 2023

January was another difficult month as another of the children we support, sadly passed. We attended three funerals and memorial services and offered practical support to the families that had been so sadly affected by all four recent deaths.

Accessible for All
We hosted an accessible, relaxed pantomime by the incredible Treehouse Theatre who specialise in theatre shows for those with disabilities that include sensory elements and sign language. 60 people attended this special production of The Jack in the Beanstalk.

Retail
We expanded our team in our treehouse store and took on someone who could commit to working on Saturdays and Sundays. This has proven very successful and our takings in the store have risen significantly.

February 2023

10 Years Old!
The DCF is officially 10yrs old and to celebrate the founders paid for a special party for staff, supporters, and volunteers.

Accessible for All
It was half term in February and valentine's day, so we organised a Valentines themed party. Over 40 children were able to attend and we made cards, played games and danced. For those that struggle at parties, we set up a quiet room with sensory toys and equipment so everyone could enjoy themselves.

We also worked with local company 'Get up and Bounce' who set up 7 bouncy castles in a school sports hall and gave us exclusive access. The session was a first for us and was very well received by the 43 children that attended.

Invitations were sent out for our summer Avon Tyrell residential weekend and places were booked up within 24hrs.

March 2023

March has been a month of reconnecting with our charity partners and making plans for the new financial year. We've held lots of meetings with our supporters and now have dates in the diary for a family fun day in the summer, another winter ball and a fundraising comedy night in November.

Fundraising
We were very happy to meet a young 7-year-old girl who came into our Treehouse store with her mother recently. She had been moved by the photos around the shop of the children we support and wanted to help. They presented us with a cheque for £500.

Policies and Procedures
We've spent time this month reviewing our current policies and procedures, making sure they are all still relevant and up to date, adding new safety procedures for our outreach teams that make house visits.

Retail Outlets

Boscombe
Our main shop celebrated its 10th year of trading this year. Situated in a largely impoverished area of Bournemouth, we are very proud to service the community by providing low-cost clothing, bedding, and household goods.

Southbourne
With the introduction of a dynamic new manager the profits from this shop have doubled.

The Treehouse
Our shop for little people in the centre of the precinct sells a range of affordable children's clothing, equipment, toys and books.

The shop first opened in June 2021 and has been a resounding success with amazing sales figures and footfall. Local families use the store to meet up and we hold regular story telling sessions in both English and Polish languages which are well attended and bring the community together.

The unique store was designed to be multipurpose; our vision was to be able to use the space not just to generate income, but to also bring families together by hosting activities such as story time, music and drama sessions. We received a generous donation of a state-of-the-art home cinema system, from Together For Cinema and can now hold private, relaxed movie screenings for our members.

The majority of staff and volunteers at The Treehouse are the parent/carers of the children we support and are always on hand to befriend and advise parents who come into the shop.

The shop was originally gifted to us rent free, but when we were told recently that a paying tenant had expressed an interest in the unit, the Trustees made the decision that from March 1st 2023, we would take over a 5 year lease and pay to stay.

Disability In the Workplace
We are members of The Disability Committed Employers initiative so by having people with a disability volunteering in our shops this demonstrates to the wider community the abilities of the people the charity supports, promoting our vision for inclusion for everyone.

Mental Health Initiative
The mental health of our parent/carers, staff and volunteers is very important to us and we are delighted to become members of The Mental Health Charter, which means we are a mental health committed employer. We host regular wellness sessions; social activities and all staff and volunteers have access to our counselling services.

Ask for Clive
We are members of the Ask for Clive initiative. Ask for Clive is charity that focuses on inclusivity for the LGBTQ+ community. It asks inclusive establishments to put a sticker with the charity name on their door to signal that the LGBTQ community is welcome there. The charity also provides a brief for staff and volunteers on how to deal with discrimination LGBTQ+ patrons may experience.

Safe Space Scheme
For the last few years, we have signed up to become a Safe Space for people with learning disabilities. Our staff and volunteers are given training on what to do when supporting someone who feels vulnerable. Their logo is prominently displayed in our shops so people know they can ask for help in a safe and secure environment.

The role of our trustees:
As deemed appropriate, new trustees will be appointed by the existing trustees. The induction process will follow the ICSA good practice guide and include meeting with existing trustees. They receive a copy of our accounts, a copy of our governing document and a copy of the Charity Commissions guidance 'The essential trustee, what you need to know, what you need to do' (CC3).

Ongoing good trustee training is also offered through Community Action Network.
Our appointed board of trustees create a welcoming and supportive culture and apply ethical principal to all decisions made. They support inclusion, equality, and diversity.

Their approach supports good governance and delivery of the charity's purpose. Our trustees play an integral and active role within the DCF as they all regularly run or attend our events and activities and thus have direct and frequent access to our families and can see first-hand the needs and wishes of the children we serve.

Policies are renewed on an annual basis and are standard items on our board of trustees meetings. We place emphasis on safeguarding, disability awareness training, data protection and robust financial controls.

Our appointed board of trustees are:

Alex Deutsch (senior Network Manager)
Alex is a long-standing supporter of the charity who also runs our award-winning FA affiliated DCF football club.

Amy Collins (Volunteering Development Head, Community Action Network)
Amy volunteers at many of our Accessible for All events and is a regular helper at our Saturday club.

James Pantling-Skeet (Chartered Legal Executive and Community Care Expert)
James has hosted free workshops, run marathons and is on hand to help with issues such as housing, education, benefits, and entitlement.

Dan McEvoy
Dan is a parent of a child with complex disabilities. He oversees our IT and technical infrastructure and ensures our compliance with relevant regulations. He also represents the DCF on the Disabled Children Partnership steering, communication, and campaign forums. Dan has also campaigned tirelessly on the effect of the cost of living on families with disabled children and has represented these families on GMTV, Panorama, Radio 4 and 5 and in The Guardian and other publications.

Avril Jackson
Avril is our most recently appointed trustee. She was for many years a teacher of children with additional needs and is a long-standing governor of Montacute School (Special needs provision school) for 30 years. Avril has fostered children with complex needs and set up our Saturday club.

Carlie Palmer
Carlie runs an award winning wedding entertainment business with her husband Mark and having been in the business community a long time has a wealth of contacts.
Carlie has headed up our Christmas campaign for several years and this year arranged a Christmas ball to fundraise for this. She is also happy to represent us at a variety of functions and happily pitches in to support where she can attending events and supporting fundraisers to support the charity (she is always happy to make the tea too).

Because of our trustees' very welcome hands-on approach, all have an enhanced DBS check.

Communication:

Social Media:
Our Facebook pages are one of our main tools to provide up to date information to the 8500 who follow us. It is regularly updated with photographs of our events and activities and our fund-raising campaigns.
We also have 2 private Facebook pages for our parents, Accessible for All and The DCF family group, these pages are used for advertising our activities and services and signposting our families to relevant support.

Newsletter:
We appreciate that not all of our families are on social media and therefore send a monthly newsletter to all our families who have requested them via email.
Quarterly E-news:
We also send a quarterly E-news to a wider audience of local businesses and sponsors that have opted to receive it. We have found this to be an extremely cost-effective way of reaching a larger target audience.

Charity Partners:

We are pleased to be partnered with the following companies. Each Charity Partner is expected to hold fundraising events during the year, share our news on their social media and generally support us where they can offer volunteers, attend our events and receive a presentation to staff about the DCF to help raise awareness. We are enormously grateful to our amazing community of local companies who support us.

- Bournemouth Collegiate school
- Grosvenor carpets
- Seafield Mortgages
- JLD Events
- First Position School of Dance
- Mad 4 Animals
- Think ATM and Airports Consultancy
- Glenigan
- April 6
- Kiss in Light
- LuvWed
- The Shirt Framing service
- Hoburne Holiday Parks
- The Marsham Court. Hotel
- The Marriot Hotel Bournemouth
- Reed Employment: Recruitment Agency
- TWK: Scaffolding Company
- Coastal Comedy: Comedy Club
- Urban Guild: Local restaurant chain
- Holt Recruitment: Recruitment company.

We have continued our close relationship with CMP Print who provided us with free leaflets, flyers headed paper, business cards and other promotional materials, saving us at least £2000 per year.

The role and contribution of our volunteers:
The Foundation is committed to ensuring fairness and recognises the need for diversity and inclusion within our recruitment and management of volunteers.
We currently have 56 volunteers ranging from age 14 (Completing Duke of Edinburgh award scheme) to age 87.
All health and safety procedures are followed, and induction and ongoing training is given.
Many of our volunteers are also parent/carers of the children we support. We embrace volunteers of all abilities and currently have 2 volunteers who have multiple learning difficulties and are wheelchair users.
Volunteers are recruited from the following sectors:

- Community Action Network
- Local mental health teams
- Local schools
- Job Centre Plus
- Probation Service
- Local language schools
- Others contact us through the shops and website.

All appropriate paperwork is completed when taking on any new volunteers who all have to complete CRB checks.

We have many long-standing volunteers, and we call ourselves The Dorset Children's Foundation Family

Risk management:

Retail activities:
All procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety and safeguarding regulations and best practice concerning staff, volunteers, clients and customers.

Both staff and volunteer handbooks have been reviewed and updated. All policies are regularly and robustly reviewed by the trustees, founders, and external agencies such as Community Action Network.

Ongoing training is actively supported, and our safeguarding policy has been updated.

All managers and volunteers have successfully completed an online safeguarding course.
We follow best practice in recruitment, support and training, including carrying out appropriate DBS/Enhanced DBS checks.
Volunteer handbooks have been updated and expanded.

Financial\Fundraising
We have a variety of fundraising streams.

1) Profits from our 3 charity shops
2) Online sales
3) Grants from trusts and other charities
4) Corporate donations
5) Public donations
6) Fundraising events
7) Fundraising platforms (i.e., PayPal, JustGiving and Facebook)
8) Charity partners
9) Legacies
10) Collections

We have a robust financial control policy, financial control procedure policy, a reserves policy and a risk management policy that covers all aspects of our operations.

We do not use any paid fundraising specialist companies. We only publicise our fundraising campaigns in the public domain, we never contact previous donors without their express permission, and we evaluate and monitor this process regularly.

Any family, individual or company who fundraise on our behalf are assessed and sent an information leaflet 'Fundraising Safely' given a letter of authority with the permission of the Foundation with details and contacts and their relationship with the Foundation for clarification. We provide key information from the Institute of Fundraising. Our Foundation monitors fundraising activities through the records of the fundraising platforms monthly reports.

Details of each event or fundraising campaign are required from the Foundation before commencing and are required to adhere to ours and the Fundraising Standards code of practice.

Social media fundraisers are regularly monitored. Facebook funds come directly to the charities bank.

Collection pots are numbered, sealed, and signed in and out, with confirmation of where they will be placed or used. When returned are counted with two members of staff present.

Fundraising platforms.
All funds from fundraising platforms such as JustGiving are paid directly to our bank.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Foundation at any time to enable the trustees to plan and to prepare financial statements for each financial year. A budgeting review is carried out monthly. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding assets and funds of the Foundation by taking robust steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

Sources of Income
We do not receive any Government or local council funding. Monies are generated through a variety of funding streams.

Grants
This financial year we were grateful to receive grants from the following:
Disability sport £5000
The Toy Trust £2500
Will Does £5840 (for little stars)
The Grand Charity £ 2500
Douglas Arter £ 500

Total £16,340

Sponsorship
We have received both corporate and private sponsorship for our Christmas parties, Avon Tyrell residential weekend, immersive theatre performances and a percentage for the cost of our Wet Wheels events.

Donations
We receive donations from both the public and corporate sector with the latter holding fundraising events on our behalf.

Goods In Kind
This year, we gave out goods in kind, included mobility and therapy equipment, arts and craft materials, household items and children's clothing. These items were distributed through our stay and play groups, Saturday club, direct to registered families and through the local community via women's refuge and children's centres.

Wills and Legacies
We have produced a leaflet encouraging people to support us by leaving us something in their will. This has been done in conjunction with The Good Will Partnership and we are currently arranging meetings with local solicitors to highlight our work and to encourage bequests.

Main Fundraising Events
We are thankful to the wonderful support of our local community. These were the highlights of our year.

The Dorset Plane Pull.
We had 3 teams of 20 people pulling a jumbo jet.
We raised £9766.

First Position School of Dance
For the 3rd year they donated a total of £10,000, the entire proceeds of their annual showcase.

Reggie's Big Adventure
Charity Partner Grosvenor Carpets organised a self-funded 1000 mile cycle across France (with a small bear named Reggie). We received £18,081 from this sponsored event,

Hampshire and Dorset Charity Christmas Luncheon
We were one of two local charities that benefited from this ticketed lunch and charity auction. We received half of the proceeds which totalled £20.387.50 plus an additional £5000 which was donated on the day specifically to cover the cost of our planned residential trip in June 2023.

Reserves policy:
Support to beneficiaries is only given when the funds have been raised and so the Foundation doesn't have any ongoing commitments in this regard.

The trustees have identified the need for four months costs to be held in reserve to fulfil its contractual obligations to landlords and staff redundancy if we had to close.
Calculated to be £31,209 with length of service accounted for.

The trustees also determined that four months costs should be held in reserve to cover parent/carers in cancelling or funding activities booked, costs for stay and play groups and costs associated with all the support and parent groups.
Calculated to be £20,478. The

At the end of the year the foundation had free reserves of £67,379 which is £15,692 above the level of reserves required.

Sustainability

Sustainability is about meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. UN Sustainability Development Goals.
In February 2023 we partnered with BPC Councils Carbon Reduction Program to measure and reduce our carbon footprint and to work towards net zero.
We also support the Circular Economic System whereby resources are used, reused and recycled minimising CO2 emissions.

We do not have the expense and overheads of a head office
preferring to work from the shops
Charity shops saved 339,000 tonnes of textiles from landfill in 2018/19.

Our charity shops supports the public benefit of keeping used goods in circulation and expanding the life cycle of products. We resell donated items that would otherwise end up in land fill. We also provide low-cost alternatives to buying new which makes sustainable consumption more accessible to people with a limited income.

We reduce, reuse, recycle and reconnect wherever possible by;
Using an ethical, licensed waste company who recycle textiles and household items. Appropriate clothing from this is sent to the developing world.
Excess books and toys are donated to local schools and Children's Centres.
Regular appropriate donations are made to homeless charities.
In 2022 we changed to environmentally friendly cleaning products.
Our office furniture is pre used as are 70% of our shop fittings.
The Boscombe and Southbourne shops have had energy saving LED lighting fitted by our founder.
The Treehouse shop will follow suit in April 2023
75% of our office supplies are taken from shop donations as are 90% of our branded clothing for events.

Future Action Points:

As part of our continual evaluation process the trustees have identified key action points for 2023/2024:

- To continue to raise funds for medical expenses, mobility equipment and therapies to improve the quality of life of the children and families we support.
- Continue to grow and develop our parent liaison and befriending services.
- Extend our Accessible for All program to those who can't leave their homes. We will work with local play specialists and arrange home visits for those who due to illness aren't able to come to us.
- Continue to work with siblings by providing activities that build resilience and encourage creativity. We will work with other local service providers who offer training in this area.
- Set up an equipment lending library. A lot of the equipment we purchase comes back to us when children outgrow it. We aim to catalogue all equipment as it's returned, clean and service it and make it available for another child in need.
- To continue funding and expanding the range of inclusive events and activities for families with disabled children as part of our Accessible for All program.
- To continue to expand our counselling services by offering a complete family support service, including bereavement counselling to parents/carers and children.
- To increase our program of activities for parent/carers that improve overall physical and mental health. This will include regular wellness walks and sea swimming.
- To work with our community care solicitor and trustee to empower and educate parents to access and receive local authority service provision.
- To actively source local businesses and great corporate sponsorship packages to cover the cost of fundraising events, therapies, and equipment for Dorset's disabled children.

The Dorset Children Foundation are members of:

The Institute of Fundraising
The National Council for Voluntary Organisations
The Small Charities Coalition
Community Action Network
Charity Retail Organisation
Disability Committed Employers
Mental Health Charter Members

We are fully GDPR compliant, our IOC membership is annually reviewed. No. ZA382325
Personal files are updated with payroll information and all payroll is to be authorised and approved by Co-founder Scott Akam

The website is updated on a regular basis and contains charity information, appeals, event calendar, application process, grant making policy and how the community can help, contacts, news and previous activities and about us in general. www.thedcf.org

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).
There were no complaints against the charity this, or previous years.

We have the following policies and procedures in place.

Child Eligibility and Support Criteria
Safeguarding Children Policy
Compliments and Complaints Procedure
Confidentiality Policy
Home Visit Policy
Menopause Policy
Equality and Diversity Policy
First Aid Policy
Reserves Policy
DCF Data Protection Policy
Grievance Procedure
Privacy Policy
Financial Controls Policy
Social Media Policy
Conflict of Interest Policy

Registered Charity number
1150538

Principal Address
695-697 Christchurch Road
Bournemouth
Dorset BH7 6AF

Independent examiner: Zoe Mowlem at TC Group



Mr. A Deutsch
Trustee
Dated: 31-1-24

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

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 SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable 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 charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Dorset Children's Foundation (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with 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) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or

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

3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

TC Group

TC Group

10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1EF

Dated: 31 January 2024

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	112,296	54,461	166,757	199,104
Other trading activities	3	241,926	-	241,926	163,582
Investments	4	1,159	-	1,159	349
Total income		355,381	54,461	409,842	363,035
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	139,515	-	139,515	156,684
Charitable activities		182,602	108,381	290,983	223,286
Other	9	(3,238)	-	(3,238)	-
Total resources expended		318,879	108,381	427,260	379,970
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		36,502	(53,920)	(17,418)	(16,935)
Gross transfers between funds		(66,837)	66,837	-	-
Net (expenditure)/income for the year/ Net movement in funds		(30,335)	12,917	(17,418)	(16,935)
Fund balances at 1 April 2022		97,714	50,809	148,523	165,458
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		67,379	63,726	131,105	148,523

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**10**		61,759		63,456
Current assets					
Debtors	**11**	3,856		4,459	
Cash at bank and in hand		104,920		126,597	
		108,776		131,056	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**13**	(15,992)		(11,967)	
Net current assets			92,784		119,089
Total assets less current liabilities			154,543		182,545
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	**14**		(23,438)		(34,022)
Net assets			131,105		148,523
Income funds					
Restricted funds	**16**		63,726		50,809
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds		-		-	
General unrestricted funds		67,379		97,714	
			67,379		97,714
			131,105		148,523

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 31-1-24

.....

Mr. A Deutsch
Trustee

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Dorset Children's Foundation is a charitable organisation incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 695-697 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH7 6AF.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.5 Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals bassis. All expenses, including support costs and governance costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings in the statement of financial liabilities.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Plant and equipment	25% straight line
Specialised children's equipment	25% straight line
Computers	33.33% straight line
Motor vehicles	25% reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.8 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

1.9 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

1.10 Donated goods

Stock of donated goods is not provided for as at the year end. This is in line with previous years and impracticable to estimate upon receipt of the donated goods.

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.11 Significant judgements and estimates

The charity's management do not apply any significant judgements, apart from those involving estimates, in applying the accounting policies.

The only estimates made in applying accounting policies are in assessing the useful life of fixed assets. These do not result in a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities.

2 Donations and grants

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2023	**2023**	**2023**	2022
	£	**£**	**£**	£
Donations and gifts	112,296	54,461	166,757	165,065
Government grants receivable	-	-	-	34,039
	112,296	54,461	166,757	199,104
For the year ended 31 March 2022	104,712	94,392		199,104

3 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2023	2022
	£	£
Shop income	241,926	163,582

4 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2023	2022
	£	£
Interest receivable	1,159	349

5 Raising funds, trading costs and support costs

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2023	2022
	£	£
Fundraising and publicity		
Depreciation	2,215	2,974
Motor vehicle depreciation	4,564	2,648
Other fundraising costs	4,310	4,959
Fundraising and publicity	11,089	10,581
Staff and support costs		
Staff costs	128,426	146,103
Raising funds, trading and support costs	139,515	156,684

6 Charitable activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Charitable activities	183,768	223,005
Support costs	33,684	17,932
	290,983	223,286

Included in the above is the Independent Examiners remuneration of £2,000.

7 Trustees

None of the trustee's received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

8 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
	17	12

Employment costs	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	201,956	146,103

No employees received emoluments in excess of £46,000.

Total key management personnel remuneration totalled £92,000 (2022 - £52,533) during the year.

9 Other

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Total 2022 £
Net loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(3,238)	-

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and equipment	Specialised children's equipment	Computers	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 April 2022	9,348	52,740	5,835	21,494	89,417
Additions	333	4,341	4,536	14,101	23,311
Disposals	-	-	-	(4,250)	(4,250)
At 31 March 2023	9,681	57,081	10,371	31,345	108,478
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2022	8,177	3,820	4,289	9,654	25,940
Depreciation charged in the year	850	14,089	1,365	4,564	20,868
Eliminated in respect of disposals	-	-	-	(89)	(89)
At 31 March 2023	9,027	17,909	5,654	14,129	46,719
Carrying amount					
At 31 March 2023	654	39,172	4,717	17,216	61,759
At 31 March 2022	1,171	48,920	1,524	11,841	63,456

11 Debtors

	2023	2022
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Other debtors	3,856	4,459

12 Loans and overdrafts

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank loans	33,349	43,337
Payable within one year	9,911	9,315
Payable after one year	23,438	34,022

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Bank loans	12	9,911	9,315
Other taxation and social security		3,090	-
Other creditors		936	597
Accruals and deferred income		2,055	2,055
		15,992	11,967

14 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Bank loans	12	23,438	34,022

15 Retirement benefit schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

16 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

		Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Accessible for All	-	10,517	(66,155)	55,638	-
Specific children donations	22,379	16,538	(19,721)	9,317	28,513
DCF FC Football	3,014	2,000	(5,014)	-	-
Music Therapy	24,153	-	-	-	24,153
Christchurch Children	763	-	-	-	763
Sat Club	500	-	-	-	500
Avon Tyrell	-	5,000	(4,169)	-	831
Arts & Crafts	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
New DCF Mascot	-	4,466	-	-	4,466
Xmas Parties	-	600	(1,241)	641	-
Disability Sport	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Little Stars	-	5,840	(7,081)	1,241	-
Toy Trust	-	2,500	-	-	2,500
	-				-
	50,809	54,461	(108,381)	66,837	63,726

Each restricted fund related to amounts raised through appeals and fundraising to provide assistance equipment and care for the individual child on the fund. Names have not been used as requested by the parents of the children and for the purpose of financial reporting the specific child funds have been grouped however are maintained separately by the charity.

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted 2023	Restricted 2023	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	61,759	-	61,759	63,456
Current assets/(liabilities)	29,058	63,726	92,784	119,089
Long term liabilities	(23,438)	-	(23,438)	(34,022)
	67,379	63,726	131,105	148,523

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Donations and legacies	112,296	54,461	166,757	165,065
Shop income	241,926	-	241,926	163,582
Investment	1,159	-	1,159	-
Total income	355,381	54,461	409,842	328,996
Resources expended				
Raising funds				
Fundraising costs	4,310	-	4,310	4,959
Staff wages	133,236	68,720	201,956	146,103
Plant and machinery depreciation	850	-	850	1,936
Computer equipment depreciation	1,365	-	1,365	1,038
Motor vehicles depreciation	4,564	-	4,564	2,648
	144,325	68,720	213,045	156,684
Charitable activities				
Rates and water	4,047	-	4,047	2,288
Light and heat	5,632	-	5,632	4,273
Telephone	2,796	-	2,796	2,265
Postage and stationery	733	-	733	2,615
Advertising and marketing	557	-	557	1,710
Sundries	1,324	-	1,324	1,599
Subscriptions	977	-	977	325
Travel	1,495	-	1,495	967
Motor expenses	7,181	-	7,181	5,123
Entertainment	804	-	804	2,840
IT software and consumables	2,598	-	2,598	2,243
Rent	28,048	-	28,048	28,341
Direct expenses for children	81,913	39,661	121,574	125,343
	138,105	39,661	177,766	179,932

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Support costs				
Insurance	(1,513)	-	(1,513)	1,266
Bank charges	6,469	-	6,469	4,632
Loan interest	982	-	982	1,204
Repairs and renewals	1,703	-	1,703	16,200
Accountancy and legal fees	4,500	-	4,500	4,750
Consultancy	13,457	-	13,457	11,480
	25,598	-	25,598	39,532
Total resources expended	308,028	108,381	416,409	376,148
Gross transfers between funds	66,837	(66,837)	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(19,484)	12,917	(6,567)	(47,152)

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1150538

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1150538

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

tc accounts · tax · legal · financial planning

10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1EF

CONTENTS

	Page
Company information	1
Trustees' report	
Independent examiner's report	3 - 4
Statement of financial activities	5
Balance sheet	6
Notes to the financial statements	7 - 16

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr. A Deutsch Mr. J Pantlington-Skeet Ms. Amy Collins Mr. D McEvoy
Charity number	1150538
Principal address	695-697 Christchurch Road Bournemouth Dorset BH7 6DL
Independent examiner	TC Group 10 Bridge Street Christchurch Dorset BH23 1EF

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

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 SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable 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 charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Dorset Children's Foundation (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with 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) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

TC Group

10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1EF

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

Dated: .....

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	**2**	104,712	94,392	199,104	356,158
Other trading activities	**3**	163,582	-	163,582	47,656
Investments	**4**	349	-	349	12
Total income		268,643	94,392	363,035	403,826
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	**5**	156,684	-	156,684	134,848
Charitable activities		139,564	83,722	223,286	186,758
Total resources expended		296,248	83,722	379,970	321,606
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(27,605)	10,670	(16,935)	82,220
Gross transfers between funds		29,894	(29,894)	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		2,289	(19,224)	(16,935)	82,220
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		95,425	70,033	165,458	83,238
Fund balances at 31 March 2022		97,714	50,809	148,523	165,458

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**9**		63,456		15,245
Current assets					
Debtors	**10**	4,459		8,832	
Cash at bank and in hand		126,597		197,313	
		131,056		206,145	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**12**	(11,967)		(12,243)	
Net current assets			119,089		193,902
Total assets less current liabilities			182,545		209,147
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	**13**		(34,022)		(43,689)
Net assets			148,523		165,458
Income funds					
Restricted funds	**15**		50,809		70,033
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	**16**	-		-	
General unrestricted funds		97,714		95,425	
			97,714		95,425
			148,523		165,458

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 31st Jan 2023

.....
Mr. A Deutsch
Trustee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Dorset Children's Foundation is a charitable organisation incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 695-697 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH7 6AF.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

1.5 Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals bassis. All expenses, including support costs and governance costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings in the statement of financial liabilities.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Plant and equipment	25% straight line
Specialised children's equipment	25% straight line
Computers	33.33% straight line
Motor vehicles	25% reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.8 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 ‘Basic Financial Instruments’ and Section 12 ‘Other Financial Instruments Issues’ of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

1.9 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee’s services are received.

1.10 Donated goods

Stock of donated goods is not provided for as at the year end. This is in line with previous years and impracticable to estimate upon receipt of the donated goods.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.11 Significant judgements and estimates

The charity's management do not apply any significant judgements, apart from those involving estimates, in applying the accounting policies.

The only estimates made in applying accounting policies are in assessing the useful life of fixed assets. These do not result in a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities.

2 Donations and grants

	Unrestricted funds	**Restricted funds**	**Total**	Total
	2022	**2022**	**2022**	2021
	£	**£**	**£**	£
Donations and gifts	70,673	94,392	165,065	192,530
Government grants receivable	34,039	-	34,039	163,628
	104,712	94,392	199,104	356,158
For the year ended 31 March 2021	296,206	59,952		356,158

3 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2022	2021
	£	£
Shop income	163,582	47,656

4 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2022	2021
	£	£
Interest receivable	349	12

5 Raising funds, trading costs and support costs

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2022	2021
	£	£
Fundraising and publicity		
Depreciation	2,974	2,996
Motor vehicle depreciation	2,648	3,413
Other fundraising costs	4,959	8,496
Fundraising and publicity	10,581	14,905
Staff and support costs		
Staff costs	146,103	119,943
Raising funds, trading and support costs	156,684	134,848

6 Charitable activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Charitable activities	244,094	223,005
Support costs	28,426	17,932
	223,286	186,758

Included in the above is the Independent Examiners remuneration of £2,000.

7 Trustees

None of the trustee's received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

8 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2022	2021
	Number	Number
	12	12

Employment costs	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	146,103	119,943

No employees received emoluments in excess of £18,000.

Total key management personnel remuneration totalled £52,533 (2021 - £34,659) during the year.

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and equipment	Specialised children's equipment	Computers	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 April 2021	9,348	-	5,174	17,244	31,766
Additions	-	52,740	660	4,250	57,650
At 31 March 2022	9,348	52,740	5,834	21,494	89,416
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2021	6,241	-	3,272	7,005	16,518
Depreciation charged in the year	1,936	3,820	1,038	2,648	9,442
At 31 March 2022	8,177	3,820	4,310	9,653	25,960
Carrying amount					
At 31 March 2022	1,171	48,920	1,524	11,841	63,456
At 31 March 2021	3,105	-	1,902	10,238	15,245

10 Debtors

	2022	2021
Amounts falling due within one year:	**£**	**£**
Other debtors	4,459	8,832

11 Loans and overdrafts

	2022	2021
	£	**£**
Bank loans	43,337	50,001
Payable within one year	9,315	6,312
Payable after one year	34,022	43,689

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2022	2021
		£	**£**
Bank loans	**11**	9,315	6,312
Trade creditors		-	2,625
Other creditors		597	1,251
Accruals and deferred income		2,055	2,055
		11,967	12,243

13 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Notes	2022	2021
		£	**£**
Bank loans	**11**	34,022	43,689

14 Retirement benefit schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

15 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

		Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2021	**Incoming resources**	**Resources expended**	**Transfers**	**Balance at 31 March 2022**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Accessible for All	-	11,306	(17,244)	5,938	-
Specific children donations	29,861	11,804	(31,888)	12,603	22,379
DCF FC Football	172	3,142	(299)	-	3,015
Music Therapy	25,000	-	(847)	-	24,153
Hoists	15,000	11,300	-	(26,300)	-
Equipment	-	47,200	(24,242)	(22,958)	-
Christchurch Children	-	1,800	(1,038)	-	762
Adapted surf board	-	1,745	(2,170)	425	-
Pod for community centre	-	1,040	(1,040)	-	-
Sat Club	-	5,000	(4,500)	-	500
Yoga Therapy	-	55	(454)	399	-
	-				-
	70,033	94,392	(83,722)	(29,894)	50,809

Each restricted fund related to amounts raised through appeals and fundraising to provide assistance equipment and care for the individual child on the fund. Names have not been used as requested by the parents of the children and for the purpose of financial reporting the specific child funds have been grouped however are maintained separately by the charity.

The charity received a donation for hoists during the current and previous financial year. The need for wheelchairs and other equipment was higher than that for hoists, the charity has transferred the hoist balance into that of equipment in order to support this need. DCF has tried however been unsuccessful with contacting the initial donor to confirm this transfer. DCF understand that if required the balance will be transferred back to hoists from their unrestricted funds however feel that the purchase of equipment is closely related to the original purpose and falls under cy-pres.

The charity has capitalised equipment totalling £52,740 in relation to restricted funds which has been transferred from unrestricted to restricted as the purchase of this equipment fulfils the restricted.

16 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 April 2021	Resources expended	Balance at 31 March 2022
	£	£	£
Bounce back loan interest and grant	1,666	(1,666)	-
	1,666	(1,666)	-

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted 2022	Restricted 2022	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:				
Tangible assets	63,456	-	63,456	15,245
Current assets/(liabilities)	68,280	50,809	119,089	193,902
Long term liabilities	(34,022)	-	(34,022)	(43,689)
	97,714	50,809	148,523	165,458

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Donations and legacies	104,712	94,392	199,104	192,530
Shop income	163,582	-	163,582	47,656
Investment	349	-	349	-
Total income	268,643	94,392	363,035	240,198
Resources expended				
Raising funds				
Fundraising costs	4,959	-	4,959	8,496
Trading support costs	-	-	-	-
Staff wages	146,103	-	146,103	119,943
Plant and machinery depreciation	1,936	-	1,936	2,013
Computer equipment depreciation	1,038	-	1,038	983
Motor vehicles depreciation	2,648	-	2,648	3,413
	156,684	-	156,684	134,848
Charitable activities				
Rates and water	2,288	-	2,288	1,511
Light and heat	4,273	-	4,273	4,924
Telephone	2,265	-	2,265	2,331
Postage and stationery	2,615	-	2,615	331
Advertising and marketing	1,710	-	1,710	1,193
Sundries	1,599	-	1,599	404
Subscriptions	325	-	325	590
Travel	967	-	967	138
Motor expenses	5,123	-	5,123	15,174
Entertainment	2,840	-	2,840	284
IT software and consumables	2,243	-	2,243	2,641
Rent	28,341	-	28,341	14,897
Direct expenses for children	41,621	83,722	125,343	117,808
	96,210	83,722	179,932	162,226

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Support costs				
Insurance	1,266	-	1,266	3,558
Bank charges	4,632	-	4,632	3,105
Loan interest	1,204	-	1,204	833
Repairs and renewals	16,200	-	16,200	3,576
Trustees' salaries	-	-	-	-
Accountancy and legal fees	4,750	-	4,750	2,803
Consultancy	11,479	-	11,479	10,658
	39,531	-	39,531	24,533
Total resources expended	292,425	83,722	376,147	321,607
Gross transfers between funds	(29,894)	29,894	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	6,112	(19,224)	(13,112)	(81,409)

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1150538

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 1150538

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

tc accounts · tax · legal · financial planning

10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1EF

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

CONTENTS

	Page
Company information	1
Trustees' report	2 - 10
Independent examiner's report	12
Statement of financial activities	13
Balance sheet	14
Notes to the financial statements	15 - 25

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr. A Deutsch Mr. J Pantlington-Skeet Ms. Amy Collins Mr. D McEvoy	(Appointed 22 April 2020)
Charity number	1150538	
Principal address	695-697 Christchurch Road Bournemouth Dorset BH7 6DL	
Independent examiner	TC Group 10 Bridge Street Christchurch Dorset BH23 1EF	

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016)

Charitable purposes and objectives:

The charity's objectives as set down in our governing document are:
The relief of sickness and preservation of health amongst children with long term illness or disability by providing or assisting in the provision of medical equipment, treatment and rehabilitation not normally provided by the statutory authorities and such other support that the Trustees may determine.

We aim to improve the lives of sick and disabled children by providing mobility and therapeutic equipment, as well as financial support towards medical expenses and therapies. We also provide life enriching experiences for disabled children. We do this by making grants to individuals (children and young people), organisations, other charities and voluntary bodies.

In the past year we have focused on supporting the mental health of families of disabled children, which was intensified due to the Covid 19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns. We have taken on the expert services of three counsellors, who make up our mental health team and are able to offer free counselling services to parents via telephone support services, one-to-one sessions or groups of six over zoom, and supportive emails. They have been a vital resource for our parents.

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, the opportunities for disabled children to take part in a range of inclusive sporting and social activities through our 'Accessible for All' campaign, which includes our DCF football team, were either cancelled during lockdowns or when allowed under government guidelines took place with reduced numbers and moved outside where feasible. Obviously patients who were shielding for the entire year could not take part.

The Foundation has also continued to focus on increasing awareness of disability through educational initiatives, such as Paddy's Purpose, inspired and led by Gemma Cardona and by engaging with the local community to promote the interests of disabled children and their families. We work actively with local specialist schools in the area and have links with other organisations to support children with disabilities eg. Disabled Children's Partnership, represented by Dan McEvoy, one of our trustees and AFCB Disability Working Group.

Organisation and Structure

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered with the Charity Commission on 21 January 2013 and is governed by a constitution which was amended on 19 June 2017. The charity is registered with The Fundraising Regulator, which is advertised on our website, letterheads and publicity material, as per the requirements. The overall management and control of the Foundation is the responsibility of the Trustees who meet frequently to discuss operations and potential beneficiaries.

Our activities and public benefit:
The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Foundation's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and setting the grant making policy for the year. The Trustees believe that the information provided within this report demonstrates the various ways that the activities of the Foundation have created public benefit.

In the charity's eighth year, the Covid pandemic meant the charity, in accordance with government guidelines, closed all their shops on 21st March 2020 and didn't reopen until 12th April 2021. This is a major source of income that we lost. However, we did receive government grants of £163,628 and a further £70,800 from generous donations (seeMoney Granted/Donated).

Response to our children and families during the Covid 19 pandemic

To avoid the possible transmission of coronavirus, many of our families chose to go into voluntary isolation well before the government directive of 23rd March. In accordance with good governance the charity responded to the Covid 19 pandemic and subsequent government induced lockdowns in the following way:

Staff
All shop staff were put into the furlough scheme, but we elected to pay them 100% as we offered minimum wage and felt that by not doing so would cause severe financial hardship, if minimum wage is the least you can live on how can you live on 80% of that? None owns cars, or bought lunches before, so were not saving any money by not working.

Staff were contacted twice a week by the founders to see if food/medications needed collecting and if they would like to be referred to our mental health team. Our staff were also signposted to other council bodies who could offer support.

Staff in part furlough, who were working from home, were contacted on a regular basis. Ergonomic desk chairs were offered plus tutorials sent regarding correct posture and seating positions for home workers.

Volunteers
All volunteers were contacted weekly to identify their needs. All were offered shopping/medication collections and access to our mental health team and signposting to other appropriate agencies.

We have many elderly volunteers who were shielding and so line managers also regularly contacted them. We offered a befriending service to all volunteers too. We also updated both staff and volunteers with the frequently changing government guidelines, ensuring they had immediate and up to date knowledge.

Our Families
Our charity's families are our highest priority and many of them were put under the shielding initiative. The first priority was to contact our families to identify the most immediate and pressing needs. Some families were unable to access the home delivery offered by the supermarket and so in those early days we provided a shopping service, thanks to an amazing bank of volunteers.

Medication and medical supplies were also collected, and we were able to secure vital PPE equipment which was sent out to those most vulnerable.

We contacted families by phone and used our social media to let our families know that they could contact us for vital supplies, counselling or just a friendly chat. We also signposted to other appropriate agencies.

Mental health
The mental health of our families is paramount. For many their care had been removed over night by other charities resulting in families suffering sleep deprivation as parents had to do the waking night care in addition to the day care. We offered a befriending service by phone and our Trustees and founders regularly contacted our parents building relationships which are still very much in evidence today. Our trustees who were able to also regularly delivered bags of happiness, medical supplies and food shopping.

Our mental health team set up at the beginning of April and was immediately available for families for one off consultations or 6 weeks of counselling at no cost to the family. We had incredibly positive and grateful feedback about our amazing team.

Our trainee counsellor Hayley Cheshire has compiled detailed analysis on the effect of the pandemic on families with a disabled child. This has been freely shared with other organisations for whom this could benefit Lockdown Case Studies_DCF.pdf

We sourced and signposted to other organisations and charities who could provide support.

We provided help line numbers for victims of domestic violence.

We provided a very comprehensive newsletter with our services clearly identified and how to access them in complete confidentiality.
We provided up to date government guidelines and advice and all available resources including BCP's Together We Can campaign.
Grateful thanks to Trustee Amy Collins who kept us up to date with resources and updates. This was shared on both our website and social media platforms.

Resources
Our founders put together hundreds of hours of online resources for our disabled children and their siblings. These were so comprehensive that they were highlighted by the BCP, taken up by Virgin Media and received emails of thanks worldwide, especially the USA. We worked with local schools and therapy advisors and shared therapy tips plus fun things to do, with a regular spot for fun games for our PMLD children provided by head of sport at Victoria Education Centre a local specialist provision.

We updated our resources weekly in our newsletter, social media and website. Our resources were so comprehensive we were invited to share them with the DCP who shared these countrywide. We even had a letter of thanks from the USA, for the provision of our resources.

Mobility and specialist equipment
We were able to source and provide families in need with a wider range of mobility equipment, which we kept in stock eg. trikes, off-road wheelchairs, and therapy equipment. This was delivered and offered on a long term loan basis free of charge.

Bags of Happiness
We started an imitative in April called 'Bags of Happiness'. Initially the contents of the bags came from out 'for sale' stock in the shops and warehouses. These consisted of sensory items, toys, books, craft and cooking items and anything else that would relieve the monotony of not being able to go out. Siblings were included, and all children were named and received a certificate for staying in. The cost to the charity in stock was £8,000 and we spent £16,750. These bags went out on a weekly basis for 12 weeks at 300 bags per week rising to 380 by the end, costing an average of £6.87 each. An army of volunteers came forward to help in this project, including members of the Bournemouth Rotary Club and a local motorbike club, pilots etc to put the bags together and ensure their delivery to our families. Also Trustee Amy Collins and James Pantling-Skeet drove miles to deliver these packages all over Dorset, following our strict Covid delivery policy.

Fabulous and lasting relationships were built with our families who said it made them feel wanted and not forgotten. Our founders were recently mentioned in the Daily Mirror's top list of kindness for implementing this idea. We also applied for Grants towards this initiative.

Over Easter, we were also able to provide every family with hand delivered Easter eggs and 'make your own Easter bonnet' craft sets.

Give Kids the World
Due to the global Covid pandemic and travel restrictions, we were unable to access this.

Accessible for All
Due to the Covid pandemic, all of our activities were cancelled during the lockdowns and when government advice allowed were available to a limited number as advised and stated above.

Paddy's Purpose
Paddy's health needs have changed so Gemma and Paddy are unable to deliver full workshops right now. Through national, local and social media; pressure and focus groups and working with local councils and NHS Trusts, Gemma continues to raise awareness and help others by sharing Paddy's story. Her current project will take her work into local hospitals, as we recognise that a stay in hospital can be quite upsetting for some children and this is the one place where children of all abilities and needs share the same wards. Gemma will be working with the NHS education teams, encouraging them to talk to all children in their care about disability, with the idea of providing a more rounded view and understanding of disability.

Community Interest Groups
Our Co-Founder, Patsy Hallmey, continues to be a Governor of a local school (Montacute) that supports children with severe and complex learning needs. This position helps to strengthen our links with professionals in this field as well as local families.

We are a member of the AFCB Disability Working Group and sit on the committee for the Dorset Football Association Inclusion Advisory Group. We are particularly keen to promote the interests of disabled children in our area and ensure future access to sporting activities, linking with our own DCF football team.

We are keen to support other organisations that promote inclusion and equality and have signed up to the "Ask for Clive" scheme to show support for the LGBT community.

We are also members of the Disabled Children's Partnership, a coalition of UK charities, that campaign for the rights of Disabled Children. Our Trustee, Dan McEvoy, represents the DCF on the DCP's Steering, Comms and Campaign forums, which continues to help strengthen our relationship with The DCP. He regularly speaks on Radio 4.

Parent Support Group
A private Parent Support Group is now established which provides a network for parents to support each other and share their experiences. This is hosted on Facebook and provides a lifeline for many of our families.

We also provide limited financial support to two other parent-led support groups. The group "Something Special" is based in Corfe-Mullen and is a pre-school playgroup for children with additional needs. The group "Doors Open" is a Bournemouth-based group that supports families of children with special educational needs.

Charity Personnel
To assist the Co-Founders with the day-to-day running of the charity, we have a part-time Support and Development Manager (Hayley Cheshire) and a part-time Head of Marketing (Adrienne Coles).

Emily Sutton has been acting as Governance Advisor for the charity. She is an experienced company auditor and has advised on all aspects of governance – including recruitment of Trustees, operational structure, and delegation of powers.

Ambassadors:
No new ambassadors were appointed this year. The current ambassadors who represent our charity our: Chris Billiam-Smith, Geva Mentor CBE, Chris Nash, Harry Redknapp, Jack Eyers, Richard Harrison-Poole, Adam Sevenoaks, Jack Pyne, Paul Thompson and Scott Howell.

Our parent ambassadors are: Danni Jones and Tilly Brown.

Patrons:
No new patrons were appointed this year. Our current patrons are: Bobbie Dove, Jane Jones, Stephen Young Lord of Westbury, Jane Kelly, Lisa Johnston (parent Patron).

Trustees:
Our appointed Board of Trustees are: Amy Collins (Volunteering Development Lead, Community Action Network), James Pantling-Skeet (Chartered Legal Executive and Community Care Expert), Matt Sutton (Parent of a child with a disability and Chartered Accountant, resigned as trustee post year end), Alex Deutsch (Senior Network Manager), and Dan McEvoy who overlooks our IT and technical infrastructure, which includes the DCF's Sharepoint, file storage and data compliance. Dan acts as a befriender providing support for families and especially new families. He helps to get them involved in events and pairs them up with similar families. Dan advises on the campaigns we do, usually in conjunction with the Disabled Children's Partnership. He represents the DCF on the DCP's Steering, Comms and Campaign forums. Dan also interacts with local Government and other local charities on behalf of the DCP. Dan is also one of our parents, whose daughter has extreme complex needs. Alex and Matt run our football sessions.

As deemed appropriate, new Trustees will be appointed by the existing Trustees. The induction process will follow ICSA good practice guide and include meetings with the existing Trustees. They will receive a copy of our accounts, a copy of our governing deed and a copy of The Charity Commissions Guidance "The Essential Trustee – What you need to know" and "Charities and Public Benefit". We also intend to offer ongoing good governance training to current and new Trustees.

Charity Management
Risk management
Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety regulations concerning staff, volunteers, clients and customers. These procedures are regularly and robustly reviewed by both the Trustees and other agencies such as The Apprentice Team and the risk management team at Job Centre Plus. Our Safeguarding Policy has been updated and full training given to staff and we follow best practice in recruitment, support and training of our volunteers and staff (including carrying out appropriate DBS checks). The following DCF policies and procedures are available:

- Confidentiality and Data Protection
- General Safeguarding
- Health and Safety
- Volunteers
- Grievance Procedure
- Equal Opportunities
- Freedom of Information
- Mascot Safeguarding
- DCF Football and Accessible for all Safeguarding (Football Association policy)

Our Privacy policy and Cookie policy is available via our website (www.thedcf.org).

The Dorset Children's Foundation is also a member of:

- The Institute of Fundraising.
- The National Council for Voluntary Organisations.
- The Small Charities Coalition.
- Bournemouth Council for Voluntary ServicePersonal files are updated with pay information and all payroll is to be authorised by Scott Akam.

GDPR

We are fully GDPR compliant. Our IOC Membership is annually reviewed (no ZA382325).

Website

The website is updated on a regular basis, and contains charity information, appeals, events calendar, application process, and how the community can help.

Facebook

Our Facebook page is one of our main tools to provide up-to-date information to those that follow us – families, local businesses, and individuals. It is regularly updated with photographs of our children and fundraising campaigns. Many parent enquiries come via Facebook as the charity becomes more prominent in the community.

Newsletter

We send a regular newsletter using the mailchimp system (automatic email) to those that have chosen to sign up. During the pandemic this provided a system for communicating with parents, with our services clearly identified and how to access them as well as providing up to date guidelines, advice and all available resources including BCP's 'Together We Can' campaign. There is also a quarterly newsletter emailed to a wider audience of local businesses and sponsors that have opted to receive it. We have found this to be an extremely cost-effective way of reaching a large target audience.

Infrastructure

Warehouse

We were given, free of charge, a new warehouse facility in Boscombe, by the Bournemouth Emerging Arts Festival to sort and store donated goods, given by members of the public and from local businesses. Any donations collected at the shops are transferred to the warehouse (freeing up much needed retail space). We have recruited volunteers to work in the warehouse and have employed a warehouse manager.

Fundraising

Due to the Covid pandemic, all of our fundraising events were cancelled. This caused the charity to lose revenue of approximately £160 000. The funds we were able to raise came from:

- The use of online fundraising platforms such as Just Giving and Virgin Money Giving
- Facebook fundraising, where some of our parents and supporters shaved their heads, sky-dived and ran a marathon to raise awareness and funds.
- Fund-matching (e.g. Barclays/Santander)
- Grants from other organisations and Trusts
- Corporate sponsorship from local companies

We continue to host fundraising pages for families who are raising money for their disabled children. This year parents have shaved their heads, sky-dived and run a marathon. We also continue to pay any invoices for therapy or equipment direct to the supplier.

We only publicise our fundraising campaigns in the public domain. We never contact previous donors without their permission and we evaluate and monitor this process regularly.
Any families and individuals that fundraise on our behalf are sent an information leaflet entitled "Fundraising Safely". This contains key information from the Institute of Fundraising (to which we are a member). Our charity monitors fundraising activities through the records from the fundraising platforms which the fundraisers have to fill out. This includes the type of event, its date and time. Facebook fundraises are sent out the fundraising requirements and code of practice. Social media fundraisers are regularly monitored and checked up on. Facebook funds come direct to the charity. Collection pots are also used by fundraisers.

We do not use specialist fundraising companies to help us raise our funds.

There were no complaints received to the charity about any of our fundraising efforts.

Due to the Covid pandemic, our 3 charity shops, which are our main source of income, were shut and the shops' staff furloughed. We purchased a dry fogging machine to sterilise the shops regularly and put up screens at the tills and re-arranged rails with plastic sheeting in between for the safety of customers and staff/ volunteers.

Any refurbishment, decoration, cleaning and fitting/maintenance of heating and CCTV systems of our premises is carried out by the Co-Founder's friends and family. Shop fittings are donated or purchased second hand whenever possible.

Community Involvement

As previously mentioned in **Response to our children and families during the Covid 19 pandemic,** we are enormously thankful for our amazing community of local supporters who have supported us through the pandemic, namely, Bournemouth Rotary Club and Hot Radio.

Charity Partners
Our current list of charity partners are: Urban Guild, Bournemouth Collegiate School, Jane Jones PR and Events, Grosvenor Carpets, First Position School of Dance, The T-Shirt Framing Service, JLD Events, Coastal Comedy, 4.Com, Play It Again UK, Mad 4 Animals, Health-on-Line.

We have continued our relationship with CMP Print who provide free printing services – for posters, leaflets, flyers, and other events promotion (saving at least £2,000 per annum).

The Role and Contribution of our Volunteers
The Foundation is committed to ensuring fairness and recognizes the need for diversity/inclusion within our recruitment and management of volunteers. We currently have around 30 wonderful volunteers ranging in age from 14 (completing The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme) to 87. All health and safety procedures are followed and induction and ongoing training is supplied.

Volunteers are recruited from the following sectors:

- Community Action Network
- Local mental health teams
- Local schools
- Job Centre Plus

- From our shop customer base
- Local language School
- Via our website www.thedcf.org

Money Granted/Donated

The charity has been fortunate enough to receive the following grants during the pandemic. These were received with grateful thanks and has meant that we have been able to offer further support and services to our vulnerable families.

Talbot Village Trust	£8,000	Deliveries - nappies, food, essentials
Dorset CV community fund	£5,000	Mental health counsellor - 50 families
Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner	£2,000	Mental health counsellor
CAF	£5,000	Mental health counsellor till August
Alice Ellen Cooper Dean	£5,000	Coordinator for deliveries
Douglas Arter	£500	Equipment
The Wooden Spoon	£2,500	Mental health + bags
Mazards	£1,000	Emergency fund
The Fore - RAFT fund	£2,500	Mental health
Bournemouth North Rotary	£500	
Masons	£500	
Mayors Charity	£500	Bags of happiness
National Lottery	£10,000	Mental health - has project start date of September 2020
Valentines Trust	£5,000	Equipment
Dorset CV community Fund	£1,000	Bags of Fun
Talbot Village Trust	£15,000	Hoists
Toy Trust	£5,000	Bags of fun
Charles Lewis Foundation	£2,300	10 x treadmills

In addition to the Coronavirus grants, we received a Bounce Back Loan of £50 000.00.

Financial Position

The financial statements are set out in page 13 to 25. The accrual accounts shows net surplus for the year of £82,220.

Reserves Policy

Support to beneficiaries is only given when funds have been raised and so the Foundation does not have any ongoing commitments. Therefore, the Trustees have identified the need for four months to be held in reserve to fulfil its contractual obligations to landlords and staff if it had to close, including bills such as utilities would become due that being £41,430. At the end of the financial year the Foundation had free reserves of £95,425 which is above the level of reserves required.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity at any time and enable the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. A budgeting review is carried out on a monthly basis. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

Future Action Points

As part of our continuous evaluation process the Trustees have identified key action points for 2021/22.

- To continuously raise funds to provide medical expenses, mobility equipment and therapies to improve the quality of life of the children we support.
- To continue funding inclusive events for families of disabled children as part of our Accessible for All programme.
- To expand our counselling service by offering a complete Family Support Service (to include parent advocacy).
- To further develop good relationships with mainstream schools in our area.
- To work with Trustee James Pantling-Skeet to help empower parents to get appropriate Local Authority service provision and educate them of the processes involved.
- To actively source local businesses and create corporate sponsorship packages to cover the costs of fundraising events and activities for disabled children.
- To continue promoting our charity through our website and social media channels.

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

REFERENCE AND ADMIN

Registered Charity number
1150538

Principal Address
695-697 Christchurch Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH7 6DL

Independent examiner
TC Group

Trustees
A Collins
A Deutsch
J Pantlington-Skeet
D McEvoy
M Sutton - resigned 02/09/2021

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Alex Deutsch

Mr. A Deutsch
Trustee
Dated: 27th Jan 2022

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

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 SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable 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 charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Dorset Children's Foundation (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with 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) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or

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

3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Zoe Mowlem FCA
TC Group

10 Bridge Street
Christchurch
Dorset
BH23 1EF

Dated: .....

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income from:					
Donations and grants	**2**	296,206	59,952	356,158	226,677
Other trading activities	**3**	47,656	-	47,656	120,287
Investments	**4**	12	-	12	-
Total income		343,874	59,952	403,826	346,964
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds and support costs	**5**	134,848	-	134,848	109,814
Charitable activities		119,245	67,513	186,758	281,362
Total resources expended		254,093	67,513	321,606	391,176
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		89,781	(7,561)	82,220	(44,212)
Gross transfers between funds		(61,067)	61,067	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		28,714	53,506	82,220	(44,212)
Fund balances at 1 April 2020		66,711	16,527	83,238	127,317
Fund balances at 31 March 2021		95,425	70,033	165,458	83,105

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**9**		15,245		18,749
Current assets					
Debtors	**10**	8,832		1,843	
Cash at bank and in hand		197,313		82,589	
		206,145		84,432	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**11**	(12,243)		(20,076)	
Net current assets			193,902		64,356
Total assets less current liabilities			209,147		83,105
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	**12**		(43,689)		-
Net assets			165,458		83,105
Income funds					
Restricted funds	**14**		70,033		16,527
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	**15**	-		-	
General unrestricted funds		95,425		66,578	
			95,425		66,578
			165,458		83,105

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 27th Jan 2022.....

Alex Deutsch

Mr. A Deutsch
Trustee

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Dorset Children's Foundation is a charitable organisation incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 695-697 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH7 6AF.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.5 Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals bassis. All expenses, including support costs and governance costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings in the statement of financial liabilities.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Plant and equipment	25% straight line
Computers	33.33% straight line
Motor vehicles	25% reducing balance

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.8 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

1.9 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

1.10 Donated goods

Stock of donated goods is not provided for as at the year end. This is in line with previous years and impracticable to estimate upon receipt of the donated goods.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.11 Significant judgements and estimates

The charity's management do not apply any significant judgements, apart from those involving estimates, in applying the accounting policies.

The only estimates made in applying accounting policies are in assessing the useful life of fixed assets. These do not result in a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities.

2 Donations and grants

	Unrestricted funds	**Restricted funds**	**Total**	Total
	2021	**2021**	**2021**	2020
	£	**£**	**£**	£
Donations and gifts	132,578	59,952	192,530	226,677
Government grants receivable	163,628	-	163,628	-
	296,206	59,952	356,158	226,677
For the year ended 31 March 2020	204,427	22,250		226,677

3 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2021	2020
	£	£
Shop income	47,656	120,287

4 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2021	2020
	£	£
Interest receivable	12	-

5 Raising funds, trading costs and support costs

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2021	2020
	£	£
Fundraising and publicity		
Depreciation	2,996	2,854
Motor vehicle depreciation	3,413	3,593
Other fundraising costs	8,496	3,886
Fundraising and publicity	14,905	10,333
Staff and support costs		
Staff costs	119,943	95,759
Support costs	-	3,722
Staff and support costs	119,943	99,481
Raising funds, trading and support costs	134,848	109,814

6 Charitable activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Charitable activities	244,094	223,005
Support costs	28,426	17,932
	186,758	281,362

6 Charitable activities **(Continued)**

Included in the above is the Independent Examiners remuneration of £2,000.

7 Trustees

None of the trustee's received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

8 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
	12	10

Employment costs	**2021 £**	**2020 £**
Wages and salaries	119,943	95,759

No employees received emoluments in excess of £18,000.

Total key management personnel remuneration totalled £34,659 (2020 - £31,308) during the year.

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and equipment	Computers	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 April 2020	8,433	3,182	17,244	28,859
Additions	914	1,992	-	2,906
At 31 March 2021	9,347	5,174	17,244	31,765
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 April 2020	4,229	2,289	3,593	10,111
Depreciation charged in the year	2,013	983	3,413	6,409
At 31 March 2021	6,242	3,272	7,006	16,520
Carrying amount				
At 31 March 2021	3,105	1,902	10,238	15,245
At 31 March 2020	4,205	893	13,651	18,749

10 Debtors

	2021	2020
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Other debtors	8,832	1,843

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Bank loans	6,312	-
Other taxation and social security	-	529
Trade creditors	2,625	33
Other creditors	1,251	17,459
Accruals and deferred income	2,055	2,055
	12,243	20,076

12 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Bank loans	43,689	-

13 Retirement benefit schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

14 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

		Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 April 2020	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Accessible for All	-	122	(2,027)	1,905	-
Child AA	100	-	-	-	100
Child AAD	-	759	-	-	759
Child AAE	-	1,712	(214)	-	1,498
Child AAR	-	9,317	(8,411)	-	906
Child AAX	-	238	(662)	424	-
Child AE	307	-	(269)	-	38
Child AU	-	526	(17,964)	17,438	-
Child AY	595	-	-	-	595
Child AZ	1,595	-	(4,429)	2,834	-
Child B	-	1,500	(893)	-	607
Child BB	94	-	-	-	94
Child BBF	-	20	(800)	780	-
Child BBK	-	2,962	(250)	-	2,712
Child BBL	-	3,148	(1,680)	-	1,468
Child BBV	-	1,067	-	-	1,067
Child BBX	-	3,909	(951)	-	2,958
Child BBY	-	528	(10)	-	518
Child CC	417	-	-	-	417
Child CCA	-	2,025	(132)	-	1,893
Child CCB	-	1,870	(2,064)	194	-
Child A		281			281
Child DD	132	-	-	-	132
Child EE	1,099	-	-	-	1,099
Child H	1,164	925	(2,117)	28	-
Child II	1,527	-	-	-	1,527
Child N	328	-	-	-	328

14 Restricted funds **(Continued)**

Child P	50	-	-	-	50
Child Q	-	5,000	(2,738)	-	2,262
Child T	567	-	(2,431)	1,864	-
Child Y	8,552	-	-	-	8,552
Child AD	-	402	(6,247)	5,845	-
DCF FC Football	-	312	(140)	-	172
Music therapy	-	250	(1,070)	25,820	25,000
Poole disabled athletics club	-	3,079	(3,241)	162	-
Hoists		15,000			15,000
Bags of happiness		5,000	(8,773)	3,773	-
	16,527	59,952	67,513	61,067	70,033

Each restricted fund related to amounts raised through appeals and fundraising to provide assistance equipment and care for the individual child on the fund. Names have not ben used as requested by the parents of the children.

£25,000 has been transferred from unrestricted to restricted music fund in relation to income received in the financial year ended March 2020. The donation has since been confirmed as restricted by the initial donor.

15 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds		
	Incoming resources	**Resources expended**	**Balance at 31 March 2021**
	£	**£**	**£**
Bounce back loan interest and grant	833	(833)	-
	833	(833)	-

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted 2021	Designated 2021	Restricted 2021	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2021 are represented by:					
Tangible assets	15,245	-	-	15,245	18,749
Current assets/(liabilities)	73,869	50,000	70,033	193,902	64,356
Long term liabilities	6,311	(50,000)	-	(43,689)	-
	95,425	-	70,033	165,458	83,105

THE DORSET CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Donations and legacies	296,206	59,952	356,158	226,677
Shop income	47,656	-	47,656	120,287
Investment	12	-	12	-
Total income	343,874	59,952	403,826	346,964
Resources expended				
Raising funds				
Fundraising costs	8,496	-	8,496	3,886
Trading support costs	-	-	-	3,722
Staff wages	119,943	-	119,943	95,759
Plant and machinery depreciation	2,013	-	2,013	2,013
Computer equipment depreciation	983	-	983	841
Motor vehicles depreciation	3,413	-	3,413	3,593
	134,848	-	134,848	109,814
Charitable activities				
Rates and water	1,511	-	1,511	3,022
Light and heat	4,924	-	4,924	2,674
Telephone	2,331	-	2,331	1,560
Postage and stationery	331	-	331	1,047
Advertising and marketing	1,193	-	1,193	603
Sundries	404	-	404	304
Subscriptions	590	-	590	355
Travel	138	-	138	505
Motor expenses	15,174	-	15,174	21,892
Entertainment	284	-	284	2,126
IT software and consumables	2,641	-	2,641	803
Rent	14,897	-	14,897	24,037
Direct expenses for children	50,295	67,513	117,808	198,776
	94,713	67,513	162,226	257,704

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Support costs				
Insurance	3,558	-	3,558	3,313
Bank charges	3,105	-	3,105	2,970
Loan interest	833	-	833	-
Repairs and renewals	3,576	-	3,576	1,902
Trustees' salaries	-	-	-	-
Accountancy and legal fees	2,803	-	2,803	2,407
Consultancy	10,657	-	10,657	13,067
	24,532	-	24,532	23,659
Total resources expended	254,093	67,513	321,606	391,177
Gross transfers between funds	61,067	(61,067)	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	28,714	53,506	82,220	(44,213)