

INCREDIBLE KIDS

2020-2021



REGISTERED CHARITY 1151185



WE PROVIDE
INCLUSIVE PLAY

ALONGSIDE
FAMILY SUPPORT

INCREASING
WELLBEING

FOR FAMILIES THAT HAVE YOUNG PEOPLE WITH ADDITIONAL
NEEDS AND DISABILITIES

WELCOME TO INCREDIBLE KIDS

BY THE TRUSTEES

To say that this year was a challenge for our families and for Incredible Kids is an understatement. Many services closed and families were left even more isolated than ever. Despite this, green shoots of hope emerged and we found creative solutions to support our families through this uncertain time of isolation, on top of a global pandemic.

INCREDIBLE KIDS PROVIDES A LIFELINE TO DISABLED YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES IN BRISTOL.

Our direct playwork continued through outdoor play sessions in Bristol and the number of members grew as services increased in demand. Thanks to emergency grants and funding as well as the generosity of our members we were able to respond to the crisis and provide the lifeline our families rely on. Many charities experienced a reduction in income, in contrast, our costs grew to require additional income.





WHAT WE DO

We provide a service where:

- Children & young people with disabilities **engage in play** with their parents & carers.
- **Siblings** of children with additional needs have a space to play and be valued in their own right.
- Children have access to **specialist equipment** and toys.
- **Parents & carers access support & signposting.**
- Parents and children have the opportunity for ownership through **volunteering** and participation.
- Families become part of a **mutually supportive community.**

How we work:

We are a **grassroots charity** where our families are at our core.

We respond quickly to **change.**


We **understand our families** and their needs.

Work in **highly creative** ways to support families.

Work with a **multi-agency approach** to provide bespoke support to families.

We make a difference in the lives of families by creating a **mutually supportive environment.**

We **value the voices of our families** and provide regular opportunities for feedback.



**”ABSOLUTELY BEEN A
GODSEND FOR US. IF IT WASN’T
FOR INCREDIBLE KIDS THE
COVID SITUATION WOULD HAVE
BEEN MUCH HARDER TO DEAL
WITH”**

QUOTE FROM AN INCREDIBLE FAMILY

Supported by
 **BBC**
 Children in Need



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS 2020/2021

- RAN FACE TO FACE PLAY SESSIONS DURING THE 2ND AND 3RD LOCKDOWNS
- We delivered 170 supported play sessions in person to disabled children
- We conducted 118 play sessions for 4 to 8 families, totally 583 family visits
- DELIVERED PLAY TRAYS TO FAMILIES ALL OVER BRISTOL IN THEIR GARDENS
- RAN 4 VIRTUAL PARTIES FOR THOSE WHO WERE STAYING AT HOME
- CREATED ONLINE INCLUSIVE PLAY PACKS
- DELIVERED CRAFT BOXES TO CHILDREN ACROSS THE WIDER BRISTOL AREA
- HOSTED FACE TO FACE CHRISTMAS PARTIES FOR 100 CHILDREN & THEIR FAMILIES
- MOVED OUR SERVICE TO AN OUTDOOR VENUE SO THAT WE COULD STAY OPEN
- INCREASED OUR SERVICE PROVISION AT A TIME WHEN OTHERS WERE REDUCING
- OUR PLAYWORKERS WERE SHORTLISTED FOR 4 AWARDS FOR THEIR LOCKDOWN WORK

OUR RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS

CREATIVE RESILIENCE

When the global pandemic began to affect our service in February 2020 our creative team of playworkers, resilient staff and volunteers planned ways to support our families. With a grant from Quartet Community Foundation, we sent out activity packs to our families. With the funding, we designed individual at-home play idea plans for disabled children to carry out during lockdown in their own homes. These plans were designed by our playworkers around individual children taking into consideration their disability, their home space, their family dynamic, sibling ages and their available resources.



CRISIS RESPONSE

For all of us at Incredible Kids and our wider community the past 12 months have been incredibly challenging, unusual and eventful. Society as we know it has shifted fundamentally. As a small charity who specialise in grass-roots face to face support for disabled or life-limited children and their families this year has required a dramatic change in the way that we deliver and reach our beneficiaries

As an organisation founded and run by parents of disabled children, we were intrinsically aware that the unfolding crisis would place disproportionate pressures on disabled people, on children and on caregivers. . We have worked closely with our community to continually monitor, interpret and understand the extent of the effect of this crisis on them.

In March 2020, in line with restrictions we closed the doors on our Kingswood site. At this time we issued an initial survey to families to begin to build our coronavirus response service. to our families.

The survey showed us that 97% were concerned about the impact of service closures on their family, 80% were concerned about the impact on their mental health, 100% were experiencing anxiety and worries. As a result of this survey Incredible Kids made the decision to not furlough our staff or reduce outputs but instead to increase our fundraising in order to develop our provision, cover overheads and compensate for a loss of income from session fees and refreshment sales.



**100% OF our FAMILIES WOULD recommend
INCREDIBLE KIDS TO someone ELSE**

OUR RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS

CREATIVE RESILIENCE

Our dedication to ensuring our beneficiaries received support and playful interventions throughout the crisis meant that our approach and outputs had to be tailored to fit with the evolving government guidelines and restrictions. From at home play packs, bespoke home activity plans and keeping in touch letters during the initial lockdown to messy play set-ups and 1-1 playworker sessions in private gardens during the first relaxing of measures. In early summer 2020 we piloted opening up again as a reduced capacity outdoor service initially this was done in the car park of our Kingswood venue. In order to deliver safe and constant outdoor service we had to relocate our sessions from our affordable hall in Kingswood to a purpose-built accessible playground. The Vench Adventure Playground in Bristol has provided an ideal location for our sessions and has provided an excellent and much-loved base for Incredible Kids.



GOING OUTDOORS

From August 2020- March 2021 we have delivered pre-bookable, reduced capacity outdoor sessions in all weathers. We have been allowed to operate through both the second and third lockdowns as an **essential support service**.

Once we reopened with outdoor sessions it was clear that this was a real **lifeline** for the children who visited. Families told us there were no other in-person services that they could access. Children appreciated the smaller group sizes and found it easier to **make friends** as they could book a consistent slot with the same small number of children and develop friendships.

Children became **more confident** leaving home and interacting in real life as we kept the groups small. Parents told us stories of how difficult life had been at home in lockdown, including family breakdown, domestic violence and loneliness.

Being able to visit us, meet friends, play with familiar playworkers and spend some time with social interaction increased happiness, reduced social isolation and boosted confidence.

We have supported 284 children through the past 12 months and numbers continue to grow. It is our priority to increase our income over 2021 to ensure we can sustain the higher costs of hiring The Vench and continue to deliver a consistent service

ROAR...

SENSORY DELIVERIES 2020

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OUR PLAYWORKERS DELIVERED SENSORY PLAY TRAYS TO FAMILIES WHO WERE SHIELDING OR ISOLATED DURING LOCKDOWN. CHILDREN WERE ABLE TO PLAY WITH A PLAYWORKER AND PARENTS HAD A CHAT WITH AN ADULT.

ROCK & ROLL ● ● ●

VESTIBULAR PLAY PACKS 2020



FOR THE CHILDREN WHO LOVE TO MOVE, BEING STUCK INDOORS WAS EXTREMELY HARD. MANY CHILDREN RECEIVED SENSORY ACTIVITY PACKS DELIVERED TO THEIR HOMES DURING LOCKDOWN.

ZOOM...

ONLINE PARTIES 2020



ITS FAIR TO SAY THAT NO EVERYONE LIKES ONLINE ACTIVITIES. BUT MANY DID AND WE HAD SO MUCH FUN HOSTING SMALL, SIMPLE, MAKATON SIGNED ADVENTURES. FOR SOME THIS WAS THEIR LIFELINE ON A RAINY DARK WINTER DAY.



K'S STORY

K and his mum started coming to Incredible Kids after a friend originally recommended Incredible Kids. K's mum told us: "We immediately knew we had found a home from home. We left already feeling excited at attending our next session. We both felt welcomed by the staff. They greeted us with warm smiles and made us feel instantly included and a valued part of Incredible Kids. I chatted to the supervisor who was able to signpost me for further support services if I felt these could be useful. I had that instant feeling of belonging to a lovely supportive and understanding community who I could meet both face to face and online too."

Public benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. This report outlines how our performance during the year has benefitted the public.

Contribution made by volunteers

Set up by parents and volunteers in 2012, our volunteers are at the centre of Incredible Kids alongside the families who visit us. Most volunteers are also users of the charity and we work hard to encourage parents and carers to volunteer within the charity.

In 2020, our volunteers were at the heart of our response to Coronavirus event planning by setting up our new online booking system, developing our newsletters to families, adding content to our website to support families and creating informative documents for our families as emergency SEND advice changed. New volunteers responded to our lockdown cause and came on board to fill more roles.

Volunteers help to run our session by playing alongside the children, providing support to parents and carers, assisting in our kitchen, our Incredible Bakers bake cakes for our families, support parents and carers, shop for us, administer our website and social media, plan our sessions, do washing, design logos, clean, raise money, recycle, publicise the charity, produce our accounts, make policies and implement them, troubleshoot, gather feedback, pay our staff, manage our staff and much more.



TRUSTEE SKILLS

The Board of Trustees keep the skills required of the board under review throughout the year. In the event that a trustee retires or additional trustees are required, the board considers the recruitment of new trustees. When recruiting new trustees the board looks for individuals with skills and experience which are likely to be of value to the charity. If there is likely to be support for an applicant, initial contact will be made with the individual to ascertain both their suitability and their interest in a vacancy. Any new trustee is formally appointed by the Trustees.

During 2020/21 Incredible Kids actively recruited new trustees and they joined Incredible Kids shortly after the end of the financial year bringing skills in marketing, finance, and fundraising.

TRUSTEE SELECTION METHODS

When selecting trustees, the charity has due regard for the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. New trustees are appointed by existing trustees. Apart from the first trustees, all trustees are appointed for a term of three years. Trustees may be appointed for a maximum of three, three years terms after which they must take a break for at least one year.

All Trustees are required to be Christians and sign the Nicene Creed as a statement of their faith. All other roles within the charity are open to those of any faith or no faith and volunteers agree to abide by Nolan's principles of public life Selflessness, Integrity, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honesty, Leadership

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

The charity reviews recruitment, policies and procedures for training and appointing new trustees during each year. All trustees complete an application form, undertake an Enhanced Adult and Child DBS check, provide two references and are interviewed by a panel from the charity. All trustees receive a copy of the trustee handbook from AFVS and we are developing a new trustee Induction.

RISK

The Trustees maintain an organisational risk assessment and consider this regularly at Trustee meetings. The risk strategy identifies the core risks the charity faces, the likelihood of each risk occurring, the impact of each risk should it occur and then an overall risk score for each risk. This shows trustees the main areas of risk that they should develop systems to mitigate.

The principal risk facing the charity under current circumstances is the risk of being unable to secure sufficient funds to run our service. Incredible Kids was successful in securing an increase in funding over the last year and increasing our reserves. Our investment in a part-time fundraiser has helped to mitigate this risk and the running costs of the charity are predictable and relatively low due compared to other similar charities. This is due to the charitable model which we operate under which is high in volunteer support and low in administrative costs.

Another significant risk facing Incredible Kids is in relation to the provision of a venue from which to operate. Incredible Kids was able to secure an outdoor venue during lockdown and is actively pursuing a dedicated space from which to operate full time.



FINANCIAL REVIEW

This was a challenging year that required a robust financial response. As ever, we are eternally grateful to all of our funders whose contributions allowed our essential service to continue.

We raised £68,201.17 during the course of this financial year, just under £10,000 more than we originally budgeted for.

Because we did not furlough our staff, our financial needs in relation to personnel did not change much. However, other costs relating to the way we operate and the necessary changes due to the pandemic did increase. For example, our phone costs tripled as we put in calls to families during lockdown, and the cost of toys and activities more than doubled as we put together activity packs and ran face-to-face facilitated messy play sessions as restrictions eased. We also saw our costs increase as we moved into The Vench in August.

In terms of grants, this was the first full financial year we have had a professional fundraiser on the team, and it certainly helped in terms of securing necessary additional funding, and finding funder that could help us during the pandemic period.

In addition to our ongoing grants from the Sobell Foundation, the Burden Trust and Children In Need, we also received £6000 from the Rix Thompson Rothenberg Foundation to help with running costs, £6500 from the Garfield Western Trust and £5000 from the Quartet Emergency Coronavirus Response fund. We also had smaller but just as valued support from the Woodward Trust, Merchant Venturers Foundation, John James Foundation, Leidos, Skipton and the Felicity Wilde Trust.

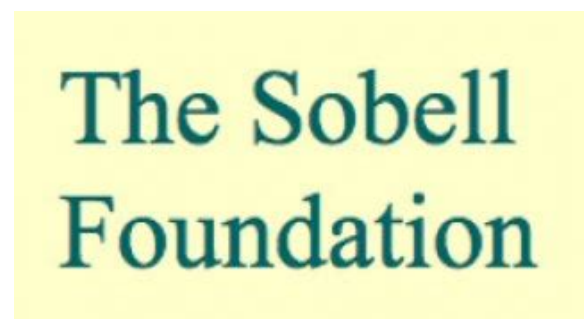
In addition, we made many new contacts with trusts who were not able to fund us immediately but want to keep an open dialogue with us through 2021 and beyond.

Overall, we see that our service is still valued not just by our families, but also by our funders who can see how essential and life changing the support we offer truly is.

INCREDIBLE FUNDERS

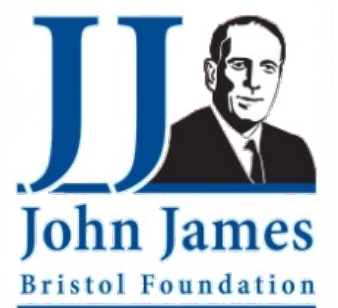


Quartet
Community
Foundation



**RIX
THOMPSON**

Rothenberg
Foundation



Statement of Financial Activities to 31st March 2021

The following accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) issued by the Charity Commission to comply with the Executive Committee's obligations as the trustees of the Charity for keeping accounting records

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£ £ £ £

Income

Subscriptions & Donations

Donations & Legacies	8,006.50	19,633.81
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Grants

Restricted	2 49,894.67	9,993.00
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Unrestricted	10,300.00	2,400.00
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Total Income	<u>68,201.17</u>	<u>32,026.81</u>
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Expenditure

Direct Charity

Rent & Rates	13,066.05	8,052.25
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Insurance	89.00	714.38
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Fundraising Costs	126.00	276.94
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Advertising/Promotional	321.60	459.99
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Training	288.52	533.11
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Office/Administration Costs	382.94	519.90
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Purchases	7,179.91	4,407.46
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Payroll Expenditure	40,576.43	33,736.98
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Volunteer Costs	30.27	249.34
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Total Direct Charity Costs

<u>62,060.72</u>	<u>48,950.35</u>
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Other Costs

Service Costs

Reconciliation & Prior year Adjustments	154.05	175.64
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Legal & Professional	0.00	545.62
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Bank Charges	906.80	318.00
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Depreciation	70.74	33.52
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Total Other Costs	24.99	
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<u>1,156.58</u>	<u>1,072.78</u>
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Total Expenditure

<u>63,217.30</u>	<u>50,023.13</u>
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Surplus/Deficit

<u>4,983.87</u>	<u>(17,996.32)</u>
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Funds B/Fwd

Total Funds	15,425.76	33,422.08
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<u>20,409.63</u>	<u>15,425.76</u>
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Funded By:

Current Account

Gold Account

Refreshments Account	9,886.40	5,397.81
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Donations Account	0.01	1,553.94
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Debtors	2,000.09	827.52
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Paypal	7,838.86	7,007.81
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Other Assets	368.07	368.07
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125.96	55.38
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Total Funds Carried Forward	190.24	215.23
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<u>20,409.63</u>	<u>15,425.76</u>
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Notes to the Accounts

1. The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis and no account has been taken of accrued/prepaid income or expenditure
2. Detailed Restricted Income/Expenditure report

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Incredible Kids

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the charities act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Direction given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act) and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiners statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below,

Independent Examiners Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Michael J Bowles

M J Bowles

MJB Accounting

2019/2020 RESERVES

Incredible Kids gives due regard to the level of reserves that it requires to ensure future service delivery. Incredible Kids has actively increased its level of reserves this year and has three months running costs in reserve.

ABOUT US



**170 PLAY SESSIONS FOR
DISABLED YOUNG
PEOPLE**



INCREDIBLE KIDS STRUCTURE

CIO CIO FOUNDATION MODEL (CIO)

4 TRUSTEES

- 1 Jennie Prewett Chair
2. Sandie Davis
3. Sharon Moffatt resigned 18TH OCT 2020
4. Kantish Bhalerao



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Supported by
BBC
Children in Need



CONTACT@INCREDIBLEKIDS.ORG.UK

DECLARATIONS

THE TRUSTEES DECLARE THAT THEY HAVE
APPROVED THE TRUSTEES' REPORT ABOVE.

Jennie Prewett *Sandie Davis* *Kantish Bhalerao*

JENNIE PREWETT SANDIE DAVIS
SHARON MOFFAT KANTISH BHALERAO
SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE CHARITY'S TRUSTEES



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