



Trustees' Annual Report for the period 1st Aug 2024 – 31st July 2025



Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name:	Climbing for All Sheffield
Other names charity is known by:	CfAS
Registered charity number:	1166860
Charity's principal address:	100 Marlcliffe Road Sheffield Postcode: S6 4AG

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates active if not for the whole year
1	Nick Whittaker	Chair	
2	George Smith		
3	Jenny Hands		
4	Clare Hands		
5	Robin Whittaker		
6	Hazel Whittaker		

Note: There are no other trustees.

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document:	Constitution
How the charity is constituted:	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods:	Appointed by meeting of trustees

Additional information

The charity runs climbing sessions at The Foundry Climbing Centre, Sheffield. Sessions are supervised by qualified and experienced climbing instructors. The centre's procedures are followed, including safety procedures for climbing, and recording of parent/guardian consent for children and for adults under guardianship.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS THE PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN HEALTHY RECREATION, IN PARTICULAR BY THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR PARTICIPATING IN CLIMBING ACTIVITIES FOR THE RESIDENTS OF SHEFFIELD AND SURROUNDING AREAS.

In more detail, the objects of the charity are:

1. To provide opportunities for children, young people and adults with a wide range of disabilities to access and enjoy rock climbing and mountaineering and be visible and included in the climbing community in Sheffield.
2. To increase levels of participation among children, young people and adults with a wide range of disabilities in rock climbing and mountaineering, in order to:
 - Improve their physical development, health and wellbeing;
 - Improve their self-image and self-esteem; and
 - Develop their confidence and ability to communicate and interact with other people.
3. To develop a strong and sustainable network of instructors and volunteers with the qualifications, skills and experience needed to confidently help children, young people and adults with a wide range of disabilities to access and enjoy rock climbing and mountaineering.

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

Trustees acted throughout the period to provide public benefit:

PROMOTING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN HEALTHY RECREATION, IN PARTICULAR BY THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR PARTICIPATING IN CLIMBING ACTIVITIES FOR THE RESIDENTS OF SHEFFIELD AND SURROUNDING AREAS.

Operating at The Foundry Climbing Centre, the charity enables disabled climbers to be visible and included in the climbing community in Sheffield. Involvement of volunteers from the climbing community, and development of experience amongst volunteers and instructors, promotes climbing as an inclusive activity for children, young people and adults with disabilities.

The climbing club ran regular sessions through 9 months of the 12-month period, with small groups of climbers assisted by volunteers. Diverse sessions catered for different climbers' needs and aspirations, some sessions with more climbers and more social aspects, others with greater technical support from volunteers, some individually focused, but all aimed at what is important to each climber.

In its ninth year of operation, Climbing for All Sheffield held more than one hundred sessions, and continued our approach to sessions to meet the needs and aspirations of disabled climbers. We strengthened procedures and training for our volunteers, further developing the network of climbers with skills to be involved in accessible climbing.

Additional details of objectives and activities

Volunteers are essential to the operation of climbing activities. Many of the charity's climbers require the assistance of one or two side-climbers, with belayers for the climber and side-climber(s) and assistive ropes. Whilst instructors are employed by The Foundry and are paid, volunteers are unpaid, keeping the cost of sessions affordable.

Friendly interactions with volunteers make climbing sessions fun for many climbers, while the involvement of most volunteers in various aspects of climbing is a major contributor to the visibility of disabled climbers in the climbing community. For the third consecutive year, the charity provided

placements for a small cohort of medical students. Apart from the obvious societal benefit of increasing future doctors' awareness of disabled people, the placements further the charity's aim to promote inclusive climbing in the wider community.

During the year we made the decision to introduce mandatory Enhanced DBS checks for our volunteers, with rollout starting before end of year and continuing into FY 2026. The free-of-charge Enhanced DBS checks are being offered via the Foundry Climbing Centre and Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The involvement of a wider group of volunteers in the planning and organisation of climbing sessions continued from last year. A small "executive" group took on the job of climber liaison to organise sessions for current climbers and for newcomers seeking opportunities to experience climbing.

A meeting was held at a pub near the Foundry for all our volunteers, giving the opportunity for everyone to share ideas, and to discuss plans for arranging DBS checks for all volunteers. We continued to use a private WhatsApp group to keep our volunteer community involved in session planning and support. The 'Website Editors' subgroup allowed review and proofreading of copy for our website, etc., and we created two further 'subgroups' so that volunteers could chat about climbing meet-ups and other topics without undue noise on the main channel.

This year we were ready to start our regular sessions from September. We ran weekly or fortnightly club sessions during school term times, retaining the previous year's successful session formats, always with climbers' individual aspirations guiding the sessions:

- **Buddy Thursday!** A busy evening session, with teen and adult climbers upskilling their climbing.
- **Climb Friday!** Morning and afternoon sessions for small groups of mainly adults and young adults, with plenty of volunteer assistance, focused on individual goals, additionally with a late morning/early afternoon session for young climbers from Paces School for Conductive Education.
- **Send Saturday!** Two or three sessions, small and larger groups of mainly children, young people and young adults to work on individual goals.

In early June our regular sessions paused, when the Foundry Climbing Centre started renovations and the construction of exciting new climbing walls. By this time we had run 107 club sessions. Typically our sessions had 3–6 climbers at each and 4–7 volunteers plus instructor(s). Around 38 climbers climbed at club sessions during the year; approximately 9 of them were new climbers. 29 volunteers helped at sessions, including 3 of the charity's trustees and 4 placement students.

The trustees are very pleased that both children and adults are represented at the club, with a variety of physical, cognitive and sensory impairments and/or neurodivergent conditions such as autism. The club has provided opportunities for families to climb together, with non-disabled siblings or children getting an opportunity to climb alongside disabled family members.

CfAS cannot meet all the demand for climbing and some new climbers or groups with additional support needs are referred to the Foundry Climbing Centre, a number of whose instructors have developed inclusive climbing experience through working with CfAS. We also teach some parents and carers how to belay, meaning that climbers are less reliant on the charity for climbing sessions.

Some CfAS climbers have been helped to find new opportunities with other organisations. Our close relationship with Eyam-based charity, Climb, which offers outdoor climbing, continues.

Seven new volunteers were registered and inducted, including the four placement students, who became fully involved in assisting at sessions. The placement students were a cohort from The University of Sheffield Medical School, all of them climbers in their spare time. Training undertaken by volunteers developed not just their personal skills and role with Climbing for All Sheffield, but also the integration between accessible and mainstream climbing.

The charity maintained a social media presence on Facebook, posting photographs and sharing climbing experiences with permission on its Facebook page. We provided a couple of more in-depth news updates on our website, which is the main route by which new climbers and volunteers make contact with us.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

At end of FY (July 2025) unrestricted funds stood at £24,803, an increase of £4,449 over the year. Annual expenditure was £7,255, of which the largest part was on instructor costs, and the remainder on equipment purchase. The ratio of reserves to annual expenditure was therefore considerably greater than 100%, and the charity is financially secure.

Policy on reserves will be reviewed alongside operational planning and financial review.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None.

Further financial review details

The attached financial report sets out key income and expenditure headlines.

The biggest element of income was from providing student placements, totalling £10,192, as last year. Our own instructors and volunteers devoted time to coaching and working with the students, so there were no separate monetary costs.

Income from sessions was £978. We remain committed to providing climbing opportunities to all, regardless of their ability to pay, and non-subsidised pricing would be prohibitive to many CfAS climbers. Many climbers do pay the suggested contribution of £7.50 per session, and some pay more.

Income from donations was £533. We did not undertake fundraising during the year and gratefully acknowledge the donations from well-wishers, including friends and families of volunteers and climbers.

The biggest element of expenditure was £6,755, for hire of Foundry instructors at our climbing sessions.

Our equipment costs, at £500, were lower than last year because we did not need to retire or replace any equipment, although we made some additional investment in specialist equipment to support our climbers. Note that equipment items are not listed as assets because monetary transfer of equipment would not be feasible.


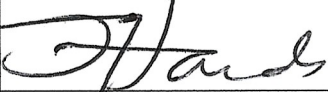
Section F Other optional information

The trustees are proud of the charity's success to date and consider it to be their duty and privilege to further expand climbing opportunities, enjoyment and inclusion for the disabled community.

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s):		
Full name(s):	NICHOLAS MITTERER	JENNY HANDS
Position:	CHAIR OF TRUSTEES	TRUSTEE
Date:	27/2/26	27/2/26



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Climbing for All Sheffield

No (if any)
1166860

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01-Aug-24		31-Jul-25

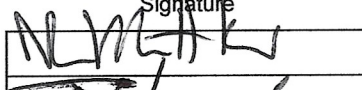

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Session payments from climbers	978	-	-	978	1,126
Community - placement students	10,192	-	-	10,192	10,192
Events income	-	-	-	-	-
Merchandise sales	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising & donations	533	-	-	533	1,015
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	11,703	-	-	11,703	12,333
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	11,703	-	-	11,703	12,333
A3 Payments					
Session costs (instructors)	6,755	-	-	6,755	4,658
Support of work in community	-	-	-	-	-
Events costs	-	-	-	-	-
Merchandise	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment purchase	500	-	-	500	3,588
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	7,255	-	-	7,255	8,246
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	7,255	-	-	7,255	8,246
Net of receipts/(payments)	4,448	-	-	4,448	4,087
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	20,355	-	-	20,355	16,268
Cash funds this year end	24,803	-	-	24,803	20,355

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank account	24,277	-	-
	PayPal account	526	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	24,803	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets			Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	NICHOLAS WHITTAKER	27/2/26
	JENNY HANDS	27/2/26