

SPARKLES - SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH DOWN'S SYNDROME

England & Wales · Charity number 1168036

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2016-07-05

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

Contact

Address 50 Scholars Walk
Langley
Slough
SL3 8LY

Phone 07825779460

Email hello@sparkles.org.uk

Website www.sparkles.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE RELIEF OF CHILDREN WITH DOWN'S SYNDROME LIVING IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE AND THE SURROUNDING AREA BY THE PROVISION OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPIES, FUNDING PHYSIOTHERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SESSIONS AND ORGANISING APPROPRIATE LEISURE AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR SUCH CHILDREN

Activities: Sparkles supports children with Down's syndrome in Buckinghamshire by the provision of speech and language therapies, funding of physiotherapy and occupational therapy sessions and organising appropriate leisure and recreational activities.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Disability
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- Buckinghamshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£95,480	£50,590	-	-
2024-03-31	£27,225	£84,764	-	-
2023-03-31	£36,468	£42,207	-	-
2022-03-31	£17,234	£41,369	-	-
2021-03-31	£25,771	£21,775	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Kirsty MacCuish	Chair	2022-01-31
Bushra Maqsood		2024-04-09
Dr GRAHAM SMITH		2016-05-03
Kathryn Louise Broadway		2024-04-09
Michael Herlihy		2026-01-27

SPARKLES - SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH DOWN'S SYNDROME

England & Wales - Charity number 1168036

Accounts

Sparkles: Supporting Children with Down's Syndrome: Annual Report 2024

Charity number: 1168036

16th January 2026

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period ending March 2025.

Chair of Trustees report

Between March 2024 and March 2025, Sparkles assisted more than 35 children with Down's Syndrome in Buckinghamshire and the surrounding areas.

- 29 children benefited from weekly specialised speech and language therapy,
- 34 received termly physiotherapy,
- 24 received termly occupational therapy.
- 1 child had access to our EHCP support with Emma Hopkins Consultancy, and 10 families received group EHCP from trained Trustees in SEND Law.

Fundraising:

An immense thank you from the trustees for the committee and the families who have been involved in fundraising this past year. As well as all those who have sponsored events, given donations and to the companies who have provided grants.

Thomley and the Big Step Forward

The Big Step Forward event took place during our annual meet up at Thomley, where over 50 families attended, and raised over £7,000!

Annual Christmas Party

In December 2024, we hosted the Sparkles traditional Christmas Party. The event featured interactive storytelling, games from Story Box, and Soft Play. In total, £1,400 was raised.

World Down syndrome Day

For World Down Syndrome Day 2025 we arranged for Hartbeeps Watford to come and do a session for our Sparklers. It was a lovely afternoon full of sensory play and music and dancing and really enjoyed by all those that attended.

We also held an online auction which raised £700.

Other Donations

Thanks to the hard work of Kate and Bushra we managed to receive a grant from Children in Need which made a significant difference to our accounts.

EHCP support package

The Sparkles Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) package aims to provide financial support and assistance to families of children with Down's syndrome. Sparkles has worked closely with Emma Hopkins Consultancy and their support ensures that children receive the high-quality EHCPs they need for a successful transition to school, helping families navigate the stressful EHCP process. The program also aims to reduce the need for families to go to tribunals and provides reports and evidence that can be used in tribunals, reducing costs for families. As a result of the EHCP support, families have been able to obtain much better EHCPs for their children. The final plans include clear provisions for therapy hours, specialized support, staff training, and specific techniques for children with special needs. The support offered by Sparkles has led to amazing outcomes for children with Down's syndrome. It ensures they start their school life with high-quality, specialist therapy at the recommended amount. The plans are legally binding and reflect the appropriate provision of therapy as agreed upon by the local authority when challenged.

With a lot of hard work behind the scenes we have managed to bring back the EHCP support package for those eligible families in this year's co-hort. Families eligible will need to agree to what Sparkles is able to offer them with Emma Hopkins and sign a formal agreement before support is put in place. This is to ensure that we do not get our selves into financial distress again. This support package is now going to be fully reviewed annually before the support package is offered to families and will only be available if we have the secure funds in place. Unfortunately, this means that the support offered to families may differ year to year, depending on funding. To make this more secure going forward we now have a separate bank account just for EHCP support, to ensure there is no risk going forward with our core therapies offered.

Our Vision

Our vision is that all children with Down's syndrome in Buckinghamshire and the surrounding areas throughout their early years, have the opportunity to reach their full potential speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and occupational therapy.

Our Mission

Our mission is to provide children with Down's syndrome with responsive, high quality therapeutic support that enriches their lives and supports their families.

Our Plan

What we achieved 24-25

We managed to achieve an immense amount of action points during this year, which I am very proud of as a lot of hard work went into achieving them.

Some things we achieved include:

- Ensuring local professionals are aware of Sparkles and how to contact us – Kate is in regular contact with local health visitors and has made several talks about Sparkles. Kirsty is Neonatal lead for Wexham Park hospital. Wexham has our leaflets in their welcome packs for families with Down Syndrome and is now in contact with the Bucks Neonatal lead to extend this.
- Review children's progress with therapists annually to ensure there is anonymised data to use for evaluation with potential funders – This now happens regularly with all our therapists. Mel also now provides targets for families.
- A regular newsletter is now sent out to families.

These can be seen in more detail in appendix A alongside the rest of our achievements in the past year, in our business plan which will be sent out with the minutes.

Our plan for this year

Reintroduction of our EHCP support package for school aged children, once Sparkles is back in a sustainable financial environment.

When we are in a financial position to do so, Sparkles will re hire a speech and language assistant for Mel, so that we are not over reliant on just the one therapist to cover both sites.

We will prioritise increasing our contacts amongst other groups and professionals to ensure that the parents of every child born with Down's Syndrome in our target area, knows of our existence and the support we can offer.

Plan for the following two years:

By May 2027 Sparkles will have fostered new links with outside groups and professionals, to ensure the parents of every child born with Down's Syndrome in Buckinghamshire and surrounding areas, is aware of our services. We will be receiving 50% of our funding from external sources and will have regular 6 monthly evaluations of our services. Our services will be reliable and sustainable with good succession planning for the board and Trustees. During this three-year period, we will reestablish our EHCP support package, and introduce a yearly speech and language summer camp for our Sparkles families.

By the end of year three we will have a firm succession plan in place for the following three years.

We will look at introducing a yearly speech and language summer camp for current Sparkles families.

Our objectives

By May 2027 Sparkles will have fostered new links with outside groups and professionals, to ensure the parents of every child born with Down's Syndrome in Buckinghamshire and surrounding areas, is aware of our services. We will be receiving 50% of our funding from external sources and will have regular 6 monthly evaluations of our services. Our services will be reliable and sustainable with good succession planning for the board and Trustees. During this three-year period, we will reestablish our EHCP support package, and introduce a yearly speech and language summer camp for our Sparkles families as well as regular meeting for families without a fundraising objective.

Strategic Objectives 2024-2027

1. To identify the number of families of children with Down's syndrome, in our target area, not currently receiving our services and make them aware of them by working closely with other organizations and professionals.
2. To evaluate our therapeutic services to ensure we are providing appropriate, high-quality services, which make the best use of our resources.
3. To establish external funding streams to create a financially sustainable service with funding from external sources composing 50% of our income by the end of year one.
4. To improve internal communications with parents and families to engage more parents to be more actively involved in Sparkles and enable annual succession planning as children leave Sparkles.
5. To improve our marketing and communication to support our objectives, by continuing with our current social media plan as well as introducing fresh marketing materials targeted at parents and at professionals.

Current Therapies

Currently Sparkles provides families with Speech and Language Therapy, Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy.

Speech and Language Therapy

Our SALT sessions occur at Children's Centres in High Wycombe and Aylesbury. Each session is 45 minutes long, weekly during term time and are held in groups of no more than three children and with their parent/carer. Children with Down's syndrome will usually experience challenges with communication to varying degrees, including receptive (understanding) language and expressive (speaking and composing sentences) language skills. Carried out by specialist speech and language therapists, the sessions are based on Makaton: a system designed to support spoken language where signs and symbols are used alongside speech, in spoken word order.

Sparkles speech and language therapy focuses on helping our children to talk, but also covers the essential skills needed to communicate effectively. The sessions are designed to engage our members from a young age and include: music, songs and games; listening and comprehension; turn taking; picture and word matching; lip seal and tongue control exercises; phonics; and combining words and sequencing sentences.

These sessions are provided at no cost to our families. Due to the lack of speech and language therapy available on the NHS and the inconsistent level of provision and that Sparkles are a lifeline, easing frustration by enabling communication and helping parents feel supported.

Physiotherapy

Sparkles offers 3 to 6 physiotherapy sessions each year with a specialist practitioner, depending on the age and needs of the child. The sessions are 45 minutes long, one-to-one with the child and parent/carer, and based in a children's physiotherapy clinic in High Wycombe.

Children with Down's syndrome can have low muscle tone and hyper-flexibility, which can make mastering gross motor skills harder. Delays in physical development are not uncommon.

Targeted physiotherapy helps our children achieve major milestones such as sitting, crawling and walking. The sessions are individually tailored, fun and child-centred, enabling children to reach their full potential and grow with confidence. Parents are provided with exercises and activities to follow at home to support their children.

These sessions are free to the families, except where late cancellation fees may apply.

Occupational Therapy

Sparkles, offers 3 to 6 occupational therapy sessions with The Pace Centre, each year, depending on the age and needs of the child. The sessions are 45 minutes long, one-to-one with the child and parent/carer.

With Pace we are working with a team of experienced occupational therapists who are highly skilled in assessing and treating children with learning, behavioural, sensory and developmental difficulties. Some children with Down's syndrome may experience sensitivity to certain food textures, sounds, bright lights and unfamiliar situations, resulting in distress and behavioural issues. Sparkles occupational therapy focuses on these and other sensory processing issues, based on a theory known as Sensory Integration: how our brain receives and processes sensory information so that we can do the things we need to do in our everyday lives.

This therapy is currently not offered by the NHS. The sessions give parents a greater understanding of sensory processing issues experienced by their child and strategies to limit their impact on their development and day-to-day life.

These sessions are free to the families, except where late cancellation fees may apply.

Achievements

This year's achievements include:

- The continued provision of speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and Occupational therapy. This is a huge achievement, given the global pandemic and the lockdown restrictions we have all faced and are still recovering from. As well as the worrying financial position we found ourselves in the previous year.
- The continued support for children in their transition to primary school. Children are provided with an intensive block of speech therapy over the summer holidays before starting school. The therapist liaises with schools to create a bespoke therapy package in order to ease the transition. This includes familiarisation with vocabulary relevant to the school environment and teachers, as well as the first topic to be covered at school. This is followed up by two visits to school during the first year. Teachers and teaching assistants have reported this to be a valuable resource that helps them support the child better and better understand their needs and abilities. Physiotherapy and Occupational therapy sessions also continue to be provided in the first year of school to ease the transition and help children settle into their new environment.
- To re-introduce the support for our families through the EHCP process by providing expertise and a representative to liaise with the local authority in the process and by reducing the cost to families by funding private assessments and consultancy fees. This support is now on hold until further notice.
- Securing amazing grants including Children In Need and Tesco's Groundwork.
- Continuing to hold amazing events throughout the year, and raising impressive funding
- Introducing meetings within year groups outside of our fundraising events so families.

Financial Review

A review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period.

A strong financial year for Sparkles Charity in FY 2024-25, with a positive net profit of £44,890. Our income was primarily driven by grant funding, complemented by consistent donations and successful fundraising. The main expenses were therapy costs, which are essential for our operations. Importantly, we have a healthy balance of cash and equivalents, providing a solid foundation for our future activities and ongoing support for our mission. Maintaining firm cash reserves is vital for the charity's stability and to ensure we can consistently provide essential therapies for our members. The trustees' goal was to reserve at least £45,000 by March 31, 2025, covering a year's worth of speech and language, physio, and occupational therapy.

Our cash reserves reaching £72,762 by March 31, 2025. This positive improvement successfully reverses the previous year's trend and exceeds our ideal reserve target of £45,000. Furthermore, the current fiscal year shows a strong positive performance with a net profit of £44,890. With this substantial increase in cash reserves, resuming or increasing EHCP support is now more

feasible, although we haven't yet reached the £80,000 target for full resumption. Grants are crucial in providing substantial funding, often for specific projects or operational needs. The substantial "BBC-Children in Need" grant significantly boosted our income, enabling broader support for our programs.

In conclusion, although the fiscal year 2023-24 presented various financial challenges, the Sparkles Account has demonstrated a notable recovery in the fiscal year 2024-25. The positive net profit and significantly restored cash reserves position the charity in a considerably stronger financial state, providing an optimistic perspective for sustained stability and the capacity to fulfil our future obligations.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Sparkles governing document is an association model constitution and the charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its charity trustees.

Appointment of charity trustees

- (1) At every annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, 1/3rd of the charity trustees shall retire from office. If the number of charity trustees is not 3 or a multiple of 3, then the number nearest to 1/3rd shall retire from office, but if there is only 1 charity trustee, he or she shall retire;
- (2) The charity trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment. If any trustees were last appointed or reappointed on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot;
- (3) The vacancies so arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the annual general meeting; any vacancies not filled at the annual general meeting may be filled as provided in sub clause (5) of this clause;
- (4) The members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee, whether in place of a charity trustee who has retired or been removed in accordance with clause [15] (Retirement and removal of charity trustees), or as an additional charity trustee, provided that the limit specified in clause [12(3)] on the number of charity trustees would not as a result be exceeded;
- (5) A person so appointed by the members of the CIO shall retire in accordance with the provisions of sub-clauses (2) and (3) of this clause. A person so appointed by the charity trustees shall retire at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting after the date of his or her appointment, and shall not be counted for the purpose of determining which of the charity trustees is to retire by rotation at that meeting.

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity name: Sparkles: Supporting Children with Down's syndrome

Registered Charity number: 1168036

Charity's principal address: 50 Scholars Walk, Langley, Slough, Berkshire, SL38LY

Trustees:

Kirsty MacCuish

Chair of Trustees

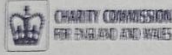
Graham Smith

Kate Broadway

Bushra Maqsood

Eszter Hegedus

Treasurer



Charity Name Sparkles - Supporting Children with Down Syndrome		No (if any) 1168036
Receipts and payments accounts		
For the period from	Period start date 01/04/2024	To Period end date 31/03/2025

CC16a

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					
Fundraising / Donations	73,642	-	-	73,642	26,511
Grants	-	18,709	-	18,709	-
Sparkles Lottery	2,580	-	-	2,580	-
Interest	549	-	-	549	338
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	76,771	18,709	-	95,480	26,849
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	76,771	18,709	-	95,480	26,849
A3 Payments					
SALT	23,879	-	-	23,879	-
Physiotherapy	11,745	-	-	11,745	-
OT	3,695	-	-	3,695	-
EHCP	4,493	-	-	4,493	-
Lottery Payouts	1,510	-	-	1,510	-
Event Expenses	4,694	-	-	4,694	-
Other Misc	574	-	-	574	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	50,590	-	-	50,590	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	50,590	-	-	50,590	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	26,181	18,709	-	44,890	26,849
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	27,872	-	-	27,872	-
Cash funds this year end	54,053	18,709	-	72,762	26,849

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	TSB	44,507	18,709	-
	Metro	9,546	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	54,053	18,709	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK OK OK

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature 	Print Name Kirsty MacCush	Date of approval 16/1/2025
---------------	------------------------------	-------------------------------



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name Sparkles – Supporting Children with Down Syndrome

On accounts for the year ended

31st March 2025 Charity no (if any) 1168036

Set out on pages

1-2 (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

[Signature]

Date:

8/1/2026

Name:

NIKESH PATEL

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

fca - ICAEW.

Address:

UNIT 4, CORNWALL ROAD
PINNER, MIDDLESEX, HA5 4UH

Section B

Disclosure

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

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

n/a.

SPARKLES - SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH DOWN'S SYNDROME

England & Wales - Charity number 1168036

Accounts



Supporting children
with Down's Syndrome

Sparkles: Supporting Children with Down's Syndrome: Annual Report 2024

Charity number: 1168036

20th January 2025

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period ending March 2024.

Chair of Trustees report

Between March 2023 and March 2024, Sparkles assisted more than 42 children with Down's Syndrome in Buckinghamshire and the surrounding areas.

- 19 children benefited from weekly specialised speech and language therapy,
- 34 received termly physiotherapy,
- 14 received termly occupational therapy.
- 15 children had access to our EHCP support before it was suspended.

Fundraising:

An immense thank you from the trustees for the committee and the families who have been involved in fundraising this past year. As well as all those who have sponsored events, given donations and to the companies who have provided grants.

Big Step Forward

The Big Step Forward event took place on June 24th, 2023, at Ashridge Woods. Many families participated enthusiastically and raised sponsorship funds totalling £5520.

Cake Sales

In October, Sparkles successfully held a cake sale. Parents decorated the cakes with Sparkles logos, and thanks to their exceptional baking talents, we raised an impressive £1993.

Annual Christmas Party

In December 2023, we hosted the Sparkles traditional Christmas Party and raffle. The event featured interactive storytelling, games from Story Box, and Christmassy stalls offering cards, cakes, and a toy tombola. In total, £3198 was raised.

Gala

In March Sparkles held a gala at Ickenham Golf Club with great success, raising £2,311.43 through the auction. We featured amazing prizes, including Alton Towers tickets, a stay at the Cumberland Hotel, a stay at the Grosvenor House (Marriott) Hotel, a Teepee Party, and many more exciting offerings.



Supporting children
with Down's Syndrome

Other Donations

Sparkles is grateful to have been selected for the Tesco Community Grant, which raised £1000. We would also like to extend a huge thank you to our other donors this year, including Liberis Charity (£1,500), the Steeple Claydon branch of the Coop, which raised £1021 in October 2023, and the Mencap Amersham and Chesham branch (£1,000).

EHCP support package

The Sparkles Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) package aims to provide financial support and assistance to families of children with Down's syndrome. Sparkles has worked closely with Emma Hopkins Consultancy and their support ensures that children receive the high-quality EHCPs they need for a successful transition to school, helping families navigate the stressful EHCP process. The program also aims to reduce the need for families to go to tribunals and provides reports and evidence that can be used in tribunals, reducing costs for families. As a result of the EHCP support, families have been able to obtain much better EHCPs for their children. The final plans include clear provisions for therapy hours, specialized support, staff training, and specific techniques for children with special needs. The support offered by Sparkles has led to amazing outcomes for children with Down's syndrome. It ensures they start their school life with high-quality, specialist therapy at the recommended amount. The plans are legally binding and reflect the appropriate provision of therapy as agreed upon by the local authority when challenged.

However, due to recent financial constraints, we have regrettably had to postpone this support package to our families; until we are in a more secure financial position. It is in our hope and in our three-year business plan to reintroduce this support package to our families once we are certain we can prevent any adverse impact on Sparkles' financial stability.

Our Vision

Our vision is that all children with Down's syndrome in Buckinghamshire and the surrounding areas throughout their early years, have the opportunity to reach their full potential speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and occupational therapy.

Sparkles has previously been able to provide families with ECHP support for children of school age, this support is currently on pause. Our vision is to restart this package, during this three-year period for families within Buckinghamshire and surrounding areas.



Supporting children
with Down's Syndrome

Our Mission

Our mission is to provide children with Down's syndrome with responsive, high quality therapeutic support that enriches their lives and supports their families.

Our Plan

Our plan for this year

We will ensure that Sparkles has all appropriate policies in place and that they are all up to date.

We will prioritise establishing external funding streams to ensure Sparkles is a financial sustainable service. We will ensure Sparkles have a detailed grant application template in place and ensure that 50% of our income comes from external sources.

We will concentrate on getting at least 40% of existing parents pro-actively engaging in some way with Sparkles.

We will complete a detailed evaluation of our services, both to allow potential new funders to be able to see the value of our work, and to ensure that we are providing the best quality and use of our resources. By the end of year 1 we will have a six-monthly evaluation structure in place.

Plan for the following two years:

By May 2027 Sparkles will have fostered new links with outside groups and professionals, to ensure the parents of every child born with Down's Syndrome in Buckinghamshire and surrounding areas, is aware of our services. We will be receiving 50% of our funding from external sources and will have regular 6 monthly evaluations of our services. Our services will be reliable and sustainable with good succession planning for the board and Trustees. During this three-year period, we will reestablish our EHCP support package, and introduce a yearly speech and language summer camp for our Sparkles families.

Reintroduction of our EHCP support package for school aged children, once Sparkles is back in a sustainable financial environment.

When we are in a financial position to do so, Sparkles will re hire a speech and language assistant, so that we are not over reliant on just the one therapist to cover both sites.

We will prioritise increasing our contacts amongst other groups and professionals to ensure that the parents of every child born with Down's Syndrome in our target area, knows of our existence and the support we can offer.

By the end of year three we will have a firm succession plan in place for the following three years.



Supporting children
with Down's Syndrome

We will look at introducing a yearly speech and language summer camp for current Sparkles families.

Our objectives

By May 2027 Sparkles will have fostered new links with outside groups and professionals, to ensure the parents of every child born with Down's Syndrome in Buckinghamshire and surrounding areas, is aware of our services. We will be receiving 50% of our funding from external sources and will have regular 6 monthly evaluations of our services. Our services will be reliable and sustainable with good succession planning for the board and Trustees. During this three-year period, we will reestablish our EHCP support package, and introduce a yearly speech and language summer camp for our Sparkles families as well as regular meeting for families without a fundraising objective.

Strategic Objectives 2024-2027

1. To identify the number of families of children with Down's syndrome, in our target area, not currently receiving our services and make them aware of them by working closely with other organizations and professionals.
2. To evaluate our therapeutic services to ensure we are providing appropriate, high-quality services, which make the best use of our resources.
3. To establish external funding streams to create a financially sustainable service with funding from external sources composing 50% of our income by the end of year one.
4. To improve internal communications with parents and families to engage more parents to be more actively involved in Sparkles and enable annual succession planning as children leave Sparkles.
5. To improve our marketing and communication to support our objectives, by continuing with our current social media plan as well as introducing fresh marketing materials targeted at parents and at professionals.

Current Therapies

Currently Sparkles provides families with Speech and Language Therapy, Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy.

Speech and Language Therapy

Our SALT sessions occur at Children's Centres in High Wycombe and Aylesbury. Each session is 45 minutes long, weekly during term time and are held in groups of no more than three children and with their parent/carer. Children with Down's syndrome will usually experience challenges with communication to varying degrees, including receptive (understanding) language and expressive (speaking and composing sentences) language skills. Carried out by specialist



Supporting children
with Down's Syndrome

speech and language therapists, the sessions are based on Makaton: a system designed to support spoken language where signs and symbols are used alongside speech, in spoken word order.

Sparkles speech and language therapy focuses on helping our children to talk, but also covers the essential skills needed to communicate effectively. The sessions are designed to engage our members from a young age and include: music, songs and games; listening and comprehension; turn taking; picture and word matching; lip seal and tongue control exercises; phonics; and combining words and sequencing sentences.

These sessions are provided at no cost to our families. Due to the lack of speech and language therapy available on the NHS and the inconsistent level of provision and that Sparkles are a lifeline, easing frustration by enabling communication and helping parents feel supported.

Physiotherapy

Sparkles offers 3 to 6 physiotherapy sessions each year with a specialist practitioner, depending on the age and needs of the child. The sessions are 45 minutes long, one-to-one with the child and parent/carer, and based in a children's physiotherapy clinic in High Wycombe.

Children with Down's syndrome can have low muscle tone and hyper-flexibility, which can make mastering gross motor skills harder. Delays in physical development are not uncommon.

Targeted physiotherapy helps our children achieve major milestones such as sitting, crawling and walking. The sessions are individually tailored, fun and child-centred, enabling children to reach their full potential and grow with confidence. Parents are provided with exercises and activities to follow at home to support their children.

These sessions are free to the families, except where late cancellation fees may apply.

Occupational Therapy

Sparkles, offers 3 to 6 occupational therapy sessions with The Pace Centre, each year, depending on the age and needs of the child. The sessions are 45 minutes long, one-to-one with the child and parent/carer.

With Pace we are working with a team of experienced occupational therapists who are highly skilled in assessing and treating children with learning, behavioural, sensory and developmental difficulties. Some children with Down's syndrome may experience sensitivity to certain food textures, sounds, bright lights and unfamiliar situations, resulting in distress and behavioural issues. Sparkles occupational therapy focuses on these and other sensory processing issues, based on a theory known as Sensory Integration: how our brain receives and processes sensory information so that we can do the things we need to do in our everyday lives.



Supporting children
with Down's Syndrome

This therapy is currently not offered by the NHS. The sessions give parents a greater understanding of sensory processing issues experienced by their child and strategies to limit their impact on their development and day-to-day life.

These sessions are free to the families, except where late cancellation fees may apply.

Achievements

This year's achievements include:

- The continued provision of speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and Occupational therapy. This is a huge achievement, given the global pandemic and the lockdown restrictions we have all faced and are still recovering from.
- The continued support for children in their transition to primary school. Children are provided with an intensive block of speech therapy over the summer holidays before starting school. The therapist liaises with schools to create a bespoke therapy package in order to ease the transition. This includes familiarisation with vocabulary relevant to the school environment and teachers, as well as the first topic to be covered at school. This is followed up by two visits to school during the first year. Teachers and teaching assistants have reported this to be a valuable resource that helps them support the child better and better understand their needs and abilities. Physiotherapy and Occupational therapy sessions also continue to be provided in the first year of school to ease the transition and help children settle into their new environment.
- To support families through the EHCP process by providing expertise and a representative to liaise with the local authority in the process and by reducing the cost to families by funding private assessments and consultancy fees. This support is now on hold until further notice.

Financial Review

A review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period.

Cash reserves are important to maintain a balance between spending and income and to ensure the continuity of essential therapies. The trustees believe that the ideal level of reserves as of 31st March 2025 should be at least £45,000 to cover one year's worth of speech and language, physio, and occupational therapy for all current members.

As of 31 March 2024, the actual cash reserves amounted to £27,871.94, which is significantly lower than the position on 31 March 2023 of £85,410.75. There was a net cash outflow of (£57,538.81) due to increased EHCP support, summer camp expenses, and the lack of grant income. Due to the current expenditure, the trustees have decided to defer EHCP support until our reserves reach £80000 or until we secure any grants or funding for this matter. The Sparkles



Supporting children
with Down's Syndrome

Lottery continues to support Sparkles, and we hope it will grow in participation. Based on the current reserves, cash resources, and fundraising plans, we are hopeful that Sparkles will remain financially stable and able to meet its obligations as they arise.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Sparkles governing document is an association model constitution and the charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its charity trustees.

Appointment of charity trustees

- (1) At every annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, 1/3rd of the charity trustees shall retire from office. If the number of charity trustees is not 3 or a multiple of 3, then the number nearest to 1/3rd shall retire from office, but if there is only 1 charity trustee, he or she shall retire;
- (2) The charity trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment. If any trustees were last appointed or reappointed on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot;
- (3) The vacancies so arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the annual general meeting; any vacancies not filled at the annual general meeting may be filled as provided in sub clause (5) of this clause;
- (4) The members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee, whether in place of a charity trustee who has retired or been removed in accordance with clause [15] (Retirement and removal of charity trustees), or as an additional charity trustee, provided that the limit specified in clause [12(3)] on the number of charity trustees would not as a result be exceeded;
- (5) A person so appointed by the members of the CIO shall retire in accordance with the provisions of sub-clauses (2) and (3) of this clause. A person so appointed by the charity trustees shall retire at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting after the date of his or her appointment, and shall not be counted for the purpose of determining which of the charity trustees is to retire by rotation at that meeting.

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity name: Sparkles: Supporting Children with Down's syndrome

Registered Charity number: 1168036



Supporting children
with Down's Syndrome

Charity's principal address: 50 Scholars Walk, Langley, Slough, Berkshire, SL38LY

Trustees:

Kirsty MacCuish

Chair of Trustees

Graham Smith

Kate Broadway

Bushra Maqsood

Eszter Hegedus

Treasurer



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from 01/04/2023 To 31/03/2024

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

Donations	25,298	375	-	25,673	30,225
Lottery Income	-	-	-	-	3,430
Fundraising Events	1,214	-	-	1,214	2,635
Interest Income	338	-	-	338	178
Sub total (Gross income for A1)	26,850	375	-	27,225	36,468

A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table)

Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	26,850	375	-	27,225	36,468

A3 Payments

SALT	20,898	-	-	20,898	13,647
Physiotherapy	18,435	-	-	18,435	8,620
OT	1,460	-	-	1,460	1,980
EH Consultancy	33,880	-	-	33,880	13,517
Lottery Payouts	1,231	-	-	1,231	1,656
Summer Camp	5,950	-	-	5,950	-
Other Expenses	2,910	-	-	2,910	2,787
Sub total	84,764	-	-	84,764	42,207

A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)

Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	84,764	-	-	84,764	42,207

Net of receipts/(payments)

57,914	375	-	57,539	5,739
-	-	-	-	-
A5 Transfers between funds	85,411	-	85,411	-
Cash funds this year end	27,497	375	27,872	5,739

Address:

NICHOLAS KAREL CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
UNIT 4 CORNWALL ROAD
PINNER HIA5 4UH

Section B

Disclosure

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

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



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Sparkles – Supporting Children with Down Syndrome

On accounts for the year ended

31st March 2024

Charity no (if any)

1168036

Set out on pages

1-2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 03 / 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Nikesh Patel

Date:

12/1/2025

Name:

NIKESH PATEL

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

ICAEW - FCA

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	TSB	17,905	375	-
	METRO	9,592	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	27,497	375	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))


Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Kirsty MacCubbin	20/11/25

SPARKLES - SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH DOWN'S SYNDROME

England & Wales - Charity number 1168036

Accounts

Sparkles: Supporting Children with Down's Syndrome

[N.B. This report was originally submitted on time in January 2024, but it was noticed in March that there was an error in the figures inputted in the Annual Return – which showed the amount for YE March 22 rather than YE March 23 (although the figures in this document and the submitted accounts were correct). Therefore the whole submission had to be withdrawn and resubmitted on 25th March 2024, hence the return showing as late]

Charity number: 1168036

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period ending March 2023.

Chair's Report

This year Sparkles has supported over 50 children with Down's syndrome in and around Buckinghamshire. Of these fifty, 18 children are accessing weekly specialist speech and language therapy, 17 are accessing termly physiotherapy and 11 are accessing termly occupational therapy. We are also continuing with our EHCP support package, which this year has helped seven children. The year ending March 2023 has seen the numbers of children we support start to increase from the artificially low numbers accessing Sparkles during and immediately following the Covid period. On the one hand, it has been fantastic for us to be able to increase our impact again and reach out to many new families, this has also increased the financial pressures on Sparkles, at a time when we have also been experiencing increased costs for our services and lower levels of donations and fundraising than we have historically achieved.

This has meant that in the following year, whilst we have been excited to trial additional activities to expand the age range of children we support, through Makaton classes for babies and funding places for former Sparklers to attend Bright Bloom Speech and Language summer camp, it is uncertain whether we will be able to add these to our regular 'portfolio' of activities. Although we retain the ambition to add to our regular activities, we need to prioritise first and foremost our core therapy offer to pre school children (speech and language, occupational therapy and physiotherapy) until our funds are more stable again.

Big Step Forward

This year the Big Step Forward took place in May 2022 at Ashridge Woods. Many families took part and enthusiastically raised sponsorship money for us, making our grand total **£3,287**. Thank you again to everyone who organised, joined us or sponsored us from afar!

Christmas FUNdraiser and party

In December 2022 we held our now traditional Christmas Party and raffle, again involving interactive story-telling and parachute games from Story Box, and some Christmassy stalls to purchase cards and cakes, together with a toy tombola. Altogether this raised **£1,180**.

World Down's Syndrome Day auction

In March 2023 Sparkles held another online auction for World Down's Syndrome Day, with prizes including an overnight stay at Foxes Hotel in Minehead, a tricycle, craft beer, hand-knitted dolls and a range of vouchers from local companies. **Altogether the auction raised £1,255.91.**

Other donations

We were lucky enough to be picked for the Tesco Community Grant, which raised us £1,480.

A huge thank you to our other donors this year, who have included Liberis Charity (£1,500), the Steeple Claydon branch of the Coop, which raised £1,199 for us in February, 2023, Mencap

Amersham and Chesham branch (£1,000), Action 4 Youth (£590) and £4,171 from PCR Biosystem

We have also had £200 raised by a local Brownie Pack and £131.40 from AEPT Physical Training, and many local schools and nurseries donating to us for World Downs Syndrome Day in March.

WhatsApp groups

During and following the Covid 19 pandemic it also has become clear to us how valuable to Sparkles Parents WhatsApp has been to all our members, old and new alike. The group currently has 59 members and has been a hugely useful resource for all to connect with each other, share parenting experiences, worries, concerns, questions around therapies, health, the DLA and EHCP process, as well as "proud parent moments". There is also a 'spin off' WhatsApp group for Sparklers at School, with 35 members.

Summary of the Sparkles Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) package of support

Since 2020, Sparkles has been offering parents support for applying for EHCPs in preparation for their children starting school.

Aims of the programme

- To ensure that financial barriers are not an obstacle to Sparkles children receiving the high quality EHCPs they need and deserve for a successful transition to school.
- To support Sparkles families navigate the EHCP process, by providing SLT, occupational therapy and physiotherapy reports, expertise and a representative to liaise with their local authority in the process.

- To reduce the need for families to go down the tribunal route, by providing extra evidence on the level support the child requires, and/or how this support is phrased in the document to ensure it is specific and legally binding, once the EHCP has reached draft stage, if the initial draft is deemed inadequate.
- To provide reports and evidence which can be used in tribunals, if required, thereby reducing the cost to families who have to go to tribunal and fund their own private assessments and consultancy fees.

EHCP support Outcomes

As a result of EHCP support input, the families have been able to obtain much better EHCPs for their children:

- Achieving clarity and accountability of the hours of support stated in the EHCP. Final plans stated how many contact/direct hours of therapy were to be provided, and then, in addition, how many hours for report writing, attending annual reviews and liaising with staff and parents. These were all greater than the initial hours stipulated in the draft plans.
- The plans secured have very clear wording around the level of specialism required. For example, “therapist must be specialist in Down’s syndrome”.

In 2022/2023, the Sparkles EHCP support ensured 1-2-1 support for a child’s nursery placement was secured (after a considerable delay to them being granted High Needs Block Funding), another child was able to secure their preferred school placement, and other families were supported to take their initial EHCP to appeal.

Achievements and Performance

This year’s achievements include:

- The continued provision of speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and Occupational therapy. This year has seen more new referrals, both from professionals (health visitors etc), and self-referrals from our Facebook page and via word of mouth from existing families.
- The continued support for children in their transition to primary school. Children are provided with intensive block of speech therapy over the summer holidays prior to starting school. The therapist liaises with schools to create a bespoke package of therapy in order to ease the transition. This includes familiarisation with vocabulary relevant to the school environment, teachers and the first topic to be covered at school. This is followed up by two visits into school during the first year. Teachers and teaching assistants have reported this to

be a valuable resource that helps them to support the child better and have a greater understanding of their needs and abilities.

- Physiotherapy and Occupational therapy sessions also continue to be provided in the first year of school in order to ease the transition and help children settle into their new environment.
- Continuing to support families through the EHCP process, by providing expertise, reports to evidence the children's therapy needs and a representative to liaise with the local authority in the process.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period

Cash reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of resources and to ensure continuity of the provision of core therapies. The trustees consider that the ideal level of reserves as at 31st March 2023 would be at least £40,000 to cover the provision of one year's speech and language, physio and occupational therapy to all current members, along with the current level of EHCP support we provide.

The actual level of cash reserves held at 31 March 2023 were £85,311, lower than our position on 31 March 2022 of £91,150.

An increase in EHCP support and occupational therapy has resulted in a net cash outflow of (£5,838).

The Sparkles Lottery continues to benefit Sparkles, and we are hopeful will continue to grow in numbers, and have plans in place to establish more external sources of income.

Based on the existing reserves and cash resources, together with fundraising plans for the future, we are confident that Sparkles remains a going concern and can satisfy its liabilities as they fall due.

In closing, we would like to thank our team of therapists for their continued hard work, support and championing of our children, our generous donors, the trustees and committee members, all our families and not least our amazing children, who are at the heart of what we do.

Meryn Brown (Chair) and Dylan Jones (Treasurer), 29th January 2024

To find out more about Sparkles please visit our website: www.sparkles.org.uk, see our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SparklesCharity> or email us at SparklesCharity@gmail.com or Sparklestrusteechair@gmail.com

Objectives and Activities

The purposes of the charity are:

Sparkles is a small, parent-led charity that funds the provision of speech and language, physiotherapy and occupational therapy sessions to pre-school children with Down's syndrome living in and around Buckinghamshire. We also organise appropriate leisure and recreational activities for our members and their children, which provides a valuable support network to parents and siblings.

Today, the therapeutic support that we offer through Sparkles is a valuable addition to NHS services, which are not compromised by joining.

Our vision is that all children with Down syndrome in Buckinghamshire; from birth to infant school age; have the opportunity to reach their full potential through early speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and occupational therapy.

Activities

Shaping our activities is our mission to provide children with Down syndrome with responsive, high quality therapeutic support that enriches their lives and supports their families. This is delivered in four main areas: Speech and language therapy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and support for families.

Speech and Language Therapy

Sparkles speech and language therapy sessions take place at Children's Centres in High Wycombe and Aylesbury. Each session is 45 minutes long, weekly (term time only) and held in groups of no more than 3 children and their parent / carer.

Children with Down's syndrome will usually experience challenges with communication to varying degrees, including receptive (understanding) language and expressive (speaking and composing sentences) language skills.

Carried out by specialist speech and language therapists, the sessions are based on Makaton: a system designed to support spoken language where signs and symbols are used alongside speech, in spoken word order.

Our speech and language therapy focuses on helping our children to talk, but also covers the essential skills needed to communicate effectively. The sessions are designed to engage our members from a young age and include:

- Music, songs and games;
- Listening and comprehension;

- Turn taking;
- Picture and word matching;
- Lip seal and tongue control exercises;
- Phonics; and
- Combining words and sequencing sentences

The sessions are provided at no cost to the families. Parent's report that there is either a lack of speech and language therapy available on the NHS or an inconsistent level of provision and that Sparkles is a lifeline, easing frustration by enabling communication and helping parents to feel supported.

Physiotherapy

At Sparkles, we offer 3 to 6 physiotherapy sessions each year with a specialist practitioner, depending on the age and need of the child. The sessions are 45 minutes long, one-to-one with the child and parent/carer, and based in a children's physiotherapy clinic in High Wycombe.

Children with Down's syndrome can have low muscle tone and hyper-flexibility, which can make mastering gross motor skills harder. Delays in physical development are not uncommon. Targeted physiotherapy helps our children achieve major milestones such as sitting, crawling and walking. The sessions are individually tailored, fun and child-centred enabling children to reach their full potential and grow with confidence. Parents are provided with a programme of exercises and activities to follow at home to support their child.

The sessions are provided at no cost to the families, except where late cancellation fees may apply.

Occupational Therapy

At Sparkles, we offer 3 to 6 occupational therapy sessions each year, depending on the age and need of the child. The sessions are 45 minutes long, one-to-one with the child and parent/carer, and based at PACE, a highly equipped clinic in Aylesbury. PACE provides the funding for under 2s, whilst Sparkles takes on the costs for the 2, 3 and 4 year olds.

Public Benefit

In planning our activities for the year and our objectives for the future, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance on public benefit and fee charging. Sparkles relies on fundraising by its members, grants and donations in order to cover the cost of the therapies provided. In accordance with the purposes of the charity, all therapies are provided at no cost to the families attending. This is due to consideration of accessibility for those on

low incomes.

Objectives

- 1 To identify the number of families of children with Down's syndrome, in our target area, not currently receiving our services and make them aware of Sparkles by working closely with other organisations and professionals.
2. To evaluate our therapeutic services to ensure we are providing appropriate, high quality services, that make the best use of our resources.
3. To establish external funding streams to create a financially sustainable service with funding from external sources composing 50% of our income by the end of 2020.
4. To improve internal communications with parents and families to engage more parents to be more actively involved in Sparkles and enable annual succession planning as children leave Sparkles.
5. To improve our marketing and communication to support our objectives, with a new website, and new marketing materials targeted at parents and at professionals.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Sparkles governing document is an association model constitution and the charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its charity trustees.

Appointment of charity trustees

- (1) At every annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, 1/3rd of the charity trustees shall retire from office. If the number of charity trustees is not 3 or a multiple of 3, then the number nearest to 1/3rd shall retire from office, but if there is only 1 charity trustee, he or she shall retire;
- (2) The charity trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment. If any trustees were last appointed or reappointed on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot;
- (3) The vacancies so arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the annual general meeting; any vacancies not filled at the annual general meeting may be filled as provided in sub clause (5) of this clause;
- (4) The members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee, whether in place of a charity trustee who has retired or been removed in accordance with clause [15] (Retirement and removal of charity trustees), or as an additional charity trustee, provided that

the limit specified in clause [12(3)] on the number of charity trustees would not as a result be exceeded;

(5) A person so appointed by the members of the CIO shall retire in accordance with the provisions of sub-clauses (2) and (3) of this clause. A person so appointed by the charity trustees shall retire at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting after the date of his or her appointment, and shall not be counted for the purpose of determining which of the charity trustees is to retire by rotation at that meeting.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
SPARKLES- Supporting Children with Down's Syndrome

168036

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01/04/2022

To

Period end date
31/03/2023

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					
Donations	30,225	-	-	30,225	17,141
Fund Raising- The Ball	-	-	-	-	-
Fund raising- Lottery	3,430	-	-	3,430	-
Fund raising- GYBO	-	-	-	-	-
Fund raising- Other	2,635	-	-	2,635	-
Interest	178	-	-	178	94
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	36,468	-	-	36,468	17,234
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	36,468	-	-	36,468	17,234
A3 Payments					
Speech & Language Therapy	13,647	-	-	13,647	15,182
Physiotherapy	8,620	-	-	8,620	10,115
Leap OT	1,980	-	-	1,980	1,180
Expenses- The Ball	-	-	-	-	-
Expenses- Lottery Prizes	1,656	-	-	1,656	1,534
Expenses- Emma Hopkins	13,517	-	-	13,517	12,485
Expenses- Other	2,787	-	-	2,787	875
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	42,207	-	-	42,207	41,369
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	42,207	-	-	42,207	41,369
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 5,739	-	-	- 5,739	- 24,135
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	91,150	-	-	91,150	115,285
Cash funds this year end	85,411	-	-	85,411	91,150

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		52,143	-	-
		31,422	-	-
		1,846	-	-
	Total cash funds	85,411	-	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				


Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	DYLAN JONES	07/01/24



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name SPARKLES- SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH DOWN SYNDROME

On accounts for the year ended

31ST MARCH 2023

Charity no (if any)

1168036

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 03 / 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
• the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: Raj Kumar Gupta

Date: 07/01/24

Name: RAJ GUPTA

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

CIMA / CIPFA

Address:

42 RAMWORTH WAY
AYLESBURY
BUCKS HP21 7EX

SPARKLES - SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH DOWN'S SYNDROME

England & Wales - Charity number 1168036

Accounts

Sparkles: Supporting Children with Down's Syndrome: Annual Report 2022

Charity number: 1168036

30th January 2023

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period ending March 2022.

Chair's Report

This year Sparkles has supported over 50 children with Down's syndrome in and around Buckinghamshire. 19 children are accessing weekly specialist speech and language therapy, 13 are accessing termly physiotherapy and 11 are accessing termly occupational therapy.

Sparkles is still feeling the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, as whilst speech therapy sessions were able to restart, first online in September 2020, and later face to face in High Wycombe and Aylesbury, and OT and physiotherapy sessions were also able to restart in Autumn 2020, it has become clear that there may be a "missing cohort" of potential Sparklers who did not get to learn about us during lockdown, or through health visitors, who have traditionally done a lot of signposting for us to new starters.

Financial Year 2021-22 has therefore been our first full post-pandemic year, when face to face sessions have been able to be held for all our therapies, some of our newer families have been able to meet each other (and the therapists) in person for the first time, and we were able to hold our major fundraising events, the Big Step Forward and the Christmas FUNdraiser and party again. We have been delighted to be able to return to more normality!

Big Step Forward

In July 2021 we were excited to hold our annual mile long sponsored walk, the Big Step Forward, which took place at Rickmansworth Aerodrome and was followed by a picnic. It was a lovely sunny day, everyone threw themselves into this first face to face fundraising event since 2019, and **it was able to raise nearly £3,500!** A big thank you to the committee and volunteers who helped make it such a success, as well as the Sparkles families who really threw themselves into getting lots of sponsorship!

Christmas FUNdraiser and party

As in late 2021 the situation with Covid 19 still felt uncertain, our Christmas event was lower key than our evening fundraisers in previous years, and we concentrated on combining a raffle with a Christmas Party for our Sparklers and their siblings. Due to illness, including Covid, there was a

smaller turn out than we would have hoped for, but despite this, those who were able to come had a fabulous time, enjoying crafts, soft play, and a magical story-telling session from, Sian, one of our wonderful speech therapists, who also works with Story Box. **The raffle raised £1,242.** Thank you to all our generous donors for giving us such lovely prizes, and to friends and families for purchasing tickets.

World Down's Syndrome Day auction

In March 2022 Sparkles held its first ever online auction, with prizes including an overnight stay at Foxes Hotel in Minehead, personal training sessions, a range of vouchers, including £100 for The Entertainer toy shop, and various local businesses and attractions including Bekonscot Model Village and St Tiggywinkles. **Altogether the auction raised £1,300.**

Other notable donations:

Other large donations included **£2,000** from the **Mildred Duveen Charitable Trust**, and **£1,000** from the **Amersham and District Mencap branch**. We are all very grateful for your generosity and support.

WhatsApp groups

During and following the Covid 19 pandemic it also has become clear to us how valuable to Sparkles Parents WhatsApp has been to all our members, old and new alike. The group currently has 59 members and has been a hugely useful resource for all to connect with each other, share parenting experiences, worries, concerns, questions around therapies, health, the DLA and EHCP process, as well as "proud parent moments". There is also a 'spin off' WhatsApp group for Sparklers at School.

The Sparkles Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) package of support

Aims of the programme

- To ensure that financial barriers are not an obstacle to Sparkles children receiving the high quality EHCPs they need and deserve for a successful transition to school or pre-school.
- To support Sparkles families navigate the EHCP process, by providing private SLT, occupational therapy and physiotherapy reports, expertise and a representative to liaise with their local authority in the process.
- To reduce the need for families to go down the tribunal route, by providing extra evidence on the level support the child requires, and/or how this support is phrased in the document

to ensure it is specific and legally binding, once the EHCP has reached Final stage, if the initial draft is deemed inadequate.

- To provide reports and evidence which can be used in tribunals, if required, thereby reducing the cost to families who have to go to tribunal and fund their own private assessments and consultancy fees.

Outcomes

As a result of EHCP support input, five Sparkles families who requested the support were able to obtain much better EHCPs for their children:

- Achieving clarity and accountability of the hours of support stated in the EHCP. It is stated in the plan how many contact/direct hours therapy and then, in addition, hours for report writing, attending annual reviews and liaising with staff and parents.
- The plans secured have very clear wording around the level of specialism required. For example, “therapist must be specialist in Down’s syndrome”.
- The physiotherapy secured includes additional hours for staff training, much of this is to be delivered by Debbie Benecke from Wesley Court Children’s Physiotherapy, who provides the Sparkles physio sessions.

The final plans adopted after parents receiving help through Sparkles EHCP support had important additional clarity, including, for example, that therapists are required to feed back to parents after each session; the level of training staff required to have; trained in specific techniques for children with Down’s syndrome; the provision of specialist seating at home and school; OT trained in sensory integration. Please see the table below for details of the outcomes achieved for the EHCPs as a result of the Sparkles support package:

Table 1: EHCP Support Outcomes 2021-2022

Provision	Child 1	Initial EHCP	Final EHCP
1:1 Adult Support		None specified	Full time 1:1, allocated and trained LSA 32.5 hours per week.
SALT		12.5 hours per year – inc. 7.5 direct, 5 indirect, 3 admin	Private SLT – 31 hours per year, specialist DS SLT inc 18 direct, 13 for training and programme writing, review and annual review
OT		None	Private OT – 39 hours per year, inc training for staff
Physio		None	Private Physio – 27 hours per year

HI/VI	None identified	Visual assessment – behavioural optometrist
DS STS	None	18 hours per year
Other	N/A	Personal budget secured for therapy provision delivery

Provision	Child 2	Initial EHCP	Final EHCP
1:1 Adult Support		None specified	Full time 1:1 allocated and trained LSA
SALT		None – “awaiting assessment”	20 hours specialist SLT per year Training to staff
OT		6 hours per year	6 hours per year and training for staff
Physio		None	8 hours per year inc training for staff and programmes
HI/VI		None	Visual adaptations specified – Referral to VI Specialist Teachers
DS STS		None	Termly visits for review and advice
Other			Specialist seating and tables, classroom and environment audit

Provision	Child 3	Initial EHCP	Final EHCP
1:1 Adult Support		Not specified	At all times allocated, named and trained 1:1 support
SALT		26 hours – with assistant, not specified direct therapy	27.5 hours – 19.5 hours direct hours with specialist and Alternative Augmentic Communication specialist support
OT		12 hours – with assistant, not quantified or specific, no direct work specified	20 hours with a Occupational Therapist
Physio		12 hours – with assistant, not quantified or specific – no direct specified	14 hours direct with Specialist Physiotherapist

Other		ICT equipment, specialist resources, training for staff
DS STS	N/A	N/A
Other	No placement named	Parents chosen special school agreed with transport budget

Provision	Child 4	Initial EHCP	Final EHCP
1:1 Adult Support		None – supervision only	Full time 1:1, allocated and trained LSA. Plus additional 2 hours per week to prepare resources
SALT		6 training sessions per term for staff, no direct therapy	34 hours per year DS specialist SLT Fortnightly direct
OT		None	24 hours per year, specialist OT
Physio		None	6 hours per year specialist Physio
HI/VI		None	Hearing impairment specialist teacher assessment ordered by Judge
DS STS		None	12 hours DS Specialist teacher per year

Provision	Child 5	Initial EHCP	Final EHCP
1:1 Adult Support		None quantified, some adult support for interventions	Full time 1:1, allocated and trained HLTA
SALT		20 hours per year, non specified and with assistant.	Total communication environment, Makaton training for all staff, daily SLT sessions with trained HLTA, 29 hours per year specialist DS Speech Therapist Dysphagia support
OT		3.5 hours – assistant delivery	22 hours per year specialist OT and training for staff
Physio		None	4 hours per year specialist Physio

HI/VI	None	4 hours per year from hearing impairment specialist, staff training and classroom audit
DS STS	None specified or quantified, tiered support	36 hours per year DS Specialist Teaching, inc training for staff
Other		Adapted seating and table Health care plan for diabetes

In closing, I would like to thank our team of therapists at Little Talkers, Wesley Court Childrens Physiotherapy and PACE for their continued hard work and support, our generous donors, the trustees and committee members, and last but not least, all our families and our amazing children, who are at the heart of what we do.

Meryn Brown, Chair of Trustees, 30 January 2023

To find out more about Sparkles please visit our website: www.sparkles.org.uk or email us:

info@sparkles.org.uk

Objectives and Activities

The purposes of the charity are:

Sparkles is a small, parent-led charity that funds the provision of speech and language, physiotherapy and occupational therapy sessions to pre-school children with Down's syndrome living in and around Buckinghamshire. We also organise appropriate leisure and recreational activities for our members and their children, which provides a valuable support network to parents and siblings.

Today, the therapeutic support that we offer through Sparkles is a valuable addition to NHS services, which are not compromised by joining.

Our vision is that all children with Down syndrome in Buckinghamshire; from birth to infant school age; have the opportunity to reach their full potential through early speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and occupational therapy.

Activities:

Shaping our activities is our mission to provide children with Down syndrome with responsive, high quality therapeutic support that enriches their lives and supports their families. This is delivered in four main areas: Speech and language therapy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and support for families.

Speech and Language Therapy

Sparkles speech and language therapy sessions take place at Children's Centres in High Wycombe and Aylesbury. Each session is 45 minutes long, weekly (term time only) and held in groups of no more than 3 children and their parent / carer.

Children with Down's syndrome will usually experience challenges with communication to varying degrees, including receptive (understanding) language and expressive (speaking and composing sentences) language skills.

Carried out by specialist speech and language therapists, the sessions are based on Makaton: a system designed to support spoken language where signs and symbols are used alongside speech, in spoken word order.

Our speech and language therapy focuses on helping our children to talk, but also covers the essential skills needed to communicate effectively. The sessions are designed to engage our members from a young age and include:

- Music, songs and games;
- Listening and comprehension;
- Turn taking;
- Picture and word matching;

- Lip seal and tongue control exercises;
- Phonics; and
- Combining words and sequencing sentences

The sessions are provided at no cost to the families. Parent's report that there is either a lack of speech and language therapy available on the NHS or an inconsistent level of provision and that Sparkles is a lifeline, easing frustration by enabling communication and helping parents to feel supported.

Physiotherapy

At Sparkles, we offer 3 to 6 physiotherapy sessions each year with a specialist practitioner, depending on the age and need of the child. The sessions are 45 minutes long, one-to-one with the child and parent/carer, and based in a children's physiotherapy clinic in High Wycombe.

Children with Down's syndrome can have low muscle tone and hyper-flexibility, which can make mastering gross motor skills harder. Delays in physical development are not uncommon. Targeted physiotherapy helps our children achieve major milestones such as sitting, crawling and walking. The sessions are individually tailored, fun and child-centred enabling children to reach their full potential and grow with confidence. Parents are provided with a programme of exercises and activities to follow at home to support their child.

The sessions are provided at no cost to the families, except where late cancellation fees may apply.

Occupational Therapy

At Sparkles, we offer 3 to 6 occupational therapy sessions each year, depending on the age and need of the child. The sessions are 45 minutes long, one-to-one with the child and parent/carer, and based in a highly equipped clinic in Aylesbury.

We are working with a team of experienced occupational therapists who are highly skilled in the assessment and treatment of children with learning, behavioural and developmental difficulties.

Some children with Down's syndrome may experience sensitivity to certain food textures, sounds, bright lights and unfamiliar situations, resulting in distress and behavioural issues.

Sparkles occupational therapy focuses on these and other sensory processing issues, based on a theory known as Sensory Integration: how our brain receives and processes sensory information so that we can do the things we need to do in our everyday life. This therapy is currently not offered by the NHS.

The sessions give parents a greater understanding of sensory processing issues experienced by their child and strategies to limit their impact on their development and day-to-day life.

The sessions are provided at no cost to the families, except where late cancellation fees may apply.

Public Benefit

In planning our activities for the year and our objectives for the future, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance on public benefit and fee charging. Sparkles relies on fundraising by its members, grants and donations in order to cover the cost of the therapies provided. In accordance with the purposes of the charity, all therapies are provided at no cost to the families attending. This is due to consideration of accessibility for those on low incomes.

Objectives

- 1 To identify the number of families of children with Down's syndrome, in our target area, not currently receiving our services and make them aware of Sparkles by working closely with other organisations and professionals.
2. To evaluate our therapeutic services to ensure we are providing appropriate, high quality services, that make the best use of our resources.
3. To establish external funding streams to create a financially sustainable service with funding from external sources composing 50% of our income by the end of 2020.
4. To improve internal communications with parents and families to engage more parents to be more actively involved in Sparkles and enable annual succession planning as children leave Sparkles.
5. To improve our marketing and communication to support our objectives, with a new website, and new marketing materials targeted at parents and at professionals.

Achievements and Performance

This year's achievements include:

- Continued provision of speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and occupational therapy.
- Continued signposting of Sparkles to new parents and welcoming them to our WhatsApp support group, whilst they wait for therapies to begin.
- Continued support for children in their transition to primary school. Children are provided with an intensive block of speech therapy over the summer holidays prior to starting school. The speech therapist liaises with schools to create a bespoke package of therapy in order to ease the transition. This includes familiarisation with vocabulary relevant to the school environment, teachers and the first topic to be covered at school. This is followed up by two visits into school during the first year. Teachers and teaching assistants have reported this to be a valuable resource that helps them to support the child better and have a greater understanding of their needs and abilities.

- Physiotherapy and Occupational therapy sessions also continue to be provided in the first year of school in order to ease the transition and help children settle into their new environment.
- The second year of our tailored EHCP application support, which has provided Sparkles leavers with expertise and a representative to liaise with the local authority in the process and by reducing the cost to families by funding private assessments and consultancy fees.

Financial Review: Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period

Cash reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of resources and to ensure continuity of the provision of core therapies. The trustees consider that the ideal level of reserves as at 31st March 2022 would be at least £40,000 to cover the provision of one year's speech and language therapy to all current members, based on £50 per session per child and c36 sessions per annum.

The actual level of cash reserves held at 31 March 2022 were £91,150, lower than our position on 31 March 2021 of £115,285.

An increase in speech and language therapy provision, physiotherapy and occupational therapy has resulted in a net cash outflow of £24,135. We have also increased EHCP support for a set number of parents who would otherwise be unable to fund this themselves, and plan to focus fundraising to continue this worthwhile effort. We are hopeful the lottery will continue to grow in numbers and have plans in place to establish more external sources of income.

Based on the existing reserves and cash resources, together with fundraising plans for the future, we are confident that Sparkles remains a going concern and can satisfy its liabilities as they fall due.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's
report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
SPARKLES - SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH DOWN SYNDROME

On accounts for the year
ended

31st MARCH 2022

Charity no
(if any)

1168036

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

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

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: Raj Kumar Gupta

Date: 29/01/2023

Name: RAJ KUMAR GUPTA

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

CIMA & CIPFA APPRENTICE

Address: 42 RAMWORTH WAY

AYLESBURY

BUCKS HP21 7EX

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Sparkles governing document is an association model constitution and the charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its charity trustees.

Appointment of charity trustees

- (1) At every annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, 1/3rd of the charity trustees shall retire from office. If the number of charity trustees is not 3 or a multiple of 3, then the number nearest to 1/3rd shall retire from office, but if there is only 1 charity trustee, he or she shall retire;
- (2) The charity trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment. If any trustees were last appointed or reappointed on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot;
- (3) The vacancies so arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the annual general meeting; any vacancies not filled at the annual general meeting may be filled as provided in sub clause (5) of this clause;
- (4) The members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee, whether in place of a charity trustee who has retired or been removed in accordance with clause [15] (Retirement and removal of charity trustees), or as an additional charity trustee, provided that the limit specified in clause [12(3)] on the number of charity trustees would not as a result be exceeded;
- (5) A person so appointed by the members of the CIO shall retire in accordance with the provisions of sub-clauses (2) and (3) of this clause. A person so appointed by the charity trustees shall retire at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting after the date of his or her appointment, and shall not be counted for the purpose of determining which of the charity trustees is to retire by rotation at that meeting.

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity name: Sparkles: Supporting Children with Down's syndrome

Registered Charity number: 1168036

Charity's principal address: 8 Frances Street, Chesham, Buckinghamshire, HP5 3EQ

Trustees:

M. Brown, Chair (Appointed as chair September 2022; appointed to the trustees January 2022)

C. Scurlock, Chair (Resigned September 2022)

T. Hall, Secretary

D. Jones, Treasurer

K Pearce (Appointed January 2022)

M. Selby-Boothroyd

G. Smith



Receipts and payments account

For the period from	Period start date 04/01/2019	To
---------------------	---------------------------------	----

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £
A1 Receipts			
Donations	45,797	-	-
Fund Raising- The Ball	-	-	-
Fund raising- Lottery	3,660	-	-
Fund raising- GYBO	7,917	-	-
Fund raising- Other	-	-	-
Interest	307	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	57,681	-	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-
Total receipts	57,681	-	-
A3 Payments			
Speech & Language Therapy	36,800	-	-
Physiotherapy	13,960	-	-
Leap OT	5,313	-	-
Expenses- The Ball	2,465	-	-
Expenses- Lottery Prizes	1,850	-	-
Expenses- Other	4,599	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Sub total	64,985	-	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-
Total payments	64,985	-	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	7,304	-	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	118,592	-	-
Cash funds this year end	111,289	-	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		80,022
		30,954
		313
	Total cash funds	111,289
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs
B3 Investment assets		

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates
B5 Liabilities		

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

Signature

Print N

168036

Accounts

Period end date
03/31/2020

CC16a



Total funds

Last year

to the nearest £

to the nearest £

45,797	61,416
-	3,755
3,660	3,705
7,917	8,176
-	-
307	122
-	-
-	-
57,681	77,174

-	
-	-
-	-
57,681	77,174

36,800	32,670
13,960	10,360
5,313	3,675
2,465	1,815
1,850	1,653
4,599	1,716
-	-
-	-
-	-
64,985	51,889

-	
-	
-	-
64,985	51,889

- 7,304	25,285
-	-
118,592	93,308
111,289	118,593

the period

Restricted funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-

OK

Endowment funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-

OK

Restricted funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

Endowment funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

Cost (optional)

-
-
-
-
-

Current value (optional)

-
-
-
-
-

Cost (optional)

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

Current value (optional)

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

Amount due (optional)

-
-

When due (optional)

	-	
	-	
	-	

lame

Date of approval



Receipts and payments account

For the period from	Period start date 04/01/2020	To
---------------------	---------------------------------	----

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £
A1 Receipts			
Donations	21,859	-	-
Fund Raising- The Ball		-	-
Fund raising- Lottery	3,715	-	-
Fund raising- GYBO		-	-
Fund raising- Other		-	-
Interest	197	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	25,771	-	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-
Total receipts	25,771	-	-
A3 Payments			
Speech & Language Therapy	13,992	-	-
Physiotherapy	3,970	-	-
Leap OT		-	-
Expenses- The Ball		-	-
Expenses- Lottery Prizes	1,969	-	-
Expenses- Emma Hopkins	1,334	-	-
Expenses- Other	510	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Sub total	21,775	-	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-
Total payments	21,775	-	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,996	-	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	111,289	-	-
Cash funds this year end	115,285	-	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		84,114
		31,151
		20
	Total cash funds	115,285
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs
B3 Investment assets		

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates
B5 Liabilities		

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

Signature

Print N

168036

Accounts

Period end date
03/31/2021

CC16a



Total funds

Last year

to the nearest £

to the nearest £

21,859	45,797
-	-
3,715	3,660
-	7,917
-	-
197	307
-	-
-	-
25,771	57,681

-	
-	-
-	-
25,771	57,681

13,992	36,800
3,970	13,960
-	5,313
-	
1,969	1,850
1,334	2,465
510	4,599
-	-
-	-
21,775	64,985

-	
-	
-	-
21,775	64,985

3,996	- 7,304
-	-
111,289	118,592
115,285	111,289

the period

Restricted funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-

OK

Endowment funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-

OK

Restricted funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

Endowment funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

Cost (optional)

-
-
-
-
-

Current value (optional)

-
-
-
-
-

Cost (optional)

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

Current value (optional)

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

Amount due (optional)

-
-

When due (optional)

	-	
	-	
	-	

lame

Date of approval



Receipts and payments account

For the period from	Period start date 04/01/2021	To
---------------------	---------------------------------	----

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £
A1 Receipts			
Donations	17,141	-	-
Fund Raising- The Ball		-	-
Fund raising- Lottery		-	-
Fund raising- GYBO		-	-
Fund raising- Other		-	-
Interest	94	-	-
		-	-
		-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	17,234	-	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-
Total receipts	17,234	-	-
A3 Payments			
Speech & Language Therapy	15,182	-	-
Physiotherapy	10,115	-	-
Leap OT	1,180	-	-
Expenses- The Ball		-	-
Expenses- Lottery Prizes	1,534	-	-
Expenses- Emma Hopkins	12,485	-	-
Expenses- Other	875	-	-
		-	-
		-	-
Sub total	41,369	-	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-
Total payments	41,369	-	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	24,135	-	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	115,285	-	-
Cash funds this year end	91,150	-	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		59,239
		31,244
		667
	Total cash funds	91,150

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-
		-
		-
		-
		-
		-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs
B3 Investment assets		

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates
B5 Liabilities		

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

Signature

Print N

168036

Accounts

Period end date
03/31/2022

CC16a



Total funds

Last year

to the nearest £

to the nearest £

17,141	21,859
-	-
-	3,715
-	-
-	-
94	197
-	-
-	-
17,234	25,771

-	
-	-
-	-
17,234	25,771

15,182	13,992
10,115	3,970
1,180	-
-	-
1,534	1,969
12,485	1,334
875	510
-	-
-	-
41,369	21,775

-	
-	
-	-
41,369	21,775

- 24,135	3,996
-	-
115,285	111,289
91,150	115,285

the period

Restricted funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-

OK

Endowment funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-

OK

Restricted funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

Endowment funds
to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

Cost (optional)

-
-
-
-
-

Current value (optional)

-
-
-
-
-

Cost (optional)

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

Current value (optional)

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

Amount due (optional)

-
-

When due (optional)

	-	
	-	
	-	

lame

Date of approval

SPARKLES - SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH DOWN'S SYNDROME

England & Wales - Charity number 1168036

Accounts



Supporting children
with Down's Syndrome

Sparkles: Supporting Children with Down's Syndrome

Charity number: 1168036

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period ending March 2021.

Chairs Report

This year Sparkles has supported over 26 children with Down's syndrome in and around Buckinghamshire. 25 children are accessing weekly specialist speech and language therapy, 19 are accessing termly physiotherapy and 24 are accessing termly occupational therapy.

It would not be possible to write this report without acknowledging the huge impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Within our charity, the impact of the initial lock down in March 2020 meant an abrupt and unforeseen end to all face-to-face therapy sessions. Some of our children are extremely clinically vulnerable and there was a huge amount of concern for all our members at the time.

We found ways to support our families and our therapists worked hard to send resources, activity sheets and Makaton signs via email to help keep up the vital therapy we provide and to provide some familiar routines during the first lockdown.

In June, our committee arranged a month of fundraising. The "21 Sparkles Challenge" saw our families taking on challenges including: learning 21 signs; singing 21 songs; learning to count to 21; learning 21 tricks; and walking 2.1km per day. Our families certainly stepped up to the challenge and raised over £4000.

In August, we were grateful to receive a grant which funded a day event with Animal Antiks. The families who attended had a fantastic day and it was really positive to bring families together again face to face. A welcome break from the virtual world and lock down.

Following the summer break, we resumed our therapy sessions in September and had to make the transition to virtual sessions. I cannot thank our therapists enough for the incredible job they did in creating virtual sessions that not only helped our children progress, but were fun, engaging and innovative. Our speech and language therapy sessions were incredibly creative, at one point our therapist was sending items down a long tube toward the camera on her laptop to create the sense of the object zooming towards the child watching – and the children loved this and were really excited to name the object as quickly as they could. Our families sent videos of their child's progress in physiotherapy, and these were used to plan the next session and future targets.

I would like to thank our committee for their supportive creativity in arranging a virtual Christmas party for our families. Gift packs were posted out to all the children and included cookies, colouring

packs, Santa hats and more. The online event involved games, activities, a raffle and even a visit from Santa himself. The raffle raised over £1000.

It has not been possible to carry out our traditional fundraising events this year. There has been no sponsored walk or evening fundraiser and our members have not been able to arrange their sponsored events involving groups of people. Despite this, we have continued to receive donations and thanks to the creativity, dedication and hard work of our committee and our families, we have continued to raise valuable funds even in these exceptional circumstances.

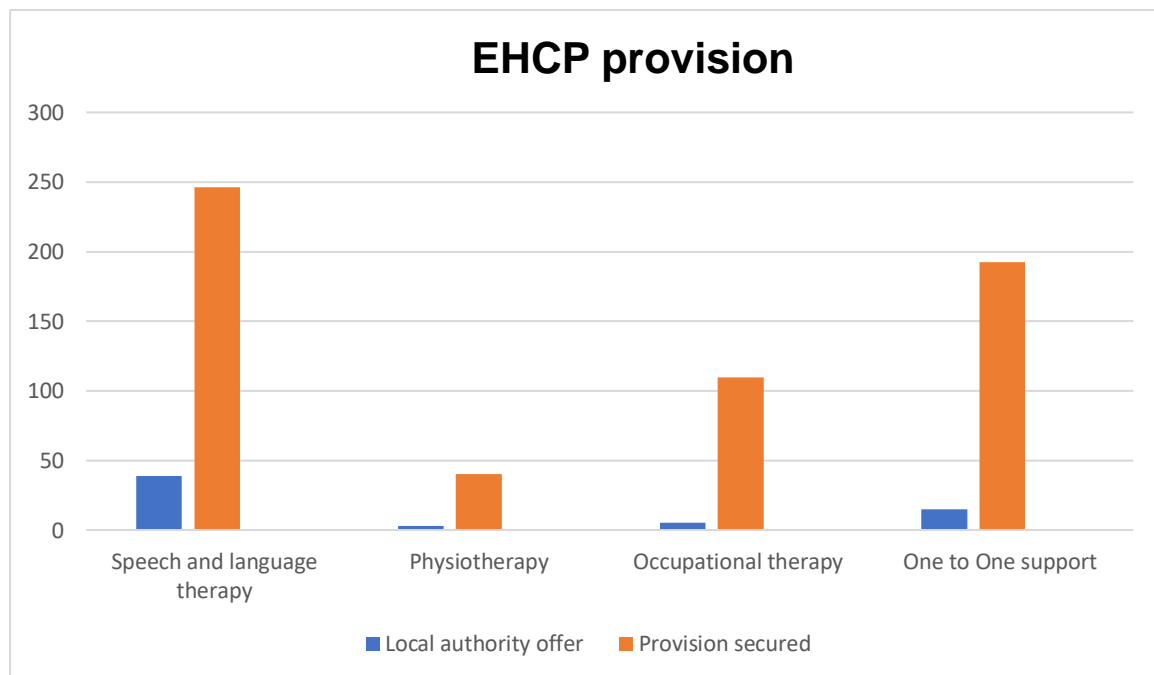
Following a review of the package of support for Education and Health Care Plans (EHCP) we were able to offer the package again this year, to the four children starting school in September.

Summary of the Review of Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) Sparkles package of support Sep 2019 - August 2020

Aims of the programme

To support families through the EHCP process, by providing expertise and a representative to liaise with the local authority in the process and by reducing the cost to families by funding private assessments and consultancy fees.

Outcomes



Additional outcomes

The desired outcome is not merely to increase hours, it is to meet the needs of the individual children. Some children will need more OT hours than others, some more physio than others. Some may need specialist support from vision impairment, hearing impairment or health-based needs. The review of the EHCP considers all of these areas and requests for statutory assessments have been made when required for the individual child.

LA offers had wording such as “when appropriate” and “to be used flexibly” these are not quantified and specific hours and therefore the LA cannot be held accountable if sufficient provision is not in place.

The plans secured also have very clear wording around the level of specialism required. For example “therapist must be specialist in Down’s syndrome”.

Where parents could self-fund a report from Inclusively Downs, they were able to secure specialist teaching hours. Buckinghamshire is the only county to have a Down’s syndrome specialist teaching service. Other counties have generic specialist teaching services.

An important difference between the LA’s offer and the secured plan, is the clarity and accountability of the hours. It is stated in the plan how many contact/direct hours therapy and then in addition hours for report writing, attending annual reviews and liaising with staff and parents.

The physio secured includes additional hours for staff training, much of this is to be delivered by Debbie.

Additional clarity within the plans - therapist to feedback to parents after each session; level of training staff required to have; trained in specific techniques for children with Down’s syndrome; provision of specialist seating at home and school; OT trained in sensory integration

Feedback from parents

5 out of the 9 parents have given feedback. Feedback was obtained by a telephone call between me and the parent. Semi-structured questions were used to guide relevant information in the areas highlighted below. Feedback has been anonymised.

Understanding of EHCP process before starting the programme

Generally, parents had very little understanding of the process and were not clear on what should be included in the plan. One had completed courses from other charities so had some understanding.

Emma’s workshop was found to be really useful, gave a heads up on the legality of the process, but was a lot of information in a short space of time.

Professionals

Many parents had to self-fund appeals and this stretched their finances and added pressure to the situation. They were all pleased with the final outcome, one saying the results were amazing.

Parents were very happy with the quality of the therapists reports although delays in getting the reports were common.

Would you recommend to others?

All parents said they would recommend the programme to others, saying it was really valuable and the outcomes for their children were amazing.

Summary

The support offered by Sparkles has clearly contributed to some amazing outcomes and we now have at least 6 children with Down’s syndrome who will start their school life with high quality, specialist therapy at the recommended amount. The plans these children have are legally binding documents and reflect the appropriate provision of therapy as agreed by the local authority when

challenged. Without challenge, the local authorities will offer a reflection of the limited services they have, and this falls very short of meeting the needs of our complex, amazing children.

The results are so much more than numbers of hours. The plans are clear on the level of specialism required; the need for training within schools; the particular health needs of individuals and how these are to be met; and they do what the EHCP was always meant to do - describe the needs of children and how these needs will be met.

We have learnt lessons from this first year. The need for funding to support appeals is clear. We must ensure that no family is left without an adequate EHCP as a result of financial differences. We need to better support our therapists in the process - the proposed changes to include terms and conditions for parents and the prioritising of cases aims to reduce the pressure felt last year.

Conclusion

Sparkles has made a great start in reducing inequality among the provision of support for children starting school. With the agreement to fund the appeal process for the next cohort and clearer expectations for parents and therapists I am confident this year will continue to produce amazing outcomes that will support our mission to provide children with Down's syndrome with responsive, high quality therapeutic support that enriches their lives and supports their families.

In closing, I would like to thank our team of therapists for their continued hard work and support, our generous donors, the trustees and committee members, all our families and our amazing children, who are at the heart of what we do.

To find out more about Sparkles please visit our website: www.sparkles.org.uk or email us: info@sparkles.org.uk

Objectives and Activities

The purposes of the charity are:

Sparkles is a small, parent-led charity that funds the provision of speech and language, physiotherapy and occupational therapy sessions to pre-school children with Down's syndrome living in and around Buckinghamshire. We also organise appropriate leisure and recreational activities for our members and their children, which provides a valuable support network to parents and siblings.

Today, the therapeutic support that we offer through Sparkles is a valuable addition to NHS services, which are not compromised by joining.

Our vision is that all children with Down syndrome in Buckinghamshire; from birth to infant school age; have the opportunity to reach their full potential through early speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and occupational therapy.

Activities

Shaping our activities is our mission to provide children with Down syndrome with responsive, high quality therapeutic support that enriches their lives and supports their families. This is delivered in

four main areas: Speech and language therapy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and support for families.

Speech and Language Therapy

Sparkles speech and language therapy sessions take place at Children's Centres in High Wycombe and Aylesbury. Each session is 45 minutes long, weekly (term time only) and held in groups of no more than 3 children and their parent / carer.

Children with Down's syndrome will usually experience challenges with communication to varying degrees, including receptive (understanding) language and expressive (speaking and composing sentences) language skills.

Carried out by specialist speech and language therapists, the sessions are based on Makaton: a system designed to support spoken language where signs and symbols are used alongside speech, in spoken word order.

Our speech and language therapy focuses on helping our children to talk, but also covers the essential skills needed to communicate effectively. The sessions are designed to engage our members from a young age and include:

- Music, songs and games;
- Listening and comprehension;
- Turn taking;
- Picture and word matching;
- Lip seal and tongue control exercises;
- Phonics; and
- Combining words and sequencing sentences

The sessions are provided at no cost to the families. Parent's report that there is either a lack of speech and language therapy available on the NHS or an inconsistent level of provision and that Sparkles is a lifeline, easing frustration by enabling communication and helping parents to feel supported.

Physiotherapy

At Sparkles, we offer 3 to 6 physiotherapy sessions each year with a specialist practitioner, depending on the age and need of the child. The sessions are 45 minutes long, one-to-one with the child and parent/carer, and based in a children's physiotherapy clinic in High Wycombe.

Children with Down's syndrome can have low muscle tone and hyper-flexibility, which can make mastering gross motor skills harder. Delays in physical development are not uncommon. Targeted physiotherapy helps our children achieve major milestones such as sitting, crawling and walking.

The sessions are individually tailored, fun and child-centred enabling children to reach their full potential and grow with confidence. Parents are provided with a programme of exercises and activities to follow at home to support their child.

The sessions are provided at no cost to the families, except where late cancellation fees may apply.

Occupational Therapy

At Sparkles, we offer 3 to 6 occupational therapy sessions each year, depending on the age and need of the child. The sessions are 45 minutes long, one-to-one with the child and parent/carer, and based in a highly equipped clinic in Aylesbury.

We are working with a team of experienced occupational therapists who are highly skilled in the assessment and treatment of children with learning, behavioural and developmental difficulties.

Some children with Down's syndrome may experience sensitivity to certain food textures, sounds, bright lights and unfamiliar situations, resulting in distress and behavioural issues.

Sparkles occupational therapy focuses on these and other sensory processing issues, based on a theory known as Sensory Integration: how our brain receives and processes sensory information so that we can do the things we need to do in our everyday life. This therapy is currently not offered by the NHS.

The sessions give parents a greater understanding of sensory processing issues experienced by their child and strategies to limit their impact on their development and day-to-day life.

The sessions are provided at no cost to the families, except where late cancellation fees may apply.

Public Benefit

In planning our activities for the year and our objectives for the future, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance on public benefit and fee charging. Sparkles relies on fundraising by its members, grants and donations in order to cover the cost of the therapies provided. In accordance with the purposes of the charity, all therapies are provided at no cost to the families attending. This is due to consideration of accessibility for those on low incomes.

Objectives

- 1 To identify the number of families of children with Down's syndrome, in our target area, not currently receiving our services and make them aware of Sparkles by working closely with other organisations and professionals.
2. To evaluate our therapeutic services to ensure we are providing appropriate, high quality services, that make the best use of our resources.
3. To establish external funding streams to create a financially sustainable service with funding from external sources composing 50% of our income by the end of 2020.
4. To improve internal communications with parents and families to engage more parents to be more actively involved in Sparkles and enable annual succession planning as children leave Sparkles.
5. To improve our marketing and communication to support our objectives, with a new website, and new marketing materials targeted at parents and at professionals.

Achievements and Performance

This year's achievements include:

The continued provision of speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and Occupational therapy. This is a huge achievement given the global pandemic and the lock down restrictions we have all faced.

The continued support for children in their transition to primary school. Children are provided with an intensive block of speech therapy over the summer holidays prior to starting school. The therapist liaises with schools to create a bespoke package of therapy in order to ease the transition. This includes familiarisation with vocabulary relevant to the school environment, teachers and the first topic to be covered at school. This is followed up by two visits into school during the first year. Teachers and teaching assistants have reported this to be a valuable resource that helps them to support the child better and have a greater understanding of their needs and abilities.

Physiotherapy and Occupational therapy sessions also continue to be provided in the first year of school in order to ease the transition and help children settle into their new environment.

The introduction of a new programme to support families through the EHCP process, by providing expertise and a representative to liaise with the local authority in the process and by reducing the cost to families by funding private assessments and consultancy fees.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period

Cash reserves are needed to bridge the gap between the spending and receiving of resources and to ensure continuity of the provision of core therapies. The trustees consider that the ideal level of reserves as at 31st March 2021 would be at least £40,000 to cover the provision of one year's speech and language therapy to all current members, based on £50 per session per child and c36 sessions per annum.

The actual level of cash reserves held at 31 March 2021 were £115,285, slightly higher than our position on 31 March 2020 of £111,289.

A reduction in speech and language therapy provision, physiotherapy and occupational therapy has resulted in a net cash inflow of £3,995. We are hopeful the lottery will continue to grow in numbers and have plans in place to establish more external sources of income.

Based on the existing reserves and cash resources, together with fundraising plans for the future, we are confident that Sparkles remains a going concern and can satisfy its liabilities as they fall due.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Sparkles governing document is an association model constitution and the charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its charity trustees.

Appointment of charity trustees

(1) At every annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, 1/3rd of the charity trustees shall retire from office. If the number of charity trustees is not 3 or a multiple of 3, then the number nearest to 1/3rd shall retire from office, but if there is only 1 charity trustee, he or she shall retire;

(2) The charity trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment. If any trustees were last appointed or reappointed on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot;

(3) The vacancies so arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the annual general meeting; any vacancies not filled at the annual general meeting may be filled as provided in sub clause (5) of this clause;

4) The members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee, whether in place of a charity trustee who has retired or been removed in accordance with clause [15] (Retirement and removal of charity trustees), or as an additional charity trustee, provided that the limit specified in clause [12(3)] on the number of charity trustees would not as a result be exceeded;

(5) A person so appointed by the members of the CIO shall retire in accordance with the provisions of sub-clauses (2) and (3) of this clause. A person so appointed by the charity trustees shall retire at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting after the date of his or her appointment, and shall not be counted for the purpose of determining which of the charity trustees is to retire by rotation at that meeting.

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity name: Sparkles: Supporting Children with Down's syndrome

Registered Charity number: 1168036

Charity's principal address: 3, Daly Way, Aylesbury, HP20 1JY

Trustees:

C. Scurlock Chair

T. Hall Secretary

D. Jones Treasurer

T. Hynes

C. Kaye

M. Selby-Boothroyd

G. Smith



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Receipts and payments accounts

SPARKLES - Supporting Children with Down's Syndrome	100036
For the period from 01/04/2020 To 31/03/2021	Period start date Period end date

CC16a

Section A Receipts and payments

Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
£ to the nearest	£ to the nearest	£ to the nearest	£ to the nearest	£ to the nearest

A1 Receipts	21,859	-	-	21,859	45,797
Donations	-	-	-	-	-
Fund Raising- The Ball	3,715	-	-	3,715	3,660
Fund raising- Lottery	-	-	-	-	7,917
Fund raising- GYBO	-	-	-	-	307
Fund raising- Other	197	-	-	197	-
Interest	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for A1)	25,771	-	-	25,771	57,681

A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	25,771	-	-	25,771	57,681

A3 Payments	13,992	-	-	13,992	36,800
Speech & Language Therapy	3,970	-	-	3,970	13,960
Physiotherapy	-	-	-	-	5,313
Leap OT	-	-	-	-	1,850
Expenses- The Ball	-	-	-	-	2,465
Expenses- Lottery Prizes	1,969	-	-	1,969	4,599
Expenses- Emma Hopkins	1,334	-	-	1,334	-
Expenses- Other	510	-	-	510	-
Sub total	21,775	-	-	21,775	64,985

A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	21,775	-	-	21,775	64,985
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,996	-	-	3,996	7,304
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	111,289	-	-	111,289	118,592
Cash funds this year end	115,285	-	-	115,285	111,289

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

Unrestricted funds to nearest £ Restricted funds to nearest £ Endowment funds to nearest £

84,114	-	-
31,151	-	-
20	-	-
115,285	-	-

Total cash funds
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-

B2 Other monetary assets

Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-

B5 Liabilities

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
<i>[Signature]</i>	DYLAN JONES	22/1/22
<i>[Signature]</i>	WRE SWALOCK	22/1/22

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

Categories

Details

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES



Independent Examiner's Report

Section A

Report to the trustees/
members of

On accounts for the year
ended

Set out on pages

Charity Name
Sparkles - Supporting Children with Down's Syndrome

31 March 2021	Charity no (if any)	1168036
---------------	------------------------	---------

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

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

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Raj Kumar Gupta

Date:

18/01/2022

Name:

Raj Kumar Gupta

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

CIPFA INTERN

