



## Annual Report 2023 - 2024

- Providing creative, reflective prayer spaces across Oxfordshire since 2010
- Encouraging faith and spiritual development in children and young people
- Equipping local churches to run prayer and reflection spaces in schools and at local community events
- Facilitating church relationships with their local schools

**67 Spaces**

**59 Schools**

**5 new schools**

**18 Community and  
state schools**

**41 Schools with a  
Christian foundation**

Over 15,000 young people have experienced a prayer and reflection space in their local school or church this year. This is what they say:

*Now I feel like  
I've been  
blessed by God*

*I learnt that  
christians pray to  
God not just for  
happiness but for  
forgiveness*

*It was like all  
my anger was  
fizzing away*

*I've realised  
that God cares  
about us so  
much!*

100s of volunteers from over 70 local churches have been involved in prayer and reflection spaces this year.

Charity Number: 1168891

[info@bespace.be](mailto:info@bespace.be)  
[www.bespace.be](http://www.bespace.be)

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Charity Name	BeSpace
Charity Number	1168891
Charity Address	St James Church Centre 13 Beauchamp Lane Oxford OX4 3LF
Names of Charity Trustees who manage the charity	Rev Dr Canon Geoff Bayliss (Chair of Trustees) Mr Ben Leach (Treasurer) (resigned 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024) Mr Patrick Gale Mrs Mary Krutz Mrs Kirsty Morgan (CEO) (resigned 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2023) Rev Nina Oskarsdottir

### Structure, Governance and Management

BeSpace is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered with the Charity Commission on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2016 under the charity Number 1168891. It is governed by a constitution which was adopted on the 24<sup>th</sup> August 2016.

The Charity Trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The Trustees meet, currently online, at least four times a year and are appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Charity Trustees.

The CEO oversees the day to day running of the charity. There is a safeguarding policy in place and all trustees, staff and volunteer networkers are DBS checked by the charity. BeSpace is part of the Prayer Spaces in Schools network. There are a number of other policies in place, including Risk Management.

### Objectives and Activities

#### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in the governing document of BeSpace

The Object of the CIO is, for the public benefit, the advancement of the Christian faith through, in particular but not limited to, creating prayer spaces to engage with members of the community, developing education of the Christian faith in schools and in such other ways as the charity trustees may from time to time decide.

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

BeSpace came into existence as a registered charity on the 24<sup>th</sup> August 2016. In planning our activities, the charity has kept in mind the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit. The Charity has sought to advance the Christian faith for the public benefit by running prayer spaces, engaging members of the community in prayer spaces and training Christians to provide these spaces. The prayer spaces benefited people by providing them sacred spaces, contributing to their spiritual development, and teaching them about the Christian faith. The following outlines in more detail how the objectives have been pursued throughout the reporting period.

## **Achievements and Performance**

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year.

In planning our activities for the year, we kept in mind the charity commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustee meetings. The focus of our activities remains to facilitate creative prayer and reflection spaces in schools and where we have capacity at other community events. We do this mainly through equipping local churches to run prayer spaces by modelling, leading prayer spaces and training churches. These prayer spaces help advance the Christian faith and support the element of a school's curriculum that teaches about spiritual development

As the Charity fully emerged from the Covid Pandemic, we continued to see growth from the prior year in the number of spaces (58 to 67) and children impact (12,000 to 15,000). We are still working towards our ultimate aim of seeing every school in Oxfordshire regularly having a BeSpace run by their local churches.

With the CEO leaving in May 2023, we employed a Project Coordinator from September 2023 and in January 2024 we sought to strengthen the leadership of the charity by investing in training for our current staff and are contracting a leadership Consultant for a day week with us, to start in May 2024.

We continue to be grateful for the support we receive from Churches, all the volunteers and schools all of which remain core to the Charity's work. We are grateful for Rt Rev Bishop Gavin for becoming our Patron and offering support to our Charity.

We continued to offer regional leaders training sessions, in recognition that there are always new people getting involved in spaces and also for some previous leaders who might want a refresh.

### **The Impact of the activities of BeSpace:**

#### Prayer Spaces that have happened in Schools:

- Due to our work, 67 spaces took place in 59 schools. 5 new schools had prayer spaces this year.
- The breakdown of the types of schools that have had prayer spaces this year are:
  - 2 Secondary schools and 51 Primary Schools (6 Independent)
  - 41 schools with an Anglican foundation
  - 18 community/state schools
- We have reached over 15,000 young people between the ages of 4-18, which has enabled the Christian faith to be shared and helped young people grow in their understanding of the faith and what it means to be able to connect with God and have a relationship with him.
- Continued to benefit young people through contributing to their spiritual and moral education in prayer spaces.
- We have provided training sessions for volunteers supporting local prayer spaces in 6 schools.
- Over 70 churches in the county have been involved in either leading a prayer space for a local school or supporting a prayer space by providing volunteers from their congregations to help in prayer spaces local to them.

#### Prayer Spaces in other areas of the community:

- We have provided equipment to a local library to support them in providing prayer activities for their local community

## Volunteers and Networkers

- We could not achieve all of this without the time, energy and effort of the many volunteers from over 70 churches across the county who give their time to set up, lead and facilitate prayer and reflection spaces in schools.
- We continue to have 1 official volunteer networker who champions the charity in their local geographic area and help grow volunteer teams to run prayer and reflection spaces in their local schools.

## **The impact on people experiencing prayer spaces.**

The following are a sample of comments from young people who experienced a BeSpace during this time. These comments demonstrate how prayer spaces have advanced the Christian faith for the public benefit.

*Everything I  
felt sad about  
I let go*

*It reminds me of  
all the things God  
has done for us*

*It made me  
think of God  
and makes me  
happy*

*I think I've  
realised I should  
do this all the  
time*

*I'm thankful for  
God because  
he helps me let  
my light shine*

*This experience  
has cleared my  
mind completely  
and freed me of  
my worries.*

*It taught me to  
forgive*

*Thank you for  
letting me  
communicate  
with God*

*I feel much better  
that I have now got  
all the anger,  
sadness and all the  
bad feelings and  
regret to go away*

*I could say how I'm  
feeling and what is  
happening in my life  
right now without  
feeling awkward or  
embarrassed*

*I feel calm and  
joyful now that I  
have been  
through  
this experience*

*I love how I  
could  
open up with  
God*

## **And a comment from a teacher:**

*The experience was brilliant... you made it run so smoothly and the children were really buzzing about the activities they did and how relaxing being in the space was.*

## **And feedback from a Head Teacher:**

*From a school point of view, this was my first encounter with BeSpace and I have to say it really was an incredibly positive experience for the children.*

*Lots of them said how much they enjoyed the time because it was so calm and quiet – they don't often get the chance to completely stop and do something like this in the hustle and bustle of a normal school day!*

*Giving the children a chance to reflect on all sorts of things also really helped us as the staff because it allowed us to perhaps pick up on things about the children that we may not have been aware of.*

*We would definitely do it again and are even looking to see how we could have even just one small space available somewhere to have something similar!*

## Future Plans

The Trustees conducted an internal strategic review which reaffirmed our belief in the resonance of the Charity with our churches, volunteers and schools. This review identified a need to further strengthen the leadership of the Charity, as well as invest further in our core staff.

We continue to work towards our fundraising goals in order to increase our income to meet the shortfall between income and expenditure. A fundraising consultant was contracted for a period of time for the later part of 2023 to help increase income. The consultant brought in a grant for us, which we are grateful for, however as we go forward the Trustees internal strategic review noted that strengthening the leadership of the charity was the priority at this time.


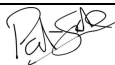
We are thankful to Rosy Taylor and Harriet Baldock for all their hard work and enthusiasm and look forward to further expanding our leaderships capacity by contracting a consultant from May 2024.

## Declaration

### Signatures

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report

### Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees

<b>Signature(s):</b>		
<b>Full Name(s):</b>	<b>Rev Canon Dr Geoffrey Brian Tudor Bayliss</b>	<b>Mr Patrick Gale</b>
<b>Position:</b>	<b>Chair of Trustees</b>	<b>Trustee</b>
<b>Date:</b>	2025/01/16	2025/01/16

## **Independent examiner's report to the trustees of BeSpace**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of BeSpace (the Charity) for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 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 Charity'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

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



**Samuel Rebbettes ACCA**

**18 North Street  
Kingsclere  
Newbury  
RG20 5QX  
14/01/2025**

**Notes to the Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31st March 2024**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
<b>Income</b>					
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	34,307	34,307	30,391	30,391
Government grants receivable	2	-	-	-	-
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>34,307</b>	<b>34,307</b>	<b>30,391</b>	<b>30,391</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on:					
Charitable Activities	3a	41,930	41,930	38,933	38,933
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>41,930</b>	<b>41,930</b>	<b>38,933</b>	<b>38,933</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(7,623)</b>	<b>(7,623)</b>	<b>(8,542)</b>	<b>(8,542)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Balance brought forward at 31st March 2023					
		75,163	75,163	83,705	83,705
Net surplus / (deficit) for the year					
		(7,623)	(7,623)	(8,542)	(8,542)
Transfers between funds					
	9	-	-	-	-
<b>Balance carried forward at 31st March 2024</b>		<b>67,540</b>	<b>67,540</b>	<b>75,163</b>	<b>75,163</b>

**Notes to the Accounts  
for the year ended 31st March 2024**

		2024		2023	
	Note	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible fixed assets	6		1,005		882
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	7	497		554	
Cash at bank and in hand		67,617		73,920	
		<u>68,114</u>		<u>74,474</u>	
<b>Liabilities: amounts falling due within one year</b>	8	<u>(1,579)</u>		<u>(193)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			66,535		74,281
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>67,540</u>		<u>75,163</u>
<b>Funds</b>					
Unrestricted funds	9		67,540		75,163
			<u>67,540</u>		<u>75,163</u>

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



.....  
**Rev Dr Canon Geoff Bayliss - Chairman**

2025/01/16



**Notes to the Accounts  
for the year ended 31st March 2024**

**1. Accounting Policies**

**1a. Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 1A) (effective 1 October 2019).

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties around the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

**1b. Income Recognition**

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Incoming resources are included gross.

No credit is taken for either general or gift aid donations until they are actually received. The amount credited to the income and expenditure account in respect of gift aid donations does however include the amount of income tax recoverable in respect of income actually received.

Grant income is recognised as receivable subject to fulfilment of any associated conditions. Where conditions have been met or are likely to be met, grant income is recognised in full.

**1c. Expenditure Recognition**

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

Charitable activity costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the Charity.

Support costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the Charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

**1d. Pensions**

Contributions payable for the year are charged in the income and expenditure account. The charity contributes to a defined contribution scheme for its employees.

**1e. Irrecoverable VAT**

The Charity is not registered for VAT and hence is unable to recover VAT on expenditure incurred. All costs are therefore shown inclusive of the associated input VAT.

**1f. Fixed Assets**

Equipment which is deemed by the charity to have a useful life of more than one year is capitalised and included within fixed assets. Depreciation is provided on all equipment so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over the expected useful economic life on a straight line basis at 33% a year.

**Notes to the Accounts  
for the year ended 31st March 2024**

**1g. Fund Accounting**

*Unrestricted Funds*

These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects of the charity at the discretion of the Trustees.

**2. Income**

	<b>Unrestricted 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<b>Unrestricted 2023 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
Donations and legacies from:				
Individual giving	13,941	13,941	13,114	13,114
Gift Aid recoverable	2,271	2,271	2,237	2,237
Church and Organisation giving	2,345	2,345	3,990	3,990
Grants receivable	15,750	15,750	11,050	11,050
	<b>34,307</b>	<b>34,307</b>	<b>30,391</b>	<b>30,391</b>

**3. Expenditure**

**3a. Expenditure on charitable activities**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>Unrestricted 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<b>Unrestricted 2023 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
Prayer space costs		1,789	1,789	1,382	1,382
Support costs	3b	40,141	40,141	37,551	37,551
		<b>41,930</b>	<b>41,930</b>	<b>38,933</b>	<b>38,933</b>

**Notes to the Accounts  
for the year ended 31st March 2024**

3b. Support costs		Unrestricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Note				
Staff costs	4	31,614	31,614	33,513	33,513
Office costs		3,227	3,227	3,196	3,196
Governance costs:					
Consultancy and legal fees		5,300	5,300	842	842
		<u>40,141</u>	<u>40,141</u>	<u>37,551</u>	<u>37,551</u>

4. Staff Costs	2024 £	2023 £
Salaries including employer's national insurance	25,877	30,664
Pension contributions	1,199	1,099
Training and other staff costs	4,538	1,750
	<u>31,614</u>	<u>33,513</u>

No employee received £60,000 or more in this or the preceding financial year.

	2024	2023
The average number of staff employed during the year was:	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

**5. Trustee Remuneration**

Trustee expenses totalling £836 (2023: £1,130) were incurred in the year.

The amount owing to trustees at the end of the year with respect to expenses was £Nil (2023: £98).

**Notes to the Accounts  
for the year ended 31st March 2024**

**6. Fixed assets**

	<b>Office Equipment £</b>	<b>Venue Equipment £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost</b>			
As at 1st April 2023	3,474	9,764	13,238
Additions in year	-	807	807
Disposals in year	(999)	-	(999)
As at 31st March 2024	<u>2,475</u>	<u>10,571</u>	<u>13,046</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
As at 1st April 2023	3,070	9,286	12,356
Charge in year	323	361	684
Eliminated on disposal	(999)	-	(999)
As at 31st March 2024	<u>2,394</u>	<u>9,647</u>	<u>12,041</u>
<b>Net book value</b>			
As at 31st March 2024	<u>81</u>	<u>924</u>	<u>1,005</u>
As at 31st March 2023	<u>404</u>	<u>478</u>	<u>882</u>

**7. Debtors**

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Prepayments	498	554
	<u>498</u>	<u>554</u>

**8. Liabilities: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Trade creditors	1,339	193
Accruals	240	-
Deferred income	-	-
	<u>1,579</u>	<u>193</u>

**Notes to the Accounts  
for the year ended 31st March 2024**

**9. Funds**

	<b>Balance at 1st April 2023 £</b>	<b>Income £</b>	<b>Expenditure £</b>	<b>Transfers between funds £</b>	<b>Balance at 31st March 2024 £</b>
<i>Unrestricted</i>					
General unrestricted	75,163	34,307	(41,930)	-	67,540

	<b>Balance at 1st April 2022 £</b>	<b>Income £</b>	<b>Expenditure £</b>	<b>Transfers between funds £</b>	<b>Balance at 31st March 2023 £</b>
<i>Unrestricted</i>					
General unrestricted	83,705	30,391	(38,933)	-	75,163

**10. Related Parties**

The trustees made donations totalling £8,963 (2023: £8,704) to the charity.