
RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

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RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

Trustees	Mr Ian Swain, Chair Ms Lauren Allin (resigned 20 September 2022) Mrs Lynne Harries (resigned 18 July 2023) Mrs Judith Haste (appointed 9 June 2023) Mr Richard Howitt (resigned 16 September 2022) Ms Lucy Johnstone (resigned 28 November 2022) Mr Peter Law (appointed 5 June 2023) Mrs Kathleen McGuire (appointed 23 January 2023) Mr Mark Patterson (appointed 20 March 2023) Ms Lesley Steinitz (appointed 29 November 2022, resigned 22 November 2023)
Company registered number	10978174
Charity registered number	1175826
Registered office	Herbert House 57 Warkworth Terrace Cambridge CB1 1EE
Coordinator	Ms Jessica Lechner
Independent examiner	C P J Dougherty FCA Lakin Rose Limited Chartered Accountants Pioneer House Vision Park Histon Cambridge CB24 9NL

RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the charity qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The objects of the charity are set out in the Articles of Association registered at Companies House on 23rd September 2017.

'To advance the education of children aged 7 to 19 at the Red Balloon Learner Centre, being students who are the victims of bullying, or by reason of other emotional trauma or illness, are for the time being unable to attend mainstream schools, including, but not limited to, providing them with tuition and appropriate face-to-face and on-line support in a safe learning environment until they are ready to return to mainstream education or take up training or employment.'

We achieve our objects through the provision of an 'intensive care' full time education and support programme. Therapy and counselling are offered to students and families. Continuing use is made of volunteers to work with students. All volunteers have enhanced DBS checks.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

b. Main activities undertaken to further the charity's purposes for the public benefit

The charity provides full-time education for children who self-exclude from school. There is no other purpose-made scheme to support the recovery of this group of children and to give them their 'life' back. Another important aspect of the work that the charity does is to offer support to the parents and carers of these children.

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

c. Management

The trustees, in consultation with the Coordinator, make decisions about staffing, budgeting and performance reviews. Trustees, directors and consultants of Red Balloon Educational Trust with specialist knowledge may be consulted about employment and other human resource issues.

Trustees work to raise local awareness of the needs of children who have been so badly bullied or suffer from severe emotional trauma or mental health issues that they cannot attend mainstream school. The aim is to draw attention to the fact that such children should be provided with full time education.

RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Achievements and performance

a. Main achievements of the charity

The Trustees are satisfied with the performance of the charity during the year ended 31st August 2023.

The objectives of the charity are only achieved through the skill, hard work and dedication of the staff and volunteers at Red Balloon Learner Centre, Cambridge and as trustees we are indebted to the team. Achievement and performance at Red Balloon Learner Centre, Cambridge are measured by the increase in self-esteem and confidence of each of the students, their ability to hold their own in the wider world and their understanding of themselves and others, as well as through academic progress and results.

The last few years have been a time of growth and expansion for Red Balloon Learner Centre, Cambridge. In September 2020 we were able to open a second centre in Cambridge. The successful opening of this second centre allowed us to double the amount of places that we are able to offer to students each year. Since then we have built a cohesive community between the two buildings with a 'one centre' approach. This includes many staff members working across both centres and students having the opportunity to take some shared lessons together and take part in joint projects and excursions.

We are strongly committed to offering a wide range of curriculum subjects to all students. These include English, Maths, Science, Humanities, Art, Music, Media, Drama, Languages (including British Sign Language), PE, ICT, Life Skills and Citizenship. In addition to offering GCSEs, we have a range of qualifications, including Unit Awards and project qualifications to motivate and recognise those students who thrive in vocational and practical areas. In addition we are able to offer LAMDA exams and ASDAN training.

b. ISI Inspection - March 2023

In March 2023, we were inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI). This was a Focused Compliance and Educational Quality inspection. We are very pleased that the inspection found Red Balloon Learner Centre, Cambridge to be excellent in every category. The full report is available to read on our website.

c. Exams

In the school year 2022/23, nine students took a total of twenty-one GCSE qualifications. Subjects included Maths, English Literature, English Language, Biology, Art, MFL and Psychology. In addition to the GCSEs taken this year, some students undertook other examinations which included Maths Awards, a Free-Standing Maths Qualification (B) and LAMDA exams.

We supported our learners to prepare for these exams so that they could do their best. We are very proud of the set of results that our students achieved and we have noted that there is clear progress in our exam results.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Achievements and performance (continued)

d. Activities, trips and excursions

Red Balloon does not just care about academic results, and significant time, energy and expertise are given to ensuring that the students have a wider learning experience through regular activities and special events such as cooking and baking, museum trips, board games, dog-walking, DIY, swimming, circle time, Life Skills sessions and day trips. These activities promote increased self-esteem, emotional regulation, enhanced social skills and a level of confidence that cannot always be developed in a classroom. In addition, many of our students benefit from weekly therapy or counselling sessions. We also work collaboratively with other schools and local groups to develop partnerships across different organisations.

During the school year 2022/23, we were able to offer students a range of educational visits and excursions throughout the year. We are especially grateful for a Children In Need Curiosity Grant which enabled us to provide a range of Science based excursions, workshops and activities. These included STEM workshops run by the Cambridge Science Centre and nature drawing workshops. Students were able to take part in a visit to Bletchley Park. There were also excursions to The Raptor Foundation and to visit Queenholme Alpacas to learn about animal care.

This funding also supported our student residential excursions to the Lake District in summer term 2023. We ran two five-day trips to enable as many students as possible to participate. Students were able to participate in a range of outdoor pursuits including kayaking, canoeing, abseiling, hiking, rafting, caving, archery, orienteering. This gave much opportunity for students to develop team building skills.

We have found over the years that this residential trip has a range of benefits for students. Being on a residential excursion moves them outside of their comfort zone and gives opportunities to develop self-esteem. In many cases, it is perhaps the only time they have been away from home in this way. For this reason the visit helps to build confidence and their own sense of self. The students develop both camaraderie within the group and at the same time independence.

During this school year, we also had a cross-curricular theme of looking at different world religions and each half term we explored a different religion. This allowed students to participate in excursions to local religious centres including a Jewish synagogue, a Christian church, a Muslim mosque, a Buddhist centre and a Sikh Gurdwara. Students also had the opportunity to explore the various religions through cooking and baking activities to sample some traditional foods eaten during religious festivals. Activities also included looking at church floor design in Maths, painting symbols from Sikhism and Judaism in Art, looking at the Science behind Buddhist meditation and exploring Henna hand painting as part of the half term on Hinduism.

We were also able to provide an excursion to The Tate Modern in London for some of our Art students as well as trips around Cambridge to museums and educational places of interest. The excursions enhance the student experience and provide opportunities for the young people to widen their view of the world.

Students also had the opportunity to go on a day out to Thorpe Park as a treat to end the summer term and to continue to foster a sense of community across both centres. The end of the school year always includes a celebration of the accomplishments of all our young learners and each student receives an annual Record of Achievement highlighting special moments. We also held our annual school prom which is a very popular event amongst the students. All students are invited to attend and to celebrate their achievements and bid farewell to the students who are at the end of their final year at Red Balloon.

RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Achievements and performance (continued)

e. Duke of Edinburgh's Award activities

During the previous school year, a group of staff undertook training activities and courses to enable us to offer the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. As a result, we were very pleased to be able to offer this to the first cohort of students in the 22/23 school year.

A group of students took part with enthusiasm and the programme offered them lots of opportunities. Some of the students took part in volunteering activities including work at a local library, supporting at a karate club, assisting at The Girl Guides, dog walking and childcare. The students were able to learn new skills and also take part in various physical activities including swimming, archery, martial arts, dancing and cycling.

Five students took part in an overnight expedition walking 12 miles on the first day. The group navigated using maps and compasses, camped overnight and did another four mile walk the following day.

In preparation, the students did lots of practice walking sessions around Cambridge, undertook training in First Aid, map reading and coordinates, route planning and cooking outside. We are very proud of their achievements and all the students that took part progressed at least one module towards the bronze award and gained a certificate.

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

b. Reserves policy

The Trustees have decided that unrestricted reserves should be equivalent to five months' worth of expenditure. At the level of expenditure for 2022/23, this should equal around £370,000 (2022: £348,000). At 31 August 2023, unrestricted reserves defined as unrestricted funds less fixed assets was £499,291 (2022: £481,451).

c. Financial review

Total unrestricted income during the year was £910,878 (2022: £955,004). Of this, £870,452 (2022: £917,695) came from fees or bursaries. Total restricted donations and grants income in the year was £7,076 (2022: £19,764), see note 15 for details of these funds.

Total expenditure was £922,760 (2022: £849,356) and was incurred in the performance of the charitable activities of the company including staffing, rent, utilities and other general running costs. £897,560 (2022: £835,359) was spent from unrestricted funds and £25,200 (2022: £13,997) spent from restricted funds.

An unrestricted surplus of £13,318 (2022: £119,645) was recorded, bringing total unrestricted funds to £531,724 (2022: £518,406).

RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

d. Material investments policy

The trustees' policy on investment is to retain surplus funds in interest-bearing deposit accounts.

e. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees have examined the major strategic and operational risks which the charity faces. The two main areas for concern are:

- Sourcing of funding for students
- Safeguarding of students

The trustees and the Coordinators have developed a fee pricing structure that reflects the varying support and educational needs of each student.

Safeguarding of students is of the highest priority. Ongoing staff training in Child Protection and Health & Safety is provided regularly and all trustees complete Level 1 Safeguarding when appointed. In addition, a full range of policies are regularly reviewed by staff and trustees together.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The company is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee and was set up by a Memorandum of Association on 23rd September 2017.

b. Governance

The Board of Trustees has the power to appoint new trustees by resolution at a special meeting. An open and transparent recruitment process is undertaken. People who come to the trustees' attention as having relevant experience, interest or expertise are asked if they would consider becoming a trustee, are interviewed by other trustees and, if it is considered appropriate, are introduced to all of the trustees. All trustees are subject to enhanced DBS checks and must provide a Declaration of Interests and confirm that they are 'fit' to serve as a charity trustee.

The Board aims to meet twice per term and holds an AGM in the Spring. At each meeting student progress is reviewed along with progress on the School Development Plan. Regular management accounts are also provided for each meeting.

RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Plans for future periods

We continue to work on enhancing the 'one centre approach' and having as much collaboration between students at both centres wherever possible.

In recent years, we have been able to expand our offering of support to the families of our young learners through the offer of therapy sessions for parents. We were able to set up a new programme of Family Therapy which has proved very successful. We are now able to offer some parents a series of therapy sessions to support them as well as their child. We are finding that this is of great benefit to many of the families of the young people that we support. It is our aim to be able to continue to expand this programme and to be able to offer this therapy in a broader way.

During the year, we expanded the group of trustees and welcomed on board some new trustees who bring with them areas of expertise that very much support our work. We plan to continue to expand the Board over the next few years.

The current and future school development plans will continue to be based on a full review of our progress in all areas, particularly using the Independent Schools Association's own Self Evaluation Process.

Members' liability

The Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up.

With Special Thanks

The special relationship that Red Balloon has with schools and local authorities in Cambridgeshire and beyond, and organisations and individuals who provide many types of support (such as the Leys school), all contribute to providing the best possible education and care for those children that need our help.

We are grateful to all the organisations and individual donors who have generously supported the work that we do. With thanks to DG Marshall of Cambridge Trust and Marshall of Cambridge (Holdings) Ltd, Qualcomm, The Betty Lawes Foundation, The National Lottery, The Patricia Routledge Charitable Trust and The Pye Foundation. We are also very appreciative of continued support from a Children in Need Curiosity Grant towards Science activities and excursions.

RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

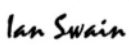
The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees on 14 May 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

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Mr Ian Swain
Chair of trustees

RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Red Balloon Learner Centre Cambridge ('the charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Trustees of the charity (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.

RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed:

Dated: 22 May 2024

C P J Dougherty, FCA

Lakin Rose Limited
Chartered Accountants
Pioneer House
Vision Park
Histon
Cambridge
CB24 9NL

RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

	Note	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Income from:					
Donations and grants	3	7,076	29,137	36,213	45,326
Charitable activities	4	-	870,452	870,452	917,695
Investments	5	-	3,019	3,019	161
Other income	6	-	8,270	8,270	11,586
Total income		7,076	910,878	917,954	974,768
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	7	25,200	897,560	922,760	849,356
Total expenditure		25,200	897,560	922,760	849,356
Net movement in funds		(18,124)	13,318	(4,806)	125,412
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		27,809	518,406	546,215	420,803
Net movement in funds		(18,124)	13,318	(4,806)	125,412
Total funds carried forward		9,685	531,724	541,409	546,215

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 14 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 10978174

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	32,433	36,955
		<u>32,433</u>	<u>36,955</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	13	29,862	15,609
Cash at bank and in hand		505,352	515,889
		<u>535,214</u>	<u>531,498</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(26,238)	(22,238)
Net current assets		<u>508,976</u>	<u>509,260</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>541,409</u></u>	<u><u>546,215</u></u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	15	9,685	27,809
Unrestricted funds	15	531,724	518,406
Total funds		<u><u>541,409</u></u>	<u><u>546,215</u></u>

The charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 14 May 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

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Mr Ian Swain
Chair of trustees

The notes on pages 14 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
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STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	2023 £	<i>2022</i> <i>£</i>
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash generated by operating activities	(8,488)	<i>138,789</i>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(2,049)	<i>(1,258)</i>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net cash used in investing activities	(2,049)	<i>(1,258)</i>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(10,537)	<i>137,531</i>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	515,889	<i>378,358</i>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	505,352	<i>515,889</i>
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The notes on pages 14 to 29 form part of these financial statements

RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

1. General information

The charity is a private charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Herbert House, 57 Warkworth Terrace, Cambridge CB1 1EE.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Red Balloon Learner Centre Cambridge meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

2.2 Going concern

The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they have adopted the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

2.3 Legal status of the charity

There is no share capital as the company is limited by guarantee. Each member has guaranteed an amount, not exceeding £10, towards the company's liabilities in the event of a winding up, provided that a member has not ceased to be a member one year prior to any winding up order.

2.4 Income

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Where the donated good is a fixed asset, it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as income from donations and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset class and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the charity's accounting policies.

On receipt, donated professional services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount it would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Income (continued)

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

2.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Leasehold improvements	-	10% straight line
Office equipment	-	33% straight line
Computer equipment	-	50% straight line

The assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively if appropriate, or if there is an indication of a significant change since the last reporting date.

2.7 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.8 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.9 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.10 Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.11 Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the charity to the fund in respect of the year.

2.12 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

3. Income from donations and grants

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Donations	-	20,137	20,137	15,562
Grants	7,076	9,000	16,076	29,764
	<u>7,076</u>	<u>29,137</u>	<u>36,213</u>	<u>45,326</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>19,764</u>	<u>25,562</u>	<u>45,326</u>	

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Teaching and support of bullied children	870,452	870,452	917,695
	<u>870,452</u>	<u>870,452</u>	<u>917,695</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>917,695</u>	<u>917,695</u>	

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Deposit account interest	3,019	3,019	161
	<u>3,019</u>	<u>3,019</u>	<u>161</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>161</u>	<u>161</u>	

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

6. Other incoming resources

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
School lunches	5,818	5,818	6,758
Miscellaneous income	2,452	2,452	4,828
	<u>8,270</u>	<u>8,270</u>	<u>11,586</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>11,586</u>	<u>11,586</u>	

7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	<i>Total 2022 £</i>
Teaching and support of bullied children	25,200	897,560	922,760	849,356
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>13,997</u>	<u>835,359</u>	<u>849,356</u>	

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Teaching and support of bullied children	839,133	83,627	922,760	849,356
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>792,796</u>	<u>56,560</u>	<u>849,356</u>	

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Activities 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Staff costs	680,184	680,184	634,200
Depreciation	6,571	6,571	7,621
Red Balloon of the Air	11,927	11,927	20,660
Therapy	11,180	11,180	2,160
General resources	3,781	3,781	3,209
Food	12,447	12,447	10,173
Student travel	12,458	12,458	15,158
Examination fees	2,991	2,991	2,236
Special activities	3,940	3,940	5,393
Educational resources	8,515	8,515	7,525
Tuition	4,544	4,544	3,055
Well-being	654	654	265
Careers and college transition	548	548	2,246
Rates and utilities	10,941	10,941	7,286
Staff welfare	933	933	712
Rent	67,406	67,406	65,335
Staff and volunteer travel	113	113	543
Educational grants	-	-	4,507
Miscellaneous	-	-	512
	<u>839,133</u>	<u>839,133</u>	<u>792,796</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>792,796</u>	<u>792,796</u>	

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Activities 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Legal and professional	11,845	11,845	8,156
Support fee (Red Balloon Group)	8,000	8,000	8,000
Training costs	2,721	2,721	1,997
Insurance	6,094	6,094	5,941
Renewals and repairs	21,685	21,685	8,895
Office costs	10,999	10,999	13,357
Bank fees	60	60	93
Bad debts	10,382	10,382	-
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	-	-	(469)
Travel	347	347	-
Governance costs	11,494	11,494	10,590
	<u>83,627</u>	<u>83,627</u>	<u>56,560</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>56,560</u>	<u>56,560</u>	

9. Independent examiner's remuneration

The independent examiner's remuneration amounts to an independent examiner fee of £1,800 (2022 - £1,800), and accountancy services of £3,600 (2022 - £3,600).

10. Staff costs

	2023 £	<i>2022 £</i>
Wages and salaries	609,198	569,098
Social security costs	48,528	43,780
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	22,458	21,322
	<u>680,184</u>	<u>634,200</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

10. Staff costs (continued)

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	No.	<i>No.</i>
Employees	31	<i>32</i>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The Trustees consider the key management personnel to comprise 4 people being the Coordinator and three Deputy Coordinators. The aggregate cost of remuneration of key management personnel during the year was £124,447 (2022 - £120,730).

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2022 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 August 2023, expenses totalling £171 were reimbursed or paid directly to 1 Trustee (2022 - £nil). The expenses related to travel costs and DBS checks.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 September 2022	54,343	10,855	8,736	73,934
Additions	-	630	1,419	2,049
At 31 August 2023	<u>54,343</u>	<u>11,485</u>	<u>10,155</u>	<u>75,983</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2022	18,631	10,029	8,319	36,979
Charge for the year	5,434	609	528	6,571
At 31 August 2023	<u>24,065</u>	<u>10,638</u>	<u>8,847</u>	<u>43,550</u>
Net book value				
At 31 August 2023	<u>30,278</u>	<u>847</u>	<u>1,308</u>	<u>32,433</u>
At 31 August 2022	<u>35,712</u>	<u>826</u>	<u>417</u>	<u>36,955</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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13. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Due after more than one year		
Other debtors	10,732	10,732
	10,732	10,732
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	15,943	2,186
Other debtors	1,368	13
Prepayments and accrued income	1,819	2,678
	29,862	15,609

Included in other debtors due after more than one year is an interest free loan to Red Balloon Learner Centre Group of £10,732 (2022 - £10,732) which is repayable at over 12 months' notice (i.e. 366 days).

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	2,544	4,139
Other taxation and social security	10,424	11,654
Other creditors	150	-
Accruals and deferred income	13,120	6,445
	26,238	22,238

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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15. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Funds	518,406	910,878	(897,560)	531,724
Restricted funds				
Funding for garden studio	486	-	(486)	-
Parent support fund	4,939	-	(2,665)	2,274
16+ provision fund	1,096	-	(377)	719
BBC Children in Need Curiosity fund	8,562	6,964	(15,526)	-
Erasmus project fund	6,692	-	-	6,692
Funding for Covid-19 support	6,034	-	(6,034)	-
Other restricted funds	-	112	(112)	-
	27,809	7,076	(25,200)	9,685
Total of funds	546,215	917,954	(922,760)	541,409

Funding for garden studio - Funding received from Qualcomm to build, decorate and equip a garden office studio.

Parent support fund – Donations received from Co-op to support parents via parent support group and Family therapy.

16+ provision fund – Grant received from Qualcomm to provide transition support to former students as they move into further education, training and employment.

BBC Children in Need Curiosity fund – Grant received to fund Science based learning activities.

Erasmus project fund - Funding for a collaborative project between a group of schools in the UK, Cyprus and Poland.

Funding for Covid-19 support - Funding from the National Lottery to support students and their families through the pandemic and beyond. This includes Family therapy.

Other restricted funds - Donation towards the costs of art supplies.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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15. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2021 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2022 £</i>
Unrestricted funds				
General Funds	398,761	955,004	(835,359)	518,406
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Restricted funds				
Refurbishment & resources fund	240	-	(240)	-
Funding for garden studio	1,012	-	(526)	486
Parent support fund	5,163	-	(224)	4,939
16+ provision fund	1,873	-	(777)	1,096
BBC Children in Need Curiosity fund	3,879	6,706	(2,023)	8,562
Erasmus project fund	8,973	2,258	(4,539)	6,692
Funding for Covid-19 support	-	8,800	(2,766)	6,034
Funding for remote learning	902	-	(902)	-
Duke of Edinburgh Awards	-	2,000	(2,000)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	22,042	19,764	(13,997)	27,809
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total of funds	420,803	974,768	(849,356)	546,215
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

RED BALLOON LEARNER CENTRE CAMBRIDGE
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

15. Statement of funds (continued)

Refurbishment & resources fund – Grant received from Qualcomm for the refurbishment of the art room and the purchasing of art materials.

Funding for garden studio - Funding received from Qualcomm to build, decorate and equip a garden office studio.

Parent support fund – Donations received from Co-op to support parents via parent support group and Family therapy.

16+ provision fund – Grant received from Qualcomm to provide transition support to former students as they move into further education, training and employment.

BBC Children in Need Curiosity fund – Grant received to fund Science based learning activities.

Erasmus project fund - Funding for a collaborative project between a group of schools in the UK, Cyprus and Poland.

Funding for Covid-19 support - Funding from the National Lottery to support students and their families through the pandemic and beyond. This includes Family therapy.

Funding for remote learning - Funding from The Leys School, Cambridge to support remote learning with IT equipment.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards - Funding towards costs of students participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme.

16. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
General funds	518,406	910,878	(897,560)	531,724
Restricted funds	27,809	7,076	(25,200)	9,685
	546,215	917,954	(922,760)	541,409

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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16. Summary of funds (continued)

Summary of funds - prior year

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2021 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2022 £</i>
General funds	398,761	955,004	(835,359)	518,406
Restricted funds	22,042	19,764	(13,997)	27,809
	<u>420,803</u>	<u>974,768</u>	<u>(849,356)</u>	<u>546,215</u>

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	32,433	32,433
Debtors due after more than one year	-	10,732	10,732
Current assets	9,685	514,797	524,482
Creditors due within one year	-	(26,238)	(26,238)
Total	<u>9,685</u>	<u>531,724</u>	<u>541,409</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	<i>Restricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	-	36,955	36,955
Debtors due after more than one year	-	10,732	10,732
Current assets	27,809	492,957	520,766
Creditors due within one year	-	(22,238)	(22,238)
Total	<u>27,809</u>	<u>518,406</u>	<u>546,215</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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18. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(4,806)	125,412
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	6,571	7,621
Loss on the sale of fixed assets	-	235
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(14,253)	16,502
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	4,000	(10,981)
Net cash generated by operating activities	(8,488)	138,789

19. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand	505,352	515,889
Total cash and cash equivalents	505,352	515,889

20. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	515,889	(10,537)	505,352
	515,889	(10,537)	505,352

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21. Pension commitments

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amounted to £22,458 (2022 - £21,322). Contributions of £150 (2022 - £nil) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

22. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2023 the charity had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Not later than 1 year	31,331	<i>23,365</i>