

ROCKSTONE & PEBBLES (RSP)

England & Wales - Charity number 1177973

Details

Other names RSP

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2018-04-16

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

Contact

Address 8 Cyclamen Road
Swanley
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Activities

Objects: (1) THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF POVERTY ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD BY PROVIDING GRANTS, ITEMS AND SERVICES (AND IN SUCH OTHER WAYS AS THE TRUSTEES THINK FIT) TO INDIVIDUALS IN NEED AND CHARITIES OR OTHER ORGANISATIONS WORKING TO PREVENT OR RELIEVE POVERTY; AND(2) TO PROMOTE THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF OTHER CHARITIES WITH PURPOSES THE SAME AS OR SIMILAR TO OBJECT (1), BOTH IN THE ATTAINMENT OF THEIR CHARITABLE PURPOSES AND IN THEIR ADMINISTRATION

Activities: Our stated charitable object is the relief of poverty anywhere in the world. Our charitable purposes, as defined through our objects, are:(i) Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of other charities.(ii) Providing grants/services to organisations/individuals working towards the relief of poverty.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Other Finance, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- India
- Kenya
- South Africa
- Spain
- Zambia
- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£12,618	£19,303	-	-
2024-03-31	£13,356	£7,603	-	-
2023-03-31	£9,718	£8,019	-	-
2022-03-31	£8,305	£2,345	-	-
2021-03-31	£8,542	£461	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anna Maria Petruccelli		2020-02-29
Juliette Liebi		2018-04-16
Meera Patel A.C.C.A		2018-04-16

ROCKSTONE & PEBBLES (RSP)

England & Wales - Charity number 1177973

Accounts



rockstone & pebbles
connect & collaborate

Charity No: 1177973



Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements

Year 7: 1 April 2024 - 31 March 2025



Supporting children
through the power of play

Join Our Journey

Individually a drop...
together an ocean

Scan the QR code
to make a regular
or one-off donation
from anywhere in
the world.



Bank A/C: RockStone and Pebbles
Sort code: 23-05-80, Account number: 29219257

- **Become a play champion!**
- **Donate to RSP** - small, regular monthly donations help us plan ahead and build sustainable projects
- **Easyfundraising.co.uk** - you shop and brands donate to our cause for free! Sign up, choose *RockStone & Pebbles* as your cause and continue shopping as normal, whilst making a difference without paying a penny!
- **Volunteer** - commit your time, knowledge and expertise to RSP

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A letter from the Trustees

Dear friends and supporters of RSP and play,

Welcome to our 7th year of play! What a busy year it has been as we embarked on Phase 2 of our play projects in South Africa and India, and continued to advocate for the right to play in other forums and spaces.

We supported over a 1,000 children this year. This was possible because of the relationships built and the foundations laid through our previous pilot projects in India and South Africa.

In December 2025, we returned to Gujarat, India after two years to a warm welcome and ready to kick off our second play project, in the rural community of Rancharda, after months of planning and preparation. We expanded the project this year, from one school to four schools, and carried out a range of activities to support 870 children access their right to play, including building an original, colourful and interactive play scape in one of the school playgrounds. The engagement of local educators, community leaders and parents, as well as the interest shown in building a long term project that can expand into the cluster of schools within this community, was a strong testament to the success of the project.

In South Africa, through our ongoing collaborative right to play project with charity MADaboutART, we supported young people build project management and advocate for their right to play. The youth led nature of Phase 2 of the project saw the young people take on a leadership role in the design and implementation of six advocacy projects within their community. They took the seven powerful art pieces they co-created in Phase 1, *The Panels* that captured their experiences of play, out to different audiences and advocated for the right to play for themselves and the children and young people in their community.

It was an honour to be invited to present at *The International Maternal Gift Economy forum* again this year showcasing our work through the gifting and collaborative lens that we centre our work around.

And finally, **thank you to all our supporters**, with you we are able to increase the positive impact and social change we seek to make through our work. As we look ahead we are inspired by the potential to make a positive difference in many children's lives around the world.

With hope and gratitude,

Juliette, Meera and Anna
(RSP Trustees)



RSP Vision, Mission, Values

Our Vision:

A sustainable future created through play, collaboration and shared learnings

What we do:

At RSP, our work is focused on supporting children's wellbeing through the power of play. We create and facilitate many kinds of spaces that spark collaboration, learning and innovation, working both directly with children and with other organisations. We also focus on raising awareness and engagement on the importance of and right to play to inspire the communities we work within and other communities around the world to bring more play into children's lives.

Our Values:

Our values inspire and guide the way we work and interact with others.

Collaboration: We believe that sustainable positive change comes from collaborative working and shared learnings.

Collaboration sits at the core of our vision and at the heart of our strategy. Our unique collaborative framework enables us to build nourishing partnerships, share resources and skills, and co-create projects with mutually shared goals with our partners, through which we can achieve greater impact together.

Innovation: We encourage creative, experimental efforts and explore local solutions that can be co-created resourcefully, and by thinking outside the box.

Transparency: We share information openly and honestly; we learn from our mistakes and reflect on our learnings.

Diversity: We honour and embrace people's fundamental right to be different and unique.

Respect: We strive to treat people with consideration and care.

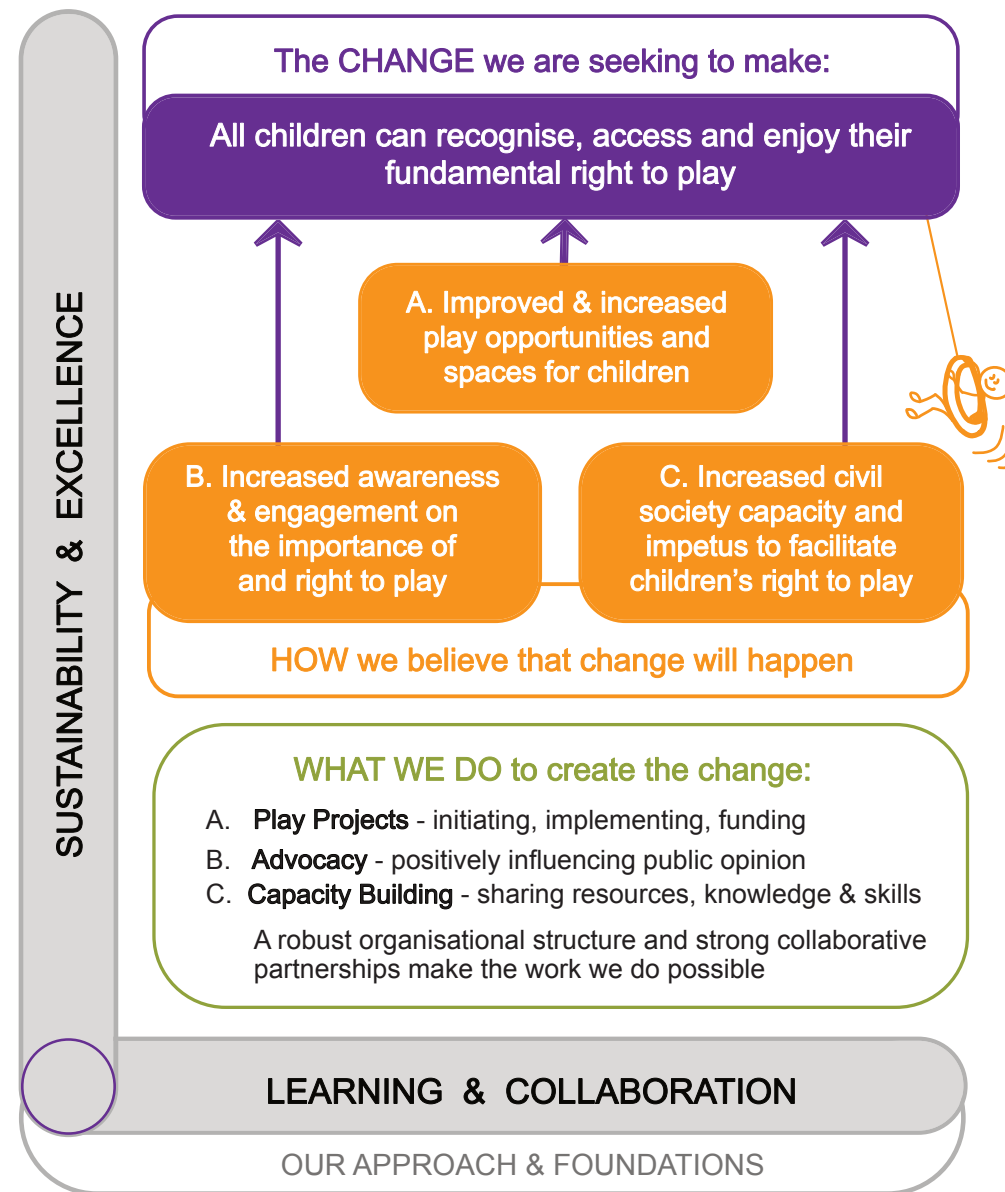
**What is Play?* At RSP, we define play as any non-passive activity that a child voluntarily engages in and has fun doing.

Our Mission:

Supporting children's right to play* through enhancing and creating spaces that facilitate collaboration, learning, and innovation, to positively impact the lives of children around the world.

Theory of Change (ToC)

Our Theory of Change guides our work:



Year 7: April 2024- March 2025

Creating play opportunities and spaces for children and young people through:

Implementing play projects in India and South Africa

Creating platforms for youth-led play and advocacy projects

Inspiring communities to facilitate more play in children's lives

Continuing to build organisational sustainability to support our work



Outcomes of this year's work

- **Over 1,000 children** directly participated in project activities.
- Phase 2 of both projects in India and South Africa were implemented, strengthening our partnerships and foundations to continue building long term sustainable projects in both countries.

>1,000
children

In **India**, projects directly implemented by RSP trustees, and supported by partnerships with schools.

In **South Africa**, we continued to co-create and fund projects implemented by our partner charity, MADaboutART, in country.

- Over 10 unique events / presentations with different audiences, including teachers, charity workers, church officials, government officials and parents, enabled us to build awareness and impetus amongst adults to bring more play into children's lives.

Through our projects this year, socio-economically disadvantaged children were able to participate in creative activities within their schools and communities, transform their play spaces, take trips outside their environments, advocate for their right to play and, most importantly, play!

Adults were visibly moved by the talents, skills and courage displayed by the children through their play, art and advocacy activities.

Discussions around the importance of play and especially around the negative impacts of play deprivation, both on children and future generations and societies, seemed to influence and make a big difference to the adults.

Wider awareness raising activities, such as advocacy materials like cotton tote bags with powerful imagery on the right to play, and engaging videos of our work (see our YouTube channel @RockStoneandPebbles) continued to support our aims.

We strive to continue building a movement of play champions around the world and brighten children's lives through the power of play.



Why PLAY?

'Let's take a simple example of hide and seek...

For a start, it can help children learn to deal with the unknown – an important **emotional skill**. They'll need **cognitive and creative skills** to reason out a good, unexpected place to hide, and **social skills** to get all their friends to play along.

And dashing from one hideout to another or working out if they can cram into a tight spot? Those are **physical skills**.

In one simple, familiar game they've learned to be **more resilient**, more **empathetic**, more **aware** of their surroundings, and more **strategic**. And the more they play the more they weave those skills together – **creating a rich tapestry of capabilities they can always rely on.**

- Lego Foundation

Year 7: Summary of Achievements



RSP's strategy continues to focus on: (i) Implementing diverse play solutions; (ii) Building and strengthening value aligned, collaborative relationships; (iii) Amplifying youth voices; and (iv) Building organisational sustainability.

Annual objectives for year 7 were met in the following ways:

1. Youth led advocacy using *The Panels* - An Original Advocacy Tool for Play

Young people in South Africa took *The Panels*, co-created during Phase 1 of this project, to different contexts to advocate for their right to play. They took on a leadership role, building their skills and confidence, through the planning and implementation of 6 mini outreach advocacy projects within their community. This project was funded by RSP, implemented by our partner charity in South Africa, MADaboutART, and co-created and managed in partnership through our collaborative framework. (pgs.44-61)

2. Create more opportunities and spaces for children to play in the Rancharda community in Gujarat, India

Building upon the success of our first pilot project in 2023, RSP trustees travelled to India this year to implement our second play project in the same community. We expanded our activities from one to four schools, engaged with 870 children, carrying out various activities including transforming school spaces together and designing and building an original play scape in one of the school playgrounds. Multiple sessions with the teachers and principals helped set the foundations for a long term sustainable project in this community and build local play champions. (pgs.10-43)

3. Explore collaborative opportunities to raise awareness and advocate for the right to play using and sharing *The Panels* with other people and organisations

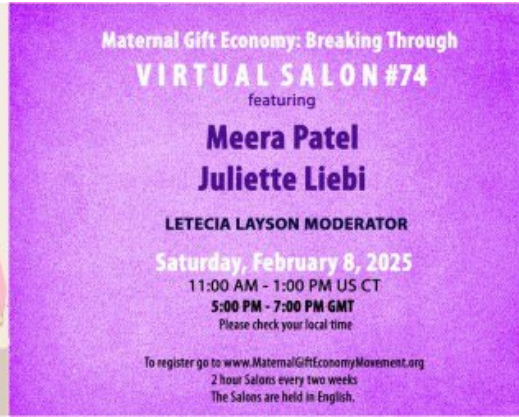
The Panels (pgs.50-59) have served as a powerful advocacy tool to facilitate more play in children's lives. This year we had the opportunity to present them at the *Maternal Gift Economy forum*, which was attended by peace activists worldwide (pg.8). We also shared them with teachers in India and stakeholders within the charity sector in the UK and Europe.

4. Explore ways to continue including youth in RSP

Youth led projects in South Africa greatly supported this objective and provided the opportunity to also facilitate youth to youth engagement remotely between the team in South Africa and in the UK. In India, our project activities inspired a group of young college students to carry out a play day with the children at one of the schools.

5. Continue building RSP organisational capacity

This year we were greatly supported by the generosity of volunteers and donors, which continue to support organisational sustainability and long term goals.(pgs.62-65)



Background - Gift Economy:

The founder of *The Maternal Gift Economy* forum, **Genevieve Vaughan**, is a researcher and author who has been working on the Gift Economy theory for about half a century.

The founding trustees of RSP had the privilege to meet Genevieve many years ago and the concepts and ideas she shared with us then inspired and underpin the approach to our work at RSP to date.

At RSP, we seek to apply a deeply collaborative and non-paternalistic approach through our projects, respecting the agency of the children and communities we engage with. We also recognise that although we arrive as gift givers, we leave with more than we could have imagined - a perfect reminder on the value and joy of giving.

Presentation: The Power of Play & Collaboration:

In February 2025, RSP trustees were honoured to be invited to present our work, for the second time, at the global *Maternal Gift Economy* forum. People from around the world are invited as speakers at this forum to bring together different movements that are focused on making positive social change,

The presentation we delivered on *The Power of Play and Collaboration** gave us an opportunity to share our approach and the outcomes of the projects we had carried out in India and South Africa this year. The attendees were positively engaged on the importance of play in children's lives and seemed to be profoundly impacted by *The Panels* which shared the children's stories directly.

We were grateful for this opportunity and we look forward to continuing our collaboration with the Maternal Gift Economy forum.

*Watch the presentation on our YouTube channel @RockStoneandPebbles

Why we focus on play at RSP:

Every child has the right to play. Play is children's language and their way of learning about the world. The dynamics of play, more than education on its own, are the tools children use to become responsible, compassionate and resilient adults.

An array of scientific research provides overwhelming evidence of the profound influence of play in a child's healthy development. There is also evidence correlating the alarming increase in children's mental health problems over the last 50 years to a lack of play opportunities.

There are millions of children living in abject poverty and worse. 'Play can help children process complex feelings of fear, grief and uncertainty ... as well as reduce the impact of stress and build resilience', according to the organisation, *Medecins Sans Frontiers (MSF) or Doctors without Borders*, who estimate 473 million children live in conflict zones today.

At RSP our overall goal is to support children's wellbeing, and help them discover and build their natural talents, skills, confidence, capabilities and resilience through the power of play.



Play is a Right -

The right to play is enshrined in Article 31 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). It is often referred to as '*the children's forgotten right*' due to the poor recognition of this right in children's lives.

Play supports children's wellbeing -

Play makes children feel happy, supports their physical and emotional health, helps children build social and cognitive skills. The power of play can support children to find hope, build resilience, rise to challenges, and better prepare themselves for the future.

Play sparks creativity and innovation -

Play holds the potential to help generate new ideas and sustainable solutions to address the emerging challenges of the future.





This year, in 2024-25, we implemented our **2nd play project** in the Rancharda community with **870 children** across **4 schools**:

Narsanghveer Primary, Nandoli, Rancharda and Dhabala Primary

Background:

India Play Project - Phase 1:

In 2022-2023, two UK based RSP trustees travelled to Gujarat, India to implement the first play project in this rural community within the district of Rancharda, based about 30 kms out from the city of Ahmedabad.

This project was focused mainly on supporting **100 children** within one school, **Dhabala Primary school**. We also had opportunities to engage with other schools, including taking 400 children from different schools out for a play day to Science City!

Connections to key stakeholders within this community, through previous charitable projects carried out by close family members, provided the initial connection and an opportunity to support children living in high levels of poverty.

We worked within school environments, focused within a cluster of government subsidised schools, to ensure the safety of the children was protected through school policies and procedures, and supported by the school's staff.

*Full details on the 1st pilot project can be found within our Year 5 and 6 Annual Reports and videos on our YouTube channel.

Overview:

India Play Project - Phase 2:

Last year we assimilated learnings from the first play project we carried out in India, and started planning the second play project in the same community, implemented this year. Two RSP trustees travelled to India for the second time and over a period of nearly two months, between November 2024 - January 2025, implemented RSP's second play project in India.

Based on the success of the first pilot project, we expanded the scope of the project to include **4 schools**.

Rancharda school acted as our project planning headquarters, as the principal of this school, also the administrator of a cluster of 12 schools in the area, is a key project stakeholder. The majority of our project delivery time was spent in **Narsanghveer primary school**. We also spent substantial time carrying out play activities with children at **Nandoli school**; and monitoring visits were carried out at **Dhabala primary school** to track progress from our first project carried out here.

Project 2 Aims:

1. Enhance play opportunities and spaces for children within the Rancharda school cluster.
2. Raise awareness on the value of play in children's lives amongst the educators in the schools to facilitate more play based learning methods and create more play opportunities for children.
3. Build impetus and a shared sense of pride and purpose within the wider community to facilitate more play in children's lives.
4. Set foundations to create a long term sustainable project in this community through building strong relationships and working closely with the school teachers and principals.

Key Outcomes:

It was incredible how much we were able to achieve on this project and this was largely due to the support we had in country and the multitude of people who contributed their valuable time and resources to it.

- **Play activities with the children** - We carried out direct activities with the children, including play time, art and craft, and we transformed the school spaces together through the creation of large colourful murals.
- **Original, interactive playscape** - This colourful, permanent play structure was constructed from the ground up by RSP at Narsanghveer school.
- **Play Day to Science City** - A day trip to this large indoor and outdoor entertainment and discovery centre based in the city of Ahmedabad with 347 children from 4 schools, 2 RSP trustees and 14 teachers!
- **Play Day on the Lake** - A different group, 161 of the younger children from Rancharda school, enjoyed a day of games and activities by the lake near their school.
- **Gifting art materials and toys** - All 870 children were gifted art materials, and more toys, games and materials were also gifted to teachers to use in their classrooms.
- **Community engagement event** - Organised at Narsanghveer school to build awareness and engagement on the importance of play was attended by about 60 parents and wider community members.
- **Sessions with educators in schools** - Multiple sessions with principals and teachers in the schools, building awareness on the importance of play in children's lives and the establishment of a long term project in the cluster of schools in this community.

1. Rancharda School - Project Headquarters (HQ)

367 children

This school acted as the project HQ office as most of our planning and advocacy sessions with key stakeholders happened here.

We are hugely grateful to the principal of this school, **Haresh bhai Patel**, who is an integral part of the project. He has been supporting RSP to establish and expand our play project in this community since the pilot project carried out here in 2023. He is also the administrator of a cluster of 12 schools and has supported RSP with clearing administrative requirements, as well as facilitated needs assessments and introductions with all the other schools we have worked within.

10 teachers, 1 principal

At this school, we:

- Held many project planning meetings and advocacy sessions with teachers and principals from other schools
- Organised separate play days for the younger and older children
- Gifted play bags to all children, and additional toys and games to the primary school teachers for their classrooms.

Details on pages 16-19

3. Narsangveer Primary School

147 children

4 teachers
Including the principal

This school is where we carried out the most project activities.

We decided to work in this school based on needs assessments carried out during the planning phase of the project. The recently appointed principal at the school welcomed and supported the project, including participating in, planning and scheduling activities.

Details on pages 22-31

2. Dhabala Primary School

90 children

Dhabala is where we started our pilot project in this community in 2023 when we transformed and created dynamic and playful spaces in this school with the participation of nearly all 100 children.

Dhabala is the least resourced school within the cluster. We are grateful to the teachers and principal of this school for taking on and continuing play based learning, and enhancing play spaces and opportunities for the children at this school.

3 teachers
Including the principal

This year we:

- Visited the school and reconnected with the children and teachers
- Took children on the Play Day out to Science City
- Gifted art materials to the children

Details on pages 20-21

4. Nandoli Primary School

266 children

We had visited and met with the teachers and principal of this school during our first project in 2023.

At the keen invitation of the principal, we decided to include this school in the project this year.

In summary, we:

- Carried out play, art & mural activities with the children, brightening their outdoor play space.
- Gifted play bags to all children, and additional toys and games to the teachers.
- Took children on a Play Day out to Science City
- Had valuable sessions with the principal and teachers discussing the right to play and building awareness and engagement on the importance of play in children's lives and futures.

9 teachers, 1 principal

Details on pages 32-37

870 children



All 870 children across 4 schools

were gifted Play bags filled with art materials

347 children (40%) from all 4 schools

Came out on a Play Day to Science City



1. Rancharda School

- Play Day at the Lake, with the 5-10 year olds (pgs.16-17)
- Play Day to Science City, with the 11-15 year olds (pgs.38-41)
- **ALL 367 children** were gifted play bags with art materials and enjoyed decorating and colouring in their names and pictures on their bags.
- Sessions with principals from other schools, and teachers within this school were carried out here discussing project aims, long term goals and building awareness and engagement on children’s right to play.
- Additional art and craft materials, bought in India and from the UK, were gifted to teachers for their classrooms at this school.

School Data:	Class	Age range	No. of children
Total school children	K - Std.8	5-15	367
Play Day at the Lake	K - Std.4	5-10	161
Science City Play Day trip	Stds. 5-8	11-15	159
10 teachers + 1 Principal			

44% of school children
enjoyed a Play Day at the Lake

All 10 teachers & the principal
participated in project activities

43% of school children
went out on a Play Day at Science City

Photo below: Rancharda school teachers, principal, RSP trustees, RSP volunteer and RSP’s key Community Liaison Manager, 83 year old Indira Desai, at the *Play Day on the Lake*



A big thank you to the principal and teachers at Rancharda school:

The principal and teachers at this school provided great support to this project, championing and promoting children’s right to play, organising games and activities for our play day on the lake with the children, and taking the time to have various meetings and sessions with us.

They also continued play activities with the children, after RSP trustees left India. This included a song performed and acted by the children in Gujarati calling out to the adults around them to ‘let us play’!

The emerging play champions within this school, amongst the teachers and the principal, have contributed to facilitating and advocating for more play in children’s lives within their community.

Photo below: Haresh bhai and RSP trustees in front of Rancharda school gate



And a special thank you to Haresh bhai Patel ★

- Rancharda school principal and Administrator of a cluster of 12 schools:



Photo above Haresh bhai and RSP trustee at Narsangveer school

Haresh bhai has been a key stakeholder on this project from its inception, supporting the first pilot project we ran in this community in 2023 and the second project featured here. He has been instrumental in supporting us to expand our reach in this community.

Haresh bhai’s contributions include:

- Facilitating introductions and meetings with other schools
- Clearing administrative requirements for RSP to carry out project activities within this cluster of schools
- Planning and participating in project activities and events
- Advocating for children’s right to play. Including, setting up sessions with other teachers and principals to talk about the importance of play in children’s lives.

He is now one of our strongest advocates for children’s right to play and we thank him with deepest gratitude for his ongoing support.

Play Day at the Lake:

Supported by: 4 teachers and the principal from this school, 2 RSP trustees and 2 more RSP volunteers

We organised this play day with the primary school teachers of this school for the younger children, aged 5-10 years old. The teachers planned the first half of the day with playful activities, including musical chairs, and lemon on spoon races! RSP planned art activities in the afternoon, children were gifted art materials in play bags that they decorated, and ice-cream!



Play Bags were gifted to all 367 children at this school

All the children personalised and decorated their play bags with delight.



Play Bags:

Play bags were also gifted to the older children at the school. When we returned on our next visit they proudly showed us how they had decorated their bags!

The play bags made a big difference to the children in all schools as they do not generally have access or ownership of such materials.

All Play Bags included:

- An art Book
- Crayons set
- Colour pencils set
- Felt pens set
- Compass set (for older kids)
- Ruler, pencil, sharpener, eraser (for the young ones)
- Paint set (for older kids)
- Soft smiley ball

Sessions with teachers and principals:

Rancharda school organically become the project head quarters (HQ). We carried out multiple sessions here with the principal, primary school teachers and other principals.

There was a lot of engagement and interest around the right to play and enthusiasm to support the project in ways that aligned with needs of the children and school.

Planning project activities, setting longer term goals, and raising awareness, engagement and impetus to facilitate more play in children's lives

Photos below taken in the Project HQ office - Principal of Rancharda school, Haresh bhai's, office:



Photos above: Children excitedly lining up to fill their play bags with different materials.



Sharing The Panels from South Africa with the principals of the schools:



Photos left and below: Children excited to show off their decorated bags.



Over 10 sessions with the principal, teachers and principals from other schools

2. Dhabala Primary School

Dhabala was where we started our pilot project in this community in 2023, when we created playful spaces with about 100 children at this school.

It was heart warming to see the children again, being greeted by their excited welcome, and re-connecting with the teachers and hearing about and seeing the play activities they had carried out since the pilot project.

All 90 children
were gifted art materials to top up their play bags from the first project

In our first project, children from this school were unable to join us on the Science City Play Day trip and we were keen to take all of them on this year's trip. The teachers advised that it would only be possible for the older children from this school, who came and thoroughly enjoyed the Science City Play Day trip this year!

School Data:	Class	Age range	No. of children
Total school children	K - Std.	5-12	90
Science City Play Day Trip	Stds. 4-5	11-12	17



Photos on this page: RSP trustees, school principal & teachers with the children at Dhabala school
This year, Jan 2025, gifting art materials with an ice-cream treat for the children!



Thank you to the **principal and teachers** at this school

It was wonderful to see play based learning and project activities had been continued by the principal and teachers at this school since we left. They had extended the wall murals with the children, painted new floor board games, and carried out various play activities with the children.

With only three teachers, including the principal, their efforts to include extra curricular and playful opportunities for the children is especially impressive. Many thanks to these ladies who are brightening the lives of the children at this school and in the community through the power of play.

Photo below from 2023 pilot project at Dhabala school



Photos below: Teachers & children painting new floor board games



Photo below: Principal & teachers with the children at Dhabala



3. Narsanghveer Primary School

Most of our project time was spent at this school. Over a three week period we spent time with children from each classroom. Together we played, painted and transformed spaces within the school into bright, playful spaces. This transformation and the joy and talents of the children shining through made a big impact on the wider community.

Additional project activities included:

- Building an original, interactive, colourful playscape
- Play Day to Science City
- Play bags gifted to all children
- Play materials gifted to teachers for their classrooms
- Organising a community engagement event, attended by about 60 parents

School Data:	Class	Age range	No. of children
Total school children	K - Std.5	5-11	147
Project Activities at school with	K - Std.5	5-11	147
Science City Trip	Stds. 4 & 5	9-11	50
4 teachers (including the principal)			

60% (21 days)
of project time was spent at this school

All 4 teachers
participated in project activities

All 147 children
participated in project activities at the school

Photo below taken at Narsanghveer School with: the school principal and teachers; principal of Rancharda school; RSP trustees; and an official government school inspector.



Thank you to the teachers at Narsanghveer Primary School

The support and engagement from the school principal and teachers, who contributed valuable time and support, made a big difference to the outcomes of the project.

Highlight!

We built an original, interactive playscape at this school

Featured in detail on the next pages.

A very special thank you to RSP volunteer, Aparna Manaswimi, and Raghvendra Pasi, who made this possible, and who scoped the location with Hareesh bhai in May 2025, as shown in photos below.

Photos below outside Narsanghveer School:



A special thank you to the school principal, **Sejal ben Patel:**



Photo above: Sejal ben in front of the new playscape we had built at the school

Sejal ben had recently been appointed as the school principal and greatly welcomed and supported the project activities. She spent considerable time with us in the planning, scheduling and implementation of project activities. Her commitment to provide playful learning opportunities to the children was evident during the project and through the continuation of project activities after we left. We are deeply grateful to her for the warm welcome and support throughout the project.

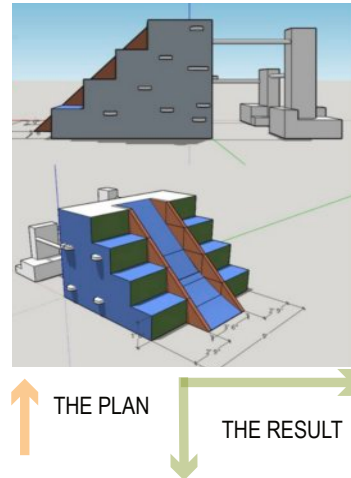
Building an original play structure:

The pictures on these pages speak for themselves and we were very lucky to be able to deliver this, with great thanks to:

○ **Aparna Manaswimi** - RSP volunteer with a background in architecture. We conceptualised the idea through creative sessions together and Aparna then produced the final designs and drawings.

○ **Raghendra Pasi** - the construction manager who, with his team, brought the structure to life. Having previously worked with him during the pilot project, we were confident that he was the right person to carry this out.

The aim was to create something that was interactive and engaging for the children, and also something that was sustainable and permanent to mitigate risks of damage or theft.



Watch the video of the structure being built from ground up on our Instagram channel @rockstoneandpebbles

The space before:



Feedback from the school Principal:

'All the children are so excited to play on the structure that I have had to set a rule where each class has been assigned a dedicated day in the week, which is their day to play on the structure!'



Play time, art, craft & mural activities with the children:

The children thoroughly enjoyed the play and art activities which led to painting their own play bags and creating 3 murals together.

Over three weeks at this school, we spent dedicated time with children from a different class each day of the week.

We played various games:

- Ball games
- Hula Hoops
- Skipping ropes
- Duck duck goose (a sure favourite!)
- Broken telephone
- Musical Statues
- ...and much more!



Play Bags

Gifted to all 147 children Who decorated them with great delight before we filled them up with art materials



A very special thank you to the wonderful team at the Blind People's Association:



It was an honour to collaborate with this incredible organisation and support them in a small way by commissioning the 200 cotton play bags they made for the children at this school. The scale and impact of their work internationally is profound, and their set up in Ahmedabad was very impressive, with offices and multiple workshops, including a garment making workspace managed by members with disabilities. A big thank to this organisation also for their kind welcome and introduction to their amazing work and wider team.

The Chicks & Houses Mural
Painted by the 5-7 year olds
(Kindergarten - Std.2)



The Animal Mural
Painted by the 8-12 year olds
(Std.3 - Std.5)



School principal and teachers with RSP trustee BEFORE the space was transformed:



The space before it was transformed:



The Trees of Friendship

ALL 147 children stamped their hand print on these murals



98% of children had never painted before - all the kids loved painting!

Community Engagement Event:

RSP organised a community event and invited children’s parents, principals of other schools, and members of the wider community. The purpose was to celebrate, show the adults how the children had transformed their own school, and build awareness and engagement on children’s right to play.

The school principal and teachers were skeptical that parents would have the free time to attend, based on their previous experiences. However, the parents had heard about and seen our activities with the children and many came with great joy and pride.



Photo above: RSP trustee with parents visiting the school

One mother smiled as she told us,

‘My kids have forgotten me, they only want to come to school and play with you now!’



Photos above and below: Parents at the Community Engagement event

About 60 parents attended the event



Transforming spaces in the school and making them more child friendly, bright and attractive made a big difference to the children, teachers and the wider community. It fostered a shared joy and a collective, communal pride. The parents’ quiet pride shone through their demeanour and beaming smiles. The teachers were proud too and also surprised at the hidden talents the children revealed through the activities.

A school government inspector carrying out visits during project activities, was quite awestruck at the transformation, couldn’t get past the fact that “the children did this” and strongly suggested that we should carry out similar activities in more schools.

Photos below of school child welcoming us at the event. Photo on the right, child receiving additional advocacy materials for their play bags from our volunteer, Sambhav Desai



Photos below: At the community event, RSP trustees with school children throwing the balls gifted within their play bags



4. Nandoli School:

A number of project days were spent at this school and provided an opportunity to engage deeply with the children, teachers and principal of this school. Again, the transformation of the exterior area through the murals created with the children, transformed the space, created a sense of pride and made a big difference to the wider community.

Additional project activities included:

- Play Day to Science City
- Play bags gifted to all children
- Play materials gifted to teachers for their classrooms
- Sessions with the principal and teachers building awareness and engagement on the right to play and building brighter futures through the power of play

School Data:	Class	Age range	No. of children
Total school children	K - Std.8	5-15	266
Project Activities at school with	K - Std.4	5-10	139
Science City Trip	Stds. 5-8	11-15	121
9 teachers + 1 principal			

17% (6 days)
of project time was spent at this school

All 9 teachers & the principal
participated in project activities

43% of school children
went out on a Play Day to Science City

Photos below taken at Nandoli School with the school principal, teachers & RSP trustees



Photo above: Nandoli school entrance

Thank you to the principal and teachers at Nandoli Primary

A heartfelt thank you to the principal and teachers of this school for their full engagement and support on all project activities.

Their interest and engagement on the importance of and right to play, facilitated valuable discussions and resounded through in their excitement to participate in project activities. They also showed a keen interest in emulating play based learning techniques and building more play opportunities for children at their school. It was a pleasure and joy to work alongside them and learn from each other.

And a special thank you to the school principal, **Falguni ben Brahbhatt** :



Photo above: RSP trustees with school principal, Falguni ben.

Falguni ben is one of the oldest standing and highly respected educators in this community. Her dedication, strength and experience resonated through all the discussions we had. She also supported wider project activities such as attending the community engagement event we organised at Narsanghveer school and joined us on the Play Day out to Science City on new year's eve!

We are grateful for her support and the kind hospitality she extended towards us, including insisting on sharing tea and local snacks before commencing project activities which felt like a warm welcome every time!



Play time, art, craft & mural activities with the children:



All children received play bags with art materials



Transforming the exterior school space:

Brightening up spaces through the animal and flower murals created with the children made a big difference to the children, teachers and wider community. The children loved painting and transforming their own spaces!

This is what the exterior of the school space looked like before:



And what it looked like after:

The Animal Mural

Painted by the 8-10 year olds



The Flower Mural
Handprinted by the 5-7 year olds





Science City Play Day Trip, 31/12/2024



A fun PLAY day ahead!



347 excited children arrive in buses!



And off on an adventure we go!



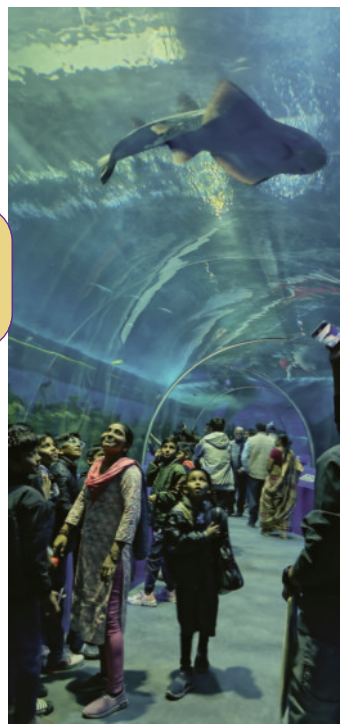
...with 14 teachers from 4 schools



First to The Aquatic Gallery - one of the largest aquariums in India



Ending here with the penguins and the amazing shark tunnel!



Starting with breakfast of course!





...And off again, to Nature Park for some free play time!



Rest time for the adults!



Then the **Hall of Space & Science** and finishing the day with lunch, followed by ice-cream with **347 happy children** :).
A wonderful end to 2024!



This was our 2024 trip...In 2023, as part of our first play project, we had also taken 400 children on a play day out to Science City ... and so we hope it will continue!

Positive Impacts of the project:

- **Children felt empowered and happy.** They PLAYED! And through that they laughed, had fun, learnt new skills, learnt to negotiate and communicate with each other better, and made new friends.
- **All 870 children were gifted art materials to foster their creative efforts.** The children loved the activities around decorating and personalising their gift bags with their names. Some groups of children were also given **advocacy materials**, translated in Gujarati, on their right to play and the importance of play in their lives to share with their parents and elders, or put up as posters in their homes.
- **Community pride and empowerment.** The transformation of school spaces was profound and the pride amongst the parents and wider community was palpable. Many parents shared that this project made their children feel valuable and important.
- **Children wanted to go to school!** The teachers commented that the children were excited and more children were showing up to school.
- **Children had playful and enhanced learning experiences outside the school environment.** The *Science City Play Day* trip and the *Play Day at the Lake* provided children with opportunities to play and explore safely in environments outside their school. The kids absolutely loved it! (See the video on our YouTube channel)
- **The project facilitated a more inclusive environment** amongst the children as they played and transformed their spaces together. More strikingly, it fostered a stronger bond between children and their teachers - students who had previously been perceived as 'untalented' or 'not clever', surprised their teachers and the community, through demonstrating other capabilities, including their creative and artistic talents.
- **Play champions in the community!** Parents, teachers, members of the wider community, and the children themselves were advocating on the value and right to play. The **advocacy materials**, translated in Gujarati, proved useful tools in spreading the message.
- **Building impetus amongst teachers and principals to improve and build more play opportunities.** The project activities and sessions with the teachers, delving into the right to play, the value of play and the negative impacts of play deprivation made a big difference in changing perceptions and shifting mindsets. Sharing *The Panels* and the experiences of the children in South Africa, captured within them, also left a lasting impression.




What Next?

Building a long term sustainable project, focused on expanding our activities across the cluster of 12 schools within this community is the long term goal. We aim to do this through co-creating small scale projects based on collaborative grant agreements with school stakeholders, that will enable us to continue supporting the community. We again thank Haresh bhai Patel for encouraging and committing to monitoring and managing in country implementation of projects. This coming year we will focus on tailoring the collaborative granting framework we already use with our partner MADaboutART in South Africa, to move this vision forward.


ARTICLE 31 UNCRC

યુનાઈટેડ નેશન્સ કન્વેન્શન ઓન ધ રાઈટ્સ ઓફ ચિલ્ડ્રન (UNCRC) એ ભારત સહિત વિશ્વના લગભગ તમામ દેશોની સરકારો દ્વારા હસ્તાક્ષર કરાયેલ સંધિ છે, જેણે 1992 માં તેના પર હસ્તાક્ષર કર્યા હતા. UNCRC કલમ 31 ની અંદર બાળકોના રમવાના અધિકારને માન્યતા આપે છે.


આર્ટિકલ 31 બાળકો અને યુવાનો માટે મહત્વપૂર્ણ છે:




We must have space and time for play, recreation and relaxing અમારી પાસે રમવા, મનોરંજન અને આરામ કરવા માટે જગ્યા અને સમય હોવો જોઈએ




Play helps us stay safe healthy and happy રમત અમને સુરક્ષિત સ્વસ્થ અને ખુશ રહેવામાં મદદ કરે છે




Governments MUST find ways to get rid of the things that get in the way of time for play સરકારોએ રમત માટે સમયના માર્ગમાં આવતી વસ્તુઓમાંથી છુટકારો મેળવવાના માર્ગો શોધવા જ જોઈએ



We must have opportunities to explore and understand our own culture આપણી પોતાની સંસ્કૃતિને અન્વેષણ કરવાની અને સમજવાની તકો હોવી જોઈએ









We should be involved in cultural and artistic activities and be able to go to places like museums, festivals, theatres, concerts and libraries આપણે સાંસ્કૃતિક અને કલાત્મક પ્રવૃત્તિઓમાં સામેલ થવું જોઈએ અને સંગ્રહાલયો, તહેવારો, થિયેટર, સંગીત સમારોહ અને પુસ્તકાલયો જેવા સ્થળોએ જઈ શકવા માટે સક્ષમ બનવું જોઈએ



Governments must make sure that none of us are left out સરકારોએ સુનિશ્ચિત કરવું જોઈએ કે આપણામાંથી કોઈ પણ બાકાત ન રહે

If Governments take all of this seriously, our lives will be happier and healthier. જો સરકાર આ તમામ બાબતોને ગંભીરતાથી લેશે તો આપણું જીવન વધુ સુખી અને સ્વસ્થ બનશે



This year, we implemented **Phase 2 of the Youth-led Right to Play project** co-created by RSP & MADaboutART in South Africa.



Phase 2 Aims:

1. Empower young people to advocate for their right to play through planning and delivering projects in their community.
2. Support and encourage young people to build business and life skills through the management of these projects.
3. Build awareness, engagement and impetus in the community to respect and facilitate more play in children's lives through these projects.
4. Enhance and weave play opportunities and spaces for children in the wider community through advocacy activities and projects.

Key Outcomes:

The young people, supported in country by the project facilitator Beaty Jonas, carried out **6 advocacy projects** this year focused on:

- Advocacy in Churches
- A *Right to Play* March through the town of Knysna, as part of the annual *16 Days of Activism* campaign.

They decided upon these activities through ideas shortlisted during brainstorming sessions. The young people played an integral part in the development of project plans. They set out aims, budgets and prepared presentations for different groups. Over 21 days were spent by the youth in the planning and delivery of these projects, which culminated with them bravely standing up to different members of their community and advocating for their right to play.



MADaboutART (MAD) is one of RSP's oldest charity partners. It is a UK registered charity, based and operating from South Africa. MAD supports young, vulnerable people, using art as a platform for healing, and for igniting hope and imagination. Their centre, based in a township near Knysna in South Africa, within a community negatively impacted by high levels of HIV infection, poverty and social exclusion, has been a haven and safe space for thousands of children for over 20 years.

Phase 2 Overview:

This year we continued and expanded Phase 2 of the project, **led by young people advocating for their right to play.**

The young people participated in the planning, management and delivery of outreach advocacy projects within their community. They took *The Panels* out to different groups, highlighting the importance of play in their lives and calling out for support to facilitate more play in their lives. RSP provided project management support and funded these activities.

It took courage, built skills and empowered the young people to stand up and challenge their parents and elders in the community, and ask them to support their right to play.

Background, Phase 1:

RSP and MAD have been collaborating for nearly eight years now, to create brighter futures for children through the power of play.

In 2021, we embarked on a collaborative right to play project which was implemented at the MAD centre and involved **32 workshops** with **85 children** over a 2 year period. The result was the creation of an original advocacy tool for play - seven stunning art panels capturing the children's experiences around play. See the story of *The Panels* - An Original Advocacy Tool for Play (pgs.50-59).



Photo of the ideas on where to advocate that emerged from the brainstorming sessions with the youth

Photo below: MAD youth getting ready for the *Right to Play* March



*Full details on Phase 1 of this project can be found within our Year 5 and 6 Annual Reports and videos on our YouTube channel.

Young people advocating for their right to play in churches:

Why Churches?

It is meaningful that churches, with generally conservative audiences, were chosen as some of the first communities to target by the young people. In the planning of advocacy activities the young people spoke about their barriers to play in this environment. For example, they noted that church environments required being dressed in your Sunday best, which did not make them conducive for play. They also shared that they had little free time outside of school as they had tasks and care duties at home.

They decided to build awareness and engagement within the churches, also a place where many in the community congregate. They decided to tell the church communities why play was so important in their lives and ask them to support them to access their right to play.



7 MAD youth went to **5 churches** to advocate for their **Right to Play** addressing a total of about **100 church members**

TABLE OF CHURCHES THE YOUNG PEOPLE ADVOCATED AT:					
DATE of Event:	09-Feb-2025	02-Mar-2025	13-Mar-2025	16-Mar-2025	28-Mar-2025
CHURCH NAME:	AGS Church	Good News Ministry	Arara Ta. Zion	Skekinam Glory Ministries	Spirit and Truth Farm Centre
Total people in Audience	21	19	18	20	18
Children in Audience	12	10	10	11	9
MAD youth who presented to church audiences	7	7	7	7	7
Location of church:	Hornlee	Keur Hoek	Hlalani	Hornlee	Keur Hoek
Distance from MAD centre:	5 kms	45 kms	4 kms	5 kms	45 kms



What happened?

Supported by 2 adults from MAD, the 7 youth headed off and took their voices into 5 churches, speaking directly to a total of about 100 church members within different congregations. It was intimidating but they felt well equipped and ready!

They presented the 7 powerful art panels that captured their experiences around play and lack of play in their lives, sharing why play is so important in children's lives, and urging the church communities to help increase and improve play opportunities and spaces for children.

It took courage and strength to advocate for their right to play in these contexts and they felt a strong sense of achievement and empowerment at the end of it.



Photos on these pages of young people in churches advocating for their right to play.



Children from MADaboutART rally for their right to play in the town of Knysna, South Africa, at the annual 16 days of activism campaign march held worldwide



A Tribute to the incredible Beaty Jonas

Beaty Jonas, the main project facilitator on the ground, has been an incredible mentor to the group of youth she steers and supports through these activities.

Getting to know Beaty over the years through our multitude of project meetings and co-creating concepts and ideas together to project implementation stage has been a remarkable journey.

A huge thank you to Beatty and the team at MADaboutART for implementing these amazing projects and through that inspiring and brightening the world for many children through the power of advocacy and play.



The children and young people from MADaboutART rallied for their right to play and held an audience with the Mayor of Knysna, in a town of about 100,000 residents, using the panels to share their experiences of play and putting forward their demands to the government to uphold their commitment to Article31 of the UNCRC treaty and support them to access their right to play.

The march was featured in the local newspaper (photo below).

+100 children
marched for their
Right to Play!



And a big thank you to Elizabeth Brown

Trustee and co-founder of MADaboutART, who has played an integral part in the success of the organisation. Her behind the scenes management, dedication and commitment to MADaboutART for over 20 years now has helped brighten the lives of thousands of children over the years. She is also a critical part of the RSP-MAD co-created Right to Play project, and it is with her support that we have been able to take this project to where it is.



THE PANELS - An Original Advocacy Tool for Play

Co-created with children and young people in South Africa



In collaboration,
supporting children's right to play



The Panels - An original advocacy tool for play

The Panels supported the advocacy activities carried out by the young people this year. They were shared in our prior year's report and are being shared again this year to provide context and understanding of this powerful and moving tapestry co-created by the young people that brings their stories to life.

The last 'Call to Action' panel in the series is especially important as an advocacy tool and has been tailored for different groups by the young people. It enables them to consider and formulate specific demands to different audiences, and it shares a clear message to groups that they are advocating to.

This year they shared a detailed call to action with the Mayor of Kynsna municipality, reminding him that South Africa along with 200 other countries have signed the UNCRC* treaty, and Article 31 within that enshrines their right to play.

*United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child



Excerpt from the Call to Action presented to the Mayor by the children

on 6th December 2024:

- "We want a child-friendly town.*
- We want you to involve us in developing safe, play-friendly spaces in our town.*
- We want you to make play parks accessible and safe for all children, including those who use wheelchairs.*
- We say 'NO!' to building houses on our play parks.*
- We say 'NO!' to rubbish in our play parks. Play parks must be cleaned.*
- We want the rubbish trucks to take away rubbish.*
- We want the rubbish trucks to take away rubbish.*
- We the children will fight for this... because **it's our right to play.**"*

How The Panels were created:

In 2021, nearly **100 children** and young people who live in a township near Knysna, South Africa, participated in a series of **32 workshops**, over a one year period, focused on their right to play.

The Panels, seven powerful and vibrant art pieces, were co-created by the children and artists in South Africa through a two year collaborative project between RSP and MADaboutArt.

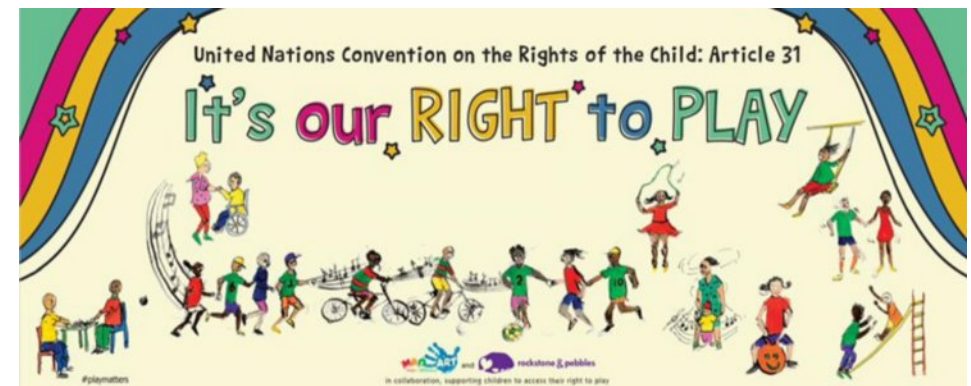
Through workshops that started with building understanding around rights and the right to play and which evolved to various creative and expressional sessions, the young people expressed their frustrations, hopes, opinions, and experiences around play, connecting this to their wider world and future.

They shared the barriers they face in accessing play opportunities and spaces in great detail, once they understood their right to play; and sharing the value and joy of play gave them the impetus to develop the final call to action.

The panels represent the stories shared by the children and emerged as an *Original Advocacy Tool for Play* through this process.

This year, Phase 2 of this project was youth-led, with the young people participating in the development, planning and delivery of six advocacy projects, taking The Panels out to their communities and advocating for the right to play for themselves and all children and young people.

RSP & MAD will continue to look for opportunities to take the voices of the children out into the world, through different projects and initiatives, to advocate for all children's right to play.



PANEL 1: Barriers to Play

This is the first panel of the series and also the first of the three initial panels that depict the barriers the children identified that they face when trying to access their right to play.

The children identified four primary barriers to their play: Tradition and Culture, 'Stranger Danger', School, and Parents. These are presented on this panel as dark, ominous figures looming over the lives of the children.

The musical notes are of a dark and low tempo, fencing the children in within this space.

The genders are divided, by the colours red and green in the first three barriers to play panels.



PANEL 2: Lost Years of Play - Covid

This second panel focuses on a specific barrier that was imposed upon the children, and the rest of the world, outside anyone's control.

The children spoke a lot about this period, what they referred to as their 'lost years'. The grotesque and horrific images on this panel attempt to portray the intensity of the experience, the trauma experienced by the children and the "collective sadness" experienced and expressed, post Covid, during the workshops.

Time is warped and an amplified Covid virus piercing the lives of children dominates this panel. Other children are locked in cages or standing in the long food lines that represent the extended food programme that MADaboutART ran during this time. For many of the children, the only meal of the day they receive is from the MAD centre; but during and post Covid, as the situation worsened, MAD was also supporting the needs of the wider community in the township.

The musical notes are sparse and remain dark.



PANEL 3: When Play is Restricted

This is the last of the three panels depicting the 'Barriers to Play'.

The larger whispering figures in the panel represent the ideas that are being pushed into the minds of the children by the society around them, and the resulting landscape of division and discrimination that they are having to navigate through.

Differences arising from gender, race, sexuality, physical ability, religion, socio economic status and body size can be seen highlighted in this panel. The result of this intangible barrier is a chaotic and divided world that the children are being forced to navigate through and which creates further barriers to their play.

The bottom wording plays with the English and Afrikaans language and is also a reference to the pressures on children not to play with children from 'foreign' nations. ('Nasie' in Afrikaans means nation or land, and 'Diskriminasie' means 'Discrimination').

The music is still fencing the children in, even around the small available playground space, and although they are playing freely they remain surrounded by "whispers" of bigotry and discontent.



PANEL 4: Play is a Right

The fourth panel is a representation of the children's discovery and exploration of rights, and specifically Article 31 of the UNCRC* that enshrines their Right to Play. (*UNCRC-United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child)

The barriers start to unlock, especially the intangible barrier of discrimination, that was previously stopping the children from playing with each other.

The workshops on rights were the most complex part of the project, but also a lightbulb moment for the children. As they debated, discussed, role-played, acted, sang, and danced together they also really started communicating with each other. And as they grappled with and unravelled the concept of rights, they started recognising and breaking down their own Prejudices.

This panel brings hope and light as divisions started morphing into friendships and inquiry. For example, the genders are no longer separated and defined as binary colours, instead the children are shining as bright, diverse individuals and engaging with each other positively and with joy.

The musical notes get lighter and no longer fence the children in.



PANEL 5: The Value of Play

The panels continue to lighten and become more joyous as the value of play is extracted by the children. In discussion, one of the children said that 'play gives my brain wings', which inspired the theme of this panel.

The children spoke a lot about the importance of play in their lives. As they got to know each other, play together, and talk about their play experiences they started considering the value of play in their own lives. Through drama and role-play workshops they practiced their negotiation skills and learnt to present their points in a reasonable way to their parents and other adults in the community. In this way, they were also building their advocacy skills.

The words, which fly freely on the upbeat musical notes on this panel, come from the children, reflecting their shared experiences when they play.

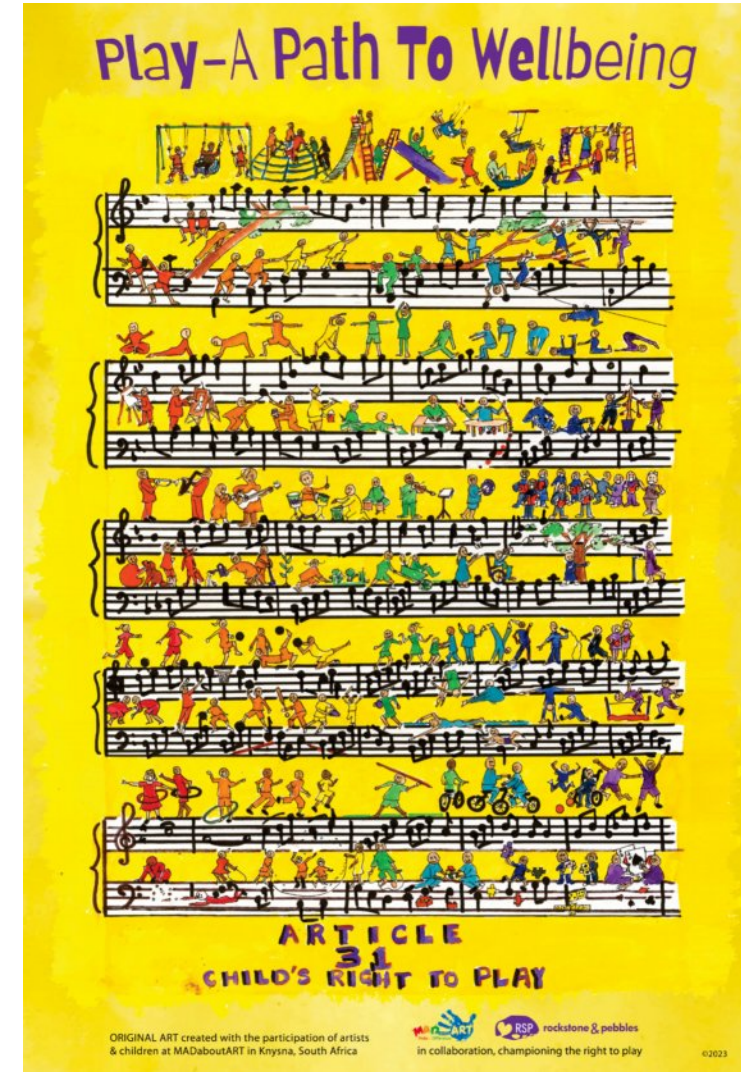


PANEL 6: Play - A Path to Wellbeing

This penultimate panel depicts the joy and diversity of play.

Activities that the children recognised as play or playful are included on this panel and represent the diverse ways that children play, whether in the playground, in nature, playing sports, or board games, cards, yoga, gardening, hugging a tree or anything else.

In this symphony of play, the musical notes are upbeat and available for the children to integrate into their play, as balls, climbing frames or other loose parts.



PANEL 7: Call To Action

This is the last panel of the series, and the first “Call to Action” developed by the children of MADaboutART in Knysna, South Africa.

In this first Call to Action, the children are calling out to the local government to re-open their playground, which they had lost access to as it had remained closed since Covid. They are also calling out to other adults in their community to understand the importance of play in their lives and provide them with more opportunities and spaces to play.

The creation and presentation of this call to action was an empowering experience for the children as they advocated for their own right to play for the first time. It took courage and strength to step outside the cultural norm and stand up and make these demands to their elders and especially to their parents. It was also a moment of pride in the community to witness this.

This year the young people planned and delivered six small advocacy projects to different groups within their community, developing new calls to action during Phase 2 of this project.

Young people about to advocate for their right to play to their community (December 2023):



CALL TO ACTION

You adults see it as ‘just play’
Nothing much will come of it, you say
We say it’s our RIGHT TO PLAY

Play makes us happy, our brains glow .
If all we do is chores and stuff
our growing up will be so tough.

Where we live,
there’s not much to do.
Drugs? Alcohol? Crime? We say NO!
Play keeps us busy and helps us grow

To play in safety is all we ask
but with our playground gone
it’s quite a task .
Roads, dams and bushes
are just not safe!

We need safe places
to keep these risks at bay.
Our swings and slide
& climbing frame, all gone.
We feel like no-one cares,
it’s been too long.

Bring back our play park we say!

FROM: *The children at MADaboutART in Knysna, South Africa | 7th December 2023*

ORIGINAL ART created with the participation of artists & children at MADaboutART in Knysna, South Africa

rockstone & pebbles
in collaboration, championing the right to play

©2023

Positive Impacts of the project:

- **Increased confidence amongst the young people.** Building an understanding of their own rights created impetus amongst the young people to advocate for themselves and their right to play. It gave them the confidence to use their voices and present to public audiences, they were given respect and space to express their own experiences to adults and leaders in the community, and a sense of pride was fostered.
- **Young people building business and life skills.** The youth led nature of this project has provided the opportunity for the young people to learn and build a wide range of project management and other skills, including how to set budgets, build safeguarding into projects appropriately, communication and presentation skills.
- **Improved educational outcomes.** Beaty Jonas, the project facilitator, has repeatedly remarked upon the improved results of the children in school since the inception of the right to play project. She has become a steadfast believer in the importance of play in children's lives, noting that the explorative nature of play creates a zest for learning that seems to also contribute to improved educational performance.
- **Increased community awareness and engagement.** The parents, community leaders, and other adults have been impressed and moved by the children's calls for action, their confidence in presenting their demands to their community and positive impact these activities have had. Some parents have overtly expressed that they will 'lift the iron hand' and give their children improved opportunities to play. The Major of the town was also very impressed, stating that he had never been addressed by children in this way before.
- **Growing play champions in the community!** Parents, teachers, and members of the wider community are becoming firm believers of the value of play, and increasingly motivated to find ways to support the children in their community access their right to play.

What Next?

The success of this project is the result of a strong, value aligned and collaborative partnership with MADaboutART, that has been nurtured and built over seven years. Sharing knowledge, skills, insights and opportunities openly with each other, and taking the time to understand each other's needs has provided great opportunities for cross-organisational collaboration and learning, and resulted in the delivery of powerful projects that were able to make a much wider difference.

As we move forward, we will continue to:

- Strengthen our collaboration with MAD
- Encourage and fund youth-led advocacy activities and projects focused on play
- Support children and young people's right to play by enhancing play opportunities and spaces for children in this community
- Build a movement of play champions who will help facilitate more play in children's lives.

RSP are also planning, in the next couple of years, to visit the MAD centre in South Africa and implement a play project with the

"The project brought joy, hope and inspiration to the children, who felt empowered and more confident to use their voices and imagination to create wider positive change."

- Beaty Jonas (project facilitator)



"Advocacy has evolved from being a 'need' to a 'desire' for the children."

- Beaty Jonas (project facilitator)

Building Organisational Sustainability:

Collaborative partnerships

Collaboration remains at the centre of our organisation, supporting us to meet our strategic objectives in different ways, including:

Fostering valuable relationships with other charitable groups

- Our deeply collaborative partnership with **MADaboutART** and the **Gujarat schools** have enabled us to support over 1,000 children this year.

- **The Rotary Club of the Northdowns** and RSP have supported each other for over 7 years now.

- More recent relationships with **The Maternal Gift Economy movement** and **The Blind People's Association** in Ahmedabad, India have added value to RSP in different ways.

Building a movement of play champions around the world

The organic emergence of play advocates and champions, in the wider communities, through the projects we've carried out, through raising awareness and engagement on the importance of play.

Engaging local businesses and charities in our community:

- **Craft T Cake**, a pottery painting and craft cafe in Bexley, Kent donated four boxes of art and craft materials to RSP, which were used for the India project activities. A special thanks to the business owner, **Sucheta Khakho**, for this generous donation.
- Thank you to **DEBRAs charity shop** in Orpington, Kent for providing an array of toys, games and children's books at very low cost to support our project in India.
- Curry night at **The Lambs Inn** in Swanley, Kent raised £638. A special thanks to owner **Liz Gould** for opening her kitchen and her heart for children's right to play, and the cooks, **Ramila Patel** and **Nisha Kamdar**, who helped prepare the delicious food.
- A big thank you to **Londis convenience store** in Swanley, Kent for hosting our cash collection boxes, which raised £54 this year.

Including young people in RSP

We continue to strive to include youth in RSP in a way that encourages their own agency, both through our programmes and operational work.

The **youth-led project in South Africa** brought this to the fore-front and enabled us to also to facilitate peer-to-peer collaboration on project delivery between two young people in the UK and South Africa: **Sachi Patel**, who worked as RSP Operational Co-ordinator for six months and **Thimna Jonas**, a team member of the youth-led projects in South Africa.

Special Thanks to Sachi Patel

- RSP Operations Co-ordinator
Jul 2024 - Jan 2025

Sachi brought invaluable support and capacity to the organisation during this busy year. She was able to build on the foundations and learnings she had gained during her internship with RSP two years ago and contribute across different areas of the organisation.



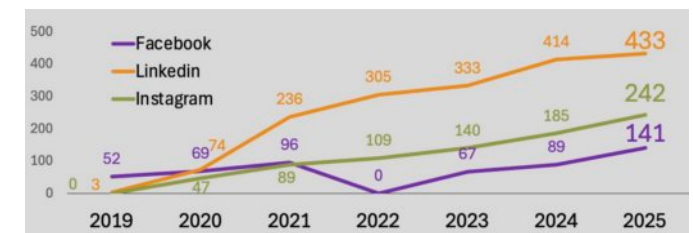
Photo above: Sachi Patel (far right) with RSP volunteer, Aparna Manaswini (second from right) and RSP trustees

Growing Supporters

Our supporters continue to grow steadily, including social media followers (see graph below), and support us to fulfil our charitable mission. Advocacy activities and resources, such as posters and cotton tote bags with powerful imagery on the importance of play, have helped to engage supporters. The project videos we created and posted on our YouTube and Instagram channels, [@rockstoneandpebbles](#), also generated a lot of interest this year.

All our supporters, from donors, volunteers, partners, and project participants, add significant, multifaceted value to RSP.

Their involvement acts as a catalyst in increasing the social change we seek to make through our work.



Sharing knowledge, resources and skills

Financial Sustainability

RSP's financial position remains strong as we close our 7th year. This is a result of our organisational strategy which focused on building robust frameworks and diverse income streams in our foundational years.

Being able to plan for and designate funds for longer terms projects provides a distinct advantage for building sustainable projects, which we have been able to do, *thanks to the generosity of all our donors.*

A special thanks to RSP's largest life time contributors:

Mary Ann Ephgrave

Ramila Patel

Dr. Hansi Patel

Their generous regular and one-off donations, including donating more than £500 each to the play project in India this year, and their wider support in championing our work has greatly supported RSP and our financial sustainability.

Fundraising for India project:

Around **50 people donated** to the India play project this year raising **£5,197**, our biggest fundraising campaign to date!

A special thanks to:

Indira Desai* - Key project stakeholder, *Volunteer and Community Liaison officer*, raised over £1,000 from 17 different people through her efforts.

Shivani Patel - *Volunteer* in country, who decided to additionally fundraise for the project and raised £300.

Richa and Aditya Patil - generously donated £1,000 motivated simply by witnessing the joy of the children at play.

Year 8 Objectives:

1. Continue to support the children in the Rancharda community in India access their right to play, through remotely co-creating and planning activities with the teachers in the schools we worked within, and granting funds for the implementation of project activities.

2. Expand the youth-led project, in collaboration with MADaboutART in South Africa, to support young people build skills, access their right to play and advocate for their right to play to larger and diverse audiences in the wider community of Knysna.

3. Explore ways to share *The Panels - An Original Advocacy Tool for Play* with different stakeholders to support other initiatives that facilitate more play in children's lives.

4. Explore new collaborative opportunities to support children access their right to play in different contexts.

5. Continue building organisational sustainability and finding ways to increase organisational capacity.

*With deepest gratitude to our wonderful **volunteers**:*

Ramila Patel, at the age of 85 years, continues to support us as a donor, a volunteer, feeding us at our meetings, cooking for our curry night fundraiser and attending RSP events.

Niketa Fazal who has been donating her art for our annual reports for 7 years.

Aparna Manaswini amongst other things, helped us build a playscape in a school in India this year.

Dalia AbuYasin who continues to contribute her critical writing skills and puts tremendous thought into helping to create RSP's annual reports.

Manav Oza and **Kishan Kamdar** who helped us navigate technical IT difficulties.

Jo Ann Linehan who helped us test and pack suitcases of toys for India.

In India, a special thanks to:

Shivani Patel who travelled from Mumbai to volunteer her time for both projects we carried out in India. She participated in the management and implementation of project activities with the children, bringing the extra hands and commitment we needed!

Sambhav Desai also volunteered his time to participating in project activities, attending planning meetings and events, and also providing wider support.

Jitendra Chauhan helped us pack hundreds of play bags for the children.

Indira Desai, Hareshbhai Patel, the **teachers** and **principals** of the schools, the **suppliers** we worked with, many for the second time, all contributed to helping us make a bigger difference.

Special Thanks to **Indira Desai** - Volunteer and Community Liaison officer



Indira Desai has been an integral part of the India project since its planning and inception stage in 2021.

She met with key stakeholders and carried out scoping and assessment visits in schools before the project was implemented, participated in activities and attended events during both projects, and greatly supported this project overall.

She also kindly hosted RSP trustees in her home during both projects, and allowed us to turn her living room into a warehouse! We are hugely grateful for her support and generosity.



Individually a drop,
together an ocean.



3

FINANCE & LEGAL

Financial Overview:

Income and Expenditure

The large increase in income over the last two years reflects about £10,000 of restricted funds that were raised for project activities in India, which were fully spent at the end of this year.

	This year 2025	Last year 2024
Total Income	12,618	13,356
Total Expenditure	-19,303	-7,603
Net Income	-6,685	5,753

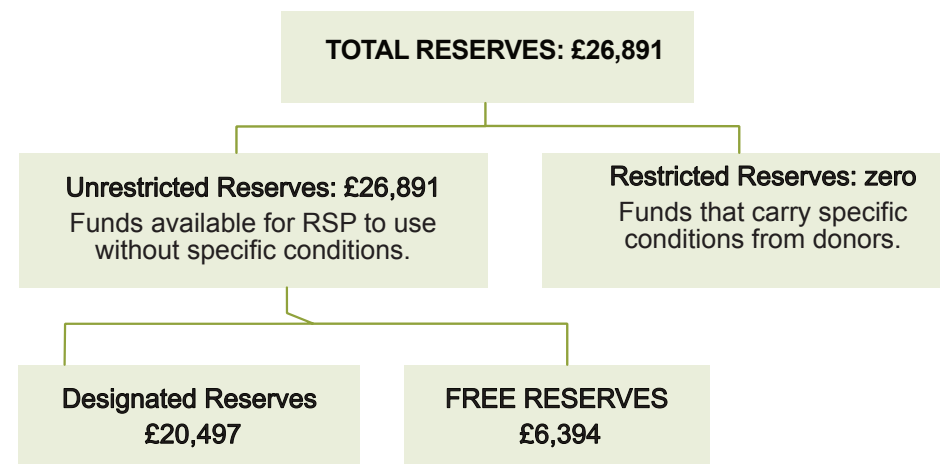
This is the first year that spend has bypassed income raised within the year. Expenditure increases over the last 3-4 years reflect investments in sustainable programmes and strengthening organisational capacity. This is in line with our new organisational strategy launched in 2023.

Our initial strategy, in the first four years, focused on learning, building organisational foundations, financial reserves and strong partnerships. The build up of reserves has allowed us to commit to long term programmes, and with our current funding initiatives enables us to designate funds in advance and invest in projects in a responsible and sustainable way.



Reserves Position

These are RSP's charity savings, accumulated over seven years, to use in furtherance of our charitable purposes, as at 31st March 2025:



Total Reserves - The total reserves balance of £26,891 (2024: £33,576) includes:

- **Unrestricted Funds** of £26,891 held include:
 - **Designated Funds** of £20,497 (2024: £21,197) - these are funds earmarked by the Trustees for specific purposes. These funds have been committed to building operational capacity, and to grow sustainable programmes in South Africa and India within this strategy period to March 2028. This year RSP was able to designate a further £6,500 to these projects as a result of a successful fundraising year.
 - **Free Reserves** of £6,394 - these are the part of the charity's unrestricted funds that remain as freely available to spend on any of the charity's purposes and are set in line with our Reserves Policy.

Restricted Funds were raised for the India Project over the last 2 years (£11,447) and were fully spent by the end of this year.

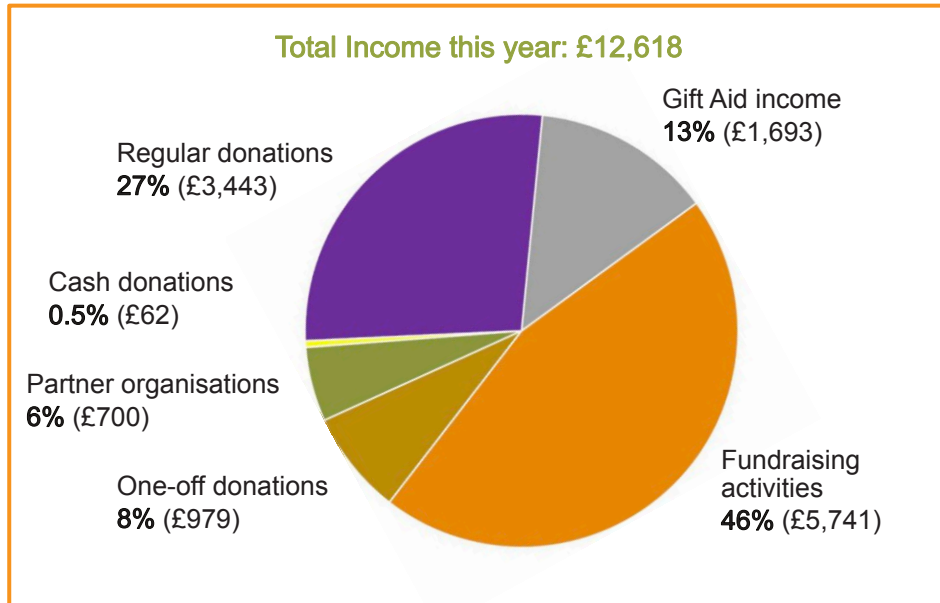
Our Reserves Policy is to hold free reserves of about £6,000 (unchanged from last year). These reserves are held:

- For unexpected management and governance costs
- To mitigate organisational risks
- For investments in value adding opportunities

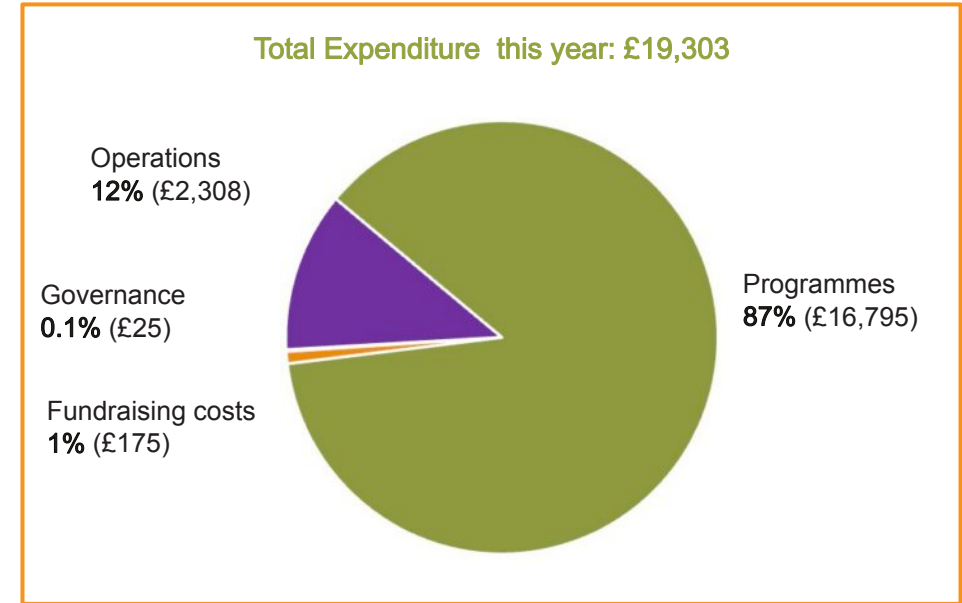
RSP Income Insights:

RSP Expenditure Insights:

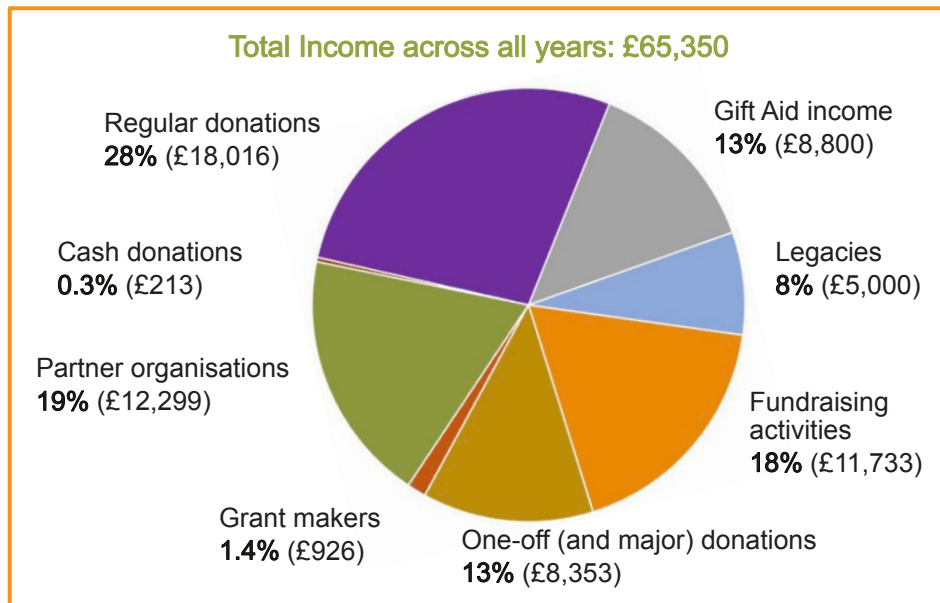
Year 7 - Income Overview (Apr 2024 - Mar 2025):



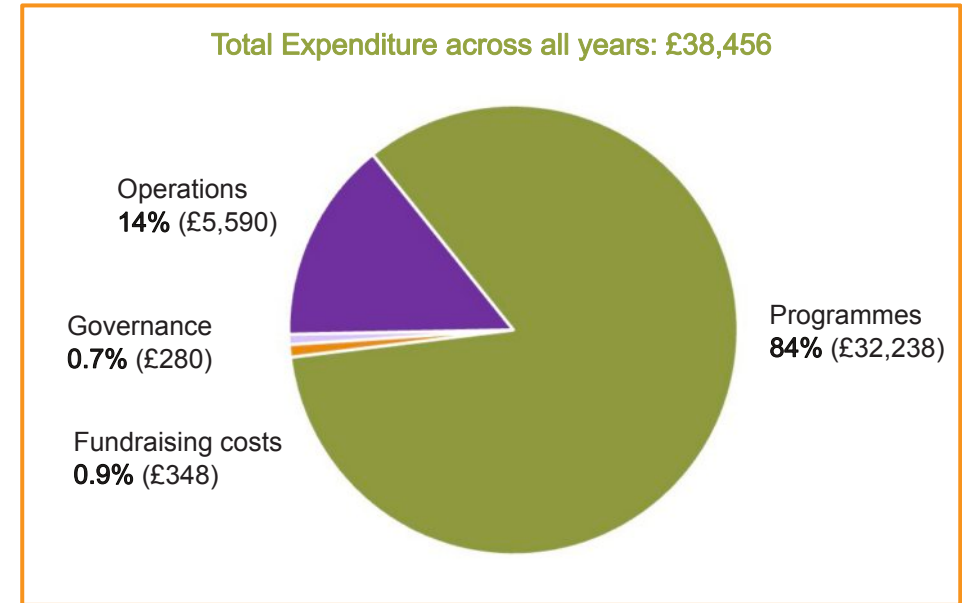
Year 7 - Expenditure Overview (Apr 2024 - Mar 2025):



Total Income across all years (2019 - 2025):



Total Expenditure across all years (2019 - 2025):



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS


STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA)

for the year ended 31 March 2025

Note	2025		2024	
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Prior year funds
	£	£	£	£
Income from :				
Donations and legacies	6,721	5,197	11,918	12,256
Charitable activities	700	-	700	1,100
Total income	7,421	5,197	12,618	13,356
Expenditure on :				
Raising funds	44	131	175	97
Charitable activities	7,812	11,316	19,128	7,506
Total expenditure	7,856	11,447	19,303	7,603
Net gain for the year	(435)	(6,250)	(6,685)	5,753
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward	27,326	6,250	33,576	27,823
Total funds carried forward	26,891	-	26,891	33,576

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 March 2025

Note	2025	2024
	£	£
Assets		
Fixed Asset	299	599
Current Asset		
Debtors	1,570	2,047
Cash at bank	25,476	32,730
	27,345	35,376
Liabilities		
Creditors	(454)	(1,800)
Total Net Assets	26,891	33,576
The funds of the charity		
General Reserves	6,394	6,129
Designated Funds	20,497	21,197
Restricted Funds	-	6,250
Total charity funds	26,891	33,576
Approved on behalf of all trustees of RockStone & Pebbles on 31st December 2025		
		
..... Juliette Liebi Treasurer		

All Years Summary:	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total Income	12,618	13,356	8,792	8,305	8,542	5,563	8,170
Total Expenditure	-19,303	-7,603	-8,019	-2,345	-461	-680	-45
Net Income	-6,685	5,753	1,699	5,960	8,081	4,883	8,125

All Years Summary:	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total Charity Funds	26,891	33,576	27,823	27,050	21,090	13,009	8,125

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS:

Note 1 : Total Income - Total income in year 7 was £12,618 (2024: £13,356), which includes £5,197 restricted funds raised specifically for Phase 2 Gujarat Right to Play project in India (2024: £7,470). The remaining income raised through a diverse range of fundraising activities (See page 70 for more details)

Note 2 : Organisational expenditure - Total charitable expenditure was £19,303. Support costs are allocated directly within charitable activities, details of all expenditure can be found in pages 71-72.

Note 3: Fixed Asset - IT equipment, computer bought in year 4, at a cost of £1,499, less annual depreciation of £300 / year, resulting in a net asset value of £299 this year.

Note 4: Debtors - The total debtors balance this year is £1,570 made up of Gift aid accrual claimable for year 7 income of £1,475 and accrued donor income of £95.

Note 5: Creditors - The total creditors balance this year is £454 made up funds due to MADaboutART for the activities carried out in Phase 2 of the Right to Play project.

Note 6: Charity funds (reserves) - A total reserves balance of £26,891 (2024: £33,576) is held as at 31st March 2025, made up of £20,497 designated funds and £6,394 free reserves. (see page 69 for more details).

Trustee remunerations

Governance costs of £25 for trustee meetings were waived and donated to the charity (2024:£12). Trustees received no remuneration for professional services provided.

a. Statutory information - RockStone & Pebbles (RSP) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. Further details are given in the 'Reference & Administrative Details' section.

b. Basis of preparation - The financial statements have been prepared 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) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102), and the Charities Act 2022. The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view.

c. Public benefit entity - The charity is a public benefit entity. The 'RSP Public Benefit Statement' in the section below demonstrates how RSP meets the definition of a public benefit entity.

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

e. Income - Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

f. Tax reclaims on donations - Gift Aid received is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

g. Donations of gifts, services and facilities - In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised in the Financial Statements as the value cannot be reliably measured. .

h. Staff costs - There have been no paid staff during this financial year.

i. Fund accounting - Fund accounting principles have been applied, separating restricted and unrestricted funds, and unrestricted funds further into designated and free reserves (see pg. 41).

j. Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT - Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under:

- Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charity in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Charitable activities includes the running costs undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and direct costs of charitable activities undertaken.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

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

l. Tangible fixed assets - Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities and is calculated on a straight-line basis.

m. Debtors - Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due.

n. Creditors and provisions - Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

o. Collaboration policy - aims to share resources, such as expertise, volunteer contributions and funds, between organisations and individuals, to build sustainable partnerships and programmes, all guided by project plans and memorandums of understandings between parties.

Reference & Administrative Details

Charity Name: RockStone & Pebbles (RSP)

Charity Registration Number: 1177973

Charity Registration Date: 16 April 2018

Registered Office: 8 Cyclamen Road, Kent BR8 8HJ

Trustees: Juliette Liebi, Meera Patel, Anna Petruccelli

Structure, Governance & Management

Governing document - The charity was established and set up as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 16 April 2018. It is governed by its constitution which sets out the objectives and powers of this CIO.

Recruitment & Appointment of new trustees - The constitution stipulates a minimum of two trustees, there is no maximum number of trustees that must be appointed. Apart from the founding charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. Trustees will be recruited on the basis of the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

Management - The founders, Juliette Liebi and Meera Patel, who are also trustees, manage the operations and activities of the charity on a voluntary basis. They are supported in RSP's governance by a third trustee, Anna Petruccelli. RSP is also supported by volunteers and partners in areas of management and the implementation of programmes.

Risk Management - The trustees have a Risk Management framework in place to identify and review the risks the charity is exposed to and they ensure that appropriate mitigation plans are in place to safeguard the organisation and the people impacted through and involved in the work of RSP.

RSP Charitable Purposes for Public Benefit

RSP's charitable objects are as summarised below:

(i) The prevention or relief of poverty anywhere in the world - At RSP we do this through supporting vulnerable children to access their fundamental, human right to play as enshrined in Article 31 UNCR (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child).

(ii) To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of other initiatives working towards objectives similar to (i) above - We adopt a deeply collaborative approach, find synergies, share skills, knowledge, resources and opportunities with value aligned organisations and initiatives to support one another in meeting our shared aims and grow stronger together.

RSP Public Benefit Statement - RSP purposes satisfy the public benefit requirements, in line with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. There has been no harm or private benefits arising from carrying out these purposes.

RSP provided public benefit this year by positively impacting the lives of vulnerable children across the world; and by improving the efficiency and effectiveness of RSP and other non profit organisations and initiatives through partnering on programmes and sharing skills, knowledge and expertise with each other.

Trustees' Statement of Responsibility

The trustees of RockStone & Pebbles (RSP) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Annual Accounts in accordance with applicable law - Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2022 – which give a true and fair view of the charity's activities.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees must:

- Select and consistently apply suitable accounting policies;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS102);
- Make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records and for safeguarding the assets of the charity by maintaining robust internal controls to mitigate the risk of fraud, error and other irregularities.

The trustees accept and carry out these responsibilities.

Approval of Trustees Annual Report

The Trustees' Annual Report has been approved and signed by all the trustees of the charity, RockStone & Pebbles, on **31 December 2025**:



Juliette Liebi



Meera Patel



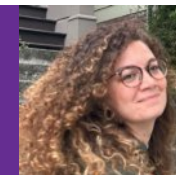
Anna Petruccelli



Trustee & co-founder



Trustee & co-founder



Trustee since 2020



#PlayMatters

Our huge thank you to Niketa Fazal for donating her paintings to RSP for 7 years now!

Easy ways to support RSP:

Become a play champion

- support and advocate for children's right to play.

Donate to RSP - A small, regular monthly donation makes a big difference. It helps us build organisational sustainability and plan ahead. One-off donations are also welcome and support our work.

Easyfundraising.org.uk - you shop and brands donate to our cause for free! Sign up, choose *RockStone & Pebbles* as your cause and continue shopping as normal whilst making a difference without paying a penny!

Volunteer - commit your time, knowledge and expertise to RSP.

Scan the QR code to make a regular or one-off donation from anywhere in the world.



Bank A/C: RockStone and Pebbles
Sort code: 23-05-80
Account number: 29219257



rockstonetrust@gmail.com

ROCKSTONE & PEBBLES (RSP)

England & Wales - Charity number 1177973

Accounts



rockstone & pebbles
connect & collaborate

Charity No: 1177973



Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements

Year 6: 1 April 2023 - 31 March 2024



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08-27	OUR WORK
28-39	FINANCE & LEGAL
40-41	THANK YOU

A letter from the Trustees

Dear friends of RSP and Play

Welcome to our sixth Annual Report through which we would like to share the tremendous work carried out this year by RSP and the individuals and organisations we are supported by, in our joint dedication to supporting the wellbeing of children through the power of play.

As the intensive period of our pilot play projects came to an end last year we gathered together, reflected on and shared our learnings through a diverse range of platforms, both to raise awareness on the value and right to play for children and to build future sustainable programmes.

This year also saw the launch of *The Panels-An Original Advocacy Tool for Play*, a powerful set of seven paintings co-created with children in South Africa, relaying the life experiences of these children in accessing their right to play. Phase 2 of our collaborative project with MADaboutART was kicked off with young people in South Africa campaigning for their right to play by presenting *The Panels* to their parents and other community members. In the UK, RSP launched *The Panels* at the 21st National Play Work Conference in Eastbourne, taking the voices of the children in South Africa to play professionals in the UK.

It has been an incredible journey for us all working closely with young people across all areas of our organisation. Our actions and achievements are greatly influenced by their input. We continue our commitment to including young people in our work, whether through facilitating youth-led programmes, or through providing opportunities and platforms for young people and for their voices to be heard within and outside of RSP.

It has also been a year of planning and designing our next project in India, to increase and improve play opportunities and spaces for children in the Rancharda community. Our ongoing communications with teachers from Dhabala Primary School and monitoring visits carried out by our project team member in India have fed into the development of the next project which we are excited to implement in November 2024.

Our deepest gratitude to all our supporters, collaborators, volunteers and a special thank you to the young people who have put their hearts and minds into supporting children to access their right to play.

Juliette, Meera & Anna

RSP Vision, Mission, Values



Our Vision:

A sustainable future created through play, collaboration and shared learnings

Our Mission:

Enhance and create spaces that facilitate collaboration, learning, and innovation, and positively impact the lives of children through supporting their right to play.

What we do:

At RSP, our work is focused on supporting children's wellbeing through the power of play. We create and facilitate many kinds of spaces that spark collaboration, learning and innovation, working both directly with children and with other organisations. We also focus on raising awareness and engagement on the importance of and right to play to inspire the communities we work within and other communities around the world to bring more play into children's lives.

Values:

Collaboration: We believe that sustainable positive change comes from collaborative working and shared learnings.

Collaboration sits at the core of our vision and at the heart of our strategy. We invest time and resources into creating nourishing partnerships that have mutually shared goals at their heart, and through which we can build value and achieve greater impact together.

Innovation: We encourage creative, experimental efforts and explore local solutions that can be co-created resourcefully, and by thinking outside the box.

Transparency: We share information openly and honestly; we learn from our mistakes and reflect on our learnings.

Diversity: We honour and embrace people's fundamental right to be different and unique.

Respect: We strive to treat people with consideration and care.

Our values inspire and guide the way we operate and interact with others.



Why we focus on Play at RSP

What is Play?

At RSP, we recognise play as any non-passive activity that a child voluntarily engages in, enjoys and has fun doing. Play can take numerous forms, and can range from free play exploration to structured games, from adult guided to child led.



Why Play?

Every child has the right to play. Play is the language of children. It is intrinsically motivated and it is their way of learning about the world. Play sparks creativity, innovation and an interest for learning. Play also contributes greatly to children's wellbeing and there has been an explosion of scientific research that provides overwhelming evidence of the profound influence of playful experiences in a child's healthy development. Likewise, there is evidence that correlates the alarming increases in children's mental health problems over the last 50 years to an increased lack of play opportunities over this period.

Children become the adults who shape our future societies and world. The dynamics of play, more than education on its own, are the tools children use to become responsible, compassionate and resilient adults, who are then able to make a positive difference within the societies they live in.

At RSP we seek to increase and improve play opportunities and spaces for all children, and break the barriers that stop them from accessing their fundamental right to play. Our overall goal is to support children's wellbeing, and help them discover and build their natural talents, skills, confidence, capabilities and resilience to reach their highest potential.



Play supports children's wellbeing -

Play makes children feel happy, it supports improved physical and emotional health, and helps children build social and cognitive skills. The power of play can support children to find hope, rise to challenges, and better prepare themselves for the future.

Play sparks creativity and innovation -

Play holds the potential to help generate new ideas and sustainable solutions to address the emerging challenges of the future.

Play is a Right -

The right to play is enshrined in Article 31 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). It is often referred to as *'the children's forgotten right'* due to the poor recognition of this right in children's lives.



Every child has the right to play - ARTICLE 31 UNCRC

RSP's Strategy

We set our organisational strategy to enable us to create and track the change we are seeking to make as defined in our Theory of Change. We focus on four key areas:

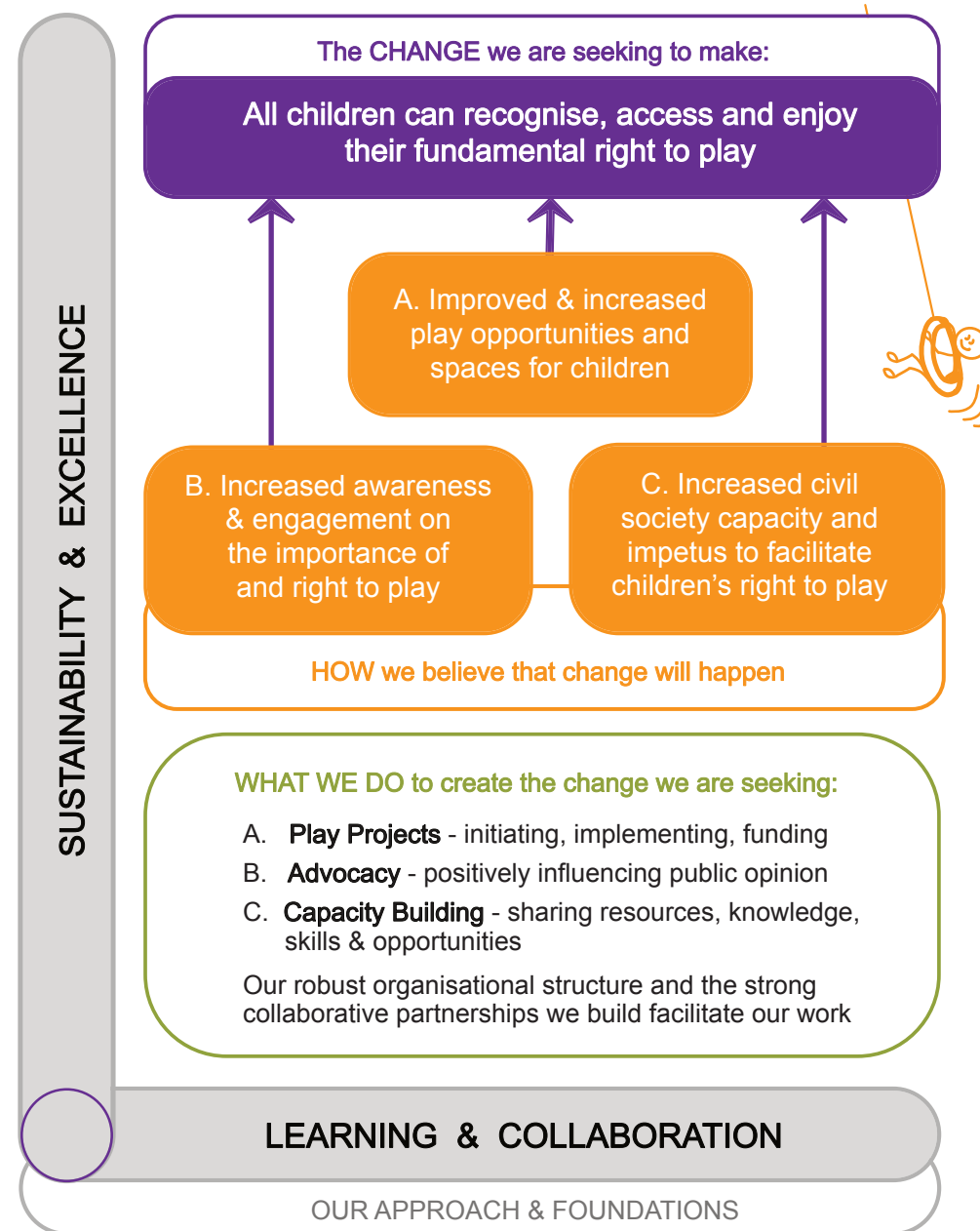
1. **PLAY SOLUTIONS** - continually learning, testing and implementing diverse play solutions to improve children's overall wellbeing through the power of play.
2. **COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS** - building value aligned relationships that facilitate learning, the sharing of resources, ideas, opportunities and collaborative projects that seek to meet the aims of all partners. Collaboration drives the way we work and our diverse partnerships around the world have also helped support our overall organisational sustainability.
3. **INCLUDING YOUTH VOICES** - involving young people, creating different kinds of opportunities and spaces to integrate youth voices into RSP's programmes and operational management. RSP also uses diverse platforms to share and disseminate young people's perspectives, opinions and calls for action to wider audiences, to support and facilitate their right to play.
4. **SUSTAINABLE ORGANISATION** - building an organisation that grows through learning, and is supported by a robust governance structure, dedicated people and partners, diverse income streams and strong operational frameworks that deliver excellent work and make a positive difference in the lives of the people RSP impacts.



Art created by RSP's Young Volunteer, Siyona

Theory of Change (ToC)

Our **Theory of Change** guides our work and explains why we focus on the activities we do:





2

OUR WORK

India Play Project



Last year we implemented our first pilot play project in the Rancharda community in Gujarat, India. This year we focused on developing the next play project in this community, which we plan to implement in November 2024 in the same community.

We spent considerable time assimilating and documenting the learnings from the first pilot project with the purpose of planning and designing a future, sustainable programme in this community.

Monitoring visits were carried out by one of our India based project team members:

RSP provided additional resources to Dhabala school this year such as art supplies which were delivered during monitoring visits. The monitoring visits carried out in country and the ongoing communications with the teachers also provide valuable insights that continue to feed into the development of the next planned project in this community.



Indira Desai has been, and continues to be, a critical part of our project team. Her regular visits, bringing visitors and gifts of ice-cream and art materials, are warmly welcomed by the school. This has greatly supported RSP to understand and evaluate the changing landscape, build stronger relationships in this community, and facilitate the planning for the next stage of this project.

The teachers at Dhabala School continued to create play opportunities for children this year.

The primary project activities carried out in the first pilot project were focused in Dhabala School, where we transformed the large, exterior space into a dynamic and safe play space with the children. Play opportunities were created for about 100 children in this school and we also took 400 children from three other schools for a play day out to Science City, an indoor-outdoor education and entertainment Centre based in the city of Ahmedabad.



Dhabala school children creating a 'rangoli' during the Diwali festival

These activities built engagement and impetus amongst the teachers and the wider community to facilitate more play in children's lives. This was most evident in Dhabala school where the legacy of a physically transformed play space was left behind and through the ongoing activities carried out. We received many videos this year from the teachers carrying out various play activities with the children, including painting the extension of the wall murals we had created together, using traditional art techniques (for example, rangoli) in celebration of local festivals, dance, yoga, and more.

The commitment of the Dhabala school's teachers and principal to taking on a more play based learning approach came through clearly from their regular messages and updates.



Dhabala School Principal (and teacher) with the children

THE PANELS - An Original Advocacy Tool for Play

Co-created with children in Knysna, South Africa

The 'panels' displayed on these two pages capture the lived experiences, opinions and views on play from children, aged 8–16 years old, who live in a township in Knysna, South Africa.

They were co-created by children and artists in South Africa through a two year collaborative play project carried out between RSP & MADaboutART, which marked Phase 1 of this project. This phase involved **85 children** participating in 32 workshops, resulting in the creation of this *Original Advocacy Tool for Play*.

There are seven panels in total. The first three panels focus on the barriers to play the children said they faced, and the negative consequences of restricted play, including increased discrimination and division. The next three panels become lighter and more joyous as the right to play and value and joy of play are explored. The final panel (shown on the right page) presents the demands of the children, their call to action, to their parents and community, to support them to access their right to play.



MADaboutART is one of RSP's oldest charity partners. It is a charity based in South Africa that supports vulnerable young people using art as a platform for healing, and igniting hope and imagination. Their centre, based in a township near Knysna in South Africa, has been a haven and safe space for thousands of children for over 20 years now.

Read the full story behind these panels in the annexed booklet at the end

Using *The Panels* to advocate for children's right to play

The Panels will be used as an original advocacy tool, across different and diverse global contexts, to facilitate more play in children's lives around the world. Read about how we used *The Panels* this year and what our future plans are in the next pages.

'The project brought joy, hope and inspiration to the children, who felt empowered and more confident to use their voices and imagination to create wider positive change.'

It also increased awareness and understanding on the value, importance and right to play amongst children and the wider community; and seemed to create an impetus amongst the adults in the community to facilitate more play in children's lives'.

- Beatty Jonas
(Project facilitator)

CALL TO ACTION

FROM: The children at MADaboutART in Knysna, South Africa / 7th December 2022

ORIGINAL ART created with the participation of artists & children at MADaboutART in Knysna, South Africa. In collaboration, championing the right to play.



Taking *The Panels* out in South Africa

Youth led Advocacy for Play

Following on from Phase 1 of our collaborative project with MADaboutART and the incredible results that emerged from that (reported above and in last year's annual report in detail), RSP proposed and initiated Phase 2 of this project this year. We have kept in line with our way of working - co-creating projects that MAD will implement in country, supported by financial, media, and MEL (monitoring, evaluation and learning) support from RSP.

Both organisations are committed to making Phase 2 youth led, with a focus on advocacy activities developed and implemented by the children and young people who co-created *The Panels*. The aim is to take *The Panels* out into their communities to advocate for their right to play and build awareness on the importance of and right to play.

Amplifying youth voices & building a community of play champions

Phase 2 kicked off in December 2023 with a group of brave young people advocating for their right to play to their parents and wider community at an event organised at the MAD centre. For some of these young people it was the first time they had presented demands to their parents or other adults, a moment of empowerment that also gave them the impetus to take this project forward.

Young people about to advocate for their right to play to their community (December 2023):



A tribute to Beatty Jonas



Beatty Jonas, the main project facilitator in South Africa, has been at the heart of this project. We are hugely grateful for the passion and dedication with which she has, and continues to carry out project activities, and the wealth of experience and expertise she brings with her. Beatty joined MAD as a project participant when she was 13 years old and 20 years later, she is now the manager at the MAD centre. Her personal journey is an inspiration and it is an honour and privilege to have her on the team.

She is committed to this project, which has also taken her on a personal journey of discovery around the value and power of play. Beatty says that she was hardly able to play as a child but she is making up for it now! She facilitates the discussions amongst the young people who she refers to as the 'board of directors' of this project! This year she was also instrumental in leading the sit-in at the local playground to support the children's call to action to re-open their playground.

Thank you Beatty and we greatly look forward to continue working together.

Cross organisational collaboration and learning

The success of this project was the result of a trust based and value aligned relationship, built over several years. Sharing knowledge, skills, insights and opportunities openly with each other, and really taking the time to understand each other's needs, set the foundation for this highly valuable and value adding partnership.



Taking *The Panels* out in the UK

The 21st National Play Work Conference

RSP launched *The Panels* in the UK at the 21st National Play Work Conference in Eastbourne, UK in March 2024.

The conference was a great opportunity for RSP to meet people in the play sector and learn more about play. It was also an honour and privilege to be invited to present our work here.

Introducing *An Original Advocacy Tool for Play* to over 150 play professionals

Delivering creative Advocacy Solutions to facilitate more play in children's lives

We brought the voices of the children from the township in South Africa, to play experts in the UK through the seven panels that capture the views and play experiences of these children. They were displayed across the two day conference attended by about 150 play professionals and advocates.

Connecting and collaborating in the play sector

Expanding Networks

The two days at the conference allowed us to connect with people and organisations also working towards improving play opportunities and spaces for children. Being able to connect face to face in this environment helped us build and make new relationships, and meet our wider aims for increased collaboration. For example, a play educator and author we met at the conference visited South Africa and was taken on a guided tour through the MAD centre (where the Panels were created) by the project facilitator.

RSP attended 14 workshop sessions run by different play professionals and experts

Learning from play experts and advocates directly

It was inspiring and humbling to be recipients of the vast array of expertise and experience shared by passionate professionals doing some phenomenal work in the play space.

The workshops ranged greatly in scope and context. There were those supporting vulnerable children to process trauma in crisis situations through the power of play; others working to integrate play into education and healthcare systems, and the prison sector; academics studying the impact of play on the brain; play workers sharing the value of risky play for children's development; and so much more.

The RSP team attended different workshop sessions, and collated and shared what we learnt with each other.

Trustees of RSP, with our young volunteer, presented the work of RSP

Amplifying Youth Voices & including Young People in RSP

RSP's young (and oldest standing!) volunteer, Trishna Patel, supported us with the design and delivery of the presentation in her current RSP role as Strategic Collaborator.

Establishing RSP in the play sector!



Page 16



Page 17



Trishna Patel, Young Volunteer

Raising awareness on the value of and right to play

Global Online Conference

In May 2023, RSP delivered a presentation on *The Gift of Play* to *The Maternal Gift Economy Movement*, an established international forum focused on making positive social change on a global scale.

Presenting 'The Gift of Play' to a global movement of people striving for a more equitable world

It was an honour to be invited to present RSP's work to this global community of incredible people. We had the opportunity to deliver a presentation on the importance and value of play in children's lives and to connect with and create impetus to facilitate more play in children's lives amongst experienced and passionate change makers around the world.

Building awareness, engagement & impetus to facilitate more play in children's lives

Connecting and Collaborating

The invitation came from founder, Genevieve Vaughan, after we shared the videos of the play project we carried out in India last year. A big thank you to Gen for all her support, including her generous donation through her family trust, *The Tides Foundation*.

Building value aligned relationships

Receiving our first Institutional funding!



This conference connected us to our first grant maker, *The Tides Foundation*. Thank you from RSP and the children to *The Tides Foundation* for supporting our project in India!

Building financial sustainability

'Charity of the Year' Award

In February 2024, RSP received the 'Charity of the Year' award from *The Rotary Club of the North Downs*.

RSP has been collaborating with *The Rotary Club of the North Downs* in Kent, UK since 2017, before RSP was even set up! Supporting one another's charitable purposes and aims in different ways has added great value to both charities.

Strengthening relationships

Presenting RSP's work and discussing the value of play

A wonderful time was had by all as we shared the videos of the diverse play work RSP has carried out, including capturing and presenting back to the Rotarians the experiences and views on play they had previously shared with us (see the video on our RSP YouTube channel)!

Receiving the 'charity of the year' award

We were proud to take our young volunteer with us to receive this prestigious award, with a generous donation of £400, to RSP. A big thank you to the club for their ongoing support!

Including Youth in RSP



Watch the presentation here!



Photo above: RSP trustees with our young volunteer and Rotarians in 2024.
Photo below: Collaborating in 2018!



Involving Young People in RSP

We are committed to involving young people in RSP's day to day operations and programmes, and providing rich personal and professional development opportunities that benefit youth and at the same time support RSP's organisational development. In this way, we also hope to encourage active citizenship and youth empowerment.

First RSP Internship completed!

RSP piloted the *Creating Change Makers Internship Programme* last year. The first participant of the programme, 21 year old university student, **Sachi**, completed her internship this year in June 2023.

This intensive programme supported our objectives to provide rich professional development opportunities to youth, and simultaneously build organisational capacity. (To read more about this, please refer to last year's Annual Report 5).



Painting by young volunteer, Siyona

Young volunteers

Two young volunteers continue to support and add value to RSP.

Trishna, a young professional, also our longest standing volunteer who has been with RSP since the start, continued to support RSP in her new role as Strategic Collaborator this year. She attended monthly, strategy focused meetings with RSP trustees, contributing to the overall strategy and direction of the organisation. She was also a critical part of our delivery team at The Play Conference (covered earlier).

Siyona, a recent high school graduate and RSP's youngest volunteer, continues to use her creative and artistic skills to support RSP. This year she created two original art pieces for RSP, from photographs taken from our first India project (see pages 6 & 20).

She also joined us in receiving the charity of the year award from The Rotary Club (covered earlier).

Amplifying and Disseminating Youth Voices

Where there is capacity and capability, being child-led is the soul of our programme work. Phase 2 of our South Africa project is the ideal example of this coming to life as the young people in the township of Knysna start developing and implementing diverse projects that involve them advocating for their right to play.

In all cases, we strive to create spaces where young people can freely and without judgement express themselves, through play or in other ways. We have seen that with the right facilitation and input powerful tools, like *The Panels - An Original Advocacy Tool for Play*, can emerge and most importantly lead to youth empowerment and improved confidence and wellbeing.



Children at MADaboutART painting the *Rainbow of Hope*

Building Organisational Sustainability

Robust strategies and frameworks

We continue to set, monitor and adapt organisational strategies, and build strong supporting operational frameworks to support all areas of our work.

Strong collaborative partnerships

We had the opportunity to connect and collaborate with a diverse range of people and organisations this year. Collaboration drives the way we work and has contributed to positioning RSP as a stronger and more sustainable organisation. Our collaborative partnerships have helped us deliver rich and impactful programmes that speak to our aims in different ways. Together we have been able to make a greater positive impact in more communities and children's lives than we could alone.

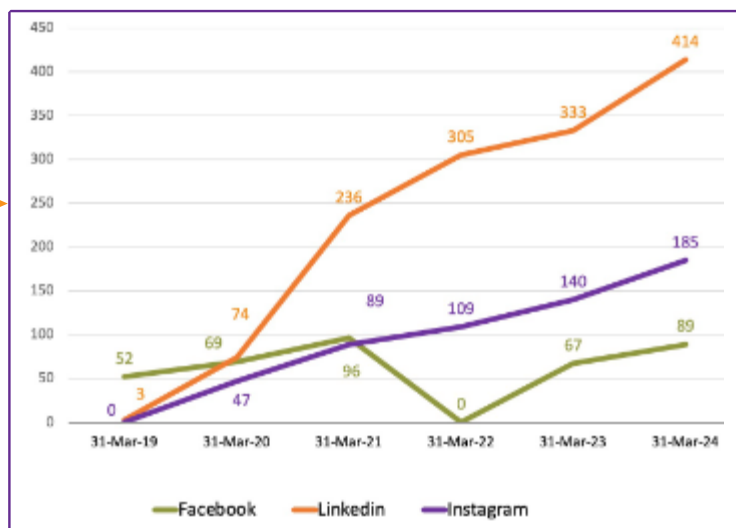
Investing in people and organisational capacity building

This year we invested in engaging a communications expert to support us in two key areas: (1) Raising awareness and engagement on the importance of and right to play. (2) Bringing clarity to, and building the visibility of RSP.

As always, we also spent time strengthening governance and operational structures, and reviewing and adapting our strategies based on learnings and data collected through previous projects.

Growing supporter base

- Partners
- Volunteers
- Donors
- Social Media Followers



Thank you from RSP & the children we work with. Your support makes a big difference.

Financial sustainability

We continued to grow our income and diversify our income streams this year.

- Received our first Institutional Grant
- Set up cash donation boxes
- Created awareness raising merchandise. We had *The Panels* presented earlier in this report printed on quality cotton tote bags that were cost effectively sourced by the communications expert we engaged this year.
- Our regular donor base continues to steadily grow and 30 regular donors now provide RSP with stability and the ability to plan ahead through donating a regular amount of income to RSP every month.
- Our collaborative partnerships enable us to carry out projects in a value adding and cost effective way that contributes to our financial sustainability.

In summary, our financial strategy allows us to plan ahead and operate with a reasonable amount of security and without the risk of becoming dependent on one donor. We will continue building financial stability in RSP to enable us to continue bringing more play in children's lives around the world.



RSP Trustees (with tote bags) and RSP Volunteer



Year 6 - Objectives that were set:

1. Assimilate and analyse information and data gathered from the pilot play projects and share learnings with partners for the purpose of developing future sustainable programmes together.
2. Develop and launch the Panel Play Programme as an original advocacy tool and methodology. Trial its application through projects in South Africa and the UK.
3. Integrate youth voices and create collaborative opportunities for youth participation in RSP.
4. Raise awareness and engagement on the importance of the right to play within established forums, platforms and grassroots initiatives, using a diverse range of mediums and activities.
5. Continue building RSP's organisational capacity, growth and excellence through investing resources in this area.

Summary of Year 6 Achievements:

- Planning and initiating next phases of the pilot projects that were carried out last year (year 5) in South Africa and India. In South Africa, Phase 2 of the project kicked off (p.14). In India, monitoring visits, feedback from teachers and assimilating learnings from the first project helped us build more impetus in the community and to develop and design the next project, which we plan to implement in November 2024 (p.10-11).
- Launching and sharing *The Panels - An Original Advocacy Tool for Play*, co-created with the children in South Africa, both in South Africa and the UK (p.12-17).
- Encouraging active citizenship and skills building through creating and providing opportunities to young people to participate in RSP (p.20-21).
- Raising awareness and engagement on the importance of and right to play through presenting RSP's work across different platforms, which also provided collaboration opportunities with new stakeholders working within and outside the play space (p.16-19)
- Continuing to develop and strengthen our operational and governance frameworks (p.22-23). This also included raising a large amount of income and investing in people to support organisational capacity building (detailed in the next section).

This year we launched *The Panels - An Original Advocacy Tool for Play*, kick started Phase 2 of our collaborative youth-led project with MADaboutART in South Africa, developed the project plan and design for the next project in India, explored diverse play solutions, collaborated with existing and new stakeholders, included young people in RSP, and continued growing a sustainable organisation. This year also involved a lot of new learnings, assimilating learnings from last year's pilot projects and planning the next phases of these projects.



We met the annual objectives we had set for the year (listed on the left page) and we were able to meet key organisational strategic aims (summarised below).

Building opportunities and spaces for children to play

Building awareness, engagement and impetus to facilitate more play in children's lives amongst adults

Connecting and collaborating with diverse people and organisations

Including and amplifying youth voices

Building organisational sustainability

1. Youth led advocacy using *The Panels* - An Original Advocacy Tool for Play

Continuing the second phase of our youth led collaborative project with MADaboutART in South Africa. The young people who participated in the creation of *The Panels*, will take on a leadership role in determining, planning and executing two projects using *The Panels* in different contexts to advocate for their right to play.

2. Create more opportunities and spaces for children to play in the Rancharda community in Gujarat, India

Implement the second play project, in the Rancharda community in Gujarat, India where the first pilot project was carried out in 2023. Expand the work to the wider cluster of public schools in this community to: (i) Enhance and create more spaces and opportunities for children to play. (ii) Build engagement and impetus amongst teachers and other adults to facilitate more play in children's lives. (iii) Explore solutions to build programme sustainability within this community.

3. Explore collaborative opportunities to raise awareness and advocate for the right to play using and sharing *The Panels* with other people and organisations

Find ways to: (i) Use *The Panels* to raise awareness on the importance of and right to play. (ii) Share *The Panels* with people and organisations working to improve play opportunities and spaces for children. (iii) Use *The Panels* to facilitate advocacy initiatives.

4. Explore ways to continue including youth in RSP

(i) Continue working closely with our young volunteers. (ii) Find new ways to centre children and young people's voices through our programmes. (iii) Scope ways to include more young people in RSP. (iv) Distil learnings from our *Creating Change Makers Internship* pilot programme and plan future iterations.

5. Continue building RSP organisational capacity

(i) Find ways to involve more people to support in RSP, including growing our volunteers and wider supporter base. (ii) Maintain financial sustainability and raise a minimum of £6,000 this year. (iii) Strengthen governance and operational structures.





3

FINANCE & LEGAL

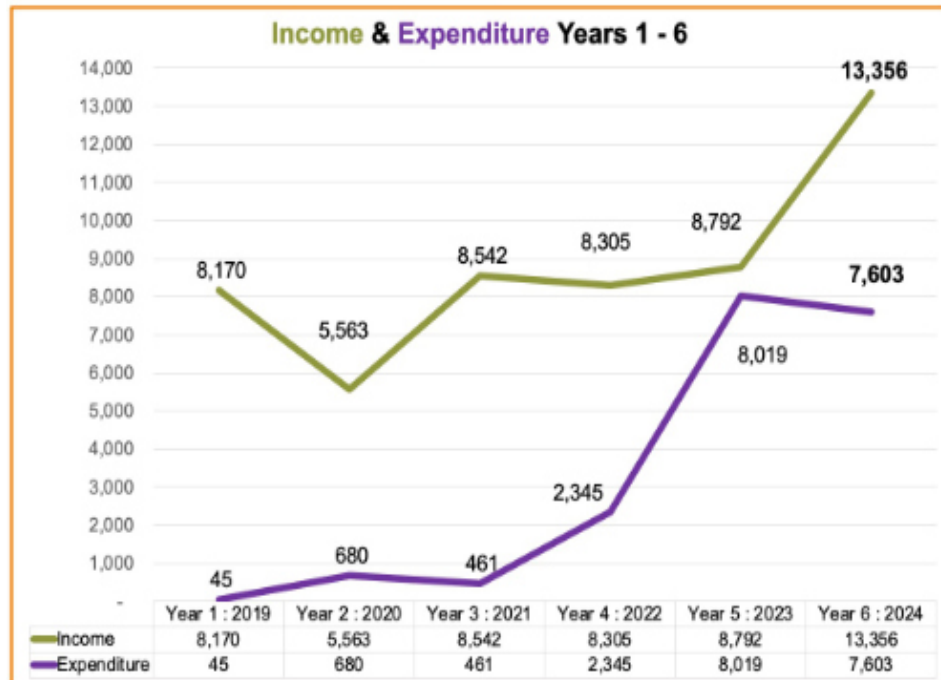
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Income and Expenditure

The large increase in income this year reflects a generous major donation of £5,000 which has been restricted to project activities in India as per the donor's wishes.

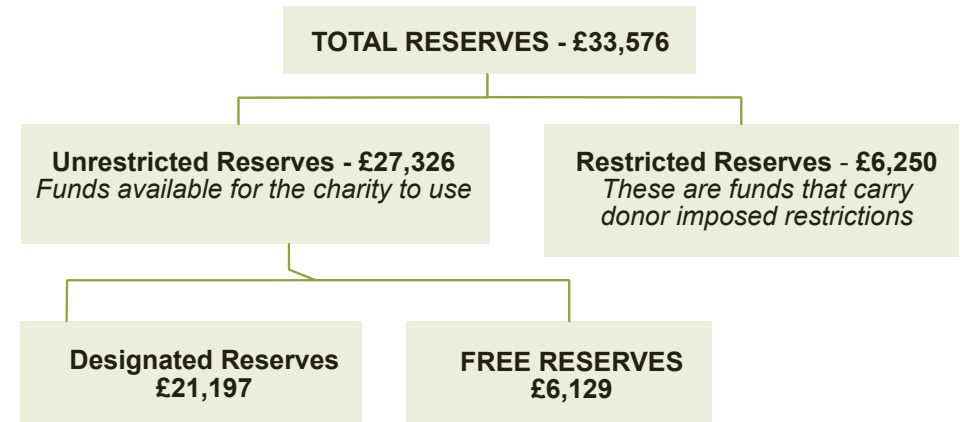
	This year 2024	Last year 2023
Total Income	13,356	8,792
Total Expenditure	-7,603	-8,019
Net Income	5,753	773

Expenditure increases in the last 2 years are in line with the new organisational strategy that was launched last year. In our first 4 years, we focused on learning and building organisational foundations and strong partnerships. This second strategy phase is about putting those learnings to use and investing funds in developing and implementing play projects and building organisational capacity, as reflected in the finances.



Reserves (or Charity Funds)

Reserves are funds accumulated over the years (charity savings) held to be used in the future in furtherance of our stated charitable purposes. RSP's reserves position as at 31st March 2024 is as follows:



Total Reserves - A total reserves balance of £33,576 is held as at 31st March 2024, made up of:

- **Restricted Funds** of £6,250. These funds have been restricted to the India Project planned for November 2024 as per the donor's wishes.
- **Unrestricted Funds** of £27,326. These funds include:
- **Designated Funds** of £21,197. These funds have been earmarked for defined and committed activities and projects planned within the current organisational strategy period, and expected to be expended over the next two years. Designating funds in advance supports RSP to plan ahead and build programme and organisational sustainability in the long term.
- **Free Reserves** of £6,129 - these are the part of the charity's unrestricted funds that remain as freely available to spend on any of the charity's purposes and are set in line with our Reserves Policy.

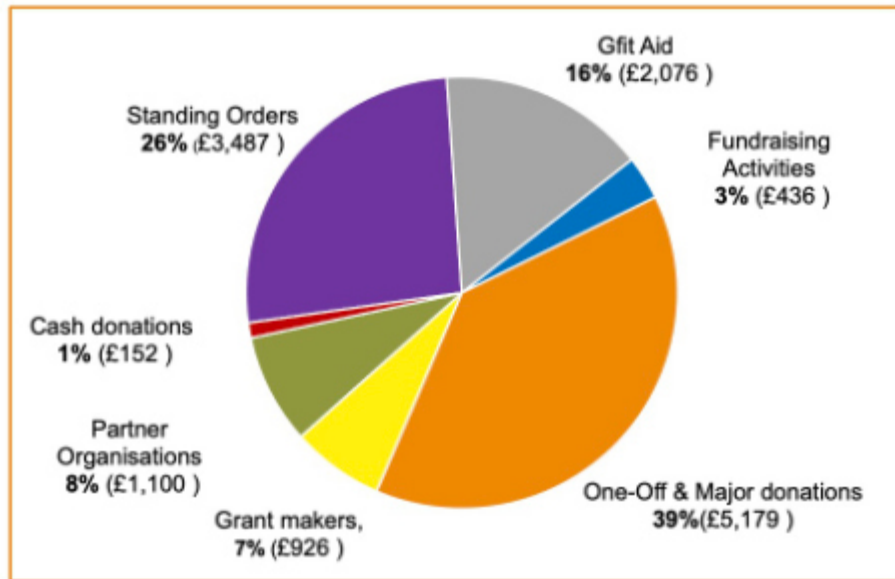
Our Reserves Policy is to hold **free reserves** of about £6,000 (unchanged from last year). These reserves are held:

- For unexpected management and governance costs
- To mitigate organisational risks
- For investments in value adding opportunities

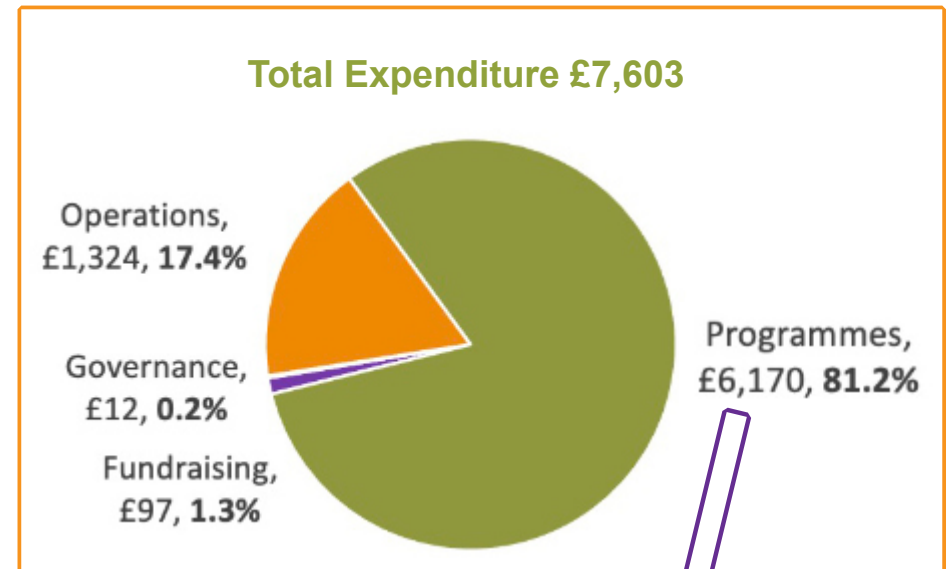
RSP INCOME INSIGHTS:

RSP EXPENDITURE INSIGHTS:

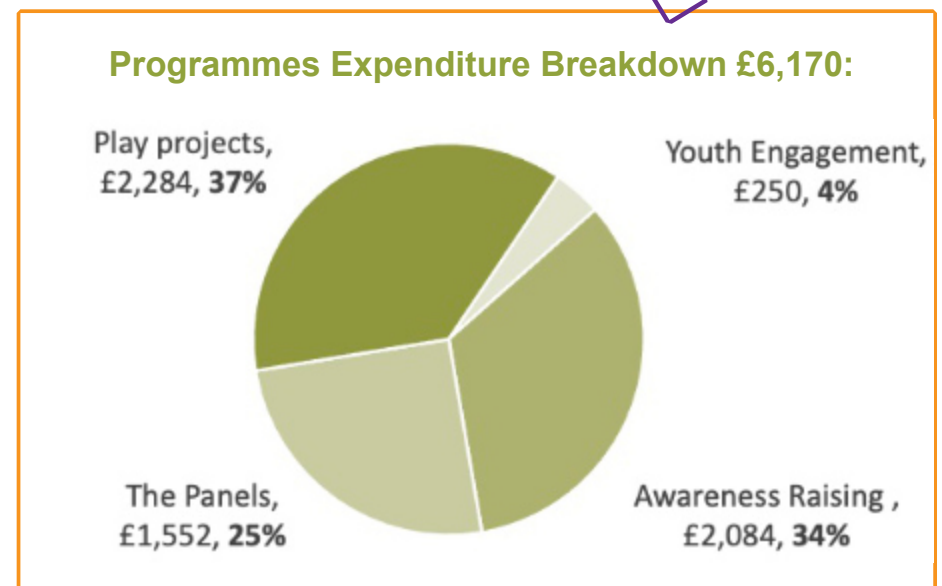
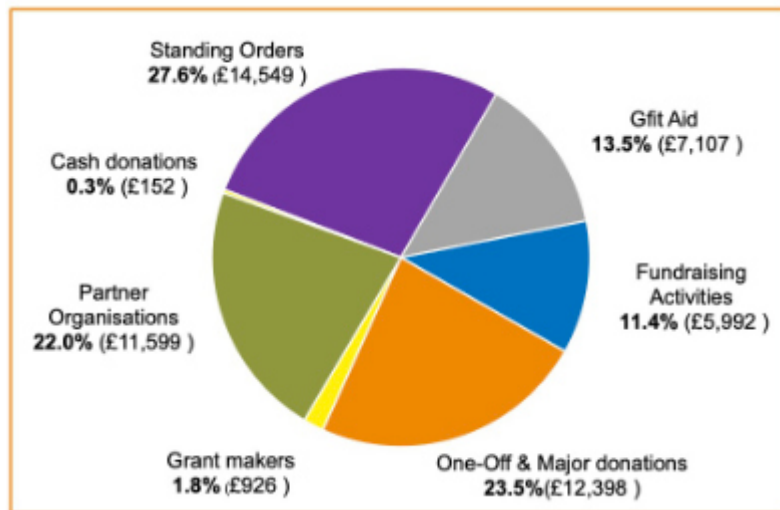
Year 6 - Income Overview (2023-2024):



Year 6 - Expenditure Overview (2023-2024):



All Time Income Overview (2019-2024):



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA)


for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total	2023 Prior year funds (Restated)
		£	£	£	£
Income from :					
Donations and legacies		4,786	7,470	12,256	7,842
Charitable activities		1,100	-	1,100	950
Total income	1	5,886	7,470	13,356	8,792
Expenditure on :					
Raising funds		96	1	97	35
Charitable activities		7,246	260	7,506	7,984
Total expenditure	2	7,342	261	7,603	8,019
Net gain for the year		(1,456)	7,209	5,753	773
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		27,823	-	27,823	27,050
Fund transfers	6	959	(959)	-	
Total funds carried forward		27,326	6,250	33,576	27,823

* Restatement of 2023 accounts due to £927 income mis-recognised last year

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 Total	2023 Total (Restated)
		£	£
Assets			
Fixed Asset	3	599	899
Current Asset			
Debtors	4	2,047	1,132
Cash at bank		32,730	26,292
		35,376	28,323
Liabilities			
Creditors	5	(1,800)	(500)
Total Net Assets		33,576	27,823
The funds of the charity			
General Reserves		6,129	4,924
Designated Funds		21,197	22,899
Restricted Funds		6,250	0
Total charity funds	6	33,576	27,823
Approved on behalf of all trustees of RockStone & Pebbles on 1st November 2024			
			
..... Juliette Liebi Treasurer			

Six Year Summary:	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total Income	13,356	8,792	8,305	8,542	5,563	8,170
Total Expenditure	-7,603	-8,019	-2,345	-461	-680	-45
Net Income	5,753	1,699	5,960	8,081	4,883	8,125

Six Year Summary:	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total Charity Funds	33,576	27,823	27,050	21,090	13,009	8,125

Note 1 : Total Income - Total income in year 6 was **£13,356**, which includes a £5,000 major donation and £927 grant income restricted to activities carried out in India, the remaining raised through a diverse range of fundraising activities. (See p.32 for more details)

Note 2 : Organisational expenditure - Total charitable expenditure was **£7,603** of which £261 was restricted to the Pilot Play Project in India. Support costs are allocated directly within charitable activities.

Trustee remunerations:

Cost of trustees fulfilling their governance duties - £12 meeting costs (2023-£140). Trustees received no remuneration for professional services provided.

Out-of-pocket expenses were reimbursed to trustees as follows :
2 Trustees were reimbursed a total of £327.87 for costs related to 21st Annual Play Conference expenses, such as travel costs and project materials. (In 2023, £882 on Pilot Play Project Implementation Activities)

A trustee waived additional costs valued at £168 in the year (related to IT & printing costs).

A trustee and volunteer donated a total of £134.59 allowable expenses to the charity.

The Trustees neither received nor waived any emoluments during the year (2023 – £Nil).

Note 3: Fixed Asset - IT equipment, computer bought in year 4, at a cost of £1,499, less annual depreciation of £300 / year, resulting in a net asset value of £599 this year.

Note 4: Debtors - The total debtors balance this year is £2,047 made up of Gift aid accrual claimable for year 6 income.

Note 5: Creditors - The total creditors balance this year is £1,800, made up of: (i) Funds payable to MADaboutART of £1,500 for Phase 2 of the Right to Play project. (ii) Fee for awareness raising activities of £300 to Communications Manager.

Note 6: Charity funds (reserves) - A total reserves balance of £33,576 is held as at 31st March 2024, made up of £21,197 designated funds, £6,129 free reserves and £6,250 restricted funds (see p.31 for more details).

a. Statutory information - RockStone & Pebbles (RSP) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. Further details are given in the 'Reference & Administrative Details' section.

b. Basis of preparation - The financial statements have been prepared 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) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102), and the Charities Act 2022. The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view.

c. Public benefit entity - The charity is a public benefit entity. The 'RSP Public Benefit Statement' in the section above demonstrates how RSP meets the definition of a public benefit entity.

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

e. Income - Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

f. Tax reclaims on donations - Gift Aid received is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

g. Donations of gifts, services and facilities - In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised in the Financial Statements as the value cannot be reliably measured. Refer to the Notes to the Accounts and the Trustees Annual Report for information on volunteer contributions.

h. Staff costs - There have been no employees who received employee benefits of more than £60,000. The average head count (number of staff employed, not volunteered) was equivalent to 0.06 of 1 FTE.

i. Fund accounting - Fund accounting principles have been applied, separating restricted and unrestricted funds, and unrestricted funds further into designated and free reserves (see pg. 41).

j. Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT - Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under:

- **Costs of raising funds** relate to the costs incurred by the charity in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
 - **Charitable activities** includes the running costs undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and direct costs of charitable activities undertaken.
- Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

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

l. Tangible fixed assets - Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities and is calculated on a straight-line basis.

m. Debtors - Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due.

n. Creditors and provisions - Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

o. Collaboration policy - aims to share resources, such as expertise, volunteer contributions and funds, between organisations and individuals, to build sustainable partnerships and programmes, all guided by project plans and memorandums of understandings between parties.

Reference & Administrative Details

Charity Name: RockStone & Pebbles (RSP)

Charity Registration Number: 1177973

Charity Registration Date: 16 April 2018

Registered Office: 8 Cyclamen Road, Kent BR8 8HJ

Trustees: Juliette Liebi, Meera Patel, Anna Petruccelli

Structure, Governance & Management

Governing document - The charity was established and set up as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 16 April 2018. It is governed by its constitution which sets out the objectives and powers of this CIO.

Recruitment & Appointment of new trustees - The constitution stipulates a minimum of two trustees, there is no maximum number of trustees that must be appointed. Apart from the founding charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. Trustees will be recruited on the basis of the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

Management - The founders, Juliette Liebi and Meera Patel, who are also trustees, manage the operations and activities of the charity on a voluntary basis. They are supported in RSP's governance by a third trustee, Anna Petruccelli. RSP is also supported by volunteers and partners in areas of management and the implementation of programmes.

Risk Management - The trustees have a Risk Management framework in place to identify and review the risks the charity is exposed to and they ensure that appropriate mitigation plans are in place to safeguard the organisation and the people impacted through and involved in the work of RSP.

RSP Charitable Purposes for Public Benefit

RSP's charitable objects are as summarised below:

(i) The prevention or relief of poverty anywhere in the world - At RSP we do this through supporting vulnerable children to access their fundamental, human right to play as enshrined in Article 31 UNCR (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child).

(ii) To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of other initiatives working towards objectives similar to (i) above - We adopt a deeply collaborative approach, find synergies, share skills, knowledge, resources and opportunities with value aligned organisations and initiatives to support one another in meeting our shared aims and grow stronger together.

RSP Public Benefit Statement - RSP purposes satisfy the public benefit requirements, in line with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. There has been no harm or private benefits arising from carrying out these purposes.

RSP provided public benefit this year by positively impacting the lives of vulnerable children across the world; and by improving the efficiency and effectiveness of RSP and other non profit organisations and initiatives through partnering on programmes and sharing skills, knowledge and expertise with each other.

Trustees' Statement of Responsibility

The trustees of RockStone & Pebbles (RSP) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Annual Accounts in accordance with applicable law - Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2022 – which give a true and fair view of the charity's activities.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees must:

- Select and consistently apply suitable accounting policies;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS102);
- Make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records and for safeguarding the assets of the charity by maintaining robust internal controls to mitigate the risk of fraud, error and other irregularities.

The trustees accept and carry out these responsibilities.

Approval of Trustees Annual Report

The Trustees' Annual Report has been approved and signed by all the trustees of the charity, RockStone & Pebbles, on **01 November 2024**:



Juliette Liebi



Meera Patel



Anna Petruccelli



Trustee & co-founder



Trustee & co-founder



Trustee since 2020

THANK YOU...

Deepest gratitude to our **RSP community** putting in their hearts, minds and resources to support the children we work for.

A total of **187 days** of concerted time was committed directly to RSP activities (234 days in 2023), not including the time that individuals who supported our joint activities spent through our collaborative partnerships and projects.

This year RSP was supported by **11 volunteers**, including the Trustees, who contributed a total of **160 days** in various areas of the organisation. We were also able to pay for services provided by **2 members**, who over **27 days** contributed to various areas of the organisation, predominantly in raising awareness of our work and the benefits and right to play.

Thanks to the **2 organisations**, North Downs Rotary Club and Tides Foundation who contributed a total of **£1,326**.

To our **30 committed regular donors**, who together diligently contribute around **£300 every month** to support our activities.

To the **many conscientious individuals and organisations** that collaborate with us, seeking opportunities, finding innovative ways of working, sharing resources and skills and supporting one another through the journey of reaching our shared aims for the betterment of our children's lives.

And finally, to the **100's of children and young people** we work with, who continuously amaze, inspire and challenge us. We thank you for not only advocating for yourselves but being driven to share and empower your peers and other children in the world on their rights too, and especially their **right to play!**

Our dearest aunt **Pushpa foi**, who passed away at 90 years old, a champion and inspiration for us all, dedicating her life to the betterment of herself and society. She contributed to various charitable initiatives throughout her life and inspired by our work with the children in Gujarat she generously donated £5,000 to RSP requesting that her donation be spent on our next project in India.

In Loving Memory of
Pushpaben Patel



20.04.1933 - 25.10.2023

May this beautiful and generous soul rest in peace



#PlayMatters



Huge thank you to Niketa Fazal for sponsoring her paintings to RSP for 6 years now!

Charity No: 1177973

Easy ways to support RSP:

Easyfundraising.org.uk - you shop and brands donate to our cause for free! Sign up, choose *RockStone & Pebbles* as your cause and continue shopping as normal whilst making a difference without paying a penny!

Share your time and knowledge - contribute your unique talents and expertise to RSP.

Connect us - with people and organisations who are aligned with our cause and want to facilitate play in children's lives.

Be a play champion - spread the word that #playmatters, play is every child's human right and it makes a positive difference in children's lives. Share useful information & resources on play with us. See and share our resources through our social media and YouTube channel; and try out some play ideas yourself!

Set up a direct debit to RSP - help us receive commission free funds. A small regular donation of £3-£5 / month makes a big difference and helps us build organisational sustainability and plan ahead.

Bank A/C: **RockStone & Pebbles**
Sort Code: **23-05-80**
Account Number: **29219257**

Live overseas?...In a hurry?...You can click and make a one-off, monthly or annual donation through this Paypal QR code →



THE PANELS - An Original Advocacy Tool for Play

Co-created with children and young people in South Africa

A Collaborative Play Project:

RockStone & Pebbles



&



MADaboutART

Making play a reality in children's lives

#PlayMatters

In 2021, nearly 100 children and young people who live in a township near Knysna, South Africa, started attending a series of 32 workshops, over a one year period, focused on their right to play.

They expressed their frustrations, hopes, opinions, and experiences around play, and how this connected to their wider world and future.

The panels presented in this booklet emerged from this process and were co-created with the children who attended the workshops and artists in South Africa. The result was seven vibrant and energetic art panels, through which the children's ideas and energies pop off the art.

The panels tell the story of the barriers the children face to playing, their exploration of the right to play, the value and joy of playing for them, and end on a call for the freedom to play.

The panels will live on as an original tool for advocacy for the right to play, and are now replicated in this booklet.

The children and young people in South Africa will continue advocating for their right to play using *The Panels*.

RSP & MAD will continue a long term collaboration to take the voices of the children out to the world, through different projects and initiatives, to advocate for all children's right to play.

RSP & MAD are both UK registered charities who have been collaborating for several years now to support the well being of children through play and art. MAD operates through their centre in the township of Knysna and our collaborative projects are run through their centre with the children who live in that community.

AN ORIGINAL ADVOCACY FOR PLAY



PANEL 1: BARRIERS TO PLAY

This is the first panel of the series and also the first of the three initial panels that depict the barriers the children identified they face when trying to access their right to play.

The children identified four primary barriers to their play - Tradition & Culture, ‘Stranger Danger’, School, and Parents. These are presented on this panel as dark, ominous figures looming over the lives of the children.

The musical notes are of a dark and low tempo, fencing the children in within this space.

The genders are separated by the colours red and green in the first 3 panels.



AN ORIGINAL ADVOCACY FOR PLAY



**PANEL 2: LOST YEARS OF PLAY
- COVID**

This second panel focuses on a specific barrier that was imposed upon the children, and the rest of the world, outside anyone’s control.

The children spoke a lot about this period, what they referred to as their ‘lost years’. The grotesque and horrific images on this panel attempt to portray the intensity of the experience, the trauma experienced by the children and the “collective sadness” that they experienced and expressed, post Covid, during the workshops.

Time is warped and an amplified Covid virus piercing the lives of children dominates this panel. Other children are locked in cages or standing in the long food lines – representing the extended food programme that MADaboutART ran during this time. For many of the children, the only meal of the day they receive is from the MAD centre; but during and post Covid, as the situation worsened, MAD was also trying to support the needs of the wider community that was suffering.

The musical notes are sparse and remain dark.

Lost years of Play-COVID



AN ORIGINAL ADVOCACY FOR PLAY



PANEL 3: WHEN PLAY IS RESTRICTED

This is the last of the three panels depicting the 'Barriers to Play'.

The larger whispering figures in the panel represent the cultural and traditional norms being imposed upon the children, and the ideas that are being pushed into their minds, which are creating divisions and discrimination.

Differences arising from gender, race, sexuality, physical ability, religion, body size, and so on, can be seen highlighted in this panel. The result of this intangible barrier is a chaotic and divided world that the children are being forced to navigate through and which is restricting their play.

The bottom wording plays with the English and Afrikaans language and is also a reference to the pressures on children not to play with children from 'foreign' nations. ('Nasie' in Afrikaans means nation or land, and 'Diskriminasie' means 'Discrimination').

The music is still fencing the children in, even around the small available playground space where although they are playing freely they remain surrounded by "whispers" of bigotry and discontent.

When Play Is Restricted



AN ORIGINAL ADVOCACY FOR PLAY



PANEL 4: PLAY IS A RIGHT

The fourth panel is a representation of the children’s discovery and exploration of rights, and specifically Article 31 of the UNCRC* that enshrines their Right to Play.

The barriers start to unlock, especially the intangible barrier of discrimination, that was previously stopping the children from playing with each other.

The workshops on rights were the most complex part of the project, but also a lightbulb moment for the children. As they debated, discussed, role-played, acted, sang, danced together they also really started communicating with each other. And as they grappled with and unravelled the concept of rights, they started recognising and breaking down their own discriminations.

This panel brings hope and light as divisions started morphing into friendships and inquiry. For example, the genders are no longer separated and defined as binary colours, instead the children are shining as bright, diverse individuals and engaging with each other positively and with joy.

The musical notes get lighter and no longer fence the children in.

*United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)



AN ORIGINAL ADVOCACY FOR PLAY



PANEL 5: THE VALUE OF PLAY

The panels continue to lighten and become more joyous as the value of play is extracted by the children. In discussion, one of the children said that 'play gives my brain wings', which inspired the theme of this panel.

The children spoke a lot about the importance of play in their lives. As they got to know each other, play together, and talk about their play experiences they started considering the value of play in their own lives. Through drama and role-play workshops they acted out arguing and presenting this point to their parents and other adults in the community. In this way, they were also consciously extracting the benefits of play whilst building their advocacy skills.

The words, which fly freely on the upbeat musical notes on this panel, come from the children, reflecting their shared experiences when they play.



AN ORIGINAL ADVOCACY FOR PLAY



PANEL 6: PLAY
- A PATH TO WELLBEING

This penultimate panel depicts the joy and diversity of play.

Activities that the children recognised as play or playful are included on this panel and represent the diverse ways that children play, whether in the playground, in nature, playing sports, or board games, cards, yoga, gardening, hugging a tree or anything else that the children consider play!

In this symphony of play, the musical notes are upbeat and available for the children to integrate into their play, whether as loose parts, balls or other pieces.

Play-A Path To Wellbeing



ARTICLE
31
CHILD'S RIGHT TO PLAY



AN ORIGINAL ADVOCACY FOR PLAY



PANEL 7: CALL TO ACTION
from the children at MADaboutART

This is the last panel of the series, the “Call to Action” developed by the children of MADaboutART in Knysna, South Africa.

The children previously had had access to a playground but this was shut down during Covid and remains so to date. One of the key demands of the children was therefore a call out to the local government to re-open their playground. They are also calling out to other adults in their community to understand the importance of play in their lives and provide them with more opportunities and spaces to play.

This panel also demonstrates the children’s empowerment through this journey which led them to present these panels to their parents and local community members, advocating for their right to play.

Watch out for the next phase of this project – which will see these children using these panels in different ways to advocate for their right to play!

CALL TO ACTION

You adults see it as ‘just play’
 Nothing much will come of it, you say
 We say it’s our RIGHT TO PLAY

Play makes us happy, our brains glow .
 If all we do is chores and stuff
 our growing up will be so tough.

Where we live,
 there’s not much to do.
 Drugs? Alcohol? Crime? We say NO!
 Play keeps us busy and helps us grow

To play in safety is all we ask
 but with our playground gone
 it’s quite a task .
 Roads, dams and bushes
 are just not safe!

We need safe places
 to keep these risks at bay.
 Our swings and slide
 & climbing frame, all gone.
 We feel like no-one cares,
 it’s been too long.

Bring back our play park we say!

FROM: *The children at MADaboutArt in Knysna, South Africa | 7th December 2023*

ROCKSTONE & PEBBLES (RSP)

England & Wales - Charity number 1177973

Accounts



rockstone & pebbles
connect & collaborate

Charity No: 1177973

#PlayMatters



Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements

Year 5: 1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023



Table of Contents:

01	A LETTER FROM THE TRUSTEES
02-07	ABOUT US
08-37	OUR WORK
38-49	FINANCE & LEGAL
50-69	PICTURE STORIES

A letter from the Trustees

Dear friends of RSP and play,

This Annual Report marks the end of the first year of our new strategy and what a year it has been!

Thanks to the **ongoing commitment of our supporters** helping us build strong financial reserves, the **innovation and dedication of our collaborative partners** working with us on delivering a diverse range of pilot play projects, and the **robust organisational structures and frameworks** from which we have been able to launch the new strategy, our Year 5 has been phenomenal!

About **600 children** across **3 continents** participated in our **3 Pilot Play Projects**. The children took part in and enjoyed a diverse range of play opportunities, from creative expression, creating play spaces of their own and sharing their experiences of play, to spontaneous play with other children in their community, and much more ...

We had other **young people** that joined us to support RSP this year. They contributed dedicated time and brought with them a rich tapestry of insights, which added great value to RSP and helped us understand how to increase youth participation in our work.

In our first strategy period the first 4 years at RSP were focused on building strong foundations and collaborative relationships. This year we were able to launch off this robust platform and use our learnings to innovate and implement some strong pilot projects. In this strategy period we will continue to work with young people and valued partners to develop **locally informed and co-created sustainable programmes** to facilitate more play in children's lives and advocate for every child's right to play.

We sincerely hope you enjoy reading further about all we have achieved together and join us in celebrating an extraordinary year.

Juliette, Meera & Anna
- RSP Trustees



RSP Values

Our values inspire and guide the way we operate and interact with others.

Collaboration: We believe that sustainable positive change comes from collaborative working and shared learnings.

Innovation: We encourage creative, experimental efforts and explore local solutions that can be co-created resourcefully, by thinking outside the box.

Collaboration sits at the core of our vision and at the heart of our strategy. We openly share information, knowledge, skills, resources and opportunities. We invest time and resources into creating nourishing partnerships that have mutually shared goals at their heart, through which we can build value and achieve more together than we are capable of doing alone.

Transparency: We share information openly and honestly; we learn from our mistakes and reflect on our learnings.

Diversity: We honour and embrace people's fundamental right to be different and unique.

Respect: We strive to treat people with consideration and care.



RSP Vision, Mission, What we do

Vision:

A sustainable future created through play, collaboration and shared learnings

Mission:

Enhance and create spaces that facilitate learning, innovation, collaboration, and **positively impact the lives of vulnerable children through enabling their right to play**

What we do:

At RSP, our work is focused on supporting children to recognise, access and enjoy their fundamental **right to play**...

... because we believe that play is the *best* way that children learn, innovate and thrive; and it is their recognised human right to play
(Article 31 UNCRC)

WHY PLAY

As LEGO Foundation beautifully puts it:

'Let's take a simple example of **hide and seek**... For a start, it can help children learn to deal with the unknown – an important **emotional skill**... They'll need **cognitive and creative skills** to reason out a good, unexpected place to hide, and **social skills** to get all their friends to play along. And dashing from one hideout to another or working out if they can cram into a tight spot? Those are **physical skills**. In one simple, familiar game they've learned to be more resilient, more empathetic, more aware of their surroundings, and more strategic. And the more they play the more they weave those skills together – creating a rich tapestry of capabilities they can always rely on.'

Why do we focus on PLAY?

RSP is inspired by the belief that play is the most powerful conduit through which children can thrive and grow into happy, healthy, capable and resilient adults.

The value and importance of play in children's lives is a widely recognised and accepted fact, supported by a growing body of research and evidence. In addition, all countries in the world (except the USA) have signed the **UNCRC*** treaty which sets out children's human rights and governmental responsibilities to ensure that all children have access to these rights, including the right to play.

*United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

Play is the language of children and children have always played, but how much they play, with whom, where, when and how is often limited by the adults and societies they grow up in. We can safely say that there are a multitude of barriers to play - such as socio economic differences that in some contexts force children into high pressured educational outputs, whilst in others drive them to become young carers or start working at an early age to support their families. Differences or limitations in physical, cultural, technological, or perceptual factors, circumstances and attitudes of adults and carers create barriers to play which have an impact on children's overall wellbeing.

Children become the adults who shape our future societies and the world we live in. At RSP we seek to increase and improve play opportunities and spaces for all children, and break the "barriers" that stop them from accessing their fundamental right to play. Our overall goal is to support children's overall wellbeing, and help them build their confidence, capability and resilience to reach their highest potential.

Play is a Right - Play is intrinsically motivated, it is children's way of learning about their world. A child's right to play is enshrined in **Article 31** of the **UNCRC***, and is often referred to as '*the children's forgotten right*'. The UNCRC sets out a comprehensive list of universal rights that should be granted to all children and young people, and highlights that all rights are interconnected and equally important (see page 67).

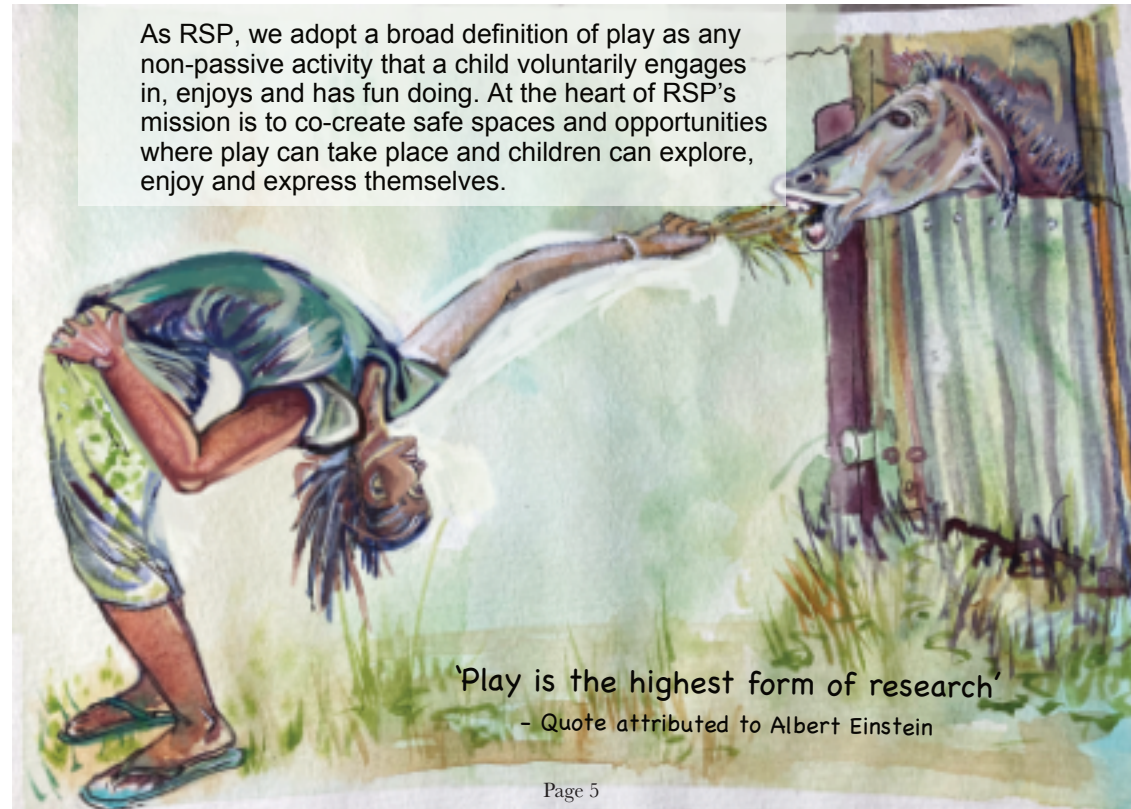
*United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

Play for Positive Change - Play sparks learning, creativity and innovation. The power of play can help generate new, sustainable solutions to address the emerging challenges of the future and is a catalyst for lasting positive change.

Play supports Wellbeing - Play makes children feel happy, and improves their cognitive, physical and social skills. It contributes to overall emotional wellbeing, empowers children to rise to challenges, and find hope.

WHAT IS PLAY?

As RSP, we adopt a broad definition of play as any non-passive activity that a child voluntarily engages in, enjoys and has fun doing. At the heart of RSP's mission is to co-create safe spaces and opportunities where play can take place and children can explore, enjoy and express themselves.

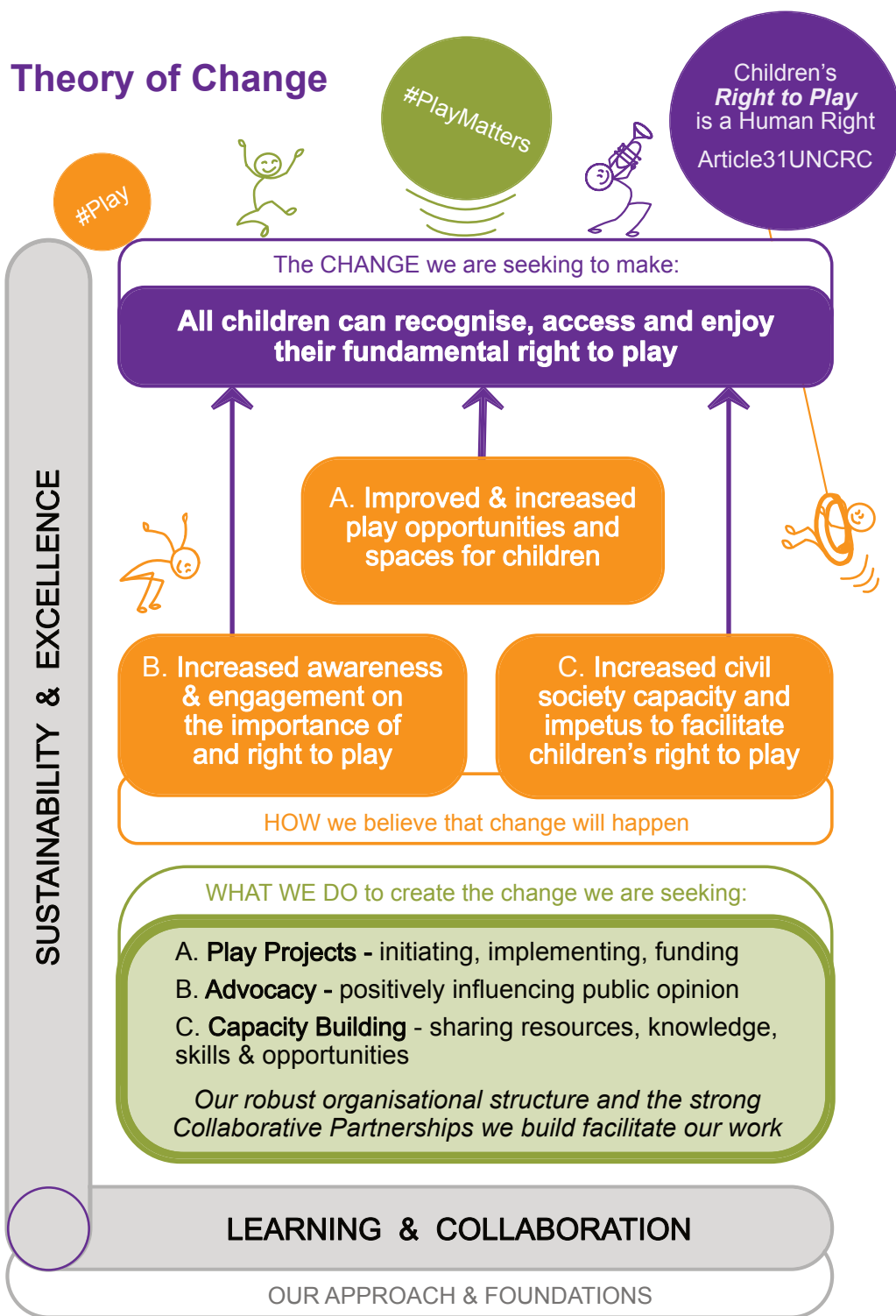


'Play is the highest form of research'

- Quote attributed to Albert Einstein



Theory of Change



RSP Strategy

Collaboration

Collaboration drives the way we work. Our approach is to form deeply collaborative relationships with aligned organisations and individuals. Together we find synergies and opportunities to support one another's aims.

Strong collaborative partnerships, based on openness, trust and mutual commitment, over the last 5 years, have helped us become stronger and make a positive difference in many communities and in more children's lives than we would have been able to do alone. Sharing and receiving resources, knowledge and expertise with different partners around the world has also supported our overall organisational sustainability.

Sustainability

We have created strong organisational foundations and developed financial stability. With these essential building blocks, we seek to develop sustainable programmes with aligned partners. We replicate our successes in a resource smart way, whilst still committing sufficient time and resources to planned areas of work and avoiding dependency on high levels of income and funding. Through our projects we support children to access their fundamental right to play with the aspiration to make a lasting positive difference in the communities we work within, in a way that echoes through future generations.

Learning

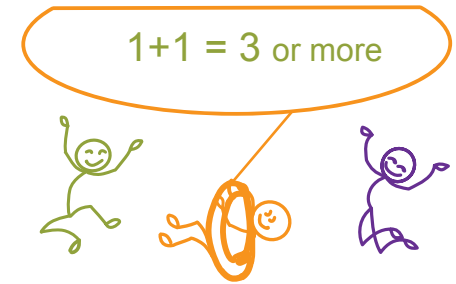
We define ourselves as a learning organisation whereby every activity brings with it the opportunity to learn, grow and challenge our assumptions. We deliberate on our ways of working, record and monitor set plans against activities carried out, collect and analyse data from our projects, and adapt our behaviours and plans based on our learnings.

Excellence

An excellent organisation is what we strive to be. One that is able to provide quality assurance, is accountable, transparent and represents RSP in a way that aligns with our stated values.

Our Theory of Change

guides our work and explains why we focus on the activities we do...



WHAT WE DID THIS YEAR:

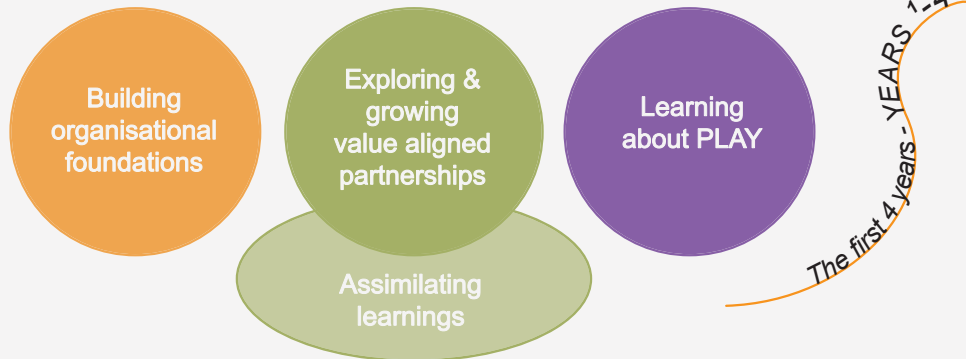
Year 5 Activities & Achievements

- Pages 10-11* **RSP Journey & New Strategy**
- Page 12* **Summary of Achievements**
- Page 13* **Year 6 Planned Objectives**
- Pages 14-15* **3 Pilot Play Projects (summary)**
- Pages 16-19* *Pilot Play Project 1 - South Africa*
- Pages 20-23* *Pilot Play Project 2 - UK*
- Pages 24-27* *Pilot Play Project 3 - India*
- Pages 28-29* **Positive Impacts of Projects**
- Pages 30-31* **Organisational Sustainability**
- Pages 32-33* **Youth Voices**
- Pages 34-35* **Summary**

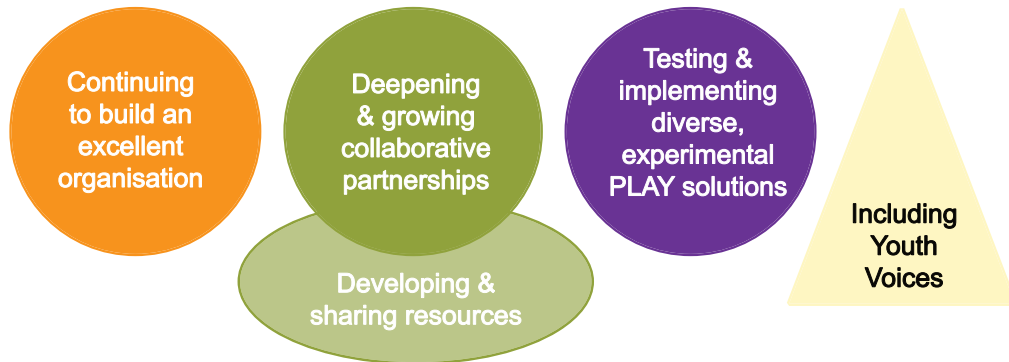


RSP Journey to date

Stage 1: 2018 - 2022, Strategy Phase 1:



Stage 2: 2022 - 2025, Strategy Phase 2:



Year 5: April 22 - March 23 - A snapshot of what we did this year:

1. Play Project with MADaboutART, in Knysna, SOUTH AFRICA
2. APT (Appropriate Paper Technology) Play Project, in Whitstable, UK
3. Play Project in Gujarat, INDIA

Starting play projects with our oldest partner MADaboutART; continuing work with other partners; and collaborating with new, aligned people and organisations.

Collaborating with young people who share our vision:

- 17 year old **Young Volunteer**
- 20 year old **Intern**
- 25 year old **Strategic Collaborator**

Building strategies and frameworks to monitor, evaluate, learn & adapt.

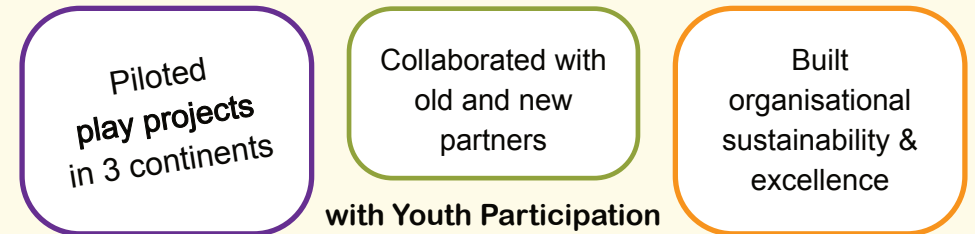
In this strategy period (April 2022-March 2025)

In this 3-year strategy period, we have committed to...*:

**This commitment was captured in our previous Year 4 Annual Report*

1. Spend more resources on PLAY PROGRAMMES
2. ADVOCATE on children's right to play
3. SHARE skills, resources and knowledge
4. Build a GROWING MOVEMENT of people and organisations
5. Explore innovative ways to BUILD OPERATIONAL CAPACITY

Year 5: Apr'22 - Mar'23 - A snapshot of what we did this year:



Guided by our learnings and Theory of Change we will continue to...



Year 5 (April 22-March 23) - 1st year of new strategy



Year 5 Achievements

SUMMARY of

against set Objectives:



<p>1. Play Project with children in Gujarat, India implemented by RSP trustees, Juliette and Meera, in February 2023.</p>	<p><i>Create and implement, with active participation from RSP members, at least one play project with children directly.</i></p>
<p>2. Play Project with MADaboutART, in Kynsna, South Africa grew larger than anticipated and was completed in Year 6. An original advocacy tool, in the form of 7 painted banners, was created. The children at MAD presented the panels to their parents and a wider audience in December 2023 advocating on their right to play. We will commence Phase 2 of this project in 2024 to take the panels out to other audiences in diverse ways.</p>	<p><i>Facilitate advocacy activities widely using the painted, narrative banner, that has been co-created with children in South Africa.</i></p>
<p>3. RSP's second Appropriate Paper Technology (APT) Play Project, this time with young people in Whitstable, UK, was facilitated by Kimmy Spreadborough at FarSkate Foundation, and implemented Nov'22 - Feb'23.</p>	<p><i>Deliver a second Appropriate Paper Technology (APT) workshop with young people, to provide playful opportunities to learn and build new skills through the power of play.</i></p>
<p>4. 3 young people engaged in RSP in different ways: A 'Creating Changemakers' Internship Programme was piloted with a 20 year old university student over one year. A 17 year old secondary school student started volunteering with us this year. A young professional, one of RSP's longest standing volunteers, started engaging as a <i>Strategic Collaborator</i> with us this year.</p>	<p><i>Introduce youth voices into RSP and develop and pilot an Internship programme.</i></p>
<p>5. We collaborated with and promoted FarSkate Foundation (see objective 3 above), and continued to find synergies for cross country collaborations with existing and new partners.</p>	<p><i>Visit and promote innovative play initiatives carried out by grassroots organisations to build a movement and find synergies for skills sharing and collaboration.</i></p>

Year 6 Objectives (April 23-March 24)

1. Assimilate and analyse information and data gathered from the pilot play projects and share learnings with partners for the purpose of developing future sustainable programmes together.

Purpose: Test assumptions and ensure play solutions are locally and collaboratively designed, and informed by data collected from child participants, facilitators, volunteers and other learnings.
2. Develop and launch the Panel Play Programme as an original advocacy tool and methodology. Trial its application through projects in South Africa and the UK.

Purpose: Motivate people and organisations to use this original advocacy tool, and support children in different communities to develop their own calls to action. Increase civil society impetus to advocate for children's right to play to create change at a local, national and international level.
3. Integrate youth voices and create collaborative opportunities for youth participation in RSP.

Purpose: Include young people in RSP decision making, capacity building and programme implementation, encourage active citizenship. Provide training, support and professional development opportunities in a way that adds value to them and to RSP.
4. Raise awareness and engagement on the importance of the right to play within established forums, platforms and grassroots initiatives, using a diverse range of mediums and activities.

Purpose: Build a movement of value aligned organisations and individuals and create spaces and opportunities for collaboration and learning that facilitate play in children's lives.
5. Continue building RSP's organisational capacity, growth and excellence through investing resources in this area.

Purpose: To build organisational sustainability.

SUMMARY of 3 PILOT PLAY PROJECTS:

Supporting children to access their right to PLAY IN UNIQUELY DIFFERENT WAYS

1. In collaboration with MADaboutART

Implemented: Feb 2022 – Jan 2024

Total children: 85

Direct project participants: 51

Indirect project participants: 34

Ages: 2 - 17 year olds

Workshops: 32 (Sessions: 68)

Total HOURS: 180

See further details on Pages 16-19, & 52-55
in
**Knysna,
South Africa**



3
continents

In collaboration with our oldest partner, MADaboutART, guided by their experience in using a **rights based approach**, a series of playful workshops were carried out at the MAD centre. The youngsters that visit MAD live in the nearby township and for them MAD is a haven where they often receive their only meal of the day. This project created opportunities for the children to...

... Play...be creative...learn about RIGHTS and their right to play ...build advocacy skills...express their experiences and barriers to play...and develop a call to action to support their right to play...

From this emerged **an original advocacy tool** in the form of 7 painted art panels expressing the children's views on play, their barriers to play and a call to action to help them access their fundamental right to play. These panels will be produced as large, transportable, advocacy tools that will be taken out to wider audiences to support all children to enjoy more PLAY in their lives.

3. Implemented by RSP founder trustees, Juliette & Meera

in Gujarat, India

Implemented: Jan 2023 - Feb 2023

Total children: 500

Direct project participants: 85

Indirect project participants: 15

Science City day trip participants: 400

Ages: 5 - 12 year olds

Primary activities in 1 school: 24 days

Science City trip with 3 schools: 1 day

Total project DAYS: 25

See further details on Pages 24-27, & 60-65

This project was implemented by the RSP founding trustees in a deeply economically depressed community in Gujarat, India. Project activities were focused on **transforming the large, exterior play space in Dhabala School**, with the participation of the school children. Together we painted 3 wall murals, created large floor board games, converted an unused room in the school into a Play Room, and much more. RSP additionally planned and invested in different construction work to improve the play space and make it safer for the children. We also visited other schools, met with different educators, discussed the importance of play in children's lives together; and took 400 children from 3 other schools on a play day trip to Science City! These project activities contributed to building a relationship with this community and an improved understanding of the community and its needs.

2. In collaboration with *Kimmy Spreadborough* &

Nov 2022 - Feb 2023: Implemented

10 :Total youth

6 :Direct project participants

4 :Indirect project participants

13 - 16 year olds: Ages

(10 :Sessions) 6 : Workshops

27 :Total HOURS

See further details on Pages 20-23, & 56-59
in
**Whitstable,
UK**

This project was about supporting vulnerable young people and building their skills through introducing them to **an innovative, accessible and sustainable technology, APT***, to explore and play with.

Each participant had hands on experience of every stage of the APT process as they designed and created their own unique pieces.

Kimmy Spreadborough, an experienced play worker and teacher, facilitated these workshops. The FarSkate Foundation, a charity based in Whitstable, organised the youth cohort and provided their facilities for this project.

This is RSP's second play project with APT, continuing our commitment to bring APT into the play space.

***APT (Appropriate Paper Technology)** - using engineering principles to transform recycled paper and card into strong, personally designed equipment.



Programmes: Pilot Play Project 1, Knysna, South Africa

in collaboration with MADaboutART

Our relationship with MADaboutART, a South Africa based charity that supports vulnerable young people, began even before RSP was set up as a registered charity! MAD uses art as a platform for healing, advocating and igniting hope and imagination. Their centre, based in the township near Knysna, South Africa, has been a haven and safe space for thousands of children over the last 20 years.

Our collaboration started with RSP providing operational and governance support to MADaboutART. From them, we learnt more about play programmes, play based learning, and how to create and use art for advocacy activities. Although MAD was carrying out play activities before our partnership began play and the right to play were not a strategic focus. As a result of our partnership it is now centrally embedded into their organisation.

After 5 years of collaboration, we embarked on our 1st Pilot Play project together in 2022, which is expected to be completed in January 2024.

Project Scope:

RSP and MAD co-created a rights-based pilot play project together that was launched in February 2022. The plan was to carry out playful workshops involving creative expression through the arts, and introducing the concept of rights, and specifically the right to play, to the children at MADaboutART. The aim was to develop a series of painted banners that captured the children’s lived experiences of play (both barriers and joys). This would then be used as an advocacy tool for wider audiences as a call to action to support children to access their fundamental right to play.

Project Activities & Outputs:

This project grew larger than anticipated and has exceeded all our expectations! The original 16 workshops evolved into 32 playful workshops with children (=68 sessions, 180 hours). The project period was extended for additional emerging activities. The final output was an original advocacy tool for play, in the form of 7 incredible art panels, capturing the children’s experiences and views of play*. The panels capture the story of the children’s lived experiences, starting with their barriers to play, the negative impacts of restricted play, and move onto the right to play and the value and joy of play, concluding with a call to action. These artistically beautiful and impactful panels will be used as an advocacy tool to build awareness and impetus to facilitate children’s right to play.

*The panels were completed in October 2023 and will feature in next year’s report. In the meantime, watch our social media to see these amazing panels.

Workshops with the children:

Introduction to rights (UNCRC*) and the right to play (Article 31 UNCRC)

4 sessions
11 hrs

*The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

Exploring children’s experiences of play and their barriers to play

12 sessions
30 hrs

Building advocacy skills and confidence through storytelling, role play, drama, and practicing negotiation skills

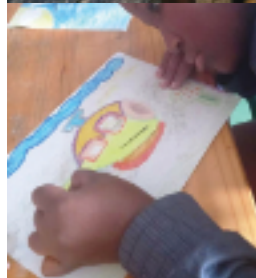
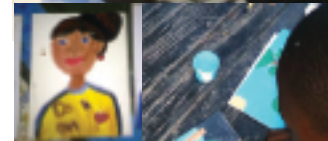
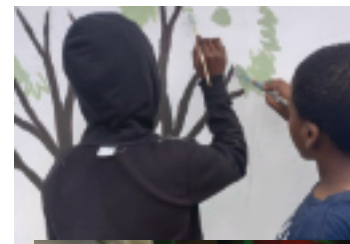
7 sessions
17 hrs

Creative Expression and panel concept development workshops

37 sessions
87 hrs

Exterior wall mural development - practical workshop, preparing backdrop wall for panels

8 sessions
35 hrs





Positive Impacts of the project:

This project created opportunities for children to play, express themselves and share their experiences and views on play. An incredible advocacy resource in the form of 7 art panels was created. The project increased awareness and understanding of the right to play amongst children and parents/carers in the community; and created an impetus to bring more play into children’s lives. MAD’s expertise around planning and delivering rights based play projects with children greatly facilitated the success of this project.

‘The project brought out powerful voices of young people who have been exposed to many difficult life experiences which deny them their rights. Participants were excited to learn play is a Right and to imagine how they could make a difference for other children through this project’.

‘Discussion on rights raised issues of inclusivity, sexuality and gender stereotypes, demonstrating participants’ maturity and empathy and a desire to be inclusive’.

‘Role play was a very effective medium to build confidence and inspire participants to negotiate more in future. Culturally, some participants were not used to talking to parents. Role play helped to make it easier’.

‘At the end line meeting, before parents were presented with project information (UNCRC Article 31) and outputs (panels), in conversation they expressed a general view that play is a waste of time and an excuse for children to run away from home chores. After the presentation, parents discussed that they will give their children more chance to play and began to connect improved performance at school with attendance at MAD (playing and learning). Some said they would “lift the iron hand”’.

Feedback from workshop reports provided by MADaboutART

‘The project stimulated play activities with kids and revitalised play activities across the board, for example game-playing, art and reintroduction of a play-room for younger children at MAD’.

‘Playing at a practical level helped children connect to the concept of Right to Play and catalysed their desire to advocate for it’.

‘Games and ice breakers, gave participants a sense of belonging’.

‘The panels are impactful, engaging and true to the children’s lived experiences’.

‘Designing and creating the mural on which the panels will hang was a valuable skills and confidence building exercise for the MAD team and children.’

‘Sharing information and materials with parents/carers on the importance, benefits and barriers to play, increased awareness and understanding of the importance and right to play amongst this influential group of ‘gatekeepers’.

What the children said

‘We stood up for ourselves, challenged ourselves, challenged parents, prepared ourselves, built our confidence for real life’.

‘Now we can tell people and our parents we are not ‘just’ playing. We have a right to do fun things. Play keeps us out of trouble, makes us smile’.

This project facilitated a lot of play, creation, and learning and helped build the children’s overall wellbeing.

In South Africa the government had imposed some of the strictest Covid lock down measures worldwide, resulting in huge negative and long term impacts arising in this already economically depressed community. Young people lost 2 years of play in their childhood. This project brought joy, hope and inspiration amongst the project participants, who felt empowered and more confident to use their voices and imagination to create wider positive change.

What Next:

In December 2023, MAD launched the panels at their centre in South Africa. The children of MADaboutART advocated for their right to play through presenting the panels to their parents and other community members who attended the event. We will report more on this in next year’s report.

Phase 2 of this project will commence in 2024 and support the children and young people of MADaboutART to take these panels out to different audiences, in their wider, local community, to raise awareness of the importance of play in their lives and advocate for their right to play.

Data collected and compared between the start and end of the project from the children showed some of these changes in attitude:

From **0% to 100%** of children by the end of the project knew which article of the UNCRC enshrined the right to play - **Article 31 UNCRC***

*UNCRC-United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

From **75% to 91%** strongly agreed that **‘Play is important to me’**

MADaboutART shared that younger kids play more freely as peer pressure often makes it uncool to play for the older children, and family pressures can distract from play times.

From **40% to 80%** said that they played in more than one location.

There was an increase of children starting to play at home, with others starting to play in different locations.

Programmes: APT* Pilot Play Project 2, Whitstable, UK

facilitated by *Kimmy Spreadborough*

This is RSP's second APT play project. In 2019, we carried out our first APT play project at *The Somerville Playground* in London. **Kimmy Spreadborough**, an experienced teacher who has worked with children for many years using a play-based learning approach, was part of this first APT project.

Kimmy was interested in bringing APT to the play space and supporting vulnerable young people so we approached her to facilitate RSP's second APT play project. Together we co-created the project design and plan, and Kimmy developed structured but playful workshop lesson plans. Kimmy also introduced us to **Farskate Foundation**, a charity based in Whitstable, UK, who organised a cohort of young people to participate in this project and very kindly also provided us with the use of their facilities at no cost.

Lynda Baxter - a qualified APT trainer, also a play expert, author of 'The Importance of Play' book, and founder trustee of our partner charity, *High Hopes for Children* - supported both projects. This project is a result of multiple collaborations and a great example of how RSP collaborates widely and diversely to create positive change.

Project Scope:

This project aimed to support vulnerable young people (13-16 year olds) through a series of playful workshops that introduced them to APT and provided an opportunity to explore and play with this innovative and accessible technology. The project also sought to remind these young people about their right to play and encourage more play in their lives.



A special shout out and thank you to **Lynda Baxter**, who introduced us to APT and provided multiple trainings on this technology to RSP trustees and Kimmy Spreadborough

*APT - APPROPRIATE PAPER TECHNOLOGY

RSP's aim to bring APT to the play space was set in 2018 when we were first introduced to this innovative and sustainable technology. APT is a technology that uses engineering principles to transform recycled paper and cardboard material into strong personally designed equipment. It has been used as an affordable and viable solution in the global south to make bespoke furniture for children with disabilities. APT carries the potential of creating a range of outputs, from games to play structures and more. **RSP will continue to explore innovative ways to bring APT into the play space for children around the world.**

Project Activities & Outputs:

In November 2022, Kimmy kicked off the first of the 10 APT sessions with a cohort of young people at the FarSkate Foundation in Whitstable. Over weekly sessions, she guided them through the process of creating their own individual APT stools.

Young people learnt about the right to play and every stage of the APT process as it has been developed and instructed by the technology originators. Each participant had hands-on experience of every stage of the process. This involved making glue from flour and water, learning basic woodworking principles such as measuring, cutting, creating angle irons and connectors to join the boards they had made at the start, developing final pieces, and finishing them with brown paper before painting them. Participants made and painted their own pieces, and even kindly made one for RSP!

Workshops with Young People:

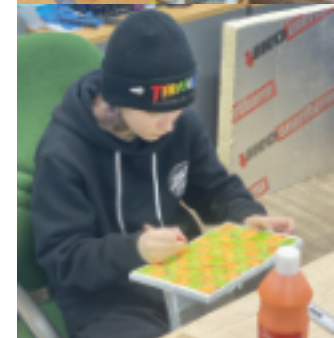
Introduction to the right to play (Article 31 UNCRG*)

*The United Nations Convention on the rights of the child

Introduction to Appropriate Paper Technology (APT)

Learning APT through making APT stools:

1. *Making the board and glue*
2. *Learning APT reinforcer and connector techniques*
3. *Designing*
4. *Cutting, assembling, connecting, reinforcing*
5. *Finishing*
6. *Decorating*



Programmes: APT* Pilot Play Project 2, Whitstable, UK

facilitated by *Kimmy Spreadborough*



10

youth



6

workshops



27

hours

Positive Impacts of the project:

The project started with introducing the concept of play as a human right for all children and young people under 18 years old, as enshrined in Article 31 of the UNCRC*, **building awareness and understanding on the right to play**. The workshops were designed in a playful way to facilitate and encourage more play amongst participants who were on the cusp of adulthood and sometimes struggle with social norms around being 'too cool to play'. Providing opportunities for **artistic expression** and **creating something new** was a good way to facilitate play in a safe space.

According to the feedback provided by the facilitator, **Kimmy Spreadborough, FarSkate Foundation**, who organised the cohort of young participants in this project, and the family liaison officer who works with this group, the biggest positive impact of this project was **improved socialisation amongst the participants**. This was important to FarSkate because they specifically work with and support young people who with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) challenges, or who feel misunderstood, confined in classrooms or struggle with mainstream education.

The result could not have been possible without Kimmy, who has spent years teaching children and young people using a play based learning approach. The group responded very positively to her and her playful, patient and supportive approach. This facilitated a safe space for them to express themselves and get to know each other in a respectful way. **Team building skills amongst participants such as communicating, collaborating, listening, and problem solving improved, and the project seemed to make a positive impact on their overall emotional wellbeing**. Working towards making a physical piece that they would own and building something from scratch created a sense of empowerment, **built confidence** and gave the young people a **sense of pride** in starting and completing a project and learning something new.

*United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

'The fact that the group remained in the same room together and connected was a great success'

Feedback from
Kimmy
Spreadborough

'[Participant x] told me that he was going to go back to school and was ready to give it a go again'

'[They] started with their heads down and little interaction. Over time they became more confident...developed cooperation...APT gave them a personal focus and opportunity to work with others which had a positive impact on each attendee.'

'All participants were smiling and engaged in the last sessions'

'[Kimmy] is a "great teacher, very knowledgeable about the subject and showed a lot of passion".'

'Communication between peers improved and young people seemed calm, happy and engaged'

Feedback from
FarSkate
Foundation

'The practical learning helped to engage the young people, i.e. teamwork and knowing the end result'

'All our students had a great experience and produced some amazing work'. We would really like you [RSP] to come back and do more with us.'

What Next:

We will assimilate learnings from the two APT projects we have carried out and continue to explore new ways to bring APT into the play space to increase and improve play opportunities for children around the world.

Using APT
to create
PLAY
solutions

2021 - Kimmy's 2nd APT training with Lynda Baxter (qualified APT trainer)



Programmes: Pilot Play Project 3, Gujarat, India implemented by RSP founder trustees

This project is very close to our hearts because we had the opportunity to work directly and extensively with the children. It also involved working in schools where family members of Meera (RSP Trustee) had worked on a project previously. Her father, *Ramesh Patel*, and her aunt, *Indira Desai*, had made structural improvements to, and had toilets installed in, 7 schools in this community, before her father passed away in 2015.

In 2019, when we conceived of the project, we chose this location knowing we would be supporting highly vulnerable children from a deeply socio economically depressed community. We also had assurance of support from Indira Desai, and other local networks that had been established through the previous project. They supported in carrying out school visits, taking photos, interviews and facilitating an early needs assessment; which fed into the project design and development. This support continued during implementation and post implementation stages as well. The project was delayed due to Covid and, after some replanning in 2022, we headed to India in January 2023 for the implementation.

Project Scope:

The plan was to focus on Dhabala School and improve the exterior play space, whilst creating play opportunities for the children and building awareness on the importance of and right to play in that community. We also wanted to **organise a play day out to Science City for 400 children in 3 other schools, to meet with the wider community and educators**, and to gain a better understanding of this community.

Project Activities & Outputs:

1. Primary project activities - Dhabala Primary School
2. Play day excursion to 'Science City' with 400 children
3. Community Engagement activities

1. Primary activities - Dhabala Primary School:

Children participated in improving their own play space and were provided with the tools and materials to experiment with paints and different art techniques. A number of children from the community, who did not attend the school, joined in the activities. RSP also carried out **constructions and repairs** to improve the play space and make it safer for the children.

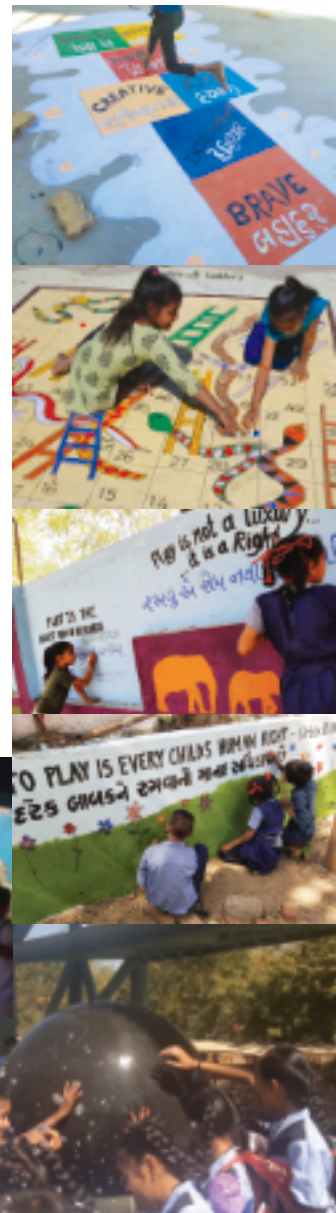
Activities with children: Learning the Colour Wheel, 4 Floor Board Games, 3 Wall Murals, 1 Play Room, 85 Gift bags painted by the children and filled with art supplies by RSP.

Improving and making the play space safer: 3 major constructions - building a platform, planter and repairing and building a taller wall; 2 repair works - new school gate and repainted school entrance doors.

2. Play day excursion to Science City - 400 children from 3 other schools were taken on a play day excursion to Science City in the city of Ahmedabad. Buses were hired, food was organised and teachers from all schools came and supported the activity.

3. Community Engagement activities

- We met with and discussed the power and importance of play with educators in 4 schools. We organised a final event at Dhabala school, attended by the local community, Council and School Board members, to celebrate the joy of play and the completion of the project.



See project videos
on YouTube
[@rockstoneandpebbles](https://www.youtube.com/@rockstoneandpebbles)



500
children



25
days



4
schools

Positive Impacts of the project:

The **children's joy and happiness** in playing and participating in activities was palpable throughout the project. As the large, exterior play space in Dhabala school transformed, there was **an emerging sense of pride** amongst the children as well as the wider community, many of whom started dropping into the school and expressing great interest and appreciation for what we were doing. A number of local children who were not students at this school also came and regularly joined in the activities.

Learning that play is a right enshrined in Article 31 UNCRC was of interest to all the different stakeholders - children, teachers and community members, and a lot of awareness was raised around this point. **The teachers in Dhabala School really took to the idea of play based learning** and it was wonderful to see them continue to apply this after we left the country, and to receive their regular photo and video updates of the different play activities they have since been running. **Discussions around the importance of play** in children's lives, with over 20 educators in 4 different schools, provided all of us with **valuable insights** and **increased impetus to create more play opportunities for children**. Taking 400 children from 3 schools for a day trip to Science City, was a first for most of these children, a lot of whom had never even visited Ahmedabad, their nearest city. They found it **exciting, interesting and fun**. Overall, the community welcomed our interventions and seemed proud of their children and the other visible changes made. It was a gift to meet and get to know this community, and the children within it, better. RSP built a lot of understanding and learning, which will form the basis for designing future, sustainable projects within this community. We have also shared the outcomes of this project, through videos*, presentations and social media, to build wider civil society engagement and impetus to facilitate play in the lives of all children around the world.

*Watch our project videos on [RockStone](#) and [Pebbles](#) YouTube channel

When a child now enters the gates of Dhabala School, it is their space.

*They might ...
...Smile at the hand print they made on the left wall with their name on it...
...Jump on the hopscotch they painted and shout "I am brave" or "I am special, I am creative, I am intelligent, I am honest, I am kind, I am powerful" ...
Look at the animal they stencilled and painted on the right wall, call out their names in English and Gujarati, and wonder how many more animals there are in the world...
Nurture the plants in the planter and watch them grow ...
...Take out a game from the play room and gather on the platform outside to play it...
Spin the globe, look at the world map, and remember that every child has a right to play.*

This is the space created in Dhabala School with the children ...now theirs to play and thrive in.

'There was a perpetual echo of: "Can I do it? I can do it! I want to do it!", amidst fun and laughter. The children wanted to do everything, not just play, paint and draw, but also participate in daily stock taking, cleaning art materials and packing away at the end of the day!'

Feedback from RSP project facilitators

'The children were very excited as we started the project with making large sized board games on the floor - it facilitated a lot of conversations around each game and learning and playing new games like chess and backgammon'.

'Very interesting to learn from other educators that, unlike schools in higher socio economic contexts, they tend to naturally use a more play based learning approach in their schools and their children thus have more access to play in education.'

'It was wonderful to see children of different ages, gender, and cultural backgrounds, playing and creating together, and also helping and teaching each other in different areas.'

'The children were fascinated by the animals stencils. Many of the animals were unknown to them and they thoroughly enjoyed learning about them, painting them and stenciling the names of the animals on the outside mural and in the Play Room we created together inside the school'

'Including positive values on the hopscotch - "I am...brave, intelligent, creative, kind, honest, special, powerful" - was a wonderful way to build the children's self esteem and confidence.'

What Next:

We will reflect and assimilate learnings before we embark upon our next project in this community, which we hope to commence in November 2024. We will also continue to build relationships in this community and support Dhabala school with their ongoing play activities.



Feedback from volunteer:

I absolutely loved my short term experience of volunteering with RSP. They're incredible women, doing amazing things and I was so blessed to be apart of it. I hope to be able to join and collaborate with them in the future.

Feedback from one of the teachers during the Science City day trip:

"I still remember coming here when I was young, I think these children will always remember today"

POSITIVE IMPACTS



All 3 play projects, in South Africa, the UK and India, facilitated creation, innovation and learning and made a positive difference in the children's lives through improving their.



CREATIVE SKILLS

Drama, Role Play, Dancing & Singing
Storytelling

Learning the colour wheel - making secondary colours from primary colours

Drawing & Painting - Portrait drawing, human anatomy, still life and nature, floor board games.

Mural Art - Painting on large walls

Using different art materials - water colours, acrylics and oil based paints, charcoal, pastels, crayons, felt pens, pencils, stencils

Learning APT (*Appropriate Paper Technology)

Woodworking skills - APT emulates some wood work techniques like designing, cutting, making and using angle irons.

Experimenting
Innovating

COGNITIVE SKILLS

Planning & Organising

Concentration

Critical thinking

Problem Solving

Maths – numeracy, geometry, counting, stock management

Design Technology – through the UK APT project

Languages – 5 languages were being used in South Africa, 2 in India

Spatial skills

Fine motor skill development

Hand eye co-ordination



EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

Making Friends

Excitement & Joy

Pride & Ownership

Discovering Talents

Building Confidence

Feeling Secure & Supported

Engaging together
-Laughing, talking, joking

PHYSICAL WELLBEING

Healthy Brain,
Bones & Muscles

Cardiorespiratory
Fitness

Building Balance

Improved Dexterity

Gross and Fine
Motor control

SOCIAL SKILLS

Communicating

Collaborating

Sharing

Negotiating

Helping Each Other

Transferring Skills
& Knowledge



These projects also helped mitigate the negative impacts of play deprivation in children's lives, which can include:

Sadness, Stress, Anxiety, Depression, Aggression, Apathy, Lethargy, Social Isolation, Loneliness, Obesity, Stunted growth ...



*Research also indicates that play deprivation can *negatively impact brain growth*, through gradual loss of electrical activity in the brain which will stunt growth. Epigenetical studies show that the effects on one generation can echo through and negatively affect later generations.

In Conclusion:

Children are a highly vulnerable group of people and too many are being threatened, faced with inequality, lack of rights or their basic needs not being met. According to UNICEF** 166 million adolescents (10-19 year olds) globally live with a *diagnosed* mental health disorder. The numbers are staggering, even without counting younger children or considering unrecorded numbers.

This year we worked in three different communities across three continents; there were similarities and differences, but in all cases the children and young people were dealing with challenges and struggles, including post Covid consequences, that they should not have had to.

The pilot play project at MADaboutART exceeded all our expectations. The large amount of playful workshops, run over a long period of time, had a number of demonstrable positive impacts on the children and young people that took part. These included improved academic performance and increased confidence linked to building creative skills, learning about rights and how to advocate for them using their own voices. They were joyous and proud of facilitating the development of an original advocacy tool in the form of 7 incredible art panels, and excited to take them out to their communities.

The UK pilot was successful in helping to build confidence, team building and other social skills amongst a small group of teenagers who struggled with the mainstream education systems. What started with a lack of interest and apathy, ended with laughter, chatter and engagement. There was a sense of pride and achievement in learning a new technology (APT) and using it to build something from scratch themselves.

In India, the transformation was incredible. The children were thrilled and exhilarated to have playful activities to participate in and be involved in renovating their own playground. Teachers and parents witnessing the positive changes, helped break down some of the commonly held misconceptions of play as a waste of time. We walked into a bare and run down space with a broken wall and gate, and left a community with a palpable sense of pride and a much greater understanding of the importance of play in children's lives.

* Source: http://ipaworld.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/IPA_Declaration-FINAL.pdf

**The State of the World's Children 2021, UNICEF

BUILDING ORGANISATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

As well as the programme work covered earlier, RSP carried out other activities this year to help build organisational capacity and sustainability.



Including Youth Voices:

Secondary School Student, 17 year old



University Student, 20 year old



Young Professional, 25 year old



See more on pages 32-33

Growing and deepening partnerships

Guided by our Collaboration Strategy we have always sought synergetic opportunities with other organisations and people that align with RSP's vision, mission and aims. This approach has helped us make a positive difference in many communities and many children's lives.

This year we connected with different organisations and individuals, existing partners and new ones, which supported our aims in different ways:



1st pilot play project with our oldest partner, **MADaboutART**



Deepening our relationship with **FarSkate** - last year we provided some governance expertise to them, this year they collaborated on our 2nd APT play project.



Thank you **Rotary Club of the North Downs** for the generous £500 donation to RSP! One of our oldest partners, who we met this year to present our work and discuss the importance of play.



We continue our collaboration with **High Hopes for Children** and attended and supported their AGM this year.



Presented and shared RSP Communications Strategy with our existing partner **On Call Africa**.

A shout out to **Playground Ideas**, the first crowdfunding platform we used and an organisation doing some amazing work in the play space.



Building a movement of people and organisations to collaborate with continues to be a primary focus in RSP.

Building an Excellent Organisation

Excellence to us means building a robust organisation, delivering high quality programmes, being accountable, transparent and representing RSP in a way that aligns with our stated values. We challenge ourselves and each other, collaborate widely, focus on learning and building knowledge and skills together. We encourage brave new ideas but take a considered approach in implementing them. We reflect, adapt and modify our behaviour and programmes based on our learnings.

- Planning
- Organising
- Setting Strategies, Policies and Frameworks
- Monitoring
- Evaluating
- Learning
- Improving
- Adapting
- Being Accountable and Compliant

Introducing Youth Voices

NEW! RSP Internship Programme Creating Changemakers

The concept and vision of RSP's *Creating Change Makers* Internship Programme was developed last year. We wanted to support young people to become positive change makers through harnessing their passion, and providing a safe space to share and develop their natural talents, build new skills and use their voices.

This year we trialled this programme with a young university student, Sachi Patel, over a period of one year. The results surpassed our expectations! Sachi developed and delivered 12 presentations to the RSP trustees and management within the specific tasks allocated to her; and her contributions to a diverse range of organisational areas added great value to RSP overall.

Some ways this added value to RSP:

Programmes:

Raising awareness of the work RSP does and the value of play through creating and delivering social media plans for all 3 RSP play projects.

Contributing to the India play project design through participating in design and planning sessions.

Researching and providing recommendations on different crowdfunding platforms, and helping us set up our 1st crowd funder to raise funds for the India project.

Thank you Sachi!

How this added value to the Intern

RSP designed this as a **paid internship programme** to support youth who are on the cusp of starting their professional lives. In line with our vision, a detailed needs analysis and support was provided to our intern to explore interest areas and build skills. **126 hours of experience** was gained in different areas. This included the development of an array of **skills** such as presentation skills, power point, excel, financial management, project management skills and more. Increased **knowledge and understanding** around charity governance, management, programme development, and children's rights were also gained.

Communications:

Analysis of RSP's historical social media activity against set communications aims facilitated the creation of a new framework and approach to managing social media activities. The results included an increase of followers on our social media channels, enabling us to raise more awareness, engagement and impetus to our aim of facilitating play in all children's lives.

Operations:

Providing valuable insights and supporting RSP through creating financial management reports, preparing gift aid claims, *and so much more*

YOUNG VOLUNTEERS:

Thank you Siyona!

As our youngest volunteer, Siyona brings a critical, unique *youth voice* to RSP. She started volunteering with RSP when she was 17 years old and continues to date.

She wanted to use her artistic and creative talents to support RSP and this is what she did for us this year:



Mar'23 - Wrote a front page article, for her sixth form newspaper, on children's right to play (read full article on page 66).



Dec'22 - Attended RSP trustee meeting and delivered a presentation with her ideas on how RSP could showcase our art using online platforms.



Feb'23 - Designed and created RSP's newsletter #7

Strategic Collaborator

Trishna started supporting RSP when she was 20 years old, during the pre-registration phase of the charity. She contributed to the development of the vision and mission statements at that stage. She has been volunteering with RSP as a high value adding stakeholder for nearly 6 years now.

She has an in depth understanding of RSP and her ability to think strategically helped shape the organisation as it is today. In March 2023, we invited her to collaborate with RSP in a new role as Strategic Collaborator, which would involve monthly, strategy focused meetings, to bring a fresh perspective and different ideas to RSP.

Thank you Trishna!

Apr'22: Presentation to RSP trustees and volunteers - different ways to facilitate knowledge sharing and collaboration

Year 5 highlights of other support provided:

- Internship Programme development support
- Feedback on last year's Annual Report draft
- Programme development support on India play project

Mar'23: Started new role in RSP as **Strategic Collaborator**

This is the **first year of our new 3 year strategy**, built on the the foundations laid over the previous four years. We have embarked on a new journey focused on exploring solutions around the world to improve children’s access to their fundamental right to play.

We set strategies and operational frameworks that continue to support us to meet our aims, deliver quality programmes and build organisational sustainability.

Our **organisational strategy** is to maintain and build upon the strong organisational foundations we have created; learn and grow through research, practice and collaboration; and develop sustainable programmes that support the children and communities we work with.

Our **collaboration strategy** forms the backbone of our organisational strategy. It involves taking a considered and measured approach, taking into consideration the diverse needs of various partners. Guided by it we have learned more about play and formed close relationships with experts in the play and play-based learning space, and created mission aligned opportunities with different organisations and people. This approach has helped us build financial sustainability, and achieve much more than we could have done alone.

Our **fundraising strategy** supports all our work in a non donor dependent way. It helped us build healthy reserves in our first strategy period (years 1-4) from diverse sources of income. This year we started investing in the pilot play projects and other work we have reported on, and will continue to do so through this strategy period.

Our **programme strategy** is to develop sustainable programmes, with trusted partners, that make a lasting positive difference in the lives of the children and communities that our work impacts, in a way that echoes through to future generations.

3 Pilot Play Projects ~ 600 children
 South Africa, UK & India ~ 100 play days

Included **3 Youth Voices** Young VOLUNTEERS
 Siyona, Sachi, Trishna Creating Changemakers INTERNSHIP

Collaborated with 5 Organisations & many, many individuals Growing a Movement
 Building & deepening relationships

MADaboutArt FarSkate Foundation OnCallAfrica HighHopesforChildren Rotary Club

Built Organisational Sustainability

Growing...learning...becoming stronger...

Reflect, assimilate and share programme learnings with partners to co-create long term sustainable projects that increase and improve play opportunities and spaces for children.

Continue to find ways to include youth voices in RSP; providing opportunities to young people that meet their interests and needs, and contribute to the growth of RSP.

Collaborate widely and in diverse ways to find synergetic opportunities with organisations and people, and build partnerships that help meet one another’s aims.

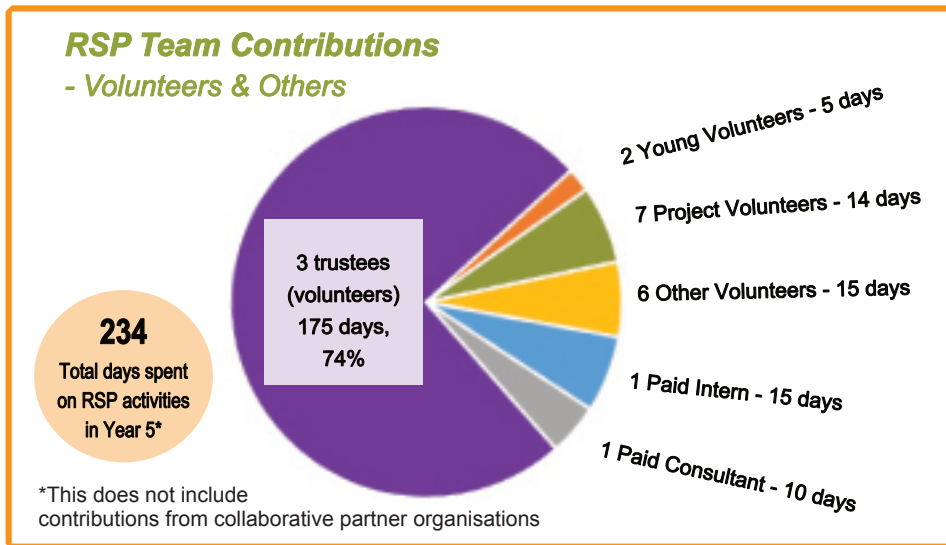
Be a learning organisation and share knowledge, skills, capacity and opportunities to continue building a robust and sustainable organisation.

Our collaborative approach is the catalyst that has enabled us to achieve what we have. It took time and consideration to build strong relationships, but once they were established, we saved a lot of financial resources and achieved outcomes beyond our expectations together.

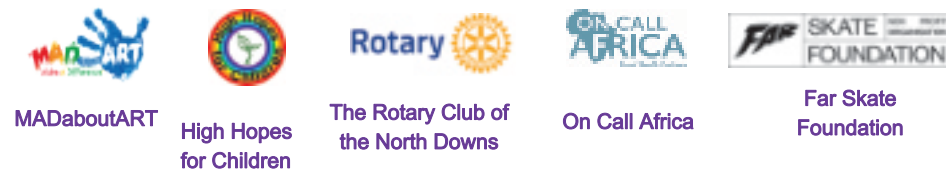
A heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported RSP this year!

Celebrating the people and organisations that have supported and inspired us. As we launch our new 3-year strategy, we thank you for being part of our journey and inspiring us to become more than we imagined. As a small charity we rely on volunteers, donors, partners, consultants and others to accomplish what we do. It is incredible how much we were able to achieve thanks to these invaluable contributions:

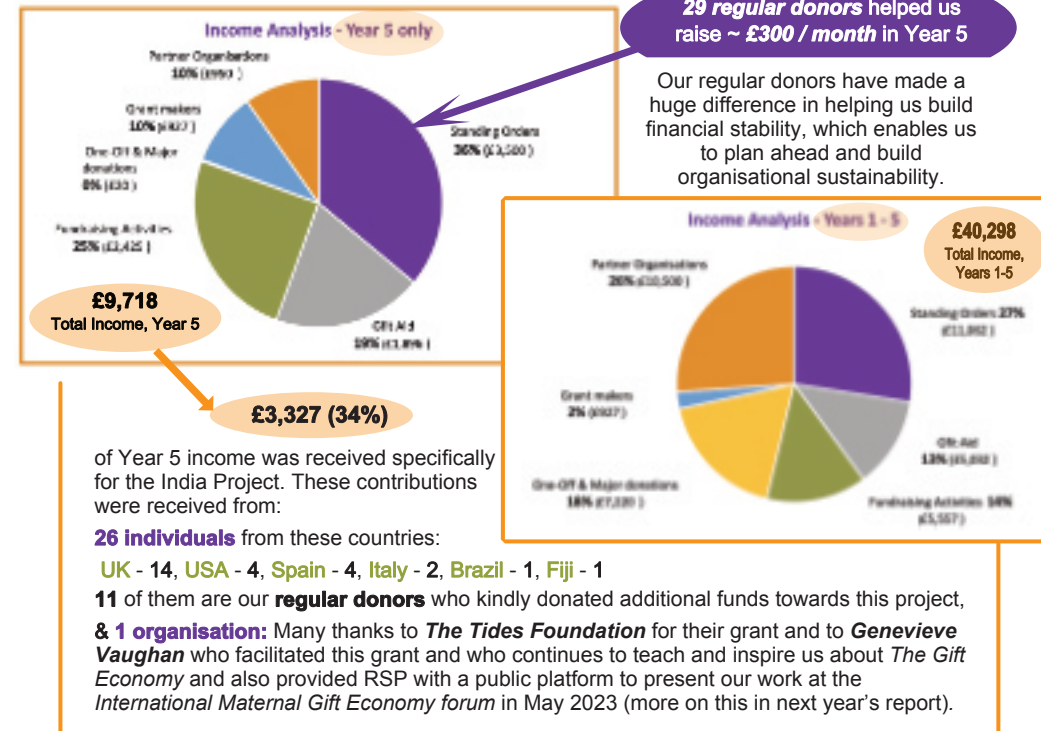
Our dedicated people - A huge shout out to the team who contributed their time and expertise to make this year what it was.



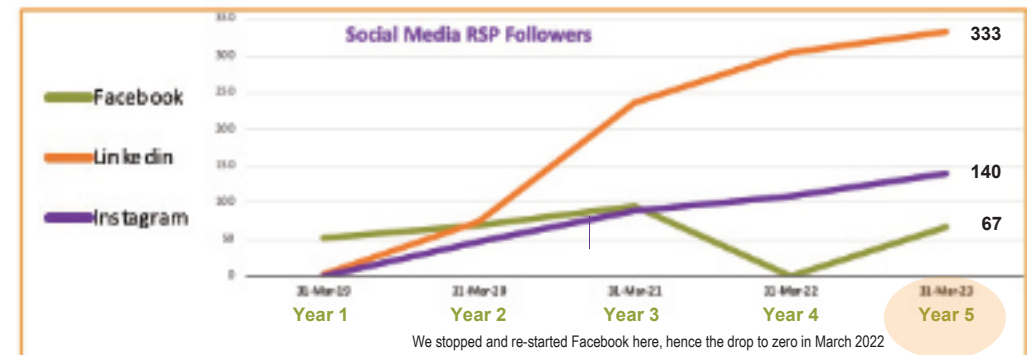
Our amazing partner organisations - who are doing incredible work and through our collaboration this year we could make a difference in many more children's lives that we could have done alone (see page 31).



Our generous and diverse donors - who help us remain non-donor dependent and kindly contribute their financial resources to support the wellbeing of children around the world.



Other supporters - who share valuable information, encourage and champion our work, and help raise awareness and engagement on the importance and value of play in children's lives.





FINANCIAL REVIEW

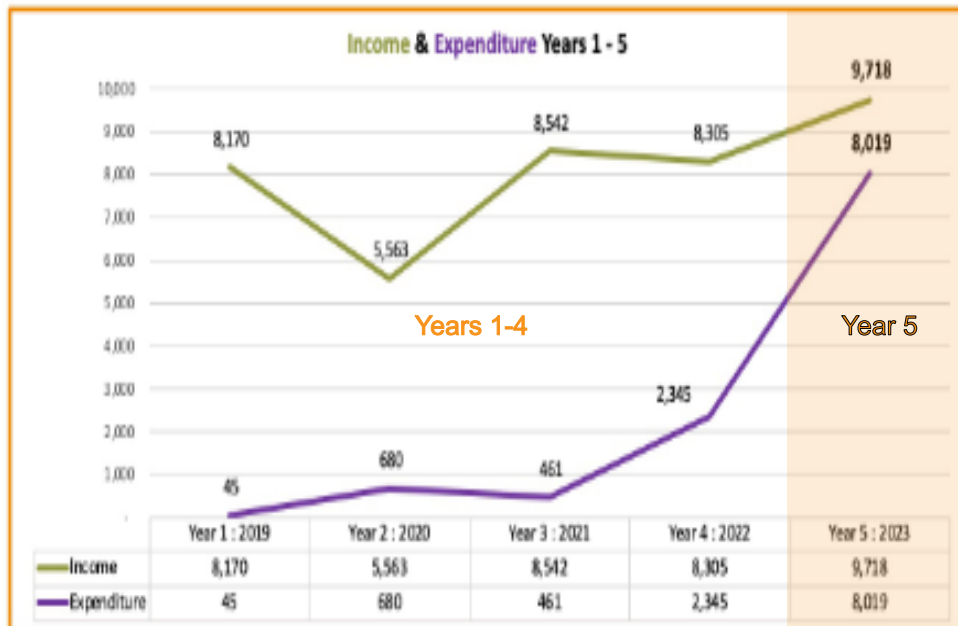
RSP FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31.03.2023

	This year 2023	Last year 2022
Total Income	9,718	8,305
Total Expenditure	8,019	2,345
Net Income	1,699	5,960

This year marks the beginning of our new 3-year strategy. In the first four years, from 2018-2022, we worked to build foundations, reserves and learnings. In this new strategy period, we have begun to invest funds more heavily.

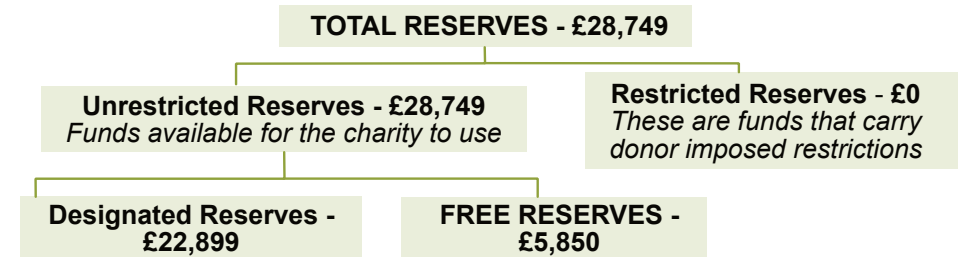
Our expenditure in the first four years was low (£3,531 in total) but, in line with our new strategy, expenditure this year has increased nearly three-fold (£8,019) and has been spent primarily on pilot play projects. We continued to raise a high level of income (£9,718 this year) and thus made a net gain of £1,699 which will increase our reserves and enable us to plan future activities with assurance.

The strong current position we are in is thanks to the generosity and kindness of our donors, the financial strategies we have set and the diverse income streams we continue to grow and maintain.



RSP Reserves Position

Reserves are funds accumulated over the years (charity savings) held to be used in the future in furtherance of our stated charitable purposes. RSP's reserves position as at 31st March 2023 is as follows:



Designated Reserves are funds earmarked by Trustees for specific purposes. RSP trustees have designated £22,899 in this strategy period which will end on 31 March 2025. These funds have been committed to facilitate organisational sustainability and to build on the pilot projects carried out this year and develop them into sustainable programmes:

	£	More information on pages:
Operations:		
IT: Fixed Asset - £ 899		IT: Page 45 (Note 3)
Capacity building - £3,000	3,899	Capacity building: Page 13 (Objectives 3 & 5)
Programmes: The Panel Programme	6,000	Pages 12 (Year 6 Objective 2), 16-19
Programmes: APT in the Play Space	5,000	Pages 20-23, (Year 7 Objective), 20-23
Programmes: India Play Project	5,000	Pages 24-27, (Year 7 Objective), 24-27
Programmes: Other Awareness Raising and Advocacy activities	3,000	Page 13, (Objective 4)
Total Designated Amount:	22,899	

RSP Reserves Policy

Free Reserves are the part of the charity's unrestricted funds that is freely available to spend on any of the charity's purposes and are set in line with our Reserves Policy. During the first 4 years of operation, our Reserves Policy was to build up sufficient reserves, whilst building organisational capacity, to ensure a secure and sustainable launch into our new strategy.

Our Reserves Policy in this new strategy period is to hold free reserves of about £6,000, to support:

- 1. Management of the charity** – including governance and other management costs.
- 2. Management of potential risks** – including technological, fundraising and other operational risks.
- 3. Organisational improvement** – including investment in capacity building and other external resource requirements.
- 4. Collaboration opportunities** – to ensure that value adding opportunities are not lost due to lack of funds.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA)


for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	2023		2022
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Prior year funds
		£	£	£
Income from :				
Donations and legacies		5,441	3,327	7,355
Charitable activities		950	0	950
Total income	1	6,391	3,327	8,305
Expenditure on :				
Raising funds		10	25	21
Charitable activities	2	4,682	3,302	2,324
Total expenditure		4,692	3,327	2,345
Net gain for the year		1,699	0	5,960
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		27,050	27,050	21,090
Total funds carried forward		28,749	0	27,050

Five Year Summary:	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total Income	9,718	8,305	8,542	5,563	8,170
Total Expenditure	-8,019	-2,345	-461	-680	-45
Net Income	1,699	5,960	8,081	4,883	8,125

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Assets			
Fixed Asset	3	899	1,199
Current Asset			
Debtors	4	2,058	
Cash at bank		26,292	27,865
		29,249	29,064
Liabilities			
Creditors	5	(500)	(2,014)
Total Net Assets		28,749	27,050
The funds of the charity			
General Reserves		5,850	27,050
Designated Funds		22,899	
Restricted Funds		0	
Total charity funds	6	28,749	27,050
Approved on behalf of all trustees of RockStone & Pebbles on 23th January 2024			
			
Juliette Liebi			
Treasurer			

Five Year Summary:	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total Charity Funds	28,749	27,050	21,090	13,009	8,125

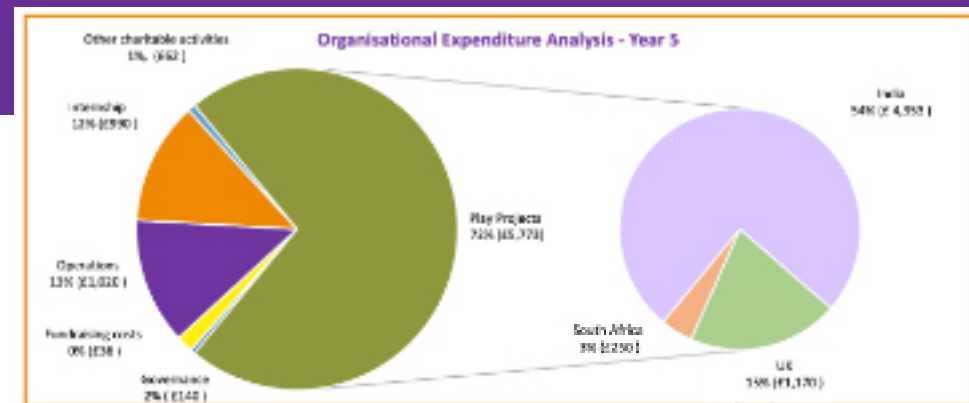
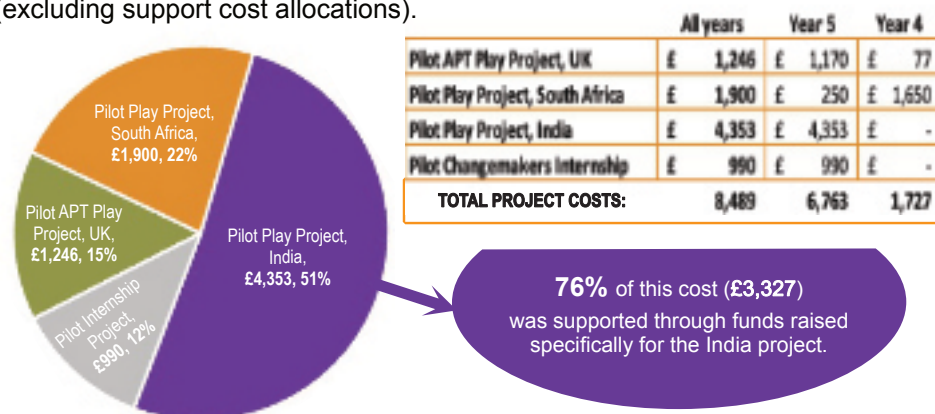
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Note 1: Total Income - Total income in year 5 was £9,718, of which £3,327 was restricted income received specifically for the India Pilot Project. See page 37 for a breakdown of the diverse sources of income received this year.

Note 2: Expenditure on Charitable Activities - Total charitable expenditures costs in year 5 were £7,984, of which £3,327 was restricted to the India Pilot project in line with the income received. Support costs incurred are detailed below and have been re-allocated to charitable expenditure in line with SORP (FRS102).

SUPPORT COSTS:			
Governance costs - trustee meeting costs		140	
Operational costs - IT & printing costs		1,020	
Total Support Costs		1,160	
Support costs are re-allocated to charitable activities based on activity expenditure:			
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS:	Original cost	+ Support costs	Total costs
Pilot Play Project, South Africa*	250	42	292
Pilot APT Play Project, UK	1,170	199	1,369
Pilot Play Project, India	4,353	740	5,093
Pilot 'Creating ChangeMakers' Internship	990	168	1,158
Other Charitable Activities - Playground Ideas	61	11	72
TOTAL COSTS:	6,824	1,160	7,984

*Most of the costs for the pilot play project in South Africa were paid out last year. See below a picture of the lifetime project expenditure (excluding support cost allocations).



*Internship supported in all areas defined above (i.e. Fundraising, Governance, Operations & Play Projects)

Note 3: Fixed Asset - IT equipment, computer bought in year 4, at a cost of £1,499, less annual depreciation of £300 / year, resulting in a net asset value of £899 this year.

Note 4: Debtors - The total debtors balance this year is £2,058, this is made up of: (i) Tides Foundation grant of £927 towards the India pilot play project, and (ii) Gift aid accrual of £1,131 claimed in year 6 that related to year 5 income.

Note 5: Creditors - The total creditors balance this year is £500, this relates to the final funds payable to MADaboutART on completion of the project in January 2024.

Note 6: Charity funds (reserves) - A total reserves balance of £28,749 is held as at 31st March 2023, made up of £22,899 designated funds and £5,850 free reserves (see page 41 for more details).

To March 2023

Fund Name		balances brought	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Fund balances carried forward
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS						
		27,050	6,391	8,666	1,026	28,749
General Funds	Unrestricted	28,776	6,391	1,256	1,026	32,885
Pilot APT Play Project, UK	Unrestricted	(77)		1,170		(1,246)
Pilot Play Project, South Africa	Unrestricted	(1,650)		250		(1,900)
Pilot Changemakers Internship	Unrestricted	0		990		(990)
RESTRICTED FUNDS						
		0	3,327	4,353	(1,026)	(1)
Pilot Play Project, India	Restricted	0	3,327	4,353	(1,026)	(1)
		27,050	9,718	8,019	0	28,749

To March 2022

Fund Name		Fund balances brought	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Fund balances carried forward
General Funds	Unrestricted	21,000	8,305	1,345		28,776
Pilot APT Play Project, UK	Unrestricted			77		(77)
Pilot Play Project, South Africa	Unrestricted			1,650		(1,650)
		21,000	8,305	4,071	0	27,039

DISCLOSURES TO THE ACCOUNTS

a) Volunteer and other contributions

The contributions outlined below do not include contributions made by collaborative organisations and their associated volunteers.

ROLE	Number of people	Total Contributions (Days)	Governance	Operations	Programmes	Supporter Management & Communications
Trustees	3	175	42	23	96	14
Volunteers	15	34	2	5	16	11
Paid Intern	1	15	4	5	1	5
Paid Consultant	1	10	0	0	10	0
Total	20	234	48	33	123	30

b) Governance Costs & Trustee Remuneration

Total Governance costs of £140 this year (2022 - £58) includes £117 meeting costs incurred by Trustees & £23 incurred through youth participation on trustee meetings.

No costs were incurred on programme monitoring visits, all travel expensed related to project implementation. Trustees received no remuneration for professional services provided to or on behalf of RSP. The Trustees neither received nor waived any emoluments during the year (2022 – £Nil).

c) Trustee Expenses & Related Party Transactions

Out-of-pocket expenses were reimbursed & waived to trustees as follows:

– 2 Trustee were reimbursed a total of £882 for costs related to Pilot Play Project Implementation Activities, such as travel and project materials. (In 2022, £1,535 relating primarily computer equipment). These trustees also personally contributed a value of £1,000 towards charitable expenditure (£750 towards the India pilot project and £350 towards operational costs).

As a small charity, with limited resources, RSP achieves its aims through collaborative relationships with organisations and individuals, and gains support through the Trustees' personal and professional networks. These relationships support, strengthen and help RSP meet its aims. There is thus a risk of potential or perceived conflicts of interest arising from related party transactions. RSP mitigates these risks through robust policies and procedures to ensure that there are no arising conflicts of interest through such relationships.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a. Statutory information - RockStone & Pebbles (RSP) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. Further details are given in the 'Reference & Administrative Details' section.

b. Basis of preparation - The financial statements have been prepared 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) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102), and the Charities Act 2022. The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view.

c. Public benefit entity - The charity is a public benefit entity. The 'RSP Public Benefit Statement' in the section above demonstrates how RSP meets the definition of a public benefit entity.

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

e. Income - Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

f. Tax reclaims on donations - Gift Aid received is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

g. Donations of gifts, services and facilities - In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised in the Financial Statements as the value cannot be reliably measured. Refer to the Notes to the Accounts and the Trustees Annual Report for information on volunteer contributions.

h. Staff costs - There have been no employees who received employee benefits of more than £60,000. The average head count (number of staff employed, not volunteered) was equivalent to 0.06 of 1 FTE.

i. Fund accounting - Fund accounting principles have been applied, separating restricted and unrestricted funds, and unrestricted funds further into designated and free reserves (see pg. 41).

j. Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT - Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under:

- **Costs of raising funds** relate to the costs incurred by the charity in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- **Charitable activities** includes the running costs undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and direct costs of charitable activities undertaken.
Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

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

l. Tangible fixed assets - Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities and is calculated on a straight-line basis.

m. Debtors - Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due.

n. Creditors and provisions - Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

o. Collaboration policy - aims to share resources, such as expertise, volunteer contributions and funds, between organisations and individuals, to build sustainable partnerships and programmes, all guided by project plans and memorandums of understandings between parties.

Reference & Administrative Details

Charity Name: RockStone & Pebbles (RSP)

Charity Registration Number: 1177973

Charity Registration Date: 16 April 2018

Registered Office: 8 Cyclamen Road, Kent BR8 8HJ

Trustees: Juliette Liebi, Meera Patel, Anna Petruccelli

Structure, Governance & Management

Governing document - The charity was established and set up as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 16 April 2018. It is governed by its constitution which sets out the objectives and powers of this CIO.

Recruitment & Appointment of new trustees - The constitution stipulates a minimum of two trustees, there is no maximum number of trustees that must be appointed. Apart from the founding charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. Trustees will be recruited on the basis of the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

Management - The founders, Juliette Liebi and Meera Patel, who are also trustees, manage the operations and activities of the charity on a voluntary basis. They are supported by a third trustee, Anna Petruccelli, in RSP's governance. RSP is also supported by volunteers and partners in areas of management and the implementation of programmes.

Risk Management - The trustees have a Risk Management framework in place to identify and review the risks the charity is exposed to and they ensure that appropriate mitigation plans are in place to safeguard the organisation and the people impacted through and involved in the work of RSP.

RSP Charitable Purposes for Public Benefit

RSP's charitable objects are as summarised below:

(i) The prevention or relief of poverty anywhere in the world - At RSP we do this through supporting vulnerable children to access their fundamental, human right to play as enshrined in Article 31 UNCR (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child).

(ii) To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of other initiatives working towards objectives similar to (i) above - We adopt a deeply collaborative approach, find synergies, share skills, knowledge, resources and opportunities with value aligned organisations and initiatives to support one another in meeting our shared aims and grow stronger together.

RSP Public Benefit Statement - RSP purposes satisfy the public benefit requirements, in line with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. There has been no harm or private benefits arising from carrying out these purposes.

RSP provided public benefit this year by positively the lives of vulnerable children across the world; and by improving the efficiency and effectiveness of RSP and other non profit organisations and initiatives through partnering on programmes and sharing skills, knowledge and expertise with each other.

Trustees' Statement of Responsibility

The trustees of RockStone & Pebbles (RSP) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Annual Accounts in accordance with applicable law - Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2022 – which give a true and fair view of the charity's activities.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees must:

- Select and consistently apply suitable accounting policies;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS102);
- Make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records and for safeguarding the assets of the charity by maintaining robust internal controls to mitigate the risk of fraud, error and other irregularities.

The trustees accept and carry out these responsibilities.

Approval of Trustees Annual Report

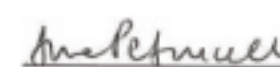
The Trustees' Annual Report has been approved and signed by all trustees of the charity, RockStone & Pebbles, on **23rd January 2024**:



Juliette Liebi



Meera Patel



Anna Petruccelli



Trustee & co-founder



Trustee & co-founder



Trustee since 2020

Imagine a world without barriers to play... where children have spaces to express themselves, explore and experiment with things that interest them, are motivated to develop their natural talents in a collaborative and compassionate way...what would such a world look like? Would children be able to participate in decision making more and come up with innovative solutions that we as adults may not be capable of imagining? Would a more equitable society emerge? Would there be less division and discrimination, would adults embrace differences and diversity more positively? Would more sustainable solutions to global challenges of our day emerge?

Pages 52-55

PILOT PLAY PROJECT 1

In collaboration with MADaboutART
In Knsyna, South Africa

Pages 56-59

PILOT PLAY PROJECT 2

In collaboration with Kimmy Spreadborough
& Far Skate Foundation,
In Whitstable, UK

Pages 60-65

PILOT PLAY PROJECT 3

Implemented by RSP trustees
In Gujarat, India

Page 66

Article 'A Child's Right to Play'

Written by RSP's Young Volunteer, *Siyona Patel*,
for her sixth form school newspaper

Page 67

**Article 31 UNCRC Information piece
& Painting by RSP's Young Volunteer,
*Siyona Patel***

Pages 68-69

Make a Hopscotch in your community!





Banner concept development



Story book creation

25 Feb 2022
 Right to Play
 Page
 • Play together
 • Go to school
 • Be able to be helped
 • Safety
 • To be Happy
 • Self - Respect & Respect others
 • Help
 • To have food
 • To Dream
 • Right of Choice
 • Health

Learning about Rights



Building advocacy skills



Self Portraits

RESPECT
 Using my voice
 Listen
 Respect
 Myself
 Others
 SELF





ROLE PLAY
 Headmaster ←
 'WARREN'
 WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT EARLY
 WAGES DO YOU SEE THE UN NEED!
 GO THERE YOU ARE THEN THIS
 IS WHEN YOU GET BACK
 YOU ARE ELDER.
 WOULD HAVE ESCAPED
 WITH ALL THE RESOURCES
 WITH ALL THE RESOURCES
 WITH ALL THE RESOURCES

Role Play



Drawing Still Life



Spontaneous Play



Dance



Mural Art



Step 1: Introducing APT Techniques & Tools



Step 2: Making the Glue & Preparing the Boards



Step 3: Creating & Measuring Stool Designs



Step 4: Measuring & Cutting the Prepared Boards using APT Techniques



Step 5: Joining and Fixing Parts together



Step 6: Strengthening Fixtures (with newspaper and brown paper)



Step 7: Painting & Decorating Final Pieces



Learning the Colour Wheel & how to make secondary colours



Daily Stock Management Activities



Converting an unused room into a Play Room



Children decorating their gift bags - which we filled with art supplies



- Art book
- Compass set
- 5 Paints
- Paint brushes
- Markers & brush pens



Making floor board games together...



Creating Murals and transforming the space



After



Before

MURAL 1



Before

MURAL 2



After



MURAL 3

Before



After



SIXTH FORM NEWSPAPER

◆ SPRING EDITION ◆

Editors: Farhana Baksh & Prishika Narotam

COMMUNITY THE CHILDS RIGHT TO PLAY

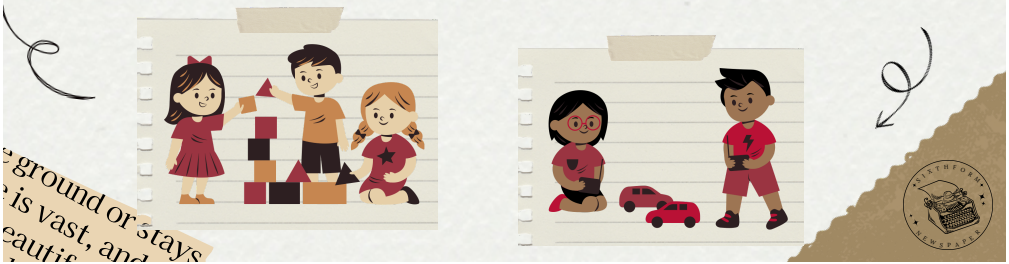


In 1989, the United Nations Convention for the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), outlined, with the interest to protect and care for children, that play, and rest were fundamental children's rights. Many of us may overlook the important effect play has had upon our developments, with impact upon our ambitions, perspectives and wellbeing, even today. Play is likely to be an unquestioned, often inevitable, experience and with how abstract and subjective play can be, it differs from child to child. For this reason, play has no one specific definition amongst academics. At its core, play refers to an activity of leisure, done with no practical purpose or intention, other than enjoyment. In 1997 Eppright and others, found that "play and sport in childhood and adolescence enhance development physically, mentally, and socially", suggesting that play, and specifically sport, has substantial effects upon childhood

which continue into adulthood with impacts to physical routines, dealing with social situations and improved mental health, along with the immediate benefits to a child's functioning. Similarly, a 1998 study by Pellegrini and Smith suggests that play can have both an immediate benefit to a child, but when more frequent, can mean better development or benefits which are deferred to adulthood. Play is thus posed to be a genuine necessity for the adulthood. Play is thus posed to be a genuine necessity for the proper health and lifestyles of children. Despite this, the right to play is not globally enforced, with lower income countries having limited investments into building laygrounds and other such infrastructures that seek to facilitate play. In other circumstances, play is unfortunately viewed as a privilege that some cannot afford, becoming unnecessary compared to economic strains and other similar problems.

Even in higher income countries, play is perhaps not maintained into teenage years or even into adulthood, with more pressure to "grow-up" quicker and false notions of what play tends to include being perceived to be juvenile, when it can more broadly mean any hobbies or external interests which one seeks to pursue only for fun. The right to play is therefore far from universal as many charities and non-profits seek to implement and educate around it to encourage more to exercise and recognise these rights. With so much supportive evidence towards the benefits of play, it has many applications in our lives and futures, with the ability to enhance and further our capabilities, both mental and physical, as well as in it's applications towards children and education, supporting the ultimate importance in ensuring these rights are universally realised.

BY SIYONA PATEL



(Article 31 UNCRC)



Painting from a photograph taken during our India project implementation. Created by our Young Volunteer, *Siyona Patel*, for RSP.

The **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)** grants all children and young people a comprehensive set of universal, inalienable, indivisible, and interdependent rights, which are interconnected and equally important. The UNCRC is the most ratified treaty in the world, governments across the world have thereby committed to ensuring that these rights are known and protected.

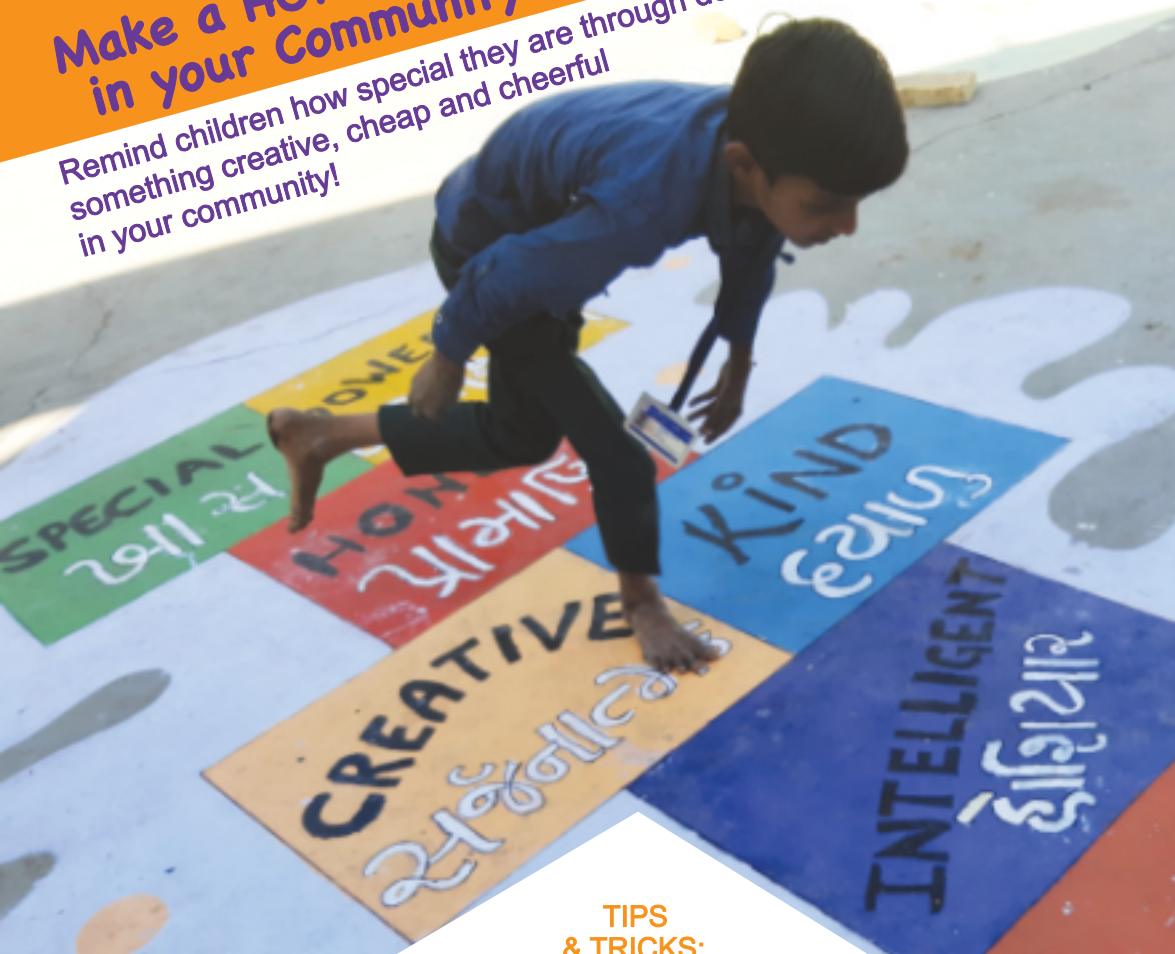
Article 31 UNCRC enshrines the child's right to play. In 2013, a UN-led review recognised that whilst "the importance of play and recreation in the life of every child has long been acknowledged by the international community" there were concerns around "the poor recognition" of the rights contained in Article 31.

To address these concerns, **General Comment 17** was published with detailed guidelines for governments to support children access their right to play and demonstrate their commitment to their young citizens.

The full **General Comment 17** can be accessed here: https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/TreatyBodyExternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2FC%2FGC%2F17&Lang=en. A summary of **General Comment 17** created by the International Play Association can be assessed here: http://ipaworld.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/IPA-Summary-of-UN-GC-article-31_FINAL1.pdf

Make a HOPSCOTCH in your Community!

Remind children how special they are through doing something creative, cheap and cheerful in your community!



How to do it :-

Ideally, involve the children in all these activities:

Step 1: Select a flat, level space that you will be able to paint on.

Step 2: Sketch out the area for the design.

Step 3: Clean and prime the area using a basic exterior primer.

Step 4: Measure and draw out the hopscotch.

Step 5: Paint out the blocks in different colours (2 coats) with oil based, exterior floor paint (will need turpentine to clean brushes).

Step 6: The hopscotch starts with 'I AM...'. Identify the VALUES you want to promote. We used "Brave, Intelligent, Creative, Kind, Honest, Special, Powerful". Using different languages is also fun and educational (we used Gujarati as the 2nd language).

Materials List:

- Exterior primer paint (base)
- Oil based exterior floor paints
- Turpentine
- Paint brushes & masking tape
- Pencils/Chalk, Black marker, Ruler, String
- Rags, Aprons/smocks, old clothes

TIPS & TRICKS:

- Oil based paints are messy!
Make sure to use old clothes, and have aprons, old rags and turpentine available at hand

-Tape up the borders with masking tape to keep the paint within the shapes.

- For younger children, draw out the words in stencils blocks to colour in.

- Buy black, white and primary colour paints (red, yellow, blue) only, as all other colours can be made from these 5 basic colours (save money and have fun mixing paints to make new colours!).

- Involve children and young people of different ages and let them help each other to figure it out!

We'd love to see your hopscotch!
Please share it with us :)





With great gratitude to Niketa Fazal for sponsoring the paintings featured in this booklet

Easy ways to support RSP:

Easyfundraising.org.uk - you shop and brands donate to our cause for free! Sign up, choose *RockStone & Pebbles* as your cause and continue shopping as normal whilst making a difference without paying a penny.

Share your time and knowledge - contribute your unique talents and expertise to RSP.

Connect us - with people and organisations who are aligned with our cause and want to facilitate play in children's lives.

Be a play champion - spread the word that #playmatters, play is every child's human right and it makes a positive difference in children's lives. Share useful information & resources on play with us. See and share our resources through our social media and you tube channels; and try out some play ideas yourself!

Set up a direct debit to RSP - help us receive commission free funds. A small regular donation of £3-£5 / month makes a big difference and helps us build organisational sustainability and plan ahead.

Bank A/C: **RockStone & Pebbles**
Sort Code: **23-05-80**
Account Number: **29219257**

Live overseas?...In a hurry?...You can click and make a one-off, monthly or annual donation through this Paypal QR code →



ROCKSTONE & PEBBLES (RSP)

England & Wales - Charity number 1177973

Accounts



rockstone & pebbles

connect & collaborate

Charity No: 1177973

#PlayMatters



Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements

Year 4: 1 April 2021 - 31 March 2022



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Letter from Founder Trustees

Dear friends of RockStone & Pebbles,

This Annual Report marks an end of a chapter and for us at RSP it feels like an end of an era! We have spent years developing, building, experimenting and learning intensively, knowing that the launch pad of our charity must be set on strong foundations if we hope to make sustainable positive changes in the lives of children now and for generations to come.

In this reporting period, we spent time continuously honing our Theory of Change, and by version 15 we sighed a deep sigh of relief knowing we were clear about the change we are trying to make! We pulled together all our learnings, feedback, successes and failures of the last four years together and faced the reality of what we have set ourselves up to do. Those who know us well will know that we're not afraid of a challenge, and with that impetus we put together our next 3-year strategy.

The learning, the challenging and experimenting will never end, but we will now move forward on the basis of a strong foundation to dream from. Whilst we dream, we stay firm in our resolve to find new ways to collaborate, challenge our assumptions and listen to the voices of the children who we aim to support through providing them opportunities to access their fundamental right to play.

Amongst all of this, we also found time to create and innovate with our partners. We are especially excited about the play project we started working on in collaboration with our South African based partner, MADaboutART, which is still in progress as at this reporting date. The children at MAD are co-creating a narrative artwork advocating on their right to play which will result in an 8 metre long banner that we plan to share widely! We will take this and use it as an advocacy tool moving forward.

With another partner, On Call Africa (OCA), we had the wonderful opportunity to learn from the young Master's students who researched the benefits of play in health promotion and shared their findings and recommendations with members of OCA, local health partners, and RSP.

And it's always fun to get our own hands dirty while connecting and playing with old friends and we were able to do exactly that when we reconnected with Lynda who gave us an APT (Appropriate Paper Technology) refresher course. Our partner, Kimmy, joined the RSP trustees at these sessions and is currently working with RSP to take this fun, sustainable and empowering technology to children in Whitstable (UK) this year.

We hope you enjoy reading about the rest of what we have been up to!

Thank you all for your engagement, interest and contributions to RSP that have been fundamental in shaping RSP as the organisation it is today.

Best wishes,
Juliette & Meera



RSP Values

Our values inspire and guide the way we operate and interact with others

Collaboration: We believe that lasting change can only come through collaborative working and shared learnings

Transparency: We share information openly and honestly; we learn from our mistakes and reflect on our learnings

Innovation: We encourage creative, experimental efforts and explore local solutions that can be co-created resourcefully, by thinking outside the box

Diversity: We honour and embrace people's fundamental right to be different and unique

Respect: We strive to treat people with consideration and care

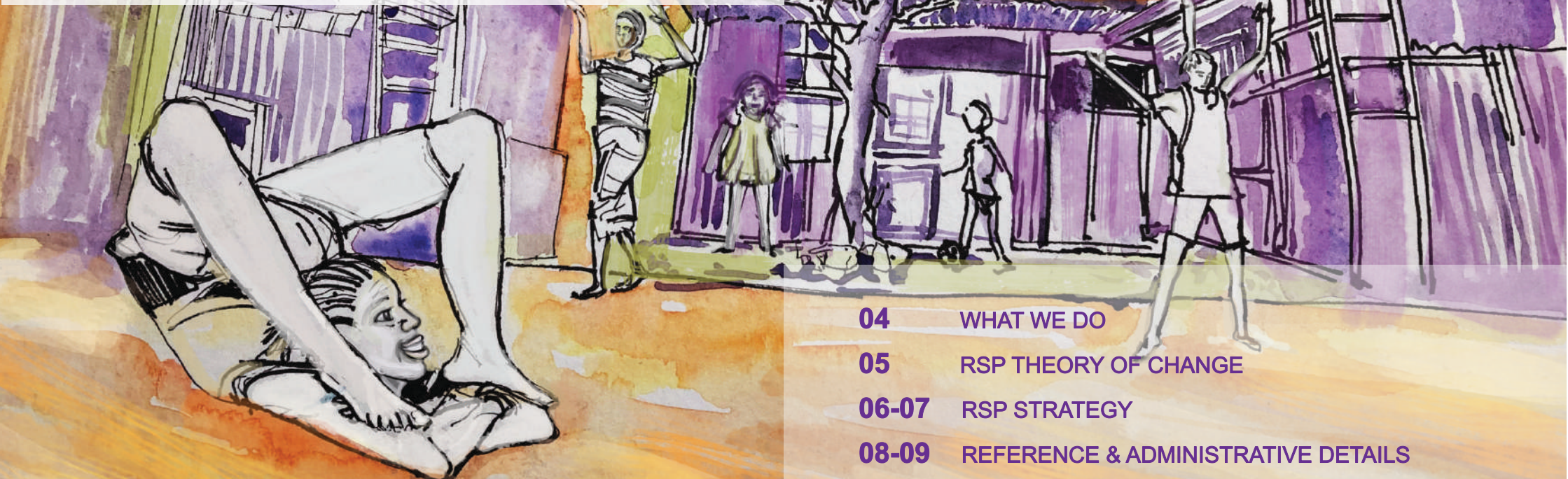
RSP Vision, Mission

Vision:

A sustainable future created through play, collaboration and shared learnings

Mission:

Enhance and create spaces that facilitate learning, innovation, collaboration, and positively impact the lives of vulnerable children through enabling their **right to play**



- 04 WHAT WE DO
- 05 RSP THEORY OF CHANGE
- 06-07 RSP STRATEGY
- 08-09 REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

1 ABOUT US

What we do

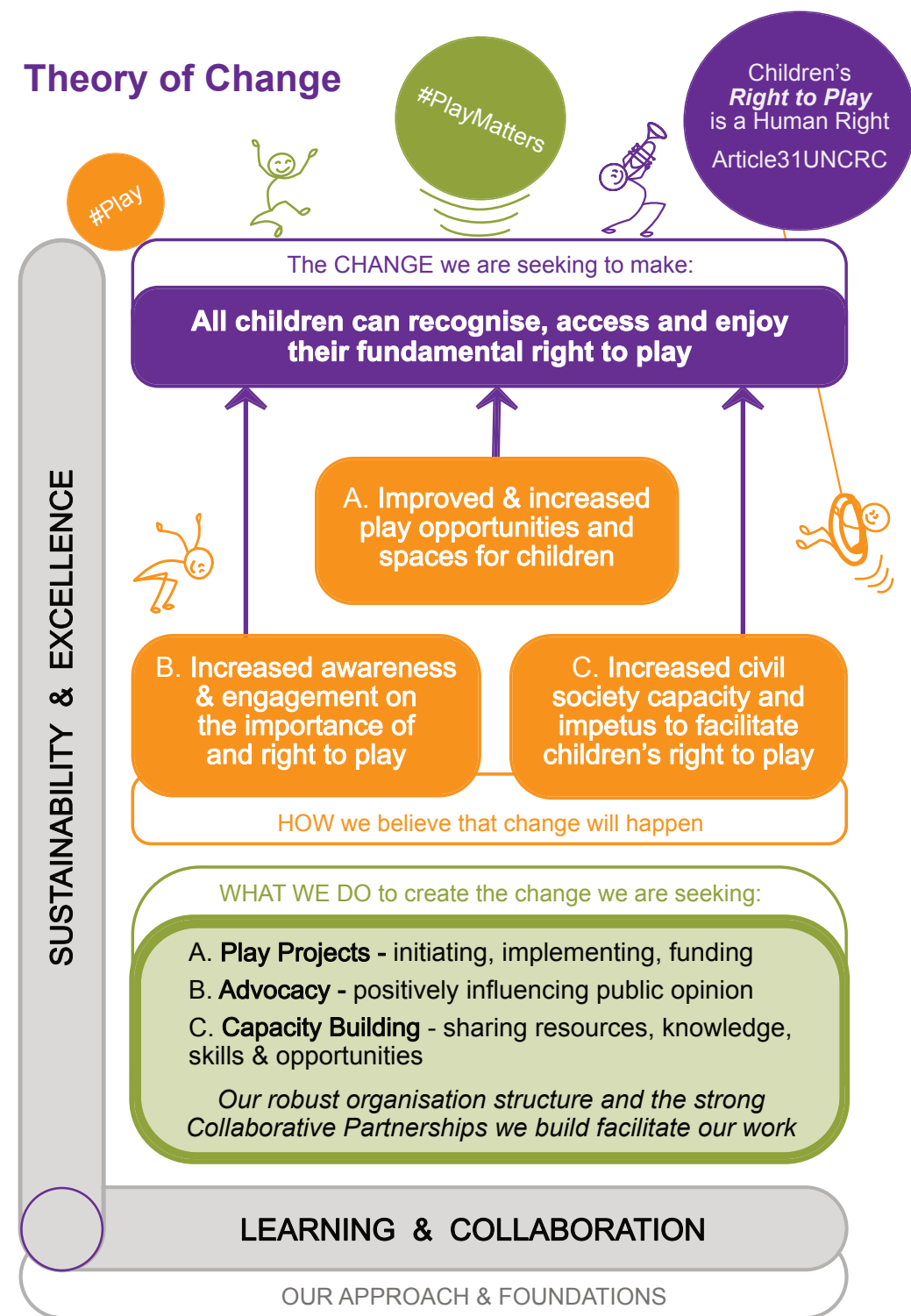
At RSP, our work is focused on enabling children to recognise, access and enjoy their fundamental **right to play**...

... because we believe that play is the *best* way that children learn, innovate and thrive.

Our **Theory of Change** guides our work and explains why we focus on the activities we do



Theory of Change



RSP Strategy

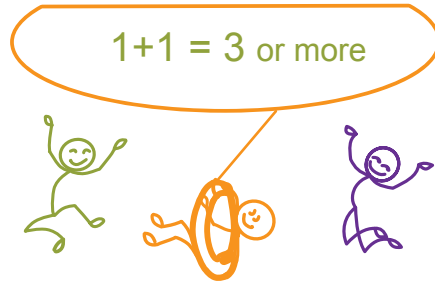
Collaboration

Collaboration sits at the core of our vision and drives the way we work. We believe that open sharing - of information, knowledge, skills, resources, and opportunities - is the catalyst to creating lasting and positive change.

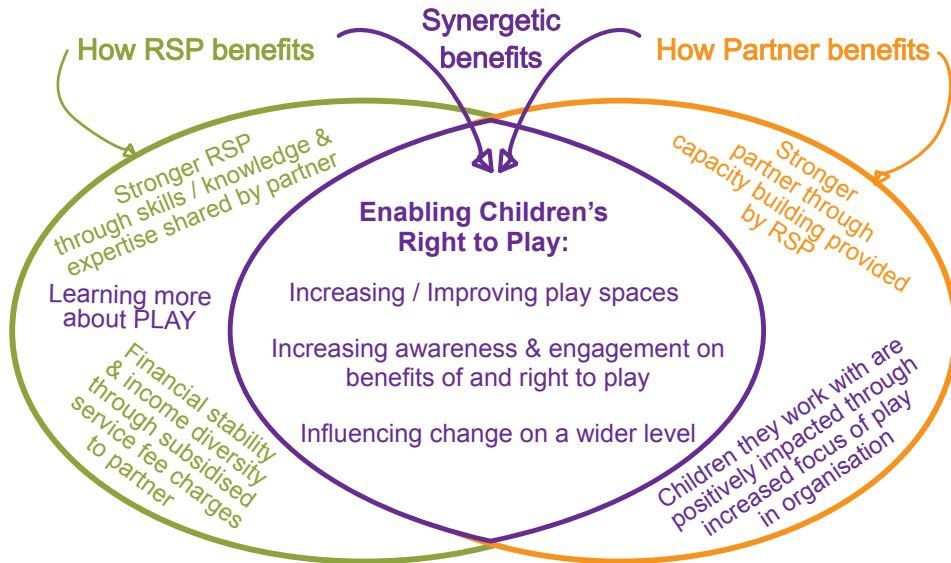
We invest time and resources collaborating, building frameworks and seeking opportunities to support one another in achieving our aims. At RSP, we continue to learn and adapt how best to form collaborative partnerships, and build a movement of people and organisations that support one another in achieving their aims.

Our Collaboration Framework has greatly supported our aims

Working collaboratively with other organisations and individuals has enabled us to increase the impact we are seeking to make. We have found that effective collaboration requires a deeply considered approach towards each other's needs, and takes time, but in the longer term it is highly efficient and has enabled RSP to make a positive difference in many communities and more children's lives than we would have been able to do so alone.



Partnership Collaboration Framework:



Sustainability

Building organisational sustainability for us means setting strong foundations, developing sustainable programmes and partnerships, and maintaining financial sustainability. See how we have done this on pages 28-31.

We aspire to make a lasting positive difference in the lives of the children that our work impacts, in a way that echoes through and provides many children with opportunities to play, for generations to come.

Learning

We are a learning organisation focused on building and sharing knowledge and skills, braving new ideas, collaborating widely, and constantly modifying our behaviour based on new learnings and insights.

Excellence

We are committed to being an excellent organisation and providing quality assurance across all areas of our work. We do this through challenging ourselves, each other and learning together; being accountable; representing RSP in a way that aligns with our values; aligning our behaviour with our aims and goals; taking a considered approach; and communicating transparently and openly with our stakeholders.

Build genuinely collaborative partnerships

Share skills, knowledge & successes

Develop & freely share resources

PLAY together

Share credible 3rd party information & resources

Build diversity & INNOVATE

Open feedback

LEARN and grow together

Challenge each other

Set shared goals

Connect & Collaborate

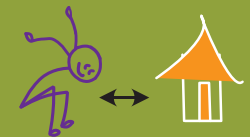
...organisations to organisations

We facilitate collaborations between organisations that can grow and learn from one another



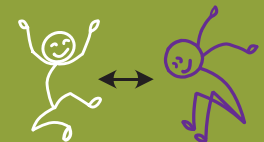
...people & organisations

We assess the needs and skills of the people and organisations in our network supporting and connecting them to add value to one another



...people to people

We connect the people in our network to share skills and learn from one another



Reference & Administrative Details

Charity Name: RockStone & Pebbles (RSP)

Charity Registration Number: 1177973

Charity Registration Date: 16 April 2018

Registered Office: 8 Cyclamen Road, Kent BR8 8HJ

Trustees: Juliette Liebi, Meera Patel, Anna Petrucelli

Structure, Governance & Management

Governing document

The charity was established and set up as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 16 April 2018. It is governed by its constitution which sets out the objectives and powers of this CIO.

Recruitment & Appointment of new trustees

The constitution stipulates a minimum of two trustees, there is no maximum number of trustees that must be appointed. Apart from the founding charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. Trustees will be recruited on the basis of the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

Management

The founders, Juliette Liebi and Meera Patel, who are also trustees, manage most of the operations and activities of the charity on a voluntary basis. They work in big charities, on short term contracts, as finance consultants in their professional lives, ensuring that they are able to plan and dedicate sufficient time to RSP on a regular basis. They are supported by a third trustee, Anna Petrucelli, and other volunteers in the management of RSP.

Risk Management

The trustees carry out their duty to identify and review the risks the charity is exposed to and ensure appropriate mitigation plans are in place to provide assurance on the charity's compliance and continuance. The trustees recently formalised the Risk Management framework and will begin to measure and manage risks through a Risk Register to facilitate a robust and sustainable organisation.

RSP Charitable Purposes for Public Benefit

RSP Charitable Purposes

Our charitable objects are as summarised below:

(i) The prevention or relief of poverty anywhere in the world

At RSP we do this by trying to positively impact the lives of vulnerable children by helping them access their fundamental right to play as enshrined in Article31 UNCRC (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child)

(ii) To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of other initiatives working towards objectives similar to (i) above

We adopt a deeply collaborative approach and partner with other value aligned organisations and initiatives where we can find synergy and enable each other to better meet each other's aims: through sharing skills, knowledge, resources and opportunities.

RSP Public Benefit Statement

RSP purposes satisfy the public benefit requirements, in line with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. There has been no harm or private benefits arising from carrying out these purposes.

RSP provided public benefit this year by:

(i) Positively impacting the lives of vulnerable and excluded children across the world by facilitating increased and improved access to their right to play.

(ii) Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of non profit organisations and initiatives by sharing capacity building expertise in the areas of charity governance, operations and statutory reporting.



A watercolor illustration of a young girl with curly hair, wearing a purple and orange striped shirt and a purple skirt, running in a green field. She is holding a string attached to a colorful kite (purple, green, orange) flying in a blue sky with white clouds. The background shows rolling green hills under a bright sky.

YEAR 4 ACHIEVEMENTS & ACTIVITIES:

Enabling children's right to play

- 12-13** WORKING WITH PARTNER ORGANISATIONS
- 14-15** PLAY PROJECT WITH OUR PARTNER MAD
- 16-17** ACTIVITIES WITH OUR PARTNER OCA
- 18-19** RSP'S APT PLAY PROGRAMME
- 20-25** BUILDING WIDER AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT ON CHILDREN'S RIGHT TO PLAY

Building Organisational Sustainability

- 26-29** BUILDING ORGANISATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY
- 30-31** REPORTING ON YEAR 4 OBJECTIVES

2. OUR WORK

COLLABORATING WITH PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

This section provides an overview, and some examples, of how RSP works with partners. See how we have built awareness and engagement on the importance of and right to play, and built our partners' capacity and impetus to facilitate play in children's lives. In the following sections, we will cover some of the projects and partnership activities we are doing to facilitate children's right to play.

Building engagement and influencing partners to bring PLAY more centrally into their strategies:



Child Rights and You (CRY) is a charity that has been protecting the rights of children, and building happier and healthier childhoods for children in **India** since 1979.

The MiChi project was set up by a group of passionate individuals in India. The project's aim is to develop positive interventions to support vulnerable children illegally employed in MICA mining in the Jharkhand region of Eastern India. The project team will provide funding and are partnering with CRY to realise this project.

Our relationship with CRY and the MiChi team began in early 2021. We have since explored collaborative opportunities with them and engaged in numerous discussions on the benefits and right to play, and how this could be more strongly incorporated into their strategies and approaches. RSP have also shared charity specific expertise and knowledge with these teams.

RSP facilitated the incorporation of play centrally into the MiChi project

"We [CRY] have been using play as a tool so far, perhaps we should consider using it as an approach"
- Puja Marwaha, CEO of CRY

'...the high level of engagement and positive feedback from stakeholders [through carrying out play activities and developing games] has led to the integration of play into our model health service package, and adoption in our strategy ...I'm very excited to have play so clearly documented in our strategy'

- Ben Margetts, CEO of OCA



MADaboutART (MAD) is a charity that supports vulnerable young people affected by HIV/AIDS by using art as a platform for healing and igniting hope and imagination.

MAD's centre based in the township near Knysna, **South Africa** has been a haven and safe space for thousands of vulnerable children for over the last 20 years. For some of these children MAD provides the only decent meal they receive in a day.

Our relationship with MAD began even before RSP was set up as a registered charity and continues to date. RSP have helped to bring PLAY into focus and make it a priority in MAD.

We started our partnership by providing governance and financial capacity building expertise to MAD. We continue to support MAD's Annual statutory reporting requirements by producing their Annual Accounts and providing critical feedback on their Annual Reports.

Before our partnership began many moons ago....
MAD was carrying out play activities but play, and the right to play, was not a strategic focus in their organisation.

Now...the value of and right to PLAY have become centrally embedded at MAD

'RockStone & Pebbles acted as a source of inspiration for new work around a child's right to play'
- from MAD's 2021 Trustees Annual Report

'We will raise awareness on the child's right to play through art and advocacy'
- stated as one of MAD's objectives for next year



On Call Africa (OCA) is a charity that provides health services to remote communities in **Zambia**. They are supported by volunteer doctors from the UK in the running of medical clinics, and training community health workers

- OCA are using PLAY to assess and improve health outcomes amongst children and young people in rural Zambian communities
- OCA work closely with the Ministry of Health in Zambia and are helping them to develop a Community Health Worker's curriculum, which will include PLAY

Before our partnership began in 2020....Play was neither a focus nor a priority for OCA

Now...Play has become a central part of their strategy



RSP-MAD Play Programme:



providing children opportunities to understand, enjoy and advocate on their right to play

51
children participating



29 → 50 → 125
workshops with children

sessions

Hours



Created and Designed by: RSP & MAD
Funded by: RSP
MEL frameworks and analysis by: RSP
Communications (videos, media) by: RSP
Implemented by: MAD (Feb22-Sep22)



PROGRAMME DESIGN:

- **Understanding Rights** Introducing children to the concept of human rights and helping them to understand what that mean
- **Focus on right to play** Focusing on Article31 of the UNCR - *the Right to PLAY*
- **Playful workshops on how to access rights** Focusing on building negotiation skills as a foundation for advocacy
- **Creative design workshops** Artists and children working together to design a banner advocating on the importance of and right to play



- Final planned output - 1 metre x 8 metre banner

The final piece will be a **PAINTED BANNER, a narrative advocacy piece on children's right to play** - made of eight 1 x 1 metre panels that can stand alone or together to use for future advocacy activities. This is expected to be completed around September 2022. Phase 2 of our project together will involve taking the banner out with children to communities to build awareness, engagement and inspiration to facilitate children's right to play.

It was incredible to see these kids take their own initiative and make these toys following the right to play workshops that were run in this programme



Children's feedback following play workshops focused on negotiation as a foundation for building advocacy skills...

'We stood up for ourselves,
Challenged ourselves,
Challenged parents,
Prepared ourselves,
Built our confidence for real life'

...on learning about the right to play
'Now we can tell people and our parents we are not 'just' playing. We have a right to do fun things. Play keeps us out of trouble, makes us smile'.

Workshop facilitator feedback:

'Children were excited to hear and know that they have the right to play. They felt joyful and enjoyed finding different ways to express themselves through play'

'Discussion on rights raised issues of inclusivity, sexuality and gender stereotypes, demonstrating participants' maturity and empathy and a desire to be inclusive.'

Workshops run at the MADaboutART centre based in the township near Knysna, SA





RSP-OCA Partnership Activities

On Call Africa (OCA) is a charity that provides health services to remote communities in Zambia



80

children participating in play activities



3

Games developed



3

Masters dissertations

IMPROVING & INCREASING PLAY OPPORTUNITIES & SPACES FOR CHILDREN

Our partnership agreement with OCA included a commitment by OCA to trial play interventions within the rural communities that they work with in Zambia.

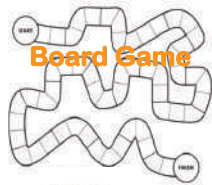
One of the ways they did this was by carrying out a project at the Kanyanga Basic School which is based in a remote rural area in the Southern Province of Zambia.

'The play activity was an opportunity for the OCA staff to trial this kind of intervention while also getting to know the community youths and understand what they know about sanitation, thus helping us to shape our future health promotion activities'

- from OCA Project Report

'The schools were very excited to have us and welcomed the idea of this project...' - from OCA Project Report

DEVELOPING GAMES



Beard Game

Answer true / false health-related questions on cards to get to finish point



Food Pyramid Game

Place food cut outs on pyramid based on prompts, e.g. 'makes bones strong' and sesame seeds



Word Search

Find answers to health-related questions in the word search

BUILDING SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE, RESOURCES, AWARENESS, ENGAGEMENT & IMPETUS to facilitate children's right to play

Evidence-based IEC materials:

The value of using play and participatory approaches to promote health and wellbeing in Zambia

Literary reviews and studies carried out, and dissertations produced by 3 University of London (UCL) Masters' students.

Summarised and presented in an online group session. Wonderful advocacy on the value of play in children's lives.

This work was initiated and developed as a direct result of our partnership activities with OCA.

Thank you:

Allyssa Opferbeck from USA
Ayako Terao from Japan
Haya Solaiman from Syria

● Age appropriate physical play improves children's **physical well-being**. Alexander, Frohlich, and Fusco (2014) emphasized the importance of giving voice to children during research on play, and by interviewing children (in Canada), they found that forcing too much physical activities during play can actually take out the joy of children.

● The physical movement and social interaction that happen during play help children maintain the **emotional well-being** (Wood, 2005). Burdette and Whitaker (2005) state that "free play has the potential to improve many aspects of emotional wellbeing such as minimizing anxiety, depression, aggression, and sleep problems." ...

● ... Nabie (2015) conducted interviews with teachers in Ghana, and found that they perceived that the use of traditional games can develop **cognitive skills** and allow children to learn mathematics better than just reading the textbook.

● Play can improve children's **social well-being** in different ways. For instance, play can "develop agency, empathy, imagination, and learn to deal with uncertainty (Mardell et al., 2019). Phetlhu (2014) states that role-play allows children to internalize and understand perspectives of other people.

Many studies demonstrate how play can be used to promote health education amongst children and how they increased their knowledge and led to better health seeking behaviours...

- *Excerpt from Ayako Terao's dissertation: 'Promoting health and well-being: the possibility of incorporating play into rural Zambian primary school contexts'*

PLAY has been integrated into OCA's 5 year strategy

Aug-21: OCA using play to assess and improve health behaviours



Play activities and games carried out by OCA in rural Zambian communities



RSP PROGRAMME: APPROPRIATE PAPER TECHNOLOGY (APT) FOR PLAY SOLUTIONS

WHAT IS APT?

Appropriate paper technology (APT) is an innovative, low cost, sustainable solution for making durable products (such as stools, chairs, etc) that uses only paper, cardboard and glue made from flour and water.

Charities like High Hopes for Children (HHfC) and Cerebral Palsy Africa have used APT as an affordable, viable solution for making bespoke furniture for children with disabilities in the global south.

A special, heartfelt thank you to Lynda Baxter, play expert, and founder and trustee of our partner charity HHfC for the numerous trainings and support she has provided to RSP over the years.



HHfC carry out programmes that support rural communities in Uganda

Lynda Baxter has also worked in other countries such as Moldova to introduce APT as a solution for supporting people with disabilities.



Examples of chair and stools made using APT, with Lynda demonstrating the robustness of these products (above) & training RSP members on APT (below)

WHAT WE ARE DOING WITH APT

RSP are planning to develop and create APT solutions in the play space and carry this programme forward over a long-term basis.

This year we started creating and designing our 2nd APT play project, for children and young people in Whitstable, with our project partner, *Kimmy Spreadborough*, which is planned to be implemented at Whitstable based charity, *Far Skate Academy*, this year.



OUR JOURNEY WITH APT

2018 - Introduced to our now partner charity, *High Hopes for Children*, Lynda and APT through our partner charity *The Rotary Club of the Northdowns*

2019 - 2 RSP trustees were provided training on APT by Lynda over 2 days

2020 - RSP carried out a 1st APT project at *The Somerville charity*. We ran 2 workshops:

- (1) Train the trainer workshop
- (2) APT workshop for children

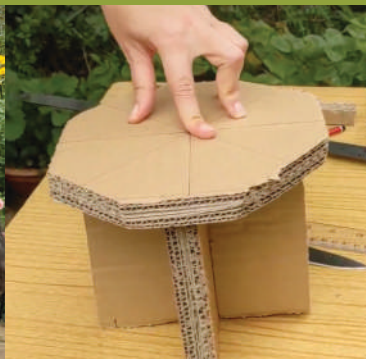
2021 - RSP started developing our 2nd APT project, engaging teacher and play worker, *Kimmy Spreadborough*, as the project facilitator.

- 3 RSP trustees and our project partner, Kimmy, were provided **refresher training** on APT by Lynda

- Visited *Far Skate Academy*, with Kimmy. RSP carried out a governance assessment for Far Skate at their request and provided them with a report of our findings and recommendations. Far Skate are kindly **collaborating** with us and providing their facilities for our upcoming project



Kimmy receiving refresher training. She was initially trained during our first APT project.



INCREASING AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT



THE IMPORTANCE OF AND RIGHT TO PLAY

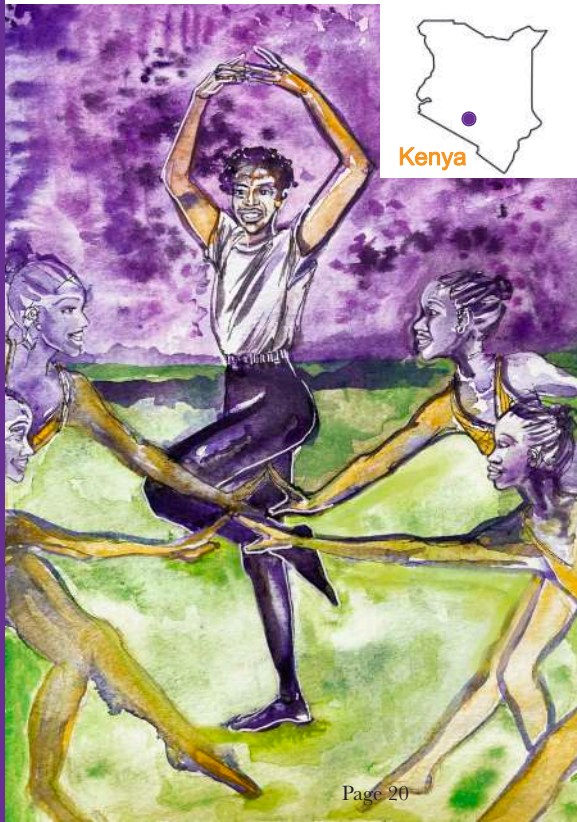
COLLABORATING WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

RSP engaging with Castellon City Council in **Spain** to initiate a long-term partnership that aims to position Castellón de la Plana as an excellent example of a 'Child Friendly City', and carry out collaborative projects that enable children to access their fundamental right to play.



In **Zambia**, building influence through our partner, *On Call Africa (OCA)*. OCA work closely with the Zambian Ministry of Health (MoH) and are advocating for the inclusion of play in the community health unit and child health unit planning at MoH.

USING ART TO CREATE INTEREST & ENGAGEMENT



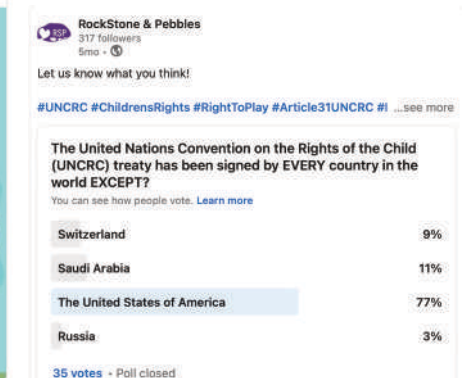
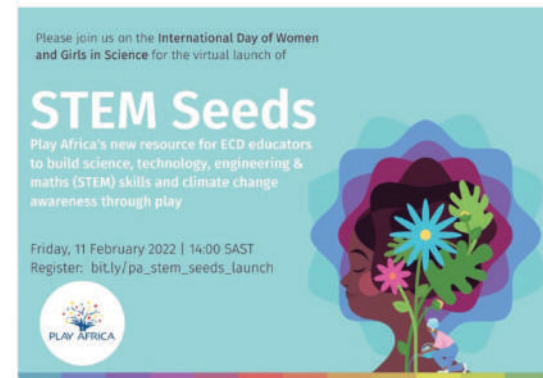
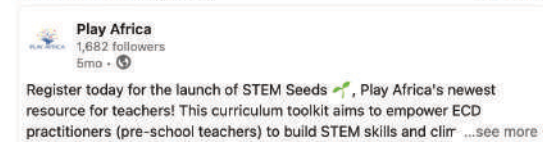
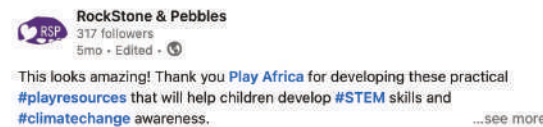
Kenya based artist, **Niketa Fazal**, has been creating art and supporting RSP to build awareness and engagement on children's right to play with her amazing talent since we set up as a charity.

Her paintings, which we have used in all our Annual Reports, help us communicate more clearly what is sometimes difficult to share in words!

In June 2021, Niketa conducted an exhibition in Nairobi, Kenya showcasing some of the work she has created for RSP

SIGN POSTING PLAY RESEARCH, RESOURCES, EVENTS, etc

Using RSP's highly collaborative approach **we shared high quality, credible play information, resources and research** for the purpose of increasing awareness and wider engagement, and creating civil society impetus, to facilitate children's right to play.



20

Signposts to other organisations' PLAY research / resources / events / activities



playscotland.org/resources/mani...

Manifesto for Play

Every child has the right to play

Children's right to play, along with other UNCRC rights, should not be unnecessarily compromised during and beyond COVID-19 restrictions. The right to play for all children is crucial in a public health crisis. Ensuring continuity in children's play experiences must be central to the national and local response to COVID-19 and the recovery plan.

- 1 Incorporation of the UNCRC into Scots law with sufficient resources must be prioritised.
- 2 Every local authority should develop a Play Strategy informed by children's voices.



Play is vital for children's wellbeing

Play is crucial to achieving children's optimal development. Play provides physical, social and emotional benefits and can help children deal with the challenges arising from COVID-19. Children's play should be supported at home, in early learning and childcare, at school and in the community.

- 3 Scotland needs a clear, refreshed vision for play that acknowledges the central importance of play in rebuilding Scotland's communities and reducing inequalities.
- 4 Scotland needs an urgent review of national funding for play with the aim of sustaining and growing play opportunities for children and young people.

Children have a right to experience inclusive play opportunities as equal and active participants

All children should have access to play opportunities as a means of achieving optimal development. Challenges faced by children – poverty, disadvantage or disability discrimination – intersect with and compound inequality of opportunity. Proactive approaches are urgently needed to ensure that children do not experience discrimination and have access to inclusive play whatever their circumstances.



- 5 Those with responsibilities for informal and formal play opportunities must ensure that play environments are as accessible and inclusive as possible.
- 6 Children's voices, including children with additional support needs, must be heard in the design and resourcing of play environments.

A Playful Pedagogy approach is central to learning

Play is essential to children's learning and has a pivotal role in supporting children's mental health and wellbeing in early learning and at school.

- 7 Scotland needs a whole school approach to playful learning and play, building on Realising the Ambition.
- 8 Schools should be supported and encouraged to undertake the Playful Pedagogy Schools Award to embed and extend practice.

Playing outdoors is an intrinsic part of a child's right to play

Outdoor play should be prioritised. The benefits from playing outdoors include physical activity, social play with family and peers, and environmental connectedness. This should not be unnecessarily compromised due to COVID-19 restrictions.

- 9 Scotland's vision for play should have a strong commitment to outdoor play that provides opportunities that are free from traffic and other hazards.
- 10 Play Sufficiency Assessments should inform local Play Strategies and children's voices must be at the heart of local place plans.

>11,000
Post Impressions



RockStone & Pebbles
317 followers
4mo · 🌐

Thank you [Play Action International](#) for this share. [Jenny Oster Warriner](#) we would love to see your research in this area if you are able to share it. At Rockstone & Pebbles our aim is to help children access their fur ...see more

Play Action International
614 followers
4mo · 🌐

Research shows that girls have been found to be particularly restricted in accessing play. We'll be exploring girls' access to play in rural Uganda thanks to research undertaken by Jenny Oster Warriner. [#Pla](#) ...see more

RockStone & Pebbles
317 followers
5mo · 🌐

It's so exciting to see that the importance of [#play](#) in children's lives is being highlighted by so many amazing initiatives. Thank you [Starlight Children's Foundation - UK](#) for this and [Laura Walsh MA](#) for sharing. ...see more

Starlight Children's Foundation - UK
1,419 followers
5mo · 🌐

At Starlight, we want to ensure young people are supported throughout their hospital experience. That is why, we are so excited to be piloting a new Play Well Box focused on young people. ...see more



RockStone & Pebbles
318 followers
2mo · 🌐

Love it [Play Action International](#)! We're always looking for [#recycled](#) [#sustainable](#) [#playsolutions](#). Thank you for sharing your ideas! ...see more

Play Action International
639 followers
2mo · 🌐

Did you know our playgrounds are led by community design and built by local people using local materials? From tyre animals to slides, we make sure we use sustainable resources in all our playgrou ...see more



Play has been proven to have a positive impact on children's wellbeing, learning and development, and trauma resilience. However, accessing play can be difficult for children in certain areas due to their work, family care responsibilities and adults perceiving play as frivolous.



Girls have been found to be particularly restricted in accessing play.

Girls' Access to Play in Rural Uganda: Perceptions, Experiences and Initiatives

Jenny Oster Warriner

Children's right to PLAY
is a HUMAN RIGHT

as enshrined in

Article 31 of the United Nations
Convention on the Rights of the Child
(UNCRC)

Every country in the world (except one) has signed and ratified this treaty

PLAY

MATTERS

#letthemrise

#letthemplay

Children are some of the most vulnerable people in the world and too many are being threatened and / or limited through inequality, and lack of rights and basic needs being met.

PLAY IS CHILDREN'S LANGUAGE

PLAY IS A RIGHT

- Article 31 UNCR* enshrines children's right to play as their human right, often referred to as the 'children's forgotten right'

UNCR - United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

#playmatters



THE POWER OF PLAY

LEARNING

INNOVATION

CREATIVITY

DIVERSITY

SOCIAL

building confidence

negotiating

collaborating

communicating

COGNITIVE

strategising

EMOTIONAL
RESILIENCE
& WELLBEING

problem solving

complex reasoning

making friends

PHYSICAL

physical fitness

planning

laughing

fine motor skills

organising

feeling happy & empowered

spatial skills

concentrating

eye / hand coordination

new ideas

exploring

experimenting

inventing

When children don't play they feel...

ANXIOUS

SAD

LONELY

DEPRESSED

ERRATIC

SOCIALLY AWKWARD

LETHARGIC

AGGRESSIVE

ANGRY

STRESSED OUT

APATHETIC

CONFUSED



Research also indicates that play deprivation can *negatively impact brain growth*, through gradual loss of electrical activity in the brain which will stunt growth; and epigenetical studies show that the effects on one generation can echo through and affect later generations



BUILDING ORGANISATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

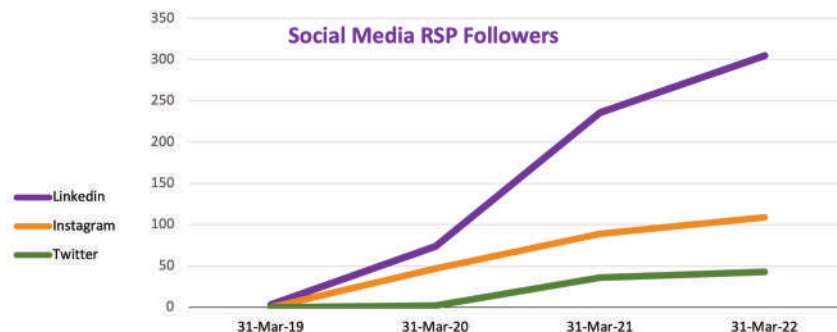
Our Collaboration Strategy forms the backbone of our organisational strategy. These achievements are largely a result of our collaborative approach which sits at the heart of the way we work and a key RSP strength.

A GROWING MOVEMENT

Engagement Level of supporters:	Supporter numbers			
	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19
	Yr.4	Yr.3	Yr.2	Yr.1
1 Champions / advocates of the work RSP does	7	6	6	3
2 Highly engaged supporters supporting RSP's work	14	14	13	11
3 Engaged supporters sharing their time / providing a financial commitment to RSP	34	35	40	15
4 Supporters who regularly engage but do not provide time / financial commitments to RSP	26	16	12	15
5 Supporters with some level of engagement	110	67	56	
6 Light touch supporters on social media	248	208	60	68
TOTAL Number of RSP Supporters	439	346	187	112

In Years 1-3
90%
of our supporters
were from our
direct networks

In Year 4
57%
of our new supporters
were from the
wider public



BUILDING A ROBUST ORGANISATION

SETTING A 3 YEAR STRATEGY:

This year, we took time to reflect and assimilate our learnings over the last four years and **set a 3-year strategy** for the upcoming period: *01 April 2022 - 31 March 2025*. We also developed new supporting strategies and honed existing ones.

These strategies steer RSP on a focused course, mitigate the risk of drifting off mission and help us work more effectively and efficiently to achieve the change we are seeking to make.

STRENGTHENING RSP

GOVERNANCE

- continually learning and building trustee and board capacity

POLICIES - we set policies with care and consideration to provide clear guiding principles that drive behaviours and foster a culture that embodies our values

FRAMEWORKS

- our strategies are supported by operational frameworks that facilitate decision making and help us achieve our strategic goals

This year...

10
Trustee Meetings

6
Policies developed, including:
Safeguarding Policy
GDPR Policy
Risk Policy

New!
Risk Register

TEAM SESSIONS

- we had our first online group team session this year with our close volunteers, *RSP Associates*, who share their time freely with RSP

11 People
participating in
the team session

Participants' feedback:

'Really enjoyed this session thanks for a lovely Saturday morning - gathering together, seeing the cumulative impact that the work over the past year has had distilled and summarised (Loved the Mad About Art video!!) - very well facilitated/ explained - a collective understanding of where we're going / who we all are and what we have to contribute - I liked the blue sky thinking exercise...'

'...wonderful. I really enjoyed the two-minute elevator pitch activity as it almost put me in a spot to really think about RSP from an overarching view and reflect on all of the amazing work that has been done so far'

RSP 4 YEAR HISTORY:

Collaborated with
10
organisations

and continuing
partnerships
to date with
6

across
8
countries

Raised:
£30,580

Spent:
£3,551

Year 1
11
regular donors

Now
27
regular donors

BUILDING SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIPS

Guided by our Collaboration Strategy we have sought synergetic opportunities with other organisations and people which align with RSP's vision, mission and aims, over the last four years.

This has enabled RSP to learn, grow and become the organisation it is today. Through this journey we have achieved more than we had imagined we could. We learnt that collaboration may take time but it is highly effective and cost efficient. This strategy also helped RSP build financial sustainability.

BUILDING FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

In the first four years, we set our strategy to build financial reserves as we build our organisational foundations. It was important for us to avoid mission drift or rush into projects and programmes without taking a considered approach, as we were in the process of building our organisation and formulating our strategy. We intentionally decided to focus on value for money solutions, and to grow our learnings. The 3-year strategy that we set this year assimilates our learnings to date and will involve expending resources on highly value adding activities in this next strategy period.

The kindness of our donors and the high level of committed giving we receive from regular donors means that we are now in a stronger position to plan more impactful programmes that enable more children across the world to access their fundamental right to play; as well as build long term organisational sustainability.

BUILDING SUSTAINABLE PROGRAMMES

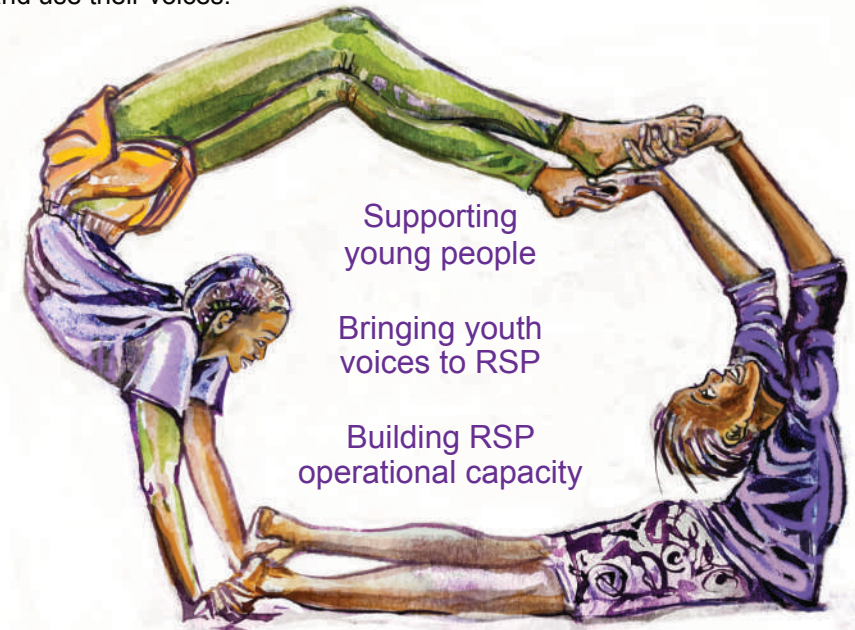
At RSP, we aim to develop sustainable programmes that do not become RSP dependent. The RSP way is to take a deeply considered approach when developing and designing programmes, with the objective of maximising the positive impact that can be made. Our working methods include: setting partnership agreements, clearly defining programme objectives; planning outputs and desired outcomes within a project plan; agreeing timelines and areas of responsibility; and identifying and planning resource and training needs appropriately.

NEW!

RSP INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME - CREATING CHANGE MAKERS

We have developed the concept and vision of our *Creating Change Makers* Internship Programme - to help young people become real change makers through harnessing their passion, and giving them a space to share and develop their natural talents, build new skills, and use their voices.

RSP will pilot this paid internship programme in Year 5 to test the long term viability of such a programme



Why Play

"Play is the highest form of research"

"Play is the answer to the question, 'How does anything new come about?'"

"Whoever wants to understand much must play much"

"Without play, life just doesn't taste good"

"It is paradoxical that many educators and parents still differentiate between a time for learning and a time for play without seeing the vital connection between them."

Objectives set in Year 4:

1. Promote a learning exchange on right to play between partners, supporters and collaborators ✓
2. Work with our partners to develop evidence-based and accessible IEC resources ✓
3. Facilitate skills sharing amongst partners on charity capacity building, operations and governance ✓
4. Launch RSP website - *target not met last year*
5. Develop a three year strategy for RSP to implement in years 2022-2025 (RSP years 5-7) ✓

MEETING YEAR 4 OBJECTIVES

This year our achievements surpassed the objectives set in most areas, as demonstrated through this report.

We met and exceeded our targets against objectives 1 and 3 in many ways. Our partnership with OCA facilitated the realisation of objective 2. Meeting objective 5 was a big achievement and greatly strengthened RSP. The launch of the website, objective 4, was carried forward from the previous year and still remains pending. We will continue working on the website design to align it with the new strategy.

Learning exchange on right to play

Our 1st APT workshop in 2019 informed the design of our 2nd APT play project this year (p.19).

OCA incorporated play in their new strategy (p.12-13) and CRY started thinking about using play as an approach rather than a mere tool (p.12). MAD carried out workshops with children and adults to build understanding on the right to play (p.14-15).

Objective 1

3 year strategy developed and implemented

Objective 5

Developing evidence based and accessible IEC resources

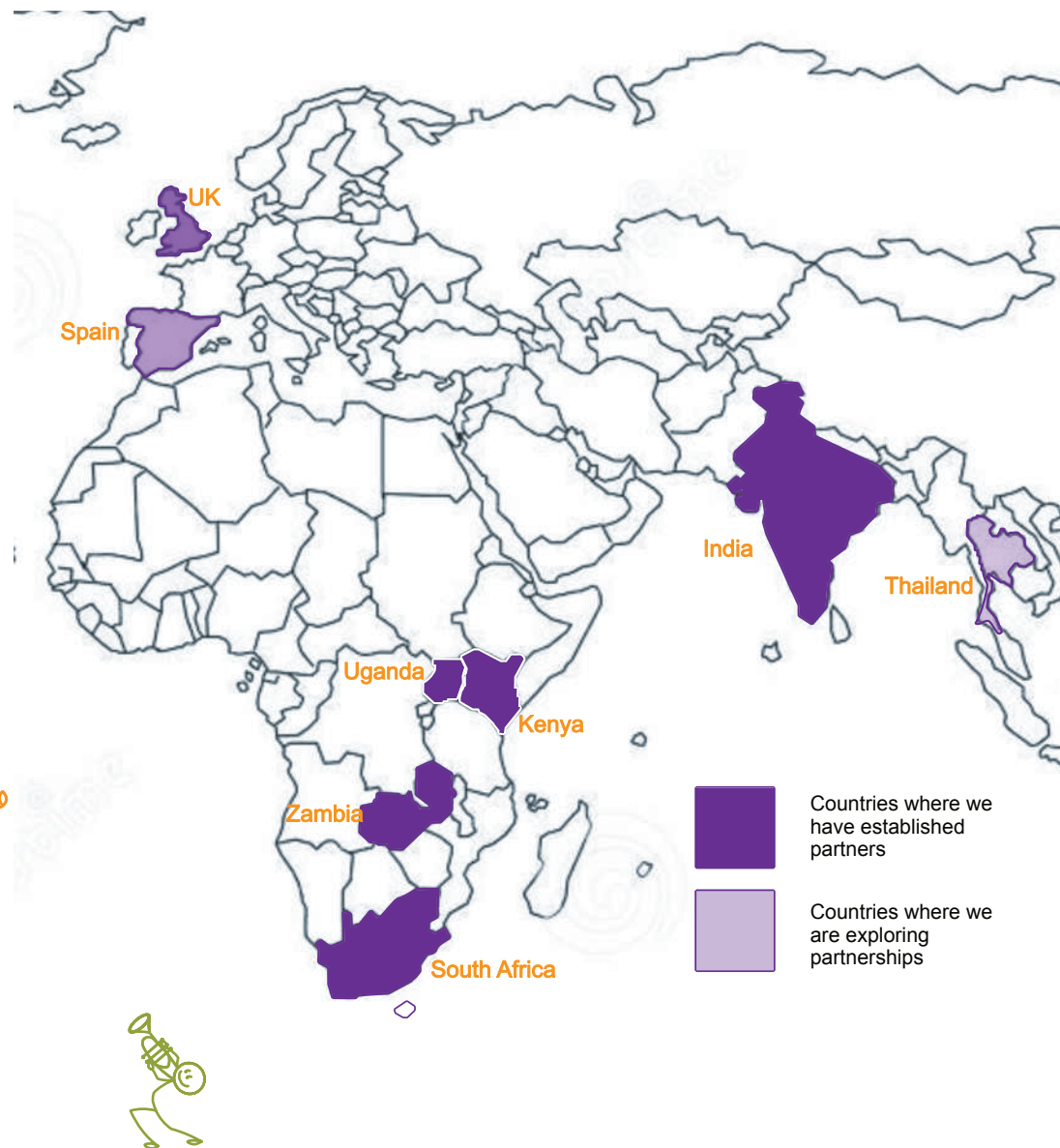
Studies and literary reviews on the value of play carried out by University of London (UCL) Master's students who delivered three dissertations, through our partnership with OCA (p.17).

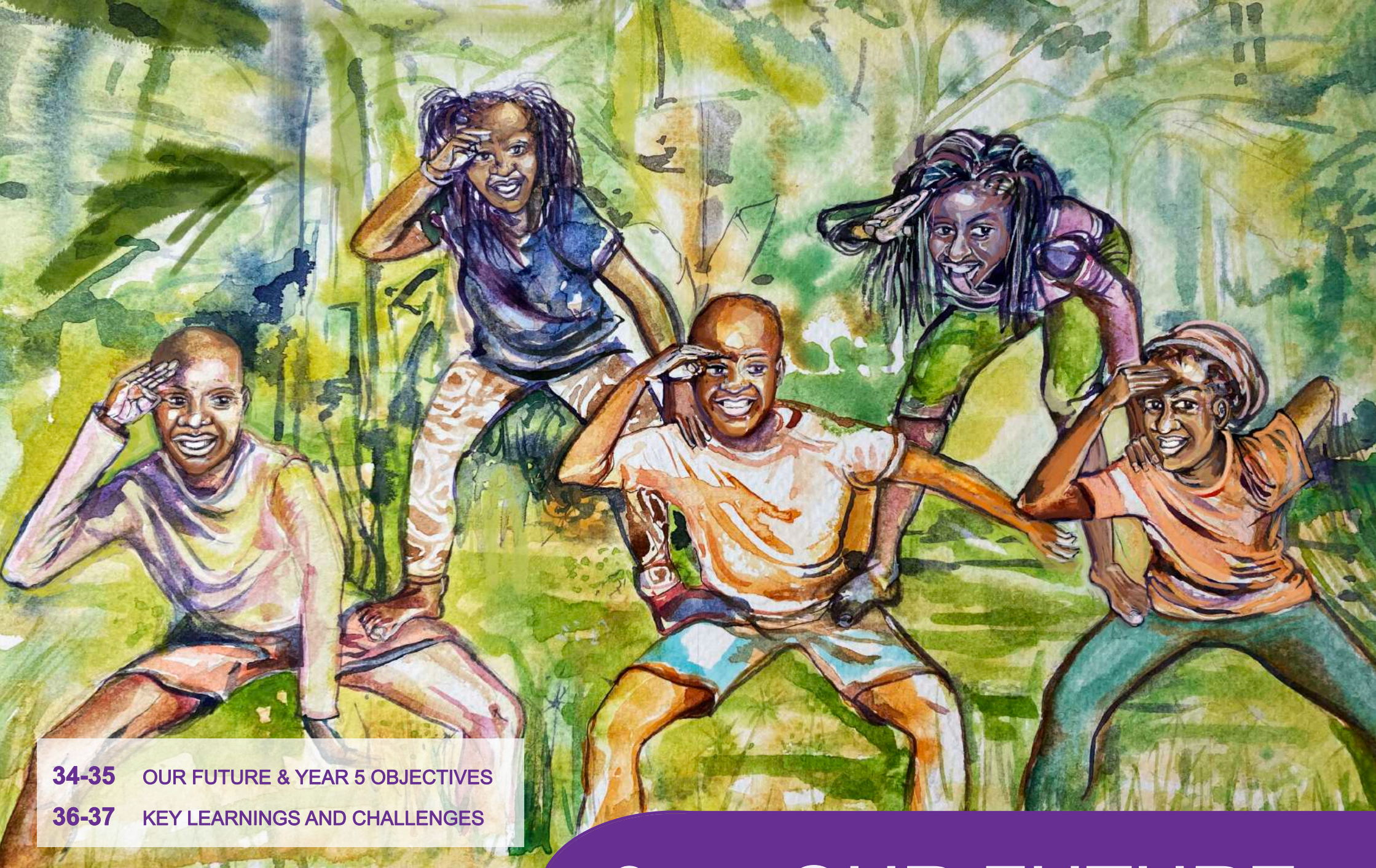
Objective 2

Skills sharing & capacity building

Highlights: Supporting MAD with compliance and statutory reporting needs. Providing the MiChi project with charity specific expertise. Working with partners to co-develop MEL frameworks and tools.

Objective 3





34-35 OUR FUTURE & YEAR 5 OBJECTIVES

36-37 KEY LEARNINGS AND CHALLENGES

3

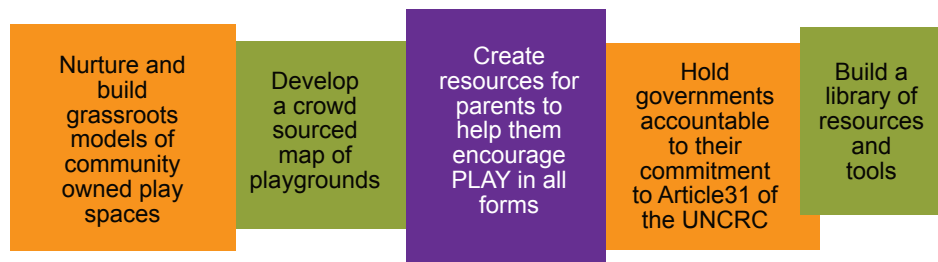
OUR FUTURE

In this strategy period (2022-2025)

In this 3-year strategy period (Apr22 - Mar25), we will ...

- Spend more resources on PLAY PROGRAMMES
 - ADVOCATE on children's right to play
 - SHARE skills, resources and knowledge
- Build a GROWING MOVEMENT of people and organisations
- Explore innovative ways to BUILD OPERATIONAL CAPACITY

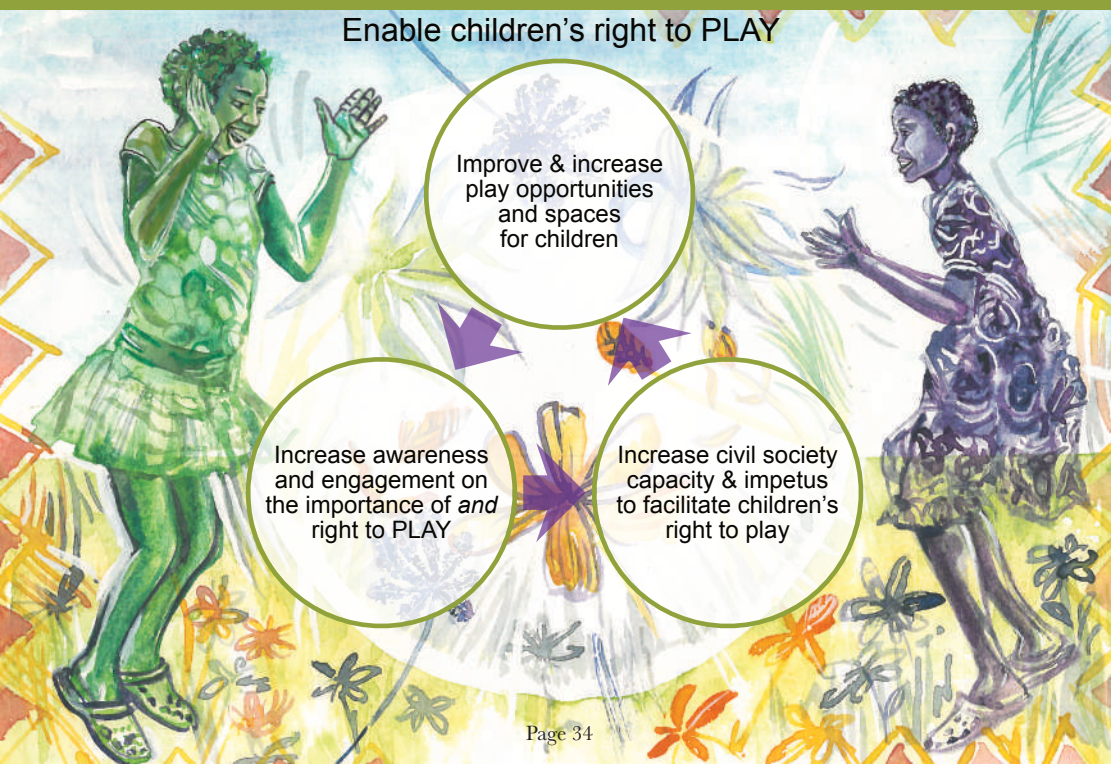
Some ideas that emerged from our team session with our volunteers:



Year 5 Objectives (Apr22-Mar23)

1. Create and implement, with active participation from RSP members, at least one play project with children to provide them with opportunities to exercise and learn about their right to play.
2. Facilitate advocacy activities widely using the painted, narrative banner, that has been co-created with children in South Africa.
3. Deliver a second Appropriate Paper Technology (APT) workshop with young people, based on our learnings from the 2019 pilot APT workshop we carried out, to provide them with a playful opportunity to learn, play with a new adaptable technology, and build new skills through the power of play.
4. Introduce youth voices into RSP and develop and pilot an Internship Programme, *Creating Changemakers*, that supports young people and provides them with meaningful and relevant work experience, that also supports the aims of RSP
5. Visit and promote innovative play initiatives carried out by grassroots organisations to build a movement and find synergies for cross-country and cross-organisational skills sharing and collaborations

RSP SWOT ANALYSIS:



Strengths

- High level of professional charity specific experience and expertise amongst trustees
- Defined Theory of Change (ToC)
- Diverse impact
- RSP Collaboration Strategy
- Strong partnerships
- Robust Organisational Foundations
- Diverse income + Lack of Donor dependency

Weaknesses

- RSP capacity constraints
- High reliance on founders
- Lack of people / time resources to: *Optimise our existing supporter base*
- Communicate more widely*
- Play with ideas more*

Opportunities

- Connect with more value aligned people & organisations
- Build synergies & facilitate collaborations
- Create learning spaces to share information, knowledge, skills, resources and opportunities
- Work with local councils & government bodies to help them meet their commitment to Article31 - children's right to play

Threats

- Miss opportunities / unable to maximise existing opportunities due to insufficient resources
- Insufficient resources to grow operational and management capacity
- Partnership discontinuation without sufficient resources & commitment from both sides
- Founder dependent organisation

KEY LEARNINGS & CHALLENGES

KEY LEARNINGS TO DATE

- Deepening understanding on the value of PLAY in children's lives and the barriers they face to accessing their fundamental right to play, and understanding this directly from the children's perspectives
- Learning about developing, designing and implementing play projects supported by monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) frameworks.
- Communications and MEL activities are central to our organisational strategy and success. These activities require high time resources and in this strategy period we are exploring ways to share MEL information through media and provide useful information and resources in an engaging way.
- Increasing appreciation of the power and benefits of collaboration:
 - ▶ Able to influence organisations that work with children to include play, or bring play more centrally, into their organisations and build momentum and impetus to facilitate children's right to play
 - ▶ Mitigate the risk of becoming internally focused - collaboration forces engagement with the outside world which gives RSP exposure to the wider opportunities and threats that we should be considering
 - ▶ Recognising that highly impactful partnership activities can be carried out with lower resources than would be required if the activity was carried out alone.
 - ▶ Learning that to be value adding and effective, a collaborative partnership requires time to set up, *and* a genuine consideration of each other's needs with high levels of mutual commitment.
 - ▶ Adopting a deeply collaborative approach and participating with wider initiatives seeking to improve the lives of children, creates a growing movement of people and organisations working towards similar goals
- People are the most valuable and scarce resource for small charities that are run on a voluntary basis and it is critical to explore ways to attract highly value aligned and committed people.

KEY CHALLENGES

- **Managing a charity efficiently and effectively requires a high level of time resources and commitment.**

In recent years, the increased level of compliance and reporting requirements within the charity sector has contributed to increased resources needs within charities. The current climate has also led to a decline in personal wealth and added strain on people's lives, which creates related volunteering challenges. Charities are no longer able to simply rely on people's goodwill to create sustainable programmes.

How we are managing this: Taking the time to build strong organisational foundations, through developing clear strategies and frameworks, has greatly supported RSP. Strategies and frameworks initially take time to develop but they also enable quicker decision making and a flexible approach, which allows us to take on new opportunities, as well as move on quickly from things that don't work.
- **High dependence on co-founders (also trustees) for delivery of charitable activities, communications and raising funds**

The founders, who are also the trustees, continue to commit a high level of time resources to RSP. In proportionate terms, they commit about an equivalent time that half a full time staff member would, on a voluntary basis.

How we are managing this: The founders have committed to investing higher levels of personal time and resources to build the charity to a stable position, whilst finding innovative ways and dedicated people who are passionate about children's right to play to the support the organisation.
- **Inability to explore new or optimise on all existing opportunities due to above challenges**

How we are managing this: In addition to the other actions we are taking, we find ways to use our Collaboration Strategy to meet our different needs.



5

ACCOUNTS

FINANCIAL REVIEW

RSP FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31.03.2022

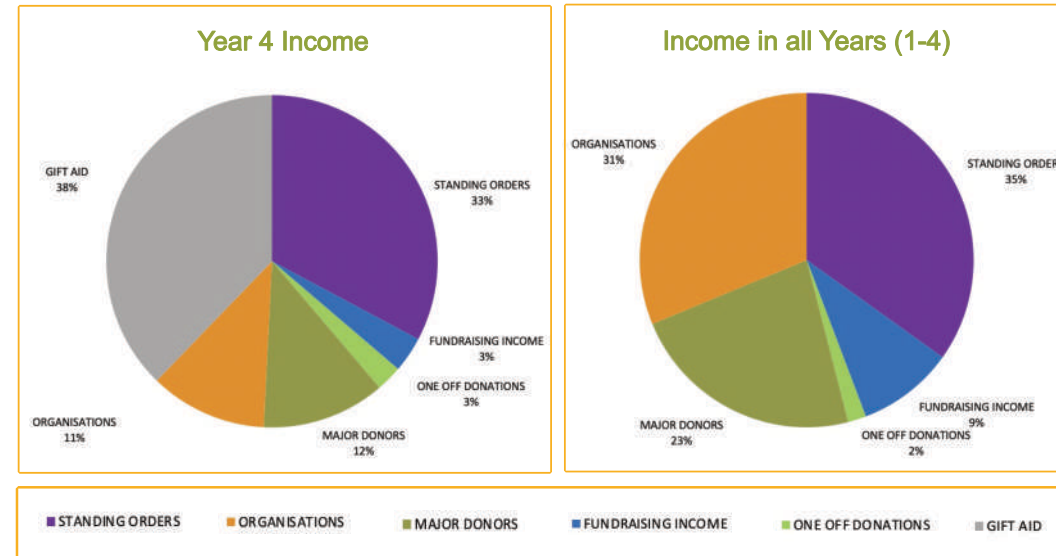
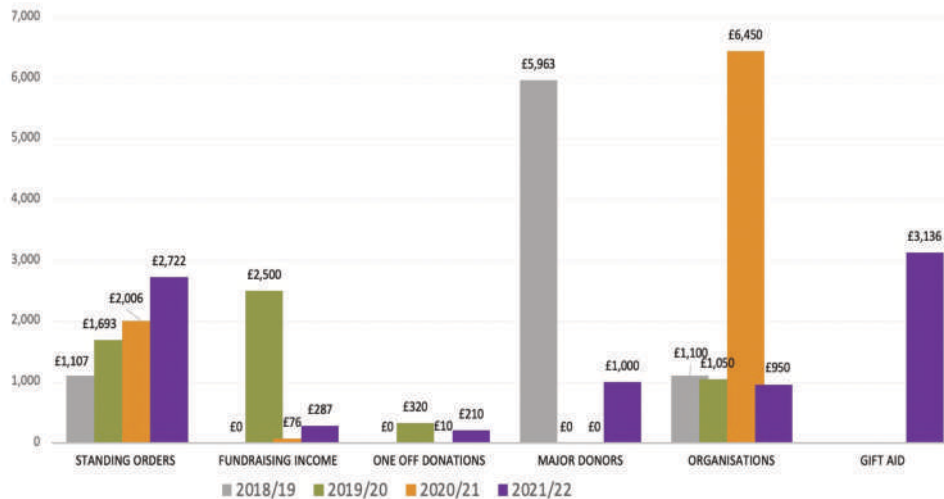
Year 4 total income received by RSP was **£8,305** (Year 3: £8,542) and total costs amounted to **£2,345** (Year 3: £461), resulting in a net income of **£5,960** (Year 3: £8,081).

This year marks the end of our 4th year and the beginning of our new 3-year strategy. In the first four years, we worked to build our foundations, focus on solutions that brought value for money, and grow our reserves and learnings. This year the expenditure increased and will continue to do so, in this next strategy period, as we begin investing in and carrying out more value adding activities.

The strong current position we are in, thanks to the kindness and support of our supporters, allows us to now take our learnings and programmes to the next level. Contributions by volunteers also continue to support RSP. These contributions are not represented in the accounts as they cannot be reliably measured on a financial basis; they are instead reflected in the disclosure notes to the accounts (p.44).

RSP Sources of funds:

Comparing income from different sources over the years 2018-2022:



RSP Reserves Policy & Position

Reserves are held to be used in the future in furtherance of our stated purposes.

As at 31st March 2022, we hold a reserves balance of £27,050 (Year 2: £21,090). Our policy, for the first four years of operation, as we built our organisational foundations and strategy, was to build up our reserves and seek value for money solutions, during this critical learning period.

With the commencement of our 3-year strategy, we plan to expend higher levels of resources: in programmatic areas in proportion to value and impact of such programmes; and in operational areas to improve efficiency and effectiveness of the charity.

At RSP we have so far created minimal to no co-dependencies, as we do not employ staff and hire premises, and our project participants are not reliant on our existence. In this way, our minimal reserves requirements are negligible. However, the RSP way is to try and maximise the positive impact we are able to make through our activities, and to build long term organisational sustainability, and for this we will continue to maintain a level of reserves that can enable us to optimise opportunities, and plan ahead with confidence and assurance.

We will re-assess our minimum reserves requirement at the end of this strategy period, expected to end as at the end of March 2025.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA)

For the year ended 31 March 2022

All Income and Expenditure movements represent unrestricted funds			
	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Income from:			
Donations			
Major & One-Off donations		1,210	10
Regular Giving		2,722	2,006
Gift Aid claimed on donations (backdated claim)		3,136	
Fundraising events/platforms		287	76
Charitable activities			
Donations for RSP services from charitable organisations		950	6,450
Total income		8,305	8,542
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds			
Charitable activities	1	(2,324)	(461)
Total expenditure		(2,345)	(461)
Net gain for the year		5,960	8,081
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward from previous year		21,090	13,009
Total funds carried forward		27,050	21,090


Note 1: These costs include a grant of £1,650 to our partner charity, MADaboutART, for the collaborative play project we initiated this year (p.14-15). £500 of this remains payable as at the end of this reporting period and has been included as part of our creditors in Note 3.

Governance costs of £47.75 that are related to travel and subsistence reimbursements related to trustee meetings are also included within here.

Four Year Summary:	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total Income	8,305	8,542	5,563	8,170
Total Expenditure	-2,345	-481	-680	-45
Net Income	5,960	8,081	4,883	8,125

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 March 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Assets			
Fixed assets:			
	2	1,199	-
Current assets:			
Debtors			2,500
Cash at bank		27,865	18,700
		29,064	21,200
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
	3	(2,014)	(110)
Total Net Assets		27,050	21,090
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Total unrestricted funds		27,050	21,090
Total charity funds		27,050	21,090
Approved on behalf of all trustees of RockStone & Pebbles (RSP) on 26th July 2022			
			
Juliette Liebi Treasurer			

Note 2: Fixed Assets includes only IT equipment.: cost £1,499 less depreciation £300

Note 3: Creditors include (i) Grant payable of £500 (related to Note 1), (ii) Fixed assets accrual of £1,499, and (iii) Governance costs accrual of £15

Four Year Summary:	2022	2021	2020	2019
Total Available Charity Funds	27,050	21,090	13,009	8,125

DISCLOSURES TO ACCOUNTS

Disclosures to the Accounts:

1. Contributions by Volunteers

RSP Volunteers, Associates & Trustees contributed their time to support in realising the Vision and Mission of RSP	Time volunteered by trustees	Time contributed by volunteers	Total Days 2022
Programmes	46.9	5.2	52.1
Governance & Strategy	32.1	1.3	33.3
Operations	10.7	0.9	11.6
Supporter Journey Management & Communications	14.2	7.8	22.0
Fundraising	1.2	0.0	1.2
Total Days Spent - Year 4 (to March 2022)	105	15	120
Year 3 (to March 2021)	158	43	201
Year 2 (to March 2020)	103	37	140
Year 1 (to March 2019)	13	11	24

2. Accounting Policies

a) Statutory information

RockStone & Pebbles (RSP) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. Further details are given in the 'Reference & Administrative Details' section (p.8-9).

b) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102), and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view.

c) Public benefit entity

The charity is a public benefit entity. The 'RSP Public Benefit Statement' on p.9 demonstrates how RSP meets the definition of a public benefit entity.

d) Going concern

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

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised in the Financial Statements as the value cannot be reliably measured. Refer to Disclosure 1 above for information on volunteer contributions.

g) Grants payable

Grants payable are made to third parties in furtherance of the charity's objects. Grants are accounted for when either the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant and the Trustees have agreed to pay the grant without condition, or the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant and that any condition attaching to the grant is outside of the control of the charity.

h) Staff costs

There have been no paid staff during this financial year.

i) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund. There have been no restricted funds received or spent during this period.

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received without conditions attached and can be used for any purposes related to the charitable purposes of RSP.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes. There have been no designated funds allocated during the period

j) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under: **Costs of raising funds** that relate to the costs incurred by the charity in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose; and **charitable activities costs** which includes the running costs undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and direct costs of charitable activities undertaken. **Irrecoverable VAT** is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

k) Cash at bank and in hand

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

l) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. Depreciation costs are allocated to activities on the basis of the use of the related assets in those activities and are calculated on a straight-line basis (over a 5 year period for IT equipment)

m) Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due, there have been no debtors recognised during this period.

n) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the future transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Trustees' Statement of Responsibility

The trustees of RockStone & Pebbles (RSP) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Annual Accounts in accordance with applicable law - Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 – which give a true and fair view of the charity's activities.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees must:

- Select and consistently apply suitable accounting policies
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS102)
- Make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records and for safeguarding the assets of the charity by maintaining robust internal controls to mitigate the risk of fraud, error and other irregularities.

The trustees accept and carry out these responsibilities.

Approval of Trustees Annual Report


The Trustees' Annual Report has been approved and signed by all trustees of the charity, RockStone & Pebbles, on **26 July 2022**:



Juliette Liebi



Meera Patel



Anna Petrucci



Co-founder & trustee



Co-founder & trustee



Joined as trustee
in February 2020

Building a movement...



*...through creating engagement and impetus
to facilitate children's right to play*

Special Thanks & Acknowledgements

Celebrating the people and organisations that have supported and inspired us throughout our foundational period. As we launch our new 3-year strategy, we thank you for being part of our journey and inspiring us to become more than we imagined.

To our wonderful **donors** who provide RSP with the ability and stability to carry out our work.

To our inspiring **partners** for the work they do and their engagement to include play more centrally into their organisations & commitment to activities that enhance the aims of RSP.

To our dedicated **RSP Associates** who kindly volunteer their expertise / time freely to RSP.

To the other generous **organisations** and **people** who contribute time / expertise / services freely to RSP.

And to all those working to positively impact children's lives through enabling their right to play



Thank you to these partners for their continued support & collaboration:



MiChi



Rajesh Patel



Club of The North Downs



A special thank you to RSP Associates who shared their time freely with RSP in this year:

Cathy-Mae Karelse - team building support

Dalia Abu Yassien - governance support

Daniel Thorndyke - programme support

Jemma Tarnas - programme support

Michael Hill - support on communications

Niketa Fazal - all paintings to date

Sarah Thorndyke - proof reading

Stacey Goodhew - gift aid administration

Trishna Patel - strategy setting



Thank you for value adding contributions to RSP in our first strategy period:

Anam Patel,
Astrid Weinmann,
Beth Benedict,
Jake Grout Smith,
Janoah Augustyn,
Louise Alexander,
Malcolm Spence,
Marian Navarro,
Mary-Ann Ephgrave,
Ramila Patel,
Rita Lopez Garcia,
Sanjay Jare,
Segun Olowookere,
Steve Eddy,
Sue Wicks

A warm welcome to Stacey, who joined us in this reporting period !



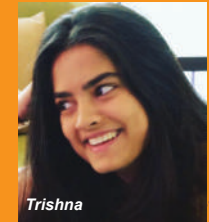
Sarah



Niketa

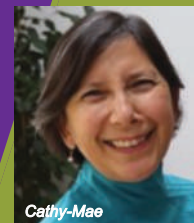


Stacey



Trishna

Individually
a drop...
together
an Ocean



Cathy-Mae



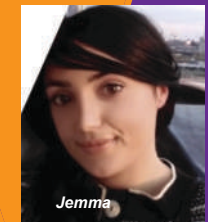
Michael



Dalia



Daniel



Jemma



All paintings created and sponsored by Niketa Fazal

Charity No: 1177973

How to support RSP:

Donate - small regular donations of £3-5/month especially make a difference in helping us build organisational sustainability and to plan ahead

Bank A/C: **RockStone & Pebbles**

Sort Code: **23-05-80**

Account Number: **29219257**

Raise income for us without spending a penny!

Register with EasyFundraising - select us as your preferred charity and carry on your online shopping as usual

Volunteer - share your unique talents and expertise with RSP.

Be a play champion - promote the benefits and right to play within your networks. Share useful information & resources

Connect us - with people & organisations who want to facilitate children's right to play

Spread the word - that #playmatters and follow us on our social media pages.



The cost of this booklet has been sponsored by the trustees and not by the charity

Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements

Year 4: 1 April 2021 - 31 March 2022

ROCKSTONE & PEBBLES (RSP)

England & Wales - Charity number 1177973

Accounts



rockstone & pebbles

connect & collaborate

Charity No: 1177973

#PlayMatters



Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements

Year 3: 1 April 2020 - 31 March 2021

Trustees

3rd

Annual Report

Year ending 31 March 2021



Letter from Founders (also Trustees)

Dear supporters of RockStone & Pebbles (RSP) and children's right to play,

It has been an eventful year, although not in the way we had imagined. Our intention this year was to dedicate our resources to the creation of play spaces for vulnerable children in countries outside of the UK by travelling there and implementing play projects directly. The Covid 19 restrictions led to plans changing. For RSP founders, the plan to dedicate a year volunteering for RSP remained, although focused on different activities, and from Spain, supported by our other trustees based in the UK.

*Collaboration remains our core way of working and we continue to learn and adapt our approach. We spent considerable time this year on an exciting **new partnership** with charity On Call Africa (OCA) that started during lockdown and continues to date. The **Partnership Collaboration Framework** we created enabled both organisations to explore opportunities, and commit how we could strengthen each other and support one another's aims. It has been an excellent example of how RSP, our associates, and partners working together can create synergy and amplify our impact, $1+1 = 3$.*

*We also spent time developing other **frameworks** and **reporting structures** to build a strong and sustainable organisation. We held regular, monthly trustee meetings to ensure that our organisation was being effectively governed and that our activities were in line with our strategy, mission and vision.*

A sincere thank you and sad goodbye to our trustee, Mary Ann Ephgrave, who left us this year for health related reasons. Yet at the grand age of 83 years she continues to be a valuable mentor, a key supporter of RSP, and a champion of children's right of play.

*As a **learning organisation** we continue to reflect, adapt, experiment and find new ways to address challenges and grow. The ongoing challenges related to being a volunteer run organisation with a high reliance on the founders remain, and this year we will focus on developing a three-year strategy that can help us address some of these challenges moving forward.*

*The burning question of how can we best help vulnerable children access their fundamental **right to play** drives us to find new solutions and ways of working to achieve this. Covid-19 and the last year of lockdown helped highlight many things, including the highly negative consequences children can suffer as a result of play deprivation. This year doctors, psychologists and other groups working with children in the UK have been strongly advocating on children's right to play and recent commitments by the government indicate that their voices are finally starting to be heard.*

We hope that this Annual Report motivates our readers to take action, in any way they can, to ensure that every child has the space and time to play.

*Many thanks for your interest and support,
Meera & Juliette*



RSP Vision, Mission & Values

Vision:

A sustainable future created through play, collaboration and shared learnings

Mission:

Enhance and create spaces that facilitate learning, innovation, collaboration, and positively impact the lives of vulnerable children through enabling their **right to play**

Values:

Our values inspire and guide the way we operate and interact with others

Collaboration:

We believe that lasting change can only come through collaborative working and shared learnings.

Transparency:

We share information openly and honestly; we learn from our mistakes and reflect on our learnings.

Innovation:

We encourage creative, experimental efforts and explore local solutions that can be co-created resourcefully, by thinking outside the box.

Diversity:

We honour and embrace people's fundamental right to be different and unique.

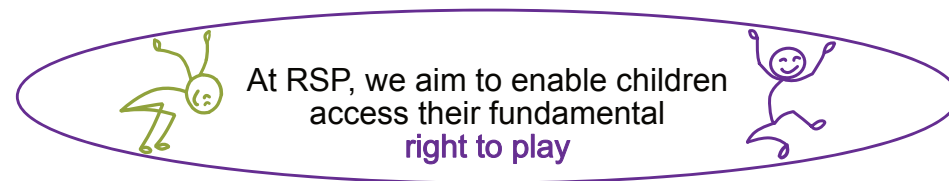
Respect:

We strive to treat people with consideration & care.

"There's no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way it treats its children"

-Nelson Mandela

Why Play



Children are amongst the most vulnerable people in the world and for too many their futures are threatened or limited by violence, child labour, early marriage, lack of food, shelter, health, education, and/or inequality.

Play Matters because...

Play builds resilience and improves wellbeing

Play improves children's cognitive, physical, social and emotional wellbeing. It makes children feel happy and empowers them to rise to challenges.

Play creates positive change

Play sparks learning, creativity and innovation

Play is children's right

Play is children's language and a human right unique to them.

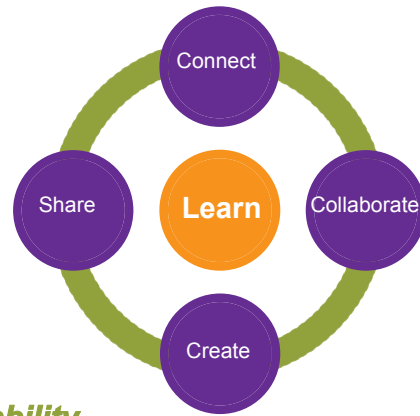


RSP Strategy

At RSP, our strategy focuses on ...

Being a learning organisation

Continually learn, adapt and share learnings to acquire, create and transfer knowledge and skills, and build capacity internally and externally



Building Organisational Sustainability

Building a **strong organisation** for us means always considering our organisational longevity and the wider impacts of our activities.



RSP Strategy

Collaboration

Collaboration sits at the core of our vision and drives the way we work because *we believe that openly sharing - innovation, expertise, resources, time and experiences - is the catalyst to lasting and positive change.*

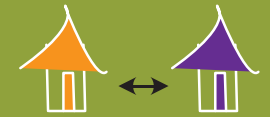
- **Build genuinely collaborative partnerships** that create synergy and further the aims of both RSP and the partner organisations
- **Engage deeply with our volunteers** - understand their skills and needs and provide value adding volunteering opportunities
- **Develop, co-create and share resources freely** to help and strengthen wider civil society groups and organisations
- **Promote and share 3rd party research and resources** that could add value to others



Connect & Collaborate

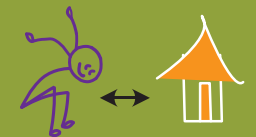
...organisations to organisations

We facilitate collaborations between organisations that can grow and learn from one another



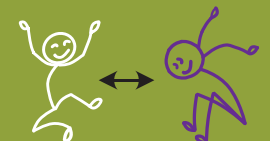
...people & organisations

We assess the needs and skills of the people and organisations in our network supporting and connecting them to add value to one another



...people to people

We connect the people in our network to share skills and learn from one another



What we do

Our activities are carried out for the purpose of enabling children's right to play



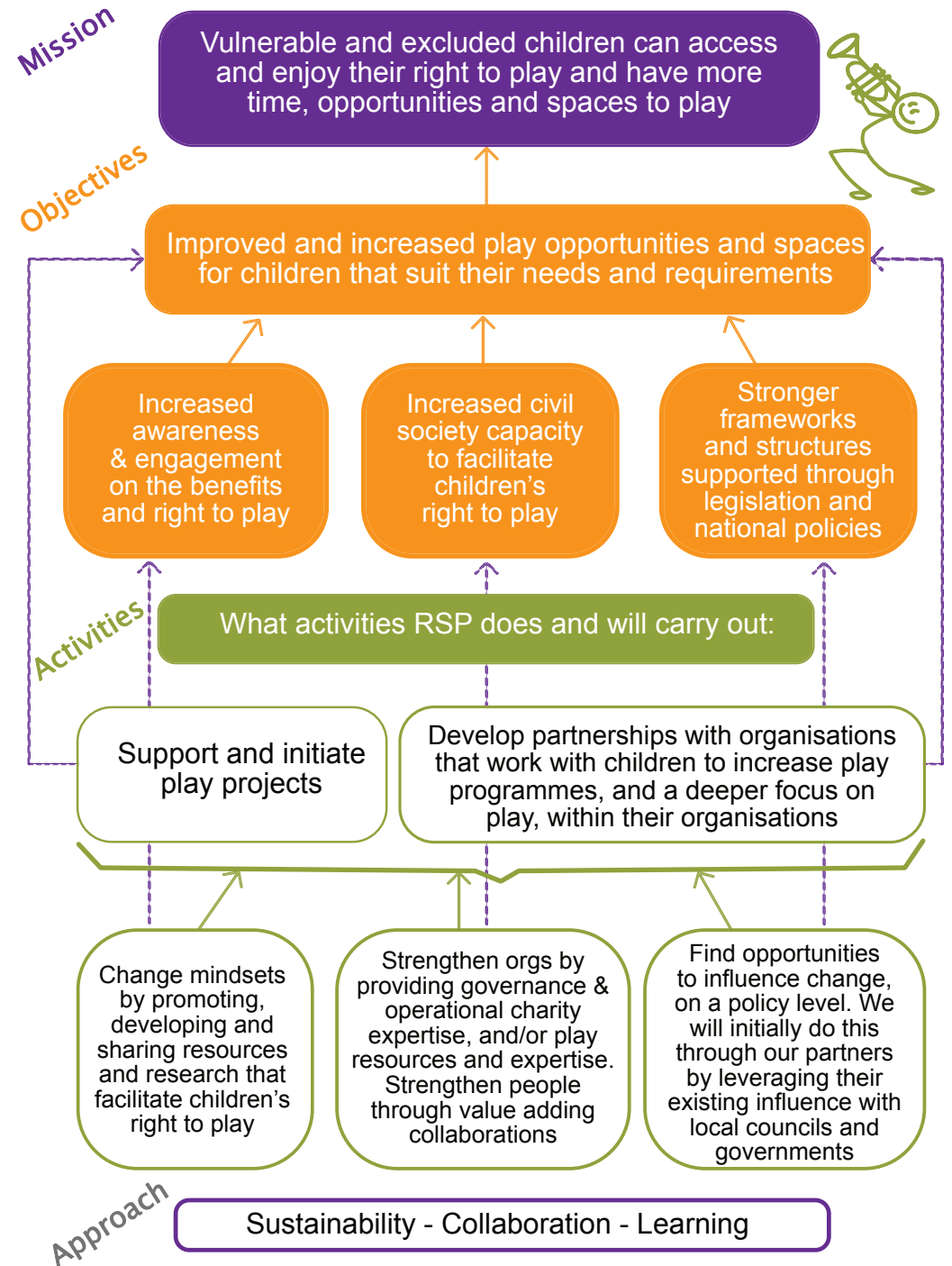
This year we developed our **ToC - Theory of Change** which helped us to hone and clearly define our:

- **Mission** - the change we are trying to make
- **Objectives** - what we need to focus on to make that change
- **Activities** - identify activities that will help us meet our objectives and support our mission

Thank you to our partner *OnCall Africa (OCA)* for mentoring us on the development of this framework



Theory of Change



Meeting Year 3 Objectives set

Year 3 Objectives (April 2020 - March 2021):



Year 3 objectives were set at the start of last year, shared with you in our last Annual Report, and adapted and flexed during the year.

Summary of Year 3 Achievements:

Year 3 objectives set were focused on the the areas identified in the box below. Targets set within the objectives were in some cases overachieved and in other cases underachieved; however, all objectives were met, except the launch of our website, which is delayed to this year.



- ● ● Built collaborative partnerships with other charities that helped enable children's right to play, and strengthened both our partners and ourselves

Developed & shared resources freely:

- ● Articles to help non profit organisations build capacity
- ● Video to facilitate children's right to play
- ● Researched and shared third party resources to facilitate children's right to play and strengthen non-profits
- ● Learnt more about play - attending conferences, volunteering, learning & networking
- Strengthened RSP - learning and growing

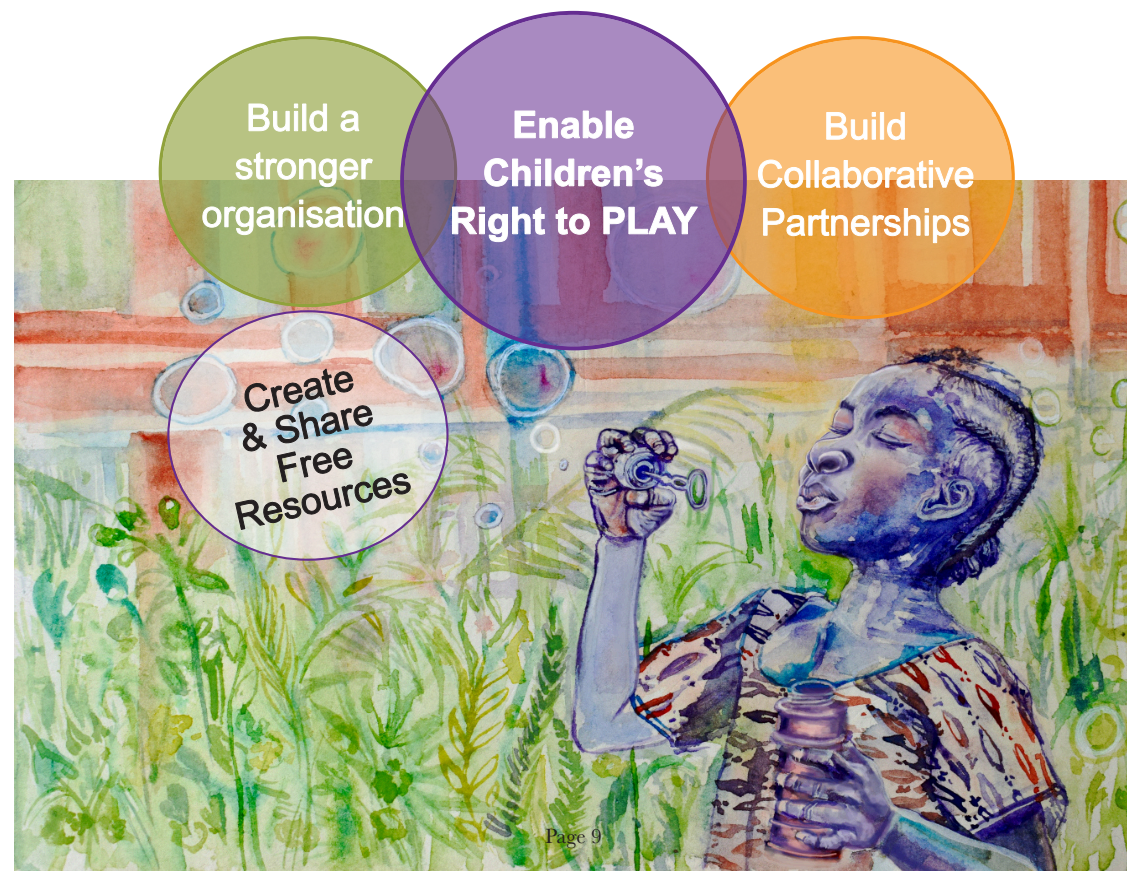
Read more about our achievements below!

Setting Year 4 - next year - Objectives

Year 4 Objectives (April 2021 - March 2022):

Last year we honed our strategy guided by our Theory of Change (ToC), developed in Year 3, which informs the objectives set in Year 4:

1. Promote a learning exchange on right to play between partners, supporters and collaborators
2. Work with our partners to develop evidence-based and accessible IEC resources on the benefits and right to play, and share them freely
3. Facilitate skills sharing amongst partners on charity capacity building, operations and governance
4. Launch RSP website - *target not met last year*
5. Develop a three year strategy for RSP to implement in years 2022-2025 (RSP years 5-7)



Collaboration creates synergy

$$1 + 1 = 3$$



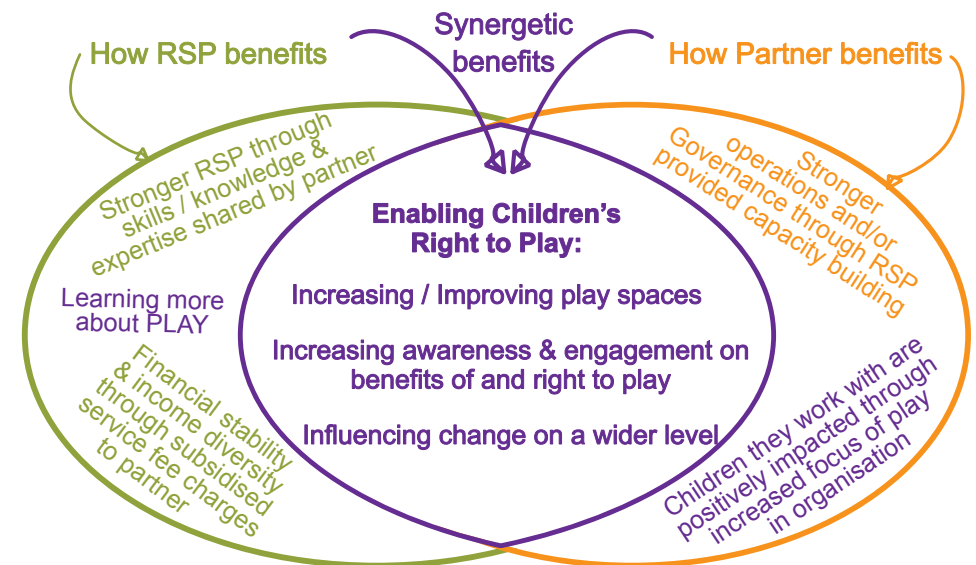
COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

Collaborative partnerships are one of RSP's unique strengths

Why & How this is a unique RSP strength:

- Collaborative partnerships help RSP achieve higher impact
- We aim to partner with organisations that are able to positively impact the lives of vulnerable children by enabling their right to play. RSP is able to add value to such organisations because...
- ...the RSP team of trustees and volunteers have a high level of charity and professional expertise and experience - specifically around governance, operations and financial management, This is often sought after by charitable organisations looking to fulfil their statutory obligations and increase efficiency
- ...we are supported by a rich, diverse network, including our partners, with valuable knowledge and expertise on play and innovative play solutions
- Collaboration is easier in principle than in practice, but due to our belief in its value we persist at it and continually improve in this area

Partnership Collaboration Framework:



Year 3 Achievements

1. RSP - MAD Partnership - Ongoing



UK charity founded in 2001 to support young people affected by HIV/AIDS. MADaboutART uses art to aid healing and as the platform to ignite imagination, have fun and achieve social change. They have also used art as an advocacy tool through their national and international programmes and exhibitions.

Working in South Africa

MADaboutART (MAD)

Our Partnership story:

Our journey with MAD started over 6 years ago, before RSP was even born! RSP co-founder and trustee, Juliette, started preparing their Annual Accounts in 2015; RSP subsequently took over this task, and additionally supported MAD across other areas, this continues to date.

Juliette had the good fortune to visit MAD in South Africa in 2015. She carried out an assessment of their organisation at that point, through participating in some programmes, discussions with staff and trustees, and recording observations over a number of days. The assessment was documented and presented to MAD to aid the strategy work they were carrying out at the time and it was gratefully received by them.

MAD continue to inspire us with their programmes and the activities they carry out. We look forward to our ongoing relationship and the new exciting projects we are planning to better enable children's right to play.



MAD - 'Rainbow of Hope' Programme
- Children sharing their HIV experience through ART

Year 3 Achievements

1. RSP - MAD Partnership - New!



What was Achieved through this partnership:

Enabling Children's Right to Play



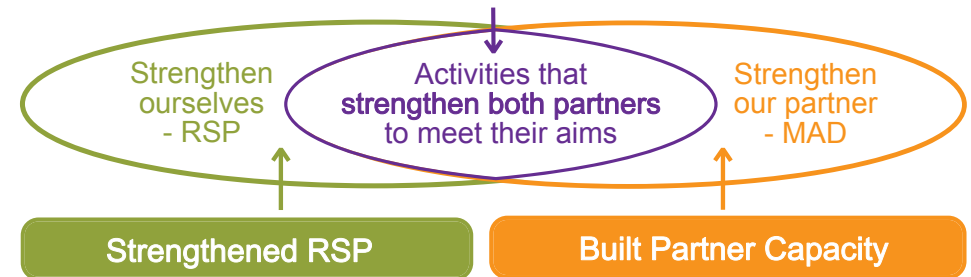
MAD have positively impacted thousands of children's lives over the years. Through various art projects and the use of techniques such as Hero Booking and Body Mapping they provide psycho-social support and a safe place for children to play, heal, learn and express themselves. Their centre in Knysna, South Africa, is open daily, and runs regular art and play activities. It now houses over 5,000 pieces of HIV themed art created by children, that are used for advocacy and education.



MAD Art Gallery

Through our partnership:

- MAD are stronger and able to bring lasting positive change for more vulnerable children through art and play
- MAD recognised that they had been under reporting the value of play and together we are exploring how they can advocate for and champion children's right to play more centrally in their organisation



Thank you to our partner MAD for helping RSP in these areas:

- Learning more about play - programmes, activities and the benefits of play through art
- Financially - partnership fees income - for the preparation of their Annual Accounts

RSP strengthened MAD in these areas:

- Preparation of Annual Accounts
- Input on Trustees Annual Report - transforming it 'from a dry old read to a living testament...'
- Governance & Operations - through consultations in different areas

Year 3 Achievements

2. RSP - OCA Partnership - New!



Registered as a Scottish charity in 2010, providing health services to remote communities in Zambia. OCA run and support medical clinics in this area, they also train local community health workers in country, and are supported by volunteer doctors from the UK.

Working in Zambia

On Call Africa (OCA)

Our Partnership story:

OCA reached out to us in March 2020 seeking charity finance expertise to develop robust financial systems and structures to support their rapidly growing organisation.

RSP committed to provide financial management expertise at a highly subsidised monthly fee *providing* OCA would also commit to bringing play more centrally to their organisational activities.

A detailed partnership Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was created and through our mutual activities we have strengthened each other. RSP built organisational capacity in OCA and strategically helped them to bring an increased focus on play in their organisation.

It has been greatly value adding and engaging to partner with OCA, we have developed a strong relationship over the year which continues to date, and we hope will continue into the future for many years to come.



OCA reaching remote communities in Zambia



Year 3 Achievements

2. RSP - OCA Partnership - New!



What was Achieved through this partnership:

Enabling Children's Right to Play



As a direct result of our Collaborative Partnership Framework, OCA are:

- **Bringing play more centrally into their activities** for improving health outcomes
- **Designing play activities** to incorporate into their health education programmes
- **Carrying out studies and literary reviews on the value of play** through commissioning UCL Masters students
- **Looking for ways to advocate on the right to play and influence change at policy level** by leveraging their existing relationship with the Ministry of Health in Zambia

Developing Free Resources

All resources developed will be shared freely with RSP



Strengthened RSP

Thank you to our partner OCA for helping RSP in these areas:

- **Learning more about Play** from OCA play focused activities
- Increasing our **play resources**
- Developing our **Theory of Change**
- Providing expertise on **Volunteer Management strategies**
- **Year 2 Annual Report** input
- **Financially - partnership fees income** - for capacity building expertise provided by RSP

Built Partner Capacity

RSP strengthened OCA by:

- **Helping them find ways to use play to achieve their outcomes**
- Building organisational capacity:**
- **Scoping and implementing a new finance system** in OCA
- **Interviewing, recruiting and training a new Finance Manager**
- **Increasing OCA trustee board capacity** by delivering a presentation on Financial Management responsibilities

Year 3 Achievements

3. RSP - MiChi Partnership - New!

MiChi Partnering with



The MiChi team is an India based donor / implementing group of people who set up in 2020 for the purpose of finding ways to help vulnerable children illegally employed in MICA mining in the Jharkhand region of Eastern India.

CRY is a charity that has been helping and protecting the rights of children in India since 1979. They are partnering with **MiChi** on this project.

Working in India

MiChi Project

Our Partnership story:

Our journey with the MiChi team was borne from a long standing relationship with one of its founding members, Rajesh Patel, with whom we have worked on previous charitable projects (see RSP Annual Report 2) and who has now become a champion of children's right to play. The MiChi team reached out to RSP for charity specific expertise during the early development of this project in January 2021, which is still in its conception stage.

In this short period we have met a number of times, facilitated the incorporation of play as central to the project, and explored ways we can support each other through a collaborative partnership. It's been greatly inspiring to meet the passionate and diverse people and partners involved in this project and we are excited to join forces and make a positive difference in the lives of the children affected by MICA mining.

The lost childhood of India's mica minors

Thousands Of Child Labourers Trolling In Jharkhand & Bihar's Illegal Mines Are At Risk Of Head Injuries, Silicosis & TB



1/5 of all workers in India's mines and quarries are children

source: news.trust.org

WHERE IS MICA FOUND?

INDIA

EXPORTED MICA 2015 (TONNES)

100,600

20,400

15,000



source: peacewoman.org

Year 3 Achievements

3. RSP - MiChi Partnership - New!

What was Achieved through this partnership:

Enabling Children's Right to Play

Through our partnership:

- **Play is now central to this project -** *'Now play is water to the project. It has seeped into every aspect of our work'*
- **Commitment to co-create open resources and IEC materials** on the benefits and right to play and find other ways to increase awareness and engagement, to better enable children's right to play
- **RSP are exploring ways to collaborate with MiChi partners, like CRY India, to better enable children's right to play.**

MiChi

Co-Creating Free Resources
All resources developed will be shared freely

Strengthened RSP

Thank you to our partner MiChi for helping RSP in these areas:

- **Exploring ways to use play** to positively impact vulnerable children's lives
- **Connecting us to your partner organisations** for RSP to explore collaborative opportunities with
- **Committing to provide reciprocal capacity building resources** to RSP in Year 4

'Looking forward to making a difference with you: To the lives of our children lost to Mica mining. To strengthening the Right to Play advocacy space To building new collaborations'. - MiChi

Built Partner Capacity

RSP strengthened MiChi through:

- Providing **critical feedback on project proposals**
- **Helping the MiChi team define their roles, responsibilities and project aims**
- **Extensive inputs on project design** - using play as the medium to achieve project aims and also to break entry into the hostile project zone at the needs assessment stage.
- **Training on charity tools and structures** - MEL and data (monitoring, evaluation, learning) considerations, ToC, consortium structures with charity partners, etc.

Year 3 Achievements

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

What our Partners say:

'We have seen significant improvements in our organisational capacity as a result of the partnership with RSP.

Through their guidance, support and expertise we have been able to establish new systems, functions, policies and procedures while going through a period of rapid growth.

When we sought out a partnership with RSP we did so in the knowledge that our existing finance systems and procedures were not adequate for an organisation that had grown its income to £119,000. We now feel confident that we have strong financial systems and procedures that match our growing income, which we project to be over £1million in this financial year'

- OnCallAfrica (OCA)

'MADaboutART benefitted once again this year from RSP's expertise in the areas of finance and reporting. Together we've had a huge range of constructive debate and critique on a whole bunch of things from the trustee recruitment, to grant proposals and my personal favourite the Trustees Annual Report which I really feel that we have transformed together from quite a dry old read to a living testament of what we do at MADaboutART.

I think that without a doubt MadAboutArt is stronger and more capable as a result of the input and expertise we have received from RockStone & Pebbles and that ultimately benefits the children that we serve.'

- MADaboutART (MAD)



Year 3 Achievements

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

What our Partners say:

'You have been amazing mentors to the MiChi team and the compass that has guided our journey.

You brought in the idea of play and right to play as an important ingredient of design. And you backed the suggestion with researched inputs.

Now play is 'water' to the project. It has seeped into every aspect of our work.

Looking forward to making a difference with you: To the lives of our children lost to Mica mining. To strengthening the Right to Play advocacy space. To building new collaborations'

- Gratitude and best wishes from the MiChi team

'The partnership with RSP has helped to bring the use of play into our planned list of approaches/tools for achieving improved health outcomes.

We are at the beginning of our journey to understand how play could help to enhance our objectives of improving health outcomes in rural communities, and excited to take this forward through pilot programmes over the next few years'.

- OnCallAfrica (OCA)

'Through the partnership with RSP we are looking for opportunities to engage the Community Health Unit, and different units within MoH, to advocate for the use of play within programmes, and for the right to play for children.

On Call Africa has begun to engage with the Ministry of Health at national level, and is working with the Community Health Unit specifically to develop and run pilot projects that will aim to influence policies and practices at national level.'

- OnCallAfrica (OCA)

Year 3 Achievements

DEVELOPING & SHARING RESOURCES

Our vision is to build a sustainable future through collaboration and shared learnings. That is why...

We are a learning organisation

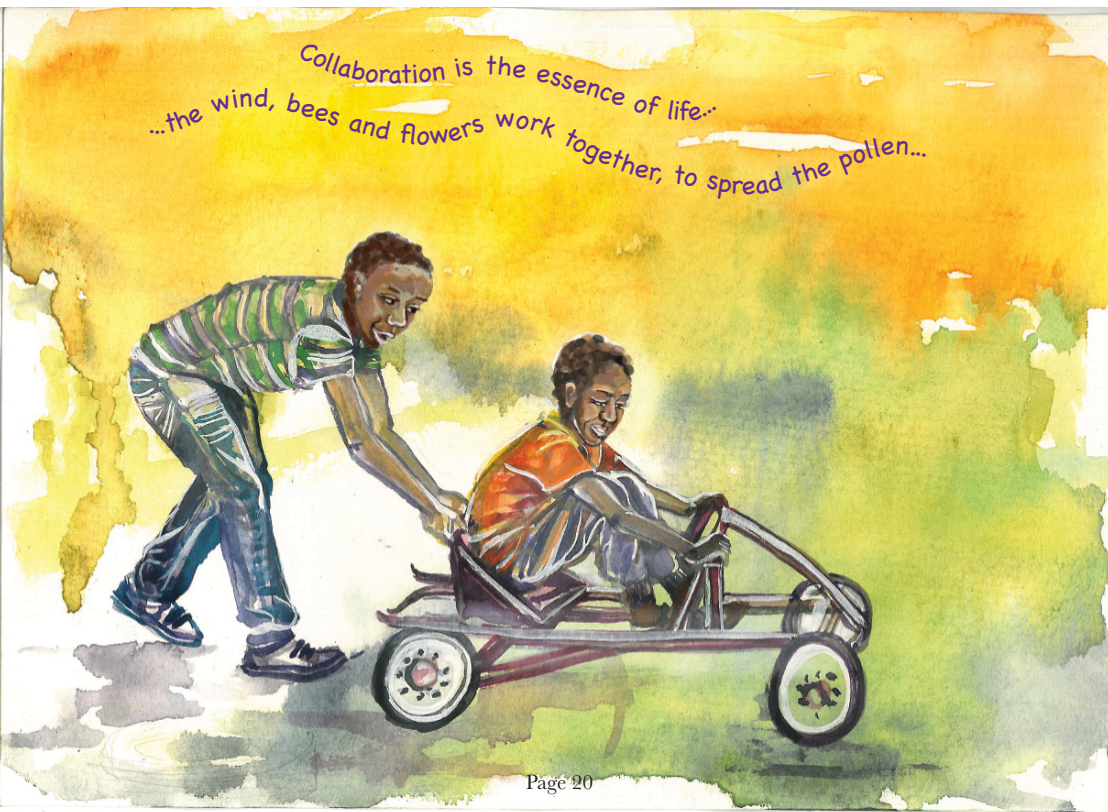
Focused on working collaboratively

Building new skills and knowledge

And sharing what we know through

Creating free resources that can help others

& promoting useful third party resources



Year 3 Achievements

4. Developed & Shared Free Resources

Resources produced by RSP:

By using our existing expertise and also through adapting bespoke resources created through in-depth collaborations with our charity partners.

Article - Part 2 **Setting up a Risk Register in Small Charities**
Written by Meera Patel
- RSP Trustee

1

May 2020

Video **How to Make a Snakes & Ladder Board Game Using Recycled Materials**
Produced & edited by Meera Patel

2

April 2020

Resources co-created with RSP Associates:

Our key volunteers - RSP Associates - freely shared their time and expertise, using a co-creative approach with RSP, to produce:

Articles - Parts 2 & 3 **Effective Communication in the Charity Sector**
Written by Michael Hill
- Voice Coach, singer & freelance broadcaster

3

April 2020,
July 2020

Article **Environmental Sustainability in the Charity Sector**
Written by Trishna Patel
- Buyer at Brand Addition bringing sustainable supply chain solutions

4

June 2020

5. Researched & Shared useful 3rd party resources

- Advocating on the benefits and right to play for children and increasing awareness on the negative impacts of play deprivation
- Calling on governments to fulfil their obligations to Article 31 UNCRC and apply the guidelines and recommendations provided in General Comment 17 to put into action what has been committed on paper
- Strengthening civil society organisations and people to be more effective, efficient and better enable children's right to play

ENABLING CHILDREN'S RIGHT TO PLAY

Our overriding mission is to help vulnerable and excluded children access their right to play because we believe play is critical for children's development & wellbeing.

Everything we do is directed towards this aim.



Play is a Right - Children have always played, it is their language and their way of learning about and making sense of their world.

Often referred to as 'the children's forgotten right' - this right is enshrined in Article 31 of *The United Nations Conventions of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)*

Play creates positive Change - Play sparks learning, creativity & innovation - the power of play can help generate new, innovative and sustainable solutions to the emerging challenges of the future.

Play for Wellbeing - Play empowers children to rise to challenges and find hope. It makes children feel happy and improves their cognitive, physical, social and emotional wellbeing.



What can happen when children don't play?

- **Negative mental health impacts** - children become **frustrated** and **unhappy**, which can lead to **aggressive, violent** and **antisocial** behaviour
- **Less physically healthy** - higher risk of obesity / health issues
- **Decrease in cognitive and motor skills** - harder for children to learn
- **Under developed social skills** - children tend to be more **shy, socially awkward**, and less able to deal with different social situations
- **Reduced creativity & innovation** - children lose the opportunity to create new ideas and innovate



Research also indicates that play deprivation can:

- **Negatively impact brain growth** - gradual loss of electrical activity in the brain will stunt growth
- **Affect later generations** - epigenetical studies show that the effects on one generation can 'echo' through subsequent generations.

"[Play] is increasingly being denied or curtailed by the actions of adults and society, resulting in reports of unhappy children from around the globe"
- IPA (International Play Association)

Psychiatrist Stuart Brown links play deprivation to 'major emotional dysregulation - increased prevalence of depression, a tendency to become inflexible in thought, diminished impulse control, less self-regulation, poor management of aggression, and fragility and shallowness of enduring interpersonal relationships'.

Year 3 Achievements

6. Growing our Play Expertise and Network



Organisations we connect with - partners & others

We shared how we do this with our **partners** in the sections above.

We also connect with **other organisations** that have expertise and experience in the area of play for the purposes of research, learning, accessing and sharing resources, and exploring opportunities for collaboration.

Activities carried out with other organisations:

Attending 8 week National Play Conference (online)



Learning about the value and practice of play
Connecting to people and organisations in the play sector across the world



Attending IPA's 21st Play Conference in Jaipur (online)

Learning how to make a Mural using bio-construction techniques:

We volunteered for 2 weeks in Spain on a project aimed at improving public spaces. Learning from Okambuva and the wonderful artist, Kim Barcena, who was using traditional mural restoration techniques from Mexico. We made this:

Connecting with:



We are planning a future project together to improve play opportunities & spaces for vulnerable children in Spain



Rafalafena Park, Castellon de la Plana, Spain

BUILDING A STRONGER ORGANISATION

At RSP, we want to build a strong organisation that is sustainable in the long term. We do this by focusing on:

Strengthening our Governance, Operations & Communications:

- Strong **trustee board** managing a legally **compliant** organisation
- Clear, defined **strategies** to guide us to achieve our aims
- **Frameworks, policies** and **procedures** to direct us
- **Financial** stability and independence (no donor dependency)
- Clear and useful **communications** - knowledge sharing
- Committed **people** - trustees, volunteers, mentors, partners

Developing sustainable Programmes to meet our charitable aims:

- Facilitate **learning** and **sharing** - supported by robust MEL (monitoring, evaluation & learning) systems
- Create / share **free resources** through collaboration

Being environmentally conscious in everything we do by:

- Exploring and implementing **environmentally conscious play solutions**, e.g. using *Appropriate Paper Technology (APT)*
- **Recycling, re-using** and **repairing** whenever possible
- Being **resource conscious** and using less where possible

“We are investing in the effectiveness and future sustainability of our organisation and strengthening it to allow us to fulfil our mission over time and better enable us to have a lasting positive impact on the lives of the people and communities that we work with. To do this we put our learning into action and implement a continuous improvement strategy” - RSP

Year 3 Achievements

7. Strengthened RSP



Strengthening governance - set and documented new **policies**, held **monthly trustee meetings**, created and delivered **meaningful management reporting**.

Developing strategy and frameworks - created our **Theory of Change** framework and next year we will focus on building a three year strategy. We also designed and implemented a **Collaboration Partnership Framework** and created a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) template to support this; and worked on our **Risk Management** framework.

Increasing Financial Sustainability - further developed our **Fundraising Strategy** to include **diverse income streams** and grew our **reserves**, thus facilitating **organisational sustainability** and the ability to plan on a longer term basis.

Improving Communications - created a **draft Communications Strategy** and **increased learnings in this area** through **free resources** on Effective Communication in the Charity sector, developed by RSP Associate, Michael Hill.

Exploring environmental sustainability - carried out extensive **research** and **co-developed a framework** and **free resource** with RSP Associate, Trishna Patel, to help small organisations like ours take the first steps on their environmental sustainability journey. We also explored environmentally friendly materials and techniques that could be adapted to play.

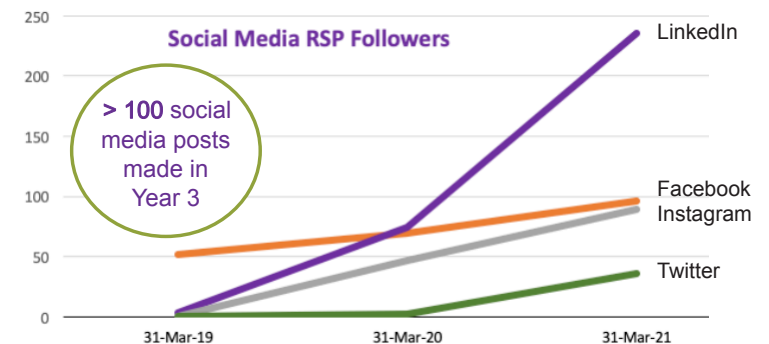
Growing RSP supporter base - built our **network** in the play and charity sectors, as well as new **partnerships, donors** and **volunteers**, and grew our overall supporter base, including more than doubling our social media followers

Learning about play - *we did a lot of this which is described across different sections of this report*

Learning how to build a stronger organisation - RSP trustees attended **3 online courses** on charity resilience, GDPR and being a good trustee, run by the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) and Small Charities Coalition.

18
regular
donors

9
RSP
Associates



Year 3 Key Challenges & Learnings

Organisational Management Challenges & Learnings

Programmes

Partners - we learnt that partnering with organisations that **work with / have access to vulnerable children**, and not only play focused organisations, provides RSP an opportunity to help such organisations bring play more centrally into their programmes and activities.

Partnerships - last year we noted that we need to engage in partnerships that are **mutually supportive** and meet the aims of both organisations. We developed our **Partnership Collaborative Framework** and facilitated its implementation. The challenge is to continue finding genuinely collaborative partnerships in the future.

Strengthening small charities - the **RSP Theory of Change (ToC)** developed this year has helped us hone our mission and aims. We recognised that strengthening small charities is not an aim in itself for us but a means to achieving the overall aim of enabling children's right to play.

Resources - we are moving on from developing and sharing highly time intensive co-created resources that are aimed at strengthening small charities, to exploring ways that this can be done more independently and focusing more on **I (information), E (education), C (communications) resources on the benefits of and right to play.**

Operations

Management Capacity constraints - continue to be an ongoing challenge. The two founders (also trustees) predominantly manage the organisation and raise funds for it. There is valued support from volunteers, however capacity constraints remain. Recruiting a paid **administration / management position in the longer term** remains a consideration for us. We will focus time this year to build a longer term strategy that addresses this key challenge.

Governance

Governance work - we made good progress in this area thanks to the committed efforts of our trustee, *Anna Petruccelli*. We still aim to increase our board size and commitment once our longer term strategy is in place. We will be developing a **trustee recruitment strategy** and continue building our **risk register** to use it as a reporting and accountability framework for monitoring gaps and strengthening the trustee board.

Communications

Social media - these communications take up time resources to prepare and share, and it is difficult to assess how useful they are. We will develop our Communications Strategy this year to help us carry out these activities more effectively.

Website - we delayed the launch of the website this year to ensure that it is in line with the three year strategy we are developing this year. The time resources already spent and additionally required on the website design are high, however, we have come a long way and are planning dedicated time this year to meet this objective.

Year 3 Key Challenges & Learnings

Challenges and Learnings on enabling children's right to play

Lack of understanding on what the right to play means - Article31 UNCRC (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child) enshrines the right to play as children's human right. It is worth noting that there is both a lack of general awareness that this is a right and that all rights listed in the UNCRC are *interconnected* and need to be seen as a whole, no right supersedes another.

At RSP, we believe that play is especially critical to children's wellbeing, development and future prospects. It is their language. Play can facilitate - joy, creativity, innovation, improved mental and physical health, improved cognitive and motor skills, increased brain activity, better social skills, and more.

Misperceptions of play - a key barrier for vulnerable children to access their right to play is that play is often seen as a luxury or a wasteful activity. The value and benefits of play are not well understood / properly appreciated.

Lack of play spaces - public play spaces in many parts of the world are shrinking. Institutional structures and beliefs exacerbate the problem, e.g. lack of learning through play / play spaces in schools, or similarly lack of use of play in hospitals or health centres for improved health outcomes.

Other barriers to play - children whose childhoods have been stolen by violence, child labour, early marriage, and through other violations of their rights, often have neither the time nor opportunity to play

Lack of reporting on the value of play - organisations that work with children often incorporate play in their programmes but do not always recognise, measure or report on the positive impacts of play on children. Play is thus under-reported and under-valued.

Lack of resources for play - those that work with children and are passionate about enabling their right to play do not have sufficient resources and/or tools to do so meaningfully.

Our Theory of Change (ToC) helped us identify these challenges and assess how to best address them:

- **Improve and increase play opportunities and spaces for children**
- **Increase awareness & engagement on the benefits and right to play**
- **Increase civil society capacity to facilitate children's right to play**

Year 3 Financial Review

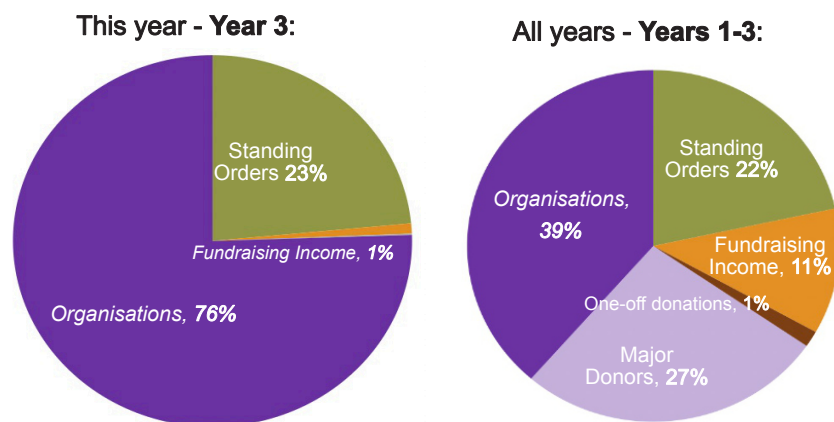
RSP Financial Position as at 31.3.2021

Year 3 total income received by RSP was **£8,542** (Year 2: £5,563) and total costs amounted to **£461** (Year 2: £680), resulting in a net income of **£8,081** (Year 2: £4,833).

Costs of charitable activities were very low despite a high level of charitable activities carried out because **the professional services provided by RSP in carrying out its charitable purposes were provided at low / no cost.**

Contributions by volunteers also helped RSP maintain a higher net income; these contributions are not represented in the accounts as they cannot be reliably measured on a financial basis; they are instead reflected in the Trustee's Annual Report and the Notes to the Accounts.

RSP Principal sources of funds:



RSP Reserves Policy & Position

As at 31st March 2021, we hold a reserves balance of **£21,090** (Year 2: £13,009). Reserves are held to be used in the future in furtherance of our stated purposes. Our policy, for the first three years of operations, as we build our organisational foundations and strategy, is to build up our reserves and maintain low costs. This year (Year 4) we will be developing a 3 year strategy to commence next year and we will re-assess our reserves policy and needs in Year 5. We expect operational costs to remain low until the new strategy commences and at this stage we have sufficient reserves to continue operations and do not need to state a minimal reserves balance.

RSP Going Concern

The Accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis and the kindness of our volunteers and financial supporters provides ability and stability for RSP to continue operations with confidence.

Year 3 RSP Supporters Review

RSP Supporters

Our supporters are very important to us - they add value to and support RSP in various ways, they help us learn, grow and become stronger.

63%
of our Supporters
work in the
charity sector

The backbone of our strategy rests on our collaboration strategy. We are always looking for win-win ways of working with our supporters in a synergetic way that benefits us all.

Collaboration sits at the heart of how we work and is a key RSP strength.

Engagement Level of supporters:		Supporter numbers		
		2021 Yr.3	2020 Yr.2	2019 Yr.1
1	Highest engaged supporters <i>E.g. Champions/ Advocates</i>	6	6	3
2	Very highly engaged supporters <i>E.g. Committed volunteers</i>	14	13	11
3	Regular engaged supporters <i>E.g. Ongoing time/financial commitment to RSP</i>	35	40	15
4	Engaged supporters <i>Regular engagement, no commitments</i>	16	12	15
5	Supporters with some engagement <i>Some ad hoc engagement</i>	67	56	68
6	Social media supporters <i>Low Level engagement</i>	208	60	
TOTAL Number of RSP Supporters		346	187	112
Year 1 reported supporters were 125 as they included some potential supporters				

"One of the fantastic things about RSP is that it sees the value in different perspectives working together to promote the power of play. What new ideas can an artist, an accountant and an author create together? Often, these jobs exist quite separately from each other, but play crosses boundaries, brings people together and stimulates new ideas. Working with RSP, I've enjoyed experiencing the connection to play that associates from diverse backgrounds share. This inspired me as I wrote a series of articles for RSP, exploring how my own knowledge and ideas could contribute to RSP's valuable mission."

- Michael Hill, RSP Associate

RSP Charitable Purposes for Public Benefit

RSP Charitable Purposes

Our charitable objects are as summarised below:

(i) The prevention or relief of poverty anywhere in the world

At RSP we do this by trying to positively impact the lives of vulnerable children by helping them access their right to play.

(ii) To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of other initiatives working towards objectives similar to (i) above

We adopt a deeply collaborative approach to partner with organisations and initiatives where we can find synergy and enable each other to better meet each others aims. Our *Partnership Collaboration Framework* enables RSP to provide capacity building expertise to our partners and at the same time meet object (i) through identifying and maximising other opportunities together.

RSP Public Benefit Statement

RSP purposes satisfy the public benefit requirements, in line with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. There has been no harm or private benefits arising from carrying out these purposes.

RSP provided public benefit this year by:

(i) Positively impacting the lives of vulnerable and excluded children across the world by facilitating increased and improved access to their right to play. We did this by directly carrying out activities and also by planning and facilitating play enhancing activities with our partner organisations and committing them through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that detailed partner activities that would contribute towards each others aims.

(ii) Improving the efficiency and effectiveness of non profit organisations and initiatives by providing capacity building expertise in the areas of charity governance and operations. This facilitated increased compliance and improved reporting to the public and strengthened the organisations we work with to better enable them to meet their aims and positively impact the lives of the vulnerable children / groups that they work with.

The collaborative approach we adopt is also aimed at adding value to civil society in general, as well as those working specifically to positively impact the lives of vulnerable children. We developed and freely shared resources this year for public benefit purposes.

These achievements are evidenced throughout this report and through feedback provided by different stakeholders.

Structure, Governance & Management

Governing document

The charity was established and set up as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 16 April 2018. It is governed by its constitution which sets out the objectives and powers of this CIO.

Recruitment & Appointment of new trustees

The constitution stipulates a minimum of 2 trustees, there is no maximum number of trustees that must be appointed. Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. Trustees will be recruited on the basis of the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

Management

The founders, who are also the trustees, manage the operations and activities of the charity. They are supported by a network of associates who voluntarily contribute their time and skills to the charity's projects.

Risk Management

The trustees carry out their duty to identify and review the risks the charity is exposed to and ensure appropriate mitigation plans are in place to provide assurance on the charity's compliance and continuance.

Reference & Administrative Details

Charity Name: RockStone & Pebbles (RSP)

Charity Registration Number: 1177973

Charity Registration Date: 16 April 2018

Registered Office: 8 Cyclamen Road, Kent BR8 8HJ

Bankers: Metro Bank, Orpington BR5 3RP

Trustees - during the year and up to the date of this report:

Juliette Liebi, Meera Patel, Anna Petruccelli

Resigned Trustee - Mary Ann Ephgrave, 30 November 2020

Trustees' Statement of Responsibility

The trustees of RockStone & Pebbles (RSP) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Annual Accounts in accordance with applicable law - Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 – which give a true and fair view of the charity's activities.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees must:

- Select and consistently apply suitable accounting policies
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS102)
- Make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records and for safeguarding the assets of the charity by maintaining robust internal controls to mitigate the risk of fraud, error and other irregularities.

The trustees accept and carry out these responsibilities.

Approval of Trustees Annual Report

The Trustees' Annual Report has been approved and signed by all trustees of the charity, RockStone & Pebbles, on **26 July 2021**:

Juliette Liebi

Meera Patel

Anna Petrucci



Co-founder & trustee



Co-founder & trustee



Joined as trustee
in February 2020

#PlayMatters

“Play sharpens our talent for empathy & collaboration...it’s the antidote to social isolation”

“Play is the answer to the question, ‘How does anything new come about?’”

“Play is the highest form of research”

- Albert Einstein

“Whoever wants to understand much must play much.”

“The creation of something new is not accomplished by the intellect but by the play instinct.”

“It is paradoxical that many educators and parents still differentiate between a time for learning and a time for play without seeing the vital connection between them.”



RSP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - Year 3

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA)

For the year ended 31 March 2021

RSP Year 3: 1st April 2020 - 31 March 2021:		
All Income and Expenditure movements represent unrestricted funds		
	2021	2020
	£	£
Income from:		
Donations		
One Off donations	10	320
Regular Giving	2,006	1,693
Fundraising events/platforms	76	2,500
Charitable activities		
Donations for RSP services from charitable organisations	6,450	1,050
Total income	8,542	5,563
Expenditure on:		
Raising funds		
Charitable activities	(461)	(680)
Total expenditure	(461)	(680)
Net gain for the year	8,081	4,883
Reconciliation of funds:		
Total funds brought forward from previous year	13,009	8,125
Total funds carried forward	21,090	13,009


None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with this charity or a related entity & no trustee expenses have been incurred

Three Year Summary:	2021	2020	2019
Total Income	8,542	5,563	8,170
Total Expenditure	-481	-680	-45
Net Income	8,081	4,883	8,125

RSP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - Year 3

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 March 2021

RSP Year 3 to 31 March 2021			
	Note	2021	2020
		£	£
Assets			
Fixed assets:			
		-	-
Current assets:			
Debtors	1	2,500	100
Cash at bank		18,700	13,258
		21,200	13,358
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
	2	(110)	(350)
Total Net Assets		21,090	13,009
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Total unrestricted funds		21,090	13,009
Total charity funds		21,090	13,009
Approved on behalf of all trustees of RockStone & Pebbles (RSP) on 26th July 2021			
			
Juliette Liebi			
Treasurer			

1. Accrued income related to On Call Africa monthly contribution committed
2. Accrued expenses for IT services incurred during this period

Three Year Summary:	2021	2020	2019
Total Available Charity Funds	21,090	13,009	8,125

RSP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - Year 3

Notes / Disclosures to the Accounts:

1. Contributions by Volunteers

RSP Volunteers, Associates & Trustees contributed their time to support in realising the Vision and Mission of RSP	Time volunteered by trustees	Time contributed by volunteers	Total Days 2021
Programmes	87.0	32.9	119.8
Governance & Strategy	49.1	8.9	58.0
Operations	13.6	0.1	13.7
Communications & Marketing	7.9	1.6	9.5
Total Days Spent - Year 3 (to March 2021)	158	43	201
Year 2 (to March 2020)	103	37	140
Year 1 (to March 2019)	13	11	24

2. Accounting Policies

a) Statutory information

RockStone & Pebbles is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. Further details are given in the 'Reference & Administrative Details' section.

b) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102), and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view.

c) Public benefit entity

The charity is a public benefit entity. The 'RSP Public Benefit Statement' in the previous section demonstrates how RSP meets the definition of a public benefit entity.

d) Going concern

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

e) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

f) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised in the Financial Statements as the value cannot be reliably measured. Refer to the Notes to the Accounts and the Trustees Annual Report for information on volunteer contributions.

RSP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - Year 3

2. Accounting Policies (cont...)

g) Staff costs

There have been no paid staff during this financial year.

h.) Fund accounting

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria will be charged to the relevant fund it applies to. **There have been no restricted funds received or spent during this period.**

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the general charitable purposes. **All funds received to date have been unrestricted funds.**

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes. **There have been no designated funds allocated during the period.**

i.) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under:

- Costs of raising funds relate to the costs incurred by the charity in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Charitable activities includes the running costs undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and direct costs of charitable activities undertaken.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

j.) Cash at bank and in hand

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

k.) Support cost allocations

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. However, the cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, such as overhead costs of the central function is attributed to each activity. **The support costs have been fully allocated to the charitable activities undertaken as no costs / activities carried out were related to fundraising.**

l.) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £500. **No tangible fixed assets were purchased during this period.**

m.) Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due.

n.) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation

Special Thanks & Acknowledgements

To our wonderful **donors** who provide RSP with the ability and stability to carry out our work.

To our inspiring **partners** for their engagement to include play more centrally into their organisations & commitment to activities that enhance the aims of RSP

To our dedicated **RSP Associates** who kindly volunteer their expertise / time freely to RSP.

To the other generous **organisations** and **people** who contribute time / expertise / services freely to RSP

And to all those working to positively impact children's lives through enabling their right to play.



Thank you for providing website hosting and development services freely to RSP

www.powerweave.com

India based company providing IT solutions

For contributing your time & expertise, thank you also to:

Ben Margetts - CEO at our partner organisation, OCA, for planning activities and committing resources towards RSP aims

Malcolm Spence - Trustee at OCA for facilitating the partnership with RSP and also mentoring us on our Theory of Change (ToC) and inputs on our strategy

Pete Moody - for supporting RSP on volunteer management frameworks and strategies

Louise Alexander - for sharing finance system expertise during the systems scoping phase with our partner OCA

Rajesh Patel - for facilitating valuable collaborations for RSP and for advocating on children's right to play

Jake Grout-Smith - for discussions with RSP trustee and inputting on our Theory of Change (ToC)

RSP Associates

- a special thanks from RSP for your help in these areas:

Niketa Fazal - creating all the **paintings** in this booklet for RSP, and providing **training** to RSP trustee on design principles and software

Dalia Abu Yassien - co-developing **RSP Safeguarding policies and procedures**, and supporting **RSP social media** activities

Trishna Patel - inputting on **RSP strategy**, co-creating RSP **free resource** focused on **sustainability**, and project managing the **RSP website** development

Michael Hill - co-creating **2 RSP free resources** focused on **Effective Communication in the charity sector**

Daniel Thorndyke - delivering **financial management expertise** to our **partners**, **On Call Africa** and **MADaboutART**

Cathy-Mae Karelse - sharing expertise on **mindfulness** and **wellbeing**

SarahThorndyke - **Proof-reading, editing and feedback** on RSP resources and Trustees Annual Reports

Jemma Tarnas - exploring opportunities with us and committing to providing financial management expertise to our partner this year

Sue Wicks - **mentoring** RSP founders on RSP strategy for the last 3 years



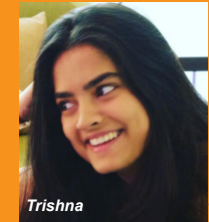
Michael



Niketa



Dalia



Trishna



Cathy-Mae



Sarah



Jemma



Sue



Daniel

Individually
a drop...
together
an Ocean



All paintings created and sponsored by Niketa Fazal

How to support RSP:

Donate - small regular donations of £3-5/month especially make a difference in helping us build organisational sustainability and to plan in the long term.

Bank A/C Name: RockStone & Pebbles

Sort Code: 23-05-80

Account Number: 29219257

Raise income for us without spending a penny! Register with EasyFundraising - select us as your preferred charity and carry on your online shopping as usual

Volunteer - contribute your time, expertise and unique talents to RSP. Be it a few hours / few days a month, the regular commitment makes a huge difference.

Be a play champion - promote the benefits and right to play within your networks, and share related resources with and from RSP

Connect us - we look for ways to connect with people and / or organisations to build collaborative partnerships and relationships that can meet the aims of everyone

Spread the word - share information about our work and activities with your networks, and follow us on our social media pages.

Contact details:

rockstonetrust@gmail.com

Or through our social media pages:

LinkedIn / Instagram @rockstoneandpebbles

Twitter @rockstoneandp

**We are no longer on Facebook*

***Our website is currently in development*



The cost of this booklet has been sponsored by the trustees and not by the charity