



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From

Period start date

06

April

2024

To

Period end date

05

April

2025

Charity name

Grooveschool CIO

Other names charity is known by

Grooveschool

Registered charity number (if any)

1183789

Charity's principal address

1st Floor, Youth Innovation Hub, 3Space International House, 6
Canterbury Crescent

Brixton

Postcode

SW9 7QD

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Edward Quinlan	Chair	April 24 - April 25	
2	James Kay	n/a	April 24 - April 25	
3	Cheryl Vidal	n/a	April 24 - April 25	
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

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Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
n/a		

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Description of the charity’s trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by founder and trustee majority

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity’s organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees’ consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

<p>The trustees note that activity during the year was delivered with limited unrestricted funding. Delivery relied on volunteer support, partnerships and careful management of resources.</p> <p>These challenges highlighted the importance of strengthening governance processes, formalising quality frameworks, and developing sustainable income streams.</p>
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Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

<p>Grooveschool’s objectives are to advance education in music and arts technology and to promote social inclusion for public benefit.</p>
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Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

<p>The objects of the CIO are—</p> <p>(a) To advance education for the public benefit, particularly but not exclusively in music, digital arts and creative technologies, by providing accessible learning opportunities, resources and experiences that encourage personal growth, creative expression and skill development.</p> <p>(b) To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by working to prevent and alleviate social exclusion and its causes and by supporting individuals and groups who are socially excluded, enabling them to participate more fully in society through engagement with music, the arts and related educational activities.</p> <p>For the purposes of this clause, ‘socially excluded’ refers to individuals or communities who are marginalized or isolated due to factors including (but not limited to): unemployment; financial hardship; age (youth or older age); physical or mental ill health; neurodivergence or disability; substance misuse or recovery; discrimination based on race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, belief, or ethnicity; poor educational or skills attainment; involvement in the criminal justice system; insecure housing or homelessness; and family or relationship breakdown.</p>	
<p>During the reporting period, the charity delivered a range of music education, mentoring and community engagement activities, including workshops, tutoring, podcast production, live DJ events and public performances. Activity was delivered in community settings, educational contexts and public events, often in partnership with other organisations.</p> <p>The trustees confirm that they have had regard to the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit.</p> <p>Grooveschool’s activities provide public benefit by increasing access to creative music opportunities, supporting skills development, confidence and social connection, and offering positive pathways for engagement through music technology. Activities are designed to be accessible and inclusive, supporting individuals from a range of backgrounds and circumstances.</p>	

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Grooveschool benefits from the ongoing support of volunteers who contribute to the delivery and sustainability of the charity's activities. Volunteers include friends of participants, parents, and members of the wider community, who support activity in practical ways such as assisting at events, transport to performances, and helping with set-up and delivery.

Volunteers also support fundraising and community engagement by promoting events within their networks. In addition, when funded programmes are delivered, tutors and practitioners often contribute additional unpaid time to support participants and ensure continuity of provision, helping the charity to offer accessible and free or low-cost community activity where possible.



Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

During the year, Grooveschool continued to deliver a wide range of creative and educational activities.

Key activity included:

- Delivery of **11 episodes of the Steele Got It podcast**, recorded and produced in the Grooveschool studio.
- Provision of **sound system and DJ services** for community and private events, including St Matthew's Project 20th anniversary celebrations.
- Delivery of **tutoring and mentoring sessions** through Noise Academy.
- Hosting a **Grooveschool stage at the Lambeth Country Show**, providing live performance opportunities and introducing new participants to DJing.
- Participation in **Lambeth Town Hall engagement events**.
- Delivery of a **mentoring project commissioned by High Trees**, alongside development support to strengthen the charity's Mentoring Quality Framework.
- Community podcasting and event support, including work with Marcus Lipton Community Enterprise.
- Launch of the **Grooveschool merchandise shop** as a new unrestricted income stream.
- Establishment and use of a **recording and live-streaming unit** to capture DJ sets and tutorials.

The charity also recruited new participants during the year, including individuals who first engaged with Grooveschool through public events and have since continued their involvement.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The trustees' policy on reserves is to maintain a modest level of unrestricted funds, with a target of approximately £3,000, to support short-term cashflow and enable the charity to meet match funding or upfront cost requirements associated with grant-funded activity.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F**Other optional information**

Following the end of the reporting period, the trustees identified a number of priorities for the coming year. These included completing and embedding the charity's Mentoring Quality Framework, relaunching live-streamed and recorded educational content using the existing recording unit, strengthening governance and financial oversight processes, and continuing to develop sustainable income streams and funding applications to support ongoing delivery.

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s) Edward Quinlan.

Full name(s) Edward Quinlan

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc) Trustee

Date 27/01/2026

Grooveschool CIO

Financial Summary

Period: 6th April 2024 – 5th April 2025

Overview

This financial summary provides an overview of Grooveschool CIO's income and expenditure for the reporting period April 2024 to April 2025. It is intended to support the Trustees' Annual Report and Charity Commission annual return and has been prepared in line with Charity Commission guidance and SOFA principles, proportionate to the size and activity of the charity.

Income

During the reporting period, the charity received income from a combination of grants, earned income, and donation-led fundraising activity.

Grants – Restricted: £7,100

Grants – Unrestricted: £3,000

Donations & Fundraising Income (including campaign-led, donation-based events): £1,643

Income from Charitable Activities (workshops, tutoring, education delivery): £4,439

Trading / Earned Income (merchandise, events, DJ / sound system commissions): £2,519

Other / Miscellaneous Income: £0

Total Income: £18,701

Restricted grant income was received to support specific project activity. Unrestricted income supported core operating costs and delivery where required.

Expenditure

Expenditure during the year supported both the direct delivery of charitable activities and the core costs required to operate the charity.

Expenditure on Charitable Activities

Wages / Tutor Fees: £1,390

Lead / Management Wages (delivery-related): £7,180

Equipment & Repairs: £3,771

Software & Subscriptions and tutorial packages: £4,273

Travel Expenses : £1,974

Miscellaneous / Project Delivery Costs (including venue hire, participant support and delivery costs): £3,628

Subtotal – Charitable Activities: £22,216

Support and Governance Costs

Rent / Studio Costs: £5910

Insurance: £636

Marketing & Promotion: £388

Professional Fees (accountancy, reporting, compliance): £0

Administration & Office Costs: £208

Bank Charges: £0

Subtotal – Support & Governance: £7,142

Total Expenditure

Total Expenditure: £29,358

Net Movement in Funds

Surplus / (Deficit) for the period: -£(10,657)

Reserves

The trustees' policy on reserves is to maintain a modest level of unrestricted funds, with a target of approximately £3,000, to support short-term cashflow and enable the charity to meet match funding or upfront cost requirements associated with grant-funded activity.

Notes

Priority figures (income totals, wages, rent and insurance) are confirmed. Remaining category totals relate primarily to subscription costs and will be finalised prior to submission. This summary is intended to accompany the Trustees' Annual Report and does not replace statutory accounts.