

NEURODIVERGENT SAFE SPACE

England & Wales · Charity number 1203335

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2023-05-31

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

Contact

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Westcliff-On-Sea
Essex
SS0 9AU

Phone 0

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Website www.neurodivergentsafespace.co.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE:1. FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, TO PROMOTE, SUPPORT, AND PROTECT THE MENTAL HEALTH OF NEURODIVERGENT TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS (AGED 13-20 YEARS) IN THE CITY OF SOUTHEND AND ESSEX AND ELSEWHERE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, BY MEANS OF, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY: A. PROVIDING EVIDENCE-BASED INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOR NEURODIVERGENT TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS ON UNDERSTANDING AND IMPROVING THEIR MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS, ADVOCATING FOR THEIR RIGHTS, TREATMENT OPTIONS, AND FINDING EFFECTIVE SUPPORT; B. SEEKING TO ADVANCE THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS OF MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE STAFF, AND OTHER PRIMARY POINTS OF CONTACT FOR NEURODIVERGENT TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS IN PROVIDING EFFECTIVE, NEURODIVERSITY-AFFIRMING SUPPORT; C. SEEKING TO EDUCATE PUBLIC SERVICE PROVIDERS AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY ON NEURODIVERSITY.2. FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, TO RELIEVE THE NEEDS OF NEURODIVERGENT TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS (AGED 13-20 YEARS) IN THE CITY OF SOUTHEND AND ESSEX AND ELSEWHERE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, BY MEANS OF, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY: A. PROVIDING SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE TO NEURODIVERGENT TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS TO INCREASE SOCIAL INTERACTION SKILLS, CONFIDENCE, AND SELF-ESTEEM; B. PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES AND GUIDANCE FOR NEURODIVERGENT TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS TO TRANSITION INTO THE WIDER COMMUNITY. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THESE CLAUSES: "NEURODIVERSITY" REFERS TO THE NATURAL VARIATION IN NEURODEVELOPMENT ACROSS ALL INDIVIDUALS - THE DIVERSITY OF ALL BRAINS AND MINDS. "NEURODIVERGENT" DESCRIBES A PERSON WHOSE NEURODEVELOPMENT FALLS OUTSIDE OF THE 'TYPICAL' RANGE, INCLUDING NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DIFFERENCES SUCH AS AUTISM, PDA, ADHD, DYSLEXIA, DYSPRAXIA AND TOURETTE'S SYNDROME.

Activities: We support Neurodivergent (Autistic,PDA, ADHD, DCD) teens and young adults aged 13-30 and their parent/carers who are experiencing mental health difficulties or supporting people through a hard time.We currently run multiple clubs per week where the attendees meet up, join in activities, speak to neurodivergent adults, go out for activities, and get support for their mental health difficulties

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£33,348	£21,293	-	-
2024-03-31	£14,893	£7,313	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Joanne Emma Richardson	Chair	2023-02-08
Grace Emily Rush		2023-02-08
Patrick Edward Richardson		2023-02-08
Rebecca Verrall		2023-02-08

NEURODIVERGENT SAFE SPACE

England & Wales - Charity number 1203335

Accounts

Neurodivergent Safe Space Trustee Annual Report



Charity No: 1203335

Charity name: Neurodivergent Safe Space

Charity No: 1203335

Address: 9 West Road, Westcliff on sea, Essex, SS0 9AU

Trustees: Mrs Jo Richardson, Miss Becky Verrall, Miss Grace Rush, Mr Patrick Richardson

Report written by: Mrs Jo Richardson; Charity Director

The day-to-day running of the charity is overseen by the Director; Mrs Jo Richardson.

All decisions are made by the board of trustees via a voting method.

We hire trustees through interviews with the current trustee board and background checks to ensure that they are suitable for the position as we support vulnerable teens and young adults.

Since April 2024, we increased our weekly clubs to four a week due to the rise in demand and this year we found that there was a high demand for ND adult (22+ years) support, so we have now opened a further two clubs to support this older age group.

We have been very lucky to receive funding from several funders (see below) since April 2024 which has enabled us to open these additional clubs and to hire an employee dedicated to networking with other organisations and organising events that we can have a stall at in order to promote our work, provide information on Neurodiversity and Mental health to the general public, and to sell handmade items to raise money for the charity.

Our objectives for our second year as a charity was to open further clubs to support more people and those from a wider age range, to continue to forge and maintain relationships with other charities and support organisations in the area, to attend various events, and to start producing affordable training courses for teen and young people, parents and carers, and professionals.

We have achieved most of our objectives; we have opened a further three clubs have forged and maintained good relationships with several local charities and organisations, and have attended several community events.

Our training program is still in development but will be released later this year.

Our objectives for our third year are to move to a much larger premises to keep up with demand for our service, as our current premises restricts the number of members able to attend at any given time, and it greatly restricts the range of activities and therapeutic environments that we are able to provide for our members.

We also aim to give talks in schools and to provide training for emergency services.

The difference our clubs make to members' lives is extraordinary. Many join us feeling isolated, withdrawn, and deeply anxious. Some arrive struggling with self-injury, depression, and overwhelming fear, masking their true selves in order to fit in or avoid rejection. Over time, through the support and understanding they receive at our clubs, these same individuals transform. We have witnessed members grow into relaxed, happy people who feel safe enough to be themselves, build friendships, and connect with others who truly understand them. For many, this is the first time they have felt accepted without judgement.

These changes are not only visible within the clubs but also ripple out into the wider community. Members who once struggled to leave their homes are now becoming more independent, learning new skills, and developing the confidence to navigate the world outside. Importantly, they begin to see a future for themselves filled with possibilities rather than fear and hopelessness.

Our clubs provide more than just a social outlet; for many, they are a safe haven from a world that can feel overwhelming, confusing, and hostile. Within this space, members are able to drop their mask, share openly, and access the tools and support they need to overcome their challenges. The growth in resilience and self-belief we see is nothing short of life-changing.

The feedback from the public is that the need for our service is immense and we have received a great amount of praise for opening our clubs for Neurodivergent teens and adults in need of mental health support.

The feedback from professionals is much like the public feedback; we receive referrals from various services throughout Essex and London, and have forged various relationships with local services, charities, and organisations to enable us to work together to help more people.

The charity and clubs are for them; which means that they are the best people to direct us on how best to support their needs.

Financial Report

We have received the following funding;

Short Breaks - £2389.76 June 2024

Community Interest Funding - £10,000 August 2024

National Lottery Community Fund - £18,222 March 2025

Our expenditures for April 2024 – March 2025 are as follows;

Activities - £159.94
Refreshments - £82.92
First Aid - £30.74
Books - £14.75
Advertising - £102.04
Website - £360
Admin - £345.41
Salary - £6234.56
Insurance - £245.15
Staff expenditures - £225.99
Monthly bills - £1659.18
Rent – £9960
Business rates - £193.27
Events - £341.05
Furnishing - £905.56
Training - £432

The charity bank account balance (as of 01/04/2025) is : £20680.44

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jo Richardson', written over a light blue rectangular background.

Mrs Jo Richardson

Director

Neurodivergent Safe Space

Monthly Expenditure Totals 2024

Monthly Expenditures

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Activities	79.19	30.46	0	0	18.17	0	0	0	32.12	0	0	0	159.94
Food/Drink	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	82.92	0	0	0	82.92
Sensory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sundry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stationary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
First Aid	30.74	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30.74
Books	0	0	14.75	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14.75
Advertising	80.69	0	0	21.35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	102.04
Reinbursement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Website	0	360	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	360
Admin	36	12	12	211.41	74	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	345.41
Salary	0	0	0	0	1019.56	745	745	745	745	745	745	745	6234.56
Insurance	11.63	0	0	46.72	23.35	23.35	23.35	23.4	23.35	23.35	23.35	23.35	245.15
Staff Expenditure	200	25.99	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	225.99
Monthly Bills	834.3	22.03	128.65	78.06	73.08	79.4	78.31	78.3	91.38	90.24	102.1	82.73	1659.18
Rent	830	830	830	830	830	830	830	830	830	830	830	830	9960
Business Rates	0	136.27	0	57	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	193.27
Events	200.3	29.36	0	90.93	0	20.46	19.07	0	0	0	0	0	341.05
Furnishing	495.29	0	0	179.15	231.12	104.58	0	0	0	0	0	0	905.56
Training	0	252	0	0	156	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	432
	2798.14	1698.11	985.4	1514.62	2425.28	1643	1677	1677	1804.77	1688.59	1700	1681.08	21292.56

Monthly Income

2024	From	Reason	Amount	From	Reason	Amount	From
Apr	Care Check Ltd (Admin)	Refund	12	Sales from Event (E	Sales	130.4	B&Q refund (Furnishing)
May	YuEnergy	Refund	745.29				
June	Short Breaks	Funding	2389.76				
Jul	Error at Tescos	Refund	211.41	SumUp Pride (Ever	Sales	300.35	Sales from Pride (Events)
Aug	Donations	Donation	115.92	Community Interest	Funding	10000	Sales from Garons
Sept	Sales Wellbeing event	Sales	82.82				
Oct							
Nov							
Dec	Donations	Donation	48.75				
Jan	Donations	Donation	9.59	Donations	Donation	146.65	
Feb	Donations	Donation	23.98	SumUp Pride	Sales	37.36	
Mar	Donations	Donation	489.3	Nat Lottery Commu	Funding	18222	

Reason	Amount	Total
Refund	36.72	179.12
		745.29
		2389.76
Sales (JF	200	711.76
Sales (JF	146.24	10262.16
		82.82
		0
		0
		48.75
		156.24
		61.34
		18710.87

33348.11

861.18

710.42



Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Neurodivergent Safe Space

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Neurodivergent Safe Space for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of Neurodivergent Safe Space you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

Signed:

Name: MICHAEL SALVAGE

Address: 48 NELSON ROAD, RAYLEIGH, ESSEX SS6 8HB

Date: 12/2/2026

NEURODIVERGENT SAFE SPACE

England & Wales - Charity number 1203335

Accounts

Neurodivergent Safe Space Trustee Annual Report



Charity No: 1203335

Charity name: Neurodivergent Safe Space

Charity No: 1203335

Address: 9 West Road, Westcliff on sea, Essex, SS0 9AU

Trustees: Mrs Jo Richardson, Miss Becky Verrall, Miss Grace Rush, Mr Patrick Richardson

Report written by: Mrs Jo Richardson; Charity Director

The day-to-day running of the charity is overseen by the Director; Mrs Jo Richardson.

All decisions are made by the board of trustees via a voting method.

We hire trustees through interviews with the current trustee board and background checks to ensure that they are suitable for the position as we support vulnerable teens and young adults.

We started running a weekly club for 13-21 year olds in February 2023 that was held in a room at the Friends and Places Together charity unit, that we rented for one day a week.

Through experience, we found that the age range was too broad and that it was not suitable to have 13 year olds mixing in the group with 18 and 19 year olds. So, we amended the age range, temporarily, to 16-21 year olds.

As well as the weekly club, we have also taken the attendees on various day trips. For example; Indie Rock indoor climbing, the beach, and Hadleigh Farm.

Once we obtained enough funding, we began renting our own premises in January 2024 that is designed and decorated to make it a relaxing and calming environment that appeals to Neurodivergent teens and young adults. We also have a sensory tent where attendees can take some time out if they feel overwhelmed or anxious. This is a private space where they can relax with sensory toys and lights as well as blankets and cushions to cuddle up with.

The premises needed a great deal of renovation due to the dilapidated state upon we took on the tenancy. The renovations were completed at the end of March 2024 and we held our Open Day on Saturday 6th April 2024.

We now run three weekly clubs where trustees and volunteers supervise the activities and are on hand to support the Neurodivergent teens and young people, who attend the clubs, with their mental health challenges.

During the clubs, we provide activities like arts and crafts, game consoles (Wii & Xbox One), board games, puzzles, colouring, and drawing.

We run a Peaceful club for 16-21-year-olds on a Monday where the level of noise is kept to a minimum as many Neurodivergents cannot cope with a lot of noise.

On Friday we run a club for 16-21-year-olds where the noise level and activities are not subdued, which is preferable for ADHD individuals who struggle to keep their voices or noise levels down.

On Saturday we run a club for 13–15-year-olds which has the same format as our Friday club but is for younger attendees.

Our objectives for our first year as a charity was to obtain enough funding to rent our own premises, to open further clubs to support more people from a wider age range, to forge relationships with other charities and support organisations in the area, to attend various events, and to start producing affordable training courses for teen and young people, parents and carers, and professionals.

We have achieved most of our objectives; we now have our own premises, have opened a further two clubs (with a third in the planning stage), have forged good relationships with several local charities and organisations, and have attended three community events; Wellbeing Festival in Sept 2023, Winter Pride in Feb 2024, and the Spring Fayre in April 2024.

Our training program is still in development but will be released later this year.

The feedback that we have received from attendees is overwhelming in its praise and positivity about the benefits they have received from attending the weekly clubs. We are very much 'attendee-led' in terms of what activities we provide, what day trips we take them on, and on the décor of the premises.

The feedback from the public is that the need for our service is immense and we have received a great amount of praise for opening our clubs for Neurodivergent teens and young people in need of mental health support.

The feedback from professionals is much like the public feedback; we receive referrals from various services and have forged various relationships with local services, charities, and organisations to enable us to work together to help more people.

The charity and clubs are for them; which means that they are the best people to direct us on how best to support their needs.

Financial Report

We have received the following funding;

Mid and South Essex Microgrant - £1,500 March 2023

ROSCA Trust - £4,500 September 2023

National Lottery Community Fund - £10,000 December 2023

Our expenditures for Feb 2023 – Mar 2024 are as follows;

Activities - £883.24

Refreshments - £33.83

Sensory - £46.72

Sundry - £2.49

Stationary - £105.61

First Aid - £16.82

Books - £18.75

Advertising - £128.66

Reimbursement of items purchased for charity before the charity bank account was opened
- £257.69

Website - £289.20

Admin - £289.10

Birthdays - £44.84

Rent – £3,825

Events - £389.83

Furnishing - £1,349.76

Training - £24

The charity bank account balance (as of 01/04/2024) is : £8857.75



Mrs Jo Richardson

Director

Neurodivergent Safe Space

Monthly Expenditure Totals 2023 - 2024

Monthly Expenditures 23-24

	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Activities	47.73	25.57	171	51.8	9.88	0	78.8	35	149.27	121.7	164.12	0	0	28.39	883.24
Food/Drink	26.58	0	7.25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33.83
Sensory	46.72	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	46.72
Sundry	0	1	1.49	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.49
Stationary	0	0	50.8	0	0	0	54.82	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	105.61
First Aid	16.82	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16.82
Books	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14.75	0	0	0	0	0	18.75
Advertising	0	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	91.66	0	0	128.66
Reinbursement	0	186.4	0	45.14	26.13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	257.69
Website	0	0	0	0	289.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	289.2
Admin	0	0	0	0	0	85.2	17.58	17.58	17.58	17.58	17.58	19.38	39.74	56.88	289.1
Birthdays	0	0	0	0	12.19	0	12.98	19.67	0	0	0	0	0	0	44.84
Rent	0	0	0	0	225	0	0	180	0	0	1600	0	990	830	3825
Events	0	0	0	0	40.2	108	0	0	0	0	0	25	216.63	0	389.83
Furnishing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	402.34	448.77	498.65	1349.76
Training	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24
	141.9	250	231	96.94	626.6	193.2	164.18	252.3	181.6	139.3	1781.7	538.38	1695.14	1413.92	7705.54

