



Annual Report and Financial Statement 2023/24

Registered Charity Number 1203948

Charity Name	Beautiful Noise
Charity Registration Number	1203948
Charity Structure	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Principal Address	2 Manor Farm Court, Old Wolverton Road, Old Wolverton, Milton Keynes, MK12 5NN
Period covered by this report	11 July 2023 to 5 April 2024

Message from the Chair of Trustees - Helen Marriott Smith

This year has been a hugely encouraging start of an exciting journey for Beautiful Noise.

Having secured a commitment to funding for the first three years of operations, we have focussed on researching the current state of music education provision in Sussex and beyond and have made a positive start on delivering musical experiences to young people.

We have demonstrated that our core Rock School offering can reach those young people in need, and have also shown that we can work flexibly, collaboratively and at pace to adapt to meet specific local needs. I am pleased with the progress we have made in the design and development of Studio Ninja, our bespoke electronic music production course and am excited for the opportunity this will provide to increase the number of young people we can support.

Most importantly, we have received really positive feedback from young people who have benefitted from our work, from their parents and carers and from our partners. The enthusiasm shown by the young people we serve is truly inspiring, and it fuels our commitment to expanding our reach and impact.

We look forward to meeting the challenges we have set ourselves for the year ahead.

About the Annual Report and Financial Statement

The financial statement has been set out to comply with the Charity's Constitution, the Charities Act of 1993 and as per the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting of Charities published in 2005.

Beautiful Noise - Mission and Objectives

Beautiful Noise is a registered charity based in Sussex dedicated to enriching the lives of young people through the transformative power of music.

By providing musical education experiences, we aim to inspire and bring joy to children. We focus our support and resources on young people:

- from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, currently identified as young people who are eligible for free school meals;
- with a health or developmental condition that is impacting on their everyday life, often referred to as an additional need. Additional needs could be developmental, physical, learning, behavioural or sensory.

Our **mission** is to provide musical education experiences that enable young people to develop their creativity, confidence, and self-esteem. We believe that music has the power to transform lives, inspire creativity, and bring joy and happiness to people of all ages.

Our **objectives**, as established in our constitution (dated 11 July 2023), are to promote and advance the musical education and experiences of children and young people by:

- arranging and funding musical tuition, providing performance opportunities and exposure to specialist resources
- the funding of musical resources and equipment

Music is about much more than learning notes and rhythms; it's about nurturing cognitive abilities and fostering holistic development. Research shows that music education enhances critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and spatial awareness, empowering young people to navigate complex challenges with confidence and creativity. Participation in musical activities also fosters a sense of community and belonging, promoting empathy, collaboration, and communication skills.

Research also suggests that children who receive early exposure to music education demonstrate improved academic performance and social skills, setting them up for success in various aspects of life.

Beautiful Noise works with specialist partners to develop and deliver a range of programmes designed especially for young people. Investing in music education is an investment in lifelong learning, personal growth, and an enriched quality of life.

Beautiful Noise - Charity Number: 1203948

web: <https://beautifulnoise.org.uk/> email: enquiries@beautifulnoise.org.uk phone: 07919523594

Headline achievements against objectives 2023/24

- Registered as a charity on 11 July 2023 and began operational delivery
- Developed a number of music education offerings and ran pilots to test delivery mechanisms
- Successfully offered funded Rock School places during school holidays to children eligible for free school meals - in partnership with Red Butler Music School (RBMS)
- Developed a bespoke Rock School in partnership with the social prescribing leads at Foundry Healthcare in Lewes and East Sussex County Council to support young people with additional needs
- Made good progress in the development of a digital music production course - branded Studio Ninja - which will be launched in 2024/25
- Put in place the procedures, policies and infrastructure necessary for successful operations

Strategic aims

Prior to launch, Beautiful Noise worked with local schools and music providers to get a comprehensive understanding of current music provision in the local area and to understand the experience and trends identified by those delivering music education to children. Our key findings were that:

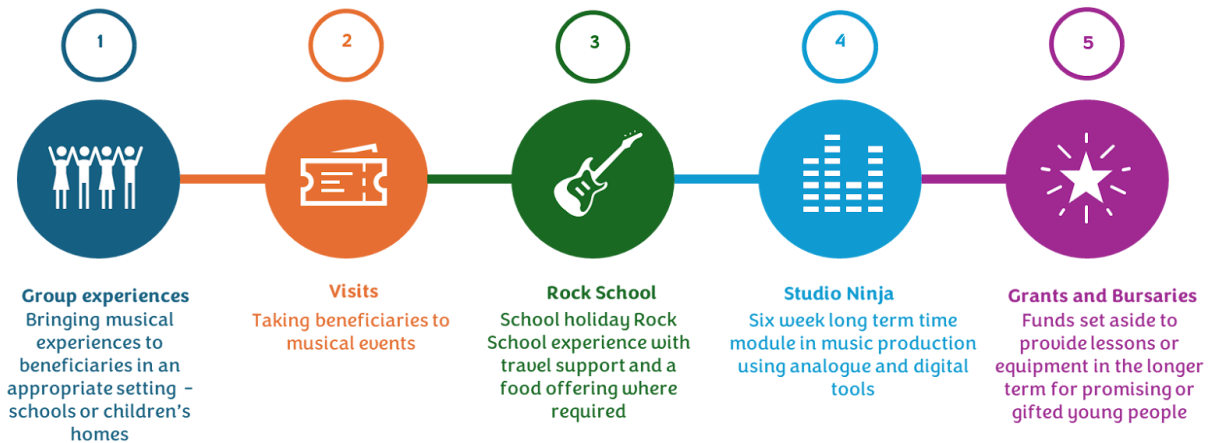
- The quality of music education within mainstream education is inconsistent and is generally poorly funded. As a result, young people do not receive consistent musical education and experience unless this can be privately funded by family or carers.
- There is a need to generate interest amongst young people who don't know what's possible from music education. In short, young people don't know what they can gain from something they have not previously encountered. Demand will not spontaneously emerge so there is a need to encourage and inspire young people.
- While the school music curriculum, instrument tuition and music exams have their place, there is considerable scope to deliver something more inclusive and engaging for young people.
- There is a need to follow through for those who are most interested. Providing a glimpse of what is available and then not being able to follow through over time should be guarded against.

We concluded that:

- Beautiful Noise should develop a core offering that can meet our charitable objectives and which could then be built upon as we pursue our development and growth ambitions.
- We should develop a lifecycle approach which spanned introductory experiences through to deeper engagement for the most enthusiastic, committed or talented.

We have built our strategy around a Lifecycle approach which is set out in the diagram below. The diagram also sets out the products and services that form our initial building blocks or 'pillars of provision'.

LIFECYLE OF SUPPORT AND 5 PILLARS OF PROVISION



The aims of each of these pillars are:

- Group experiences - To open young people's minds to the possibilities of music.
- Visits - To encourage a deeper appreciation of music and live performance.
- Rock School - To provide an entry point for collaborative music making and performance.
- Studio Ninja - To provide longer term skills development and collaborative opportunities in music throughout the year, not only during school holidays.
- Grants and Bursaries - To provide individual support for the most gifted and committed.

During 2023/24, Rock School has been our core offering and we have worked with a local partner both to find ways of reaching young people in need and to deliver musical education experiences. Progress has also been made on our Studio Ninja product which is being designed and developed by Beautiful Noise.

Achievements and Performance 2023/24

During the first year of operation, Beautiful Noise has been relatively cautious in its approach. The charity has offered a small number of places on pre-arranged Rock School events run by Red Butler Music School (RBMS), our current primary current delivery partner, in order to assess how our proposed operating model functions in practice.

Initial approaches offering Rock School places to young people within our charitable objects (those eligible for free school meals) via mailings to parents and carers directly from local schools yielded no applicants. RBMS is a registered provider for the Half term Activities and Food (HAF) programme (funded by East Sussex County Council) and places on its Rock School via this route are usually oversubscribed. Beautiful Noise funded places were offered to the RBMS waiting list for the HAF Programme with better results.

Pillar 3 - Rock School Summer 2023

- Places were taken up by 17 young people (aged 5 to 14) for a total of 43 days - food was funded for these participants.
- All participants were in receipt of Free School Meals and some also had parent-reported additional needs including ADHD, anxiety, dyslexia, and speech and language limitations.
- All parents who responded to the HAF feedback survey gave a score of five out of five to the core feedback statements:
 - There is a good range of activities on offer
 - My child(ren)'s specific needs were taken into account.
 - It was a safe environment for my child(ren)
 - My child(ren) would like to attend this activity again in the future

Pillar 3 - Rock School Winter 2023

- Places were taken up by three young people who attended for a total of 11 days - food was funded for these participants.
- Two participants required travel to take part and this was also funded.
- All parents who responded to the HAF feedback survey gave a score of five out of five to the core feedback statements (see above).

Pillar 3 – Rock School - Social Prescribing Pilot February 2024

- Beautiful Noise co-ordinated, and part funded, a pilot exercise working with Social Prescribing leads at East Sussex County Council (ESCC) and Foundry Healthcare in Lewes
- Beautiful Noise arranged a new Rock School event at Star Fish Studios in Lewes – tutored by RBMS.
- ESCC funded the venue hire and BN funded the tutoring and food provision
- Foundry hand-selected children with mental health and socialisation difficulties who might benefit from the offer
- Four young people (aged 10-12) participated over the 4 days of the course.

“When I walked into the studio on day four it was like meeting a different group of children, the first thing that hit me was the noise, the children were laughing and joking animatedly with one another, twanging guitar strings, playing games and just being excitable, boisterous kids, which was such a difference compared to the quiet, reserved, nervous group of children that arrived on the first day.

They really seemed to have developed solid friendships and this was evident during their performance. I noticed them encouraging each other during their set and the confidence emanating from them all during the performance blew me away! They played a set of four songs, my personal favourite being Blink 182’s “All the small things”, which I have seen performed by numerous cover bands over the years, but their version was up there with my favourites.

After the show the children told me that they had loved the experience and wanted to continue to perform together which was so heart-warming to hear and really made me smile.”

Feedback from Young People’s Social Prescriber ESCC

“I feel like this has really helped us to be in groups, because if I ever want to be in a band now it won’t be so hard.”

“I realised every one of us helps a song - if one of us isn’t playing it doesn’t sound right.”

Feedback from Rock School participants

Pillar 4 – Studio Ninja

During 2023/23, Beautiful Noise:

- Contracted a music technology professional to produce lesson plans and resources for a six-lesson course covering the fundamentals of electronic music production.
- The course has undergone a first round of testing and will be adapted based on feedback and tested with a group of selected young people during 2024/25.

Strategic Objectives for 2024/25

Beautiful Noise has agreed the following high-level strategic objectives for the coming year. We aim to:

- Build on the success of Rock School to reach a larger number of young people in need.
- Begin operational delivery and evaluation of Studio Ninja.
- Evaluate the scope to expand our geographical reach and to identify other possible delivery partners.
- Expand and diversify our income streams.
- Build our reach and impact through social media channels.
- Begin to develop a research and resources function to be delivered via our website.

Financial Position

Summary of Financial Performance at year end

- Total income: £25,628
- Total expenditure: £23,696
- Net position: £1,932

Overview of Income and Expenditure

- Income: Individual donations (£25,628)
- Expenditure:
 - Programme costs (£4,285)
 - Staff costs (£17,601),
 - Operational costs (£1,810)

Financial Health and Sustainability

Beautiful Noise is financially healthy having secured a commitment of funding for the first three years of operations. This funding is from a single source, so a priority for the coming year is to diversify our sources of income to mitigate the risks associated with this by:

- Applying for additional grants from national and local funding bodies.
- Building a corporate sponsorship program.
- Launching fundraising campaigns to engage individual donors.

Reserves Policy


Beautiful Noise does not currently hold any reserves.

We plan to build up a prudent reserve over the coming year to cover operating and programme costs for a period (as yet to be determined) in the unlikely event that the committed funds cannot be accessed.

A formal Reserves Policy will be produced and approved by the charity's trustees.

Financial Statement

Our accounts have been produced on a Receipts and Payments basis and have been reviewed by our independent examiners – Ad Valorem Accountancy Services - in line with our statutory obligations as detailed in the Independent Examiner's Report.

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Charity Name Beautiful Noise		No (if any) 1203948		CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from		01/07/2023	To		05/04/2024

Section A Receipts and payments					
	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	25,620	-	-	25,620	
Interest income	8	-	-	8	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	25,628	-	-	25,628	
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	
Total receipts	25,628	-	-	25,628	
A3 Payments					
Audit & Accountancy	1,485	-	-	1,485	
Charitable & Political Donations	4,285	-	-	4,285	
Insurance	29	-	-	29	
IT Software & Consumables	266	-	-	266	
Salaries	17,601	-	-	17,601	
Bank charges	30	-	-	30	
Sub total	23,696	-	-	23,696	
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	
Total payments	23,696	-	-	23,696	
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,932	-	-	1,932	
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	
Cash funds this year end	1,932	-	-	1,932	

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Current Account	1,932		-
	Total cash funds	1,932	-	-
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Salaries	3,231	-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	

Structure, Governance, and Management

Overview of the Charity's Structure and Governance framework

The charity's constitution was registered on the 11th July 2023. The charity is registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

Beautiful Noise is governed by a Board of Trustees which oversees the strategic direction and ensures compliance with regulatory requirements.

Information on Sub-Committees and their Roles

At present Beautiful Noise does not operate any sub-committees and all oversight is undertaken by the full Board of Trustees.

Trustee Selection

Trustees are selected based on their skills and commitment to our mission.

New trustees are being sought to join our Board during 2024/25 to provide advice on achieving our future strategic objectives.

List of Current trustees and their roles

- Chair: Helen Marriott Smith (2 year term from 11 July 2023)
- Trustee: Tom Ragan (3 year term from 11 July 2023)
- Trustee: Benedict Rumbold (3 year term from 11 July 2023)

Changes to the Board during the Year

- None.

Information About Key Staff

Our operations are undertaken by a Chief Executive Officer who manages all day-to-day activities to deliver on the strategy agreed by the trustees. The CEO provides a monthly update on key activities and actions achieved during the month and seeks the views and advice from the board to ensure operations align with strategic direction.

Chief Executive Officer: Allan Marriott Smith

Key Risks Identified

Safeguarding risks were identified as the key risk by the Trustees. Beautiful Noise does not work directly with young people (all contact is through delivery partners). We have a comprehensive Safeguarding and Child Protection (SCP) Policy to protect children participating in our programmes.


The Chief Executive of Beautiful Noise has received enhanced DBS clearance, and this level of clearance is also required from all staff and contractors of our delivery partners who work with children.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Trustees' Responsibilities in Preparing the Report and Financial Statements The trustees are responsible for ensuring that the annual report and financial statements are prepared in accordance with applicable law and regulations, providing a true and fair view of the operations and financial arrangements of Beautiful Noise.

Confirmation of Compliance The trustees confirm that this report and the associated financial statement comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and the charity's governing documents.

Signed on behalf of the charity's Trustees.

Helen Marriott Smith	
Chair of trustees	
14 July 2024	

Acknowledgements and thanks

Donors, Sponsors, and Partners We extend our heartfelt thanks to all our donors and delivery partners for their generous support. Your contributions make our work possible.

Contact Information

Beautiful Noise
2 Manor Farm Court,
Old Wolverton Road,
Old Wolverton
Milton Keynes
MK12 5NN

Email: enquiries@beautifulnoise.org.uk
Phone: 07919523594

Website www.beautifulnoise.org.uk



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name Beautiful Noise	No (if any) 1203948
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Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01/07/2023	To	05/04/2024
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Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
BEAUTIFUL NOISE

On accounts for the year
ended

5 APRIL 2024

Charity no
(if any) 1203948

Set out on pages

1 & 2 of the receipts and payments form included.
(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 05/04/2024.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust'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 (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

23/07/2024

Name:

Zubair Arshad FCCA ACA (on behalf of Ad Valorem Accountancy Services)

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

ICAEW/ACCA

Address:

Ad Valorem Accountancy Services Limited
2 Manor Farm Court, Old Wolverton Road
Old Wolverton, Milton Keynes, MK12 5NN

Section B**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

N/A