



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From

Period start date

30

January

2025

To

Period end date

31

August

2025

Charity name

Ely and Caerau Learning Partnership Board

Other names charity is known by**Registered charity number (if any)**

1211949

Charity's principal address

Ely & Caerau Children's Centre,

Michaelston Road,

Cardiff

Postcode

CF5 4SX

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 Annamaria Bevan

Chair

2 Sheena Marsh

Secretary

3 Hywel Squires

Treasurer

4 Ann-Marie Gouveia

5 Ceri-Ann Gilbert

6 Sam Froud Powell

7 Ryan Andrews

From 28/04/2025

8 Victoria Fussey

From 06/05/2025

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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**

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by members at an annual general meeting, or appointed by charity trustees at any time, provided that the trustee then retire (to stand for re-election) at the conclusion of the next annual general meeting after the date of their appointment.

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.

The Learning Partnership Board was set up in 2010 as a community partnership of schools and organisations with the aim of improving support and outcomes for children and their families living in the area. Children in Ely & Caerau face challenges that can significantly affect their start in life and negatively impact on their learning, wellbeing and life chances. Registering as a charity (CIO) has supported a more structured, intentional approach to collaboration - bringing organisations, communities, and stakeholders together to address local challenges and achieve collective impact.

The Learning Partnership Board acts as a steering /advisory /umbrella group. We work collaboratively with schools, community organisations and other partners to organise, facilitate and support projects that improve educational provision and outcomes for children, young people and families in the local area. Projects are delivered collaboratively by member organisations and are designed around the lived experiences, needs and voices of children and families.

The CIO is governed by a board of trustees who report to the wider network at Learning Partnership Board meetings. All trustees share responsibility for ensuring that the charity's work aligns with these charitable objects and delivers meaningful, positive impact for the community.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The advancement of education in the Ely and Caerau Wards in Cardiff West, primarily but not exclusively by working with schools and other educational and community organisations to organise and facilitate projects to improve educational provisions in the local area.

In order to further the objectives of the Charity, the Learning Partnership Board supports its members to undertake activities for the benefit of children, young people and adults in the community.

Regular network meetings

The Learning Partnership Board meets as a network six times a year, sharing information about activities the members are engaged in, and about educational opportunities and support available to local schools, children, young people and families. The network discusses challenges facing the local community, the impacts of poverty (which are significant in our area), examples of good practice, and opportunities for funding, collaboration, investment and enrichment. At each meeting we welcome guests to share relevant updates alongside members. Information is accessible to all members throughout the year through an online padlet that is regularly updated.

The Learning Partnership Board was successful in securing funding from various grants for collaborative work carried out by a number of members together to support children, young people and families in learning together, providing opportunities for our community. The main activities of the year are listed here.

Community repair shop

Funding from the Moondance Foundation (£10,000 - received and spent before 30th January charity registration) enabled the creation of a community repair shop at Herbert Thompson Primary School, now a welcoming and functional hub for repair, learning and connection. By April, we had supported 206 families through a range of services, with weekly family woodwork sessions where parents, carers and grandparents learned alongside children. We have trained 23 staff from 10 Cardiff primary schools and 6 community members in bike maintenance, while repairing 63 bikes to promote sustainable transport and reduce family costs. A women-led clothing repair group has fixed 8 items, encouraging skill-sharing and sustainability. Twelve active volunteers are already involved, and a carpenter is preparing to deliver community carpentry classes, helping more people gain repair skills and explore pathways into employment. Together, these efforts reduce waste, support wellbeing and strengthen community cohesion.

Growing and cooking outdoors

Funding from Cardiff Council's 'Move More, Eat Well' fund (£2,500) enabled the continuation of weekly 'Dan y Coed' outdoor play sessions for parents and young children, with an additional element of growing food and outdoor cooking. Weekly sessions using the cafe and community garden at Ely and Caerau Children's centre were planned and delivered by a forest school leader and a play worker, who led outdoor cooking sessions based on healthy foods and play activities. In addition, we provided monthly sessions for dads and their children on a Saturday morning, cooking outside on a fire, in partnership with Flying Start. Each family was given recipe cards to try at home on a camping fire and adaptations for indoor cooking, and a bank of play ideas for home.

Dan y Coed outdoor play - Dysgu, Chwarae, Tyfu.

Funding from Awards for All from The National Lottery Community Fund (£20,000) enables us to co-design and co-deliver creative community outdoor play and

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)

exploring nature sessions for families with children under 5. This had just begun at the close of our first financial year as a registered charity, but will include: upskilling a team of 5 staff and 3 local volunteers to deliver sessions in 5 accessible outdoor venues (the children's centre, 2 primary schools, and 2 community led spaces). By June 2026 we aim to deliver 40 sessions with 200 families, many of whom will be referred through social prescribing, or be accessing wellbeing support.

Family Fun days

Funding from Cardiff Community Cohesion Small Grants Fund 2025 from Welsh Government (£4,950) enabled members to deliver family fun days in 3 different locations across our community in August 2025. The Diana Garden Family fun day was a huge success, with 258 people attending. People of all ages and from a diverse range of backgrounds came together and enjoyed activities including:

- Painting portraits and making leaf bunting
- Cooking and enjoying food from the Ukraine and Hong Kong
- Painting pebbles and making compost with Upfront Gardens
- Making bird boxes with the Dusty Shed) and ACE
- Planting herbs and veg with ACE's postcode gardener
- Contributing to design ideas for a new mural on Ely Bridge

People said their highlights of the day included: 'Being out in nature, children playing', 'Seeing the kids have fun and catching up with people,' and 'Meeting new people, making connections'.

Herbert Thompson Primary School hosted a vibrant Community Fun Day that welcomed 206 families and 6 volunteers from the local area. The event fostered meaningful connections and provided access to enriching experiences that many families might not otherwise encounter. One of the standout features was a series of three cooking workshops, where 45 families prepared a three-course meal together, learning about healthy eating and developing practical skills. Calzaghe Mini Dragons delivered non-contact boxing sessions to 60 pupils. Meanwhile, family woodwork workshops with 24 families allowed children, parents and grandparents to learn side by side, strengthening intergenerational relationships and practical skills. Adults also benefited from Joy Coaching sessions, which provided a space to pause, reflect and enhance emotional wellbeing. Welsh Water, IntoWork services, Riverside Advice and other agencies offered families informal access to advice and support in a relaxed, approachable setting which helped to reduce stigma and raise awareness of available services. The National Literacy Trust joined as a key partner, funding a performance by award-winning storyteller Daniel Morden, whose captivating sessions engaged children in the power of storytelling. One parent said: "The whole day was amazing. My children loved the boxing and cooking. It was so lovely to spend time together as a family." A grandparent said: "It was so special to see three generations of our family working on a project together. This was a moment that I will treasure."

To celebrate its 20th anniversary, Ely and Caerau Children's Centre hosted a vibrant Open Day, welcoming over 300 families and supported by 8 volunteers. The joyful and inclusive atmosphere reflected the Centre's long-standing commitment to play, wellbeing and community connection. Children, parents and grandparents participated side by side in plant pot decorating and art sessions, fostering creativity and shared experiences. A live music session brought people together through rhythm and movement. Stalls and interactive sessions hosted by health services, family support organisations, youth groups, early years providers and local authority teams offered informal access to advice and support. The successful event included:

- Encouraging intergenerational engagement through shared activities
- Celebrating diversity through inclusive arts and music

- Promoting positive relationships between families, professionals and community groups
- Enhancing a sense of belonging and pride in the local area

The funding provided covered: food for families attending the event, specialist facilitators to run music, art and gardening sessions, and a professional photographer to capture intergenerational moments and community spirit.

Camau Bach

Members of the Learning Partnership Board worked together with Save the Children to engage with children, young people and families in Ely and Caerau to explore how we might support them to influence decision making in our local area - including having an input into the Learning Partnership Board itself, and influencing changes in the wider community. The core group of project partners listened to dozens of local people, and then spent time digesting the information and co-creating ideas to embed the voices of children and families affected by poverty into our work on a sustained basis. We designed three streams of activity that will embed the voices of children, young people, and parents into the Learning Partnership Board on a long-term basis.

We can confirm that in developing the activities of the Learning Partnership Board, the trustees have taken due regard to the provisions within Section 17(5) of the Charities Accounts and Reports Regulations 2008.

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.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Positive outcomes achieved through the funded work listed above include:

We have reduced isolation by providing a welcoming space where people can connect, learn and share skills. Parents, carers and grandparents have been able to take part in activities alongside children, which has strengthened family bonds and encouraged intergenerational learning. Training in bike maintenance, carpentry and clothing repair has increased confidence, practical skills and employability. Women leading clothing repair sessions have gained visibility and a stronger sense of ownership, while volunteers have developed teamwork, leadership and purpose through building community resources. The EmpowerHer group, made up primarily of community members with English as a second language, meets every Wednesday to cook, share cultural recipes, and exchange stories. This group has created a safe space for friendship, learning and cultural exchange.

For the wider community, we have promoted repair and reuse, helping families save money, reduce waste and adopt more sustainable habits. A whole range of events delivered by Learning Partnership Board members have increased access to support and brought people together, fostering community cohesion and mutual support.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

As a new charity, we do not currently employ salaried staff and do not receive core funding. The trustees recognise the importance of building an appropriate level of unrestricted reserves to support the charity's governance and financial resilience. The charity's initial aim is to hold sufficient free reserves to meet essential running costs, including accountancy, independent examination or audit costs, bank fees, insurance, regulatory costs and other core governance expenses.

The trustees will review the level of reserves annually as the charity develops, taking account of future activities, funding commitments, risks and ongoing operating costs.

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

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

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Full name(s)

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Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair of Trustees

Trustee

Date

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Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

Ely & Caerau Learning Partnership board

On accounts for the year
ended

31.08.2025

Charity no
(if any)

Set out on pages

(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 31/08/2025/YYY.

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

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. *Delete [] if not applicable.*

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
- the accounts did 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.

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

Signed:

Date:

09/06/2026

Name:

Anna James

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

ACCA Qualified

(if any):

Address:

21 Upland Road
Pontllanfraith
NP12 2ND

Section B	Disclosure
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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.

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